

Letter from Meshack Horner.

BEAR COVE, Wise county, Va., Sept. 11, 1865.

MR. SLACK—Dear Sir:—It's bin a long spell since I rit a letter for the newspapers, and the reason is, my old friends Coale & Barr have quit printin, and as it may be several weeks yit before they begin agin, I thought I'd drap you a few lines, and ax you to print 'em. Another reason why I have'n't rit much is, that things have bin so jumbled and turned topsy-turvy, that there's bin no maies to tote letters, and the people have never invented the plan to send them by females. For two or three years, while the dark shadows of the war have bin danon and careerin round like the earthquake that the Prophet heard when the Lord hid him in the rock of Horeb, I've bin as uneasy as a tead under a harrow, cant keep my mouth shet any longer, and if I don't let it go off I believe in my soul I'll bust, and that's a consumation not to be devoutly wished for by a sartin individual about my size, age and complexion. One of the last letters I rit to Coale & Barr was just after my first visit to Bristol, where I went to see my friend Coman, to hear him talk and to see him eat chestnuts, and spread himself upon the subject of Bristol and its flatterin advantages as the future seaport and capital of the Southern Confederacy. He give me a great deal of information about things in general and himself in particular, for which I thank him, and which I could'n't git anywhere else since the Dutch have quit makin almanacks.— Before that I rit several letters about spekulators and extortioners, and some of the fellers I punched in the ribs have'n't forgot me nor forgive me to this day, and I reckon they never will, for I piled it on em sorter thick and fast, and if they had soles as big as a mustard-seed they must have felt like they could crawl into an anger-hole. But they are done for now, for all the money they made by grindin the faces of the poor is no more account than so many black-jack leaves, and has left sum as poor in their ill-gotten gains as they are in honor and reputation.

But I sot down to make a pint or two, and with God's bless'n I'll try to come at em square up, like the boy that butted the bull off the bridge. If any body don't like the shoe I'm goin to make, they needent put it on, and then it'll not pinch em, sartin.

As things are beginin git sorter like they used to was, we've had some elections, and if the news is true that comes to the Cove we're soon to have some more such as my old friend the Judge and Mr. Martin used to run for. Now about the elections that has bin and sat aside, there's something that I don't exactly understand, tho' it may be as clear as mud to a Philadelphly Court. I know I've not got much sense, but if I had as much as Timothy Titus, I'm sure I could never discover the wisdom of Mr. Johnson's Government in settin aside the election of good Union men, and givin the secessioners the chance to wriggle in like a passel of eals tryin to hide themselves in the mud. This has been the case all over Virginy, but as you're more familiar with what has happened in your own county, I'll take that for a text. Mr. Fields and Mr. Campbell, who was elected, one for Sheriff and tother for Clerk, are both good men and true, and were about as much opposed to secession and as strong for the Union as honest men could well be, and yit, becase they volunteered in the army to keep from bein conscripted, and were so unfortunate as to git commissions, they've bin sot aside, and the door pushed wide open for secessioners to come in and grab the offices. If there's any one fact plainer than another fact while the war lasted, it was that the rampantest fire-eaters—the fellers that wanted the war and did the most to bring it on—was the most lucky in keepin outen the way of bullets and bagnets, and when they was forced into the army, in findin soft places to lite on. This, in course, was not designed by them—for to say it was, would be an impeachment of their patriotism—but it jist happened so, and no doubt they think the sayin is true that it's better to be born lucky than rich. There's some exceptions, to be sure, but they're like angel's visits, few and far between. I call your attention to this great blunder in Mr. Johnson's Government, and will ax you jist to take notice if the very kind of men the law intended to keep outen office don't git in, and the very kind

of men the law intended to git into office will be shet out. In plain words, if the electroas have to be run over agin, a secessioner will be elected Sheriff and a secessioner will be elected Clerk, for everybody else of proper age and proper qualifications was in the army. That's one pint—now I'll make another.

It seems there's three candidates for Congress in this district—at least three have bin over to the Cove to git my vote and my influence. The first that called on me—I forgit his name—he was from Montgomery or Palaski, or some other part of the little patch that has bin tacked on to our district when we had axoff without it. Ses he to me, Mister Horner, ses he, I'm a candytate for Congress, and I want you to vote for me and to git me as many votes as you kin. Well, ses I, that depends upon whether I does or not, ses I. What's your whereabouts, who is you, what have you del and what want you be expected to do? Stop, ses he, don't ax so many questions at once, and I'll try to answer em. Go on, ses I, and answer the plain questions I've axed—it needon't take a week, nor an hour, nor five minuits. Well, ses he, I'm a Southern man in favor of the Union—I was a disunionist of the strictest sort, but when the Know Nothings came along I sorter leaned to 'em like a Kitten to a warm rock, till they bust up, and then I went back into the great Democratic party agin, but I had hard scratchin to do it, and they've tried to rotate me out the second time becase I was in favor of the South but didn't want to see the best Government on earth broke up. Come, ses I, answer my questions without category, for I'm a plain man and want everybody to narch strait up to the pint without quivoications or circumlocution. Was you in favor of Jeff Davis or was you in favor of Mr. Lincoln? Was you in favor of the war or was you agin it? Did you do all you could for it, or did you do all you could agin it? Them's the pints I'm arter. Well, ses he, I was in favor of Jeff Davis and Mr. Lincoln both, I was in favor of the war and agin it, and I did all I could for the army and all I could agin it. That'll do, ses I, your position is as clear to me as that two and two make four, and when there's no candytates to be elected and no offices to fill, I'll vote for you provided I have lived to be as old as Methusalem, for I don't believe any body ought to vote for sich a man before he is nine hundred and sixty years old.

The next one that come along was Davy Miller, of Lee. Well, Davy, ses I, how goes it, and what foch you over to Bear Cove? O, not much of nothin, ses he, captin I'm a candytate for Congress, and want to git your support. My support, ses I, why Davy, I have'n't had any support since the third year of the war, for what little the Yaukees left Printie's dodgers stole, and I've had no support for man or beast since. You don't understand me, ses he, I want your vote, that's all. My vote, ses I, why Davy, I have'n't but one, and in course I can't give that away. Oh, you know what I mean, ses he—I want you to vote for me, not to give your vote away. Ah, well, ses I, that's a gray-hoss of another caller. Let me see, ses I, Davy, did you keep outen the army or did you git in? Both, ses he, I got in the Legislatur when I could, and when I could'n't I got into the army becase I could'n't git any where else. All right, Davy, ses I, have always hearn you was a good, modest sorter gentleman, had never been accused of settin a river a fire, or done any of the foolish tricks that made so many people abuse Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, John C. Calhoun and sich like. But Davy, ses I, I can't promise you my vote, for I don't know who mouit come along, and I always like to feel free to march up to the ballot box and vote as I like—for a man that's promised to vote a sartin way, has either sold his vote or give it away. Well, Meshack, ses he, I bid you good mornin, and hope you want forgit me on the day of election. No danger of that, Davy, ses I, but you needn't count on my vote much, for it's among the things that the politicians call usartin.

So Davy left me and a few days arter Aleck Smith come along with a young man he introduced as Dr. McCullock. It struck me at once he was huntin roots, becase he didn't squeeze my hand hard and pretend he was micy glad to see me. Well, Aleck, ses I, I suppose you foret the Doctor over to the Cove to hunt sang and other kind of yarbs. No, ses he, the

Doctor's a candytate for Congress, and expects to git your vote and influence. You do, doctor, ses I, well I'll have to open my catekism on you. Whar mouit you had from. From Washington, says he, I was born and raised all along Walker's Mountain between Abingdon and the Salt Works. A good place to be born, ses I, and did your daddy live there before you. Yes, ses he, he did, and my grand tather too. Let me see, ses I, my friends Coale & Barr once printed a list of the soldiers that went from Washington county to the battle of King's Mountain, and it strikes me that I recollect the name of McCullock among em. Very likely, ses he, for my father and grand father were both in that battle, and the bones of the latter bleached upon that bloody soil, until his dust returned to the earth as it was. Well, doctor, ses I, you're pretty good stock, and if I mouit be so bold let me ax what you stand? Well, Mister Horner, ses he, I have no secrets on that pint. My fore-fathers suffered terribly in the old war of the Revolution, to establish this Government, and as I have told you, my grandfather died to seal the covenant with his blood.

When I remembered what our liberty and equality cost those who have long since snuff'd off this mortal coil and gone to their reward, I could not give my heart to the cause of the rebellion, and throw in my feeble mire agin it from last to last. I was livin in Massachusetts when the war broke out, and as State after State made the fearful leap into vortex of secession, my voice was raised agin it and I took the stump for the preservation of the Union and the enforcement of the laws. The fire-eaters of Massachusetts wanted to kill me but I held on to my principles like a snap-pin-urkle till I left the State and came to old Virginy where I thought I could be free and independent. I couldn't raise my arm agin the old stars and stripes that my forefathers had helped to plant upon the outer wall nor could I take up arms agin my labors, friends and countrymen—the boys with whom I had sport'd in childhood's busy hours, with whom I had grown to maturity of life—and many of whom were bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh.

Well, doctor, ses I, I must confess you make me feel all overish and I tell you now you talk out like a man and a patriot. But there's one thing I would like to know how did you keep outen the army when the conscript officers was ransackin the cradle and the grave for soldiers. Well Mister Horner ses he, I'll tell you all about it. I am a physician, and had some experience in surgery. I know that my countrymen were languishing in the hospitals, sick and wounded and dyin, and I thought I must do em some good by nursin and attendin to em. I went to Manassas soon after that great battle, and at once give an my time and what little skill I had to the relief of the sufferin. I was afterwards connected with the hospitals at Richmond and Lynchburg, and can put my hand upon my heart and say I needn't in good faith as prompted by humanity, attin I could not in conscience give aid and comfort to the rebellion in the field of strife. You now, where to find me and if you can give me your vote and influence I will owe you a debt of gratitude and do the best I can if elected for the honor, prosperity and happiness of my unfortunate and bleedin country.

The doctor and Aleck Smith then left me and I at once sat down to rite to you, Mr. Slack, and now I think I have made my second pint. I intend to vote for doctor McCullock, God willin' becase he talks out strait, open and fair, and hope you'll vote as I do, and that everybody else will vote as you do, and that altogether we'll elect him to Congress, and be represented by a man of sense, and one who has never been spiled by the trickery and corruption of politicians.—So no more at present, but yours till death. MESHACK HORNER

Indictment of Edward B. Ketchum.—New York, Sept. 8.—The grand jury came into Court of General Sessions this afternoon and presented twelve indictments against Edward B. Ketchum, charging him with larceny and forgery. Ketchum will soon be called upon to plead to these charges.

A Colored Mail Contractor.—Robert Orrick, a colored man, has received the contract to convey the mails between Leesburg and Winchester, Va., at \$525 per year. He is said to be the first colored man that ever received a contract of the kind.

House and Lots in Bristol.—A small, comfortable house and two y here late stratched, near the East Tenn. & Va. depot. Lets quiet good fence and house in good repair. Terms, cash. Title perfect. WILLIAMS, KING & CO. aug11, 1865-3f

SUGAR.—The finest in town, just received and for sale, by E. W. ELLIS & CO. aug25 at the corner, under the Exchange.

DIED, On the 8th inst., in Bristol, Tenn., MARY JENNY, infant daughter of D. M. and M. J. Ramey—aged 41 days.

Beautiful flower, then blomed too fair for earth, and was transplanted to bowers of bliss in Paradise.

Professional Cards.

MEDICAL CARD.—The undersigned Physicians having associated themselves together for the purpose of practicing MEDICINE, SURGERY, and MIDWIFERY, in Goodson and Bristol, and surrounding country, hope that an experience of over twenty years practice in their profession will enable them to give satisfaction to all who may favor them with their confidence. Their OFFICE is situated on the north side of Main street, opposite Mr. Thomas' boarding house, where they may always be found except when professionally absent.

G. T. MAGEE, M. CARRIGER, sept. 15, 1865.—1m.

COL. HENRY A. MORISON, Attorney at Law, ESTILLVILLE, Scott co., Va., Will practice in all the courts of Lee, Scott, Russell and Wise counties. Prompt attention will be given to the collection of all claims in South-Western Va. sep8, 1865-3m

N. M. TAYLOR, ATTORNEY AT LAW, BRISTOL, TENN., Will give prompt attention to all business entrusted to his care. Office, at present, in Dr. Pepper's office. sept-y

A. J. BROWN, Attorney at Law and Collecting Agent, JONESBORO, TENN., Will practice in the counties of Hawkins, Greene, Washington, Carter, Johnson and Sullivan; also in the Supreme Court at Knoxville. aug11, 1865-y

FRANK W. BARNES, Attorney at Law, and Collecting Agent, BLOUNTVILLE, TENN., Will practice in the counties of Sullivan, Washington and Greene; also in the Supreme Court at Knoxville. [aug11, 1865-y

JAS. W. DEADERICK, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Jonesborough, Tenn., Will practice in the Circuit and Chancery Courts of Carter, Sullivan, Washington and Greene counties, and in the Supreme Court at Knoxville. aug25-6m

Particular Notice!

To our old Friends and Customers, and the Public Generally. WE have again resumed business under the old name, WILBAR & JOHNSTON, and are now opening in our large and fine store house, on Main street, a large and varied assortment of DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, DRUGS, DYE-STUFFS, HATS, BOOTS, SHOES, HARDWARE, TINWARE, QUEENWARE, LADIES DRESS GOODS, Fancy Goods, Notions, &c. Our goods are fresh from the Northern cities, and have been selected with especial reference to the wants of this section of the country, and we intend to sell or barter them at as low prices as justice to our own interests will possibly allow.

We will pay either cash or goods, or both, for all kinds of country produce, and allow the highest market prices. Give us a call every body! Bring in your Produce; examine our stock, and you shall have your pick and choice of goods at really moderate prices. We want particularly: Ginseng, Feathers, Beeswax, Wool, Flour, Corn Meal, Wheat, Flaxseed, Flaxseed Oil, Bacon, Lard, Butter, Eggs, Corn, &c.

WANTED; 40 cents per pound will be paid for 2,000 lbs clean Lohelia Seed; 125 cents per lb will be paid for the herb, clear of stems. WILBAR & JOHNSTON, sept8, 1865-3m Bristol, Tenn.

HOUSES AND LOTS FOR SALE. FOR SALE privately, two small houses and a half acre lot, and one house and a half acre lot; both located on Main street, Bristol, Tennessee. Apply at this office. sept8, 1865-3m

NOTICE.—I will offer for sale at the Court House in Blountville, on the 1st Monday in November next, for cash in hand, a TRACT OF LAND belonging to William O. Davault, containing one hundred and thirty acres, more or less. The said land lies in district no. 11, adjoining the lands of Geo. Butler, Geo. Dixon, and Zach Shiple's heirs. The sale of the above named land is to satisfy an execution in my hands for the benefit of Peter Gardner, for one hundred and fifty dollars and eighty three cents, judgment issued June 27th, 1862, with all other costs thereto annexed. JAMES A. NEIL, D. Sheriff sept13, 1865-urs fee 5

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the estate of the late E. R. Anderson, dec'd, will come forward and make payment, and all persons having claims against said estate will present them within the time and manner prescribed by law, or they will be forever barred. S. R. ANDERSON, Adm'r of sept15, 1865-3w E. R. Anderson, dec'd

COFFEE!! A FRESH SUPPLY OF GOOD COFFEE, just received and for sale by E. W. ELLIS & CO., at the corner, under the Exchange. aug 18

Five acres of Land in Jonesborough for sale.—Located near the Baptist Institute. Water can be had on the lot. A beautiful situation for a residence. Apply to WILLIAMS, KING & CO. Real Estate Agents, Bristol, Tenn. aug11, 1865-4f

Corner Store Always Ahead!

E. W. Ellis & Co., UNDER the Exchange Hotel, keep constantly on hand a general assortment of DOMESTIC, FANCY AND DRY GOODS, suited to the trade and the times. Determined not to be undersold, we invite our friends to give us a call before purchasing Coffee, Sugar, Tea, Salt, &c., always on hand. We want to purchase Bacon, Wheat, Corn, Lard, &c., in exchange for goods, or cash. aug. 11, 1865-y

Martha Washington College, ABINGDON, VIRGINIA.

WILL BEGIN ITS NEXT ANNUAL SESSION the 1st of September, 1865, with a competent Corps of Instructors. In addition to others, Rev. W. G. E. Cunningham and Miss Susan Cox have been engaged in the Literary Department. The Music will be under the control of an accomplished Professor. This Institution is prepared now to secure the highest intellectual and moral culture of its pupils.

Terms, for Five Scholastic Months: Board, \$35 00 Tuition, in all Collegiate Branches, 25 00 Tuition, in Preparatory " 20 00 Tuition, in Music, 25 00 Expenses for wood, 5 00 Gentling-fee, 2 00 Towels, sheets and lights, furnished by each pupil. The above charges payable in National currency, or provisions. Address, REV. WM. A. HARRIS, aug25-mlm Abingdon, Va.

Land Agency.

THE subscribers have formed a co-partnership for the purpose of conducting a general Land Agency business, under the style of WILLIAMS, KING & CO., They will give their attention to the sale and purchase of Land in South-western Virginia and East Tennessee. Persons having Real Estate to sell will find it to their advantage to register the same at our office, with accurate description—location—terms of sale, &c., &c., and those wishing to purchase may be more conveniently suited by sending us their orders. Office—UNDER THE EXCHANGE W. B. WILLIAMS, JOHN G. KING, W. P. BREWER. aug11, 1865-y

Exchange Hotel, BY LUTTRELL & GILLHAM, Bristol, Tenn.

THE proprietors would respectfully announce to the public that this House has been refitted and refurnished, and is now open for the reception of guests. They intend, by strict attention to the wants of the travelling public, to merit a due share of patronage. Give us a call. sept1-y

Exchange Saloon, (In the Exchange Hotel,) BY LUTTRELL & GILLHAM, BRISTOL, TENNESSEE.

THE attention of the public is invited to our fine stock of CIGARS, WINES, LIQUORS, BRANDIES, &c. Good order will be kept in our saloon. Give us a call. sept1-4f

Lands in Spady for Sale.—2,500 acres of valuable land for sale, in Johnson co., Tenn., 18 miles south-east of Bristol, and accessible by a good wagon road. Inexhaustible mines of the very best quality of iron ore; fine forests of larch, pine, oak, cherry, hickory and chestnut; the finest springs of brapid water, and a sufficient water power for propelling heavy machinery; a good forge, and saw-mill now in operation; comfortable dwelling house and out buildings. For further particulars apply to WILLIAMS, KING & CO., Real Estate Agents, Bristol, Tenn. aug11, 1865-4f

SOMETHING GOOD TO EAT.

WE have just received, Sugar Crackers, Soda do., Water do., Layer Raisins, Figs, French Kisses, Sicily Lemons, Jujube Paste, Pectoral Paste, Almonds, Walnuts, Filberts, Palm Nuts, Pickled Oysters, Mackerel, Sardines, Fancy Confections, and are looking, daily, for some very fine Cheskie Cheese. WILBAR & JOHNSTON, sept8, 1865-3w Main street, Bristol.

R. F. BETTERTON, COMMISSION AND FORWARDING AGENT, (near the Va & Tenn Railroad Depot, BRISTOL, TENN.), will pay particular attention to the Receiving and forwarding of goods of all kinds, and to the sale of Produce generally. Goods will be forwarded on the Dump Line to Carter Depot. A large lot of SALT on hand at all times. sept1-4f

Geo. A. Kinnear, GROCER.

Commission and Forwarding Merchant, No. 12, BRIDGE STREET, At the old stand of J. Boyd & Co., near Virginia & Tenn R R Depot, Lynchburg, Va.

PARTICULAR attention paid to the sale of Wheat, Flour, Bacon, Corn, Tobacco, and all kinds of Merchandise generally. GROCERIES, CEMENT, LIME and PLASTER always on hand. sept1-y

TAKEN

FROM my pasture, on the night of the 30th of August, a dark bay COLT, three years old next spring. Said colt had a black main, tail short, tolerable large head and large ears, straight hind legs.—was heavy set for its age. Any information in regard to its whereabouts will be thankfully received, or its return to me, near Union Depot, Sullivan county, Tennessee, liberally rewarded. A. F. GROSS, sept8-1m