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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Washington, D. C., July 6, '84.
The American people seem to take it
for granted that for the summer months
at least, the President is justified in
abdication his power and leaving the
government to take care of itself. Of
all the line of presidents, from Wash-
ington down to the nineteenth, Grant was
the first chief magistrate who had ever
taking a summer junketing. Mr. Lincoln
in the last summer of his life slept
occasionally out at the Soldier's Home,
but in his four years' administration,
he never left Washington. Nor was it
particularly because of the existence
of war and the supervision of military
affairs that detained him, because these
duties could as well have been performed
from any other headquarters, but Mr. Lin-
coln would not establish the precedent of
leaving the Capital and the duties of his
high position, simply because of the cli-
mate and its malarious accompaniments.
Yet the Washington of to-day is infinitely
more healthful than it was then, and the
necrology of the White House shows but
two Presidential demises—that of Harri-
son who was killed, not by malaria but
by the office-hunters, and that of Taylor
who ate too heartily of ice-cream that
was flavored with the same villainous
vanilla that afterwards poisoned Mr.
Buchanan and others at the National
Hotel, and is now slaughtering the youth
and beauty of our land.

This leads me to mention that Mr. Ar-
thur, who has never spent a summer in
Washington, never intends to. As soon
as Congress is done with its work, the
President will go in the Dispatch straight
to Newport, and during the summer will
go up and down the eastern coast, fishing
around Poppysquash Point, digging
clams at Squantum and eating them at
the Gut. How the President will spend
his days of retirement after the 4th of
March next, is a problem which even
he cannot solve. He can hardly assume
any prominence in the political world,
for the dignity of his retirement will be
above that, whatever it may have been in
the time of John Quincy Adams.

The prospect of Congress coming to
an adjournment as early as the third
of July or the fifth, is not so flattering.
The fight over the fortifications bill
promises to be both long and desperate.
Indeed it would not be surprising if this
part of the appropriation may not go
over entirely to the next session, for
what does the country want of fortifica-
tions anyhow? If Congress would go to
work and do something toward rendering
our navy something like respectable,
we could well forego any necessity for
fortifications or coast defences of any
kind. As I have hitherto written, the
Chicago (which is said to be the best
specimen of marine architecture that
the Government has ever turned out
of its own account) has proved a dismal
failure so far as fighting qualities and
seaworthiness are concerned.

By the first of September the Wash-
ington Monument will have attained a
height of 500 feet, when the shape of
the structure will be changed to that
of a pyramid, to continue on for 55 feet
to the apex, which will be the completion
of the monument proper. The dedica-
tion of this grand memorial will take
place on the 22d of February next, just
thirty years from the date of the laying
of the corner-stone. One of the peculiar
and appropriate features of the dedica-
tory exercises will be the delivery of
the oration by Hon Robert C. Winthrop,
of Boston, the same orator who officiated
thirty years ago. The ceremonies attend-
ant upon the dedication will be the
most elaborate that have ever taken
place upon a like occasion in this coun-
try, Congress having by joint resolution
appointed a committee of both houses,
empowered to make such arrangements
as will be appropriate to so august an
occasion. The whole cost of the monu-
ment when completed will be not less
than \$1,250,000, but to the everlasting
disgrace of some of those who had the
manipulation of the funds when the orig-
inal Monument Association undertook
the work, about one-third of this amount
was stolen from the fund.

DOM PEDRO.
EXAMPLES are few of men rained by
giving. Men are heroes in spending,
cravens in what they give.

This hot weather dampens the linen
of the starchiest dude on the street
and makes him uncomfortable in
mind and body, but, bless you, how
it does make the corn grow. Out of
the corn, if we have plenty of it, may
be made new dudes and more starch.

A LITTLE girl of this city hit it very
happily, yesterday, when she said one
reason why she was glad her father had
quit drinking was because he sent her to
the butcher shop now to buy beefsteak
instead of to beg liver as she used to do.
There is nothing left to be said, for a
neat temperance lecture.—Lincoln Jour-
nal, July 4th.

THE Fitz John Porter case has finally
been shelved. The bill for his rein-
statement passed both branches of the
National Legislature, and was vetoed by
the President. The House immediately
passed it over the Chief Executive's
veto by a vote of 168 to 78, but the
Senate failed to pass the bill by a tie
vote—27 to 27. "Only a little while
longer" Fitz John singeth.

THE same old story—"didn't know it
was loaded," comes from Plattsmouth,
where a boy pointed a supposed empty
revolver at a young lady. It was too
well loaded and the aim could not have
been more certain. The lady was dead
on the instant, and the boy in jail has
an excellent opportunity to ruminate
upon his folly. A few years in the
penitentiary might have a wholesome
effect upon him and serve as an admoni-
tion to others who indulge in such idiotic
and dangerous sport.

If the best man God ever made ran
for the presidency, he would have to
wade chin-deep through obloquy. The
first target was put up two weeks
ago, and the next will be put up two
weeks hence. The target with the
most holes in it will be elected presi-
dent. Defamation elected Garfield,
Lincoln and Jackson. As soon as a
man achieves anything by brilliancy,
eloquence or statesmanship, all the
hounds of hell are turned against
him.—Talmage.

THE nomination of James G. Blaine
has opened a new industry. A Maine
man has applied for letters-patent for
the manufacture of plumes from wood
fiber and other fluffly materials which
can be cheaply made, and, at the same
time, are very ornamental and
durable. He claims to be able to
produce a plume eighteen or twenty
inches in length that can be sold for
50 or 75 cents, which, for campaign
or street parade purposes, is as good
as a \$5 feather. As the plume is the
emblem in the campaign for the
"plumed knight," the demand must
be large for that purpose.—Bee.

THE refreshing innocence of the
Kansas press is distinctly shown by
the remark of an editor down there
the other day, to the effect that "Mr.
and Mrs. Blanke were agreeably sur-
prised yesterday by an addition to
their family." Now, as all good little
children understand these matters,
there is a sort of mythical surprise on
such occasions, but an editor ought to
know better. Though, on second
thought, it may be that way down in
Kansas. But in the well ordered
households of Nebraska these little
events are carefully and joyously an-
ticipated.—Topics.

Now, my dear," said a candidate's
wife, "I don't wish to throw the slight-
est obstacle in the way of your elec-
tion, and if you choose to turn the
house into a beer garden, and have
all the loafers in town tramping on
my carpets and filling my curtains
with tobacco smoke, and drinking
whisky out of my best teacups, I shan't
say a word. But I want you distinctly
to understand that if another of those
women's rights delegations comes to
know if you are going to take a manly
stand for down-trodden womanhood—
well, that delegation has got to be
twenty years older and keep its veil
down, or I will interview it myself.
That's all, dear."—Puck.

THE name of a Milwaukee saloon is
"The Young Men's Christian Associa-
tion." For monumental, mastodontic
cheek commend us to the Milwaukee
beer slinger.

THE Prince of Wales comes around
again with his little schedule of debts
amounting to a round million, and says
his mamma wcn't pay a cent of them.
Parliament will have to come to the
rescue of the creditors. The prince
always lets them run up to a million
before he turns them over to the public
for settlement. The queen is too
thrifty to waste any money on the heir
apparent. Her income is enormous
and her expenses very light, and Wales
has to do all the honors and bear the
brunt of the expense, and always will
have his nose to the grindstone so long
as he is kept waiting.—Journal.

THOSE "starving" Indians in Eastern
Montana, who have been reported as
feeding on range cattle, are now believed
by the secretary of the interior to be a
party of Black Kettle's band, who have
been living in the Tongue river valley
for the last four years. If this is the
case the secretary of the interior says
that they will not be disturbed. They
surrendered to Gen. Miles at Fort Keogh,
after the war in which Sitting Bull
surrendered, and the general permitted
them to remain where they are now
instead of sending them to a reservation.
He disarmed them, and sold most of
their ponies, using the proceeds to buy
plows, wagons and cattle. They settled
down to farming voluntarily; broke their
ponies to plows and wagons, built them-
selves houses, and have been very suc-
cessful. Several of the Indians have
entered homesteads and are living upon
them. They have received no aid what-
ever from the government, except the
first winter after the war, when they
were furnished a small quantity of flour
by the war department. Until recently
they have been theoretically prisoners of
war, having never been officially turned
over to the care of the Indian bureau by
the army, and have no agent. It is the
only instance in history where migratory
Indians have voluntary commenced
farming and have been self-supporting,
and the secretary of the interior will
see that they are protected. It may
be that they are having trouble with
the ranchmen and have killed cattle,
but it is more probable that the ranch-
men are trying to drive them out of a
good grazing valley.—Bee.

AND now another illusion is gone.
If there is a fiend on earth it is the
wood cut man who sends out to coun-
try papers those horrid caricatures
of distinguished men and women.
We would like to meet him in some
dark ravine and cut him up with a
cleaver and feed him to hogs. After
doing that we would weep for a week
because justice was so feeble and
weak and full of shortcomings. The
matter with us now is another disen-
chantment. We stood bravely before
the picture of Blaine that made him look
like a country cloth peddler who used
his nose for a foot rule, we gazed with
complacency upon Logan in the air
and attitude of a convict being sen-
tenced, we didn't even puzzle to un-
derstand how Ben Butler's left eye
got around under his right ear. We
had always read and heard that Mrs.
Logan was a charming woman, fine
looking, well preserved, intelligent,
amiable, spirited and all that made a
fine type of America's fair daughters.
But the engraver has laid his sacri-
ligious hand upon a block of wood
and sent it out labeled "Mrs. John
A. Logan." The hair looks like the
dirt thrown up from a spaded ditch,
the forehead like a piece of plowed
ground, the eyes like lemon stains on
blue calico, the nose like a potato and
the rest of the features as though the
general effect had been kiln dried.
Now a man who will do that ought
to be killed. He is evidently in the
pay of the opposition. No living
woman can possibly resemble the As-
syrian contortion that is palmed off
on us as the picture of the wife of the
next Vice-President.—Topics.

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