

The Pittsburgh Gazette.

CONTESTMENT.

Little I wish my wings were free: I'd fly to some far-off land, where I could roam at will, and where I could find a friend who would not desert me when I'm in need.

BILLIARDS.

I have received many letters asking an opinion of Billiards, and especially of the propriety of indulging in the game.

As to the game itself, it must be regarded as one of the most charming that has ever been invented. Unlike sedentary games, it incites an unremitting activity, both of body and of mind.

The mind likewise, without severe taxation, is in a state of alert and sharp. The whole game is mainly ingenious, and eminently agreeable. It can be played by men and women alike.

1. "Billiard saloons are full of temptations to young men."

This is very apt to be true. It is a good and sufficient reason for disclaiming one from billiards, as saloons kept for the purpose of the game.

2. "It is not a waste of precious time, that might be better employed."

That depends upon circumstances. Every one must form a judgment for himself. If one becomes regular in the game, neglects regular duties, and makes the game a considerable part of his business, he should be ashamed of such an abuse of an innocent amusement.

3. "But if one begins with billiards, it will not lead to cards, to the race track, and to all fashionable amusements?"

It may, but so may a school, a church, a lecture, a concert, or any other place of repose, be used as a point of departure for all sorts of evil.

4. "The theory of amusements is both clear and simple. But the practice of it is complicated. All things are lawful, but all things are not expedient."

The habits of a community, the state of public opinion, the convictions and even the prejudices of society, the occupations of men, the prevailing tendencies of different communities should be taken into account, in determining what amusements are to be

encouraged, and how far. A thing may be expedient and safe in one place, while, from social and local reasons, in the next village the influence of the same practice may be evil.

There can be no universal rule. The health and the very morality of a community make it desirable that the number of many recreations should be increased rather than diminished.

And yet, no matter how innocent any practice may be, as soon as any amusement, from local reasons, is found to work practical mischief it should be disallowed.

In fine, in regard to billiards, the game is a noble one. It should be encouraged in all safe ways, and discouraged only when it is surrounded with such evil associations, as will be likely to pervert its innocency and make it an instrument of evil.

The nobler sort of young men have it in their power to enfranchise many of the most notable games and amusements from the blight of betting. If every considerate gentleman would treat such games as positive vulgarities, they would soon decline, and pass over into the hands of those who are excluded from good society.

Origins of the Morgan-Killers. St. John's is observed by those people who killed Morgan. Morgan is the man who killed in time to carry an election.

His initials are G. E.—Good Enough Morgan. Having some curiosity to see the people who killed Morgan, I went out to the celebration at Haas' park.

The men who killed Morgan had red plumes in their hats, which indicated a bloody character. They also all had swords. They are the same kind of swords with which G. E. Morgan was slaughtered.

They also carry several immense poles, which are pointed at one end. These poles are employed for the purpose of marking spots to be used for the graves of those whom the order slaughters.

A good many of the men had engravings of skulls on their breasts. These are accurate likenesses of the skulls of men who have been murdered by the Masons.

When a Mason has killed three men, he is entitled to wear a likeness of his victims with him, to take the degree known as Golgotha. This is the true explanation of these skull-badges.

Of course the Masons do not own it. They pretend that they were these skulls on account of the wet weather. They said a flood might come up, and they wanted to be ready to skulk themselves to dry land.

The Masonic performance at Haas' park was of a sinister character. How many men and women were slaughtered during the orgies of the day, and buried among the shadows, no one, unless a member of the anti-Masonic society will ever know.

Mason was discovered among the crowd. An hour later he was found prone on his back behind a tent. He was dead, yes, dead drunk. Some of the ceremonies of the naturals were horrid.

Druidical-looking Mason, with a long gray beard, and lurid spectacles, read something from a roll of manuscript. As he did so he was surrounded by an auditory that occupied his whole attention.

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now he had gone. She commenced a frantic search. She found him in a tent, conversing in low, impassioned tones with a woman younger and better looking than herself.

Her heart was broken at that sight! Such are the doings of Masonry! They had what was called an encampment. A Mason in camp meant one who was engaged in something horrible, as can be proved by the proceedings of the anti-secret national convention.

The latter had some camps. Toward night, when the Masons grew tired of slaughter, they simply selected their victims, and left them bound. I saw scores of them bound—for home. It was a thrilling spectacle.

One's heart bled as he contemplated their woe-begone faces. Enough has been said, in this article, to show up the true character of Masonry. Their orgies at Haas' park, among the trees, show their reasonable nature. The number of nights among them prove the darkness of their proceedings.

Unless everybody wishes to be Morganized, they should be suppressed. POLYTO

Wire Railroads. "A railway without cuttings, embankments, tunnels, viaducts, or bridges, no matter how hilly the country to be traversed, is not a railway at all."

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