

# The Altoona Tribune

McCRUM & DERN,

[INDEPENDENT IN EVERYTHING.]

EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS

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## THE ALTOONA TRIBUNE.

E. B. McCRUM, H. C. DERN,  
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

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## A DUTCHMAN'S COMPLAINT.

I dinks much about de war, und de draft, und de rebils, und all dese dings. I dinks about 'em more as about anything else. Sometimes I sets mits myself all day on de front stoop, und schmokes, und drinks hard cider, und does nothing else but only drink: den my wife she gifs me de tuffel for drinkin' so much und, ses I vos petter go und see arter Jacop, our hired man, und not bodder my head mit more as I can understand. But I tells her what shall womens know about war; petter she goes und mindis her own pissances. I drables myself more as about Abraham as about Jacop.

Van I gets tired mit drinkin' on my own stoop, I goes down to Hans Butterfoos tavern, und I drinks dere, und I tells my opinion, und some odder one tells his opinion, und we makes him out together. De odder day begins de draft. Dat bodders me agin. Some goes in for de draft, mostly dem as is too old, und von't be took demself; some goes agin de draft; und some dont know vich way to go, but ony round und round, und gets boddered like dem as I do.

But, neder mind, I dinks I must find dis ding out, und down I goes to Hans Butterfoos, und hears de fellers blo. I don't make nottin' mid dat; dey all blos some odder way, und I don't dink dey hel hit rime in der own minds. So I begins und asks a quetchun; und I ses to Bill Fuffenshook.

"Vot you dinks von de draft, dat it is right?"  
"And ses Bill: 'No, I dinks et ain't right.'"  
"Vell I don't believe him, caus he sheated me voice mit a blind mare he sells on me. So I dries agin, und sheeps mit Fritz Hoekenspieler.

"Fritz," I ses, "vot you dinks von de draft of it is right or not?"  
Und Fritz, he ses, dat he dinks it is shust so is it ought to be.

But I don't believes him neder, 'caus he run'd aginist me last year for de peace of shustise. Und he ish no more good for shquire as my old cat. So I gifs up asking somebody, und make him out myself. I dinks in dis style, de reason dey made de draft, is becous dey want sojers. Ef dey don't got no sojers den dey can't bring on de war. Ef dey don't bring on de war den dey don't lick de rebils, den de rebils licks dem. Ef de rebils licks dem den we all go to ter tuffel. Dat pooty straight. So mooch.

New I must dink of some more; vot is de next ding? I dinks dat's all rite; but I shlops, somedey else comes. Let me see. Oh, yes; dry hundred dollars—dat's de ding—dey all blos about de dry hundred dollars. I dinks so myself. Dry hundred dollars don't licks de rebils no more as dry hundred cents. Vot's de good dollars; petter a good, smart sojer, like my Shorge, he licks de rebils more as six hundred dollars, yes. Now I knows more as Bill Fuffenshook und Fritz Hoekenspieler, both together.—We want de sojers, not de money. Dat's where de bodder is. We putty soon makes money enough; but paper sojers is only good mit wooden guns, so when de draft comes und ven man ses here is dry hundred dollars, I shays behind und don't fight de rebils, den if I was de draft I takes dat man by his preches und I ses go to ter tuffel mit your dollars, und come along mit me like some odder man as has got no dollars, und don't like to go sojerin so had as vot you do, den pooty soon I gits so much as I wants, dat's my idea. I tells my old vomen if dey drafts me I goes myself. To be sure, I don't dink dey vill, 'caus I am more as fifty years; but neder mind. I should go a long while, like my Shorge, ony dere's two dings I don't like und von is de marshin und deudder is de fetin. I sooner marches down to Hans Butterfoos und shays dere. Ef Sheff Davis comes dere on me, I gits him dam, you better had believe; but if I goes to Richmond may be Sheff Davis he gives me dam. So, onyhow, I shays home. De odder day, my Shorge he comes back mit a furlow. He is so much a corporal as ever he was, und I shays mit him about dese dings, und I gifs you now what he says:

"Shorge," I ask him, "you've bin mit de rebils, und mit de army, und mit old Abe, und dese fellows, vot you dinks von dis draft dat all de peeples blos about?"  
"Und he ses to me: 'Oh, tunder!'"  
Vell, dat's his opinion. May be he shall know somedings too. He's pooty smart since he goes for a sojer. He shays like a man six foot high, und calls mudder "old voman," und he calls me "cap," und kisses de gals, und calls Jacop "dam fool." I dinks he gets some high offs before de war is gone.

GOYRIN KLOBBERVOSS.

To be a woman of fashion is one of the easiest things in the world. A late writer thus describes it. Buy everything you don't want, and pay for nothing you get; smile on all mankind but your husband; be happy everywhere but at home; neglect your children and nurse lap dogs; go to church every time you get a new dress."

## SLIGHTLY ACQUAINTED.

Several years ago the—th Regiment United States Regulars were quartered at A—, near Niagara Falls. Among the privates of that gallant regiment was B—, a tall, lank, red haired Vermont, who was always in some scrape or other. One day he obtained leave to take a day's shooting on the Canada side. He went early in the morning, and hunted all day with very poor success. Late in the afternoon he was slowly wending his way home, ill pleased with his poor success when he saw seated on a tree within easy shooting distance a large crow. To level his gun and fire was the impulse of a moment, and down tumbled the crow almost at his feet. Now it happened that the crow was a tame one, and a pet of Gen. C—, who was one of the wealthiest land-owners in Canada, and who owned the property on which B— stood.

And it so happened that the general was an unseen witness of the death of his favorite. Enraged at its loss he determined to punish the offender in a manner that he would be likely to remember.

So coming forward in a very friendly manner, he nodded to B—, who saluted him in return.

"You've got a fine gun there," said the general.

"Yass," said B—, handing it to the general; "that's the very neatest double-barrelled gun around these diggings."

The general turned the gun around and examined it carefully, then putting the barrel, still loaded at full cock to his shoulder, and pointing it at B—, said: "You have willfully shot the greatest favorite I had, and now you've got to eat it."

B— explained, and begged and prayed, but to no purpose; the general was unmoved by his entreaties, and told him he must eat it or die. B—, once more turned his eyes piteously towards the general, but the cold, wicked eye glanced along the gun-barrel convincing him (as he afterwards said) that there was fire in it. So with a groan he picked up the crow, and shutting his eyes, commenced his disagreeable meal. He worried down three or four mouthfuls, and then stopped, unable to eat more of the disgusting carion; and the general, thinking he had gone far enough told him that would do; and after advising him to be more careful in future what he shot, handed him his gun and told him he could go. As soon as B— got his gun in his hand he turned fiercely upon the general, and said: "Is my turn now. You eat the remainder of the crow."

In vain the general stamped, and swore, and finally prayed to be left off. B— was as firm as he himself had been a few minutes before. Nothing would satisfy the enraged soldier but that the general should eat the whole of what was left, and which he had to do before B— left him off.

The next day the general went to B—'s colonel, and complained that he had been grossly insulted by one of his soldiers the day previous.

The colonel inquired what one.

"Why," said the general, "he was a tall, lank, ill-favored fellow, with light red hair."

## A RED-TAPE STORY.

I remember a poor old loafer who was familiarly known to the people round about Cheshire, Mass., by the saccharine title of Sweet Bill. Now Sweet Bill was a strange, half-crazy fellow, yet possessed of wit of no common order, though, from his ways of life, it was naturally rough and unpolished. Sweet Bill was a great visitor of the tavern, where his grotesque ways and ready repartee always predisposed the visitor in his favor, and, as a consequence, Sweet Bill was generally under the influence, or, to speak more charitably, predisposed to the influence of liquor.

One cold day, previous to Thanksgiving, Sweet Bill cast his eyes on a remarkably fat turkey belonging to the squire. Bill had a toothsome relish for fowls, and although impecuniosity prevented his indulgence very frequently, his ardor for turkey dinners was none abated because of his inability.

On the day in question, however, Sweet Bill was fully determined on enjoying his favorite dish, despite the fact that he had no turkey, and worse still, no money wherewith one was to be procured; still he filtered now in his determination. I have said that he cast longing eyes upon a peculiarly fat specimen belonging to the squire, and one can imagine how the inner man of this same Sweet Bill arose and clapped his hands, when at length through his brain flashed the lucky scheme by which the coveted fowl was to be placed at his disposal.

The evening previous to Thanksgiving, Sweet Bill crept noiselessly into the barn-yard, and finding himself unobserved, proceeded to tie a red cord about the leg of the doomed turkey. How this was going to secure him the coveted prize, the world had not observed the action, could never have surmised; but Sweet Bill, in his heart of hearts, knew well enough, and marked out every line of a plan drawn with mathematical accuracy, and mathematically certain success.

Thanksgiving morning came: a clear, frosty morning, with air bright and vivifying as the champagne air of Paris.—The squire, warmly clothed, and with a homely yet fragrant pipe truss between his teeth, stood upon the piazza of his house, complacently contemplating his "paternal acres" and the bounteous good of nature, when Sweet Bill came lounging by, with much gravity upon his singular features. The following colloquy ensued:

"Good mornin', squire."  
"Good morning, Bill."  
"Nice day, squire."  
"Beautiful, Bill."  
"I say, squire, hev you seen a stray turkey round here this mornin'?"  
"Haven't noticed one. Why?"  
"Well, my turkey strayed off last night and I'm hunting him up. I heered he was seen up around your barn-yard.—Guess he's in among your fowls, squire."  
"It may be so. Come along we'll look."  
"Thankee, squire."  
"Could you recognise him, Bill?"  
"Course I can," answered Sweet Bill, with a positive air. "I was afeared he'd stray off somewhere, and so I tied a red string around one of his legs."  
Into the barn-yard they went, and sure enough there was the fowl, fat and tempting, and with the cord about his leg. In a moment Sweet Bill had him under his arm, and marched off triumphantly.

A month or so afterwards he revealed the joke to the squire, who readily forgave the deception on the score of the good laugh that it afforded him.

THE WORKMAN AHEAD.—A good story is told of a certain prominent railroad gentleman of Philadelphia, who is equally renowned for his ability to make and to take a joke. A railroad employe, whose home is in Avon, came on Saturday night to ask for a pass down to visit his family.

"You are in the employ of the railroad?" inquired the gentleman alluded to.

"Yes."  
"You receive your pay regularly?"  
"Yes."  
"Well now suppose you were working for a farmer instead of a railroad, would you expect your employer to hitch up his team every Saturday night and carry you home?"  
"This seemed a poser, but it wasn't."  
"No," said the man promptly, "I would not expect that, but if the farmer had his team hitched up, and was going my way, I should call him a darned mean cuss if he wouldn't let me ride."  
Mr. employe came out three minutes afterwards with a pass good for twelve months.

Patriotism emanates from the heart, fills the soul, infuses itself into the whole man, and speaks and acts the same language. A friend of his country in war will feel, speak and act for his country; reverse his country's cause and hate his country's enemies. America wants no friends, acknowledges the fidelity of no citizen, who, after war is declared, condemns the justice of her cause and sympathizes with the enemy. All such are traitors in their hearts.—Senator Douglas.

## THE NICE GIRL.

There is nothing half so sweet in life, half so beautiful or delightful, or so lovable as a "nice girl." Not a pretty, or a flashing, or an elegant girl, but a nice girl. One of those lovely, lively, good-tempered, good-hearted, sweet-faced, amiable, neat, domestic creatures met within the sphere of home, diffusing around the domestic hearth the influence of her goodness like the essence of sweet flowers.

A nice girl is not the languishing beauty, dawdling on a sofa, and discussing the last novel or opera; or the giraffe-like creature sweeping majestically through a drawing-room. The nice girl may not even dance or play well, and knows nothing about "using her eyes," or coquetting with a fan. She is not given to sensation novels, she is too busy. At the opera, she is not in front showing her bare shoulders, but sits quietly and unobtrusively—at the back of the box most likely. In fact, it is not often in such scenes we discover her.—Home is her place.

Who rises betimes, and superintends the morning meal? Who makes the toast and the tea, and buttons the boys' shirts, and waters the flowers, and feeds the chickens, and brightens up the parlor and sitting room? Is it the languisher, or the giraffe, or the elegant? Not a bit of it—it's the nice girl.

Her unmade toilet is made in the shortest possible time, yet how charmingly it is done, and how elegant her neat dress and plain color! What kisses she distributes among the family! No representing a cheek or a blow, like a "fine girl," but an audacious smack, which says plainly: "I love you ever so much." If I ever coveted anything, it is one of the nice girl's kisses.

Breakfast over, down in the kitchen to see about dinner; always cheerful and light-hearted. She never ceases to be active until the day is done, when she will polka with the boys, and sing old songs, and play old tunes to her father for hours together. She is a perfect treasure, is the nice girl, when illness comes; it is she that attends with unwearying patience to the sick chamber. There is no risk, no fatigue that she will not make. She is all love, all devotion. I have often thought it would be happiness to be ill, to be watched by such loving eyes and tended by such fair hands.

One of the most strongly marked characteristics of a "nice girl" is tidiness and simplicity of dress. She is ever associated in my mind with a high neck, plain collar, and the neatest of neck ribbons, bound with the most modest little brooch in the world. I never knew a nice girl who displayed a profusion of rings and bracelets, or who wore low dresses or a splendid bonnet.

I say again, there is nothing in the world half so beautiful, half so intrinsically good, as a "nice girl." She is the sweetest flower in the path of life. There are others far more stately, far more gorgeous, but these we merely admire as we go by. It is where the daisy grows that we lie down to rest.

HONESTY.—A Quaker, once passing through a market, stopped at a stall and inquired the price of citrons.

"I have none," said the honest farmer, "that will suit; they are decayed, and their flavor is gone."  
"Thank thee, friend, I will go to the next stand."  
"Hast thou good fruit to-day?" he said to the dealer.

"Yes, sir; here are some of the finest nut-meys of my garden. They are small but rich of their kind."  
"Then canst thou recommend them?"  
"Certainly, sir."  
"Very well, I will take two."  
He carried them home, and they proved not only unsound, but miserably tasteless. The next morning he went again to the same place. The man who sold him the fruit the previous day asked him if he would have any more.

"Nay, friend, thou hast deceived me once, and now, although thou mayest speak the truth