

Richfield Springs Mercury.

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NEW YORK LETTER.

From our Regular Correspondent.

New York, July 8, 1882.

The rustication season bids fair to be one of unusual elat, and especially in dress. Our modistes and merchants have been greatly taxed for a month past in preparing watering-place finery and the importations in this line are characterized by a perfection hitherto unknown in the annals of fine raiment. Evidently, wealth is not an exceptional element in America, as in the days of our grand parents. Now vast sums are daily expended on personal adornment. The splendor of dress has indeed become of great importance when jeweled garters are purchased at a cost of \$150 to \$200 per pair.

The terrible exodus to Europe surpasses that of any previous year. Men, woman and children appear to be seized by the European fever, which apparently is as fatal to our wealthy people as small-pox to an Indian. Where this is to stop and when it is to end, is what no man can tell with any degree of certainty or accuracy. While we are welcoming emigrants by the thousand, we are bidding *bon voyage* to friends by the hundred who are bound East for a few months tour of the continent. The drain on the watering places has been very great, and many a familiar face will be missed this summer by the Ariehna of the seashore, mountain or springs, who spin webs and snares for unwary city visitors.

The City of Churches and its suburbs appear to be having a bountiful harvest of prize fights this summer, the good natured police across the river evidently being averse to interfering with the recreations of "the fancy." It is reported that a fiercely contested prize fight took place this morning at daybreak, between two amateurs, in the vicinity of Coney Island. No particulars or details of the affair have been received and the blue coated guardians of the peace in Brooklyn, are in a tug regarding it. "They" were warned last evening that a "mill" was on the tapis, for about ten o'clock it was reported to headquarters from the Tenth precinct station, that a large number of sporting men had gone in carriages toward Coney Island, and that there were ominous signs in the air. But the Brooklyn police prefer to make a fuss after the fight is over and thus not spoil the arrangements of the gentlemen who wish to test each others strength, and the other gentlemen who put money on them. With pastors of churches away in the mountains, and prize fights careening around, the City of Churches is not exactly in a state of grace this summer.

A change in the situation or affairs in regard to the strike alongshore took place to-day that will probably prove to be "the beginning of the end" of the deadlock which has existed during the past two weeks. Whether the change was in favor of the strikers or of the railroad companies it seems difficult at present to say. The first is that twenty of the old hands were put to work this morning at pier 8, New Jersey Southern R. R. freight depot. A visit to the pier showed that the old hands were at work, handling the freight in a very different manner from the way in which the work has been done of late.

The exportation of cattle to Europe which has of late years assumed a prominent place in the ocean trade, bids fair to increase still more during the coming fall and winter. Mr. Frank L. Underwood, president of the Merchants Bank of Kansas City, Colorado, who will arrive in England by the steamer Alaska, during the coming week, on a two months trip to England and Scotland, represents a syndicate of western cattle raisers, who in connection with the Earl of Airlie, control 300,000 head of cattle, and who intend to ship during the months of October and November 50,000 beeves to England. Mr. Underwood during the visit abroad will enter into contracts with the large dealers of England for the supply of cattle in large quantities during the coming fall and winter. He intends to make special arrangements with the steamship companies for the transfer of cattle, looking to a more humane treatment of them during the time they are on board the ship. The syndicate, which is said to be headed by the Earl of Airlie, who paid an extended visit to the western countries some two years ago, possesses a grand grazing country 200 miles in length on the Colorado river, which is said to be the largest and best pasture land in that state.

It is now stated that nobody will be compelled to pay political assessments unless he wishes to do so. It is safe to assume that not a man or woman in the employ of the government is foolish enough to want to contribute to the support of elections or candidates for office.

Alexandria Under Fire.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, July 11, 9:10 A. M.

The excitement in Alexandria was at fever pitch during the night. The announcement of the hour at which bombardment was to commence drove the residents of the city into a condition of terror bordering on frenzy. All night long the streets were filled with people. Aboard the ships a sinister calmness reigned, as the preparation for the assault went gravely on. When daylight came it found the residents of Alexandria rushing hither and thither in search of safety. The panic was at its highest when the hour for the beginning of bombardment arrived.

THE FIRING COMMENCES.

The attack on the forts commenced at 7 o'clock this morning, and has been continued without cessation up to this hour. Smoke hangs over the town like a cloud along the line of the shore batteries and among the ships, and it is difficult to see what damage has been done. It is certain, however, that the Egyptians have suffered very heavily. For Marsa El Kana has been blown up. The fire from the other shore batteries and the Alexandria forts is now slackening and the top of the lower fort, Pharoas, has been carried away and many guns dismounted on that and other forts. The flag of the Geneva Red Cross is flying over the hospital in the city. The Dutch and Greek flags are hoisted over their respective consulates. At the beginning of the bombardment immense excitement was visible. Crowds were seen wending their way toward the Palace. The streets are now deserted, the people having fled or taken refuge in cellars. There are no signs of surrender yet.

THE OFFICIAL REPORT.

LONDON, July 11.—Admiral Seymour telegraphs that the ships opened fire at 7 this morning. The return fire from the fort was weak and ineffective. The explosion in Fort Marsa El Kanat had occurred by 8. The ships engaged are the *Inflexible*, *Temeraire*, *Penelope*, *Superb*, *Sultan*, *Invincible*, *Alexandria*, and *Monarch*.

TERRIBLE ASSAULT.

The bombardment still continues. The forts are gradually being silenced. The Ras El Tin forts are suffering severely from the effects of the heavy and disastrous fire of the ships *Alexandria*, *Superb* and *Temeraire*.

LATER—A MAGAZINE BLOWN UP.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, July 11.—The magazine at Fort Ada has been blown up.

THE ORDER OF ATTACK.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, July 11.—The armored ships are in the following positions: The *Alexandria*, *Sultan* and *Superb* are under way on a line north-east by east, and 15,000 to 19,000 yds. northwest of the Ennoshes Point light-house. The *Inflexible* is in the Corvete pass, the narrowest channel leading into the harbor, and 3,700 yards north by west from the Masse fort. The *Temeraire* is in the central channel, 3,500 yards north to northwest of the Masse fort, and the *Penelope*, *Invincible* and *Monarch* are from 1,000 to 3,000 yards to the northwest of the Masse fort. The unarmored ships are under way, and are working their guns to the best advantage. The torpedo depot ship *Hecla* has arrived. Fort Ada, the magazine in which has been blown up, is located close to the Vice Regal Palace, outside of the harbor.

THE MISCHIEF WROUGHT.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, July 11—6:50 P. M.—The fleet's fire commands the railroad to Cairo. Up to noon four forts in all had been blown up. No casualties to the fleet is discernible.

LATER—THE FIRING CEASES.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, July 11.—Action has been finished for the day. The casualties on the English side are 40 wounded and none killed.

SPLENDID NAVAL WARFARE.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, July 11.—The cannonading from the fleet, after it got fairly under way, was simply one of the most perfect specimens of naval warfare witnessed in modern times. The guns had all been shot and trained for nearly 24 hours, but when the actual order to open fire was given the crisis made the gunners noticeably nervous. This was for only a moment. Within twenty minutes of the time of the first shot the men aboard the ships steadied to their work in such grand state that every shot did just what it was fired at.

NEW YORK, July 12.—A bulletin from Alexandria dated 1:30 P. M., says that a flag of truce is shown from the town and a vessel steaming toward the fleet is also displaying a flag of truce.

OPENING FIRE THIS MORNING.

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, July 12.—11:40 A. M.—The *Inflexible* and *Temeraire* opened fire this morning on Monticellie fort, which during the night was repaired. The first three shots greatly damaged the batteries. A signal has just been given to cease firing. The *Achilles* has just been sighted steaming toward the fleet.

THE DEMAND FOR TRAINED MEN.

LONDON, July 12.—It is said that it is contemplated to call out 7,000 army reserves to take the place of untrained men belonging to the regiments prepared to proceed to Egypt.

The bodies of those killed in action yesterday were buried at sea to day. The scene was gloomy. All the flags were at half mast.

THE DEADLY SHELLS.

There are now about fifty vessels, including men-of-war, anchored off the breakwater. If the wind rises much the smaller ones will weigh anchor. It has been impossible so far to communicate with the shore. It is likely that the European quarter has been seriously damaged. Several shells from the *Inflexible* were seen to burst immediately over the centre of the town.

A Perilous Balloon ride.

On Tuesday, Madame Adella, the Syracuse aeronaut, made an ascension at Oswego, which came near resulting fatally. To a *Times* reporter of that city the lady gave the following particulars of her perilous voyage. "After the balloon rose it tended northwest and began to approach the lake. I threw out a winter cloak thinking I might rise in to a different current which would take the balloon away from the lake, but it still continued to work northward, and when over the west breakwater I cut off the anchor rope, and it presented a curious sight as it fell. The water below looked nearly black, and I knew I had attained a great elevation and was still rising. Shortly after the balloon was enveloped in a heavy snow-storm, and for a few moments I could see nothing but the white snowflakes beneath me. The snow melted on the balloon and filled the cordage with water, and the additional weight caused it to settle somewhat so that in a few moments I came in sight of the lake. I hung out my red signal flag and fastened on my cork jacket and looked toward the harbor and saw the sailboats but I could not tell which was the life-boat. I saw a steam tug and thought it was coming to my aid. I kept swaying the balloon toward the shore, thinking I could keep it near enough to the beach to strike a point of land which I saw (probably Nine Mile point) for I dreaded to plunge into the lake. I watched the tug and saw that it was receding and gradually working off shore. At this time the tug was a mere speck in the distance. I opened the valve and braced myself in the basket and prepared for the plunge. When the balloon struck the water the basket turned throwing me over on my face, and immersing me up to my shoulders. The globe was also partially on its side. I knew that my only safety was in keeping inside the basket. My weight kept it nearly under water and all the while I was in the water up to my arm pits. The wind acted on the balloon as it would on a sail, and it seemed to me that it went plunging through the water at a fearful rate.

"I was on my knees in the basket and reached it and clung to the concentrating hoop. I didn't hear the whistle of the tug. I realized my condition and began to calculate my chances of rescue. I looked back and could not see tug boat or sail. Off in one direction I saw land, but it seemed to be far distant, and I was going from it. I resolved to make the best of my situation and keep cool. My better judgment said 'don't be frightened.' In cases of the most extreme danger I have the most self-possession and at such times feel cheerful. As I was dragged along I sang 'All my Hopes in Thee are Stayed,' and kept looking over my shoulder for the tug. I must have dragged twenty minutes when I spied the steam of the tug in the distance. I gave utterance to an exclamation of joy. Then came the chorus of that verse: 'He saves me, saves me now.' How I watched that tug can better be imagined than described. I saw they were gradually gaining on me, but slowly. I must have dragged an hour or more before they overtook me. It occurred to me that if I could get the globe near to the water it would not drag so fast, and I reached out and seized a group of the attachments and pressed them down into the water, and that drew the balloon nearer to the surface. I heard the tug whistle, and nearer and nearer they came, and I could distinguish forms and hear the puffing. It was the sweetest music I ever heard. They came alongside, and I shouted to them to look out for the gas, and not set it on fire. Some one called out to me 'don't get excited,' and reached me a rope. I passed it around the iron ring and handed it back. With that they drew the balloon alongside and several men seized me by the shoulders and lifted me over on the deck. I was nearly exhausted, chilled through and shivered with the cold. I don't think I could have lived 2 hours longer in the water. They were obliged to cut the balloon to let the gas out. I saved a telescope loaned me by tying it to the basket.

Wool.

Walter Brown & Co's July circular says:

There is but little to report of the wool market since our last circular. With a holiday coming early in the week, there was a tendency to include the day previous, which restricted the period of active business to nearly half the usual time.

The general policy of cautious buying displayed by manufacturers during the past few weeks, continues, and the volume of sales is not up to the average, altho' no material change can be made in the range of quotations.

There is considerable complaint by manufacturers in regard to the distribution of their goods. The backwardness of the spring has been a serious drawback to the closing out of light-weight fabrics, and it is possible that a considerable quantity of these goods may have to be carried over, or sold at a sacrifice, in order to keep the stocks well cleaned up.

With the woolen trade so quiet, it is a fortunate circumstance that the new clip of wool should be so slow in arriving at the seaboard. Had the accumulation been as great as it was at this time last year, it is probable that the pressure would have brought a considerable decline in values. As it is, the light receipts have enabled holders to maintain prices on quite a steady basis during the past month.

Reports from the interior give favorable accounts of the crops, and as it is generally conceded that the prosperity of all branches of mercantile and manufacturing industries depends upon the success of the farmers, it is to be hoped that a certain and bountiful harvest will give a renewed impetus to the fall trade, that will more than compensate for an unsatisfactory spring business.

The demand continues for fine and fine medium wools, the coarser grades meeting with no inquiry except at low prices.

Wools from the fleece washing districts are arriving very slowly and the consumption of delaine being mostly confined to these, has kept a strong demand apparent for this grade.

There may be some slight fluctuation in prices during the next two weeks, but we do not anticipate any material change in values of the staple.

QUOTATIONS, SALES, ETC.

Ohio and Pennsylvania.—XX and above at 41@42c, X at 40@42c, No 1 at 43@45c, No 2 at 34@37c, coarse at 30@34c. The sales for the week as reported, foot up 158,000 lbs. Michigan, Wisconsin, etc.—X and above at 38@40c, No 1 at 42@44c, No 2 and common at 30@36c. Sales 48,300 lbs.

New York, New Hampshire etc.—X and above at 37@39c, No 1 at 41@43c, No 2 and common at 30@34c. Sales 23,300 lbs.

The Storm at Long Branch.

The first part of last week was cold and wet, and people complained of the weather. It will be seen by the following, from the New York *Herald* correspondent that the storm in this vicinity was nothing, compared to that at Long Branch. In speaking of Wednesday's storm, he says:

The great summer capital presented a woful appearance this morning. A fierce storm had prevailed on the coast all night, and the wind howled about the corners and penetrated the halls and dining rooms of the hotels, making everything feel uncomfortable. Stages swarmed about the doors and passengers tumbled in promiscuously, with but one object in view, to get to the depot as quickly as possible. Ladies kept their rooms, and the gentlemen who ventured out on the beach came back shivering. Any one fortunate enough to have an overcoat with him was looked upon with envy by his less careful neighbors who were compelled to view the war of the elements from dirty windows or protected recesses. The ocean was one seething mass of foam, and the great breakers as they rushed one after the other, upon the sands in quick succession, threatened to tear away the bathing houses, bulkhead, and even the bank in many places. Of course the great wrought iron ocean tubular pier was the central point of attraction during the morning, and crowds visited the trembling structure to view the storm. It was not a pleasant spot in which to sit and read the latest novel, nor did children romp and play with innocent glee upon the quivering planks. Oh no; quite the contrary. Strong, venturesome men went out upon the "great wrought iron tubular pier" and came back drenched to the skin. Sometimes its extreme easterly end would seem to be completely submerged by the great waves, being for an instant invisible. It stood the storm well, however, and but little damage was done. The bluff opposite the Howland House suffered considerably, the bulkhead having been torn away.

International Sunday School Lesson.

July 16, 1882.

SUFFERING AND SERVICE.

Mark 10: 23-45.

GOLDEN TEXT: The Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.—Verse 45.

Central Truth: He who goes nearest in time to Christ, the crucified, shall get nearest to Christ the glorified.

Our Saviour is now rapidly approaching Jerusalem, and cannot be far from Jericho. He well knows the scenes that there await him. At other times he has turned aside from perils, and avoided those who would take his life. But now the appointed time is near, and he pushes forward with more than calm resolution. In his eagerness he outstrips his disciples, and goes before them. They themselves are not unaware of the dangers which await them; and it is at the thought of these, and perhaps as they note the "majesty and heroism of his bearing" that they are "amazed" and "afraid."

Jesus perceives their thought. He knows, too, how the old allusion of a kingdom of earthly splendor clings to them. And it is partly to correct their error and partly to prepare them for approaching trials, that he takes the twelve aside to tell them what things should happen. More than once before he has done this. But this time he tells them of the time and mode of his sufferings; that not only shall the Jews condemn him to death, but the Gentiles shall mock and scourge and spit upon and kill him. Luke adds that, notwithstanding his plainness of speech they did not understand him; so difficult is it for men to comprehend any truth which is opposed to their preconceived notions and cherished desires.

It was not long after this fresh prediction of his death and rising again, that two of his disciples came to him with what now seems to be a singular request. It appears from Matthew's account (Mat. 20: 20) that the mother of James and John had joined the company. And together they agreed to ask that in his coming kingdom and glory the one of these might sit on his right hand and the other on his left. That the request was prompted by earthly and selfish ambition is too evident. Doubtless, there was in it a thought of superior dignity and authority. They may have remembered what he had lately said (Mat. 19: 27, 28) of "twelve thrones" on which his followers should sit, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. They were ambitious to be chief judges. But their request may also have had its side of love and loyalty. It is right to desire to be near a loved master, and especially noble is it to covet the place of suffering for his sake. Perhaps there was something of this in their hearts. For they thought themselves ready to be baptized with the baptism of suffering which he forewarned them, was to come upon him.

There was great tenderness in the Saviour's response, both to their request and declaration of readiness to share whatever might befall him. "Ye shall indeed, drink of the cup that I drink of; and with the baptism that I am baptized withal shall ye be baptized. But to sit on the right hand and on my left is not mine to give; but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared." The prediction contained in this answer was fulfilled. James was the first of the twelve who suffered martyrdom; and John's long experience of cross bearing for the Master's sake.

It does not appear that the other ten were displeased with James and John because they themselves were less eager for personal promotion. It is easy to condemn in others the very faults which prevail in ourselves. Accordingly calling them to him, Jesus once more declared to them the spiritual nature of his kingdom, and the conditions of its highest honors and its chief rewards. In this world men seek to assert and maintain their superiority by means of lordship and authority. In the kingdom of Christ he is greatest who rules by love; being in lowly self-forgetfulness, only ambitious to serve. And he is the very highest who renders widest service: the "servant of all." In all this our Saviour only asked that they be willing to do their measure as he did. "For even the son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." Since in no other way could men be redeemed and saved, he, the Son of God became the Son of man and gave himself even unto death. This ransom, sufficient for all, actually avails for the many who consent to accept it.

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. In every pathway of sorrow, self-sacrifice and peril, Jesus goes "before" his disciples. He does not drive; he leads. He lays upon us no cross which he has not himself borne.

2. Note how careful the Saviour was to prepare his disciples for the trials which awaited them. Repeatedly,

faithfully and tenderly he forewarned them of impending ills.

3. Jesus plainly foresaw every part of his own sufferings, and the manner of his death. He came to die. His face was ever toward the cross. It was not a surprise: nor was it the natural penalty of heroic fidelity. Toward it, with eager, loving steps, he pressed.

4. In the conduct of James and John we have an illustration of the slow process by which selfish passions are eliminated from even truly Christian hearts. These were sincere, true disciples; and yet in this instance they acted just as worldly men are accustomed to act. They wanted the places of honor. "Pride is the inmost coat which we put off last, and which we put on first."

5. One of the great points of the lesson comes out in what our Saviour says of the nature and condition of greatness in his Kingdom. The lowliest in time shall be the loftiest in eternity. Even in this world those are the most truly esteemed, and exert the widest and most lasting influence, who forget themselves in service for others. Tyrants in high places and self seekers everywhere are hated while they live and execrated when they die. For a time selfish ambition may succeed; but by-and-by the tables will be divinely turned and everybody will be found high or low, in his proper niche. In the pyramid of the glorified, it will not be the highest dignitaries of the church or the most applauded scholars or the most splendid orators, who will be found at the apex." All real pre-eminence rests on love. He will be greatest in the next world who has followed closest to the self-sacrifice, ministering Christ in this.

6. Note here the great mistake of parents and teachers who train their children or pupils to shine, rather than to serve; to seek worldly honors and human praise, rather than to do unnoticed good. The spirit thus implanted and fostered is far from that of Christ; it is a chief cause of misery in this world; it leads to disappointment and loss hereafter. And yet this is just what some Christian parents and teachers are habitually doing.

7. Of all the truths taught in this lesson, the deepest and most important is the last. Do not fail to note that the culminating purpose for which Jesus came "was to give his life a ransom for many." A ransom is a price of deliverance. By his death Jesus paid that price for us. But for its payment—and no human creature could have paid it—not one soul had ever been redeemed from the curse and power of sin. This great truth was spoken by our Saviour's own lips. Let us accept it as applying to ourselves. In our teaching let it never be forgotten or obscured.

A Wonderful New Cotton Plant.

Attention is now attracted, says an Atlanta, Ga., dispatch, to a new sort of cotton plant which bids fair to prove immensely valuable. For many years A. A. Subers, of Macon, has been carefully experimenting to hybridize the cotton plant that grows wild in Florida with the common okra. The cotton plant used is of that species which is found on the lowlands of the Caloosahatchie river. The new plant retains the okra stalk and the foliage of the cotton. Its flower and fruit, however, is strikingly unlike either cotton or okra. The plant has an average height of two feet, and each plant has only one bloom. This is a magnificent flower very much like the great magnolia in fragrance, and equally as large. Like the cotton bloom the flower is white for several days after it opens, after which it is first pale pink, and gradually assumes darker shades of this color until it becomes red, when it drops, disclosing a wonderful boll. For about ten days this boll resembles the cotton boll, and then it suddenly increases as if by magic until it finally reaches the size of a cocoanut. Not until it reaches this size does the lint appear. Then its snowy threads begin to burst from the boll, but are held securely in place by the okra-like thorns or points that line the boll. One experienced picker can easily gather 800 pounds a day, and fast hands much more. Were the only saving that of labor in gathering the lint, the result of Mr. Subers experiment would entitle him to the everlasting gratitude of the southern farmer. But this is not all—there are no seeds in the lint. Each boll produces about two pounds of long staple cotton, superior to the sea island, and at the bottom of the boll there are from four to six seeds, resembling persimmon seed. The new cotton, therefore needs no ginning.

The edict has gone forth to lower the net in lawn tennis, and that for the future in single matches the correct height of the net will be three feet, six inches at the post, and three feet at the centre.

Black small-pox is raging with great violence at Mazatlan, Arizona.—here have been fifty deaths.