



**D**EAR SPOTTS: Whuther or not, twuz Mark Hanna, or Mark Twain, or Mark Aurelius, Oi dinnah, but shure am Oi that it was wan iv thim Mark's, phawt figgurud in history, an he was no E. Z. Mark aither, that sed on a mimerable occashun which same Oi do not now raycall—"Frins, Roman's an Farmers, lind me yer ears, Oi'll rayturn thim nixt Saturday."

Well, tis to you, Spottsie darlint, that Oi say this, for, may Di niver say the in-saide iv a roll iv tainted money agin if Oi'm not nixt to a saycrit, that will cause your ears to overflow phin Oi pour ut into thim. Sich a saycrit as this, Spotts, Oi rayserve fer my most intimate frin, and, by me faith, none but you shall know ut.

Phin ye hear ut, take the advice iv a thure frin, go hire a safety dayposit box, lock ut saycurely inside, and throw away the kay, list ye give the snap away, an give Traiy, Healy, Frank Hough, an Pierre Pratt, a chanst to beat ye to the money.

For, ut's money, ready money, slathirs iv money, grate and gorgeous gobs iv money, staggerin an stupendous stacks iv money, wierd an wonderful wads iv money, round an rip raring rolls iv money, plentiful an paralyzing piles iv money, thot Oi'll be after tellin ye about.

Whist! now, while Oi whisper ut into your ear, howld clost—aisy—MAJOR ALEXANDER SAINT-CLAIR ABRAMS HAS PRESENTED HIS BILL TO THE EAST COAST RAILROAD, FOR SERVICES AS LAWYER, WRITER, SPEAKER, DREAMER, AN ALL AROUN' INCUBATOR IV THE ANTI-DRAINAGE SENTIMENT, AN GOT THE BILL PAID.

Oi'll not risk me carefully prepared reputayshun as a teller iv true stories, by minshuning the amount, fer Oi know Oi'll not be bayloved. Not even George Washington, little hatchet an ahl, cud make this story go down. But Oi'll suffice meself wid tae statemint iv the ayeffects, iv this tap iv the Major's, an let your imaginashun run away wid itailf.

Oi get ut straight, that phin Uncle Hennery threw his (kerosene) lamps on thot bill iv the Major's, he wired to know if an extra sisshun iv the Florida legislatur had been called, or if the

## Unpublished Letters of Pat

East Coast xtenshin had been built to Cuba. Me informashun goes, that it took tin min and foive boys, siven days, twinty-nine hours an three weeks, to count the money, iviry mither's son iv them, using ahl his fingers an toes to keep tally wid, an even thim the amount was sivinty-nine cints short.

Oi am further told, that Hetty Green spint elevin cints car fare on a trip to Wall street to foind out phat was disturbin the money market, an Andru Carnegie sint a wireless from Swybow Castle orderin the addishun iv another V to the spellin of each five dollar bill because two Vs make a ten, and the money supply would be increased by this aisy an simple dayvice.

But, Oi hear that even this did not rayleive the stringency caused by the cashin iv the Major's check, and twuz not until the timely arrival iv night that the day was passed.

Now, Spotts, here's phere the value iv this tip Oi am afther givin ye, comes in. The Major's the boy we small gratters must kow-tow to afther this. He is all the money. I give you the first wurrud iv it, so that you will hoive a chanst to get in the first hot touch. Dont delay a moment! fer you can't tell how soon the bhoys will get wise to the Major's pulchritude, an ye know from past experience, that there's divile a chanst for the lokes iv us to get our hooks into a pace iv money, phin the big guns iv gift finance loike those Oi've mintoned get on a hot trail.

This coup iv the Major's wisens whilst it sad-dens me. It convinces me thot our system for loose coin annixashun has been wrong, ahl wrong, fer ahl these years. That's why Oi'm wise.

The Major's killin also convinces me that we've been a long toime findin the right way to proceed. That's why Oi am sad.

Think, in ahl the years you an Oi have been sing-ing the praises iv Uncle Hennery, an think iv phat WE got.

Now think iv ahl the years the Major has been abusen Florida's grate benefactor, and think iv phat HE got.

Afther you think the thinks Oi give ye to think about, write yourself down "idjit"—an copy the Major.

Iv course ye remimber how the dear Major used to foam at the mouth, rip an tear, paw up the ground, an wind up by faintin dead away, phin he was daynouncin Uncle Hennery an all his works as everything that was bou, bad, an wickud.

Ye, no doubt, raycall the occashun phin he used up two white duck suits, six pocket handkerchiefs, an two bottles iv smellin salts in his grate speech against the Insanitary Dayvource law.

Oi know ye hoive not forgotten thot toime this same Major split three pairs iv pumps stampin the foot iv himself, as he dayclaimed against the iniquitys iv the East Coast Railway System's system iv opprisshun iv the poor but honos fruit grower.

Ye surely bear in mind the burnin wurruds he wrote as he rushed into print in the noble effort to raymove the heel iv the Standard Oil opprussir from off the necks iv his countrymen.

Oh! yes, tis aisy to go over this well blazed trail iv the Major's hate fer ahl things represntid

by Florida's Foremost Filanthropist, an thim ye'll remimber how we laughed, an laughed, an laughed over the thought that, divile a cint would the Major get phin the puckerin string iv the Wonder Worker's dough bag was loosened.

An now to think that this very same Major has naygotiated an East Coast touch that makes our little dlibs an drabs, look like a church collection at a Wednesday night prayer meetin. Oi say, sich thoughts are enough to cause an honest grafter to grab a bass drum an join the Salvation Army.

Oi say, Spotts, please sind me at wance the address iv our mutual frin tae grate an noble Sinnutur. Tis our junior Sinnutur Oi mane. Oi'm afraid to risk spellin his name fer fear iv givin offnse.

I must get wurrud to him right off, fer its a divile iv a fix Oi'm in now sure enough, bad cess to Dochter Miller for makin that roar about free lunches, causin their abolition.

Maybe Oi nayglicted to tell ye before, but Sinnutur T—got me a pinshun from our grate but grateful government, for gettin a bad bunion on me lift foot, side steppin work, whilst servin a tin day appritiship as ninth assistant coctall carrier on board the second class battleship Texas, durin the terrible an bluddy Americo-Dago war.

I must have an INCREASE in me pinshun or a DAYCREASE in me appetite, now that the free lunch in Jax is no more.

Oi have had me appetite so long, that Oi fear ut will niver lave me now, so Oi am forced to get a raise from Uncle Sam. Twelve dollars a month was little enough, phin Oi cud get a square male an a tub iv suds fer foive cints, but phere Oi'll get meat to make both ends meet, now that those hopeful days have passed, Oi dinnah.

So plaze sind by nixt mail the correct address iv me great an good frin the Sinnutur. Oi know he'll not fail me in this grate crisis iv me loife.

Yours,  
PAT.



## Excellent Showing By Negro Teacher

There appeared at the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction one day recently a negro school teacher, J. G. Riley, principal of the negro high school in Tallahassee, who asked that he be permitted to take the examination for a State certificate. The examination was given and resulted in the award to Riley of the certificate and the following grades on the subjects given: Physics, 82; Rhetoric, 97; Zoology, 97; Literature, 96; Geometry, 90; Botany, 98; Psychology, 96; Trigonometry, 95; Latin, 80; General History, 85. This man is the only negro teacher in the State holding a certificate of this class. He has reached this eminence by painstaking effort, by energy and industry that deserves commendation.

For several years Riley has been principal of the negro high school in Tallahassee. Under the present school law principals of high schools must hold State certificates if the schools are to receive State aid. The operation of this law has resulted in raising the grade of the teaching force in the white schools, and Riley's achievement has shown that its beneficent influence may be extended to include also the negro schools. Riley began to study and to prepare himself for this examination in order to hold his position with the school. He was not successful in his first effort,

but, nothing daunted, he plodded on, renewed his efforts and continued them with zeal and patience until they met with a just reward. His papers on some of the subjects are excellent and on all of them are good. He has given a practical demonstration of what can be accomplished by honest, steady effort, and he has also demonstrated the fact that setting a high standard and requiring that teachers measure up to it does not work hardships upon the teaching body but tends in every way to its betterment, for both of the races.

A particularly pleasing feature of this negro school teacher's successful application for a State certificate, is that he is what is known as "a white man's negro." This will be recognized by all who know the true character of the negro and who esteem them for their many good qualities, as meaning that he is not self-assertive; that he knows his place; that he does not aspire to social equality, but is content with the position to which his white friends have assigned the members of his race.

### The Working Man Will be Felt.

The fight on Littlefield by the labor organizations of Maine shows that the laboring man is finding out how best to fight. Littlefield will go to Congress, but on a greatly reduced rate. A party man loves his party and is generally loyal to it, but when it comes to a choice between what he considers bread and butter and party fealty, the bread and butter wins the love of the man.

Whatever may be promised by parties, the great

laboring interests of the country are going to be heard and felt more and more and party management will have to take into consideration not only the principles advocated but the man who attempts to stand for election, because his record will be closely examined by the laborer.

The labor interests may not always be right, any more that the trust and capital interests are, but they are going to be felt nevertheless. And it is just as well. The laboring man has been led around by the political boss and the strike boss until there has been hardly enough of him left to call him a man. When he acts on his own initiative and intelligently uses the power he has in the ballot, then "the boss man" in the labor camps and in politics want to look a little out.

The laboring man is a very important part of this land of the free and home of the brave.—Orlando Star-Reporter.

Gadsden county has discovered the merits of crop diversification. Her tobacco crop this year brings her in one and a half million dollars in cash. There are more different ways for intelligent, enterprising people to make good money out of the soil of Florida than in any other State in the Union. Why any man of gumption who has health and strength, wants to sell his farm, leave the country and settle down in some town in a little house in a crowded neighborhood, and then take his chances on "gettin' a job" and forfeit his independence forever, is more than we can understand.—Live Oak Democrat.