

A FAIR AND SENSIBLE LETTER.

THE Burlington *Hawkeye* of November 30th, contains a well written letter from this city by a Burlingtonian sojourning here for a brief season. He describes what he has seen and gives his opinion of that which has come under his observation, but wisely and candidly refrains from commenting on things that he knows nothing about, and from swallowing and then repeating yarns that are usually spun to deceive travelers on the *qui vive* for sensations. He gives a correct account of the chief public buildings, Temple Tabernacle, Z. C. M. I., etc., gives credit to the people for industry, frugality, commercial, integrity, etc., and speaks in glowing terms of the beauty of the city, its situation, surroundings, dwellings, gardens, streets, trees and general characteristics. The writer signs himself V. H. C., and we presume the gentleman is Mr. Calkins, who was here very recently on business and pleasure combined. At any rate he has penned a good letter to his home paper, and one that can be relied upon for fairness and a take back of that assumption and prejudice which generally distinguish communications about Utah from transient visitors.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Russia is to have a telescope that will "bring the moon within 114 miles of us."

The electric light has been introduced into Shanghai, China, and is exciting much enthusiasm among the Chinese.

A New York doctor advertises to cure snoring for \$10, and the Gotham authorities are thinking of sending the police force to him, so that the city will be a little more quiet at night.

The difference between an atheist and an agnostic is that the former knows that he believes nothing, while the latter does not know whether he knows that he believes anything or not.

Since the resumption of active work on the Washington monument there have been laid seventy-six courses of stone, making 152 vertical feet. The height of the monument is now 302 feet.

Hollow steel shafting is being introduced into France. It is made by casting the metal around a core of lime, the ingot being finally rolled into shafting, the lime core going with it, and diminishing in diameter in the same proportion as the metal.

Prof. Roberts has calculated that the soot in the pall hanging over London on a winter's day amounts to fifty tons, and that the carbonic oxide, a poisonous compound, resulting from the imperfect combustion of coal, may be taken as at least five times that amount.

Cincinnati, that pious city whose ladies want to engage in the work of reforming Utah, is unable to keep its theatres closed on Sunday. What with open play houses, saloons and beer gardens, murders, thefts, suicides and prostitution, the city of pork and music is a sweet evangelist for the quiet, orderly and peaceful towns of Utah.

Eastern exchanges call the attention of Protestants to the fact that in the great and growing city of New York the Roman Catholics are increasing their church accommodations far more rapidly than any other religious body, more rapidly, probably, than several of the largest of them combined; and that they are yet unable to provide buildings enough for their members to worship in.

A flutter has been created in Boston over the discovery by the police in a doctor's house, the proprietor of which was under arrest, of a list of five hundred females for whom abortions had been procured. The dates as well as names are given, and make a very nasty record for the women as well as for the doctor himself. Don't Boston want to take a hand in "regenerating" Utah?

Dr. Constantine Fahlberg recently described to the German Technical Society a new substance, which he estimates to possess from twenty to thirty times the sweetness of cane sugar. To chemists the new body will be known as "anhydrousulphuric acid." The substance

may be extra sweet, but its name is enough to set one's teeth on edge.

The new ship canal which is to connect the Baltic and North Seas will save nearly six hundred miles of the water journey now made around the Danish peninsula. The cut, as proposed, will be from Gluckstadt to Kiel, and the length will be about half that of the Suez Canal, or some fifty miles. As in the Suez Canal, there are several small lakes lying in the way, which will be utilized by the engineers.

The Rev. Charles Ackworth was appointed by Bishop Brown pastor of the Zion Methodist Church at Lee, Massachusetts, but he had got no further than the text of his first sermon, when the Rev. John Cloyd, the former minister, aided by two trustees, pulled him off the platform and hustled him out of the house. It is to be inferred that the appointment was not acceptable to the Christian congregation.

The curse is departing from the land of Israel. A Jerusalem correspondent writes that viticulture is from year to year gaining ground in southern Palestine. Near Bethlehem, especially, large tracts which some years ago were allowed to lie waste have been laid out as vineyards, and in Jerusalem there is a European vintner, an old resident, whose frequent boast it is that the wines he makes appear at the table of the German Emperor.

A London paper undertakes to cheat death of its terrors by suggesting that the ashes of a person cremated, consisting principally of phosphate of lime, have only to be treated with sulphuric acid, which will become plaster of paris, which may be molded into a bust of the dead, which may be placed under a glass case, which may be set upon the mantle, which may be made cheerful by this imperishable presence of the departed.

A means of propelling and lighting tricycles by electricity has been devised. This is accomplished by means of a Faure system of accumulators. The electro-motors need not weigh more than one hundred and fifty pounds, as was demonstrated at a recent exhibition in London. An exchange gravely remarks that this invention promises a complete revolution in our methods of locomotion. It seems as if any considerable locomotion would require several complete revolutions of one kind or another.

The *Journal de Fabricants de Sucre*, writing of the beetroot-sugar crop on the continent, takes a gloomy view of the prospects. The weather has been wet and the consequences to the beet very unfavorable. If the like continues there will be a serious deficit. Germany reports a continuance of mild and rainy weather, except in certain regions where early frosts are looked for. The news from Austria is no better. In Moravia and Bohemia it is thought the larger portion of the crop will have to be left in the fields. Russia anticipates an average crop both as to weight and quality, but Poland will excel in quantity rather than in quality.

The Boston *Herald* says: Although electric lighting is rapidly extending and growing in popularity, it has not yet proved itself an economical method of illumination. The president of the British Board of Trade has lately expressed a decided opinion that "it would be absolutely impossible to light 'by electricity' any but closely populated 'areas, at a profit.'" But the fact that electric lighting is more expensive than by gas or mineral oil will not prevent its extensive use. There are many places where brilliancy is so desirable that it will be sought irrespective of its cost.

A negro died in the Louisville City Hospital recently from superstitious terror, as the medical attendants believe. To be sure, his physical condition was not good, but he could easily have been cured, in their opinion, except for the conviction that he was about to die. He did not tell in what way his fate was revealed to him, but he was not to be convinced that it could be averted. After four days in the hospital, during which he was able to walk around, he announced that his time had come, and lying down upon the floor died almost instantly. "Scared to death," is the verdict of the doctors.

The *Bombay Gazette* announces that coffee stands a chance of sharing with the potato and the grape the prospect of gradual extinction.

The plant is attacked by a peculiar fungus, which getting upon one leaf, rapidly spreads over the whole, causing the plant to die. In this way it has spread ruin and dismay throughout most of the districts of the hill country of Ceylon, extending thence to the Fiji Islands and Java, where it is reported to be doing great mischief. It is stated that in the Fiji Islands the local government interfered, and, buying up all the affected plantations, destroyed all the plants by fire, and so checked the plague.

The immigration, during the month of October, was less than in October of last year. This diminution was noticed also in the September figures, compared with those of the same month of 1881. It indicates that the great movement in this direction, so noticeable a few months ago, has past its point of greatest volume. The arrivals last month were in all 45,665, as against 67,929 for October, 1881. Of the whole number, 17,693 came from Germany, 7,659 from England and Wales, and only 3,315 from Ireland. The Irish element in America is destined to grow rapidly less by proportion, however, for its arrivals of recruits have become only a small per centage of the whole.

Young men, take care about making promises of marriage unless you fully intend to fulfil them. A Philadelphia judge has ruled that a declaration of intention to marry carries with it a gift of interest in property, so that a subsequent conveyance of said property by gift to others, before the marriage, is in the nature of fraud. The test case was one where real estate valued at \$70,000 was so disposed of, and where the man died four months after marriage. The court held that the conveyance was void, not because it had been made with any intention of wrong toward the fiancée, but on the ground that such transfer was incompatible with the equities of the man's relation with the prospective wife.

According to the *St. James, London, Gazette*, a line of steamships will shortly be established between San Francisco and Liverpool, which it is thought will divert some of the traffic of the Southern Pacific. One iron steamer of 3,600 tons has been launched for the service at Middlesbrough, and another is being built. Merchants complain of the exorbitant charges of the railway companies, particularly of the Central Pacific line. It is stated that the railway claims the right to charge, say, Merchant A \$500 for a carload of grindstones, and Merchant B \$600 for another carload coupled behind his car. The merchant 500 miles on the road nearer to New York is forced to pay for his freight being carried past to San Francisco and returned, although the car may be switched off at his door on its way westward. They had, it is alleged, threatened to crush one firm unless they ceased shipping part of their goods round the Horn. The merchants, for their own protection, have resolved on establishing a steamship line, assisted by an English syndicate representing a million sterling.

For carrying the proselyting "war into Africa" a missionary steamer, whose hull and machinery weigh only six tons, has been launched on the Thames in London. The vessel is named *Peace*, and has been built for the Baptist Missionary Society, who destine it for the service of the mission in the upper reaches of the Congo River. The boat can be taken to pieces readily for transportation purposes, and the total number of pieces, none of which would be too heavy for a man to carry, would be 800. The greatest possible use has been made of all available space, and the two cabins are admirably fitted. A kitchen adapted for a stove and other cooking appliances, forms part of the equipment. A substantial awning covers the deck, and between this and the side of the vessel a wire awning is fitted to stop arrows and other missiles. It is intended to take the steamer to pieces, and pack the sections in boxes, which will be sent to the mouth of the Congo. From thence they will be borne by 800 men a distance of 300 miles up to Stanley pool, where the steamer will be reconstructed by missionaries.

The London *Times* publishes a synopsis of some papers on the "tremors of the earth," by the committee appointed to measure the lunar disturbance of gravity, and by Mr. G. Darwin, which contained some statements new to the public. It is considered proved by the men

of science engaged, that the crust of the earth bends under the weights imposed on it, till "when the barometer rises an inch over a land area like that of Australia, the increased load of air sinks the entire continent two or three inches below the normal level." The land actually sinks and rises under the pressure of the mass of water thrown upon it by the tides, the maximum rise and fall of the Atlantic seaboard reaching five inches. This effect is felt at the bottom of the deepest mine, and may reach for an unknown distance. It follows that the crust of the earth must be of great tenacity, exceeding as a minimum that of granite; and its swayings may be the causes of phenomena hitherto quite unexplained, as, for example, the relation between storm and earthquake. So universal, frequent and unavoidable are these disturbances that the inquiry into the lunar disturbance of gravity has been given up. No depth can be found at which a recording instrument can be placed so as to escape their effect. The round earth pants, in fact, like a breathing being, under the changes always going on above her.

Advice to a Young Man.

Get married, my boy? Telemachus, come up close and look me right in the eye, and listen to me with both ears. Get married. If you never do another thing in the world, marry. You can't afford it? Your father married on a smaller salary than you are getting now, my boy, and he has eight children, doesn't have to work very hard, and every year he pays a great pile of your little bills that your salary won't cover. And your father was just as good a man at your age as you are now. Certainly you can afford to marry. You can't afford not to. No, I'm not going to quote that tiresome old saying that what will keep one person will keep two, because it won't. A thousand dollar salary won't keep two one thousand dollar people, but it will keep two five hundred dollar people nicely, and that's all you are, just now, my boy. You need not wince nor get angry. Let me tell you, a young man who rates in the world as a five hundred dollar man, all the year round, Monday as well as Saturday, the day after Christmas just as well as the day before; the fifth of July as well as the third, he is going to rate higher every year, until he is a partner almost before he hoped to be bookkeeper. Good, reliable five hundred dollar young men are not such a drug in the market as you suppose. You marry, and your wife will bring tact, and love, and skill, and domestic genius and womanly economy that will nearly double your salary. But you would have to deny yourself many little luxuries and liberties? Certainly you would; or rather you'd willingly give them up for greater luxuries. And you don't want to shoulder the burdens and cares of married life? I see you do not. And I see what you do not realize, perhaps—that all your objections to marriage are mean and selfish. You haven't given one manly reason for not marrying. If you do marry, you are going into a world of new cares, new troubles, new embarrassments. You are going to be careful and worried about many things. You are going to be tormented with household cares and perplexities all new and untried to you. You are going to be pestered and bothered and troubled. You will have to walk the floor with ten pounds of baby and a barrel full of colic when you are nearly crazy for sleep. You will have to tell stories to the children when you want to read. You will have to mend a toy for young Tom when you ought to be writing letters. You will have to stay at home in the evening when you used to go to the club. The baby will rumple your necktie and the other children will trample into your lap with their dusty shoes. Your wife will have so much to do looking after the comfort of her husband and children that she won't be able to sing and play for you every evening, as your sweetheart did. Your time will not be your own, and you will have less leisure and freedom for fishing and shooting excursions, camps in the mountains and yachting trips along the coast, than your bachelor friends of your own age. I admit all this. But then, you will be learning self-denial, you will be living for some one else; you will be loving some one better than you love yourself, and more than a thousand

fold that that compensates for all that you give up.

Why, you want to remain single now, my boy, just because you are selfish. And the longer you stay single the more selfishness will grow up on you. There are some noble exceptions among bachelors, I know, and some mean ones among married men; and a selfish married man needs killing more than any other man I know, but as a rule—just look around your own friends and see who are the unselfish men; who it is that gives up his seat in a street car to a woman—not a pretty, young girl, but a homely, wrinkled woman in a shabby dress; who is it that heads the charity subscription? Who pays the largest pew rent? Who feeds the beggars? Who finds work for the tramp? Who are the men foremost in unselfish work? I know your young bachelor friends are not stingy. O, no, I know Jack Fastboy paid \$570 last week for a new buggy it is light as a match-box and has such a narrow seat that he never can ask a friend to ride with him; and at the same time Dick Slocum, who married your sister Alice five years ago, gave \$250 for the cyclone sufferers. I think the angels laughed all that afternoon, my boy, but I don't think it was because Jack paid \$570 for his new buggy. If you want to shirk the responsibilities of life, my dear boy, you may; if you want to live forty or fifty years longer with no one under the heavens to think about or care for or plan for but yourself, go ahead and do it; you will be the only loser, the world won't miss you nearly as much as you will miss the world; you will have a mean lonely, selfish easy time, and, unless you are a rare exception to your class, little children will hate you, and the gods never yet loved any man whom the children disliked. — *Burlington Hawkeye*.

Swords.

One of the clearly marked differences between men and the brute beasts lies in the fact that with his own unaided strength man is seldom able to take the life of his fellow-beings. Consequently, when we wish to put ourselves upon a level with the tiger and the wolf, and to qualify ourselves for the shedding of blood and the taking of life, we are obliged to find some other weapons than those nature has given us. Here and there may be a man who can kill another man by the exertion of his unassisted strength, but it is very seldom, indeed, that human life is taken by human beings without the use of an artificial weapon.

The first weapon used by man was probably a club; and it is also likely that in time this was made of very hard wood, and somewhat sharpened on one or more sides, so as to inflict a more deadly wound. Wooden weapons of this kind are now in use by some savage races. Then it was found that more effective weapons of the sort could be made of a harder substance, and short, unwieldy swords were hewn out of stone, very much as our Indians made their arrow-heads of flint. But a sword of this kind, although a terrible weapon in the hands of a strong man, was brittle and apt to break, and so, in time, when the use and value of metals came to be understood, swords were made of these substances. The early Romans, and some other nations, had strong heavy swords made of bronze. But when iron and steel came into use, it was quickly perceived that they were the metals of which offensive weapons should be made.

By a careful study of the form and use of the sword, from its first invention until the present time, we may get a good idea of the manner in which, in various ages, military operations were carried on. At first, men fought at close quarters, like the beasts they imitated. But as the arts of warfare began to be improved, and as civilization and enlightenment progressed, men seemed anxious to get further and further away from one another when they fought, and so the sword gradually became longer and longer, until in the Middle Ages, a man's sword was sometimes as long as himself.

But there is a limit to this sort of thing, and when the use of projectiles which would kill at a distance became general, it was found that a soldier was seldom near enough to his enemy to reach him with his sword; and at the present day it is seldom used in actual warfare except by cavalrymen, and these fre-