

MATRIMONY BY ADVERTISEMENT.

One of the oldest matrimonial advertisements we know of, and at the same time a good example of the combination of commercial and sentimental ideas characteristic of such announcements, appeared in the General Advertiser for March 30, 1748:— "Whereas, on Saturday last, a lady, genteelly dressed, was seen to lead a string of beautiful stone horses through Edmonton, Tottenham, and Newington—this is to acquaint her, that if she is disengaged and inclined to marry, a gentleman who was soitten with her behavior on that occasion is desirous of making honorable proposals to her; in which state, if he be not so happy as to please, he will readily purchase the whole string for her satisfaction." We doubt if any woman ever had a stranger option given her than the fair horse-dealer, or if any horse-dealer ever had a better chance of doing a good stroke of business. This is, however, hardly a fair specimen of matrimonial advertisements, since it is addressed to a particular member of the sex; unlike the following from the Reading Mercury of the 13th of September, 1798:—"To the Fair Sex—Ladies: Being at this time in want of a partner for life, to assist in a multiplicity of business which I am now engaged in, I have taken this public method of informing you. If any young lady of the following description would wish to enter the holy state of matrimony—she must be genteelly made, rather tall; black, brown, or auburn hair, aged from twenty-five to thirty-five; widow or maid; if a fortune, will settle the same upon the lady and offspring, wishing to act upon the strictest honor. Such lady, by letter post-paid or personal application, to Mr. Timothy Surrell, Yeoman, Quality Court, Chancery street, Humberford, Berks, will meet with a welcome reception. N. B.—To avoid extra expenses, Mr. Surrell would wish to keep his wedding and harvest-home the same evening, which will be within fourteen days from the present date, as he particularly wished the lady to reside at table that evening." Mr. Surrell evidently believed that happy is the wooing that is not long a-doing.

He is not so communicative about himself as a Yorkshire farmer who advertised a couple of years back:—"Wanted, a wife by a handsome young farmer, who is desirous of becoming domesticated and of enjoying the society of a young, good-tempered female, who would tempt him away from his market festivities by her pleasing and gently persuasive manners. She must not exceed twenty, unless she be a widow, whose family must not exceed six. Want of beauty would be no kind of objection, provided she possessed from £1000 to £2000. His rent, tithes, and taxes are all paid up, and he is wholly free from debt. All that he requires is love, peace, and happiness." Perhaps he was in a fair way of obtaining those three blessings than the redskin Kabeshidway whose wigwam and heart were so very big, he felt compelled to give the Minnesotan maidens a chance of competing for the honor of becoming Mrs. Kabeshidway number four. The most important thing in the kind we have seen appeared in a Scotch daily paper not very long ago, and ran thus:—"Matrimony.—A young man, of good position, and all that sort of thing, wishes to correspond with a young lady; age under twenty-five, good-looking, of a pleasant temperment, and accomplished. Money no object, at same time no objection. Address Sylvanus, etc." He got his answer through the same medium:—"Matrimony.—A young lady, rising twenty-four, beautiful, of genial temperment, and all that sort of thing, recommends Sylvanus to apply to Mr. H. Kimpton, Wife, Narcissus." The following advertisement is too good for abridgment:—"A gentleman, educated at engineering colleges, and works in this country and on the Continent, civil and military, aged twenty-eight, height five feet seven and a half, light brown hair and whiskers, blue eyes, an athlete, member of scientific societies, and holding responsible professional appointments, entailed property in his own right after relative's decease, affectionate, and fond of domestic life, wishes to meet with a nice-looking, gentlemanly, well-educated and connected, of thorough Christian principles, and whose views agree with "Far above Rubies" in the Christian World Magazine for April and June; height, about five feet seven, or more, dark complexion, and with an income of not less than two hundred pounds a year. She might, if desirable, add part of this to the capital of the engineering works in which he is interested, and interest guaranteed thereon at seven and a half per cent. It is considered that on being married his professional duties and income therefrom will gradually increase, independently of her property. A widow need not answer this. References to the theologians, solicitors, and medical advisers. Photograph and full particulars exchanged."—Chambers' Journal.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THACKERAY. BY HIS COUSIN. An American lady, an authoress, of Roman Catholic opinions, told me she was once rather offended with Thackeray, because she was "snubbed" (that was her expression) by the satirist, when she informed him that she went to the "oratory" at Brompton—"Oh! you go to that shop, do you?" "That was what he thought of Popery. I suspect that Thackeray was a sort of Christian skeptic, like Carlyle. On the subject of religion, however, he was always reverential, and when we were speaking of the late W. J. Fox and his late wife, Thackeray confessed, he remarked to me, "He has such a way of patronizing God Almighty!" He always spoke with the profoundest veneration for Christ, and I fancy that latterly he was of Unitarian (that is, modern Unitarian) views in theology. He once remarked to me that he considered skepticism "a very humble state of mind." It may be so, but it is painful. Perhaps there is nothing more harrowing than incessant doubt. The genius of Thackeray was not remarkable outside observers. He kept a reserve of force. I don't think he cared much for argument. Men of inferior capacity have possessed far more reasoning capacity. But he saw far at once—saw to the heart of a mystery—as genius does. When he mentioned Dickens to me, I said I did not fancy he was a deep thinker. "No; but he has a clear and bright-eyed intelligence, which is better than philosophy," he said. I rejoined that I thought he a little over-rated Dickens. "I think he is equal to Fielding and Smollett—at any rate, to Smollett. He is not a scholar, as Fielding was," he replied. He told me he thought "Dickens wrote the most charming extravaganzas in the world," which seems to me a fair and just criticism. I asked him what writer of all living authors he most admired. "Macaulay is about the most brilliant," was the answer. No doubt he was captivated by

Lord Macaulay's style, but I was surprised that he cared for him so much. Thackeray did not like to be always discussing politics or grave subjects, and assured me that it was quite "refreshing" to his wife sometimes, who was not political. He said, with a sigh, to me, after she became hopelessly insane:—"Poor thing! I was as happy as the day was long with her."

It looked curious to see Thackeray with his wife, for he was six feet three, and she was below the middle height; so that she could barely reach his arm. Talking of his stature, he remarked to a friend of his— "After six feet, it all runs to seed."

I once saw him with Higgins, who, I believe, was six feet seven, and it was odd to see him almost dwarfed by the side of "Jacob Othman."

An acquaintance of mine met Thackeray one day after his return from America, and asked him what he thought of the Republicans there—for he imagined that the famous novelist was a Democrat also.

"I shall record my opinions on the Americans," answered Thackeray. "In the magazine," I don't mean to write."—Cassell's Magazine.

A MAN WHO HAS DUG HIS OWN GRAVE.—An Indianapolis correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial tells the following story of a man who in this connection has rather a suspicious name:—

John Dye, an old and respected citizen of Hancock county, in this State, has had his grave dug for a number of years. He accomplished this work with his own hands, excavating the earth to a proper depth, laying a stone slab on the bottom, and walling up the sides with brick. A similar slab is intended to cover the grave, and what is singular, Mr. Dye has scooped out of the stone a hollow for his body to rest in, with an elevation, in which there is another hollow for the head. It is his desire that when he dies he shall be dressed in certain specific clothing, and that a blanket shall be laid in the tomb, upon which his remains are to be laid. Another blanket is to be spread over him, and the large slab of stone placed on the tomb; the earth filled in above. It will be seen that he does away with the use of a coffin entirely, and he further requests that no burial service be used or sermon preached, and that no money be expended in his memory. Recently a heavy rain carved in the earth above the tomb, and Mr. Dye set about repairs with a vigor that was surprising. To prevent a recurrence of the accident he has walled the grave up to the surface of the earth, and carefully covered it with boards and sod. The grave is on his farm, and within a few feet of the railroad. Mr. Dye is not yet an old man, having barely passed three-score. He is hale and hearty, and lives in the old tavern, where the mail-wagons in winter, and they stop to cover the region where he resides for dinner and a change of horses. His memory is stored with rich jokes and adventures of that period, and he owes a sort of grudge to the locomotive which has deprived him of his entertainment and profit. He says he "hasn't got used to the pecky change," and it is somewhat singular that he should have chosen the near vicinity of the railroad for his last resting-place.

CITY ITEMS. PEPPER AND ADZE.—WHY SEAKE? PLANTATION BETTERS will positively cure any form of intermittent fever, that is, a fever which is marked by chills, rigors, and all who have tried the preparation will tell you so. Thousands of families in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys, and on the borders of the Southern rivers and swamps, regard it as a specific for the complaint. Nothing could induce them to be without it; and they begin to take it regularly at the commencement of the spring and at the close of summer, as a safeguard against malaria. They show their wisdom thereby. The shivering patient passes their door without intruding, to amuse their neighbors who have shown less forecast. Every year, however, the number of these improvident victims decreases. There is no teacher like experience; and when a shaking and burning sufferer sees his friend on the next farm or plantation in perfect health, though breathing the same atmospheric poison as himself, he learns that this exception to the complaint is due to PLANTATION BETTERS.

THE MYSTIC WATER FROM DAVIN'S WELLS is fast being recognized as a most valuable remedy for Dyspepsia, Kidney Diseases, Liver Complaints, Insect Consumption, Nervousness, and General Debility; it has been highly recommended by physicians, and its cures testify to its great medicinal value. D. S. Cadwallader, general agent, No. 1005 Race street, Philadelphia.

BURNETT'S KALLISTON.—The best cosmetic. BOYS, BOYS, BOYS.

We are selling for 50¢ Boys' Overcoats that fit surpass anything ever offered at the price. Examine them at ROCKHILL & WILSON'S Great Brown Store Hall, Nos. 608 and 609 CHESTNUT STREET.

N. B.—Our \$10, \$15, and \$18 suits are going off by the thousands.

YOU SHOULD NOT fail to call at the China and Glassware establishment of William Akers & Co., No. 823 Market street, when about to lay in a fresh supply for the table or bed-room. They have the prettiest assortment of china, glass and queensware in the city, and everything would go there, as it is guaranteed to be a bargain where the purchaser can save money.

MR. WILLIAM W. CASSIDY, the jeweller at No. 8 South Second street, has one of the largest and most attractive stocks of all kinds of Jewelry and Silversware in the city. He has also on hand a fine assortment of the American Western Watches. Those who purchase at his store at the present time are certain to get the worth of their money.

CELEBRATED PRIZE MEDAL SHIRTS, PERFECT IN FIT, SUPERIOR IN QUALITY AND WORKMANSHIP, CHEAP IN PRICE. Orders promptly delivered. A. M. THOMPSON, Manufacturer No. 148 N. Fourth street.

SODIUM.—All dentifrices had their drawbacks until the salubrious bark of the Soap Tree was brought from the Chilian valleys to perfect the fragrant SODIUM, the most wholesome, reliable, and delightful article for the teeth that a brush was ever dipped into.

SEA MOSS FARINE, from pure Irish Moss, for Blanc Mince, Puddings, Custards, Creams, etc. etc. The cheapest, healthiest, and most delicious food in the world.

THE BEST BILLIARD BALL in a hotel in Boston is that of the AMERICAN HOUSE. Guests will find that every provision has been made for their needs and pleasures while sojourning in this favorite hotel.

BEDDING, best in the city, lowest price, and guaranteed by ADERSTON & CO., No. 1435 Chestnut street.

"SHADING'S GLAZ" always up to the striking point.

BURNETT'S COCOAINE.—A perfect hair-dressing.

DIVIDENDS, ETC. GRAND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 1005 CHESTNUT and SEVENTH STREETS.

DIVIDENDS, ETC. DIVIDEND No. 25.

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NOTICE.—CITY LOANS MATURING January 1, 1871, will be paid on and after that date. JOSEPH P. MARCER, City Treasurer.

CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE.—PHILADELPHIA, January 2, 1870. The semi-annual interest on City Loans due January 1, 1871, will be paid on and after that date. JOSEPH P. MARCER, City Treasurer.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD COMPANY, Office No. 227 SOUTH FOURTH STREET. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24, 1870.

NOTICE.—In accordance with the terms of the Lease and Contract between the East Pennsylvania Railroad Company and the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, dated May 19, 1869, the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company will pay at their Office, No. 227 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia, on and after the 17th day of January, 1871, a dividend of \$1.50 per share, clear of all taxes, to the Stockholders of the East Pennsylvania Railroad Company, as they shall stand registered on the books of the said East Pennsylvania Railroad Company on the 31st day of December, 1870.

NOTE.—The transfer books of the East Pennsylvania Railroad Company will be closed on December 31, 1870, and reopened on January 10, 1871.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING RAILROAD COMPANY, Office No. 227 S. FOURTH STREET. PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 30, 1870.

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BANKS.

NATIONAL BANK OF THE REPUBLIC. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30, 1870. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders, for the Election of Directors, will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 10, 1871, between 11 o'clock A. M. and 2 P. M. At the same time an amendment of the Articles of Association will be submitted for adoption. JOSEPH P. MUMFORD, Cashier.

THE COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA. PHILADELPHIA, December 9, 1870. The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House on WEDNESDAY, the 11th of January, 1871, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 2 P. M. S. C. PALMER, Cashier.

PEOPLES BANK OF PHILADELPHIA. PHILADELPHIA, December 1870. The Annual Election for President and Directors to serve for the ensuing year will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, January 10, 1871, between the hours of 11 and 1 o'clock. WM. H. TABER, Cashier.

SOUTHWARK NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 10, 1870. The annual election for Directors will be held at the Banking-house on TUESDAY, January 10, 1871, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 12 o'clock P. M. P. LAMB, Cashier.

CITY NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 10, 1870. The Annual Election for DIRECTORS will be held at the Banking House on WEDNESDAY, the 11th of January next, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M. G. ALBERT LEWIS, Cashier.

COMMONWEALTH NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, December 9, 1870. The annual election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on TUESDAY, the 10th day of January next, between the hours of 11 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M. W. RUSHTON, Jr., Cashier.

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, December 8, 1870. The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on WEDNESDAY, the 11th day of January next, between the hours of 11 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M. W. RUSHTON, Jr., Cashier.

OFFICE OF THE NORTH PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY, No. 407 WALNUT STREET. PHILADELPHIA, December 23, 1870.

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INSURANCE.

OFFICE OF THE FAIR INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 309 CHESTNUT STREET. PHILADELPHIA, December 24, 1870. NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the FAIR INSURANCE COMPANY will be held on MONDAY, the 9th day of January next, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the office of the Company. An election for twelve Directors to serve for the ensuing year will be held on the same day, at the same place, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M. WILLIAM S. I. BLANCHARD, Secretary.

THE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE STATE. PHILADELPHIA, January 9, 1871. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Bank, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House on MONDAY, January 9, 1871, at eleven o'clock A. M. Immediately after which an election will take place for thirteen Directors to serve for the ensuing year. J. H. HOLLISHEAD, Secretary.

THE ENTERPRISE INSURANCE COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA.—Company's Building No. 400 WALNUT STREET. DECEMBER 23, 1870. NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the ENTERPRISE INSURANCE COMPANY will be held on MONDAY, the 9th day of January next, at 10 o'clock A. M., at the Office of the Company. An election of Twelve Directors, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held on the same day, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M. ALEXANDER W. WISTER, Secretary.

OFFICE UNION MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, N. E. corner THIRD and WALNUT STREETS. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17, 1870. The Annual Meeting of the Stock and Scrip-holders of the Company, and the Annual Election for Directors, will be held at the Office of the Company, on MONDAY, the 9th day of January next, at 10 o'clock A. M. JOHN MOSS, Secretary.

HAND-IN-HAND MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, Office No. 112 S. FOURTH STREET, PHILADELPHIA. NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company for the Election of Twelve Directors, to serve for the ensuing year, will be held on MONDAY, January 9, 1871, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M. ROBERT M. FOUST, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE JEFFERSON FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA. The annual meeting of the Stockholders for the election of Directors will be held at the office on MONDAY, January 9, 1871, at 10 o'clock A. M. and 2 P. M. PHILIP E. COLEMAN, Secy.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED SECURITY LIFE INSURANCE AND TRUST COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA, No. 921 CHESTNUT STREET. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30, 1870. The annual meeting of Directors of this Company will be held at the office on WEDNESDAY, the 11th day of January, 1871, at 11 o'clock A. M. C. F. BETTS, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE BUCK MOUNTAIN COAL CO. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31, 1870. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the BUCK MOUNTAIN COAL CO. will be held at the office of the Company, No. 320 WALNUT STREET, on WEDNESDAY, February 1, 1871, at eleven (11) o'clock A. M. An election for seven Directors to serve the ensuing year will be held on the same day between the hours of 11 A. M. and 2 P. M. T. H. TROTTER, Treasurer.

NEW YORK AND MIDDLE COAL FIELD RAILROAD AND COAL CO., No. 226 WALNUT STREET. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28, 1870. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the above-named Company, and an election of Directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at their office on TUESDAY, the 10th day of January, A. D. 1871, at 10 o'clock A. M. in the City of New York, on January 24, 1871. C. R. LINDSAY, Secretary.

SHAMON COAL COMPANY, OFFICE No. 226 WALNUT STREET. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31, 1870. The annual meeting of the stockholders of the above-named Company, and an election of Directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at their office on WEDNESDAY, the 18th day of January, A. D. 1871, at 12 o'clock P. M. Transfer books will be closed on January 5th to 15th. C. R. LINDSAY, Secretary.

CAMBRIA IRON COMPANY.—THE ANNUAL MEETING of the stockholders of the Cambria Iron Company will be held at their office, No. 218 South Fourth Street, Philadelphia, on TUESDAY, the 17th day of January next, at 4 o'clock P. M., when an election will be held for seven directors to serve for the ensuing year. JOHN T. KILLE, Secretary.

HORTICULTURAL HALL.—THE ANNUAL MEETING of the stockholders of Horticultural Hall on TUESDAY EVENING, January 10, 1871, at 7 1/2 o'clock, for the election of Directors and the transaction of other business. A. W. HARRISON, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC REFINING COMPANY, No. 111 WALNUT STREET. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 17, 1870. The Annual Meeting of the stockholders of the above-named Company will be held on TUESDAY, January 10, 1871, at 11 o'clock P. M. THOMAS C. BUSHNELL, Secretary.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE WHITE OAK COAL COMPANY will be held on THURSDAY, the 12th day of January, 1871, at 11 o'clock A. M., No. 120 GOTHIC STREET (near of Commercial Exchange). J. S. McMULLIN, Secretary.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE MERCANTILE LIBRARY.—THE ANNUAL MEETING of stockholders of the Mercantile Library Company will be held at the LIBRARY BUILDING on TUESDAY EVENING, the 11th inst., at 7 1/2 o'clock. JOHN LARONER, Recording Secretary.

SPECIAL NOTICES. PROCLAMATION. \$1000 REWARD.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA. January 1, A. D. 1871.

It appearing that the Mayor of this City at this time life among the lawless of the community, exhibiting itself in frequency of such fires, especially during the last few nights, and inasmuch as the protection of the citizens and their property against conflagrations, and particularly incendiary fires, should be the first consideration of all good governments.

THEREFORE, I do hereby offer a Reward of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS for the apprehension of the persons, and of every person concerned in willfully setting fire to any building within the limits of the City of Philadelphia, or for such information as will lead to such arrest and conviction.

AND I do hereby enjoin upon all Police Officers, and others acting as conservators of the peace, to be vigilant and active in detecting such offenders, and in bringing them promptly to the hands of justice.</