

The Hammonton Item.

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A Letter Address.

The Boston Times says there is a small, but steadily growing class, who indulge in eccentricities in addressing their letters. The following is copied from an envelope which very recently passed through the Boston Post Office:

Stamp, P. M., stamp with care;
Stamp and forward to the lady fair;
She has eyes of blue, and hair of black,
Is always neat and never slack.
Her temper's good—where'er she shows it—
Alas! how well her brother knows it!
She's not too tall, nor yet too short;
Is good at jest and quick retort;
And often lingers her victims smart—
(This last's poetic license all we poets use)
When up a stump for rhymes—
Deserted by our Muse,
She lives in Bloomfield, just across,
Boards with her brother, Charley Ross;
(Don't start I beg, he's not the one!)
He's no one's "long lost son,"
Bloomfield's the town, the State, N. J.,
Perfidious clerk, hands off, I pray,
Don't stop my letter on its way.
Remember Belknap and all his kin.
You're just as sure to tumble, if you sin;
At any rate just let this letter slide
For all the money it "contains" is stamped on the outside.

P. S.—As printers say, I've made an "out" I see,
The lady's name—well—call it M. G. P.

New York Correspondence.

NEW YORK, April 3, 1876.

A CENTENNIAL ITEM.

A family in Minnesota wrote to know if a coffee urn-bearing date about 1770, would be of enough interest to send to the Centennial. It may meet similar questions in other minds to say that articles bearing no earlier date than the last century, are hardly of value, unless they have added interest because they belonged to some person of note, or are so peculiar as to be curiosities in themselves without regard to their age. The Centennial will not have place for hulk, but is offered. If of peculiar model, such things are accepted by bric-a-brac collectors, and will increase in value with every decade. I warn my readers who have old things they hope to part with for profit, not to expect too much for them, as collectors are pretty stingy and shrewd in their dealings. When sold at auction, quaint articles sometimes run up to handsome figures; for instance, an inland Japanese cabinet, lately sold at Leavitt's, began at \$10 and was knocked down at \$100. An old coffee pot or a powder case may bring twenty dollars from a collector, but the fancy prices seldom fall into any hands but the collector's. If persons wish their questions answered by letter, I will remark that the method of enclosing a stamped envelope will not be out of place.

The bold and uncompromising stand taken by George W. Curtis, in opposition to instructing the New York delegation for Conkling, meets with the heartiest approval of the best Republicans of New York. It is evident that Conkling did not fall into the hands of this best class, and that fact has turned against him many who would otherwise have given him a very hearty support. To-day nine-tenths of the Republicans of the city are throwing up their hats for Curtis, and Conkling is in no position whatever to carry out delegation. And may I whisper a word of advice to republicans everywhere? Don't instruct. Don't go into the National Convention with any pet, or with your hands tied for anybody. The party never was made for a man. It has work to do, and instead of being used as the means of elevating individuals, it should use individuals to do its work. It is going to be close work this year to elect any one, and if there is the slightest forcing in the Convention—if the nominees cannot carry the united strength of the party, the jig is up. The nominee must be not only the best man for the party, but the strongest. And wait till we all get together and compare notes before deciding as to that man. There must be a very liberal spirit at that Convention, or we are beaten to death. Mind, the Democracy are pressing Tilden vigorously, and with a considerable degree of unanimity. A large sum of money has been raised in this city by Tilden's friends, and a bureau in his interest has been established at Washington. A choice lot of political humbugs are there setting up things for "Blippery Sam," and they have hopes that he will sweep the platter. Tilden is the shrewdest wire puller living, and he stands a good show for the nomination. The only thing that stands in his way is the forcible cancellation of his hard money views, which is against him in the West, but he is smart enough to compromise that. If the Democracy of the West believe he can be elected, they will take him up, for they do want post offices. He can get more money behind him than any one candidate named.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

The writer of these letters is pleased to find them of more use to readers than simply for the news they give. As to news, it is a hardy party that the crop and the wheat is the

get it up for papers who have every item by telegraph a week before his account can reach them.

The most a city correspondent can do of real value to his patrons is to reflect the opinions of the metropolis, the topics of minor interest and such details as are hardly worth paying for a five cents a word by telegraph. Then the subjects of most interest in town are the very ones which the editor sternly forbids to his luckless writer. We correspondents are made aware that country readers do not care to hear about the theatres, lectures, books, and music, at all, but little about the social, political or club life, so far distant from theirs, in every way. Writing New York letters under these restrictions is not making bricks without straw, but making them all of straw, and pretty finely chopped straw at that, so it is a matter of congratulation to the writer when he finds his paragraph on the poor out of work has moved some one in Yates Co, to send him an application for a servant girl to help on a farm, offering her a good home for years if she can suit. The application was handed over to a lady visitor of St. John's Guild, who will take care that the demand is filled. Persons who make such requests in future will remember that it is necessary for them to send satisfactory references from a people of standing as to their ability to pay and treat a servant well, before any one will risk going in to them.

No one who has any feeling for the poor can object to aid in the work of helping them to homes and employment, where the benefit is as much on one side as the other. In the country, where help is scarce, it is pitiful to see the numbers out of work here, yet it is difficult to find those willing to leave the city. A sewing machine agent lately sent to New York for an operator to go to a Western city, offering a salary nearly twice what one could get here, but not one woman could be induced to take it, although it was offered to some whose earnings were hardly enough to pay their board, and whose chances at best were very precarious. The poor creatures will run the risk of starving rather than go out of town, where they would be welcome and comfortable. The fact is, they will not leave the city so long as they can exist in it. To the poor here there is nothing so terrible as the country. They cling to the city with all its wretchedness, ignorant that there is anything better for them outside. Half the unemployed girls in New York are needed in the country, and where they could have good comfortable homes, but they will not go.

TILTON-BRECHER.

You haven't seen this head line lately in my letters, and you wouldn't now, only I have something new. It is rumored that the whole matter is to be re-opened early in the spring. Tilton, it is said, has now evidence in the case evidence that will satisfy the public beyond all doubt; and to vindicate himself he will commence a new suit, backed with all the money that may be necessary to fight it out. I give this as a rumor, for I cannot vouch for its correctness. It is a curious thing that Brecher has taken no part whatever in the Moody and Sankey meetings, he being the only clergyman of any note who has not. The other clergymen of the city fight shy of him.

PROMENTS.

The merchants of New York are making an effort to get back their lost trade. They are sick of fighting Boston and Baltimore bare-handed, and are going to protect themselves. They are organizing to do what should have been done years ago, viz: Build a straight air line freight road from the city to the prominent freight gathering points, with proper terminal facilities. They propose to own the road, and have it operated in the interest of the city and the people of the West, and to do away with all the little swindles and extortions that have driven the trade away from the city. The matter is in the hands of men who mean business, and who have the money to do it. It is expected to have the survey commenced early in the spring, and the road commenced at once. It will be a straight road to St. Louis, with branches to the principal points, and will be exclusively for freight. The trains will make an average of sixteen miles an hour, and it will be double tracked its entire length. The road will save the farmers of the West its cost every five years, for when finished it will not cost more to get a bushel of wheat to market than the wheat is worth.

BUSINESS.

is dull again, and the weather is averaging badly. Last week we were treated to a regular hurricane, which blew down buildings, and tore things generally. But the mild weather that followed has brought the country merchants, and therefore it is hailed with delight.

HEALTH.

The city is fearfully unhealthy. The spring zues are exposing masses of filth that have accumulated during the winter, and the miasma that is in the air is something frightful. Ague and bilious fever is more prevalent than it is in Indiana, and the variety is of the most malignant. Bilious fever means more here than it does in the country, and when it comes to the

that is terrible, and children and weak adults are dying at a rate unheard of. Unless steps are taken at once to clean the city, the summer will bring a pestilence. It is a shame that it should be in such a condition, when the amount of money paid each year for the purpose of cleaning it ought to keep it as sweet as a flower bed.

PELAGIOUS.

The advent of Moody and Sankey, and the enormous audiences they have attracted, have had the effect to set Christians to thinking of various things. Among others the system of renting pews is being discussed with much feeling. The more earnest workers insist that the churches shall be free, that the seats shall be free, and that the system of "first come, first served," shall be adopted. They insist that only in this way can the masses be brought to the churches and under gospel influences. On the other hand a bidden of pews hold that as there are always sittings for all who come, there is no reason why those who desire it should not have their regular seats, and continue the regular family idea of the church. The matter has got into the papers, and much is being said pro and con. The preachers are taking it up, and the Christian world is being divided into pew and no pew parties. I shall not try to settle it, but will give my notion in a speech made by an advocate of the pew system. "Talk," said he, "of the necessity of bringing sinners to hear preaching. Who needs it more than we do? And who need inducements more than we do?" As he was a pillar in the church his statement was a most candid confession.

Yours,

Pietro.

West Jersey Game Protective Society.

Mr. Editor:—Dear Sir:—A short time since I saw an article taken from one of the South Jersey papers which reflects in such a manner upon the charter and management of the West Jersey Game Protective Society as to require an answer, in order that the public may understand the true state of facts.

The article referred to accuses the members from Pennsylvania of seeking and manipulating the laws of the Society to suit themselves, and of controlling the Society by unjust means, such as having the semi-annual meetings at such hours that Jerseymen find it impossible to attend, and also controlling all the official positions in the Society.

The history of this Society is as follows:—In 1873 a number of gentlemen in New Jersey had an act passed incorporating the West Jersey Game Protective Society. By reference to the charter it will be seen that there were but two Pennsylvanians among the names of the incorporators.

The object of the act of incorporation was to compel Pennsylvanians, who shot and fished in New Jersey, to pay a certain sum for the right of fishing and shooting, and that said sum was to be appropriated to the propagation and replenishing of the game and fish destroyed by them.

To suppose that Pennsylvanians, especially market shooters, would have an act passed which would compel them to pay a sum of money for the right of shooting, &c., in New Jersey, and that too, when the enforcement of the payment of said sum of money was only carried out by the most vigilant police laws, is too absurd to need argument.

The officers of the Association always have been, and are now, Jerseymen, with the exception of two who are Pennsylvanians. The President, Secretary, Treasurer and six Directors, are Jerseymen, and the charter requires that there shall be one director from Pennsylvania.

In consequence of the large number of non-residents who are required to renew their certificates, an Assistant Secretary was appointed, who resides in Philadelphia, for the convenience of the non-residents in obtaining their certificates. With the exception of this one officer, and the Pennsylvania director, provided for in the charter, all the officers are Jerseymen, and a majority of all the Committees but one, are also Jerseymen.

The hour for holding the meetings of the Society has until the last two meetings been in the morning; and when it was suggested to the President that a large number of non-residents, and Jerseymen, were unable to attend the meetings, during business hours in the morning, he ordered the meeting to be called in the afternoon, at 3 o'clock. So much for manipulating the laws for their own benefit.

The next charge in the article referred to is, that the Society has three thousand dollars on hand, that so far very little game has been placed in the country, and that the New Jersey members complain that the Philadelphia members get all the game. Now, sir, as a matter of fact, we never have had three thousand dollars on hand, and the most we ever have had at any one time was from sixteen to seventeen hundred dollars. The revenue of the Society is derived almost entirely from the non-resident members of the Society, who are compelled to buy certificates each year. The Jerseymen are not compelled to join the Society, and until this year they were only obliged to pay their entrance fee, and no yearly dues.

It was not until the end of the year 1874 that the Society began to get into working shape, and the small sum of money it had, that year, over its running expenses, was sent for the purchase of game, and was returned by the game seller, with the statement that he could obtain no game.

In the year 1874 the funds of the Society were so low, that it was not until the end of the year, that there was a sufficient fund for the purchase of game. We then purchased all the game we could obtain, and distributed it as equally as possible. The number of birds purchased was about one thousand, and every Jerseyman who was a member, and applied for game, received his share.

In 1875 we ordered four thousand quail and four hundred prairie chickens, but as yet we have received but about six hundred quail and 50 prairie chickens. All the fish we could buy during this year the Society bought, sending their agent, Milton P. Piero, to the upper parts of the Delaware and the Potomac Rivers, and on his return he reported that no more fish could be obtained. These fish were distributed in all the rivers in the lower counties which run into the ocean, at the towns of Hammonton, Wenona and Malaga.

At the first named place the Town Co. had passed a resolution of thanks to the Society, and it was at the request of Jerseymen that the Lakes of Wenona and Malaga were stocked. Out of the nine hundred and thirty fish received, four hundred were furnished us from the State Commissioners, and not one of these fish would your lower counties have received, but for the efforts of the West Jersey Game Protective Society. These fish the Society would not have obtained from the Commissioners, if they, the Society, had not agreed to pay all expense of transportation, and to give the fish under the personal supervision of the fish warden, in such streams as the Commissioners should designate. (See New Jersey Fish Commissioners' Report for 1875, page 31.)

The Society has received five thousand dollars in eggs, which Professor Baird, the United States Fish Commissioner, has kindly offered to give us, at a small expense, and arranged to have been sent to the eggs hatched and for nothing. These fish, when at the proper age, will be distributed in the six lower counties, in all streams which are suitable for them.

It will thus appear that the Society has bought all the fish and game they have been able to lay their hands on. And the very persons who voted, by an almost unanimous vote, for the stocking of the streams with fish were Philadelphians.

Whoever, Mr. Editor, was the writer of the article referred to, certainly could not have been a member of the Society, for if he was, and applied for game, and did not get it, he knows, by letter from the Society, that it was only because they were not able to get it to give—and if he was not a member of the Society, he was not entitled to any game, as the Society does not propose to buy and give game to persons who will not become members.

It is also said that at the last meeting, and even at the meeting before, it was reported by the President that certain members were using their certificates, as a means of trespassing on people's property, and asserting their right to do so because they had a certificate.

That, sir, is true, and one of the first persons who did so was a Jerseyman, and was openly accused of it at the meeting, and his action received the unanimous condemnation of the meeting. But when a resolution was offered to take away his certificate, or punish him in some way, it was very correctly said that it was impossible for this Society to pass a resolution by which a man's moral character was to be governed. How can the Society prevent a member from stealing chickens, because he has a certificate of membership in his pocket? It is for the person whom he has injured, or whose property he has trespassed upon, to arrest him. If a Jerseyman does not know that none but an officer of the Commonwealth, and he only under the laws of the Commonwealth, can trespass on his property, it is to be deplored, but the Society cannot help it.

It was for this reason, and this reason alone, which prevented the Society from passing a resolution of censure. It was because they had not the power, and not because they did not want to do so.

A few words more and I will have done. It is suggested by the writer of the article that the Society should be immediately reorganized, and that all the non-residents who pay their dues should have no voice or vote in the affairs of the Society, and should be prohibited from exercising police authority.

The Charter expressly asserts that all members shall have the authority to arrest a violator of the game laws. The object of this provision was, that instead of being obliged to get out a warrant, a member might arrest an offender on the spot. As a matter of fact, the Society employ police, and these police are made members, in order that they may make arrests on the spot, and I doubt if any member has ever (except the police employed and paid,) made an arrest.

But this wonderful reorganizer proposes that an active member, who pays his dues shall have

no voice in the affairs of the Society. This is the most wonderful proposition I have ever heard advanced. Where is there an Association which says, "You are an active member, but you shall not vote?" The gentleman had better redraft the Constitution of the United States, and I would suggest, while he is reorganizing the West Jersey Game Protective Society, that it would be better not to prevent non-residents from voting, but to take away the right of fishing and shooting, and then perhaps, after a while, he might add a supplement taking away the right of voting.

In conclusion, sir, I would add, that the more Jerseymen who will join the Society the better, as I am sure, should they become members, they will not fail to see its benefits. Those who are members are perfectly satisfied and pleased with the actions of the Society, and never have, and do not intend, that its affairs shall go out of their hands, but at the same time recognize the rights of their non-resident brothers, and as yet have been in perfect unanimity with them. Who the sorcerer (to speak in political parlance) can be, who has written the article referred to, I can hardly imagine, but, sir, if you should take the trouble to inquire, I guess you will find that he is a foreign plant and not "native to the manor born." If he is a member of the Society he has wilfully made a misstatement of the facts, and with the intention of creating a false impression in the minds of the people in your section. If he be not a member he certainly ought to have informed himself correctly before making such statements.

Yours, truly,

A MEMBER.

The conviction is general and positive that the investigations now in progress by the Democratic members of Congress have been prompted exclusively by an inordinate and disreputable desire to make political capital. Every movement made by the investigators, and every determination relating thereto, establish this fact. Partial and partisan as these Democratic committees have been in their examination, the Democratic press of the entire country seems to be animated by the same want of patriotic motive. The Chicago Tribune states this fact very clearly and forcibly when it says:

"Mr. Pendleton has been guilty of a transaction which has lost him his place among honorable men, but the Democratic papers have not only neglected to condemn him for it, but many of them have even failed to print the acknowledgments extorted from him in cross-examination. Gov. Hendricks stands charged with damaging accusations, and the Democratic papers are silent. This shows the exact measure of Democratic sincerity and consistency; shows that political immorality is only reprehensible when it is practiced by the opponents of the Democrats; shows that all this raving and fuming and bluster, all these investigations, accusations and calumnies all this howling for reform and political purity and partisan principle, are simply buncombe for the delusion of credulous voters, intended to operate to Republican disadvantage next fall. Beyond all this, the silence which these Democratic newspapers observe with regard to the charges instituted against prominent Democratic candidates show that they themselves only wait for the opportunity of place and power, to perpetrate abuses and corruption. Between this danger and that infinitely worse one—the practical operation of the State rights theory, which is now affirmed upon the floor of Congress by the Southern Democrats, and endorsed by the Northern ones—the people of this country ought to see the necessity of keeping the Government in the hands of those who are now engaged in sweeping out the corruptions of some of their leaders, and who preserved it in the hour of need against the designs of those who now seek to gain control."

The insincerity of the Democracy, which is so apparent to the casual observer of recent events, as to provoke the strongest distrust on the part of the people. A party that will so entirely prostitute its power, or a press that will so cordially approve the policy of that party, in all its unfairness and injustice, cannot be regarded as safe conservators of national interests or faithful guides of public sentiment. The Tribune clearly indicates the danger to which the country would be exposed by remanding the control of the government to the hands of the Democratic party. Its whole policy and management, since it has held temporary and partial power bodes only evil and trouble.—Woodbury Constitution.

Montgomery Blair says that the Democratic party to be strong must be clean, and the Pittsburgh Commercial wonders whether this is a political or a soap campaign.

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