

FROM INDIA.

By One on Medical Duty in that Far Eastern Country. Snake Bites that Brought Results. A Busy Week with the Sick. Weather Furniture nor Comforts. Curious Proceedings in the Sick Room. Getting One to the Hospital.

Dear Home Folk:

JHANSI, AUGUST 11th. Did I tell you about my experience last week? One is constantly told all the horrid snake stories that can be remembered and the other night I awakened up with the feeling of weight and warmth across my neck; I jumped, clutching and throwing the object, at the same time my heart had to be swallowed, then I discovered that the horrid reptile was only a braid of red hair. I sat at the foot of that bed, where I had landed when I jumped, and laughed, although it was two o'clock in the morning. One's imagination works over-time, even when asleep.

My friend, the frog with the ivory teeth, has departed and only the fat green lizards, falling like soft dough, disturbs my serenity tonight. Some day one of these dough-balls with legs will burst when it falls and then I will see where all those flies and moth-millers are kept. Even my "punkah" is not needed for this evening.

We had quite a pleasure the other day when some fresh corn was brought to the door. You would have turned from the hard, yellow stuff with disgust, but seeing no better, (and indeed this is the first I have seen here) we had boiled corn for breakfast. My jaws have been tired ever since, so I am now devoting myself to cucumbers and toast with milk poured over it, until such a time as my jaw muscles limber up a bit.

Last week the work here was not very hard but this week has made up for it. We have had from eighty-five to one hundred and twenty-five each day in the dispensary, besides twenty to thirty in the hospital; several rather ill and two or three out calls each day.

Last night was the first all-night-ounce I have had and as I had had a hard day I was, I thought, fairly tired. A man came to take me to see his wife just after dinner, so I put on my old clothes and went to the hospital to ask one of the nurses to go with me. We went down the main road to the city, then we went on and on, past darkened houses, down narrow, unpaved alleys, (called streets here) around short corners through the heart of the city, and you must know that for lighting a native Indian city is a very poor example, but we rocked along. We had left the more frequented part, where the streets are fairly well kept, and were now bumping over stones and pitching from side to side as the tonga wheels went into the ruts. We could see the natives with their native lamps, (a shallow saucer of oil on the top of a standard, in which lays a wick and this burns with much smoke) gambling; or perhaps a "dershe" finishing some sewing, and we almost drove over some cows resting in these narrow streets; all as silent and quiet as though only the dead inhabited them. Finally rounding a corner we saw a crowd of men in front of a doorway, under an oil lamp, and we knew we were nearing our quest, for a sick person will attract a crowd here as fast as a circus at home. We stopped at the doorway, and climbing up two dirt steps (no stones or boards, just earth) we were taken into a fairly good sized bar room, then into the little open courtyard, the women's play-ground, and then into the sick room. Would that I could describe that place to you: A single, tiny candle burned in a niche in the wall; no window, the roof low—not over six feet and made of bamboo with tile on top, the bamboo smoked until as black as tar, side-walls and floor of mud washed with cow manure. In one corner was a child's play stove of stones, for lighting a fire. Lying on a little "charpoi," (native bed) about a foot from the floor, and merely a frame with a rope-woven mat, lay my patient. Remember, not a single bit of bedding and no other furniture; the floor does for seating not only one's self, but everything else. I even hated to lean against that black greasy wall.

They brought me a lantern and we went to work. After about an hour, without any result, as the "dewai" (medicine) did not "work a charm" I told them I wanted her brought into the hospital and they, after more talk than it would take to elect Mr. Taft, finally went out to hunt a "doolie" (a small bed swung on a pole). The waiting was enlivened by the most curious proceedings; first all the women, of which there were at least a dozen, were called in and the patient touched their feet, saying good bye. Each woman as she came out gave some one else some small piece of money, just what for I could not make out. The women who were to go with us proceeded, while talking to the other women and men, to change their "sauri", the only piece of clothing they had on, and strange as it may seem, one was standing directly in front of me and she exposed absolutely not one small part of her person; truly the neatest thing I have ever seen done. We were then ready to start, and the patient coaxed and helped into her carriage, with six men to carry it. We reached the hospital without further trouble; she is much better to-

day and I hope to be able to save her life.

It was midnight when I reached home and I got ready for bed, thinking I deserved it, not having had any sleep during the day, when a "tonga" arrived to take me to another patient. This was almost a repetition of that before, except the getting her back to the hospital. You would have been greatly entertained to have heard my fine flow of language when I told them to get her in at once and the husband calmly said, "I am so sorry to have caused you so much trouble but we will bring her in in the morning." I told him we would take her with us, the rest could do as they wished. So calling the women who were there we simply picked up "derrey's"—woman and all, carried her out and lifted her into our "tonga." She was a large woman and the tongas are small, but I had Mrs. Jopson, the medical helper, sit in the back and hold her feet and legs and I crawled up on the dash-board and held her head, the "tonga-walla" leading the horse. I could not help grinning and as there was no one to see I kept it up—I, sitting on my feet Indian style, almost on the tail of the horse, Mrs. J. in the back sitting on an incline plane, as that is what those "tongas" become unless well balanced, five men with lanterns and what-not, beside us, and the night a "pitchy black" one. We arrived, and getting the night nurses to work got her on the operating table and proceeded to work. I got back to bed some time after three o'clock in the morning.

I have become so lazy out here I can't even carry my own books or umbrella and never go out to see a patient alone. In truth these natives don't have much respect for anyone who "totes" their own paraphernalia, so my poor nurses have to be drugged, but they like it and I am not worrying.

(Continued next week.)

Constitutional Amendments

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AND PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH IN PURSUANCE OF ARTICLE XVIII OF THE CONSTITUTION.

Number One. A JOINT RESOLUTION. Proposing an amendment to article nine, section four of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the State to issue bonds to the amount of fifty millions of dollars for the improvement of the highways of the Commonwealth.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be, and the same is hereby, proposed, in accordance with the eighteenth article thereof:— That section four of article nine, which reads as follows:— "Section 4. No debt shall be created by or on behalf of the State, except to supply casual deficiencies of revenue, repel invasion, suppress insurrection, defend the State in war, or to pay existing debt; and the debt created to supply deficiencies in revenue shall never exceed, in the aggregate at any one time, one million of dollars." Be amended so as to read as follows:— "Section 4. No debt shall be created by or on behalf of the State, except to supply casual deficiencies of revenue, repel invasion, suppress insurrection, defend the State in war, or to pay existing debt; and the debt created to supply deficiencies in revenue shall never exceed, in the aggregate at any one time, one million of dollars, irrespective of any debt, may authorize the State to issue bonds to the amount of fifty millions of dollars for the purpose of improving and rebuilding the highways of the Commonwealth."

A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 1. ROBERT MCAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Number Two. A JOINT RESOLUTION. Proposing an amendment to section seven, article three of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, so as to permit special legislation regarding labor.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:— "Section 7. The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law authorizing the creation, extension, or impairing of liens:— "Regulating the affairs of counties, cities, townships, wards, boroughs, or school districts; "Changing the names of persons or places; "Authorizing the laying out, opening, altering or maintaining roads, highways, streets or alleys; "Relating to ferries or bridges, or incorporating ferries or bridge companies, except for the erection of bridges crossing streams which form boundaries between this and any other State; "Vacating roads, town plats, streets or alleys; "Relating to cemeteries, graveyards, or public grounds not of the State; "Authorizing the adoption or legitimation of children; "Locating or changing county-seats, erecting new counties, or changing county lines; "Incorporating cities, towns or villages, or changing their charters; "For the opening and conducting of elections, or fixing or changing the place of voting; "Erecting new townships or boroughs, changing township lines, borough limits or school districts; "Creating offices, or prescribing the powers and duties of officers in counties, cities, boroughs, townships, election or school districts; "Changing the law of descent or succession; "Regulating the practice or jurisdiction of, or changing the rules of evidence in, any judicial proceeding or inquiry before courts, aldermen, justices of the peace, sheriffs, commissioners, arbitrators, auditors, masters in chancery, or other tribunals, or providing or changing methods for the collection of debts, or the enforcing of judgments, or prescribing the effect of judicial sales of real estate; "Regulating the fees, or extending the powers and duties of aldermen, justices of the peace, magistrates or constables; "Regulating the management of public schools, the building or repairing of school houses and the raising of money for such purposes; "Fixing the rate of interest; "Affecting the estates of minors or persons under disability, except after due notice to all parties in interest, to be recited in the special enactment; "Remitting fines, penalties and forfeitures, or refunding moneys legally paid into the treasury; "Exempting property from taxation; "Regulating labor, trade, mining or manufacturing; "Creating corporations, or amending, renewing or extending the charters thereof; "Granting to any corporation, association or individual any special or exclusive privilege or immunity, or to any corporation, association or individual the right to lay down a railroad track; "Nor shall the General Assembly indirectly enact such special or local law by the partial repeal of a general law; but laws repealing local or special acts may be passed; "Nor shall any law be passed granting powers and privileges in any case where the granting of such powers and privileges shall have been provided for by general law, nor where the courts have jurisdiction to grant the same or give the relief asked for;— so as to read as follows:— "Section 7. The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law authorizing the creation, extension or impairing of liens:— "Regulating the affairs of counties, cities, townships, wards, boroughs, or school districts; "Changing the names of persons or places; "Authorizing the laying out, opening, altering or maintaining roads, highways, streets or alleys; "Relating to ferries or bridges, or incorporating ferries or bridges, or incorporating

Constitutional Amendments

ferries or bridge companies, except for the erection of bridges crossing streams which form boundaries between this and any other State; "Vacating roads, town plats, streets or alleys; "Authorizing the adoption or legitimation of children; "Locating or changing county-seats, erecting new counties, or changing county lines; "Incorporating cities, towns or villages, or changing their charters; "For the opening and conducting of elections, or fixing or changing the place of voting; "Granting divorces; "Erecting new townships or boroughs, changing township lines, borough limits or school districts; "Creating offices, or prescribing the powers and duties of officers in counties, cities, boroughs, townships, election or school districts; "Regulating the practice or jurisdiction of, or changing the rules of evidence in, any judicial proceeding or inquiry before courts, aldermen, justices of the peace, sheriffs, commissioners, arbitrators, auditors, masters in chancery, or other tribunals, or providing or changing methods for the collection of debts, or the enforcing of judgments, or prescribing the effect of judicial sales of real estate; "Regulating the fees, or extending the powers and duties of aldermen, justices of the peace, magistrates or constables; "Regulating the management of public schools, the building or repairing of school houses and the raising of money for such purposes; "Fixing the rate of interest; "Affecting the estates of minors or persons under disability, except after due notice to all parties in interest, to be recited in the special enactment; "Remitting fines, penalties and forfeitures, or refunding moneys legally paid into the treasury; "Exempting property from taxation; "Regulating labor, trade, mining or manufacturing; "Granting to any corporation, association or individual any special or exclusive privilege or immunity, or to any corporation, association, or individual the right to lay down a railroad track; "Nor shall the General Assembly indirectly enact such special or local law by the partial repeal of a general law; but laws repealing local or special acts may be passed; "Nor shall any law be passed granting powers or privileges in any case where the granting of such powers and privileges shall have been provided for by general law, nor where the courts have jurisdiction to grant the same or give the relief asked for. A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 2. ROBERT MCAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

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Number Three. A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION. Proposing an amendment to section three of article eight of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:— "Section 2. Amend section three of article eight, which reads as follows:— "All judges elected by the electors of the State at large may be re-elected for a second term, but the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:— "Section 2. Amend section three of article eight, which reads as follows:— "All judges elected by the electors of the State at large may be re-elected for a second term, but the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:— "Section 3. All judges elected by the electors of the State at large may be elected at either a general or municipal election, as circumstances may require. All elections for judges of the courts for the several judicial districts, and for regular terms of service, shall be held on the municipal election day, to be held on the first Monday of November in each odd-numbered year, but the General Assembly may, by law, alter the election day, two-thirds of all the members of each House consenting thereto; Provided, That such elections shall always be held in an odd-numbered year; so as to read:— "Section 3. All judges elected by the electors of the State at large may be elected at either a general or municipal election, as circumstances may require. All elections for judges of the courts for the several judicial districts, and for regular terms of service, shall be held on the municipal election day, to be held on the first Monday of November in each odd-numbered year, but the General Assembly may, by law, alter the election day, two-thirds of all the members of each House consenting thereto; Provided, That such elections shall always be held in an odd-numbered year. Provided further, That all judges for the courts of the several judicial districts holding office at the present time, whose terms of office end in an odd-numbered year, shall continue to hold their offices until the first Monday of January in the next succeeding even-numbered year. A true copy of Concurrent Resolution No. 3. ROBERT MCAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Constitutional Amendments

Number Four. A JOINT RESOLUTION. Proposing an amendment to section one of article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:— "Section 1. All taxes shall be uniform, upon the same class of subjects, within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax, and shall be levied and collected under general laws; but the General Assembly may, by general laws, exempt from taxation public property used for public purposes, actual places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, and institutions of purely public charity; so as to read as follows:— "All taxes shall be uniform upon the same class of subjects, within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax, and shall be levied and collected under general laws, and the subjects of taxation may be classified for the purpose of laying graded or progressive taxes; but the General Assembly may, by general laws, exempt from taxation public property used for public purposes, actual places of religious worship, places of burial not used or held for private or corporate profit, and institutions of purely public charity. A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 4. ROBERT MCAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Constitutional Amendments

Number Five. A JOINT RESOLUTION. Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

Section 15. No obligations which have been heretofore issued, or which may hereafter be issued, by any county or municipality other than Philadelphia, to provide for the construction or acquisition of waterworks, subways, underground railways or street railways, or for the purposes thereof, shall be considered as a debt of a municipality, within the meaning of section one of this amendment, if the net revenue derived from said property for a period of five years, either before or after the acquisition thereof, or where the same is constructed by the county or municipality, is sufficient to pay interest and sinking fund charges during said period upon said obligations, or if the said obligations shall be secured by liens upon the respective properties, and shall impose no municipal liability. Where municipalities or counties shall be obligated to provide for the construction of property, as herein provided, said municipalities or counties may authorize obligations to provide for the interest and sinking fund charges accruing thereon until said obligations shall have been paid in full, or until a period of one year; and said municipalities and counties shall not be required to levy a tax to pay said interest and sinking fund charges, as required by section ten of article nine of the Constitution of Pennsylvania, until after said obligations shall have been paid in full, or until a period of one year; and the valuation of the taxable property therein, if said increase of indebtedness shall have been assessed by three-fifths of the electors of the county or municipality, in such manner as shall be provided by law. A true copy of Joint Resolution No. 5. ROBERT MCAFEE, Secretary of the Commonwealth.

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