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LIBBRALA HIBRALD.

TRAVELLING IN OLDEN TIMES.

A writer in the Newark Sentinel has furnished some interesting information on this subject, which he has collected with great care from various sources. We give the tollowing extracts. The first advertisement respecting the transportation on the route which I have met with, is

in Andrew Bradford's Philadelphia "Mercury o. March, 1732-2. It is as following:

"This is to give Notice unto Gentlemen Merchanne, Tradesmen, Travellers, and others, that Solomon Smith and James Moore of Burlington, keepeth two Stage Waggons intending to go from Burlington to Amboy, and back from Amboy to Burlington again, Once every Week or offi'er if that Business presents. They have also a very good store-house, very Commodious for the Storing of any sort of Merchants Goods free from any Charges, where good Care will be taken of all sort of Goods."

About this time also a line ran by the way of New Branwick, and in 1734 the first line via Bor i mus wn was established, running from South Rive . die proprietor of which would be at New York Sonce a week if wind and weather permit,

and come to the old ship." In 1744 the stage wagons between New

bruns wick and Trenton ran twice a week. In October, 1750, a new line was established the owner of which fesided at Perth Amboy. He morned all gentlemen and ladies "who have occasion to transport themselves, goods, wares, or merchandise from New York to Philadelphia," that he had a "stage boat" well fitted for the purport, which, "wind and weather permitting," (that never forgotten proviso,) would leave New York every Wednesday for the ferry at Amboy on Thursday-where, on Friday, a stage wagon would be ready to proceed immediately to Bordente wn-where they would take another stage boat for I'hiladelphia—nothing being said (very wisely) of the time when they might expect to arrive there. He states, however, that the passages are made in forty-eight hours less time than by any other line. This was probably the case, or the route was so well patronised, that in 1752, they carried passengers twice a week, instead of once, endeavouring "to use people in the best manner;" keeping them, be it observed, from five to seven days on the way!

The success of this line seems to have led to opposition in 1751, originating in Philadelphia, which professed to go through in twenty-four or thirty hours, but which nevertheless appears to have required the same number of days as the other. Great dependence was placed upon the attraction of the passage boat between Amboy and New York, described as having "a fine com-

modious cabin, fitted up with a tea-table, and sundry other articles."

In 1756, a stage line between Philadelphia and New Xork, via Trenton and Perth Amboy, Carleton. The latter was engaged in the wowas established, intended to run through in three days. This was followed in 1765, by another, I discussing, critically, a ball at which all three to start twice a week-but nine years had work- had been present the preceding evening. ed no increase of speed. The following year, a third line of "good stage wagons," with "the seats on springs," was set up, to go through in two days in summer, and three in winter. These wagons were modestly called "Flying Ma-.chines," and the title soon became a favorite with all the stage proprietors. These lines ran, I believe, by the way of Blazing Star Ferry, and put an end to the transportation of passengers on the old Amboy route.

From 1765 to 1768, attempts were made by the legislature to raise funds by lottery for shortening and improving the great thoroughfares, but without success. Governor Franklin, alluding to them in a speech to the Assembly, in 1768, states that "even those which lie between the

two principal trading cities in North America, or Mr. Brown, and many of the other gentle- did he not coz. are seldom passable without danger or difficulty." | men. Such being the condition of the roads, it was a great improvement to have John Mercereau's "flying machine," in 1772, leave Paulus Hook three times a week, with a reasonable expecta--tion that passengers would arrive in Philadephia in one day and a half. This time, however, was probably found too short, for two days were required by him in 1773-4.

The mails, being carried on horseback, moved with rather greater speed than passengers, but they had been a long time acquiring it To Col. John Hamilton, son of Gov. Andrew Hamilton, of New Jersey, (himself at one time acting Gov- just as good as another, even though he be a laernor as President of the Council,) were the Colonies indebted for devising the scheme by which the post-office was established. This was in the year 1764.—He obtained a patent for it, and afterwards sold his right to the crown. It is presumed that an attempt was soon made to carry the mails regularly, but speed was little re-

In 1704—"in the pleasant month of May" a New York paper says, "the last storm has put our Pennsylvania post a week behind, and is not

In 1717, "advices from Boston to Williamsbrugh, in Virgina, were completed in four weeks from March to December, and in double that time in the other months of the year;" but there is some probability that the mails south of Philadelphia did not continue to be carried regularly some time thereafter.

About 1720, the post set out from Philadelphia every Friday, left letters at Burlington and Perth | the apartment. Amboy, and arrived at New York on Saturday night-leaving there Monday morning on his peregrination eastward.

New York post was three days behind his time, and not yet arrived.

In 1729, the mail between the two cities went once a week in summer, and once a fortnight in winter; and this continued to be the case till 1754, when Dr. Franklin became superintendent, and improved the condition of the post office | a young man whom Mr. Ellis had introduced to materially. In October, notice is given that un- his daughters, and neice, some months before, as til Christmas, the post would leave the two ci- a master mechanic. But unlike their father, who ties three times a week, at 8 o'clock, A. M., and | valued a man for his character, and not for his arrive the next day at about 5 o'clock, P M., money, the Misses Ellis were great sticklers for positions?' quently delayed in crossing New York Bay," es-and the consequence was, as we have seen, which they travelled until the Revolution put a | will show. stop to their regular transsition.

In 1791, there were only six offices in New Jersey-Newark, Elizabeth, (now Rahway,) middle height, with a fine figure, regular features, Brunswick, Princeton, and Trenton The total of their receipts for the year ending October 5th, 1791, was \$530, of which the post-master received \$108 20-leaving \$421.80 as the nett

What a change, Mr Editor, has come over the face of the country since the tine I referred to; and with so many more facilities than were possessed by our forefathers, how great should be our improvement in all things connected with the diffusion of knowledge and intelligence among the people!

THE LESSON: A TALE OF DOMESTIC LIFE.

BY SKETCHER

Three young ladies were seated in a richly furnished apartment. They were the Misses Amanda and Emma Ellis, and their cousin Deliah manly occupation of sewing; the two former in

"I don't like that Mr. Barton, at all," said Miss Amanda, continuing the conversation, "Nor I either," responded Miss Emma, who was the eldest.

"And why not, cousins?" asked Deliah, "I am sure he is handsome enough is he not?" "Yes, but-"

"But what coz?" said she to Emma, who had spoken last. "Surely his manners are pleasing and language polished-without affectation." "Yes, yes, but for all that, he is vulgar," said Emma, pettishly, "vulgar in his ideas."

'Vulgar!' exclaimed Deliah, 'you must again allow me to differ with you coz, she continued looking into her cousin's face with a smile, 'I think he is quite refined-more so than Mr. Price

Price or Mr. Brown, -- to gentlemen!' exclaimed Miss Amanda Ellis. Why, Mr. Barton is a me-

'Well, suppose he is, dear,' said her cousin, 'does that make him vulgar, or less respectable ! For my part I think a mechanic can be as much a gentleman (in the true sense of the word) as

Well I declare, cousin 'Lile, you do have some of the funniest notions; said Miss Amanda, 'just for all the world like pa; he thinks one man-

'Yes,' said Emma, 'I do wish he would be a daughters. little more circumspect, and find better company for his daughters than mechanics. It is his fault that Mr. Barton comes here: he gives such pressing invitatious. I suppose he wants me, or you, Amanda. Would n't it make a fine paragraph was also plain, to see that they were not unacfor the paper?-Miss Amanda, (or Emma,) | ceptable. This fact furnished an ample subject. daughter of James Ellis, merchant, to Mr. Chas. Barton, mechanic. Oh, dear!' and the spoiled beauty (for both sisters possessed great personal attractions) threw herself back upon the sofa and laughed heartily, as also did her sister.

'Well well, girls,' said Mr. Ellis, who, hidden by the half open door of the apartment, had been an unobserved listener to the conversation, and who now entered the room, 'you may laugh now, but you may live to regret that you did not try to obtain Mr. Barton for a husband.—Mark that,'-and the old gentleman taking his hat left

'Who would have thought that pa was listen-

ing!' said Miss Amanda, 'but I do n't care' 'I declare, if there is not Mr. Barton on the In 1722, a Philadelphia paper states that the steps!' exclaimed Emma, who was looking through the blinds. 'Come, come, she continued, addressing her sister, let us go up stairs to the other parlor, and leave cousin Lile to entertain him: it will be a pleasure to her, for she is par-

tial to mechanics,' and the sisters left the room. The object of the foregoing conversation was making 33 hours. After Christmas, "being fre- respectability—their standard for which was rich-(the route was via Blazing Star Ferry,) would | that Mr. Barton did not stand any too high in leave only twice a week. Further improvements | their good graces. Mr. Ellis knew that a false were made in the following years, & in 1764, "if estimate of respectability was a predominant weather permitted," the mails were to leave ev- fault in his daughters' characters, and he deterery alternate day, and go through in less than | mined to give them a practical and salutary lestwenty-four hours; and such was the rate at son. How he succeeded, the sequal of our story

> A few moments after the sisters had left the room, Mr. Barton entered. He was about the and intelligent countenance. His eyes were of deep blue-his eye-brows finely arched, and his mechanic and builder he soon became an ar forehead high and white, from which the jet black hair was pushed back, displaying its fine proportions He was certainly a handsome man, which fact, even the Misses Ellis did not atattempt to deny, and the ease and politeness with which he greeted Miss Carleton, spoke his claim to that which that lady herself had awarded him —the title of gentleman.

he, would it be to possess her for a wife depend- required then that I should concear his wealth, ant as she is upon her uncle, and dowerless as and introduce him only as a master mechanic. she would be, than either of the Misses Ellis | acquiesced, and knowing your false estimate of with their spoiled tempers, and their fortunes. respectability, I embraced the opportunity of Thinking thus, is to be wondered at that he left teaching you a salutary lesson. I knew when

cousin, they spoke.

cousin, said Miss Amanda, with a mock, arch 'A very interesting tete-a-tete, was it not?'

whispered Emma across the table. 'I spent the morning very pleasantly,' answered Deliah, blushing slightly.

'Well, and suppose he did?' said Mr. Ellis, who Only think of comparing Mr. Barton with Mr. had been listening patiently, but into whose honest face the color now rose. Is it not better to listen to that, than to the senseless conversation of the foplings, half men, half monkeys, who disgrace humanity?' and the old man cast such a look upon his daughters as made them quail

> 'But never mind, Lile,' he continued in a softer voice, and patting his neice's rosy cheek, never mind, Mr. Barton is worth three or four such would-be-gentlemen as Mr. Price, & Mr. Brown, and in more ways that one. Mark that girls! He is worth two or three such in more ways than one.' The last sentence he addressed to his

> Days, weeks, and months rolled by, and Mr. Barton had become a frequent visitor at Mr Ellis'. It was very evident that he was paying 'particular' attentions to Deliah Carleton, and it for the sisters' sarcastic remarks. As for their father, whenever they indulged in them in presence a knowing smile would play upon his face, and he would repeat to them his assertion, that they would some day wish they had obtained Mr. Barton for a husband.

Thus things continued for some time. A: length one morning about three months subsequent to the period when our story commen-Mr. Ellis entered the parlor where his da were sitting, with a light step, and sparking

'Well, girls, what do you think of it?' sand it rubbing his hands in glee. 'What?' asked both the young ladies

'The wedding we're going to have

'The wedding! what wedding?' 'Your cousin's.'

'Deliah's.' 'Yes. She is going to honor the mechanic with her hand. What do you think of it pa 'I don't think much of it, said Miss time

with a toss of her head,' 'Nor I,' said Amanda. 'You don't eh? Well suppose I was to you she is going to marry a man worth two i. dred thousand dollars, would that alter you

Why, what do you mean, pa? 'Listen and I will tell you girls,' said the gentleman bending upon his daughters a and somewhat stern look. The father Barton to whom your cousin is soon to Li ried was an old triend of mine; we were mates in boyhood. He was apprenting carpenter's trade about the san et mit tered the counting house. Soon a finished learning his trace he went Baltimore, and there started tusiness to and where he married Being posse. nius, and having a good coucation, non a mi tect; and so subsequently amased a large letter. Knowing the reverses of fortune to which are liable, he resolved to make his on good architect, so that it ever the fickle dail should desert him, he would have wherewall earn honestly his daily bread. He succeed year or two ago he died, leaving his so whole fortune-his wife being already de-He was soon seated, and in conversation with | Charles being an only child. About six it Deliah. Deliah Carleton was a charming girl. ago Charles came to this city on a visit It is true that she did not exhibit the exquisite | led upon me as his father's friend. In the course proportions, and the regular features of her two of conversation lasked him why he was not morcousins; but there was ever a sunny smile upon | ried. He said that he never yet met with a young her face, and cheerful sparkle in her clear light | lady that he thought worthy of calling his wife, blue eye, and she had such light and bounding | that he could find enough who would marry him spirits, that made her appear, if not as beautiful | for the sake of his money, but that such a one he as her cousins, at least more bewitching; at least | would never marry. I to d him I would introso thought Mr. Barton as he gazed upon her | duce him to some of our city ladies, and see if he laughing countenance. How much better, thought | could not find one among them to suit him. He

her with a half formed determination to win her I brought him home with me, and introduced love if it lay within his power. him, that neither of you would be his chosen, When Deliah appeared at the dinner table that | because I was certain that you would not stoop day, many were the meaning and inquisitive so low as to marry a master mechanic, but the glances her cousins cast upon her. At last, una- event which will soon take place, I easily foresaw. ble to restrain their loved habit of 'running' their | Your cousin knew nothing of his wealth until to day. I see you look surprised, girls, but did I 'I hope you spent a very pleasant morning, not tell you that you would be sorry some day you did not obtain him for a husband? And did I not tell you he was worth two or three such ninny-hammers as Mr. Price and Brown, in more ways than one? Remember, girls, that wealth is a false standard by which to judge of respectability & worth. Not that a rich man may not 'Oh! I dare say,' said Emma sarcastically, 'I be respectable, but that very often he who earns suppose he gave you a dissertation on mechanics, his daily bread by the sweat of his brow, is more

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