

THIRTY-FIRST YEAR. NO. 18. BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 1908. WHOLE NUMBER, 1586

AN ANSWER

To the Article "Communicator" Which Appeared in Last Weeks Issue.

Mr. Editor:—I read in your esteemed paper last week a communication from a "Temperance Taxpayer" and it set me to thinking. I remember reading in the good book, "Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood and establisheth a city by iniquity," and I am wondering if that "two story brick hotel" built with blood money would have paid if it had been the ruin of a dozen or so of our bright boys. I have been thinking of those farmers who got drunk in Wayne county, who were such sober citizens before "Local Option" time, in fact doubting somewhat the truth of the statement and waiting for the proof. Perhaps their families would tell a different story.

Perhaps it is like the story of the "more empty houses than for 10 years" not quite true. The honest writer has been investigating and he finds that when Local Option went into effect there were 20 houses empty in Birmingham while now the "Temperance Taxpayer" will have to search well to find three houses that are in good condition for rent, that are empty or have stood empty. If Mr. Temperance Taxpayer will take the trouble to investigate, he will find that 12 new houses have been erected, that 10 are in process of erection and three others so completely repaired as to be almost new. This is a larger number than for many former years.

Not in this all during the last few days nine of the prominent business men have been interviewed and stated that local option had not caused the falling off of business but rather that in many instances collections are better. The statement, made or implied, that local option has doubled the taxes is almost too silly to answer. The total tax in the village is \$9,307.37 somewhat higher than last year because of the payment this year of \$2,000 indebtedness of last year and because of the expense of new wells and a new bridge.

Local option has taken away from the resources \$500 of license money which lacks consideration of being 1/3 of the \$2,000.00. But had the two saloons run during the present year they would have taken out of the pockets of the citizens more than \$10,000 possibly \$15,000. The more we consider it the more it seems that Mr. Temperance Taxpayer ought to have some investigating before he took his pen in hand to write.

Yours for the truth,
AN HONEST INVESTIGATOR.

IN REMEMBRANCE.

WHEREAS, Our kind heavenly Father, in love and care, has removed from this life our dear friend, and sister, Mrs. Tillson;

Resolved, That we the members of the Baptist Church and Ladies' Aid society sympathize with her sorrowing friends, and feel that her long and useful life is a beautiful example to us and a blessing to all who have known her.

Resolved, That in her death our community has lost an honored and respected citizen, her children a kind and loving mother and the church a consistent, faithful member.

Resolved, That we have an example to us worthy of imitation in her quiet, christian life and loving deeds of helpfulness.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the bereaved friends and one to the BIRMINGHAM ECENTRIC.

ALICE CRAWFORD,
LIZZIE McCLELLAN.

A CORRECTION.

Detroit, Mich., Sept. 7, '08.

Editors:—Allow me to correct the statement in last week's ECENTRIC. Mr. C. White has the contract for placing the monument on the Burdette lot in the cemetery from Marcus, Laura & Amelia Beardslee, of Detroit. Not Mrs. E. S. B. as stated.

Please correct and oblige,
L. M. Beardslee,
106 Piquette, Ave.

ADVERTISED LETTERS.

List of letters remaining undelivered in Birmingham postoffice on Sept. 10th, 1908.

Charles Hunt, Thomas Kingston, Mrs. Ed. Landau, Mrs. H. MacKeever, (4).

JOHN HANNA, P. M.

STOCK FOR SALE.

I offer for sale a fine lot of brood sows and sows, also Shropshire yearling rams and lambs. Fine stock. Blooded. Cheap.

W. S. Walker, prop.,
17 Long Meadow Farm, 41

APPOKEY TO IT

Samuel J. Serrell, of Pontiac, Fell Dead On the State Fair Grounds Tuesday of This Week

Ex-County Surveyor and Drain Commissioner, Samuel J. Serrell, better known among old residents as Harry Serrell, dropped dead on the State Fair grounds just before noon on Tuesday.

Mr. Serrell, accompanied by his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Gleason F. Perry, of Pontiac, visited the Fair in an auto. The party had just partaken of lunch when Mr. Serrell complained of a headache and decided to lie down and rest in his auto, and was on his way to the machine when stricken with death.

Deceased was very popular and when Democracy was on top, for a number of years filled the offices of County Surveyor and Drain Commissioner. In 1896 he jumped the political fence and has since lived in retirement in a handsome home on Perry street.

A widow and two children survive.

FOR BROKEN HEART

VARYING LAWS IN BREACH OF PROMISE CASES.

Not Easy for Alitad Damsel to Recover Damages from Faithless Swain —Practical Arrangement Prevails in Germany.

England is the best place—for a breach of promise action. All other countries seem to regard with grave suspicion any attempt to recover monetary compensation for the loss of a prospective husband, and unless the plaintiff has a strong case indeed it is never worth while to carry her grief into the law courts, says The Herald.

In France breach of promise cases are rare for the simple reason that the law requires the plaintiff to prove that she has suffered pecuniary loss. Now this is not an easy thing to do in the part of the lady, especially in a country where a girl without a dot—that is a marriage portion—has a poor chance of finding a husband. Holland and Austria have adopted the French system, and the result has been the same. Breach actions are rare, and injured damsels or their relatives usually taking the law into their own hands.

Practical Germany, as might be expected, affords the best method for solving this problem. When a young couple become engaged they have to go through a public betrothal ceremony that ends in a knock at the shyness out of them. In the local town hall the pair declare their affection, willingness to marry, etc., ending by signing a collection of documents that apparently leave no loophole for escape.

But if either party to the contract wishes to withdraw another journey is undertaken to the town hall and another collection of documents signed, witnessed and sealed. Then the authorities determine the amount of compensation—should it be claimed. In this connection it may be said that the man can, and often does, sue the woman for his wound feelings. The usual award is one-fifth of the marriage dowry. It is easy to understand, when all this is remembered, how loath the young people of Germany are to break their betrothal oaths.

As the law of Italy offers little or no protection whatever to jilted damsels and swains it is not surprising that the athlete should be the favorite mode of deciding breach of promise cases. The Italian law demands that the person suing for "breach" shall produce a written promise to marry from the defendant; otherwise the action is inadmissible for the reason referred to.

To bring an action for breach of promise of marriage against a foreign monarch is an achievement, but it has been done, and by an English lady. It is now 15 years since Miss Jenny Mighel sued the sultan of Jorore, and as there was a doubt whether the dusky one was actually a reigning monarch the case was allowed to come into court. But the judge quickly disposed of the action by ruling it inadmissible for the reason referred to and Miss Mighel was nonsuited.

It is remarkable that one of the two actions which have brought verdicts of \$10,000 each to plaintiffs should have had for its defendant the editor of a matrimonial paper. The second case was between a well-known actress and the eldest son of an earl.

Space and Matter.

"One hour is not too long more than one place at the same time."
"Huh! Jever see a fat woman in a street car?"—Puck.

Bound to Come.

"It won't be long before we'll be reading the obituary of the fool who wrecked the airship."—Detroit Free Press.

The Philosopher of Polity.

"Blessings seem brightest as they take their flight," quoth the Philosopher of Polity. "I also remember that the father of a family thinks the most of his children at the time when they are being taken upstairs to bed."

AIN ANOTHER ANSWER

To Our Communication of Last Week Discussing the Pro and Con of Local Option.

Mr. Editor:—Allow me to say a word in answer to the Temperance Taxpayer's communication in your last issue.

First, there are not more vacant houses in our town than ever, there are not as many as when local option was passed and many of them have been filled because we have no saloons, more houses are being built this year than last and more business is done.

Why are our taxes doubled? Because our water supply was increased at a cost of \$2,000 and a new bridge was built. Local option had nothing to do with it.

More than that, many old debts have been paid at our stores, by persons who were wont to spend their all at the saloons and then get trusted for necessities. Children are better clothed. We have a good reason for that, our water supply was increased at a cost of \$2,000 and a new bridge was built. Local option had nothing to do with it.

When Trifles Become Troubles.

If any person suspects that his kidneys are deranged he should take Foley's Kidney Remedy at once and not risk having Bright's disease or diabetes. Delay in the disease is a stroke of fate, and you should not delay taking Foley's Kidney Remedy. All druggists.

Fatal Admission.

Merchant—What other qualifications have you got for the place?
Applicant—Well, my friends tell me I make a good disposition and—
Merchant—You won't do. We want a man with a disconcerted disposition, one that will handle.

Of the Prince of Conde.

Nothing was more invaluable to the prince than the rights of friendship. When a favor was asked of him, it was he that appeared obliged, and never was his joy so natural or lively as when he conferred pleasure upon others.—Jacques Benigne Bossuet.

Weight of Water.

Rain water weighs 62.5-10 pounds per cubic foot, while sea water weighs 64.25-100 pounds per cubic foot. The difference is not due to the salt contained in sea water.

What Did He Mean?

"Young Billers is crazy about a girl."
"Who is she?"
"My sister."
"My sister?"
"My sister."

Mental Resolutions.

"Do you expect people to believe all you tell them in a campaign?"
"No," answered Senator Borahum. "And on the subject of resolutions, I've never seen a man who doesn't 'sweat me' to tell them all I believe."

A Paying Investment.

John White, of 38 Highland Avenue, Houlton, Maine, says: "I have been troubled with a cough every winter and spring. Last winter I tried many advertised remedies, but the cough continued until I bought a 50c bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery, before that was half gone, the cough was all gone. This winter the same happy result has followed. A few bottles of the advertised annual cough. I am now convinced that Dr. King's New Discovery is the best of all cough and lung remedies." Sold under guarantee at Charles J. Shain's and Cobb & Cobb's drug stores, 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free.

D. & B. LINE STEAMERS LEAVE DAILY.

The large luxurious steamers Eastern States and Western States depart early every evening for their trip across Lake Erie. They arrive at their destinations early the next morning and make sure train connections to all points east and west.

On your next trip take the D. & B. Water Way and be fanned by cool lake breezes all the way. Send for pamphlet and Great Lakes Map. Address: D. & B. STEAMSHIP CO., 4 Wayne Street, Detroit, Mich.

NOTICE TO R. F. D. PATRONS.

All patrons of Rural Free Delivery routes should stamp all mail matter before putting it in the box for the Carrier to take and raise the signal; otherwise the matter is not properly prepared and the Carrier is not compelled to take it out.

W. H. POOLE, M. D.

PRACTICE LIMITED TO EYE, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.
270 Woodward Ave., Detroit.
Residence, Woodward Ave., just north of Cass street, between Cass and Michigan.

VISITS WITH A UNCLE BY

Stung.

A IOWA newspaper tells of a subscriber falling on a barb-wire fence, and adds that the aforesaid subscriber is now doing as well, as could be expected.

And this reminds me of an incident of my youth. On a bright June morning I was fishing at the "shed" when I struck a lead that enticed me to a deep hole surrounded on the shore side by a high barb-wire fence. In the hole was a school of crappies, but to reach them I had to crawl out on the fence where I gingerly seated myself on a post and threw in my bait. "Bing! Right off the reel, I got a game crappie and in my excitement, I forgot about the barbs, slipped off the post and cut enough jagged wounds in that part of my anatomy just south of my front porch to satisfy the most sanguinary of barb-wire fences. In addition, I tore my trousers and would have wrecked my underwear had I boasted of such superfluous apparel. There was some consolation, however. I was too sore, when I reached home to take a licking in the usual place.

Swimmin'.

Where the mounds hold their revel in the golden light of moon, I'de beyond the rutting valley, I'de down the path where catbirds whistle and the rabbit scurries by, I'de in the calm and placid river, gliding "neath a turquoise sky, And beyond the clump of willows where the darning snuffers gleam, I'de feeling the chop of wind, where we are "swimmin' in the stream."

There is Billy Lane and "Chunky," Stubble, Fatty, "Hot" and ME— I was too sore, when I reached home to take a licking in the usual place.

Home Makers of Birmingham

Let us help you to economical baking. Forget the high-priced BAKING POWDER. Use "S. & F." brand. Party Absolute.

One-pound cans only 10c
Two-pound cans only 20c
Delicious cakes and pastry guaranteed.

Golden Pheasant Japan Tea

Packed in 4-lb. lead packets where grown, in the choicest tea-growing district of Yamashiro, Japan. Earliest April pickings of the young and tender leaf. All the delicate aroma retained by hermetically sealed package. A most delightful beverage for the fastidious and critical tea drinker.

Price? Moderate 50c lb.

Spencer & Ferguson

Birmingham
Boots Shoes Groceries
Furnishings

Looking Ahead?

If so take advantage of these opportunities. We are selling BALL MASON FRUIT JARS, Pints, 65c; Quarts, 65c, and half-gallon, 90c, while they last.

We also carry everything needed in the canning season, such as Can Taps, Rubbers, Paraffine, and EXTRA PURE SPICES.

To our Crockery Department we have added the most healthful vessel now in use for cooking every variety of food. This vessel is made of the best and purest fire-clay, all sizes, with or without handle, from 5c to 25c.

As the school season is at hand we have added a full and up-to-date line of School Supplies and Fine Stationery. Call upon us at all times for Fresh Groceries, and extra fine Teas, Coffees, Butter and Eggs.

A fine supply of Peaches, Melons, Bananas and Oranges on hand.

Rogers' Celebrated Silverware FREE.

Ask for a Coupon with EACH CASH PURCHASE.

PETER KERR & SON

Local and Long Distance. Phone 1776 Main

Cobb & Cobb's Drug Store

THE FINEST EQUIPPED DRUG STORE IN THIS SECTION

Prescriptions Put Up Accurately from Purest Drugs—No Substitutes

Our Soda Fountain

Is serving a variety of Cool Drinks and Sodas, which are peculiarly gratifying to the palate during hot days.

COBB & COBB

BIRMINGHAM

Help Others.

You can do the greatest joy unless his life is blended with noble thoughts and noble deeds to cheer the heart that needs it.

Next! ☆☆☆
I never could understand why all manuscripts sent through the mails by authors should be designated "first class." Some belong in the waste basket class.

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Byron Williams

Closing Out!

- 100 pairs Men's Wool Pants, were \$2.00, Now \$1.48
- 125 pairs Ladies' Summer Corsets, Now 35c
- 200 pairs Ladies' Seamless Hose, pair, Two pairs 25c 15c
- 50 Ladies' Satin Waists, Now 98c
- 25 Ladies' Black Satin Skirts, Now \$1.00

F. BLAKESLEE

BIRMINGHAM

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Let us help you to economical baking. Forget the high-priced BAKING POWDER. Use "S. & F." brand. Party Absolute.

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Byron Williams

Linoleum, 12 feet wide, at 55c a square yard. Four different patterns.

THE ENGLASS SYSTEM

Mid-Summer SALE of DIAMONDS WATCHES CLOCKS

JEWELRY SILVERWARE CUT GLASS

Everything Reduced in Price in order to move our immense stock of Goods

Diamond Rings

\$100.00 Diamonds for \$80
\$ 75.00 " " \$60
\$ 50.00 " " \$30
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WATCHES

ELGIN and WALTHAM 14k Gold Filled. Guaranteed 20 Years.

7 Jewels (\$20.00 value) \$12.50
15 Jewels (\$25.00 value) \$15.00
17 Jewels (\$30.00 value) \$18.50

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Detroit United Railway

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Time Table in effect Nov. 5, 1907—Subject to change without notice.
All cars run on Central Standard Time.

Cars leave Birmingham for Detroit at 6:20 a. m. and every half hour thereafter until 1:20 a. m. then hourly until 2:50 p. m. On leaving Pontiac 10:20 a. m. connects at Royal Oak with our Free Plant for Detroit.

Cars leave Birmingham for Pontiac at 6:40 a. m. and hourly thereafter until 3 p. m. then every 15 minutes thereafter until 10:20 p. m.

Cars leave Detroit for Birmingham at 6:00 a. m. and every 15 minutes thereafter until 1:20 p. m. On leaving Royal Oak 10:20 a. m. connects at Royal Oak with our Free Plant for Birmingham.

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