

Cupid vs. Cameron.

No man can be considered happy until after death. And the Senatorial octogenarian from Pennsylvania is no exception. Simon Cameron has just been made the defendant in a suit for breach of promise, one of those cases in which the laceration of the tender female heart heart, and the perfidy of the Luthario are always described with such harrowing details of time and place. The plaintiff is a Mrs. Mary Oliver, a native of Georgia and the widow of a deceased Confederate officer, and until recently a clerk in the treasury department at Washington. The facts are that Mrs. Oliver, through the influence of Senator Cameron, received this appointment. He says he assisted her because she was the niece of an old naval officer a friend of his, while the fair plaintiff's modesty induces her to believe that her own personal charms were the superinducing motive. She alleges that on the 7th of December, 1874, just while the tidal wave in politics was sweeping over the country, another tidal wave or something of that sort had so softened or dissolved the flinty heart of the old war Senator, that it blended with hers in one homogeneous mass. It is not an improbable supposition that Mr. Cameron, while fleeing in disgust from the Charybdis of politics into which his old pals, Carpenter, Chandler, Beast Butler and others of that ilk had been submerged, thus stranded on the Scylla of a matrimonial engagement. Of course Senator Cameron denies the soft impeachment, claiming that he is too old to marry, that his kinness was was disinterested, and that the woman is a blackmailer, treading in the steps of the other worthless women who have figured as plaintiffs in similar suits against Vanderbilt and other millionaire bachelors and widowers. Still there are doubters who shake their heads and quote the testimony of Mrs. Cluppins, given in another cause celebre, that "The old uns are the wust." It is proposed to refer this case to the Electoral Commission after the presidential case is disposed of. If they decide not to go behind the returns, sly old Cameron is in a bad way. Fifty thousand dollars are asked by the widow to heal the wound that honor feels, while the Senator says he "won't pay a d—cent."

The Disputed States.

Florida has been scored for Hayes. The Commission refused to go behind the returns to investigate the facts. As it has been well expressed, two things were presented to the Commission, one a lie signed by Stearns; the other a truth signed by Drew and the Supreme Court. The Commission said "We have not time to investigate the matter. The truth comes too late. The lie must stand." The Commission voted by party lines, and has thus lost all that confidence which had been reposed in it from a belief that the judges would not be swayed by political bias.

Charles Nordorff telegraphed to the New York Herald on the 9th inst., a report of the acts of the Commission, which we append as an evidence of the views entertained of the matter by an honest Republican. He thinks that the Louisiana case involves a different question. He says:

"The Electoral Commission had a long and anxious day of discussion, and came to a vote a little before six. Three propositions were introduced, but only two were voted on. The resolution, that the ineligibility of Humphreys, one of the electors, was not proved did not come to a vote, as it was not necessary. It would have been unanimously adopted if it had been voted on. The resolution that the Tilden electors were entitled to cast the vote of the State was rejected by 7 to 8, a partisan division. Then came the reso-

lution that the Hayes electors were entitled to cast the vote of the State and this was adopted by 8 to 7. Mr. Justice Bradley voting in each case with the Republicans. After the recess the report was drawn up, signed by the eight members who supported it, the seven others not signing it, of course.

The ground taken in this report is substantially that maintained by the Republicans throughout the discussion. It is that the Governor's certificate and the certificate of the Returning Board are final and conclusive; that they cannot be locked behind, and that the Hayes electors having those they cast the vote of Florida.

It was urged on the other side that this was to give to the Returning Board, consisting of but three men, all of them subordinate officers men of no high or lasting functions, and of evanescent official character a power dangerously great; that it places them above the Supreme Court of the State, the highest and most permanent judicial officers within it; that it gave them greater power and made them superior to the Legislature, who are the people of the State, and that it set a precedent favorable to corruption and dangerous to the country. All this did not avail. The Republicans adhered to their simple proposition that the acts of a returning board are not subject to revision by any authority, whether the State or the Congress; that when the three officers of that Board in Florida declared the Hayes electors chosen that was final, and it was even asserted that the Board itself could not lawfully reverse or reconsider its own decision. The Commission of course examined with great care the three certificates and the accompanying documents. It was shown in those of the Tilden electors that the Supreme Court of the State had decided against the right of the Hayes electors and in favor of the Tilden electors. The canvass of the vote by the order of the Legislature was also shown and the result certified in detail, proving that the Tilden electors had a majority of votes, as well as the action of the Governor, certifying the action of the Legislature. All this was gone over carefully, yet the Republicans were immovable. They still adhered to their proposition that all this was vain and of no account, and indeed took the ground of Judge Matthews that, no matter what rights or wrongs were shown by investigation, no matter how clearly it was proved that the Tilden electors had a majority, and were therefore de jure the electors, the simple declaration of the three men who constituted the Returning Board, though contrary to acknowledged truth, was final.

It was shown furthermore that the Returning Board had openly confessed fraud in the change it made from Stearns to Drew in its canvass; that this correction, plainly made because the Returning Board saw that a fraud directly and clearly provable in the State courts was sure to be exposed and remedied, cast just suspicion upon the declaration in favor of the Hayes electors and made it proper that proof should be admitted of fraud in that court. But the republicans still adhered to their position that the action of the Returning Board could not be impeached, could not be looked into, and was final and conclusive of the whole matter.

The discussion was earnest but not bitter. The Democrats carefully explored and laid before their fellow members the whole facts in regard to Florida, and these were considered from every legal and constitutional point of view. It is not known that the Republicans set up any denial of these facts, which indeed are established on competent evidence, and show that the State was undoubtedly carried for the Tilden electors, and the Returning Board, by omissions and changes of votes, all contrary to the law which created and defines its duty, gave the vote to the Hayes electors. To all this the reply was that the action of the three officers who constituted the Returning Board, and who having given the vote of the State to Hayes, at once disappeared from the public view—that their act was final, incontrovertible; irreversible by any authority whatever, whether State or national, and could even be inquired into. It is a little curious that the position thus taken was furnished to the Republicans of the commission by Judge Matthews, who is a near relative of Governor Hayes. He held in his argument as follows:

That the body of electors which, with an apparent right and a proper title and in possession of the function, franchise or office, actually exercises it, is, for the purpose of this tribunal, the lawful body whose votes must be counted. It is not necessarily the body which, upon subsequent proceedings, may be ascertained to have had de jure title, but it is that body which by the color of office, having the formal

external proofs of authority, was in point of fact inducted into possession of the power to cast that vote, and who did it. In other words, who, under the law of Florida, were on the 6th day of December, 1876, de facto electors for that State.

It is said that Messrs. Morton and Garfield carried on most of the discussion on the Republican side, the other Republican members saying comparatively little. Nearly all the Democrats took an active part in the discussion. During the afternoon General Garfield came into the Senate several times and held consultations with Senator Sherman.

The Commission adjourned this evening until three o'clock to-morrow. The two houses meet at ten and the joint meeting will reassemble probably shortly after twelve, to proceed with the count. The first motion will be to agree to the report of the Commission, and on this the two houses will separate. The Democrats will move to non-concur, and in the House it is probable that a protest will be offered against the Commission's decision. Only two hours are allowed for debate on this motion, however, and as the concurrence of the both houses is necessary to upset the Commission's decision, and as this cannot be got, of course it will stand.

The ground taken by the majority of the Commission in Florida case, would, if it were applied to all the States, substantially be equivalent to letting the Vice-President count the votes.

It is the opinion of the ablest Democratic counsel and of several members of the Commission that the Florida decision does not at all affect the Louisiana case. In that case the question will be whether the Returning Board had any authority under the State law to count the electoral vote. Proof will also be offered that the vote of the State was sold, and that by a board which had no authority to count or declare it, and which, even if it had, was constituted in violation of the law, which expressly commands that its members shall be five in number and selected from all parties, while it had but four, all Republicans.

Miscellany.

A Colorado woman has collected fifty bushels of grasshoppers, and called and dried them for winter chicken feed.

A young woman in Rochester, New York, has sued for damages a man who kissed her. A man who can't kiss a woman without damaging her ought to pay for his awkwardness.

It is sad to reflect that the young woman who was this Christmas working a green bull dog on her Charles Henry's pink slippers may be working a blue basement to his black pants next Christmas. Such is life.

Norwich Bulletin: Kate Claxton was saved at the Brooklyn Theatre by saving a petticoat with her. This confirms our opinion that no right-minded young man should attend an entertainment without one.

Anna Dickinson isn't very happy in love scenes; but when it comes to moping around under the bed in the next act for the tyrant whom she married just before the curtain fell, the critics burst into tears and the galleries focus their sympathy on the place where the dust is stirred up.

Antelopes, as well as buffaloes, are being rapidly exterminated on the plains of western Kansas and eastern Colorado, by systematic hunting for the market. The hunters cut out the saddle, weighing some 20 pounds, for which they obtain 8 cents a pound, and wastefully throw the rest of the carcass to the insatiate coyotes.

A young man who was courting a Boston girl upset a can of kerosene upon her pet dog. In the flurry of his anxiety to repair the misfortune he picked the animal up and set it before the stove to dry. The experiment could not have been entirely successful, as she wrote him that night: "We have met for the last time. You can't extract any more of the square root of my affection."

George Elliott's earnings by literary works: "Scenes of Clerical Life," £1,000; "Silas Marner," £1,500; "Adam Bede," £3,500; "Mill on the Floss," £4,000; "Romola," £3,000; "Felix Holt," £4,500; "Spanish Gypsy," £500; "Middlemarch," £8,000; "Jubal," £4,000; "Daniel Deronda," £6,000, making £32,400 in all, or about \$165,000 in our currency. This is an average of \$9,000 a year for the eighteen years in which she has been writing.

"I never did like mutton with capers," Brown said, as he brushed his clothes after an attack from a ram.

The Lexington jail is without an inmate.

First class field hands in Marion got \$6.50 a month and rations.

The barn of Mr. Wm. Cooper, near Mayesville, was destroyed by fire on Friday last. Incendiary.

One of the soldiers in Columbia fatally stabbed one of his comrades on Thursday night. The names are not given.

General McGowan's war horse, "old Charley," died on last Tuesday morning from something like heart disease.

Mr. Thomas H. Adams, near Bouknights Ferry, Newberry county, raised last year over one thousand bushels of oats on thirty acres.

Mr. Joseph Foster, one of the oldest and most respected merchants of Spartanburg, died in that town on Wednesday last.

Wm. Black, Esq., a prominent citizen of Lancaster county and formerly a representative of the county in the Legislature, died on Sunday before last.

One thousand two hundred and fifty-nine of the taxpayers of Anderson county have paid \$3,409.95 of their tax to the Hampton Government. About one hundred of this number were colored men.

A narrow gauge railway from Spartanburg to Rutherfordton, N. C., is now talked of. The North Carolinians have already held a preliminary meeting.

Joseph Young, Jr., Jury Commissioner of Spartanburg, is still absent, and no jury is drawn for March term of court; consequently there will be no court.

The oats crop in Abbeville county has been badly used up by the severe weather had there. The farmers are reworking their fields and hope to succeed better with the second crop.

Benjamin Hughes, colored, has been re-commissioned a trial justice for Abbeville by his Excellency Governor Hampton. At the last election Ben voted the full Democratic ticket and did what he could to help the cause along.

Father Felchi, of the Roman Catholic Church, is to visit the Lowndesville prisoners now in jail at Abbeville under sentence of death. It will be remembered that Jerry Coleman was attended at his execution, last August, by the Father, and that he died in the Catholic faith.

Six new buildings are in course of construction in Aiken. The workmen employed on these are nearly all colored men, and yet the fat correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser complains that the "poor negroes cannot find work enough to furnish them with bread."

An incendiary fire occurred at Manning on the morning of the 31st ultimo, resulting in the total destruction of the books and records of the sheriff and county commissioners offices, also the law library and some law papers of R. M. Thompson, Esq., and the records of the office of E. G. DuBose, Trial Justice. The building burnt was isolated from other buildings, which prevented the extension of the fire.

The Lowndesville murderers keep up a terrible racket at the jail and are almost constant in their devotions. Their songs and prayers are very loud and they are trying to improve the short time allotted them to make their peace with God. It will be remembered that these same fellows, who now so pitifully sue for mercy, shot Clayton Allen down in cold blood and without a moment's warning.

STREET CAR DIALOGUE.—It was in a street car that was comfortably filled. There was a blockade in the street, and the car was brought to a stop. The attention of the occupants was attracted by a spruce man what sat in about the middle of the car who was poking in the sides with his cane a bright little boy on the opposite side.

The boy sat by the side of a stern looking, coarse featured woman. "Your boy?" asked the young man.

The woman nodded. "Handsome boy!" the young man said, looking round to see that all were listening. "He'll be President one of these days."

The woman was as impeturbable as a sphinx.

"Yes, you know that when Grant was a small boy, like this one, the people all told his parents that he was a handsome child and would one day be President."

"Well, all I've got to say is, if that ere boy don't do better'n he has, I'll tan his hide every day so long as he lives."

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A few days ago it was announced that the postmaster at Statesville, N. C., had resigned his position. As this is generally considered a paying position and as Radicals are very fond of such, this very singular conduct could not be explained. An explanation has, however, been recently vouchsafed us, which is not only amusing but exhibits a degree of shrewdness on the part of country postmasters, which it was not supposed that such individuals possessed. It seems that recently there has been a falling off in the sale of postage stamps at the Statesville office and consequent diminution in the salary of office, which is regulated by this—the postmaster receiving 40 per cent. of all revenue from this source. While this was true, many of the postmasters throughout the section of country north and west of that town were increasing their salaries. An investigation revealed the fact that they were selling them to country merchants, who in turn paid them for goods bought at Statesville. Statesville merchants deal largely with this section of country, and in this way the whole town was supplied with postage stamps. In other words, stamps supplied the place of fractional currency. So far as known, there is no law forbidding this, and the business continues, but what is fun to the country postmasters is death to the one in Statesville. The work of the office is as heavy as ever, while the pay is less than half as much it was formerly. The disgusted P. M. says he won't stand this and has resigned and it is now said that nobody will have the position.—Raleigh News.

A farmer's sleigh, in which were seated a man and a woman, tipped over in the snow on Cass avenue yesterday, as the horses turned out to pass a load of wood. Three or four pedestrians righted the sleigh and the farmer wasn't a moment climbing back into the seat and starting off. When he was a block away the wife was discovered in the snow and pulled out. About that time the team turned around and came back, and as the farmer drove up the puzzled look on his face changed to a smile, and he called out: "I swear to goodness! but I'm glad I happened to look around and find I had left something! Climb up here, Mary, and I'll maul the harness right off that nigh critter!" —Detroit Free Press.

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