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## LETTER FROM BILKINS.

### Some Facts About a Remarkable Town—Litigation and the Cause of it—How the Name of the Town Originated—A Historical Sketch of Hillsboro-on-the-Enno.

Correspondence of the Enterprise.

I am still at Durham an' my loker-motive affixia iz gittin' erlong awl rite. I'm goin' ter git well, but I may not rekiver, owin' ter my age.

This iz the dadgumest town I ever struck. One minit hit makes me think ov a sircus an' the next hit reminds me ov the war. They iz a continyous performance goin' on awl the time. They iz more noize an' racket in Durham in a day than in New York, an' the town aint half az big, I don't reckon. I haint bin here but a week an' they hev hed several fites, sum skandles an' started 325 new law suits. I've had ter observe lent ter keep out ov skandles an' lawsuits myself. Purty nigh everybody iz suin' sumbody else or suin' the city or suin' the railrodes. Every time a feller does sumptin' thet don't suit sumbody else they iz a law suit.

Durham county is full ov illisit still houses an' the town iz full ov illisit railrodes. The town ov Durham has bin runnin' a lawsuit with the Southern railrode fer twenty years. The railrode uses injunkshuns fer heatin' purposes instead ov coal. They hev a nice new union depoe there but can't git to hit on account ov a law suit blocking up the only street leadin' ter the depoe. But they hev both churches an' skules in Durham.

In talkin' with sum ov the old sitizens I larned that Durham wuz named after a selebrated breed ov cattle in England called the Durham shorthorn cattle. Az they air a go-ahead, proud sort ov peepke they never liked ter be called Durham shorthorns an' much litygashun hez been litygated an' bad feelin' wuz stirred up. Sumtimes Durham hez gone fer weeks without speakin' ter Raleigh. Ter smooth things over they past a prohibishun law in Durham a few months ago an' the shorthorn ishshue don't cause so many fites. Most ov them acknollege the corn now.

Durham iz a nervous, collicky kind ov a town, awlways sumptin' goin' on. Frum what I see the town iz made up ov two sorts ov peepke, the Too Good To Last an' the Very Wicked. Every time I see Durham I think hit gits more like Morrisville.

I've bin takin' sum little side trips frum Durham jist ter git a little fresh air. I went up ter Hillsboro an' stopped betwixt trains. They wouldn't let me stay eny longer az I didn't hev my family history with me. That iz a mity pertickular town.

Hillsboro iz situated one mile frum Okaneechee farm. Hit wuz first settled by the Okaneechee Injuns, but they didn't stay long owin' ter hit bein' so muddy thar in wet weather, the sile bein' red clay mixed with glue an' beeswax. The Enno river runs erlong by Hillsboro an' wuz the only movin' thing' that I notised while I wuz thar.

In A. D. 302 a colony cum down frum Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts an' bought Hillsboro frum the Okaneechee Injuns, payin' them 300 Sallie Mikel clay pipes an' twelve pounds ov smokin' terbacker fer the

town an' the hills adjoinin'. The Injuns moved West ter Graham, near Haw River an' smoked theirselves ter death.

After the colony frum Plymouth Rock got lokated they built houses an' began ter raze Plymouth Rock chickens. The chickens air scattered awl over the country now. After razin' chickens erbout eight hundred years the peepke ov Hillsboro got a few dollars ahead an' begun ter put on airs. Since that they don't mix up with the rest ov mankind much. The populashun ov Hillsboro haint increased but four or five since A. D. 925 an' they were peepke whose grandaddies got shipwrecked on Plymouth Rock, an' who could prove hit. The streets air full ov plymouth rocks an' they anser fer pavin'.

Carpenters air not erlowed ter live in Hillsboro an' no builidin' is done. If they let carpenters live thar they mite try ter violate the anti-builidin' laws ov the town. When a roof gits ter leakin' they lay a flat plymouth rock over the hole an' keep the rain out.

Yours Truly,  
ZEKE BILKINS.

## TERRIBLE EXPLOSION.

### Boiler in Shoe Factory at Brockton Explodes—Building Wrecked and Burned—Many Killed.

By the explosion of a boiler in the building of the R. B. Glover Company, manufacturers of shoes at Brockton, Mass., Monday, the building was rent assunder, soon caught fire and probably a hundred people lost their lives.

To this date fifty-five bodies have been recovered and forty-eight persons are still missing, while 283 are known to have escaped. It is believed that at least forty-eight people were burned to ashes and their bodies cannot be recovered, but the search goes on.

The wrecked building caught on fire immediately after the explosion, and it was impossible to rescue all the people buried in the debris. Much heroism was displayed. One Catholic priest rescued seven persons at the risk of his own life.

## Good News for Mr. Roosevelt.

From Homstead, Pa., comes a dispatch which, it is to be hoped, will be brought to the immediate attention of President Roosevelt. It seems, according to the statement published by our esteemed contemporary, the New York Times, that several departments of the Carnegie steel plant at Homstead were closed last Friday and Saturday on account of the absence of workmen. Industrial peace prevails in that section, there is neither strike nor lock-out, and the health of the community is as good as usual. The superintendent of the plant was puzzled and began an inquiry. To his amazement, he discovered that the stork had been visiting the families of thirty-one workmen and that the population of Homstead had been increased proportionately. An item of this kind ought to give President Roosevelt more joy than the latest news from the armies in Manchuria. Evidently Homstead has taken kindly and appreciatively to his counsels on the subject of "race suicide."—Baltimore Sun.

## PASSENGER AND POWER CO.

### First Meeting of Directors—Electric Line Will be Built.

On Friday night there was a meeting of the directors of the Raleigh and Durham Passenger and Power Company, which proposes to run a line of inter-urban electric cars between Raleigh and Durham and a system of street cars in the city of Raleigh, to prepare for the beginning of work on the line. Since organization of the company and the granting of charter to it by the two towns and counties concerned, progress has been necessarily delayed until the ordinance was procured in a satisfactory shape and the charter procured in a form satisfactory to the directors.

At the meeting the ordinance as amended and passed on March 3rd was accepted, and the charter having been procured the directors proceeded to discuss the beginning of work on the road. To this end, engineers will be at once employed to survey the several routes which have been suggested for the road to follow one of these to be through Cary and the other by Leesville. It will of course take a survey and a careful canvass of the whole situation considered from both a physical and financial point of view for this question to be finally determined.

There were present at the meeting Messrs. W. J. Nelms, of Newport News; T. B. Fuller and Jones Fuller, of Durham, and B. S. Jerman and T. S. Fuller, of Raleigh.

## Doings in the Wilds of Durham County.

The Durham Sun gives an insight into the manner in which the Watts Law IS NOT being enforced in that county:

"The revenue officers were on double duty yesterday and last night. Yesterday afternoon three of the agents for Uncle Sam were out in the bushes and last night the same crowd went out again.

"On the raid yesterday afternoon Deputy Marshals Merritt, Pool and Jordan, accompanied by Morris King, of this city, went out on the Guess road. Not far from the river the officers made a raid. The kettle of the still was gone, but the cap worm and about twenty gallons of whiskey were taken. In addition to this property the officers poured out a large quantity of beer, about eight or nine hundred gallons.

"After returning to the city, the officers remained here for some time, and then went on a raid north of the city. Like the first raid, this one was barren of any stills captured, but considerable other property was taken.

On this second trip the officers went to three places. It is learned that at one place the cap and worm were captured, some fifteen hundred gallons of beer poured out, and some distance away from the distillery a barrel containing about forty gallons of whiskey was found. At another place visited the cap and worm were found and about fifteen gallons of whiskey. At this place there was also considerable beer, which was poured out. A third place was visited and the foundation for what seemed to be a very large still was found.

The still had been removed, however, and very little property was taken or destroyed.

"In the recent past the officers have been making it lively for blockade stills in this county. Quite a number have been captured and others are being added to the number every day. The raids of yesterday, while not showing up the capture of any of the kettles, will put several of the places out of business for some time and the Government has a number of gallons of whiskey to add to that already stored in Raleigh."

## Power in Clothes and Title.

There is no power without clothes. It is the power that governs the human race. Strip its chiefs to the skin, and no State could be governed; naked officials could exercise no authority; they would look (and be) like everybody else—commonplace, inconsequential. A policeman in plain clothes is one man, in his uniform he is ten. Clothes and titles are the most potent thing, the most formidable influence, in the earth. They move the human race to willing and spontaneous respect for the judge, the general, the admiral, the bishop, the ambassador, the frivolous earl, the idiot duke, the Sultan, the King, the Emperor. No great title is efficient without clothes to support it. In naked tribes of savages the kings wear some kind of a rag or decoration which they make sacred to themselves and allow no one else to wear. The King of the great Fan Tribe wears a bit of leopard skin on his shoulder—it is sacred to royalty—the rest of him is perfectly naked. Without this bit of leopard skin to awe and impress the people he would not be able to keep his job.—"Mark Twain," in North American Review.

## Not Hiring Any Generals.

Ever since the war some of the privates have told with great relish of the old farmer near Appomattox who decided to give employment, after the surrender, to any of Lee's veterans who might wish to work a few days for food and small wages. He divided the Confederate employees in squads according to the respective ranks held by them in the army. He was uneducated, but entirely loyal to the Southern cause.

A neighbor inquired of him as to the different squads. "Who are those men working there?" he asked.

"Them is privates, sir—privates of Lee's army."

"Well, how do they work?"

"Very fine, sir; first-rate workers."

"Who are those in the second group?"

"Them is lieutenants and captains, and they work fairly well, but not as good workers as the privates."

"I see you have a third squad. Who are they?"

"Them is colonels."

"Well, what about the colonels? How do they work?"

"Now, neighbor, you'll never hear me say one word ag'in any man who fit in the Southern army; but I ain't a-gwine to hire no generals."—Baltimore and Richmond Christian Advocate.

Kuropatkin seems to be in good form for the spring races.—Memphis News-Scimeter.