

Beecher on Billiards.

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher discourses thus on billiards:—"As to billiards, it must be regarded as one of the most charming games ever invented. Unlike sedentary games, it incites an unremitting activity, both of body and mind. The walking about the table, the strokes, the various postures into which the body comes in adapting the stroke to the position of the balls, afford a general exercise of the most refreshing character. The mind likewise, without severe taxation, as in chess, is kept alive and sharp. The whole game is manly, ingenious and eminently agreeable. It can be played by men and women alike and it is not so absorbing but that a conversation may be carried on, and the pleasure of friends and spectators be considered. But it is asked, "Is it not a waste of precious time that might be better employed?" That depends upon circumstances. Every one must form a judgment for himself. There is no more danger of wasting time at billiards than at base ball or at rowing, or riding, or at any other manly exercise. The objection is not any more against billiards than against all pleasing recreations whatsoever. And a blow at rational amusements is a blow at good morals. For, as society is now constituted, unless a channel be made for the overthrow of the fancy, it will find one for itself, silently, clandestinely, dangerously. Secreted amusements are full of danger. Open and manly amusements are refreshing and wholesome. Recreation is an important aid to industry. He who has no amusements cannot work as well as he who has one. There is liability to excess in two directions. Some overwork and some overplay, and both are to be guarded against. The only objections to the use of billiards are intrinsic to the game itself.

Extraordinary Accident on a Mountain.

The Sicile contains a letter from M. Marmontel, Professor of the Piano at the Paris Conservatoire. A short time since M. Marmontel made the ascent of Baillatouse, a peak generally considered to be inaccessible in the Pyrenees. He was accompanied by two guides and by his son. The ascent was made in safety, though not without some little trouble and danger. The descent was more difficult and perilous. It was impossible after a time to find any outlet, and the party had to return to the summit, and then set forth again on their downward course in another direction. Night, too, was now coming on. At last after advancing through a labyrinth of high stones, and being every minute in danger of breaking their legs, the travellers began to approach the end of their journey. Just then M. Marmontel, holding the hand of one of the guides, wished to make a short cut, and slid towards a spot which he thought would allow him a firm footing. He at once slipped, however, and with the guide was precipitated over the precipice. M. Marmontel rebounded from rock to rock, striking his head violently, and falling in all a height of one-and-fifty feet. Though bleeding, and unable to move he did not lose his consciousness. The guide, protected by his knapsack, was not injured. The other guide and M. Marmontel's son soon reached the spot, and procured the assistance of some shepherds who were near. M. Marmontel was taken to a hut close at hand, and then, suffering excruciating pain, was conveyed to Caunterets and placed under medical treatment. At the end of a week he was so far recovered that he was able to write the account of his accident, which appears in the Sicile.

Brigandage in Calabria.

A letter from Naples would be imperfect which did not refer to brigandage, which, if not of large proportions, torments many districts in the South. Popular apprehension, no doubt, exaggerate its extent, but this apprehension is one of its worst results, as it paralyses labour. The facts are, however, if we are to believe all that is repeated from day to day, that half-a-dozen bands are darting about between Salerno and Calabria; that several other captures have been made; that near Palermo a priest has been seized and murdered, though his ransom was forthcoming; that near the same city, or between it and Misilmert, an agrarian outrage has been committed, in which two persons were shot. Manu, the brigand chief of Salerno, is still at large, and holds his captive, Signor Mancusi. The smallest amount stated to have been paid to the chief amounts to 140,000 livres who is not yet satisfied, and the other day he sent an order to the family, under menace, for a large quantity of jewellery. Meantime, camps are forming for military display, but why not turn some thousands of these troops down here and exterminate a set of fellows who bring disgrace on the country? Flying squadrons are to be formed in the province of Salerno to hunt down the brigands, and a circular has been issued to all the National Guards of the province, calling on those who are ready to volunteer to present themselves. The brigands may be shot, as all these humanitarians are devoutly hoping, or they may be taken, and if so, will be tried and condemned to death with circumstance attenuanti; or, if this precious bit of sentimentalism be omitted, they will appeal, and after a year or so the appeal will be listened to, and we shall enter again on the same old circle.

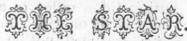
New Teeth in old Age.

In an article on longevity, Professor Owen has explained how it is that aged persons are said to have cut new teeth late in life. Many readers will remember to have heard or read of such occurrences, which are regarded as extraordinary. The facts are these: It often happens that teeth break or decay, and leave a stump in the gum. The gum closes over the place, and the incident is forgotten. As years go by, the jaw and the gum shrink: the long buried stump is in consequence laid bare, and is hailed as a new tooth, and is sometimes mentioned in the newspapers as a kind of wonder. Thus a "fact" is shown by competent authority to be an error; and it is always well for public opinion to get rid of an error.

Impure Water

Eminent chemists have recently decided that water standing over night in the lead or copper pipes in houses may accumulate enough poison to become dangerous for drinking or cooking purposes. Cases of poisoning have been traced also to water that had remained for a considerable time in an ordinary ice-pitcher—a most remarkable discovery, when one considers how general the use of metallic ice-pitchers has become. The lining used is chiefly a compound of tin antimony and copper. In view of the danger from poisons administered in the water we daily drink, it is recommended that water be allowed to run from the pipes for some time before it is used in the morning, and that pitchers lined with porcelain be substituted for the old style metal-lined.

M. Thiers and the Prince of Wales.—We hear that when the Prince of Wales landed at Trouville the other day it was his desire and intention to maintain the most complete incognito, but happening to meet M. Thiers on the sands, the President at once recognised the Prince, and gave him a hearty welcome; and they carried on a long conversation, part of which, says one who professes to know, related to the treaty of Commerce, which is a favorite subject with M. Thiers when he talks with any Englishman.



HARBOR GRACE, SEPTEMBER 20, 1872.

LABRADOR FISHERY REPORT.

We have been kindly furnished with a synopsis of the Labrador fishery news, by a friend who made the round in the steamer "Osprey." On Aug. 25th, going North, a strong breeze from the North East was experienced, causing the steamer to put into Occasionable Harbor, where she was detained eight and a half days, although having made six attempts to proceed. Coming south, the "Osprey's" machinery broke down three times at Rigoulette causing a delay of thirty-two hours. It appears the fishery has in some respects improved. From Emily Harbor (South) to Seal Islands, 3 to 5 qtls. were being caught daily off the headlands between the 4th and 11th inst. There was enough herring for bait in these parts, and in all likelihood something more may be done. The herring prospects are good. From Seal Islands to Cape Charles, 3 to 5 barrels, of fine size, were being caught in nets nightly, with indications of an increase in the hauls. At Henley Harbor there was a great abundance of herrings, in fact so many were being caught that hard and constant work was the order of the day.

Subjoined is the report:—

- Sept. 4.—Emily Harbor, seines, 750 to 800; boats, 150 to 190.
" " Brig Harbor, seines 600; boats, 140.
" " Indian Harbor, seines, 700; boats, 160.
" " 7.—Independent, seines, 200; boats, 25 to 30.
" " Long Island, seines, 80 to 120; boats, 50 to 60.
" " Grady, seines, 120; boats, 50 to 60.
" " Indian Tickle, seines, 200; boats, 50 to 60.
" " 8.—Batteaux, seines, 200 to 300; boats, 70 to 80.
" " Punch Bowl, seines, 200; boats, 60 to 80.
" " 11.—Seal Islands, seines, 200; boats, 40 to 50.
" " Bolster's Rock, seines, 180 to 200; boats, 15 to 20.
" " Venison Island, seines, 100 to 150; boats, 15 to 20.
" " Dead Island, seines, 190 to 120; boats, 10.
" " 12.—Square Island, seines, 100 to 180; boats, 20 to 30.
" " Scrammey, seines, 100 to 200; boats, 20 to 30.
" " Fishing Ships Harbor, seines, 200 to 300; boats, 10 to 15.
" " Little Harbor, seines, 200; boats, 60.
" " 13.—Battle Harbor, seines, 300 to 500; boats, 30 to 35.
" " Cape Charles, seines, 350; boats, 50 to 60.
" " 14.—Henley Harbor, seines, 300; boats, 120.

At present there is a great scarcity of local news; the only stir is the nightly productions of good theatrical plays by Mr. Wilson's talented company, at the British Hall. To-night the thrilling Irish drama "Inchivogue," or "The Days of '93" will be enacted. Many of our readers have read of the wondrous doings of that year. The play will depict faithfully many of its most exciting events.

CORRESPONDENCE

[TO THE EDITORS OF THE STAR.]

DEAR SIRS,—I observe in last Wednesday's Standard two correspondents, "Z." and "Johnson," puzzling themselves as to the meaning of impassability. It is highly satisfactory, however, to find enquiring minds ever on the alert for information. As a contrast to such, how dull the editor of the Standard must have been when he allowed the word to pass without criticism in the first place, (provided it required any). But it is a well known fact that its editor is incapable of criticising orthography, or even answering, without some powerful assistance, etymological questions of the simplest kind. "Z." seems to be thunderstruck; the exclamation he makes calls upon the "shades of Johnson." Wonderful! Something like a baby missing its mother. Mothers cannot always be with us, far less Johnson, who has long since passed away, and many of the fine old English words have gone since, and new ones are every day appearing. To keep "Z." posted up would be necessary to print a revised edition of the dictionary daily, solely for his enlightenment. "Impassability" is very often used for impassableness; there is more euphony in the former. Every day we have new words, and you are as much at liberty to introduce them as any one else, provided they are derived from a language throwing out their interpretation. Now a-days telegrams from England to America, or vice versa, are called CABLEGRAMS; perhaps "Z." doubts it;—that is only one instance of the many changes ever occurring. That same correspondent gives the editor (?) of the Standard some soap (excuse the vulgarity) when he says—"You, Mr. Editor, in your previous profession of mariner was highly successful and passed, I believe, several rigid examinations with credit to yourself and honour to the town." There was one examination he did not pass in a very creditable manner, it was not, however, on nautical matters, still it might be called a branch of navigation. I surmise "Z." will think this a good enigma. The fact is I'm fond of enigmas and as "Z." is evidently bent on getting a stall in the zoological garden of the Standard sheet, he will find no impediment, he being quite passable, and I promise to do naught to make the way in a state of impassability. The other correspondent, "Johnson," writes to the point; there is no nonsense in him, yet I would remind him that it is a grievous offence to represent the public as he took it upon him to do, anent the word in question. This is written in a spirit of leniency, as I really pity "Z." and the other coves. Yours, ever,

PHARMACY.

Sept. 20.

[TO THE EDITORS OF THE STAR.]

DEAR SIRS,—It will be observed that the parties who have been working on the new Sewer through Water Street, have left their work somewhat unfinished in front of the Caledonia and adjacent houses; other places seem to have received every attention, by having their sidewalks nicely levelled off after the excavations; but the above place has been left in a very rugged condition to the inconvenience of parties doing business on that part of our main street.

Yours, &c.,

PEDESTRIAN.

Sept. 20.

[TO THE EDITORS OF THE STAR.]

DEAR EDITORS.—Who is to blame that the summer is passing and nothing being done in the way of expending the grant for the road from Spaniard's Bay to New Harbor? The amount allowed for that road is shamefully small; yet small as it is if the marshes were covered with earth and gravel, as those from near the Barrens toward Spaniard's Bay for something over a mile were last summer, the road would be dry. It is no use to waste money doing the work in the fall, nor has any party the right to waste the sum allowed for this most necessary road by expending it in the wet season. This money is to open communication between Trinity and Conception Bays, at that part of Trinity Bay, for the general benefit of the people of both Bays, not to give employment in mud, bog and water to persons who may be unfortunate at the fishery. If people require labour to help out the voyage, give it them; but don't take our little road grant for the purpose. Have the marshes covered with gravel for a few feet wide along the centre, on both sides of, as well as on the barrens, and the large stones and stumps removed, and small as the grant is, with such management "in the proper season," much good will be done. Two years ago, on the newly cut Conception Bay side, a horse could only walk over parts of the road behind the water. Last summer part of this bog was

gravelled, stoned and stumped, which enabled me to trot my horse for over a mile comfortably from the Barrens toward Conception Bay. What a treat after crawling over all those marshes—then again walk, stumble, stop! And say not good words of the Inspector of Roads or whoever is to blame that the line is in such a bad condition and no attempt yet made to carry further the improvements of last year. Mr. Editors, did you ever take a long ride on a well trained horse over a bog road? If so, you may remember how you felt bodily and mentally. Did you not feel sore?

Yours, &c.,

TRAVELLER.

LOCAL ITEMS.

A destructive fire occurred between one and two o'clock yesterday (Sunday) morning, by which Mr. Campbell's planing and sawing factory was entirely consumed, and several dwelling houses in the vicinity destroyed. There is no doubt whatever that the factory was fired by some evil-minded persons, and it is proper that determined effort should be at once made to discover the criminals. Mr. Campbell's insurance policy expired about ten days since, and threats having been made that if the machinery continued to be used the factory would be destroyed, the Insurance Company refused to re-insure unless at a greatly advanced premium. While Mr. Campbell was debating the propriety of paying this increased rate the mischief was done. The parties who felt aggrieved at the introduction of machinery by Mr. Campbell are said to be the joiners, and the respectable men amongst themselves of this disgraceful charge. It is most unfortunate that no water was to be had until the fire had made too much headway to be checked, and considerable dissatisfaction is felt at the turning off of the water at an early hour in the evening. Mr. Campbell's loss will reach about £2000, but we are glad to believe that this loss will hardly prevent resumption of business by him.—Chronicle, Sept. 16.

Lying at the wharf of Messrs. March & Sons is a pretty little three-masted yacht, built by Mr. Aaron Tilly of Shoal Harbor, for the Mission Work in connection with the Congregational Chapel in this town. The little craft, we learn, is intended for the conveyance of Mr. Harrington, the missionary, into the different harbors in Trinity Bay. She appears to be well adapted for the work, is a neat model, and we have no doubt will be a fast sailer.—Ladger.

The steamer Mastiff, having on board Assistant Judge Hayward, on the Northern Circuit, left this port on Thursday last.—Times, Sept. 14.

By Authority.—His Excellency the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Messrs. Robert Strathie, Philip Hancock, and William Diamond, to be members of the Board of Road Commissioners at Brooklyn, Bonavista Bay.—Gazette.

Passengers.—In the Alhambra from Pictou—The Lord Bishop of Newfoundland and Lady, Judge Robinson, Professor M. C. Vincent, Dr. Stabb, A. McKeay, Esq., Mr. and Mrs. Beck, Mrs. Cotton and infant, Mrs. Mackin, and Messrs W. P. Walsh, R. Walsh, P. W. Kelly, John Simms, Browning, Currie, Skinner, St. John, J. L. Duchemin, Sutherland and Longyard.



LONDON, Sept. 15.—The leading English journals generally comment favorably upon the decision of the Board of Arbitration. DUBLIN, 15.—An indignation meeting is to be held here on the 22nd inst., to protest against the course of the British government towards the press in Ireland. VIENNA, 14.—The Arch Duke Albrecht of Vienna is not dead, but is said to getting better. MADRID, 15.—The new Spanish Cortes opened yesterday. The King promised reform in Cuba, which would be carried into effect as soon as the revolution was ended. A deficit in the Budget was announced, and the Cortes called upon to provide means for meeting it. LONDON, 16.—Most of the London journals rejoice over the decision in the Alabama claims controversy, and express hopes that a foundation has been laid for a permanent, good understanding between the two nations, now that all the necessary reparations have been made to America. The Standard, however, thinks the tribunal should have awarded damages only for depredations of the Alabama. It is rumoured about that Edmund, the well known French political writer has been arrested by the German authorities. NEW YORK, 16.—The ship Northampton from Liverpool, reports she fell in with the barque Highland Mary off the Banks, bound for Que-

bec, disabled. land Mary below Charles Sumner Saturday, with Horace Greeley the Western Star Gold 113.

New Word.—The Brighton to report the dresses at the tion, and proceed successfully in fright at the and formally of in which that still are intro "Chlorotrium icium Wasser zene" was too polysyllabic is cerning which thing to say. Daily News, full of such wene and me we do not im interesting to o ed contempor

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