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## The Eastern Mail (Vol. 10, No. 31): February 12, 1857

Ephraim Maxham

Daniel Ripley Wing

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## The Eastern Mail.

WATERVILLE, ... FEB. 12, 1857.

## AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.

V. P. PALMER, American Newspaper Agent, is Agent for this Paper and is authorized to take Advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required by law. His office is at No. 10 State Street, Boston, Mass.

S. W. CORRIE, Newspaper Agent, No. 10 State Street, Boston, Mass., is Agent for the Eastern Mail, and is authorized to take Advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required by law. His office is at No. 10 State Street, Boston, Mass.

A. T. BOWMAN—Traveling Agent.

[For the Eastern Mail]

## Small Pox—Smoking.

MEASLES. Editors:—Public alarm has been greatly excited of late by the breaking out of Small Pox in two unexpected localities in this village, and the occurrence has been made the occasion of much comment upon the course pursued by the undersigned, in his omission to make use of certain means supposed to possess the power of destroying the poisonous material of Small Pox, and thereby prevent its transmission from his person to that of others. Much feeling, as every body knows, has existed in some quarters at this disregard of what seemed so necessary, and to many it has appeared a matter of surprise that the physician in charge of those sick with the disease was not required to enter a "Smoke House" after visiting his Small Pox patients, to be saturated with tar smoke previous to going abroad. Some even have fancied that they could see in this non-compliance with a custom which has long since become obsolete, a cause for the present existence of the disease among us; and the zeal with which this matter has been urged upon the attention of the Health Officers of this Town has exhibited clearly enough their belief that the public safety depended upon it.

Will you be good enough to insert the following correspondence touching this matter? If we are to be visited hereafter with the disease it may be of service to those connected with the management of it; and so far as this community is concerned, it is hoped this question of the neutralizing effects of tar smoke in Small Pox will be set at rest.

The gentlemen to whom the following letter was addressed, and whose replies follow, are known in New England as having had large experience in the management of Small Pox, and in matters of this kind, I know of no authority of more value.

Yours Respectfully, N. R. BOUTELLE.

Waterville, Jan. 26th, 1857.

DEAR SIR:—Six or seven weeks ago the Small Pox appeared in this village, brought it is believed from New York City. It has since then broken out at several different points, and the public have taken alarm.

Believing you to have had a large experience in the treatment and management of the disease, I am induced to ask of you answers to the following questions, viz:

What means of prevention have you adopted, and what do you deem it necessary to adopt, against communicating the disease while attending upon it in connection with general practice?

Is it ever necessary, or is there any good to be expected from smoking one's self with Sulphur, Tar or Corn-cobs, after each visit, as protection against spreading the disease?

Is or is not Revaccination always advisable and best, especially here at the present time? Please to state if in your power the number of cases of Small Pox you have seen or treated. A reply at your earliest convenience will be greatly obliged.

Yours Very Respectfully, N. R. BOUTELLE.

Boston, Feb. 2d, 1857.

DEAR SIR:

In reply to the questions you put to me in your note just received, I would say that I have never adopted any means against communicating small pox in my intercourse with either hospital or private patients. I do not regard smoking one's self with any of the articles you mention as of any avail as a protection against that disease. It may be however, that some of those chemical deodorizers, such as the chlorides of lime, zinc, or soda, the fumes of mangrove, &c., may be efficacious in destroying the matter of contagion, eliminated in this affection; but I am not in possession of any facts bearing on the question.

I am in the habit of advising all who are directly exposed to the disease to be revaccinated.

With regard to the probability of a physician's carrying small pox from one house to another, I would add, that at the commencement of my practice I was much influenced, in this respect by the language of George Gregory, the distinguished physician to the London small pox hospital, who, in his article on this subject in the Cyclopaedia of Practical Medicine, says, "medical men who visit small pox patients, and subsequently go into the open air, seldom if ever communicate the disease."

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living here with small pox among the crew are allowed to proceed to the city; our Quarantine law extends only to vessels arriving with immigrant passengers and not to their crews. The only means of prevention which I have adopted are strict cleanliness, good ventilation, and destruction of the clothing. I have never resorted to smoking, but consider re-vaccination advisable when the disease prevails. I have had under my care between three and four hundred cases of small pox—the last year only 31 cases, 9 fatal, the year before 38, 11 fatal, and in 1854, 39, 18 fatal. Many of these patients are pretty far gone before admission, and their constitutions shattered by exposure, neglect and bad liquor.

With much respect, &amp;c., JOHN M. MORIARTY.

Lawston, Feb. 4th, 1857.

DEAR SIR:

In reference to my experience, I have to say that I have had charge of all the cases in our vicinity for the last eighteen years, with perhaps one or two very trivial exceptions. The number of cases, modified and unmodified, have probably been some two hundred or more. The disease has made its appearance upon the average as often as once every twelve to eighteen months, either in our own town or in the vicinity, and in all cases I have had the entire control of matters pertaining to the protection of the public. I do not consider myself safe in any other way, and in all cases I interdict all communication between the affected parties and the public; the necessary supplies being furnished by means of an agent who is allowed to go to a place of deposit from which the attendants obtain them at their convenience.

In reference to smoking, &c., I consider it worse than useless. Perfect cleanliness is of much greater importance. On visiting patients I prevent my clothes from coming in contact with any matter from the patient, and am very careful to wash my hands thoroughly after handling the patient's clothes, &c.

Revaccination is always advisable, and from the best information I have been able to gather, I advise not only to revaccinate, but to re-vaccinate, repeated and re-repeated, until the system is thoroughly saturated with the vaccine matter. Very Respectfully Yours, ALONZO GARLICKSON.

It is evident that somebody who expects an influence with the Waterville Mail does not like one of Governor Hamlin's appointments. "Poor way," brothers of the Mail, of showing long for an appointment to "make up" for the fact of not being appointed, because the Governor has made a supposed or real mistake in a single appointment. When we find the Age and like opposition papers quoting from us, with such indications of receiving "aid and comfort," thereby, we shall at once be quite certain we have said what we ought not to.

This paragraph is from the Farmington Chronicle; and if the editor could make it a looking-glass, and see what a crooked figure he cuts, we would let it pass. It so plainly shows what he thinks to be the character of a party paper, and consequently how he is "influenced" in his "love for principles," that he must be compelled to look at it. He sees an article of ours which points out something in republican tactics that we think wrong; whereupon he concludes—not that we have made an honest suggestion, and one that ought to be regarded, or that we have done independently what we had a right to do—or not even that we are disappointed, in our own mind or person, or can have a right to be so—but that some political aspirant and wire-puller who holds us by the nose, and who bids us haw-and-goe for his interest, has failed to get the spoil he wanted, and is using us to bait another trap.

"Poor way," he says! Indeed it is, and a way that no man could map out unless he had walked in it. As for Gov. Hamlin's appointments, we hardly know what they have been. We took it for granted in the beginning that they would be confined strictly to "the party"; that they would embrace such as labored the hardest, talked the loudest and paid the most money to secure the election of the republican ticket, and were best calculated to secure the permanency of the republican party. We never knew a party that did not require this of their executive, or an executive who was not willing to gratify their "love for principles" by humoring their whims on this point.

Whether the "somebody" who "influences" us has got the seat he wanted, we can't tell; we know who he is; though we do honestly believe that Gov. Hamlin's appointments have been in a very high degree judicious and well distributed, and are not conscious of a single one with which we could find fault. Even the man who "exerts an influence" over the Chronicle by holding his thumb and finger on opposite sides of its editor's nose, may do good service to the party by holding a respectable newspaper in proper leading strings. No party should overlook the men who hold such "influences," or neglect to convert them into bolsters of its "principles."

The Chronicle has shown its perfect party training in the standard by which it tests its "principles." It did not trust our articles to the investigation of reason and common sense, but waited to see what the papers of the other party thought of them; and was quite certain we had said what we ought not to, when he saw they were copied into a democratic paper.

"This he says," is the way he judges his own principles; and how can he see why he should not judge ours in the same way? He looks not so much to see what is truth with his own party, (or the party that owns him,) as what is error with the party that does not own him! His is a party paper, in the full sense of the term. He "goes with the party," whether it is sold out or given away; and when it commits suicide, as parties sometimes do, such papers as the Chronicle are twisted into ropes, and those who "exert an influence" over them tie and adjust the knot.

Now be it known, friend Chronicle, that the Mail is not a party paper. So we told you last year, when we were willing to aid the election of Mr. Hamlin for the sake of freedom and temperance. So we tell you now, when we assert that we would just as freely aid in giving his place to another, if those two great objects depended upon the change. So you shall see, when "somebody's influence" has been so far guided by somebody's interest, that these great "principles" are converted into loaves and fishes to feed party teachers. If that thing comes, the Mail is a "look-on" in Venice," ready when it fads "something out."

Remember the Levee and good time at Bunker's Hall, Kendall's Mills, on Friday evening. It will be too good to lose.

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"to aid in throwing it over the wall," and if, as in this case, the enemy pick it up, and hurl it back, you must "stand firm under it."—we don't care where it falls. The republican party made great professions in favor of all that is correct and pure in principle, and open and just in action. We accept the pledge, and look to see it redeemed to the letter. The great mass of the party honestly desire this; and none but the selfish and hungry few, who work the ruin of all parties, will object to a careful and honest watch. Such the republican party shall have from the Mail. It helped to bring it into power, and has a right to aid in keeping it there, by helping its true friends to compel it to "stand fast in its integrity."—When it casts away its principles, the Mail will be found with those who take them up, without inquiring what party name they go by. So don't think to scare it to death by crying out "poor way!" Whether good or bad, it is "a way we have," and one in which we have considerable faith. Last year the democrats left us, as rats leave a sinking ship, for the very thing they now applaud, namely, saying what we think. Where they left off others took hold; and now, if these in turn desert us, it will be because such papers as the Mail are not wanted—and we will lay down the pen and go and drive oxen. But, brother Chronicle, don't scare us!

Augusta, Feb. 9, 1857.

MESS EDITORS:—Your correspondent "C" is anxious to know who voted for the Legislature to adjourn from Thursday to Monday, to attend the Railroad celebration. In reply, I would say that no such proposition to adjourn in either branch of the Legislature was made, and consequently nobody voted for it. I would advise your friend C. to adopt Col. Crockett's motto:—"Be sure you are right, and then go ahead." I hope the above will ease his mind in some measure.

ALONZO GARLICKSON.

PRETTY FAIR.—Mr. Hall C. Burleigh, of Fairfield, sold two pairs of 4-year old oxen, last week, for the snug little sum of five hundred dollars. The average girth of the four animals was 7 ft. 8 inches. The purchaser was that veteran stock-buyer, Gideon Wells.

THE THAW, of Sunday and Monday, which here only softened the drifts to the bottom, and failed to break up the river, was one of remarkable severity in places further west. At Albany the destruction of property was immense; and the entire Hudson with its upper tributaries, was higher than ever before known.

The Connecticut was also remarkably high and the destruction of property very great. From the Ohio, the Potomac, and other rivers, we have reports to the same purport, but not in detail.

SMALL POX.—There have been no new cases, and all the old ones are nearly recovered.

INTERESTING.—The medical correspondence in our paper to-day will be read with interest. It may impair faith in the smoke of tar and old shaves, but the authority is nearly as good, at least, as the tradition that has consumed so much filth in prevention of small pox. There was a time when new rum was strongly advocated against cholera—but it is not so now.

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QUEEN NAMES.—The following somewhat amusing specimens of American nomenclature are given in the memoirs of William Shattuck, lately published in Boston:

Simon Shattuck of Ritchburg named three sons Shadrach, Mesach, and Abednego; Abel Shattuck of Coleraine named the male of a pair twins Truman, and the female Truly; this Truman Shattuck named a girl Truly Ann, and Truly Shattuck named a girl Emeline Truly; Moses Shattuck of Brooklyn named four sons, since 1800, Asia, Africa, Europe, and America. Other odd names in the volume are Ai, Phillahase, Seraph, Sayneda, Sarepta, Sarada, and Thibeece Athaliah.

Mr. Shattuck, in his remarks upon some of these names, says:

"Singularity of taste is not peculiar to our family; we once had under our instruction in Detroit a family whose sons were named One Stickney, Two Stickney, Three Stickney, and whose daughters were named First Stickney, Second, Stickney, and so on. The three elder children of a family nearer home were named Joseph, And, Another, and it has been supposed that, should they have any more, they might have named them Also, Moreover, Nevertheless, and Notwithstanding. Another family actually named their child Finis, supposing it was their last; but they happened afterwards to have a daughter and two sons, whom they called Addenda, Appendix, and Supplement."

HOT WATER FOR HOUSE PLANTS.—A correspondent of the Boston Cultivator, writing of the management of house plants, says:

"The way to have healthy plants is to shorten in all straggling growth, and remove every leaf and flower as soon as the least symptom of decay is perceptible, washing them occasionally with warm water from the fine nose of a watering pot held high above them, thus giving them the benefit of a warm shower at any time or place."

But the thing of all others most important, is to water them with hot water at all times; yes, hot to the touch, even beyond what is supposed to be prudent until after experiment—and it is only necessary to watch the result on the health and vigor of the plants, especially when in bloom, to be convinced of the virtue of this grand specific."

WALKER AND THE U. S. GOVERNMENT.—The Providence Journal sums up in a brief and pithy paragraph the discreditable faces in regard to Walker's filibusterism, and the violation of neutrality laws—it involves, a violation quietly winked at by the Pierce Administration:

"If Walker is not the legitimate ruler of Nicaragua, he is a robber and a pirate; if he be the legitimate ruler, Nicaragua is at war with Costa Rica. In either case, to allow men to be recruited here, and supplies to be furnished, is a gross violation of our neutrality laws. The Government had no difficulty in stopping a violation of law, only half so bad, in the case of Great Britain, then at war with Russia. Now a great fuss is made, a few agents are arrested, an examination is held in which nothing is elicited, and the whole thing is ended in preparations are made for another set of recruits, and another shipment of supplies and munitions. This is most discreditable to our government. It not only displays its inefficiency, now, but impaches its good faith before. One title of the energy put forth for the capture of one runaway negro would relieve our government from the reproach of favoring the filibusterism that has awakened the general indignation of the civilized world."

MR. SAVAGE AND MR. BROOKS.—We find in the Washington Globe, the report of the speech of Mr. Savage upon the announcement to the House of the death of Mr. Brooks, with all the offensive allusions stricken out. The following from the Washington correspondence of the New Commercial Advertiser explains why these abusive allusions were suppressed:

"The ill timed remarks of Mr. Savage in the House, after the death of Mr. Brooks had been so eloquently and appropriately pronounced by Messrs. Keitt, Quinlan, Clingman and Campbell, created a deep sensation among Northern members. They were so pointed in their allusions to the assault on Mr. Sumner, that even the most ultra Southern members were shocked, while the Republicans gradually left their seats. When he had finished, the Republican side of the House was nearly deserted, and it is said that when the House took a recess, Mr. Orr of South Carolina lost no time in going to Mr. Banks, to disclaim, on the part of himself and colleagues, any knowledge that Mr. Savage was to speak. The committee of arrangements also interposed and caused the offensive remarks to be omitted in the published report in the Congressional Globe, so they are not to be on record."

THE DALLAS AND CLARENDON TREATY.—Washington, Feb. 4.—(Tribune correspondence.) The Senate to-day, debated for nearly three hours, the Dallas and Clarendon treaty. Mr. Mason sustained the policy in an elaborate speech, vindicating the considerations upon which it had been recommended by the Administration. Objections were urged that the British protectorate was more distinctly recognized than under the Clayton Convention; that while the sovereignty of the Bay Islands was nominally relinquished to Honduras by her treaty, with a virtual renunciation of power over these islands enacted the Wilcox proviso by the exclusion of slavery.

After these points had been argued from various quarters Mr. Douglas opened in a forceful assault on the whole arrangement, and by a vote of 33 to 8 the treaty recommitted with a view to modifications conforming to sentiments expressed.

A CHILD EDUCATOR.—Oh I dear grandmother! said a little boy as he kissed his newborn sister that lay in her arms, "I must never be naughty any more now we've got this baby. For, you know, if I am naughty, she'll learn to be naughty of me, and that will be bad for mother."

The good grandmother, perceiving the force of the argument, strove to deepen it in the child's mind. He gazed earnestly at the face of the babe, and wonderfully felt its tiny hands, and feet, its beauty and helplessness seemed to call forth an overflowing tenderness. When his mother approached, he ran to meet her, and clasping his arms around her knees, exclaimed passionately:

"Mother, mother, give me that baby for my own."

Not immediately comprehending his state of feeling, she made some inquiries. But all the answer she could obtain was the repetition:

"Oh mother! say it shall be my baby!"

They fell from the eyes of Arthur, who sat and thought while we were still.

I bent over my boy. The little cheek I kissed seemed growing cold, and with suspended breath I listened to hear the beating of his heart. He moved slightly as I called his name, and then looked up in my face with a gentle smile.

It faded soon, and he seemed to be struggling with some terrible pain. His lips were drawn back, his eyes upturned and his hands clenched. "I could not bear to look at him," I turned away and groaned in agony.

"See—it is over now!" said Arthur as he put his arm around my waist, and held me firmly to his heart.

I looked. My darling raised his feeble arms, and as I bent my head, they fell heavily around my neck; his pale lips met mine in a last kiss. A sudden trembling seized him, his eyes lit up with a happy light, his cheek flushed, his half-opened lips seemed about to speak for the first time. Did I hear or dream I heard, the one word I had vainly tried to learn him? Mother!

I could not tell. For the next moment the rosy flush faded, the little breast heaved with one short sigh, and my boy had left us.

Was that little life in vain? Was no lesson taught, no lesson learned, in that brief year of companionship with an angel? O yes! A lesson which the mother's heart can never forget, while it beats with the love it has felt for the lost—"Dearest is God for his sweet sake"—dearer to me because he loved beauty so.

Many years have passed since my little boy fell asleep. Other children play around the door of my cottage, and kneel each night at my knee, to say the prayers he only looked; another Arthur, with bright dark eyes, and golden hair, goes singing through the house, but still my heart is most with him. My children stand beside that grave and listen while I tell them of the little brother who died before they were born, and then steal away silently and leave me there beside them.

I have grown old and careworn; the cheek he kissed is thin and faded, and the sunny hair with which he used to play is streaked with silver. But my child will know me when we meet, and I shall hold him to my breast the same as he left me, an infant angel—freed from every taint of earth.

No barrier between us—no weak, imperfect utterance, or look of pain; for in heaven my child will speak, and the first word I shall hear him utter there, will be the word that lingered on his lips when he was dying. He will call me "Mother" there as here. Else I could never have given him up through all those weary years, and fed my heart upon the hope of hearing that half-uttered word breathed freely when I die.

Will you give it to me for my own baby, always?

Moved by his tears, she answered in the affirmative. Then a great happiness and a singular sense of responsibility entered into him. To watch over the child seemed his business and pleasure. When he saw his mother so patient in nursing it, so attentive to its little ailments, he never failed to thank her for taking care of his baby. When any sudden wilfulness of childhood came over him, he would check it by saying,

"Baby sees me, Baby hears me. It will not do."

So, between his desire of being an educator, and his heightened gratitude to his mother for her care over his child, a wonderful change came over the boy, who had formerly been quick-tempered and selfish, as if the strange brotherly love, coalescing with the grace of God, had given him a new heart, and power to lead a new life.

## My Little Boy.

I was but a childish mother. I had not forgotten the merry laugh of my girlhood, when they laid my baby on my breast, and I looked upon him more as a curious plaything than a human soul given into my hands for his earthly training. But my husband—ah, he was grave and wise enough for both—mother and child alike!

My husband was many years older than myself. He had known many a joy and sorrow long before I was born—and on the very day when my nurse was holding me (a helpless laughing, crowing baby) out to pick the daisies for my birthday garland, he was bending tearfully over the grave of one who had made his home happy for years—the wife of his youth and the mother of his children! Strange! that I, who had no knowledge of sorrow, was yet to dispel his; that he, who had never gazed upon that child's face of mine, was one day to take its owner to his heart, as the light and joy of his declining years.

Our home was a little paradise, close beside the sea, a small, low-roofed, brown cottage, with rustic porch and latticed windows overgrown with climbing roses. The low murmur of the ocean soothed me into a happy sleep each night—the sweet song of swallows waked me into a happy day each morning. And here, in the pleasant summer time, my blue-eyed boy was born, and my cup of joy was full to running over.

My boy, like all mother's boys, was beautiful. And yet his loveliness made my heart ache. So frail, so fair? His colorless waxen cheek, his slender form, and large and melancholy blue eyes, filled me with a thousand fears. How often have I bent above him as he laid upon my lap, and prayed with all a mother's earnestness that his life might be spared. It was a foolish prayer and unwise one, but then I could not see it!

My very life seemed wrapped up in that of my babe. With him by me every day, I could not see him fading, and the morning came too late to take him. But now and then a shadow came over his father's brow as he watched us, that not even my kisses could quite drive away. I thought him growing stern and cold; but, O, I wronged him! Never had he loved us so tenderly before!

Weeks passed on. My baby's eyes looked intelligently into mine, and the little rosy lips smiled whenever I came near. But still those little liping utterances that thrill the heart so deeply were silent, and all my loving lessons fell on an unheeding ear.

The shadow on Arthur's face grew deeper as he watched my unceasing efforts. At last the blow came. I had been sitting in the doorway with little Earnest in my arms, trying to teach him to say "papa." His large blue eyes were fixed upon me with a wistful expression, but still the lips were mute and vexed and disappointed, he gave a deep sigh and laid him back in his little cradle. Something in the look my husband gave startled me. I went beside him, and putting my arms around his neck—

"What is it, Arthur?" I cried.

"God help you to bear it, Mary!" he answered, solemnly. "Our child is dumb!"

DUMB! Could it be possible! What had I done that so deep a sorrow should be sent to chasten me? Other mothers might have their children's voices calling them, but mine forever would be silent! Forever! It was so long a word! Had it been for weeks, or months, or even years, I would have borne it; but to know that it could never be—that through childhood, youth and manhood he could never speak my name—O, it was too much to bear!

Autumn and winter passed away, and my baby and I threw daisies at each other on the lawn before the cottage, while Arthur looked on, smiling from his study window. I had not grown reconciled to the great misfortune, only accustomed to it, and the kisses of my child were almost as dear to me as his spoken words could have been.

It was a stranger task to teach that soul how to expand its wings. It was strange to learn the child his little evening prayer by signs, and yet as he clasped his small hands, and raised his sweet blue eyes so heaven, I often wondered if any labored supplication could have gone more quickly to the Throne of Grace. It was strange to see him sit silently before his playthings, to hear no sound but the plaintive, half-stifled cry he uttered when in pain, to feel those delicate hands clasping mine when something new had puzzled him, to see the wistful observant look with which he regarded every one who conversed around him.

We make ourselves idle out of clay, and they are taken from us. I needed the one lesson more. My little boy faded slowly beneath my eyes, as the summer came on. It was not so much with him a painful sickness as a gradual wasting away of the springs of life.

The mission he had been sent to fulfill was completed, and he was laid in his grave.

Many days before he was taken, I knew he must go. I was with him day and night. I sang him to sleep, and wet the still golden hair with tears when he was sleeping quietly.







Kendall's Mills Admts.

STOVES AND HARDWARE.  
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JOHNSTON & CARLTON  
Waterville, July 16, 1856.

THE EXCLUSIVE MOTO VERIFIED!  
THAYER & MARSTON.  
HAYES has received a new and superior to their other  
sleighs, and is now on hand.

FALL & WINTER CLOTHING.  
Furnishing a large stock of goods in quality of material,  
style and price, and at the lowest price.

Goods Clothing and Furnishing Goods,  
consisting in part of a large assortment of Heavy Overcoats,  
of the latest style, and of the best quality of material,  
and at the lowest price.

Overcoats and Reglans.  
These are beautiful and durable garments, and to them they  
have the special advantage of every other article that com-  
petes with them.

They have also a fine assortment of Silk and Woolen  
Dresses, and a large stock of all the latest styles, and at the  
lowest price.

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