

# The Matchman

BELLEVILLE, CENTRE COUNTY, PENNA., THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1861.

TERMS: \$1.50 IN ADVANCE  
VOLUME 6—NUMBER 14.

J. S. BARNHART,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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**WILLIAM H. BLAIR,**  
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Office in the Arcade, second floor.

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW.  
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PHYSICIAN & SURGEON.  
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ATTORNEY AT LAW.  
Office—The one formerly occupied by Judge Barnhart. Feb. 15th, 1861—Vol. 6, No. 1.

**J. S. MITCHELL,**  
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**The Law of Newspapers.**  
1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue the subscription.  
2. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their periodicals from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible, till they have settled the bill and ordered them to be discontinued.  
3. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publishers, and the papers are sent to their former direction, they are held responsible.  
4. The courts have decided that refusing to take papers from the office, or removing and leaving them uncollected for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

### Short Sketch.

#### HOME INFLUENCE.

"Who's that, I wonder?" said Mrs. Seaburn, as she heard a ring at the basement door.

"Ah, his Marshall," said her husband, "who has just called on the window and recognized the grocer's cart."

"And what have you sent home now, Henry?"

But before Mr. Seaburn could answer, the door of the sitting room was opened, and one of the domestics looked in and asked—

"What'll I do with the demijohns?"

"Let them sit in the hall, and I'll attend to them," interposed the husband.

"Henry, what have you sent home now?" the wife asked, after the domestic had left the room.

"Some nice old brandy," replied Henry. "Corah Seaburn glared at the clock, and then looked down upon the floor. There was a cloud upon her fair brow, and it was very evident that something lay heavily upon her heart. Presently she walked to the wall and pulled the bell cord, and the summons was answered by the chambermaid.

"Are George and Charles in the house?"

"Yes, ma'am."

"Tell them it is school time."

The girl went out, and in a little while two boys entered the sitting room with their books under their arms and their caps in their hands. They were bright, happy, and full of good-will, with good news and truth stamped upon their rosy faces, and the light of free conscience gleaming in their sparkling eyes. George was thirteen years of age, and Charles eleven, and certainly those two youths had reason to be proud of them. The boys kissed their mother, gave a happy good morning to their father, and then went away to school.

"But—Corah—what makes you come after the boys had gone, 'what makes you look so sober?"

"Sober?" repeated the wife, looking up. "You have been sober and mute ever since the grocer came."

"Do you want me to tell you why?"

"Of course I do."

"Well, Henry, I am sorry you have had that spirit brought into the house."

"Pooh! What's the use of talking so, Corah? You wouldn't have me do without it, would you?"

"Why? What do you mean?"

"I mean that I would clear from the stuff now and forever."

"But—Corah—you are wild. What should we do at our dinner parties without wine?"

"Do as others do—have it not?"

"But—Henry—what would people say? I don't know—but no—I won't ask so foolish a question."

"Ask it, Henry. Let us speak plainly, now that we have fairly commenced."

"Well, Henry, I was about to ask if you were afraid that I should ever drink too much?"

"That is not a fair question, Henry. I was not thinking of that at all. But I will answer that by and by. You have no fixed appetite for it now?"

"Of course not."

"Then it would not cost you any effort of will to abstain from its use?"

"Not a particle."

"And you only have it in your house, and serve it to your friends, and drink it yourself, because it is fashionable, or in other words, you do it because others do it?"

"I do it because," said Mr. Seaburn, hesitating some in his choice of language—"because it would appear very odd and negligent, and very fanatical not to do it."

"But," pursued Mrs. Seaburn, with the calmness and assurance of one who feels the force of her own arguments, "you would not do what you were convinced was wrong out of respect to any such consideration, would you?"

"You know I would not, Corah. This question of temperance, I know, is a good one in the abstract, and I am willing to live up to it as I understand it; but I'm not a total abstainer."

"Henry," said his wife, with an earnest look into his face, "will you answer me a few questions, and answer them honestly and truly, without equivocation or evasion?"

"Yes, ma'am! how methodically you put it, Corah! but I will answer."

"Then first—Do you believe in your friends in any way benefited by the drinking of intoxicating beverage at your board? That is, do you derive any real benefit from it?"

"Name one of them."

"Why, in the enjoyment of ourselves, Henry! but I am speaking of others."

"Name one of them."

"Why, in the enjoyment of our friends, Henry! but I am speaking of others."

"Name one of them."

"Why, in the enjoyment of our friends, Henry! but I am speaking of others."

"No, I can't say that it has."

"And if it was banished from our house to-day, and forever, as a beverage, would we suffer in consequence?"

"Certainly. What would our friends—"

"Ah! but stop! I am only speaking of our own affairs, as shut out from the world by our own considerations. I want all extraneous considerations left out. Should we, as a family, suffer in our mental, physical, social or domestic affairs, if the total abstinence from this beverage?"

"No."

"No! I don't know that we should."

"Then, to you, as a husband and a father, as a man, is it of any earthly use?"

"And it would cost you no effort, so far as you alone are concerned, to break clear from the habit?"

"And now, Henry," pursued the wife with increased earnestness, "I have a few more questions to ask. Do you think that the drinking of intoxicating beverage is an evil in this country?"

"Why, as it is now going on, I certainly do."

"And isn't it an evil in society?"

"Yes."

"Look over this city and tell me if it is not a terrible evil?"

"A terrible evil grows out of the abuse of it."

"And will you tell me what good grows out of the use of it?"

"Really, when you come down to this abstract point, you have no right to say that people should govern their appetites. All things may be abused."

"Yes. But will you tell me the use—the real good to be derived from drinking wine and brandy?"

"As I said before, it is a social custom, and has its charms."

"Ah! its charms! He thought, Henry, it does have its charms as the deadly snake is said to have, and as other vices have. But I see you are in a hurry."

"It is time I was in the store."

"I will detain you but a moment longer. Henry, just answer me a few more questions. Now call to mind all the families of your acquaintance; think of all the domestic circles you have known from your school-boy days to the present. Run your thoughts through the various houses where you have been intimate. Do this and tell me if in any one instance you ever knew a single joy to be lost by the heartiness by the wine cup? Did you ever know one item of good to flow to a family from its use?"

"No; I cannot say that I ever did—not as you mean."

"And now answer me again. Think of those homes once more. Call to memory the playmates of your childhood, think of other homes, think of the friends where all you have known dwelt, and tell me if you have seen any sorrow flow from the wine cup? Have you seen any grief planted by the intoxicating bowl on the heart-strings of any man?"

Henry Seaburn did not answer, for there passed before him such grim specters of sorrow and grief, that he shuddered at the memory of them. He saw the youth out down in the hour of promise; he saw hearts broken; he saw homes made desolate; he saw the affections wither up and die; and saw noble intellects stricken down! Good Heavens! what sights he saw as he enrolled the canvas of his memory.

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### Miscellaneous.

NO MAN.—A wag happened to go into the shop of a tailor just as the latter was in the act of patching an old garment with new cloth, thus addressed the knight of the bodkin:

"You are no man, I can prove it by the highest authority."

"How so?" replied the unsuspecting tailor as he held his needle with double activity.

"I should like to hear the evidence of your assertion?"

"You shall be accommodated, sir," says the wag, asking at the same time if he recollected of ever having read the passage in the New Testament which declares that 'no man putteth a piece of new cloth into an old garment.'

"A beautiful day, Mr. Jenkins." "Yes very pleasant indeed." "Good day for the race?" "Race—what race?" "The human race." "Oh, go long with your stupid jokes; get up a good one like the one with which I sold day." "Day—what day?" "The day we celebrate," said Jenkins, who went on his way rejoicing.

A story is told of a tavern keeper by the name of A. S. Camp. The painter, in painting his sign, left out the periods, so it read: Tavern—kept by A. S. CAMP.

ONE reason why the world is not reformed is, because every man is bent on reforming others, and never thinks of reforming himself.

You have a right to unhorse your enemy if you can, but not by stealing his horse.

### A New York Drummer on his Travels.

HASTINGS Minn Feb. 20

DR. SIR:

I take the liberty of addressing a letter to you, knowing that you are glad to get anything to fill up. I might as well state at 1st that I shall not charge you anything for my correspondence, so you may feel no delicacy about publishing it on that acct.

I have been employed for several yrs in the great Jobbing House of Bates Batts & Co in Central St. N. Y. Our firm found it necessary to send a trustworthy and capable man to the West to adjust their outstanding matters and solicit orders. Of course the choice fell upon me, and though I have never been out of the city before I must say I have acquired myself very creditably indeed. A great many strange accidents & incidents have befallen me & as I have a decided literary taste I thought I would help you along a little by adding a bit of Spice (not All-spice—see I am facetious.—You'll notice it more as you go on) to your columns. I refrain from joking on 'columns,' as I might and perhaps will when we are better acquainted.

I sent one letter to the N. Y. Times, but thank his holiness so pecked with plies that the probably has entirely forgotten me. I never was much acquainted with him anyway, still I always wished him well. Jim Bennett has asked me repeatedly to write for the Herald but I don't like his style. I am afraid it might injure my record if I should come up for anything. Now I write the very style of goods the Vanity Fair wants, yet that contemptible little sheet has more than a doz of my productions on hand which they refuse to put to press or stuff.

But let us attend to biz: I was billed through to Chicago where I arrived per Exp train via Grt Western Mich Southern R. R. There I was shipped via C & M & L. C. R. R. to Winona where I took the stage to Rochester which may be said to be the place where I experienced my 1st adventure.

Some low fellows thinking themselves smart and jealous of my evident & literary took advantage of my ignorance of the country to play a joke on me. I don't know but I may have indulged rather freely in comparing that miserable backwoods place with the only city in the world worth living in viz: N. Y. Perhaps did what vulgar people call "putting on airs." (How easy I might have said hairs then, I am up to that sort of thing, you see.) I spoke, may be too much of myself and my familiarity with the leading men of my native Co. and thereby gained the ill will of those disreputable savages.

A young lawyer (not that he had any right to be called one when compared to Bill Seward and our fellows down at home) came and me skillfully excited my curiosity on the subject of sporting, and disconcerted me on the Snipe. If I have a witness it is field sports, not that I have indulged in them but that I have read the Spirit of the Times and the N. Y. Clipper, with great interest. (Hec! Heaven and I have made many a friendly set 2. He says he shall make no pretensions to the Bit after I have a little more practice.)

To make a long story short this lawyer interested me in catching Snipe such a deg. that he expressed a desire to engage in the sport. Snipe, as all who are acquainted with the habits of the bird know, only travel in the night and then they go in single file following their leader wherever he may go. The leader generally runs in some well worn path so that if a man can gain a good position and remain in it long enough he can by holding a stick open so as to allow the birds to enter each two bushels of them easily.

A night was appointed and these men with seeming friendliness assigned me the post of honor as they called it, i. e. to hold the bag. We came after a long walk to a snipe creek across which was a log for bridge. This was the spot selected. I was to sit astrid of the log & hold the stick while the rest of the party went off to drive up the birds. They saw me well fixed & then went off saying it might be a good while before I saw their game but if I had grit enough to stick to my post I would get enough of it. I would have stayed there if a 1,000,000 snipe had come. The consequence was I remained there till morning followed that infernal fog although it was a cold night in the use of Nov. I had on a pair of Fr. C. boots which were completely ruined and proved a total loss. I went to the Hotel and took a seat in the stage for St. Peters where I arrived all safe. Do you know, Ed. Times, that the whole droll about snipe was a self? It was. Its all a humbug about their going in droves into sks held by people. It was a deception so to speak, got up to induce me to sit there with my flagging in the water all night while those fellows were asleep in their miserable cabins.

They tried the same game on me in St. P. also but I rather got the start of them as I always shall hereafter being naturally smarter than those untutored children of the frontier. I went out with them, pretending ignorance, and was assigned the post of honor again. I took it all regular enough, to decide them, while they went in an opposite direction to blind me as to their intentions. They left an axe with me which they had brought to cut away some branches,

and the whole menagerie followed. The people were so dumb with amazement thinking that this uproar was an answer to his appeal. He said this lurch of the by-ena gave him two hundred votes! Once, when speaking at Nashville, in 1851, to 40,000 people—he had a remarkable voice that could be heard a mile—he swooned from over exertion, and fell into the arms of Governor Jones, who, under the excitement produced by his eloquence, exclaimed as he looked upon his apparently lifeless form—"Die, Prentiss, die! for you will never have such another chance!"

In 1841 he married a pious and admirable woman, whose influence over him was excellent. Had he married earlier he too likely have been alive now, but it was too late. He had overworked himself, and undermined his constitution. He became embarrassed in his pecuniary affairs, and finally removed to New Orleans, where he gained a large practice, but still overworking himself, broke down, returned to his family at Natchez, and died in 1850, at the age of 42 years.

He was the most eloquent of all our orators, not excepting even Webster. Yet dead but eleven years, he is already passing from the recollections of men.

The lecturer closed with some impressive remarks as to the warning his career afforded to all young men against giving way to the temptations of gambling and drinking.

**A Locomotive and Passenger Car Over a Draw Bridge.**  
A narrow escape.—A terrible accident occurred to a Hackensack and New York train on Wednesday night, by running off an open draw on the bridge crossing the Hackensack river, on the New York and Erie road, seven miles from Jersey City, but fortunately without resulting in the loss of life. The train consisted of a locomotive, (engine and a long iron car, in which were about twenty passengers, including two ladies, left Jersey City at 6.35 p. m. Upon approaching the Hackensack bridge, the engineer, Benjamin Carley, did not see the ball which was raised as a signal for the train to stop. He was not, therefore, aware of the danger until the locomotive reached the open draw; but owing to the snow and ice on the rails, the wheels did not take hold, and a moment afterwards the locomotive went to the bottom of the river, which at that point is twenty seven feet in depth. The engineer went down to the bottom and sustained severe bruises. He was finally rescued.

The fireman, Theodore Van Euren, jumped from the locomotive into the river and swam to the shore.

The iron car passed over the tender and struck against the opposite side, with such force as to break the end in and gradually sunk into the water several feet. There were five passengers in the forepart of the car, which is partitioned off as a smoking car. As the car sunk they were immersed until the water was up to their necks, when they had to cut a window and succeeded in saving themselves. The passengers in the main part of the car were hurled forward with considerable force, but it is stated that none of them were injured beyond some slight bruises.

At the moment the train ran off a schooner was just in the act of passing through the bridge, and her bowsprit was driven through the iron car, and after some delay the passengers were sent to Hackensack. The engineer, Carley, was taken to the hospital in Jersey City. He is badly injured about the hip and leg, but it is thought he will recover. The conductor, R. A. Durmus, received some injuries, but not of a serious nature.

**A Rec.**  
Miss Pardoe, in a recent work relates the following interesting anecdote:—At the late of Montclair, a young officer named Durmus, who had been in attendance on the Emperor at the moment when he became so seriously ill, and was about to die, was sent to the General's Division; and Napoleon hastily summoned him to his bedside, gave him instructions to deliver it without delay.

"Give either yourself or horse, sir," he said solemnly; "for there is not a moment to lose, and return at once to report to me that my order has been obeyed."

Durmus galloped off amid a shower of shot and shells, and within a quarter of an hour he was again beside the Emperor.

"You have behaved well, monsieur," said Napoleon, when he had received his report. "You have a stout heart and a clear head; though you are still only a youngster; I give you a captain's brevet, and attach you to my person. What is your name?"

"Dum... Durmus, sire."

"It seems familiar to me. On what occasion have I before heard it?"

"I was colonel of the 6th battalion, your majesty."

"Too late, Captain Durmus, and why?"

"Sir, they have hit me," and as he spoke he withdrew a handkerchief saturated with blood from the breast of his coat, all will soon be over—Vive l'Empereur! Vive la France!"

He reeled for an instant in his saddle, and then fell heavily into the arms of an officer who had sprung forward to support him—Timoleon Durmus is a corpse.

"So young—so young—and so brave!" and to die on his first battle field! exclaimed the Emperor, as he bent down on an instant over the body. "Poor boy! Poor boy!"

Then setting spurs to his horse, he galloped off, as if unable to linger over so sad a spectacle.

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1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue the subscription.  
2. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their periodicals from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible, till they have settled the bill and ordered them to be discontinued.  
3. If subscribers remove to other places without informing the publishers, and the papers are sent to their former direction, they are held responsible.  
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