

LETTERS OF GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Stinging Letter from the Commander on Army Resignations.

Mrs. John S. Brown, the wife of Vice President Brown, of the First national bank of Crawfordsville, has a relic which is not for sale, being nothing less than an autograph letter of Gen. George Washington. The letter, says the Indianapolis News, was found many years ago among the papers of Maj. Beall, of Virginia, the great-grandfather of Mrs. Brown, and it has been treasured as a precious heirloom ever since. Maj. Beall was in the continental army, and the letter was written to him upon his resignation from the service, after the terrible winter at Valley Forge. The letter is still in good condition, having carefully been framed, and is one of the few autograph letters of Washington extant. It has the characteristic signature, abounding in flourishes, but the balance of the letter is written in a comparatively plain hand. The letter reads as follows:

"Headquarters, 31st March, 1778.—Sir: I have received your letter of this date inclosing your commission. The frequency of resignation throughout the army is truly alarming. In the Virginia line this spirit unhappily seems to rage like an epidemical disease. I am at a loss to account how gentlemen can reconcile such an abandonment of the public interest at this crisis of our affairs, either with the principles of honor or duty to themselves and their country. If, however, you think yourself warranted and are determined to quit the army I must at least insist upon your retaining your commission till the arrival of more officers in camp. I am, sir, your most Obt. Servt., G. Washington."

The straightforward letter of the great commander so affected Maj. Beall that he continued in the service, and was instrumental in bringing about the recall of a number of other resignations.

APPRECIATE THEIR EFFORTS.

Reasons Given by a Man Who Listens to All Street Beggars.

A man who makes a practice of giving alms to almost every beggar that accosts him on the street has a unique explanation for his action, says the Washington Post.

"Street begging is the hardest work in the world," he says. "Supposing seventy-five per cent. of all the beggars in the business to be impostors, what do you observe? A woman crouching all day over a hardy-gardy, waiting for the pennies that are dropped into her tin receptacle; men standing in the by-ways and on dark street corners in the cold without an overcoat, asking you as you pass to give them a dime to buy a cup of coffee with. Suppose they make a dollar a day that way! If you think that's a comfortable business, just try it for an experiment. Don't take any reckoning of the hard things that are said to them. Pride soon becomes calloused under such a strain; but just look at it from the standpoint of the amount of hard work involved and the discomforts from cold and ex-

posure. You'll soon come to the conclusion that almost any kind of manual labor is lighter than street begging; and for that reason I never inquire whether a beggar is deserving or not. If he takes to the business as a matter of choice he deserves all he can get."

"But suppose every man should take your view of it. Beggary would become the most profitable business that one could engage in."

"Ah!" said the philosopher, "but how many men take the trouble to think of it? The discovery is mine."

WATERG N LIK S BLOOMERS.

Bought a Suit for His Daughter and Was Angry When His Wife Cut It Up.

Silas Watson, a Sidney (N. Y.) farmer, purchased a bicycle for his fifteen-year-old daughter recently and also gave her money to buy a bicycle costume. When Miss Watson rode into the yard attired in a bloomer her mother was astonished, but the father was much pleased with his daughter's appearance and ability as a cyclist. The mother declared that her daughter should not be allowed to dress like a new woman. After the girl had resumed her ordinary dress and gone to a neighbor's the mother took the bloomers, chopped them up and presented the pieces to her daughter when she returned, with the following note:

"Here is what is left of your abominable bicycle suit, which your father encouraged you to buy. No daughter of mine shall ever be allowed to parade herself in public dressed in bloomer costume. Take these pieces and use them in some articles of patchwork as a reminder of the folly manifested by yourself and father."

Farmer Watson was so indignant at his wife's conduct that he immediately gave his daughter more money to buy another bloomer costume and assured her that she should henceforth be protected from a similar experience.

The Cases Similar.

Prompted by the feeling that it was his duty, the bishop remonstrated with one of his clergy for attending a local hunt. "Well, your lordship," replied the offender, "I really do not see there is any more harm in hunting than in going to a ball." "I presume," answered his lordship, "that you refer to having seen my name down among those who attended Lady Somerville's ball, but I assure you throughout the whole evening I was never once in the same room as the dancers." "That, my lord, is exactly how I stand—I was never in the same field as the hounds." Then the bishop sat down and silence reigned.

How We Keep Cool.

Nearly two hundred million fans have been sold during the past year in the United States. These fans include both the imported and domestic manufacture, but the bulk of this immense number came from China and Japan. Few fans are made in the United States, and the greater part of the home production is of the very cheapest kind and used mostly for advertising purposes.

If in Search of a New Sensation.

Try the effect of a mud bath at Las Vegas Hot Springs, New Mexico. Other forms of baths may be had there, all especially beneficial in rheumatic troubles and diseases of the blood. The cool, dry, tonic air of this resort is just the thing for tired nerves, and there is nothing so restful as New Mexico sunshine, especially when supplemented by such fine service as is given at the Hotel Montezuma, reopened June 20. This famous inn cannot be excelled anywhere in the Southwest.

Round-trip excursion tickets on sale to Las Vegas Hot Springs from principal points. Reached only over the Santa Fe Route. For illustrated pamphlet and a copy of "Land of Sunshine," address G. T. Nicholson, G. P. A., Monadnock building, Chicago.

Coin's financial series is worth reading. "Coin's Financial School," "A Tale of Two Nations" or "Coin up to Date" may be obtained at THE EAGLE office free by paying a year's subscription to THE EAGLE in advance. The books sell at 25 cents each.



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