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LETTER FROM BILKINS.

Mr. Vanderbilt Will Not Find Voting a Snap—Bilkins Will Not Allow Jury Tampering—The Relative Merits of Various Mineral Springs.

Correspondence of the Enterprise.

I see by the papers that my ole friend, or maybe my young friend, George Vanderbilt, late ov New York, is takin' more stock in hiz 90,000 aker farm an' five millun dollar home up next ter Asheville. Hit iz sed that George iz goin' ter spend most oz hiz time on the farm an' that he will move hiz citizenship ter this State an' vote with us.

George may think he iz goin' ter do awl ov that an' more. But he iz up erginst hit fer once. How does he know he iz goin' ter vote in this State? I don't know how he iz goin' ter vote. If I did, I could tell him ter cum rite on an' lay still, az everythin' iz done fixed. If he iz goin' ter vote the other way, he will hev ter stand a sivil servis examinashun four hundred feet long, an' we may draw the grand-daddy claws on him. I onderstand that hiz grand-dadd-wuz az poor az Job's turkey, an' that he wuz ingaged in sellin' leather or somethin' at one time, which iz furbiddin by our code ov rules, even if the law hain't slap erginst hit. An' we may make him show hiz tax resects fer the past two thousand years. Lots depends on hiz conterbusion ter the campane fund, his views on the dispensatory ishshue an' whether he beleeves hades iz a summer or a winter resort.

But cum erlong George. We'll tolerate you till we kin extrack your money fer rode an' skule purposes. We air powerfully in favor or gude rodes an' gude skules bekase they cost money, an' give jobs, an' that iz what we air runnin' this country fer.

We officials air tryin' ter break up tamperin' with jurries, an' we air goin' ter do hit unless they kin do hit a little more secretly. I'll see that jurries comin' ter my justis ov the peece court air rite.

I hereby ishshue the follerin' ploclermashun:

"Be hit known henceforth, now an' furever, that I, Ezekial Bilkins, justis ov the peece fer Martin's Creek Township, stand ready ter severely punish any an' awl persons, especially Republikins, who may hereinbefore, hereinbehind, or in any manner aforesaid, or aftersaid, be found guilty ov meddlin' with eny juror; an' Dymakrats hed better be keerful. Any person, especially Republikins, found guilty ov eny offense herein spoken ov, shall be subject ter the full penalty ov the law; and Dymakrats hed better be keerful."

Be hit further known that my court hez nothin' ter do with eny other courts in this State or Cannady, an' that they ain't no appeal. Bein' a married man, az well az a justis ov the peece, I make hit hot fer awl violaters ov the law, but allers turn married men loose in enythin' short ov capital offenses, beleevin' they hev awlreddy bin punished enuff. Solomon hain't in hit with me when hit cums ter dealin' out justis. I move the leever up or down az the case requires when I'm dealin' out punishment. I hope I'll not hev ter refer ter this ergin, fer I am busy huntin' violaters ov the Watts, Ward an' Woods laws. In fact, I am erbout

two years behind time in that rayspeck.

The hot weather hez made them summer resort microbes hatch out in Betsy's hed. She axed me the other day which wuz the helthiest place, Fuquay Springs or Chalybeat Springs. I tole her I didn't know, fer the folks at both places looked liked they wuz several hundred years ole. She sed she wanted me ter go ter both Springs an' find out. I tole her I would when I got the crops wurked out, but she wouldn't wate. So I went ter Fuquay first. I drove up an' hitched my mule, an' I seed Mr. R. S. Barham standin' at the Spring. I tole him whut Betsy hed sent me fer. He 'lowed that wuzent a debaterable question. "How ole air you, Br. Barham?" sed I. "That iz a seekret," sed he. "I don't mean eny offense," sez I, "but Betsy wants ter know erbout the different mineral Springs an' how long peeple live who drink the water so az ter tell which iz the helthiest." "Look eround," sed he, "an' you kin tell that nobody dies in these diggins." I put Mr. Barham down az bein 175. Dr. Sexton looks ter be purty nigh 200. I. N. Hobgood ain't less than 180. Capt. A. E. Guess must be close ter 160. By this time they hed got onter the racket an' several other prominent sitizens tuk ter the bushes, fer they air so old they don't wanter anser questions. I tuk a drink or two more ov water an' drove down ter Chalybeate Springs. But the news that I wuz takin' the census ov the Springs ter find out ages had gone on before an' I found the town purty nigh disserted. Finally I found Mr. R. H. Dewar. "Whar iz awl the folks?" sez I. He 'lowed most ov 'em hed skiped when they hearn I wuz cumin'. "They iz so meny ole bachelors eround here an' they sorter begin ter git sensative erbout their ages after they pass 100." "How ole air you, then?" sez I. "Oh! I'm young yit," sed Mr. Dewar. I put him down at 150, but I expeck I flattered him. Mr. J. A. Johnson can't be less than 170. David Henry Senter iz away over a hundred in the shade. J. A. Pearson iz likewise. They air both single. I tried ter find several others, but they wuz hidin' out ter keep frum tellin' their ages.

I went back an' made a verble rayport ter Betsy. I tole her I couldn't find out much erbout their ages, but that most ov the sitizens eround both Springs hed lived so long that they had worn out frum three ter four sets ov teeth. Betsy iz makin' her summer dresses, but I don't know which Springs we air goin' ter. When she desides, I will rayport.

Yours trulv.

ZEKE BILKINS.

POWELL FOUND GUILTY.

Goes to Atlanta Federal Prison for Two and a Half Years.

J. B. Powell, of Norfolk, who was tried at the recent term of the Federal Court here for using the mails to defraud various business firms, was found guilty. The jurv was out six and one-half hours. Judge Purcell gave Powell two and a half years, and he has been taken to Atlanta to begin the sentence.

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HOW IT WAS DONE.

Admiral Togo Makes a Final Report of the Last Japanese Naval Victory—Battle Decided in Forty Minutes.

Admiral Togo has issued the final report of the battle of the Sea of Japan. It shows the fine formation of the Japanese fleet and the suicidal incompetence of the Russians:

"Our order for action was given at 1:55 p. m. We headed southwest for a short time as if taking a course directly opposite to that of the enemy. Suddenly, at 2:05, we turned east, changing front, and pressed diagonally against the enemy's head. Our armored cruiser squadron closely followed our course, while the divisions of Admirals Dewa and Uri, the cruiser squadron and the division commanded by the younger Togo followed a course previously planned and proceeded southward to attack the enemy's rear.

"The enemy opened fire ta 2:08 p. m. We did not reply until we had brought our ships within 6,000 metres. Then we concentrated our fire on the two leading ships. The enemy found himself pressed more toward the southeast, and both his lines veered gradually to the eastward, assuming an irregular vertical formation. In this position the enemy continued a course parallel to ours. The Russian battleship Oslabia caught on fire and left the line. Meantime our cruisers appeared in the enemy's rear. As we neared, our fire increased in effectiveness. The Kniaz Suvaroff and the Alexander III burned fiercely. The enemy's line became confused and smoke concealed them. Therefore we suspended fire. The result of the battle was decided at 2:45 p. m. The Oslabia sank at 3 p. m. We pressed the enemy southward, firing when any of their ships were visible. By 3 o'clock we had already appeared in front of the enemy's line of advance, our course being about southwest.

"Suddenly the enemy headed north, evidently planning to escape in that direction around our rear. Our main squadron turned sixteen points to port, reversing its order and steering southwest. Our armored cruisers also changed front, following the same course and pressing the enemy southward. The enemy then changed to the east, and we promptly turned sixteen points to starboard, our armored cruisers following suit. By 4:40 o'clock the enemy seemed to be headed south. Later we lost sight of him in the smoke and mist.

"By 4:30 o'clock our main squadron was again steaming northward in search of the main body of the enemy. The armored cruisers moved southward against the enemy's cruisers. Our main squadron sank the Ural and found six of the enemy's ships running northeast. We pursued and caught them and opened fire. The enemy changed his course westward and then northward. One of the enemy's battleships was disabled and another was sunk. Our armored cruisers, pursuing the enemy southward, observed the Alexander III approach the Admiral Nakhimoff and overturn and sink.

"At twilight our destroyers and torpedo boats gradually closed in from the northeast and south. Finding them placed, our main squadron

let loose their horde of torpedoes. I ordered all my ships to assemble at Ullen Island next morning."

Admiral Togo then describes the attack of Admirals Dewa and Uri upon the Russian rear May 27. Describing the events of Sunday, Admiral Togo declares that his battleships, Kamimura's cruisers, Uri's division and the younger Togo's division completely enveloped Admiral Niebogotoff's ships, rendering resistance useless. The Japanese commander-in-chief approved of the surrender and allowed Admiral Niebogotoff and his officers to retain their swords.

CLAYTON NEWS.

Election to Be Held Next Monday—A New Drug Store—Personals.

Correspondence of the Enterprise.

Pastor Blanchard preached two excellent sermons in the Baptist church Sunday.

Rev. Jno. A. Oates, of the North Carolina Baptist, Fayetteville, N. C., delivered a powerful temperance lecture in the school auditorium Monday night. A vast audience was out to hear him and expressed their admiration at the splendid truths brought out.

Some of our townsmen went to Sealey's pond fishing Monday. They report a fine time and lots of fish.

Rev. Mr. Beaman, of the Trinity Church, Durham, N. C., will deliver a temperance lecture in the school auditorium on Thursday night, June 22nd. All our people are familiar with Dr. Beaman's speech-making, and will all turn out to hear this great man.

Next Monday will settle the question as to whether we will have prohibition or whiskey. Our town aldermen have sent to each voter a copy of the proposed law so that there may be no misunderstanding.

Clayton will soon have a new drug store. Mr. C. T. Young, who recently finished his course in pharmacy, is the promoter of this.

The town commissioners had the boundary lines of the town run last Friday. This was done on account of the fact that some who wanted to keep hogs could know positively when the pen is out of town.

The prohibition question, we are sorry to note, has caused some strife among our best citizens. No credance should be placed on a rumor until the truth thereof is established.

On Tuesday June 27th, Mr. John W. Sealey will draw off his pond and allow any person or persons who wish to to seine the pond. A fee of five dollars per seine will be charged. There's going to be a good old time, as E. L. O'Neil will be along with all the cold drinks you are looking for. Let's all go and have one more good fishing. "NO ONE."

Clayton, N. C., June 21st.

Get Good, Young Man!

The Raleigh Enterprise gives in rhyme the pronouncement of a young man she will tolerate. Her restrictions are so severe that we fear she will have to repair to that place where inhabitants are reported to be happy and have no bad habits. The young man she wants died when he was young.—New Bern Daily Journal.