

Rebel History.

The Southern Historical Society has again been heard from—this time at Baltimore. We had thought, after their grand pow-wow at White Sulphur Springs, Virginia, that the members of this historical confederation had been loaded sufficiently with "the grand facts of history" to keep them busily engaged in writing for at least half a century to come.

The Baltimore Sun thus dignifies the gathering of these sore-headed rebels, who are anxious to repay Uncle Sam for his past magnanimity by again trying to choke the benevolent old gentleman at the first favorable opportunity.

Judge J. R. Inglis presided, and in stating the object of the meeting, said the purpose of the society was "the gathering, preserving, and compiling of all evidences and facts relating to the late war, in order that the true result should be presented: the truth, in simple justice to the martyrs of a noble cause, and in satisfaction to those who still survive and preserve the same opinions that led to the conflict."

Mr. S. Teacle Wallis, who was the next speaker, said: "We owe it not to the dead, who, struggling in oppression's wrong, were lost; we owe it not to the living, who know so well their sacrifice and desolation, but we owe it to the world to show the evils that result from so-called freedom; to show the world that no perfection can exist in a Government that usurps the power of right and sacrifices every principle of manhood, truth, and honor."

Mr. Wallis in concluding introduced General Wade Hampton "in highly complimentary terms," and General Hampton, "who was most enthusiastically received, after expressing his gratification at being commended by Mr. Wallis, proceeded in his address. He felt that he was not among strangers, and was honored by the exhibition of that hospitality which had been extended by the people of Baltimore to himself and others heretofore."

Here we have a practical illustration of shaking hands over the bloody chasm. It may be satisfaction to these chivalric historians to keep alive the animosities of the war by their silly twaddle about "justice to the martyrs of a noble cause" but, in our opinion, it would be far more sensible to do justice to the living sufferers of this same cause by adopting a different course for the vindication of the truths of history.

We are willing they should rest in peace in the silent grave. We would not invade the sacred right which belongs to human nature to mourn the loss of near and dear friends, but the less said of the nobility of the cause which sought to perpetuate human slavery the better.

The rebellion and the organized blunder which it inaugurated were fatal mistakes. To correct the evils which those mistakes entailed upon the nation should be the part of wisdom and true manhood. To sit amid the ruins of the past and bewail the stern decrees of a righteous fate can neither restore the dead to life nor raise the hopes that were buried in their graves.

What it needs to-day is less history and more tolerance. It needs to emancipate itself from those public enemies who are feeding upon the prejudices of a dead past. It needs more of that progressive spirit which seeks to redeem the past by improving the present.

Fishing in St. Peter's Pond.

APPLETON'S NEW CYCLOPEDIA.

We heard several months ago that a private circular had been issued by D. Appleton & Co., inviting subscriptions to their New Cyclopaedia on the ground that it is especially edited to suit the views of Roman Catholics, and to keep itself out of the Index Expurgatorius in which the Pope names the books that he requires the faithful not to read, under penalty of eternal damnation.

After much delay and difficulty, and by efforts made through several parties, we have at last obtained a copy of this curious circular. If it be said that it is addressed to D. Appleton & Co., and not by them, we reply that it is on the same sheet with the description and terms of the work, evidently printed by them; and furthermore, we are credibly told that it is held in reserve by canvassing agents, under instructions to use it only as an inducement for Roman Catholics to subscribe.

From Rev. BERNARD O'REILLY, D. D., Late Professor of Mental Philosophy, Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass.; also, St. John's College, Fordham, N. Y.

New York, June 25, 1873.

To Messrs. D. APPLETON & CO.:

Gentlemen:—I am gratified to learn that you intend addressing a circular to the Catholic clergy throughout the country, soliciting their patronage for the revised edition of the Cyclopaedia. Allow me to say this much for the articles which touch in any way on the Catholic religion: that I have the hearty sanction of the Most Reverend the Archbishop of New York in my supervision of these articles, and his co-operation and advice at all times, when any question or difficulty arises, which needs the eye of authority. Moreover, so far as my own poor ability can go, I can only promise that no industry or labor shall be spared by me to make every article I touch as satisfactory as it can be; and, furthermore, that the editors are resolved that this edition shall, in every department, be distinguished by the utter absence of sectarian spirit.

Very respectfully yours,

B. O'REILLY.

Little comment is necessary. Rev. Dr. O'Reilly was for several years a leading professor in the Jesuit College of the Holy Cross at Worcester, Mass. He is an accomplished teacher of that insidious and despotic foreign order. Any "articles which touch in any way on the Catholic religion" are to go through his hands, be colored and varnished to suit him, and if need be, submitted to Archbishop McCloskey of New York as the supreme "eye of authority" in America.

Rev. Dr. O'Reilly gives his promise that the editors of the New Cyclopaedia "are resolved that this edition shall in every department be distinguished by the utter absence of sectarian spirit." When a Roman Catholic talks of sectarianism, we know very well his meaning: his Church is the true Church, and everything different from it is sectarian. This is a pledge that one class of religionists in this country—and that not the most favorable to intelligence or liberty—shall have the shaping of all articles, historic, dogmatic, or otherwise, which touch upon their religion.

We greatly mistake the temper of Protestants if they are any more inclined to purchase Roman doctrine wrapped up in this Cyclopaedia by the adroit and unscrupulous hands of the

Jesuits, than the old Abolitionists were to buy books which had been poisoned with Pro-slavery sentiments by the American Tract Society and other corrupt concerns prior to the rebellion.

If we are to have (as seems likely) a hot contest on the Common-School question, those who oppose the insolent demands of the Roman Church, should look to it that their fountains of information are not poisoned by Jesuit hands. We advise fair-minded men to let this Cyclopaedia alone until Appleton & Co. show clean hands and religious impartiality. If they are fishing for Roman Catholic subscribers (as looks probable from the secrecy of this circular), then let them get all they can of that class alone, and let those who do not want Roman favoring in their soup take some other mental food.

From the Benton Harbor Palladium.

Postage on Newspapers.

We have thus far refrained from discussing the propriety of returning to the old method of granting the favor to newspapers of the privilege of receiving their exchanges free of postage, and also of circulating free of postage within the county where published. We have done this for several reasons which need not here be enumerated.

We may assume at the outset, that the notion of granting special favors to any one interest, however important, at the expense of the rest is fast becoming obsolete; and the sooner the press, as a body, plants itself upon that platform, the better. This, of course implies paying postage on exchanges—a burden which need not be very heavy.

When we come, however, to the question of free circulation within the county where published, we may well look a little deeper into the nature of the present postal regulation, and their operation and effect.

It may startle some of our readers when we make the statement that nothing now is paid for the transportation of newspapers in the mails. The amount collected for postage is wholly for reception and delivery. In proof of this we cite the fact that no matter how long or short the distance, the rate of postage is the same. For a copy of the Palladium, delivered to its subscribers at the Post Office in Benton Harbor, the Government receives twenty cents a year—although the only service performed is its reception in the post-office and delivery therefrom—while the Detroit Tribune, which is doing its utmost to perpetuate the system which works so much to its advantage, is brought here for nothing and delivered alongside of the Palladium at the same rate of postage—which is, as we see, simply the fee for reception and delivery. The same is true, of course, of the New York papers, and all others.

It is scarcely necessary to point out what an immense advantage this gives the city press. Already overshadowing their more humble, but perhaps not less worthy contemporaries, by the magnitude of their business, the extent of their facilities, the consequent cheapness with which their sheets are purchased, and the resulting vast advantages they possess in the way of advertising, etc., the city papers have used to the utmost the means at their command to monopolize the ground. Swarms of canvassers, tempted by offers of "premiums," "chromos" and endless quantities of trash, are annually let loose upon the land, and many a hard-earned dollar, lured by smooth words, goes to foster interests hostile to the man from whose pocket it comes.

Again, the transportation of county papers is mainly over routes where it does not add to the expense of mail carriage—namely, the short routes to small hamlets and villages; while that of the city papers is mainly over the long, heavily burdened, larger routes, where the government pays by the ton for the service.

It should not be forgotten that, since postmasters are paid by salaries the reception and delivery of papers entails no additional cost upon the government—so that postage, under the present system, is exacted for services which do not add to postal expenses, while that which does add to those expenses, is rendered for nothing.

This all ensures to the benefit of the city press; and we find, accordingly, that the city papers are all anxious to have it continued! That is "strange coincidence," a most "extraordinary coincidence," as we use the words of the immortal Sam. Weller; but of course the position of the city press is only dictated by the purest and most unselfish devotion to justice and the public welfare! They wouldn't do a thing to further their own interests at somebody else's expense—not they! "Butter would not melt in their mouths," one would think, to read their articles, so full of lofty scorn for us "beggars" of the rural press!

In the case of letters—a drop letter is delivered for one cent, but if carried in the mail the postage is three—that is, the transportation of the letter is put at twice the reception and delivery. In that case there is no great and powerful interest to lobby to arrange it differently—no Congressman Palmer to surreptitiously squeeze in an amendment to an appropriation bill that will benefit his own newspaper thousands of dollars.—So we see the postage arraigned upon equitable basis. So our "coincidence" is completed in all particulars.

We think, on the whole, that the restoration of the privilege of free circulation within the county where published,

will no more than restore the equilibrium between the city and country press; but, nevertheless, would not complain if a proper discrimination were made.—But, to do the work which costs, and which the city press imposes upon the mails by wholesale, for nothing, while the work which involves no added expense, and which affects the country press in large measure, is burdened with the whole postal charge, is an instance of discrimination in favor of a wealthy and powerful interest against one less favorable circumstance, which, we submit, ought not to continue. We doubt, indeed, if this discrimination can be done away, in practice, by any means less sweeping than restoration of the privilege of free local circulation, unless a resort is had to an increase of postage on papers sent to a distance—a measure which we do not see any signs of our city contemporaries being willing to consent to.

The Grand Traverse Herald places itself on the record as decidedly opposed to the Grange movement, and gives the following reasons for its opposition:

"First—It is exclusive. If we rightly understand the matter only farmers are admitted. We see no reason why this should be so. The evils which the order seek to remedy affect others as well as farmers, and in many cases quite as seriously.

"Second—It is a secret organization, and we hold, as we ever have held, that secret political organizations are unsafe and ought not to be encouraged. We know we shall be told this is not a political organization. But if it is not political it is powerless. The evils which it seeks to cure are political evils—they must be removed by the law-making and the law-executing power.

"Third—The order is already, in several States, largely in the hands of cast-off and broken-down politicians.—This is not true, probably, of the order in this State at the present time, but it is true in other places.

"Fourth—All the really meritorious reforms sought by the order can be more speedily and thoroughly secured through the agency of the Republican party than through any other organization."

Things have come to a pretty pass indeed if a fellow cannot sneeze without a detective charges him with stealing.—Letters had been missed frequently from the Boston postoffice, and a detective accepted a situation in the institution. Wm. S. Schofield, a distributing clerk, sneezed frequently. When he sneezed he applied his snowy cambric to his classic profile. There was too much sneezing to please the detective, so that once, when Mr. Schofield snored a very energetic sneeze and had buried his face in his handkerchief, the detective jumped for him, removed the handkerchief from the sneezer's sneezer and found a letter hidden in it,—in the handkerchief, not in the sneezer. When Mr. Schofield had taken the handkerchief from the table he had taken up a letter also. When he had polished his face with it he was intending to restore it to his pocket until a convenient season when he would return the handkerchief to the table and retain the letter in his pocket. This he had done several times that day and the several consequent letters were found in his possession. He is now placed where the sunshine throws a plaid shadow on the floor of his apartment.

The Kalamazoo Telegraph says that there has been recorded in the Register's office of that county a mortgage upon St. Augustine's Church of Kalamazoo, executed by Casper H. Borgess, of Detroit, Catholic Bishop of that diocese, to E. O. Humphrey, administrator of the estate of Patrick Bunbury, for \$9,000, the conditions of which are that said sum of money, with 10 per cent interest, shall be paid to said E. O. Humphrey, as administrator, within one year from the 16th of February, 1874. This is the close of the famous Bunbury case, which was so warmly discussed in our Legislature last winter, upon a bill making ecclesiastical threats or persecution, by a bishop or other church functionary, a penal offense. Had Bishop Borgess done the square thing in the first place, by securing Bunbury's heirs for the money their father lent the Church, poor Bunbury might now be living, and this scandal might have been saved to that Church. But at the same time we should not understand, as we do now, the arbitrary course that bishops are ready to pursue when there is no check on them. Popular sentiment and the supremacy of law over theology in Michigan have brought about this simple act of justice to the Bunbury heirs.

The Boston Advertiser says, with a smile, that "a Baptist oyster festival" is to take place in Norristown, Pa.—The Advertiser thinks that the idea of a Baptist oyster is absurd, but if there are Baptist oysters they are plainly of the "Hard shell" variety. The ignorance of the Advertiser man is criminal and he should be sent up to Sunday School for ninety days.

For the average of men the doom must always be work, and, though a man is distinctly the happier for knowledge of any art or for any knowledge and any employment outside his daily labor, we doubt if the entrance of ambition into that pursuit does not take away half its charm, in destroying all its restfulness.

The Louisville Daily Sun indulges in the following "honorable mention" of a contemporary: "Capt. Will. F. Bell, of the Elizabethtown News, is in the city in the interest of his estimable paper. Capt. Bell is one of the most whole-souled, circus-going editors in the state."

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REFERENCES:

- List of names and titles: C. W. Fisk, President 1st Nat. Bank, Decatur; Chas. Duncombe, Cashier do; Hon. J. B. Upton, Attorney at Law; Calvin Cross, Attorney at Law, Bangor; K. W. Noyes, Register of Deeds, Paw Paw; O. W. Rowland, Attorney, do; S. T. Conway, Editor Northerner, do; A. S. Haskins, Physician, Lawrence; E. S. Cleveland, do; S. Rowe, do; O. S. Wiggins, do; E. E. Chadwick, Merchant, do; J. M. Fisk, do; J. E. Barrows, do; Sam. G. Mather, Hotel, do; B. M. Williams, Notary Public, do.

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