

From the 151st Penn'a Vol.

CAMP NEAR BELLE PLAINS, VA. April 23d, 1863.

LIEUT. GARDNER:—Dear Sir—Thus far, the present week has been one of unusual activity with us. The getting ready and transfer of the sick in the regiment to different hospitals north, occupied the time of many of us from Sunday morning until 8 a. m. on Monday, when farewells between the leaving, dying, and the remaining living were exchanged, with many an out-gush of true soldierly emotion. There were about 80 sent from the regiment—the most of them I fear never to return. Susq'a furnished her full quota. We regret their loss, and mourn their departure; yet, as "every cloud has its silver lining," so may we hope that living or dying, admonished by the stern monitors, disease and death, we should be prepared for our exit, and act accordingly.

The departure of the last ambulance was the signal for us to appear at head quarters and receive 2 months pay. This would have answered very well for lining if there had been more silver in it; but, even in its present shape it afforded quite a relief to many an overburdened heart, capricious stomach, and voracious appetite for something out of the ordinary range of camp cuisine. A peep at the sutlers tent would convince the most skeptical of the fact; and the sight of a paymaster in the regiment is proportioned in relish and avidity to the character and quantity of the sutler's stock on hand.—These are the spend-allies. Then again we have the lean, lank, hungry corporals, sometimes apparelled in officers' clothes, and at other times in citizens dress, praying to, and thanking God that they "are not like other men;" who have left their homes (a blessing to the community,) and come into the army (a curse to the country,) with not one patriotic impulse to warm up or quicken into life their mercenary natures, with no sentiment but that of gain, and no honor save that which allies itself to a free-booter, or to a Roman when in Rome—a terror to defenceless women and children who are left by the vicissitudes of war outside the lines—abolitionists in politics, and tyrants by nature. They are the grab-balls.

I witnessed the reception of the greenbacks by many of our under officers, who are subject about every six weeks to fits of peevishness, pettishness, and a mental derangement leading to silly exhibitions of authority, with a steady current of disagreeableness permeating the whole system, and the effect was marvelous. It is a producer of that social fellow-feeling "which makes us wondrous kind," and many haphazardly inclined. The latter is an infirmity to which all armies in modern times have been subject, if we except Havelock's saints in India.

You must pardon me, Lieut., but I have not yet said a word in regard to what I proposed to write. By 12 m., then, on Monday, the last company had been paid, and in less than thirty minutes after their return to camp the order was given for every man to be ready to march in one hour's time, with 3 days provisions in haversacks, and an oil-cloth for bedding and protection; and then, of course, a heavy rain began—

And a hurrying to and fro, and checks which but an hour ago blushed with a new-born patriotic glow, were marshalled in a long and majestic column, consisting of 7 regiments, forming two brigades and one division, commanded by Maj. Gen. Doubleday. We were headed direct for Fredericksburg, but an hour's time convinced us that if that place was our destination, our route was quite circuitous. Following the course of the Rappahannock until dark, conjecture ceased, and we gave ourselves to the task of picking our way through almost impenetrable woods, swamps, and morasses, and when forced into the roads, through mud on an average above the knees of a six footer. Small streams on which a common Mississippi flat-boat could sail, offered no impediment. It was "root hog or die." Some would wade, others swim for relaxation across the creeks, carrying their guns between their teeth, while the shortest straddled the drums and paddled across. There was no delaying when the Colonel's shrill clarion voice gave the command, "Forward," to this regiment. At 2 in the morning we stacked arms in front of King George C. H., remained until day-light, and resumed our march. Remaining with the Surgeon of our regiment in the rear, I came across a "cullid pusson" who informed me that his former master owned the plantation on which we camped—about 4,500 acres in a body—of as pretty land as the sun ever shone upon; that he had two sons in the rebel army; that since the proclamation took effect his people, over one hundred in number, had gone away, and that the old man had gone dead about a week before. He expressed a desire to come North, but I soon set him right on that subject. About 12 m. we came in sight of Port Royal, about one mile distant; remained until about 4 p. m., when the pontoons having arrived, together with the artillery, (the latter consisting of six yellow-pine field pieces, mounted,) we marched to the river, and under cover of the latter, the former were made ready for service. The 151st led the van, and they did it in a style which reflected credit upon themselves and their commanding officer. And this leads me to remark, that it is to the unceasing attention and regard paid to the habits and cleanliness of the men by Col. Allen, that they were enabled to make their first march with such rapidity and precision as to astonish the veteran regiments in the division. He has proven himself "the right man in the right place," and whatever future honors may await him, rest assured that he will prove himself competent to their discharge. His reliance upon his troops is perfect, and their confidence in him un-

bounded. You may therefore look for a good record of them when placed in the field.

It is a beautiful country from King George C. H. to Port Conway. In regard to size and population, neither place is of any account. There are a few dwellings in the latter that furnish evidences of wealth and refinement, and the balance resemble fisherman's tents. The owner of the mansions was at home, and toward dusk Surgeon Underwood and myself called upon him soliciting the privilege of cooking a supper over his fire.—He referred us to "Dinah," who in consideration of a shipplaster, gave us a specimen of Virginia hospitality under the present regime. Two or three companies were placed in front of house with orders to do no harm to person or property. The Colonel also called upon him. He expressed no uneasiness in regard to our visit, but seemed to understand our business as well, if not better, than most of us. Altogether he is specimen of a fine old Virginia bachelor. Port Royal opposite was vacated long before dark, and our mission having been accomplished, innumerable bonfires were built, by the light of which we were enabled to trace our way back to the C. H. we left in the morning.

Reached there at 2 a. m., and started for camp at early daylight. We reached camp some two or three hours sooner than the other regiments, and thus has ended our "reconnoissance in force" to Port Conway.

It has rained very hard here all day.—Remember me to the Major. Yours Truly, P. HAYWARD.

Letter From Capt. E. W. Rogers. Hd Q's, Co. H. 177 Pa. Reg. Camp Mansfield Va. Apr. 28.

To the Editor of the Montrose Democrat:—Sir—Your issue of the 7th inst, was handed to me yesterday by a friend, and a communication, dated David's Mills, Camp Mansfield, written by "M," shown me. As that communication concerned my reputation, not only as an officer, but as a man, I take this opportunity to reply. As regards my being a "backslider" or otherwise, I am thankful that I am not accountable to a poor, miserable, sneaking low-lived wretch, who goes behind a curtain "M," and then unseen stabs a man to the heart; nor accountable to a cowardly, pusillanimous pussy cat, styling himself a soldier, but as great a dastard as to chuckle over the idea that his Regiment has never seen a battle, and probably never will be called upon to do any duty other than "guard duty," and "tying niggers," which, by the by, is evidently all the duty he is fit for, or has the courage to perform; but only to my Maker, who knoweth the heart and judgeth us aright. Nor do I deem it always judicious to "cast pearls before swine." As regards my being popular or otherwise in my Company, I have only to say that as a man, and a citizen, I never sought popularity, but only to do right; that as an officer, I seek more the faithful performance of duty, than popularity, more to obey the orders of my superior officers, than to manufacture orders for my own gratification and the accomplishment of my own niggardly desires.

I received a box of luxuries and clothing from the benevolent ladies of Montrose, designed expressly for the sick of this regiment. It was a splendid selection of things, and does great credit to the fair donors; in fact was just such a box of things as one might expect from the noble hearted and patriotic ladies of Montrose, and for their kindness and liberality in thus ministering to the wants of our poor sick soldiers, they not only merit but receive the warm and hearty thanks of all in the regiment, save the poor merciless canker worm who styles himself "M" and doubly thanked by all who have worn the garments, or been covered by the soft blankets, or whose aching heads have rested on the downy pillows and had their palates tickled by the dainties sent. The things were many of them carried to the sick of the different Companies and given to them in their quarters. Some of them were given to officers who called at my quarters for their not for their own use but for their sick but brave boys, and those that were not thus distributed were given in charge to the surgeons of the Regimental Hospital to use to the best possible advantage, and it was faithfully done. And now, Mr. Editor, as you have seen fit to publish the infamous foul-mouthed lies of my assailant, I ask of your publication of this statement in self defence. I am, sir, with respect, your obedient servant. Capt. E. W. ROGERS.

FOR THE DEMOCRAT.

Barking Dogs never Bite! Mr. Editor:—I see the Republican is having a great deal of trouble in reference to the farmers holding so-called "copperhead" meetings in the various school-houses through the county. It seems to know nothing about them, but conjectures they are plotting designs to help Jeff Davis overthrow the government.—It wants its friends to send the names of the head men of the dreaded "copperhead" meetings, and the resolutions they pass. Why don't the ignorant editor attend some of those meetings? Is he afraid he will be converted to the old Constitution, or is his time too precious to spare a few moments in helping to preserve the Constitution as it is, and the glorious old Union as it was? But he would rather sit in his dark corner, and slander his neighbors by misrepresentation of proceedings he seems to know nothing about. I presume if we should send him the hundreds of names of Republicans and others who belong to our society in this county, who are trying to sustain and uphold the old Constitution given to us by our forefathers, probably it would stop its nig-

gardly clack against our most loyal citizens. It had better be careful or it may get caught in the trap it is laying for others.

I have read its columns for many years, but never knew it to issue such wild and hellish falsehoods about its neighbors. But for the last few weeks it seems to be perfectly insane on all questions. It seems to know nothing about self-government; it thinks we must be governed by despots and tyrants, and let the old Constitution slide. I tell you, Mr. Editor, we farmers can't submit to that. The good old rock of '76 must stand. It has stood the winds and waves of nearly a hundred years; it shall be preserved for the benefit of our children—we care not at what cost of money—and if that cannot save it our lives must. We can leave our plows, as did Putnam, and as did Gen. Green's forge. Those old patriots stood the test of '76, and there are just as good ones at the present day. Three cheers for the Constitution. BRIDGEWATER. May 6th, 1863.

FOR THE DEMOCRAT.

Frazier's "193" Falsehoods. Satire and ridicule are the weapons always used to combat unanswerable arguments and incontrovertible facts. Thus the editor of the Republican, instead of disproving the evidence of his own (federal) party statements in the unconstitutionality of the conscription act, which I had no motive in bringing to their view, but to dissuade if possible the cruel persecutions of the poor men who stand in the same dread of the draft as did the New England men 1812, threw derision over the whole article, every word of which is a historical truth. My wandering style is easily accounted for, and in time may be laid aside. In tracing the history of the party to which you belong, I have had to wander in such a devious track, and thread so many dark and fearful labyrinths in following it out, that it is no wonder my style is roving—that the facts of history, to those who did not know them before, appear to be the productions of a disordered mind, and must be fancies instead of facts. Would that they were! Would that the party you share in the history of this nation was but a fiction of the brain, and I was laboring under a delusion, as you assert. Then might the people laugh with you in finding that history but a comedy instead of a tragedy. But the advent to power in our Republic of men whose principles are in direct antagonism to the principles which have ruled the government under whose reign we have been so long a free and happy people, is an event too serious for mirth; and their acts, following immediately upon their advent to possession of power, are sufficiently alarming to bring the most thoughtless to "cool reflection" upon the perils surrounding them. I make no pretensions to "political tact," but nature has endowed me with capacity to discern good from evil, and the sagacity to discover and to predict the moral effects flowing from these two opposing causes, and I here affirm, what I will prove to be a truth, that, as there are but those two principles in the moral world, one called Good and the other Evil, so there are but two principles in our political world, one called Democracy and the other Federalism, and from these two principles flow the good and evil to the people under their sway. Democracy is the fountain from which has flowed all the blessings of civil and religious liberty which this nation has enjoyed for the sixty years preceding the events of the last two, so disastrous to the country.

Federalism is the fountain of intolerance, aristocracy and tyranny—and whatever name it may assume, the same principles lie hidden at the fountain head.—The prefix of the adjective to the name of republican, under which these principles have long been concealed, is so significant that it would seem to have been there affixed by the invisible hand of fate to warn the people that, during its long and apparently dormant state, it had been gathering to itself all the dark elements of evil, ready to hurl them, as from a cloud of blackness and darkness upon the heads of this devoted people. Yes, federalism for thirty years had been attracting to itself and combining with its own evil nature the dark spirit of abolition, and they have brought round again that dark night in history, called the night of Egyptian darkness, wherein 'no man knew his brother.' Brothers are now embracing their hands in brother's blood, and before the day begins to dawn upon the land, the signs foretell that every neighbor will be seeking the blood of neighbor!

The Sun of Democracy rose when Thos. Jefferson, in 1801, was inaugurated President of these United States, and just sixty years from that date it went down to the inhabitants of this land, if it rises not again! Continued next week. I.

Sabbath School Convention.

The Susquehanna County Sabbath School Association will hold its second annual meeting, at the Borough of Susq'a Depot, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 3d and 4th days of June next. Commencing on Wednesday at 11 a. m. Delegates from the Schools, and all friends of the cause, throughout the county, are earnestly invited to attend and give their influence in promoting the object.

S. B. CHASE, President. A. CHAMBERLIN, Rec. Sec. May 9th, 1863.

Notice.—The Mite Society will meet at Dr. Blackman's, May 12th, and at Mrs. Albert Chamberlin's, May 19th. K. E. SEARLE, Sec'y.

A BIG ONE.—A large calf, owned by Shepard Carpenter, of Harford, when six hours old, weighed 118 lbs. Can anybody beat that?

Soldiers' Aid Society.

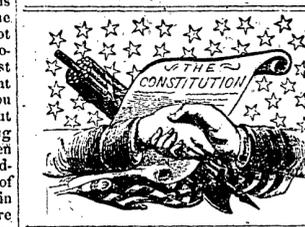
EXTRACTS from a letter from the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Women's Peina's Branch U. S. San. Commission, to the Ladies' Aid of Montrose:—"The soldiers are crying out for pickles, particularly home-made ones, which are much more wholesome as well as palatable than those put up at pickling establishments. I wish you would suggest to your contributors the expediency of planting a few extra hills of cucumbers for the soldiers, so that the poor fellows can have plenty of pickles for next winter. And onions—if there is anything in the shape of a vegetable these poor convalescents seem particularly to love, it is onions; and pickled onions are in great demand, at least this is my experience in army hospitals. Perhaps the farmers in your neighborhood would plant some onions and cabbage expressly for the soldiers. We send onions down whenever we can get them. Indeed there is scarcely anything in the way of food and clothing that cannot be brought into use among the sick and convalescent soldiers.—Please reject nothing that is offered you for them."

The Ladies of the Montrose Aid Society make a special request for pickles, cucumbers, onions or any other kind of vegetable, for next week's package to the Sanitary Commission. Contributions should be at the rooms of the Ladies on Thursday, the 14th inst. The skirts of justice's dresses, half-worn or faded, are solicited as linings to double-gowns for convalescent soldiers. Any material, too, which can be converted into slippers for them, will be gratefully received. May 7th. By order of the Society.

Treasurer's Report

Table with columns for Received in January, February, March, April, Total, and Amount expended by the Society from January to May 1863.

Montrose Democrat.



A. J. GERRITSON, Editor.

Tuesday, May 12th, 1863.

THE UNION AS IT WAS; Before abolition, secession, etc., disturbed its harmony. THE CONSTITUTION AS IT IS; Enforced and respected in all sections of the country.

Dreadfully in Earnest.

Judging by an article in the last week's abolition organ, the editor must be "dreadfully in earnest," or was suffering under a painful attack of the colic occasioned by an unusual amount of political spleen. If his blustering statements are to be credited, he knows (by being a member of one, or otherwise), that organized bands of Traitors exist in this county, who intend to "aid Jeff Davis in the overthrow of our Government." He styles them "K.G.C. Copperheads," and names towns where he knows them to be "in full operation"—Bridgewater, Franklin, Liberty, F. Lake, Silver Lake. We do not believe that any such society exists; but that the whole statement is like similar ones printed by other abolition sheets—a false and malicious electioneering trick, resorted to by the managers of the Union League to save their abolition party from utter defeat by the people. Failing to buy or cheat any respectable number of Democrats,—not enough to balance the changes against them—into joining their party, they resort to the bold dodge of scaring them in. We believe that the men who circulate these infamous, rebel-encouraging tales, either labor under a grievous load of Satanic wickedness, or are the victims of gullibility or prejudice. Indeed, we have good reason to believe that those writers who pen such base charges against their fellow citizens and neighbors, LIE, WILFULLY, when they assert that they know that traitorous organizations exist in our midst. They claimed to know of these things before the last term of Court. If they did, the should have had the leaders arrested and tried for treason; for we have in the State a law providing for the punishment of those who assist, or plot to assist the enemy. If the vapid editor knew of the treason, yet did not lay it before the Grand Jury, he is no better than the rest of them, and liable to fine and imprisonment as a traitor. If he now knows of a band of traitors in the vicinity, and does not at once make oath to the fact and procure from some magistrate a warrant for the arrest of at least a part of them, he is a party to their treason (by confession) and unfit to mingle with loyal men. That he does not do something of this kind is conclusive proof that he does not believe his own words, unless he is cognizant of treason and is a party to it. Let him place upon official record his "evidence" that "we have Traitors in our very midst in almost every neighborhood," or stand self-confessed a liar or traitor. People should

take notice of this matter; an editor has asserted that he knows of the existence of Traitors in his own town; if he shall expose their names and acts, his own loyalty and veracity may be further credited; but if he refuses to develop the whole treasonable plot, he can only be thought a member of the gang, and, if the truth of his own words can be proven, he should be arrested and tried for treason. One item deserves notice:

"The times are perilous. Every man should be in earnest—Areadfully in earnest, and while the battle-cry in our armies is 'down with the traitors,' the watchword of those who stay at home should be, 'down with the Copperheads.'"

That means,—if such crazy emissions can have meaning—that the editor desires one class of men "who stay at home," to commence the work of butchering another class. How nice that would be! Then the duty of citizens such as those to whom he appeals, would be to shoot down at sight those of their neighbors who were supposed to be "Copperheads." Where the matter would end if the "Copperheads" should return the fire and slay the abolition assailants in self-defence, remains to be seen, and probably was not thought of by the famous paper-warrior.

If the article we refer to was not so ridiculous as to render it contemptible, it might be taken as alarming evidence of what the abolitionists would like to do if they had courage, or intend to do when they can educate their party up to the standard of blood. But let the editor beware! Let him refrain from his mad yet silly effusions, lest some weak persons, guided by his hellish words, should commence the work of violence; for in such an event, where would the first blows of the avengers—swift and terrible—fall? Where but upon the demons who gave the "watchword?" Let those who sow the wind, beware of the whirlwind!

The clearest exhibition of the hypocrisy of the "no-party" patriots which we have ever observed, was made in this place last week. We refer to the contest for County Superintendent. Heretofore, no such question as politics, was ever intruded upon a Convention of Directors.—But now, since the Union League has resolved to ignore party, its leaders used every party influence possible, decent and indecent, to defeat Mr. Bullard, because he is supposed to vote the Democratic ticket, although, as his libellers admitted, he has taken no part in politics for the past three years. Yet, as he does not join the League, but is suspected of having voted against Grow, &c., a partizan effort was made to defeat him. Not content with a respectable party opposition, the League leaders resorted to their usual allegations of disloyalty, and charged Mr. B. with being a traitor! and by the use of that maliciously false statement ensured his defeat. The subject will receive further attention, and the malignant libellers be properly exposed.

We print a letter from Capt. Rogers in reply to one from a soldier published in this paper during our absence, last month. "M" made some allegations to which the Captain responds, using some severe terms. About the matter in dispute we know nothing; but as "M" had a hearing, it is just that we open our columns to the other side.

It is announced that Hon. W. W. Ketcham, of Luzerne county, has been appointed Provost-Marshal for this Congressional District; and M. B. Helme, of Montrose, has been appointed Commissioner. Dr. Horace P. Moody, of Luzerne Surgeon.

Read the able speech of Mayor Sanderson on first page. Mr. S., for many years editor of the Lancaster Intelligencer, is a candidate for Governor, and our Convention could not select a better man. The press might be proud of such a representative in the executive chair.

The Convention of School Directors met at the Court-house on the 4th inst., and organized by selecting the following officers: President, George T. Frazier; Secretaries, L. F. Fitch, P. H. Rafter. It was moved that the salary of County Superintendent be fixed at \$700 for ensuing three years, which motion, by a two-thirds vote was so amended as to make it \$600. Two ballots were then taken with the appended result:

First Ballot.—A. N. Bullard, 44; E. A. Weston, 31; M. L. Hawley, 13; W. Faurot, 10; R. Cushman, 8; W. H. Baker, 6; A. Brundage, 5.

Second Ballot.—Weston, 50; Bullard, 47; Hawley, 11.

The President announced that Mr. Weston, of Brooklyn, was elected. Mr. Carr moved that the vote be reconsidered, stating that he understood one illegal vote had been counted, and one Director had not had the privilege of voting, and that with such correction the result would be changed. Motion ruled out of order, and Convention adjourned.

Arrest of Hon. C. L. Vallandigham!

The Beginning of the End!

On Monday night last, a military force was sent from Cincinnati to Dayton by special train, and early next morning (2 o'clock a. m.) broke into the house of Mr. V., and carried him off by violence. The people hearing of the affair, rang the fire bell and assembled in force, but too late to rescue him; but the crowd of 500 or 600 gutted the Journal office, and set it on fire. The fire communicated to other buildings and some \$30,000 worth of property is reported to be consumed.—More troops were sent, who restored quiet, and 30 of the leaders were arrested without resistance and put in jail. The Empire newspaper was suppressed (why?) and the editor carried off by troops. Mr. V. was taken before a secret court-martial at Cincinnati, but refused to plead to the charges, and a secret trial progressed. The charges upon which he was seized are said to be as follows:

That he on or about the 1st day of May 1863, at Mt. Vernon, Knox County, O., did publicly address a large meeting of citizens, saying in words, or in effect declaring, that the present war is a cruel, injurious and unnecessary war—a war not being waged for the preservation of the Union—a war for the purpose of crushing out liberty, and establishing a despotism—a war for the freedom of the blacks and the enslaving of the whites; stating that, if the administration had so wished, the war could have been honorably terminated; that peace might have been honorably obtained by listening to the proposed intermediation of France; that propositions by which the Southern States could be won back, and he guaranteed their rights under the Constitution; were rejected—the day before the battle of Fredericksburg. He finally said that Order No. 38 of Gen. Burnside was a base usurpation of arbitrary authority, and that the sooner the people informed the minions of usurped power that they will not submit to such restrictions, the better. He declared also his purpose to defeat an attempt to build up a monarchy upon the ruins of our free government; that he believed the men in power were trying to establish a despotism.

Humiliation and Prayer.

In the President's proclamation setting apart Thursday, the 30th of April, as a day of humiliation and prayer, occurs this paragraph:

Let us, then, rest humbly in the hope, authorized by the Divine teachings that the united cry of the nation will be heard on high, and answered with blessings no less than the pardon of our national sins, and the restoration of our now divided and suffering country to its former happy condition of unity and peace."

To show what the Puritan friends of the administration think of this proclamation, and in what manner they probably observed the day, we quote the following comments on the proclamation from the Boston Commonwealth, a paper started under the auspices of Senator Sumner, Wendell Phillips, and others of that class, whose organ it is. That paper says:

"Is it not a cool assumption of the President that the pardon of our national sins has any kind of connexion with the restoration of our country to its former happy condition of unity and peace?—Our own opinion is that if God had resolved not to pardon us at all, He would prove it by allowing the restoration of that old 'unity and peace.' That unity was crime; that peace was worse than war."

And again: "May the tongue be withered, ere it is answered, that prays for a restoration of that old state of things from which God in his mercy seems willing to rescue us—than which his fiercest wrath could find no more terrible doom for a blind nation led by blind rulers."

Yet these men, who burn the Constitution at their 4th of July celebrations, and pray for curses upon those who beseech God to restore the Union and peace, are "loyal men," "patriots," forsooth, while the Democracy of the country, who, to a man, are true to the Union and the Constitution, are denounced as "traitors" and "copperheads," merely because they refuse to support the wicked and treasonable measures which Sumner and others have forced the administration to accept.

MISTEARD OUT.—Brigadier General George A. McCall and Louis Blenker have been mustered out of the military service of the United States. The hard fought battles, the wounds, the sufferings and insults Gen. McCall endured while in rebel prison, and his military education, pass as nothing with the "powers that be" he must be sacrificed. And why? He is a Democrat. We shall not be surprised to see every Democrat officer in the army, who has the courage to say his soul is his own, mustered out of service.

METAL TIPPED SHOES.—Shoes are an important item in the expense of clothing children, as every parent will understand. They invariably wear out their shoes at the toe first, and not infrequently before the other parts are a quarter worn. Children's shoes with metal tips never wear out at the toe, and it is safe to say that on an average one pair with them will more than out-wear three pairs without them. We believe all the shoe dealers keep them.—Boston Journal.

We have occasionally seen this kind of shoes worn in this vicinity, and believe it would be to the interest of parents to buy no other for children. They are commonly known as "Coppertoes," and we trust that the abuse of the term "Copperhead" will deter no one from consulting their own interests in this matter.