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LETTER No. 2.

MODE OF GAINING THE NECES-SARY FACTS-REASONS WHY THE CANAL COMMISSION-ERS' REPORTS ARE IMPERFECT AND UNRELIABLE.

I AM to prove, particularly, that the Caused by the suppression, by the Board, Main Line is not sustaining itself, but has exhausted, and is exhausting, the proceeds not deemed advisable to include. Manaof the taxation from the people.

There is but one method in which this proof can be obtained. It is by reference to the Reports of the Accounting Department of the Government. It is by gathering from those Reports a statement of all the moneys received from the Main Line for a term of years, and all paid out upor it. I say all the receipts from, and all the payments upon it. Nothing less will be

The Canal Commissioners do not take this view of the subject; and hence the partial, unfaithful and unsatisfactory nature of their reports. They include in trary, all previous Boards have pursued the their account all the receipts from the Mair Line; but they do not include all the payments upon it. On the contrary, they studiously exclude from their statement an account of all moneys paid, to oth. er purposes than those they choose to con-In the exercise of this discretion, they have excluded all payments for damages caused work," whether upon the track of the Columbia Road, on the New Portage Railroad, on the Depots or Machinery of the Roads, or on the Reservoirs belonging to and their office; (until 1855) for repairs of farm and road bridges: for all gold debts" paid in years subsequent to those in which they were contracted; until recently, for new locomotives; and for improving or re building bridges, and offices for the transaction of business. It requires no evidence to prove that a statement made upon such

propose to do hereafter, with regard to sev-

contrasted with what the Canal Board has

To illustrate the difference in results

may be mentioned that since 1851, the fol-

These are not all the items which have

been totally excluded by the Canal Board

from their statement of results, but they

serve as specimens. Last year (1856) the

all the Public Improvements, as follows:

returned the expenses at 1,076,685 14

44,786 22

520,458 47

154,686 52

52,281 21 130,512 09

\$2,116,690 12

claimed for it.

taken by the Canal Board:

Pay of Canal Commis-

sioner and expenses

Improving track of Co-

lumbia Railroad,

New locomotives,

Damages paid,

of office,

Expenses,

Damages paid, Old debts paid,

The Canal Commissioners

principles could not give a fair representacluded -and not merely those which suit a which the latest comers into fashionable Their subject was an exciting one, as you previously planned purpose. And these circles are the most remarkable, she refu- might have inferred from the length of their Hawkins caught Land's right hand, and, items can be found only in the reports of sed various offers of introduction, as she This officer audits all the accounts of the State officers on the Public Works, and very select.' publishes every year, at the close of his re- The beautiful Miss Taylor, radiant with port, a statement considerably in detail of the account of the Canal Commissioners .-On one side of the account the Auditor to the public scool in William street togeth-General represents the money paid by the

quainted with Miss Mason when they went er, noticed the hauteur of her ancient friend, State Treasurer to these officers; and on who was determined not to recognize one the other, enters the general purposes to who would only remind her of her former which the amounts are applied. This ac- low estate. But Miss Taylor, the rogue, count is as complete a one as the present | as clever as she was pretty, determined to mode of keeping the books will present; turn her up short, and not submit to but lacks very much in fuliness and detail. being snubbed by one whose ancestral asso-By comparing it with the other reports, it ciations were no better than her own. is practicable, however, to gather an accu- Watching her chance when the haughty young lady was in the midst of her set, rate idea of the state of the case. This I Miis Taylor walked up and with smiles eral years, that the public may see what the winning sweetness remarked, Main Line has actually accomplished, as

son, that we ought to exchange names.' "Why, indeed?"

Because my name is Taylor, and my caused by the difference in the method of father was a mason, and your name is Ma

making up the statements referred to, it son, but your father was a tailor.' There was a scene then, but there lowing amounts have been paid on certain no help for it. The little Miss Taylor had of the items of which no account has been the pleasure of saying a very cute thing, the pious old sisters wiped their spectacles, which was soon repeated in the ears of a \$181,185 40 dozen circles, and the wits wished to see ber, but the proud Miss Mason bit her lip

> 'Miss Brown, I have been learning how to tell fortunes,' said a fellow to a brisk brunette; 'give me your hand if you please.

'La, Mr. White, how sudden you are!-Well, go ask pa.'

under a cart wheel !!! Auditor General reported the expenses of

(This is all of this 'mazing story we shall publish in the Express. Those who wish more of it are referred to the New York \$1,943.896 82 Ledger.] -Petersburg Express.

Why must you dispose of a bobtail-

\$1,040,004 98 weather is expected soon. We always wel- both blazed away?' This discrepancy is caused by the former come any kind of change.

fficer including all the expenditures in his tatement, and the latter including only particular portions. If all of what is charged by the Auditor General to Contruction Account be deducted, (\$449,892 50 on the Main Line,) the discrepancy is wise, the expenses of the Main Line in of wild pigeons that came about, Deacon 1856, according to the Auditor General, (excluding the above \$149,892 50, and ting outside the log meeting-house, on Suncounting only motive power and repair ex- day morning waiting for the minister to artors, &c., of the Canal Board of damages and about the prospect of having nothing to

\$372,159 77 of items of expenditure actually made but ging in this way, they make the net profits of the Main Line in 1856, \$382,596,42 .-

Including all the payments, except Construction, the net profits are reduced to \$10,436 75; and to bring this result it is necessary to exclude all reference to the \$268,396 76 spent on the new track of the Columbia Railroad, the \$181,495 74 spent on the new Portage, and the interest on the \$16,472,634 15, reported in 1854 as the then cost of the Main Line !

It must not be supposed that this schen for the suppression of essential facts, is original with the present Board. On the con same policy-it having early been deemed advisable to charge renewals of machinery, repairs of tracks, and many other like items - not to Repairs, that, they might be counted against receipts - but to Construction, by which they would be removed from any such comparison. By these means, be tween the opening of the Main Line and the year 1854, \$4,365,926 771 were added to its cost; whilst during the same time, the Auditor General reported the expenditures of the line as \$4,351,746 more than the ssioners reported them.

It is manifest from these facts that the precise receipts and the precise expenditures on the line, is by a carefull analysis of all the Reports of the departments, and to this, attention will be next directed.

LETTING DOWN THE ARISTOCRACY. The elegant Miss Mason, whose father had made a splendid fortune as an enterprising draper and tailor, appeared at this mag nificent entertainment in royal apparel. With that fastidious exclusiveness for and there, engaged in earnest conversation. acquaintances: 'her friends were few and you might have heard something about as

good natured smiles, and once well ac-

'I have been thinking, my dear Miss Ma-

THRILLING NARRATIVE .- A dog's tail

ed horse at wholesale? Because you cannot re-tail him!

Deacon Thrope's Pigeons.

A CAPITAL STORY.

still one-half a million of dollars. Like- about to be destroyed by the large number Thrope and several of his friends were sitpenses, payment of lock keepers, collectrive, and, as a matter of course, talking of old debts,) is \$1,212,536 80 feed on through the coming winter.

According to the Canal

'It's orful' said one of the company. never see the pigeons so thick afore. My Bill and Ben went down to the roost last night, and killed a bag full with clubs. I think they'll take all my corn.'

'Oh, yes its orful!' replied the others. 'That's nothing to what me and my Felix Joshua did, day before yesterday, said the deacon. 'You know my bottom field there? Well they come in it so thick you couldn't see the ground. I went down to scare em out, and peradventure, they riz up like a cloud, you couldn't see the sky for 'em. I hollcred and slapped my hands, and tore around till I was plump worried out, but it did no good. They just swarmed over my head, and as fast as I went to one side of the field they began to pour down in t'oth-

er. Felix Joshua had jest got up to the crib with a load of corn, for he was a gath. erin' the ridge field and I went to whar he 'em, and what do you think? They were all gone in a second. Then me and Felix Joshua, we clem over the fence; and says Says I to him, 'Go fetch the steers and wagon, and upon my word and honor, we

The good brothers stared wildly around them, and would probably have accused their deacon of lying, had they not been interrupted by the arrival of the preacher. and the announcement that meetin was go-

After the services were over, little groups faces and the earnestness of their gestures.

'Yes, it's orful, aint it?'

'It's a lie as sure as shootin.' I don't know what's got into Brother Thrope. 'What'll be done about it? It musn't

And so it would go on. Of course the good deacon heard a whisper of it which gave him no little uneasiness. However, he had been into several scrapes before. and had come out clear, and he doubted not he should meet with the same good luck on this occasion. Until the meeting day arrived the entire settlement was in an uproar. Nothing was talked of but Deacon Throne's ten bushels of pigeons. The good brothers said it was too bad to have the church disgraced by a deacon who would tell such unreasonable tales, while sighed and said, 'It's hard telling the power

Brother Deacon Thrope says him and his Felix Joshua killed ten bushels of pigeons at one shot. The church don't be lieve it, and would love to hear what the

With much solemnity the Deacon arose and after easting a serious look over the congregation and elevating his eyes to the rafters a few times, spoke as follows:

'My brethering there is a sad mistake out. -I didn't say we killed ten bushels of pigeons at one shot, but-'

'What did you say, then!' interrupted one of the brothers, who was present when the Deacon first told about the pigcons. NOTHING PERSONAL .- A change in the 'Didn't you say you and your Felix Joshua on the 27th ultimo. In the meantime,

Several years ago, when the mast and

Did you hear what Brother Thrope said bout him and his Felix Joshua killin' ten bushels of pigeons at one shot.

go so-it'll ruin the name of the church." 'We'd better fetch it up next meetin' and make him take it back, or church him.'

which the evil one exerteth.'

At last the exciting day arrived. The preacher stated that the church was ready for the transaction of business, whereupon brother Fingle arose and said:

brother has to say for himself.

'Didn't you say you both clem over he Hawkins that if he should not be ready for 'Yes peradventure.' 'Didn't you say that Felix Joshua sid 'Father, this beats all creation.' 'I did, brother.

Didn't you say Felix Joshua fetchedthe steers and wagon, and you picked up ten bushels of pigeons?

'There is the mistake,my brother, regied the Deacon, again raising his eyes toward degree .- Louisville Democrat. the rafters. I didn't say we picked up ten bushels of pigeons. Brother Fingle is nis-

'Yes, I know what you said!' interrupted several; 'you did say it, and we can prove it easy enough! You can't come that rame over us, old hoss fly."

'Order, brethering,' said the minister 'let's hear Brother Thrope's story, and then you can make any remarks you may wish.' Well, as I was sayin,' resumed the Deaon, I didn't say we picked up ten bushels of pigeons-Bro. Fingle is mistaken-I said we picked up ten bushels of corn that the pigeons had shattered off.

'Amen!' went up from the congregation and a rush was made at Descon Thrope, to shake him by the hand. It is needless to say that he was restored to full fellowship and confidence.

Incidents in the Life of a Felon.

The career of the youthful Ed. Hawking who has recently been sentenced to death was and told him to go to the house and in Estill county, Ky., for the murder of get his shot gun and my shot gun, and see Land and Irwin would furnish an exciting if we couldn't drive them ar' pigeons out'n annal wherewith to embellish the Lives of the bottom field. So he goes and gets his the Felons. He is only about twenty-two shot gun and my shot gun, and we goes years of age, is robust and prepossessing in appearance, possessing an air and feature field, and I slipt along on t'other, till we well calculated to deceive ladies of suscepgot about middle ways, and then I gin a tibility and verdancy. He has been married holler, and up they flew like a whirlagust no less than half a dozen times to young and I blazed away in the thickest of 'em, and interesting females, and they are all yet Felix Joshua blazed away in the thickest of living. At the time of his arrest he was promenading with a lady to whom he was engaged to be married, who was to have been the seventh victim of his arts. Young notorious brigana : of Tom Harper, the bloody scenes of early Kentucky history .-About the 15th of March last the subject of this sketch stole a horse in Madison county, Kentucky. He had disposed of his small estate at Proctor, Owlsley county near which place he was apprehended by his or fortunate victims. Land and Irwin on the 22d of the same month. The prisoner having been conveyed some fifteen miles toward of the faithful might have been seen here Estill county, Irwin had dismounted and given his horse to Hawkins who rode by the side of Land. In an ungarded moment reaching forward, drew his pistol (which was a self-cocking revolver) from his bosom-He immediately fired upon Irwin who was walking by his side, the ball taking effect warf where a fi-hing boat lay, and as I was in his left temple and passing out through passing, and re-passing, the master was the under jaw. Land and Hawkins then uttering the most tremendous oaths. At jumped or fell from their horses simulta- length I turned to him and standing beside neously; Land running some distance on his the boat, saidhands and feet. Hawkins ran up to his second victim with his pistol presented, when Land raised his hands imploringly, invoking Hawkins not to shoot. Hawkins fired, how ever, and the shot took effect in Mr. Land's eye, killing him instantly. Irwin was still struggling in death when found a few minutes after the shooting. The murderer wandered about for several days after he had committed the double crime, and confesses that he rambled back to the scene of the encounter the following Tuesday, his path crossing the blood which had flowed from the wounds of his innocent young victims. He was finally traced to a cavern in the neighborhood, and was so closely pursued in his hiding place, that he heard the conversation of his pursuers, and repeated a proposition made at the time to smoke him from his concealment. Discovering an opening into the cavern, he made his escape into Ohio, whither he was pursued by some citizens of Estill county. They were close upon him at one time, when he eluded their vigilance by affecting to be a laborer, and proceeded to place some rails on a neighboring fence. His identity was so nearly recognised by one of the party, that the remark was made by one of the pursuers to a companion that when they did find Hawkins they would find a man that almost exactly resembled the individual laying the fence before them. They passed on, however, He also baits his book with that kind of dividual they were so eagerly parsuing .- but when he would catch a profane swearer near his father's residence in Ohio, and con- for the fool will always bite at the bare of ancient or modern science. Should our veyed to the Estill county jail. A popular hook."

trial at the appointed time, or should obtain a change of venue, they would themselves administer that summary justice which the nature of his crime demanded. But a jury was obtained without delay and the young outlaw had a fair hearing. He had the benefit of the legal ability of four attorneys of distinction. On the 30th of March he was found guilty of murder in the first

THE MYSTERY OF THE EVER-

The long peninsula which runs out into the Atlantic, forming the southern part of Florida, has always been occupied by a singular succession of savannahs, hammochs, lagoons, swamps and forests nearly impregnable and quite uninhabitable, except as the lurking place of Seminoles .-They extend into the heart of the country. two hundred miles north of Cape Sable, and collectively, are called the Everglades.'

During the past winter a natural outlet has opened somewhere which is draining the Everglades dry. For nearly two months, though no water flowed out of any of the known outlets, the water in the glades continued to fall rapidly. The invisible vent must have discharged a volume equal to the Mississippi River.

A letter from a resident, dated April 2d, says, "the Everglades are extremely dryliterally parched up which has not occurred before in the twenty five years that I have lived in this region, and I have hunted them almost every season during that time." Vessels passing the coast, report that they have seen brackish discolored water at various points, as if it was pouring out

But the stories are so vague and conflicting that it is impossible to determine whether a new river has formed through some labyrinth of lagoons and islands, or whether there is a cavernous, subteranean passage to the depths of the sea.

One of the Coast Survey vessels at work in that quarter sailed on an exploring earch of it in March, but

Florida has always been noted for its mysterious streams. There are several creeks and rivers of limpid water in the State, which sink into the earth and disappear. Others rise suddenly out of the round, one of which (the Wakulla) is navigable from its very source. The strange ounts of them which reached Spain in the early years of discovery led Ponce de Leon thither in search of the "Fountain of

I was, some time since, walking upon the

"Sir. I am unacquainted with your business. What kind of fishes are these? He replied-"They are Codfish."

"How long are you usually out in order o obtain your load?" "Two or three weeks," was the answer.

"At what price do you sell them?" He informed me.

"Well, have you not hard work to obtain living in this way?" "Yes, hard work," said he

I inquired, "With what do you bait

"With clams." "Did you ever catch mackerel?" "Yes."

"And I suppose you bait them with

"Oh, no," said he, "they will not bite at clams. "Then you must have different kinds of

bait for different sorts of fish? "Yes." "Well, now, did you ever catch a fish

without a bait?" "Yes," said he, "I was out last year, and one day when I was fixing my lines, my book fell into the water; the ____foo! took

hold of it, and I drew him in." "Now, sir," said I, "I have often thought that Satan was very much like a fisherman.

meeting was then held, which appealed to He was silent. His countenance was Judge Pearl for an immediate trial of the prisoner. In accordance with the general turned to go away, I heard him say to one wish the Judge convened his special term standing by him 'I guess that's a minister."

many citizens who were impatient at the Why are good husbands like dough? tardy administration of justice, informed | Women knead them.

cal joke perpetrated, which in the dullness of the times , if not for its merit, is worthy of being recorded. The parties to this transaction we shall designate as Ben and It is proper for a better understanding of

the joke to intimate that the former speculates to a modest degree in bivalves-and right good bivalves they are too-and it is not necessary to say what the latter does, farther than he is as fast as the locomotive and pet train which he swears by, and is, OLD FASHIONED LOVE LETTERS withal a great wag.

The story runs that Ben had taken a three dollar counterfeit bill, and not relishing such | 1625 : dead capital, he conceived the idea of giving it to Tom, who was a frollicking fellow, and could make it go if apybody could. Accerdingly he approached the contemplated dispensing medium one day when the following conversation ensued:

'I say, Tom, here's a pretty good coun-

erfeit three if you pass it I'll divide.'
'Let's see the plaster,' said Tom; and after examing it carefuly, put it in his vest pocket remarking,' its an equal division-a dollar and a half a piece ?"

'Yes,' said Ben .

'All right,' said Tom, and he sauntered A few minutes afterwards he quietly tepped into the office of his friend Ben, purchased a can of oysters for one dollar and in payment for them. The clerk looked at | deed and rest content. the bill rather doubtingly, when his suspicions were immediately calmed by Tom, who told him there was no use looking, for he had received that bill from Ben, himself, not ten minutes since.' Of course, the clerk, with this assurance, immediately forked over the dollar and a half change, and with this deposit and the can of ovsters Tom

Short afterwards he met Ben, who asked him if he had passed the bill.

'Oh, yes,' said Tom, 'here's your share,' at the same time passing over the dollar and

That night when Ben made up his cash account he was surprised to find the same Where did you get this cursed bill?-

Didn't you know it was a counterfeit? Why, Tom gave it to me, and I suspected was fishy, but he said he had just received it from you, and I therefore took it ?'

The whole thing had penetrated the wool of Ben, and with a peculiar grin he muttered 'Sold,' and charged the can of oysters to

close contact with a lady's rich silk dress. Surprised, mortified and confused, he better than all things besides. sprang, his sled and cap in hand, commerced I know thou lookest for troubles here an earnest apology:

"I beg your pardon ma'am; I am very

about it than I do."

"But, dear madam," said the boy, as his eves filled with tears, "your dress is ruined. with me for being so careless."

"O, no," replied the lady; "better soiled dress than a suffied tempet." lad, as the lady passed on.

"Who? that lady?" returned his comrade,

"if you call her a beauty, you shan't choose for me. Why she is more than thirty years old and her face is yellow and wrinkled." "I don't care if her face is wrinkled," replied the little hero, her soul is handsome

A shout of laughter followed from which he was glad to escape. Relating the incident to his mother, he remarked :

"O, mother that lady did me good. ' I shall never forget it, and when I am tempted to indulge my angry passions, I will think of what shessid—"Better have MARGARET WINTHROP. a soiled dress than a ruffled temper."

VANKEE DOODLE. - Hon. Mr. Winterop, in an address recently delivered, said:

I would not disparage Yankee Doodle, my friends. It has associations which must unconscious of the presence of the very in- bait which different sort of sinners like best always render its simple and homely melo. dy dearer to the hearts of the American He was subsequently identified and arrested he does not take the trouble to bait at all | People than the most elaborate compositions free institutions ever again be in danger, whether from 'malice domestic or foreign solemn, and after a moment's pause, as I levy,' that will still be the tune to which American patriotism will keep step. We must always preserve it, and never be ashamed of it; though I do not venture to hope that a day may come, when, like Euglan!, 'You can step aside, Mr. Jones, and Austria, and Russia-to name no other call the next witness'

Solp .- We yesterday heard of a practi- | er lands -- we may have something fit to be entitled a National Anthem, which shall combine an acknowledgement of God with the glorious memories of wise and brave men-which shall blend the emoti ons of piety and patriotism, uniting in sweet accord the praises of the Divine Author of our Freedom and Independence, with those of his chosen and commissioned human instruments, in a strain worthy to commemorate the rise and progress of our Great Repub-

> Let ters between the first Governor of Massachusetts and his wife, about the year

My Most Sweet Husband-How dearly welcome thy kind letter was to me, I am not able to express. The sweetness of it did much to refresh me. What can be more pleasing to a wife than to hear of the welfare of her endeavors! I blush to bear myself command. But it is your love that conceives the best, and makes all things; better than they are. I wish that all might please thee, and these comforts which we have in each other may be daily increased, as they may be pleasing to God. I will use the speech to thee that Abigail did to David, "I will be as a servant to wash the feet of my Lord." I will do any service wherein I may please my good husband. I confess I cannot do enough for thee; but a half, and laid down the three dollar bil thou art pleased to accept the will for the

> I have many reasons to make me love thoe wherefore I will name two; first, because thou levest God; and secondly because thou jovest me. If these two were wanting all the rest would be eclinsed But I must leave this discourse and go about my household affairs. I am a bad housewife to be so long from them; but I must needs borrow a little time to talk with thee my sweetheart. I hope thy business draws to an end, It will be two or three weeks before ! see thee though they be long ones. God will bring us together in his good time, for which I shall pray. Farewell my good husband, the Lord keep thee.

Your obedient wife. AND COOMMARGARET WINTHROP.

last week, yet having so fit an opportunity I write to thee again; for I do esteem one little, sweet short letter of thine (such as the last was) to be worth two or three from

I began this letter yesterday at two o'clock thinking to have been at large, but was so taken up by company and business, as I could get but hither this morning. I have THE HANDSOME SOUL .- Oue day last not liberty to make better expression of my winter, a little boy from the south, who was love to thee, who art more dear to me than lesson in the art of 'sliding down hill,' when my prayers shall supply the defect of my he suddenly found his feet in rather too pen; which will be of use to us both, inas much as the favor and blessing of God is

and when one affliction is over, to meet with another; but remember our Saviour tells us, Be of good comfort; I have overcome the "Never mind," exclaimed the lady, "there world."-Therefore my good wife, rise up is no great harm done, and you feel worse my heart and be notdismayed at the crosses thou meetest with in family affairs, or otherwise; but still fly to him who will take up thy burden for thee. Go thou on cheer-I thought that you would be very angry fully, in obecience to his holy will, in the course he hath set thee. Peace shall come. I commend thee and all thine to the gracious protection and blessing of the Lord. Fare-"O, isn't she a beauty!" exclaimed the well my good wife. I kiss and love thee with the kindest affection and rest.

Thy affectionate husband.

JOHN WINTHROP.

Most Loving and Good Husband-I have received your letters. The true tokens of your love and care of my good, now in your absence: as well as when you are present make me :hink that saying false "out of sight out of mind." I am sure my heart and thoughts are always near you, to "do you good and not evil all the days of my life. I rejoice in the expectation of our happy meeting, for thy absence has been much desired. Thy welcome is always ready; make haste to entertain it.

And so I bid my good husband farewell

CIRCUMSTANCES .- 'Do you know the prisoner, Mr. Jones? 'Yes, to the bone,'

What is his character? 'Never knew he he had any.' 'Does he live near you?' 'So near that he has only spent fifty cents or firewood in eight years.

Did he ever come into collision with you in any matter?" Only once, and that was when he was drunk and mistook me for a lamp post.

From what you know of him, would you believe him under cath?'
'That depeds on circumstances.
was so much intoxicated that he did know what he was doing, I would. If he

wasn't, I would not.