The Nittsburgh Gazette.

PROPOSING BY LETTER.

BY SHIRLEY BROWNE.

Eleven o'clock-at least so said the golden tide of sunshine, creeping over the velvety turf of the village green, and losing itself in the murmurous foliage of the big maple trees; and so said the little clock in Judge Cornell's law office on the Main street, speaking in a sharp, melodious

chime. Harry Grover glanced quietly up at the uncompromising little dial, as he entered the domain of "Coke upon Littleton."

"I'm late this morning," he muttered, hanging up his hat behind the door; "but, as good luck will have it, the Judge has not made his appearance yet!"

He was a straight, handsome young fellow, with curly brown hair, limped hazel eyes, and a healthy flush on his sunbrowned checks-a young man whom you instinctively felt you could trust, a l' entrance, as stern voice. "Get along with yourself you looked into his frank, honest face.

There was not many such; more's the pity!
"Whew—whew—whew!" whistled Mr. Harry Grover, turning over his pile of legal documents in a very immethodical sort of y. "Law and love were never meant to together; of that I am certain. Pretty Ariel Browne's blue eyes are shining rogueisly out at me from every bit of parchment or printed blank I touch. How lovely she looked last night-and who would ever suppose that the old cat with the false curls and grinning percelain teeth, could be her aunt? Rich, too, they say; a good match for some desperate fortune hunter, who is willing to swallow the bitter old pill for the sake of the gold coating. Let me see—talking about old Experience Browne, I believe I have a business letter to write to her about that piece of land by the schoolhouse corners that she wants me to buy. Not I ! When I purchase land for a building spot, it won't be a desolate pasture, where rocks and mullen stocks fight together to see which

shall possess the staunch soil. The old lady must take me for a very unsophisticated character indeed. I wonder, now, if blueeyed Ariel will ever be a wrinkled catamaran clutching after bargains. Pooh! I should as soon think of a white plumed little dove being transformed into a greedy vulture?"
He leaned back in his chair, with both hands clasped on top of his curly head, and looked out abstractedly into the slushing

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village street, humming an old tune under his breath—a tune whose burden was "love, Plainly, Mr. Harry Grover was very little disposed for work that morning. And when, at twelve o'clock, Judge Cornell came in, there was but a hopeless chaos of

papers on the table to represent his young partner's matutinal labors. Why, Grover, you haven't accomplished a thing this morning," said the old Judge, glancing keenly around through his antique silver bound spectacles. "I am afraid that the pretty girls at 'Squire Dockthorn's party

last night were too much for your mental "Well, you see, sir, I've been rather sorting the papers over," said Harry, a little sheepishly, "and I've written two letters this morning!"

"Two letters?" "May I ask to whom?"

"One was to old Miss Experience Browne, about that lot she wanted to sell me-a regular clipper, giving the old hag a piece of my mind—and the other——"

"Ahem—that wasn't exactly a business letter. Now, Judge, suppose you and I look over the papers together!"

The Judge smiled slyly; he had an idea as to what the other letter contained! Every one in town knew how hopelessly Mr. Har-

ry Grover was in love with pretty Ariel Browne! Judge Cornell had been young himself not so very many years ago!
"It's just as well for the lad to marry and settle down," thought the old gentlemen, and Ariel will certainly make as sweet a little wife as human moral could wish for!" Harry needn't have been so mysterious, sealing and directing his two letters at the

tall desk behind the office door.

Judge Cornell knew just as well what was in them as if he had read every word with his own eyes. But young people have a mistaken idea that old people don't know anything!

Miss Ariel Browne sat in her room, busy with a complicated piece of bright-colored web-work that ladies call "crocket," when Bridget tapped softly at the panels of the

'Please, Miss Ariel, a letter !" "A letter! and for me! Dear me, Bridget, and who can it be from?" "Faix, then, and its meself doesn't know, but Lawyer Grover's office boy brought it, and an impudent young spalpeen he is,

But here Bridget became conscious that her young mistress was paying no attention to her, and withdrew into her department of the kitchen, there to nurse her griefs in

solitude. Ariel's cheek had turned as pink as the inside of a wild rose-bud, as she read the superscription of the letter, and her heart it, perhaps a pulse or two faster than was its wont, but she broke open the missive

with a resolute hand and read: "MY DEAR Miss BROWNE: ["Rather cold beginning!" she pouted.] I must beg to decline all further negotiations with you As you cannot for a moment suppose I care to possess anything so utterly worn down and good for nothing, it is useless to waste either of our time in any more prelimina-

will call this afternoon and return to you the papers you so unnecessarily took the trouble to send me. Yours, very truly, H. GROVER.

Ariel threw down the note and burst into tears.
"The cold-hearted, presumptuous villain!" she sobbed. "Papers, indeed! I

suppose he means the note I wrote him about the pic-nic. Oh, how foolish I have been, how absurd, and I am rightfully punished for my folly !" But still Ariel wept on; when a girl of eighteen has built up a glittering castle in the air, whose foundations are laid in her own heart, she cannot see it dashed ruth

lessly into ruins without a few natural Meanwhile, Miss Experience Browne, tears! atat fifty well ripened autumns, was reading with no little astonisliment, the letter which Bridget's enemy, the post-boy, had brought

or ner. perience, slowly and emphatically "The importance young fortune hunting humoug! Does he suppose I'm a born fool, to swallow such a pack of sentimental flattery as this?

(Lovely eyes—dimples! If he'd have said spectacles, he'd have been considerably nearer right. No yourdon't, my fine fellow no you don't be experience. Browne in your don't be experience. Browne in your don't be experience. Browne in your don't be experience in the world to or court of the experience of your don't be experienced in the world to or court of the experience of the experie

for him, and I warrant me he won't be in a hurry to call again.' And Miss Experience chuckled to herelf until all the false curls quivered, as she

olded the letter neatly, and put it back into its hurriedly directed envelope.

"I never had an offer of marriage beshe thought, viewing her autmnal countenance in a pier-glass, and adjusting the little puffs of ribbon in her cap border, fore. "and it does make one feel kind of queer It's something to tell of anyway. Bethuar Jones needn't go to saying non that I was an old maid, because I had never had an offer! I just wonder what Ariel would say

I guess I won't tell her; she would only laugh at me!"
Miss Experience drew herself up as grimly as if her spinal column were a bar of iron, that afternoon; when Bridget an-

"Mr. Grover, mem!" "Show him in, Biddy-I am quite at leisure to receive him." And our hero, entirely innocent of the

impending storm that awaited him, walked into Miss Experience's awful presence, with a bundle of utle deeds in his hand, tied with the official looking red tape of his pro-"Good afternoon, Miss Experience !" "Aint' you ashamed of yourself, Harry Grover?" ejaculated the spinster, in a deep makin' love to an old woman mor'n twice as old as you be, just because she's got a little money! What do you take me for,

hey? Don't stand starin there! Walk out of this room, quick, or I'll throw the big dictionary at your head! No, No, no! Now have you got your answer plain enough? I wouldn't marry you if there wasn't another man in the whole town!" Harry Grover was a little appalled at this

charge of horse and foot, but he stood his ground manfully, not even quailing at the big dictionary!
But, Miss Browne—will you hear me a moment? I don't want you to marry me!

What has put this strange fancy in your "You don't want to marry me? Then what the mischief does this letter mean, I'd like to know."
"May I look at it?"

Harry took the letter, and glanced at itits contents threw a new light upon the unaccountable state of affairs. "Good Cupid! what a blockhead-what unmitigated, inexcusable, incomparable

donkey I have been! What could I have been thinking about?" "Hey?" demanded the puzzled spinster. "Excuse me, ma'am, but there has been mistake—a—

And without stopping to complete his fragmentary sentence, he rushed out of the room to the little bay-windowed parlor, where Ariel usually sat.
"Well, I never!" exclaimed Miss Experience, as the door banged unceremoniously

in her face. "Ariel! Miss Browne!" But Ariel turned haughtily from the pleading eyes of her lover.

"Your letter is quite sufficient, sir; I

need no further exponent of your mean ing."
"Ariel—darling—there has been an absurd mistake; this is the letter that was intended for you. The other was written to your aunt on business, and by some unac-countable blunder, got into the wrong envelope! I have been a fool—a blockher but I love you, dearest, with all my heart

Ariel! you will not send me away! -Ariel did not send him away, for the shy smiles and the rosy bloom were beginning to come back to her face as she read the real letter! "But Harry!" she said, with a roguish

dimple at the corner of her mouth, must confess that aunt Experience's note had rather an unpleasant style."
"I was a careless reprobate," said Harry, frankly, "but you see Judge Connell was watching me, and—"

And that was the end of all misunderstanding between Harry Grover and Ariel Browne, enceforth, forevermore. Miss Experience was rather disappointed in two things. She would like to have sold the school house "corner lot," and she would like to have said that once, in the course of her fifty-five years of life, she had had an

offer of marriage.
"However," said Miss Experience, "Ariel is very happy, and may be things are best

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Cilice, for the months of March and April, 186

Pittsburgh.
Jane McDermott, enting house, Ist ward.
Julius Weisert, eating house, Ist ward.
Julius Weisert, eating house, Ist ward.
John Kennedy, tavern, 3d ward.
John Duffy, tavern, 3d ward.
Markette Ceila, eating house, 3d ward.
Mary Jolce, eating house, 3d ward.
Benj. Trimble, tavern, 4th ward.
Samuel Hare, tavern, 4th ward.
Mary Welch, eating house, 4th ward.
K. Kellerman, eating house, 4th ward.
Abra. Greenwood, tavern, 5th ward.
Jo. D. Marker, tavern, 5th ward.
Lins Kauffeld Co., other goods, 7th ward.
Jose Byrnes & Jos. Armstrong, tavern, 8th vard.
Chas. Durning, tavern, 10th ward.
Chas. Durning, tavern, 10th ward.
Chas. Control of the ward.
Allegheny.

Gottleib Fass, tavern, ist ward.
J. Rosenkrauz, other goods, 3d ward.
Jas. Cashbaugh, other goods, 3d ward.
Mich. Kutz, tavern, 8th ward. Gedekch & Wood, other goods, Birmingham:
Baum & Shemeifenig, tavern, McKeesport.
Fred, Areusburgh, cating house, McKeesport.
Cath. Garritz, cating house, Lower St. Clair.
Amelia Biretsch, other goods, West Pittsburgh.
Jacob Sofiel, tavern. Mr. Washington.

Mary Powers, tavern, Indiana.

John Brown, eating house, McClure.

Jos. Letzkus, tavern, Unkland. Jos. Letzkus, tavern, Onkland. The License Board will sit on WEDNESDAY, the 19th day of April, 1868, at 9 o'clock A. M., for

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Subject to the decision of the Union Republican County Convention. mh24:u24-d&T FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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SEC. 1. Be it ordained and enacted by the Select and Common Councils of the City of Allegheny, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the Committee on Streets be and they are hereby anthorized and directed to invite and receive proposals for the Grading and Paving of Olito Avenue, from the Grading and Paving of Olito Avenue, and the Committee on Streets be and they are hereby anthorized and directed to invite and receive proposals for the Grading and Paving of Olito Avenue, Streets from the terminus of the present pavement at the old city line to the point of intersection of said avenue with East Street; GRANT AVENUE, from the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Italiroad to Lincoln Avenue; NIION AVENUE, from Olito street to Knoll street; JUNIATA STREET, from Sedgwick street to Beaver Avenue; KILBUCK STREET, from east side of Craip street to weat side of Corry street; LINDSAY ALLEY, in the Second ward; and BLAHR ALLEY, in the Second ward; and streets of the said improvements, there he and is hereby levied a special tax, to be equally assessed upon the several lots bounding and abutting upon the said avenues, streets, and alleys respectively, in proportion to the feet front in them respectively comprised, and bounding and abutting as alteresaid. AN ORDINANCE to authorize

spectively comprised, and boundard advenage.

SEC. 3. That as soon as the cost and expenses of said improvements shall be fully ascertained, it shall be the duty of the Street Commissioner to assess and apportion the same among the several lots bounding and abutting upon said avenues, stream alteries respectively, according to the rule above indicated, and thereupon proceed to make demand and collect the same, according to the provisions of the act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act defining the manner of collecting the expenses of general and paying of the streets and alleys of the City of Allegheny, and for other purposes." passed the 30th of March, 1852. Allegheny, and for other purposes." passed the 30th of March, 1852.
SEC. 3. That so much of any ordinance as may confict with or be supplied by the foregoing, be and the same is hereby repealed.
Ordained and enacted into n law this the 23d day of April, A. D. 1868. JAMES McBRIER,

President of Select Council.
J. S. SLAGLE,
President of Common Council. D. MACFERRON, Clerk of Select Council. R. DILWONTH, Clerk of Common Council. ap29

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