# National Republican.

THURSDAY MORNING ..... MAY 16, 1878.


A Royal Letter Writer—Prince Alfred to Albert Edward on the Mordaunt Divorce Business—The "Sex" is Vicious and Should not be Written to.

The Madrid *Moil* prints a free-and-easy letter from Prince Alfred to Albert Edward. We make these extracts:

SQUADRONNERY HOUSE, MADRID, March 30, 1878.

"MY DEAR BERTIE: To-morrow I am returning to the Galatea. I have been more than three months in India, and have seen a very large number of towns, and millions of people. Chamberlain has regularly sent you the newspapers containing descriptions of how I have been treated, and he is now making up for me a very bulky book of photos which I have asked Lady Napier to send to Windsor by the first opportunity. I am very tired, indeed, of all these festivities, and shall be glad to be in my own quiet snuggery afloat. Truly these Indians are stunning fellows, and I can imagine that had you and Alexandra come out, as Argyll suggested, you would have returned to Marlborough House sun-burnt and laden with all kinds of souvenirs. Mayo is an awfully good chap, and was most kind. He treated me well without worrying me with over-much attention, and I shall be so glad if something is done for him.

"Here, to tell the truth, I am rather bored by her ladyship coming the mother over me. She is very chatty and civil and all that, but I would like her better if she would leave me a little more alone. But she says the Queen commended me to her maternal care, and maternal care have I had, sure enough. La Mere does not quite understand those things, but you do, and I trust you recently remind her that I am now full-fledged, rising six and twenty, and not in need of leading strings, I shall be much obliged. Napier himself is a silly fellow.

"Most of the fellows I meet here seem throw knowing. They don't cadger up to me, and that is what I like in a man. One fellow, a sort of secretary, or something, gives himself great airs, and governs the Governor—whose face betokens 'anything for a quiet life' in his own house. There there's a droll dog irreverently called 'Bob,' a rather big official, who is full of good stories, plain and seasoned. There are half a dozen aides-de-camp at at least, and he pleasant fellows as I have met anywhere. One little fellow is a cocked hat is, indeed, a wonderful sight. The 'Baron's' son is a hearty kind of youth, somewhat like friend Blandford.

"And this reminds me, Bertie, of those letters of yours to Lady M. I was dreadfully vexed at seeing them in print, and I swore a trifle, you may depend, when I read the article in the London papers about them. Confound it, can't those papers find something else to do than bully you about such trifles? People think, no doubt, that it is a fine thing to be a prince, but I think differently, when I see how we princes are lectured at and misunderstood on the slightest provocation. Never mind, dear old Bertie, the people will soon forget all about your ill-fated notes, or at least take them at their proper worth. The Baron says that the 'sex is vicious, and should be lored but not written to.'

"I have been wonderfully well treated by the mild Hindoos. They have spent heaps of money and showered addresses upon me, and Chamberlain has replied to the latter so well that every one seems pleased. Chamberlain and Blanc are capital men, and have been most useful. I don't know what I should have done without them, for the English officials in India are a trifle stuck up.

"But no more to-day, Bertie. I shan't inflict long letters upon you often. Writing is not my forte, and my fist, as you see, does not improve. Love to Alexandra and the olive branches, for whom I have got all kinds of brocades and shawls.

"I look forward to see you all in time for the Sandringham partridges. I shall then have had enough of voyaging for a year or more. The Emperor has sent me a very kind invitation to Compiegne in September. I'd like to go, and have told him so. Fred, and Vic, want me to go afterward to Kissengen to stay with them, and Dagmar sends word that the Czar would be glad to see me after my tour round the world. Will Thyra be staying with you or with Dagmar in the autumn? Many thanks for her portrait, which is charming. Your affectionate brother, ALFRED."

### A Revision of the Bible.

The feeling in favor of retaining our present English translation of the Bible is so universal, strong, and we had almost added lucid, that little needs to be said on that side of the question. The fact, however, that the Convocation of the English Church has recently decided to take measures looking to a revision of the Bible is a fact so important that it may be advisable to mention some of the considerations in its favor—especially so far as they relate to the New Testament—which may not be known to all our readers.

In the case of a printed book, the last edition may be presumed to be the best, because the editors and critics, be entrusted to have had access to all the previous editions, can correct all their known errors. But in the case of a work copied by hand, the presumption of superior correctness is in favor of the earlier copies, because the copyist, having ordinarily but one book before him, is liable not only to perpetuate its errors (except such as are obvious at a glance) but to make others of his own.

If our English translation of the New Testament could be we been made from the original manuscripts, there could have been no question of its correctness. There are, however, no such manuscripts in existence. Those upon which our common translation is based were written as late as the tenth century after Christ. Since the translation was made in King James's time, older copies of the Scriptures have become known to the learned world, and particularly three such copies. One of these, now in the Vatican at Rome, is supposed to date from about the middle of the fourth century. The second, which is in the British Museum, is assigned to the middle of the fifth century. The third, discovered in a monastery on Mount Sinai, is supposed to belong to one the middle of the fourth century, some evidences stronger in favor of that antiquity than can be cited in support of the Vatican copy. Each of these ancient copies comprises both the Old and the New Testaments, with more or less completeness. Count Tischendorf, an eminent Biblical scholar, who discovered the Sinai copy referred to above, has recently supervised an English edition of the New Testament, adding to the shape of notes the variations from the common version shown by the three older copies. The variations are in many cases so slight as to prove that they originated in the carelessness and ignorance of later copyists, while in a few cases they are so important as to indicate tampering with the early copies.

As to the question of general correctness between these earlier copies and that later one upon which the English Bible is based, there are some marked evidences in favor of the former, at which we can only glance. First, there is the consideration shown from the usually greater purities of copies which stand nearest to the originals, to which we have already adverted. Secondly, there were translations made of the Gospels into Latin, the Syriac and Egyptian tongues in the second and third centuries, which translations are extant, and are found to coincide more closely with those old copies than with the English Bible. Thirdly, those older copies agree with the writings and citations of the early Christian Fathers better than the common version does.

These considerations will suffice to show the nature of the movement in behalf of a retranslation of the Bible. We may add two others. First, what does the providential preservation of these ancient manuscripts through so many ages mean, but that they shall be used by the Christian world for purifying the text of the Bible? Secondly, the question is not as to the displacement of the present version of the Scriptures by another, but simply as to the addition of another to this. If the learned world can agree upon another translation, no man need give up his English Bible, hallowed by the associations of generations and rich in the best speech as well as the holiest thoughts, but he will merely have another version to which he can resort for assistance in getting at the exact meaning of the original text, which has disappeared from the keeping of man.

EXCITING SCENE IN A CITIZEN ROOM.—An old man named Blanc, who was on trial in Janesville, Wis., last week, charged with the murder of a young man named Roberts. On Thursday an exciting scene occurred at the close of the speech of the District Attorney. Mrs. Roberts, the aged mother of the murdered man, who had been a quiet and attentive listener to the argument, arose and said that she desired to make a few remarks to the jury. The judge requested her to sit down, but she was persistent, and the sheriff was compelled to interfere. She took her seat for a moment, and the officer stepped away, when she again sprang to her feet, exclaiming, "He killed my son and I will kill him!" rushed upon the old man Blanc, and grasping him by the throat and head, caused the blood to flow from the wounds she inflicted. The sheriff and his assistants interfered, and she was forced from the court room, still declaring that she would yet accomplish her purpose. It produced quite a sensation among the audience for a brief period, but the officers promptly restored order.

AN OLD MAN, named Edmund West, a sort of recluse, residing near Weston, West Virginia, was horribly murdered a few days since and his body left in a field, where hogs had discovered and eaten it. The old gentleman enjoyed a small farm, and had acquired considerable money, all of which the murderers secured.

AN INDIANA man has just shot himself after three weeks of marriage. He could not stand grief.

## BOWEN'S LAST DODGE

### HE ATTEMPTS TO MAKE THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT A DEPOT FOR POLITICAL SUPPLIES.

### GOVERNMENT CLERKS AND GOVERNMENT STATIONERY TO THE RESCUE.

### Having Exhausted the Corporation Treasury he Attempts to Steal from Uncle Sam.

### The Little Game is Promptly Enchered.

On Tuesday, Sayles J. Bowen and his man Friday, Wm. A. Cook, called at the Treasury Department, and left with John A. Graham, Assistant Register of the Treasury, a large bundle of electioneering documents in Bowen's interest, for the purpose of having the same circulated in the Treasury building.

The documents were neatly folded, and one of the messengers was requested to distribute them among the clerks of the Department. Information having reached Mr. J. H. Saville, the chief clerk, orders were at once issued not to allow the common hall wage of the building to be cluttered up with any political documents, and the contraband litter was dispatched to parts unknown. No distribution of the paper ensued.

Yesterday it was further ascertained that Mr. Graham's room had become a distributing office, and a messenger was promptly sent with a summons for Mr. Graham to appear in the chief clerk's office and explain why he was circulating political documents in the building. Mr. G. had left his office when the messenger called, and will probably give his reasons to-day. A pile of the documents are still on hand in the assistant register's office intended for distribution among the several wards.

The question naturally arises why a Government official should make his office a depot of supplies for campaign purposes, especially when it is understood the obliging gentleman exercise the franchise elsewhere. It is reported Mr. Graham "authorized" for several thousand of the electioneering document, and it must have been a great honor, indeed, that the bundle was taken to the Treasury Department by the firm of Sayles J. Bowen and W. A. Cook. There is an old saying that "the fit never sent a better messenger than himself." Exit Bowen and Cook.

### EMERY STOCK RISING.

#### Meeting of the Fourth Ward Republican Club.

The regular meeting of the Fourth Ward Republican Club was held at their rooms, corner of Seventh and D streets, the president, John H. Crane, in the chair.

Mr. Crane moved that a committee of ten be appointed to consult with a like committee of the Workingmen's Association, for the purpose of arranging time and method for the nomination of ward officers.

The motion was amended by instructing the committee that the sense of the club was in favor of nominating ward officers by primary elections and passed, and the following gentlemen constituted on the committee: John R. Crossman, Palmer Betsoe, Josiah Simpson, Benjamin McCoy, Maurice Pechts, David Dixon, George Mason, Wm. H. West, Dr. Tucker, and George Monroe.

A communication was received from the Central Executive Committee, asking the association to send five delegates to represent them in the Central Committee. Laid over one week.

Mr. Murdoch, of the Seventh ward, was introduced and said that it was now a certainty that Mr. Emery would be elected, and that was the reason there were so many candidates for office on his ticket.

He counselled that the clubs should see all due care and delicacy in the nomination. What was wanted was a set of men in the Councils who would act in harmony with Mr. Emery, and assist him in trying to rescue the city from debt, disgrace and political degradation into which it has fallen, and placing it in the position it was destined to fill.

He then drew a picture of the future of Washington, which he painted in glowing colors as the headquarters of art, science, manufactures, social and political eminence. This would be one of the indirect results of the election of Mr. Emery, and for that reason he hoped the very best men in the city would be elected to represent the Fourth ward in the Councils.

Mr. Day, of the First ward, said that he considered the subject of ward officers the most important now before the people. As far as the First ward was concerned they were determined to support no man who was not a Republican in heart and deed. They would not pick a man no matter how good his character may be or what his degree of intelligence who had not been prominently identified with the Republican party; and speaking for the Invincible club, he would say that these included in their ticket, put it in the field, and stick it if they could.

Mr. Poehlo said that it might do for the First ward to carry out the programme so laid down by the gentleman who had preceded him; but for the Fourth ward, he would say that when they organized the reform movement they had invited all citizens, no matter what their political prediction had been, to meet them on the broad platform of economy and reform.

After short addresses by Mr. Warren and Mr. Boyd, the meeting adjourned with cheers for Emery.

### AN OLD FEUD REVIVED.

#### Fisticuffs Among the Legal Fraternity—J. H. Bradley vs. Geo. P. Fisher.

Yesterday afternoon, about 4 o'clock, a great excitement was created in the vicinity of the City Hall by the reviving of an old feud between Hon. George P. Fisher, United States District Attorney for this District, and Mr. Joseph H. Bradley, sr. The encounter took place in the vestibule of Judge Fisher's office, opposite the City Hall. Mr. Bradley meeting Mr. Fisher as he was approaching his office, and it is stated that he said "now sir," or "now then." Mr. Bradley following the exclamation with a heavy blow with his cane, which struck Judge Fisher in the shoulder, breaking the stick in two pieces.

Mr. Fisher attempted to strike again, when Judge Fisher tripped Mr. Bradley, who fell heavily on the pavement, dragging Judge Fisher with him, and the two rolling. At this juncture several parties who were in the vicinity interfered, and the belligerents were separated, Mr. Fisher contented to their good offices, and Mr. Bradley coarsely and vociferously cursed his opponent as he was borne off in the direction of