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LETTER FROM THE WEST.

DEAR WHIG: - As the season has arrived we may possibly offer a few suggestions that might benefit some one. Persons deceptive practices and games, there are almost daily persons who are credulous enough to be deceived and led off and robbed of their money, and many we have seen left penniless by betting on those very deceptive games.

from one to the other, or starting of differnever clear of them, but still every day self, and that goodness and beauty and there arrives fresh victims who fall into

bles as well as pastorage, and hay for the use of the occupants. When the shops and water power are complete it will require thousands of men to operate the various

How Muskrats Swim Under the Ice.

Muskrats have a curious method of traveling long distances under the ice. In their winter excursions to their feeding grounds, which are frequently at great distances from their abodes, they take in breath at starting, and remain under the water as long as they can. They then rise up to the ice and breathe out the air in their lungs, which remain in bubbles against the lower surface of the ice. They wait till this air recovers oxygen from the water and the ice, and then take it in again, and go on till the operation has to be repeated. In this way they can travel almost any distance, and live any length of time under the ice. The hunter sometimes takes advantage of this habit of the muskrat in the following manner: When the marshes and ponds, where the muskrats abound, are first frozen over, and the ice is thin and clear, on striking into their houses with his hatchet, for the purpose of setting his traps, he frequently sees a whole some distance, he sees him come up to renew his breath in the manner above described. After the animal has breathed take his bubble in again, the hunter strikes with his hatchet directly over him and drives him away from his breath. In this case he drowns in swimming a few rods, travel under the ice in the same way, and

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ELKTON, MARYLAND, SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1873.

BUILDING OF THE NEST.

They'll come again to the apple-tree— Robin and all the rest—
When the orchard blossoms are fair to see,
In the snow of the blossom dressed;
And the prettiest thing in the world will be
The building of the nest.

Weave it well so round and trim, Hollowing it with care, Nothing too far away for him, Nothing for her too fair; Hanging it safe on the topmost limb— Their castle in the air.

Ah, mother-bird you'll have weary days
When the eggs are under your breast,
And your mate will fear for willful ways
When the wee ones leave the nest;
But they'll find their wing in a glad amaze,
And God will see to the rest.

So come to the trees with all your train When the apple blossoms blow; Through the April shimmer of sun and

Go flying to and fro: to our hearts as we watch again

Your fairy building grow. PEARL AND EMERALD.

CHAPTER XIX .- Continued. MR. GRODE CHANGES HIS MIND.

Meanwhile Mr. Grode, without sceming o listen to him, had written something up a scrap of paper with his gold pencilpaper to the footman. Then he closed the loor again, and returned to his easy-chair.

Queen ?" he asked. "Becaushe I vant to give 'im to you; becaushe you vill give a fair prishe for 'im | back the spirit of his new dream. for the shake of old timesh."

his hands affectionately over the region in opening it—he dared not look upon the his breast, his knees shook as though he which the soul is said to be placed by the Chinese.

"And you offer it to me for ten thousand?"

"Eighty thoushand!" "Well, then, I will give you five. Not

penny more." The Jew lifted up his hands in unaffected his broad hand over the casket.

"Five thousand pounds."

woude." "As you please. And when Mynheer van Woemwoudo begins to ask you a few questions-how you came by it for ex-

"Ah, Mishter Grode, be mershiful! It would be a shin to shell him to you for it till now; and you admit that you have vhat you shay."

Mr. Grode sat in silence, gloating on the that all true?" struggle that was going on in the heart of Nathan Levi. He thought it was a strug- Moshesh!"

could conceive. It was no struggle between need and greed. But it was a struggle between need man, whose gifts had become a necessity, be induced to be ton games on the trains, be supposed for an instant that when he -had crept down-stairs from his interview with Felicia out into the still greater darkness of the street, any feeling of compassion for what he had seen, or any desire to

there were people in the world as poor and it is the stone?" purity and unselfishness were no talismans against the misery that was the cause and effect of his own crooked nature, his own

hideousness, and his own self-indulgence.-He had for a short while, during his days few hours than at Davenport, Iowa, where of ceremonial mourning, when a false remorse was gnawing at his heart, almost come to fancy that his wretchedness of mind and body had arisen from his exaggerated breach of the first of all the divine laws that govern the relations of men to one another. So it was with a strange and indescriable feeling of mingled envy, pride, and despair that he learned that Nemesis is as capricious as Fortune, and that while not specially marked out by his special sins for special punishment, that he once more lighted his wax-candle and opened his trap-

> intoxication of his old dreams. But somehow the old intoxication would not come. It was true that the fascination of the stone itself was greater than ever .-After all, it was the most valuable jewel in the whole world; no sentiment could destroy that fact of facts. And was a jewel worth six millions of pounds to be outweighed by a word and a smile that cost nothing to the giver, any more than the not so much as even the memory of the magic light would fill the chamber at his bidding. The piece of crystal was as fair as ever to the sight, but seemed in its heart to be as dull as when it had been first dug from the mine. The jewel-fairies seemed to have departed, and the echoes of their songs to have grown as silent as his own

door to enjoy with a good conscience the

greeted him morning after morning, and of the compassionate smile that—he knew it not fully till new-had stood to him in the place of that whole beauty of the outer

world which is made up of human sympathy more than any of us really know: more than was ever discovered so fully as it was of paper and a pen." discovered now by him. Now that the voice and the smile greated him no more even the Emerald seemed to have lost its until its owner should regain once more the voice and the smile.

No one can tell what the daily word of the only human creature between whose asked. under the ice. Following one of them for ry link had become to him. Even had ed diamond-merchant and dealer in jewels, his windpipe, and the wind about his cars soul and his there yet remained that solita-Felicia been old or plain, it would have with a great establishment in Amsterdam, caused by the descending steel. At all may tell Mr. Gregorius that he is an ignobeen almost the same. But, as things and agencies in London, Paris, St. Peters- events, the perspiration was standing in ramus and a humbug. "I'll get a hunwere, all the affection and all the sympa- burg, and Vienna. against the ice, and before he has time to thies that he had succeeded in withdrawing from his kind had avenged themselves by quickly as if he had been waiting in the drinking brandy—as very likely he had, concentrating themselves upon one. He hall, and as a propos as if he had been sent for the Caspians are steady drinkers. had so far almost succeeded in both eating for since the commencement of the interhis cake and having it too. He had sacri- view between Levi and Mr. Grode. Indeed set in jewels and bearing a miniature of not seem to meet Mr. Grode's views. ficed the world for the sake of the Emer- it may be remembered that the latter had the late Czarina. It stood at five minutes

of genii, of demons, nay, even of angels: value?" of beings which, however beautiful, hownothing more. He had lost that which he he smiled.

had sought to sacrifice to the great Emer- "I am sorry to undeceive you Mr. ald, but to keep which-well, there was no Grode," he said, but----" avoiding the conclusion - it was worth while "What!" exclaimed Mr. Grode, "is it to sacrifice even the great Emerald of Kau- not valuable?" suffice to gain him back his good angel, cleverest thing of the kind I ever saw. however, in his hand, though the Count being a bully, was a coward also; at least, out of consideration for any one but yourdahar. A few hundreds of pounds would into worldly and evil hands.

when he had to conclude his heart-breaking | more." bargain, his whole nature felt up-torn by the roots. To part with what had for so long been the ruler of his life and his soul, paste, and nothing more." to which he had sacrificed all things that

men hold dear, was well-nigh impossible. soul, and which Mr. Grode did not sec. case, had rung the bell, and had given the interest—they fell upon flint: to his gener- name. osity-they fell upon adamant. But the

> pounds would more than suffice to purchase With a sudden wrench, as if even now he struments, and liquids. feared to change his mind, he drew from It was too true—he had been the martyr will not object to the examination of an

idol that he was forsaking-laid it upon were about to fall. the table. last in a voice hoarse with agony. Just though he too had been in waiting. then was heard a knock at the street-door.

thoushand-not for five 'undred thoushand. of a good deal less than one farthing in am much obliged to you, all the same.-I will take him to Mynheer van Weem the pound. You dare not take it into the For the present, good-morning: I have with a long white beard, and wearing a market for fear you should be asked ques- an appointment to keep." tions. You say that it has been in your As for Nathan, he first looked round in hands over since the middle of last winter, pitiable despair, and then suffered himself and yet that, though you have been starv- to be led off without a word. ing, you let yourself be ruined, and never made the least attempt to raise money upon

> been telling lies about its possession. Is "Every vord of 'im, sho 'elp me "And do you know what a British jury

would say to all that?" "That I am a damned fool." "That you are a damned rogue,

mean. This is a false stone." Just then came another knock at the street door. The Jew started as if he had indeed been a detected swindler.

"That we will soon see. If the stone is good, it is mine for six thousand. I will add a thoushand to the bargain. If not-" "I shwear it ish ash true as I shtand

"Well, we shall see. But-" a new thought seemed to strike him, and he Nathan Levi put on his hat, as if he

were in a court of justice and were about to be sworn on the Pentateuch. "Mishter Grode," he said, solemnly, anxiously, but with an amount of some- to have turned out so barren a day; but he thing very like dignity scarcely to be ex. glanced at the date in a composed manner, pected from such a man-so like dignity, buttoned himself up, put on his hat delibin fact, that Mr. Grode himself was impressed by it as much as he was capable of celing the influence of any nature but his own: "Mishter Grode, we are both men of bushinessh, and we both know ow to history of Count Kromeski. But that is take care of ourshelves. But about thish not his fault, nor ought he to suffer for it.

that shtone ish to me, you would wonder I Caspia who did take a great deal of interdo not lie down and die rather than part est in him; and there is certainly no doubt vith 'im for shiksh million timesh shiksh but that Count Andreas Kromeski's own the sun shines alike upon the unjust and million. If you knew vy I part with 'im, head, whether the reader may care about the just, the storm falls not only upon the you would know I could not tell you a lie. it or no, was very dear indeed to Count It ish like dying to let 'im go: and you do Andreas Kromeski. So, for once, he shall this condition, in this feeling, that he was not get liesh from a dying man. I vill be taken at his own valuation, and stand take your five thoushand poundsh, or your in the place of zero; which, after all, he shiksh thoushand; vot dosh it matter? and deserves quite as much as anybody else vill only ashk to shee the shtone vonshe deserves it.

> truth, and that the shtone ish true." new character with a vengeance.

to let his feeling be seen.

he growled. "Business is business.— Plenipotentiary who had been accredited for me." He unlocked a drawer in his table, and took out a cheque-book. -

first, and meanwhile-

He rang the bell. "Is any one arrived that was to bring Mr. Grode. yet from Mynheer van Weemwoude?" he It was very near-terribly near. I am

otter in the manner we have described had bestowed upon him so much in bestow- he answered, staring at Levi, who was The fourth, a month—the fifth, a year.— trade." when these animals visit the houses of the muskrat.

Indicate the houses of the muskrat.

Indicate the house with the houses of the live in an atmosphere of kindness cannot with the clock struck, and the clock struck, an

know, even in imagination, what even one course you do, no one better. Open that at the first stroke there was a knock at the "Then we'll have it tested now. Mich." I see; and you allowed the sale to prokind word may be to one who dwells in an casket. I have reason to believe it to con- door. At the twelfth, Mr. Grode was in ael, Mr. Grode says you are a charlatan atmosphere formed by the breath of fairies, tain a most valuable emerald. What is its the room. The Count gave a great sigh of and a fool." relief, and wiped his forehead with his The solemn face of the Armenian kin-

ever divine, are still not human. And now Weemwoude opened first the casket, and "With English punctuality!" he exeven this was gone: the cake was eaten at then his own case, which contained scales, claimed gally, rising and advancing tolast, and though he might henceforth revel bottles, and all sorts of apparatus for test- ward Mr. Grode with effusion. "You Nathan Levi's. There is no expressing tell young Mr. Cranstoun, as he is a harethey would henceforth be dreams and After a few minutes of silent expectation softly-walls have cars-particularly those on the expert, throwing the stene at his over London. So I did what I could to of an embassy."

suffice to gain him back his good angel, eleverest thing of the celebrated emerald extended his eagerly.

that is in accordance with a very old theory better have found to forwhich I, for the most part, have found better have gone to a lawyer. But a Jew

which I, for the most part, have found better have gone to a lawyer. But a Jew

"There," he said, "this is yours as soon which I, for the most part, have found better have gone to a lawyer. But a Jew

which I, for the most part, have found better have gone to a lawyer. But a Jew sake his sublime goddess and to deliver her called the Great Emerald of Kandahar?-Well, this is an exact imitation, according as the contract is signed." When the morning came without Felicia, to the best descriptions. It is worth, I "English caution!" said the Count. his need of her had acted as an impulse should say, intrinsically, about ninepence. "Well, I shall not have long to wait. Here road. that carried him with his priceless treasure The eleverness of the imitation may make it is, drawn up in French and English. It straight to the door of Mr. Grode. But it worth, at a fancy price, about ninepence only wants signatures and witnesses. You

> "It is a false stone, then?" "It is not a stone at all. It is sheer " You lie!"

The cry came from Nathan Levi, who This was the contest that went on in his started up in a rage, as though he were a rentatives of the ei-decant house of Cranknight of old giving the lie to one who stoun & Cranstoun; I'on that of my au-He made frantic appeals to Mr. Grode's called the mistress of his soul by some foul gust and imperial master. We will send

harder grew the struggle, the stronger grow ed. "You understand jewels - try for "Then why don't you take it to the the deeper need: in fact, the worst had long yourself and see. I am sorry if I have eye over the contract." been over. Well, even five thousand given bad news, or spoiled a bargain." Trembling all over the Jew tried it himself in all sorts of ways, with scales, in- -you remind me that one ought, just as a

Great Emerald of Kandahar about you?" the rag that served him for a waist- of an imposture. His long arms fell by expert? I think it was one of the terms "In my vaishtcoat." And he laid both coat the precious casket, and without his sides, his jaws dropped still lower upon of the treaty."

Mr. Grode smiled sternly, and rang the

"Constable," he said, pointing to the ed a porter of the Embassy, a gorgeous Mr. Grode, without leaving his seat, miserable Nathan, "I give this man in being in an embroidered pelisse, a tall fu glanced out of the window and then laid custody on a charge of obtaining money cap, high boots, and wearing a long saber, by false pretenses. You will find on him to whom he spoke a few words in an un-"Levi," he said, "you have brought me my cheque for six thousand pounds. You known tongue. Then he threw the docua stone which, you say, is the great Emer- had better also take charge of this piece of ment over to Mr. Grode, who began to go for what is worth fifty? And do they exare sheating me, Mishter; you are taking ald of Kandahar, valued at six millions rubbish, to produce on the trial. And through it carefully, comparing it, as he pect Jews to take such an offer? Well! sterling. You offer it to me at five thous. you, Mr. Thompson," he added, turning to read, with a copy of the draft that he had So you thought you would copy it? An and-that is to say, at just one twelve- the expert, "will be ready to give evi- brought with him. "No, I vill not shell him-not for five hundreth part of its value, or at the rate dence. You have disappointed me, but I

CHAPTER XX. THE TEST OF LEAD.

Mr. Grode was one of the most methodical of men. He even piqued himself upon the scrupulousness with which he observed every recognized piece of business affectation. Amongst other details, he never let a day pass without changing and rectify. ing, in their green japanned box that hung on a nail over the chimney-piece, the cards that were intended to show at a glance the day of the month and of the week-an ingenious arrangement which in most cases deludes the possesser into the belief that Czar." as his chronometer, and to-day its four cards stood as follows:

OCTOBER. THURSDAY.

which the great Emerald was to be delivered into the eager hands of Mr. Smith, otherwise Count Andreas Kromeski. It may be thought that Mr. Grode would willingly have forgotten what would seem once more bent his steps westward.

Now I do not suppose that any reader of this story takes the faintest interest in the I cannot decheive you. If you knew what No doubt there were some far away in hands.

more. And I shwear to you by everything Count Andreas, then, who spent his von can shwear by that I tell you the mornings in his room at the Caspian Embassy, his afternoons in lounging about, He was certainly not eloquent: but his and his evenings at the theatre, was getfaith in his jewel, his indignation at Mr. ting anxious and rather impatient. The Grode's doubt, which, whether genuine or day was drawing uncomfortably near when only pretended, amounted in his eyes to the Czar must have either the Emerald or sheer blasphemy, gave to his words the his envoy's head. But Mr. Grode, to warmth and earnestness which form the whom he was always sending little notes chief part of eloquence. His eyes filled by special messengers, consoled him always with the tears of one who is about to part by assuring him that he need have no fear; sunlight and the open air cost their giver from all he holds dear; his voice trembled that on the fourteenth of October the jewel more than a word and a smile? And yet with his cagerness to refute the slanderous should be in his hands. He was bound to insult which added tenfold bitterness to take Mr. Grode's word for all the circumhis loss. Mr. Grode looked at him with stances, without seeking legal advice or astonishment; this was Nathan Levi in a guidance; for, be it remembered, secrecy was of the essence of the negotiation. Not But, if he could not help feeling im- even the Caspian ambassador himself, who pressed in spite of himself, he was not one was only accredited to the Court of St. James, was admitted to the confidence of "Take off your hat and don't bea fool," the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister

self, but think of the sweet voice that had You want money, I suppose—that's enough to the house of Cranstoun & Cranstoun. I have in my possession certain secret memoirs of the Court of Capia, which would "There," he said, after a minute or two, throw much light on the whole affair, and "there's my cheque for six thousand explain pretty fully how it was that this pounds. You see I'm as good as my difficult and delicate negotiation had been word. Give me a receipt. Here's a piece entrusted to Count Andreas. These, or parts of these, may one day see the light; "And you will let me shee the shtone?" but for the present the subject would form "Why? I am not particularly inclined too long a digression. So I will content very far below the skin. to let it out of my own hands. But you myself with saying that, on this fourteenth light and its soul, never to regain them shall see it directly. Write the receipt of October, the Count sat in his room, with up in his turn. his watch in his hand, waiting for the hour

> not sure that the Count did not by antici-Mynheer van Weemwoude was a celebrat- pation feel the hard block pressing against A man, carrying a small box, entered as bled as if he had spent the night before in

have the Emerald? Hush hush! speak the Count's rage. First of all he vented it brained young fool, who'd go prating it all Mr. Grode drew from his breast-pocketa room. Then he took up a pistel, held it went up to eighty-five thousand, and then casket, not very unlike in form that which at Mr. Grode's head, and said: "Coufess had to let it go."

idel, but made of wrought-iron, and fas- you are a dead man." "It is valuable in a way, for it is the tened with a padlock. He retained it,

are provided with witnesses?"

"I appointed two gentlemen from a solicitor's office to meet me here at twelve. They are arrived, I know." "Then we will affix our names at once -you, Monsieur, on'the part of the repre-

for your witnesses at once, two under-sec-"Mr. Lovi!" said the man astonish- retaries of the Legation will act for mine." Lord! "Pardon me-I should like to run my

"Oh, by all means," said the Count. carclessly. "By the way, I was forgetting matter of form, to examine the stone. You

"By all means," said Mr. Grode in his

"I brought one with me, sworn to se-"For five thousand then," he said at bell. This time a policeman entered as creey." He threw the parchment over the casket, so as to hide it, and then summon-

tall man of stately and dignified bearing, what rascals!" robe and tall cap, such as form the cos- borrowed it." tume of Americans in Eastern countries.

"Mr. Grode," said the Count, politely, let me have the honor of introducing to you the excellent Monsieur Michael Gregorius, from Bassora, who knows more about jewels than any man in the world. the barrel against his forehead. "You Michael," he said, turning the key in the lock of the casket, "I am going to test your knowledge. Where is the Great Emerald of Kandahar?"

esty the Czar of Capia."

ever see it there?" "Thirty-five years ago I saw it at the oronation of his Imperial Majesty the late

"And should you know it if you saw it least to-" agaiu?"

"Saint Sophia! I should think so .- Where is the Jew?" world. It is the glory of the whole earth." "Behold it, then," said the Count, taking from the casket, and handing to the expert, a stone to all outward seeming as Mr. Grode. like poor Nathan's piece of paste as a pea is like a pea. "Where do you think it is now? Michael, you hold in your hands good going to the Jew. He-didn't know the Great Emerald of Kandahar. It will be a thought for you to rejoice in when you

are old. "Most blessed Sophia!" exclaimed the expert, taking it up tenderly, and gazing into it with reverential eyes. "It is indeed an emerald, if this indeed be the Great Emerald of Kandahar."

"Please to certify to that effect. By our Lady of the Seven Seas, but I have it?" done a good day's work! Why do you not write?" he continued impatiently to the expert, who was absorbed in the stone, as f he could not bear to let it go from his "Why, it is worth millions of piastres-

yes, hundreds of millions. But are you sure, Excellency, that this is the Great Emerald?" "Sure? Why, what luster-what depth -what marvelous play of light-what

"Does your Excellency order me to cer tify that this is the stone?" Why, in the name of the fiend, yes.

Why do you ask?"

"Well, then, I will certify." "Why do you ask?"

"Your Excellency does not order me He wishes me to be satisfied?" "Of course. Why else did I have you here? Great heavens!" he cried out, with an agonizing presentiment, "do you doubt? Wish to be satisfied, indeed! I should think so! Don't you know that if that is not the real stone, I shall lose my head?" The expert shook his head sadly. "I

am sorry to disappoint your Excellency, "It is not the stone. It is not a stone The Count sprang from his seat with

bound. Mr. Grode, who was examining the parchment, and had not understoo the foreign language in which this conversation had been carried on, looked up, startled. "Saints and angels!" cried out the Count

to the latter. "Do you hear what he says?" "I don't understand Caspian. No .-What does he day ?" "That you are a faussaire, Monsieur

Grode; a liar, a swindler." Certainly, Caspian politeness did not seem to extend "What!" exclaimed Mr. Grode, starting

"He says that you have tried to palm off upon me a false stone; that this is no more an emerald than you are an honest of the loan might get abroad. You know "Mr. Grode also grew pale. " Prove it," he said, contemptuously. "And you

beads upon his brow, and his hand trem- dred good men as understands stones-"Michael Gregorius is never wrong .-But you may have your hundred, if you please. I will send for them." But, for some reason or other, this did

"No," he said, "one needn't have the takes him out. Mink, otter, and beaver ald, and jet had, for a time and after a dispatched it soon after the former had to twelve. The first of the five minutes affair all over the town. I know somepassed; it was an hour. The second; it thing about testing stones myself, and of the world in the person of Felicia, who "I am from Mynheer van Weemwoude," was a day. The third; it was a week.— ought to, seeing how long I've been in the "Have you never tosted this?,"

true. He looked at the door, but the Count | -how did he know?" saw the look, and placed himself in the "It is no use calling for help," said the

well be hanged in England as beheaded in Caspia. So confess, on your knees, or-A click of the pistol completed his sentence elequently. "On your knees, larron!"
"Mr. Grode, trembling all over, fell on

nis knees. "Confess!" "My lord, your excellency, I have noth-

ing to confess. I am deceived as much as you. I am the dupe of the swindler. Good "Then say your prayers." "I'll tell your highness the whole story.

I'm an honest British merchant." "And I'm a Count of Caspia; and I never found an honest merchant in all my days.'' • "I'll tell you the story. It was a Jew

But I can't, if your put the pistol so near.

named Levi-" "Ah! a Jew!" "Well, he had the stone. Your excellency, I offered to buy it off him-"

" Well?" "He wouldn't sell at no price." "What did you offer him?" "A hundred thousand guineas." "Bah! Pray, are honest British mer-

chants in the habit of offering one piastre brought with him.

After a minute or two, there entered a did you give the Jew? St. Nicephorus!

"On my oath, I did no such thing. I-"Borrowed it?"

"What, in the fiend's name, do you have the real stone, then?" "That is the only stone I have, on the

word of an honest man." "Do you mean the Jew cheated you! That he lent you a piece of paste, instead so far as he was concerned, was so palpably his standing in social life, or be recognized that it is in the crown of his Imperial Majof the real stone? That may be. But set before him. A gross nature like his as a good neighbor, kind friend, or respectathat he lent it you for nothing—no. You feels grossly and without subtleties. But, ble citizen, and receive the right hand of must have known that it was he, not you, it may well be imagined in what a rage he made to believe he is doing an honorable

who ought to be paid." hold it. As I live, it belonged to me-at tion for house-breaking; it had been the

" It is true I borrowed only way I could get it secretly." "Where is the Jew?" Again the bar

rel pressed coldly against the forehead of "I don't know, on a word of a---" "You don't know." "On my soul, I will tell you all. It's no

I borrowed it. I knew he had it, or, at

"How did you know?"

"His room was on the ground-floor, and the windew had no curtain. I had happened to be passing by, and-" The Count put up the pistol. "Monieur the honest man," he said, with a wintry sort of smile, "I am obliged to you for your candor. You are a thief, that is for your candor. You are a thief, that is clear you did not intend to cheat me. This is an accident, and I beg for careful study, more especially if one cheat me. This is an accident, and I beg for careful study, more especially if one goes armed with that best of fowling-pieces, your pardon. A gentleman is bound to goes armed with that best of fowling-pieces, and select prominent temperance into from amongst the farm-temperance into from a farm-temperance int apologize, even to a thief, when he is in a small spy-glass; the best, since now the wrong. But, by all the saints in the valuless for purpose of observation is the calendar, I awear that, if you do not at bleeding, gasping, dying body compared once take me to the Jew, I will throw with the fresh and living creature as it once take me to the Jew, I will throw secrecy to the winds, and give you in cuslody on a charge of house-breaking this trembles, and warbles on the bough before you! Observe that robin in the oak before you! Observe that robin in the oak that he flings the dozen different notes that he flings are the dozen different notes that he flings are the dozen different notes that he flings are the first and living creature as the sough that a separate the first and living creature as the first and linverse as the first and living creature as the first and living c very day-foi de gentilhomme! There .-And, first of all, put on paper what you down to you is accompanied by a separate out some of the violent epithets, for the have told me; and mind-the truth. I am on the track now, and you know best whether or no it will pay you to lie. Or, stay-I will put it down for you." He took pen and paper, and sat down to write, first taking care to lock the door and to

give a look to his pistel. "First of all, what is the name of the Jem?" "Nathan Levi."

but himself, if he hid it in an old pictureframe, he put it there with his own hands,

WHOLE NO. 1,656.

to any one?" "If you please." His eyes glanced at the dled into wrath. "We shall see," he pistel. "It was all out of consideration for his Majesty. I knew how important it Yos, Mr. Grode's emerald was as false as was as no one should know. I didn't even

had held poor Nathan Levi's demolished what you have done with the Emerald, or "Mr. Grode, you'se a greater rogue than I took you for. I don't think you were It need scarcely be said that Mr. Grode, willing to advance eighty-five thousand that is in accordance with a very old theory self. The devil take all this scerecy! I'd

> "That, upon my soul, I don,t know?" "Well, we'll ask him about that. Meanwhile, we'll follow your story. So you latter. "I mean to shoot you. I may as offered him a hundred thousand?"

"Yes, twenty thousand more than h gave. I couldn't tell him why, of course; so the offer was a fair one." "Yes, to you. And he wouldn't part

with it?" " No." "So you stole it?" Mr. Grode did not answer.

"How did you enter his house?" "Through the window of this back room. "At what hour?" "Five in the evening." "When you knew he would be out-

put down that? Very well. Was it dark ?" "It wasn't light." "On what day ?" Mr. Grode named the very day on which Nathun Levi, on returning home, had found the trap-door suspiciously, though ever so slightly, disturbed. Then, in answer to the count's questions, he told how he had found the supposed stone that he had brought with him, and now Levi him-self was in custody for having attempted to

palm off a false stone upon him. "It seems to me," said the count, "that this is a case of the biter bit. So old Mr. Cranstoun was a very careful man, you

"And very nervous about the stone?" "Ridiculously nervous." " Not at all ridiculously. And he knew

that you knew?" "Certainly." "Caught you peeping, eh?" "Your Excellency, I-"

"Never peep? Oh, of course. Any-"I could not disappoint your Excel- how, he knew that you knew. And do you think he would let the Emeruld remain in the frame a moment after he had kicked therefore there could be no better sign put mean?" Mr. Grode felt the cold steel of fou out of the room? Imbecile! If the Jew over the rum-seller's door to advertise his could use an imitation stone for a blind, so business.

could he." It is scarcely worth while even to allude to Mr. Grode's feelings when this palpable way of accounting for the whole mystery, ary profit; so long as a man can maintain was with himself now. He was not much "It was not his—he had no right to afraid of the Count's threats of prosecupistol in the hands of an angry barbarian regard him a foe to every interest of so-"You are drowning yourself in lies .- that had frightened him into candor. But ciety; let them treat him as they would the to feel that he, Peter Grode, the sharp, the robber, and no man who has any claim for prudent, the practical man of business, had respectability will care to be a rum-seller,

been so self-deceived, was grievously hard to bear.

"And now sign this paper," said the Count, "and take me to the Jew. We must get to the bottom of this; though—" tempt of mankind. Perhaps some may tempt of mankind. Perhaps some may tempt of mankind. Perhaps some may He sighed and turned pale. "But, anyhow, I shall not be unavenged. This
piece of paper," he raid, shaking Mr.
Grode's written and signed confession in
his face, "will be enough to hang you, if
spect of his fellowmen, let him abandon He sighed and turned pale. "But, any-

TO BE CONTINUED. Back numbers of the above story can be furnished to new subscribers if desired. BIRDS OF APRIL.

The small number of birds yet present

in early April gives a better opportunity thirt and flutter of his whole body, and, as Thoreau says of the squirrel, "each morement seems to imply a spectator," and to imply further that the spectator is looking through a spy-glass. Study the seng-sparrow; why is it that he always goes so ragged in Spring, and the blue bird so neat?—
Is it that the song-sparrow is a wild artist, absorbed in the composition of his lay, and oblivious of ordinary proprieties, while the smooth blue-bird and his ash-colored mate cultivate their delicate warble only as a domestic accomplishment, and are always nicely dressed before sitting down to a

nights, and then, ceasing, make stillness more still. Now, watch that woodpecker, and never told a soul. He tried all he roving in ceaseless search, traveling over paid, so no one could know anything about the matter."

"And how came you to know all this?"

"And how came you to know all this?"

"I happened te know."

"So it seems—but how?"

"I happened to—well, I happened to be by when Mr. Cranstoun put the stone by when Mr. Cranstoun put the stone awsy."

at some tough plece of bark, strikes harder and harder blows, throws herself back at and inevitably perish. You may destroy or drive out ten thousand rum-sellers to-day, brings down her whole strength again upon it; finally it yields, and grub after grub goes down her throat till she whets her themeal as a wild beast licks his claws, and is off on her pressing business once more.—At Monthly.

The stroy the law and the rum-seller will inevitably perish. You may destroy or drive out ten thousand rum-sellers to-day, and as many more will rise up to take their places to-morrow, while the law sells the privilege to vend spirituous liquors, as his claws, and is off on her pressing business once more.—At Monthly.

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MR. EDITOR-Dear Sir:-No new thing have I to write unto you, but the same old story of whisky and its effects on society, a part of which you saw in Elkton on Wednesday last, account of which you gave in your last issue; we are sorry to have it to say that, that "disgusting exhibition of drunkenness," both began and ended in head, and literally thrusting him from the save the stone by outbidding the Jew. I North East, which only gives you a fair sample of what we have to bear with here, such conduct some two years ago induced 155 respectable citizens of this place to petition the Honorable Judge not to recommend parties to the Clerk to grant licenses for the sale of intoxicating beverages in our town, knowing as we did it was a very great evil, and detrimental to the interests of the citizens of this place morally and otherwise. In his reply, he said, "I agree with you that it is a very great evil; I have each year notified the parties to whom I have directed license to be issued, that unless they keep houses as orderly as the nature of the business will permit, I will refuse to grant them a renewal of the license, and I have heard no complaint against either of them on that score." Now they (the petitioners) claim that the petition itself was a complaint and one of the strongest appeals for redress for wrongs sustained by the rum traffic that could be made, and in the face of the above complaint by 155 respectable citizens of the place, he continues to order the issuing of license, although he acknowledges the right to refuse when complaint is made, though the comthat the premises would be clear? I may plaint was not done by litigation, it could have been justly sustained by law only for the tedious process of prosecuting such cases in any court of justice; he also recommended them to the clemency of the Legislature, who doubtless, would make redress for the wrongs inflicted upon the community by the sale of intoxicating beverages, which they promptly attended to by sending them their petitions signed by hundreds of the citizens of the place, and thousands by the citizens of Baltimore City and elsewhere, but they shared the same fate as the one sent to Elkton, laid by in some pigeon hole never to see day light again. We would here remark that the sale of rum, (aside from itself,) retards all legitimate business in every imaginable form it can be placed, and the public is not benefited by the use of it. It creates haunts of vice, in which the youth are educated night and day to the habit of drunkenness, gambling, cursing, swearing, and idleness, which fits them for the assassin, the robber, murderer, and the gallows. The above catalogue of crime and vice is the legitimate offspring of rum-selling;

> Rum-selling should be made so odious in public opinion that no man could afford to follow it, no matter how great the mercenbusiness, and will continue his business; the rum seller by their conduct that they it will cost too much, the profits large as

least, that damned thing I brought you..."

"So you stole it?"

"I knew where he kept it, and took what wasn't his. Curso him! How should I know that he kept a false stone for a blind?"

"And how did you know where he kept it?"

"He used to look at it at night, and then hide it in the floor."

"How did you know?"

his face, "will be enough to hang you, if they hang thieves in England. So come; they hang they hang thieves in England. So come; they hang they had they hang they had they had they had the has a constable. I don't care what ha tioners to the authorities for them to grant license for the sale of rum. Woe unto those Legislators who enact laws for the sale of rum, which is the parent of nineteen-twentieths of all crime and misery, and peremptorily refuse to respect the wishes of their constituents in the common cause of humanity, as you are indirectly guilty of making men drunken. Isaiah says, "but they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way." We hope the time is coming and now is, that the people will

ers, mechanics and manufactures, and not fill our legislative halls with lawyers, doc-

tors and rum-sellers, whose legitimate bus-iness is augmented by the sale of the ar-dent, at the expense of the former, who

-We print the bitter denunciations

against the "rum-seller," after pruning

are the tar payers.

"Nathan Levi."
"What is he?"
"A broker—a dealer."
"In stones?"
"In all sorts of things."
"How did he get held of the stone?"
"He bought it at a sale."
"What! the property of my august master sold at a sale?"
"Well, no one knew it was sold. In fact, it had been hidden in the frame of a picture. Levi bought the picture."
"And found the stone?"
"And what makes you suppose so?"
"And what makes you suppose so?"
"Well, I knew it. You see—"
"You see, old Mr. Cranstoun, who advanced the money on the stone, was a very careful man. He was always thinking things might go wrong, and that the story of the loan might get abroad. You know he had bound himself to secreey. So, thinking that no one would ever find it but himself, if he hid it in an old picture-frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, frame, he put it there with his own hands, fra men will cease to direct public attention exclusively to the rum-seller-let him seand never told a soul. He tried all he he could when on his death-bed to tell his son; but no one could make out what he was saying, or clee thought he was wandering in his mind. Your excellency knows that, after he died, no interest was ever paid, so no one could know anything about the matter."

"And how came you to know all this?"



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OMAHA, Neb. April 4th, 1873. for general travel from east to west, and judging from the immense numbers already arriving daily, this will be the heaviest year of emigration we have witnessed yet, should be careful about forming hasty acquaintance with strangers, either on the trains or at depots, as there are scores of gamblers in every form of disguise as well as pickpockets, and thieves of every grade advantageshesh of me." who infest every avenue of travel, and, although the railroad companies use every effort to protect strangers against their

Any one wanting information in regard to the country, or towns, or modes of travel, ent trains of the different railroads, can procure such information from railroad men at the different ticket offices, and from police officers employed on the plat- gle between need and greed. But in truth, forms by the railroad companies to protect passengers against those pests who watch every opportunity to lead strangers off to their dens where they are sure to be robbed. Persons traveling cannot be to careful and need; between the genius of the talisabout carrying their money in a secure place and not exposing it to view. Besides and something else, which had become a they should never be led off to saloons greater necessity still, and with which or be induced to bet on games on the trains, be supposed for an instant that when he, as there are scores of wolves in sheep's in spirit or in body-it matters not which clothing who are sure to take their money from them in some way. We have known highly respectable men to bet on those games in the cars and lose every dollar they had and their watches and jewelry of relieve it, entered into his soul. On the desperation. The newspapers are con- malicious pleasure that he considered that paused. "You assure me, selemnly, that The very day, it will be remembered, on stantly warning strangers against being deceived by these pests; and our jails are as wretched-at least, externally-as him-

their meshes. As persons will soon begin to travel for pleasure and recreation, we cannot suggest a more desirable point to stop and spend a they can view the U.S. Arsenal and the extensive work shops, and other public buildings and officers' quarters, with all the various improvements of water power, iron bridges for railroad and travel, built by the Baltimore Iron Bridge company, with many objects of interest as well as curiosity ou Rock Island, where lies the body of General Rodman with a large granite monument to mark his resting place, neatly enclosed with an iron fence, where preparations are making to have it ornamented with shrubs and flowers .-While hundreds of others lay near by nicely enclosed by a substantial iron enclosure with less expensive marks of there whereabouts. It is a satisfaction, as well as a duty of many, to see what use is made of the large appropriations made by Congress for this special part of the Government domain, most of which is covered with forest and fruit trees, with an abundance of fine land for garden and vegeta-

manufactories of war material. Yours, Occasional.