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IN ADVANCE.

CHARLES W. FENROSE, EDITOR.

Saturday, . . . May 28, 1892

VISIT OF GEORGE W. CHILDS.

We have in our midst today the famous Philadelphia editor, Geo. W. Childs, a man distinguished for honesty, generosity and philanthropy. Though only a private citizen of the great Republic, yet the honors usually paid to kings, potentates, and princes are being accorded to him in his tour through the country. Since he left his home in Philadelphia on Monday, the 2nd inst., he has traveled over 2,700 miles, and has visited the various large cities east of us, receiving everywhere pronounced marks of the esteem and regard in which he is universally held by the American people.

Mr. Childs was born in Baltimore on May 12, 1829. At fourteen he moved to Philadelphia, where he obtained employment in a book-seller's shop. By thrift, economy and industry he soon became sole owner of a book establishment, which was located in the building of the *Public Ledger*, then one of the most influential papers in Philadelphia. It is said that about this time he conceived the thought of becoming some way owner and editor of the *Ledger*. The idea grew into a firm resolve, and never for a moment did he lose sight of the goal set for his ambition. From bookseller, he soon became publisher, and with his partner, the firm of Childs & Peterson achieved a reputation second to no other in the East.

In 1864, the *Public Ledger*, owing to mismanagement of some kind, fell a little from its usually flourishing condition. Mr. Childs then bought it, and in a short time made it more popular than it ever was before in its history. As early as 1867, three years after he assumed editorial control of the *Ledger*, his reputation as a just and liberal employer was established. In that year he was made an honorary member of the Philadelphia Typographical Society, and in 1868 presented it with a valuable tract of land in Woodlands, near the city, for a Printers' Cemetery. This has been beautified and ornamented, and the expenses attending its proper maintenance was paid by Mr. Childs for over twenty years.

In all public enterprises he has taken a prominent part. The city of Philadelphia bears many monuments of his generosity. Fairmount Park, the Zoological Gardens, the Pennsylvania Museum and the School of Industrial Arts are more or less the fruition of his benevolent and philanthropic spirit.

But it is in his relations as a capitalist and employer that the character of Geo. W. Childs shines most conspicuously. And what is more remark-

ably, his business prosperity seems in no way impaired by his liberality to his employees. On each Christmas eve every workman receives a present in money, the aggregate amount being many thousands of dollars. This is what he modestly calls profit sharing. He also pensions off his old and infirm employees.

In 1876 a delegation of his employees came to him with the announcement that they were willing to have their wages reduced from 45 cents a thousand ems to 40 cents, which then had become the Printers' Union rate. In reply Mr. Childs said he received the same from the *Public Ledger*, and for the advertisements in it as formerly. His business was in no way impaired, and the result was that he declined to accede to the reduction asked for by the printers, and he is still paying five cents a thousand more than the Union rate.

In 1886 the International Typographical Union held its annual session at Pittsburgh. On this occasion both Mr. Drexel and Mr. Childs each presented the Union with a check for \$5,000, without any conditions attached. The Union decided that these donations be made the basis of a fund for a Printers' Home. The birthday anniversary of Mr. Childs is May 12, and that of Mr. Drexel September 13. On the former day every union printer east of the Mississippi contributes the price of 1000 ems to this fund, and on the latter day those west of the river contribute a like sum. The result is a magnificent building in Colorado, known as the Childs-Drexel Home for Union Printers. It is situated on a slope of Pike's Peak, overlooking the "Garden of the Gods," not far from the pretty little town of Colorado Springs. On May 12th, inst., last Thursday, Mr. Childs was present and assisted at the dedication ceremonies, thus celebrating in a noble and philanthropic manner the 63rd anniversary of his birthday.

The Home is a splendid structure, containing 63 rooms, the largest one of which has a capacity of 100 beds. From a sanitary point of view, the location of the Home is also unexcelled. Although Mr. Childs presented the craft with a cemetery, he has also done something toward keeping his fellowmen out of that resting place as long as possible.

The other acts of benevolence, charity and philanthropy, and particulars associated with them, performed by this noble and public-spirited man would fill a volume. We bid him a cordial welcome to our city and hope his sojourn here will be pleasant and satisfactory.

"DIAMOND ED" IN TROUBLE.

A few weeks ago Ed. Huntley, a Chicago clothing dealer, was in this city. While here he told the romantic story of his having been robbed of some valuable diamonds by highwaymen, while riding on a stage, in the north. He also related the equally remarkable details of the way in which he claimed to have regained possession of his lost jewelry.

On account of the number of sparkling gems with which he generally

adorns his ample shirt bosom, Mr. Huntley has been given the distinguished title of "Diamond Ed." He is in trouble in Chicago, an indictment having been found against him by a grand jury. According to the *Chicago Mail* he had gone into hiding and could not be found.

The offense charged against him is a curious one. For some unknown reason Huntley formed a strong dislike to several respectable Jewish business men of Chicago and the indictment charges him with attempting to make them ridiculous by sending them postal cards bearing caricatures and having under them epithets in keeping with the libelous pictures. One of Huntley's victims, the indictment charges, was Thomas Daniels of 122 and 124 Market street. Mr. Daniels received a postal card from Huntley and on it was written the address, "Thomas Daniels, small, little fellow, who wears specs, alias the Welch Dwarf."

To J. H. Hirsh, a respectable Jewish citizen, living on the north side, it is claimed Huntley sent a postal address as follows: "J. H. Hirsh, a Jew on Frederick, somewhere near Orchard, if still alive." On the back of the card was an outrageous libel on Mr. Hirsh, in the shape of an alleged picture of Mr. Hirsh, whose nose was represented as describing a graceful curve which reached nearly to his chest. Another postal which the indictment charges Huntley with writing was addressed: "Sam Stinkenbreathstein, care Little Freddy Meyer & Bro., 235 Franklin street." All of the gentlemen who received these objectionable cards testified before the grand jury. The offense is a serious one, and is punishable by a fine of \$5,000 or no less than two years' imprisonment.

SUMMER POLITICAL CONVENTIONS.

UTONIANS contemplating a summer trip to the Eastern States might with profit time their excursions so as to take in one or all of the great political conventions to be held in the near future. Such vast gatherings afford a fine opportunity to study political character, and to see how the affairs of a great nation are manipulated.

The National Republican Convention will open in Minneapolis on Tuesday, June 7th, next, just three weeks from today. Great preparations are being made to receive and entertain not alone the official participants in the convention, but all visitors and strangers who may be present. The convention will be held in the Exposition building, a structure of about 360 feet square, with a seating capacity of 12,000 persons.

The National Democratic Convention will be held in Chicago on Tuesday, June 21st, just two weeks after the opening of the Republican. It will meet in a "wigwam" specially constructed for the occasion on the Lake Front, contiguous to the old exposition building where so many political conventions have been heretofore held. There will be present 840 delegates and the same number of alternates. Democratic conventions differ somewhat from Republican, owing to the fact that the two-thirds rule prevails in