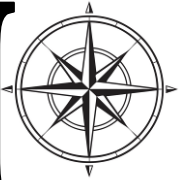


THE DISPATCH



Brought to you by the Guild of Caravaneers and the Church of the Explorer *Nov 7th 614*

MUCH DISCUSSION OVER BUILDER CHURCH HOSPITAL

This week, to reflect the division of opinions over the 'proposed' (*EXTANT ed.*) Builder 'Hospital' (Why are there quotation marks here? ed.), the Dispatch is taking the unprecedented step of publishing below the transcript of a meeting discussing what the Dispatch's stance should be. Hopefully, these following words will give people an idea of what is going on even in our own offices.

Efie, Ozgur Explorer Placard waver (*Is this right? Ed.*): Well, obviously, my opinion is that this is just the Builders trying to hide their bad publicity over possible divisions, which we've ALL heard about, and using this scheme to plaster over the cracks in their faction. It is nothing more than the Church trying to 'raise up' an 'abomination' by using the dying to further their bigger schemes through 'forced labour' pumped out of this place- I wonder what other Builder strategies this sounds like? (*Yes, we get it, you don't like Revenants. Ed.*). What's more, trying to get OTHER factions to finance this unwieldy experiment is a joke. The agents get their own money in expenditures, why aren't they using that rather than relying on the Bank of factions incorporated??

Kart, Caravaneer Realist and Excellent bandage seller (*Is he allowed to put this? Ed.*): I, for one, welcome the idea of such an institution. The idea of people banding together at the portal Camp to look deeper into the various wounds, poisons and curses of Mat Sellah is only to be commended. Certainly, the site seems to be buzzing with selfless individuals emerging to give support, which can only be a good thing. My view, though, is that it's sad that the hospital seems to lack three major things- Money, money, money. My sources indicate that the Church itself is unwilling to invest, lest they don't have a single ducatto left for them. At this rate, its founders will have to work all night, and maybe even all day, to pay those bills that they'll have to pay to keep the Hospital doing its job...

Efie: That it IS a 'hospital' is still conjecture at this point.

Kart: Excuse me? You know that the tent has a sign literally saying the word Hospital? And is staffed by nurses?

Efie: Shameless stunt, I bet they are all actors- props brought in to curry illegitimately gotten favour.

Kart: What, like your brownies for the last editorial meeting?

Efie: THOSE WERE WITH ENTIRELY DIFFERENT INTENTIONS, AND YOU KNOW IT

Kart: Suuuuuuure they were...

(The discussion then broke down into fisticuffs between the two correspondents. The editor apologizes for the necessity of cutting the next part of the transcript, due to an awareness that those of a sensitive disposition occasionally peruse the Dispatch)

Rash of Revenant Removal Reported

Reports are flooding in from all over the camp, revenants of all Factions are being attacked and destroyed!

The head constructor of the Caravaneers guild was found for comment and said "This is an outrage, we have valuable work that needs to be done and deadlines to meet. How am I supposed to get a new mess hall finished when half my workforce is being dismantled each night! Those things aren't cheap you know."

The Most Glorious Architect of the Vendical camp was seen accosting several members of the Explorer church with a battle axe trying to find out "Who was ruining their art", before being subdued.

A Story Ends... And begins?

This letter arrived mysteriously at the Dispatch office, on old paper marked with a two-crescent moon symbol. It is published in full for esoteric interest, and is being kept hold of in the archives so that no Aspirant tries to burn it.

My dear companions in adventure. My soul is gone now, back to the home where it belongs. I have lived a story so many times now, but now I see that it is not just the story that is vital, it is the sequel. I have walked with those of this plane, and those from others, and I am finally ready to walk with heroes from an older time.

The Island that housed my story is nothing more than a place now, as you will find anywhere else on Mat Sellah. But isn't that the most important part of any story, that you emerge from a place of the magically ordinary to accomplish great things?

I desire to thank both Caliban and Piper for your acts on the Island, and for choosing a path through my life that I might follow again in the world beyond. The boat goes out from harbour, into the stars unending, and I shall ride it until the end. Let my story help yours to grow, but never let yourselves be bound to choices that you have not made.

Wishes of a brighter fate to you all, Gutrune of No Clan But My Own

ADDENDUM- Only a Celebrant was available for comment about the Island and this 'story' itself, but beyond a few garbled shouts of 'The story is over! I KNEW my solution would fix things! Now excuse me, it's time to paint the floor blue.', he has done very little of use for OUR story, other than the fact he has tied himself to a tent peg and now seems to have become a permanent fixture of the office. If any representative from the Church could fetch him from our foyer, it would be greatly appreciated.

Interesting Impromptu Investigation

A party of 30 people gathered in the Democracy camp to celebrate a new type of Stranger being discovered. There were representatives of the Church of Celebrant and of Explorer, as well as sundry members of most other Factions. At said party, a large quantity of Cap'n Jim Lad's Booze was imbibed. One, and only one, of them is now blind. Although the Ozgur involved have been unable to reach for comment, it seems clear that the rumour passing through the camp last week was more than just a rumour: it was fact.

Burrowing Lizard report

Recently, a new, exciting, special reptilian has been discovered. This prime example of biological ingenuity is capable of burrowing. It has one enlarged claw, with which it can deal blows tough enough to break its targets bones. The Burrowing-Lopsided-Dangerous-Carnivorous-Reptilian-Enigma also sports a tough hide, making it able to weather a storm of blows from even a fierce opponent. Interestingly, it seems that some enterprising members of one of the Factions (I'm not sure which because they aren't wildlife) are seemingly able to tame these majestic creatures. They can use them as attack animals, or as pets. I, myself, am happy studying creatures, excepting that I enjoy taking care of Timothy, my pet Little-Brown-Jobby-Which-Are-Very-Weak-But-Really-Like-Food (commonly known as the "Honeycreeper").

-Leaf, NO LAST NAME (Antiquarian)

Corum Research Institute Offers Specimen Bounty

The Corum Research Institute of the Democratic House Corum seeks novel specimens of the flora and fauna of this isle. We are particularly interested in apex predators and other large hunting animals. Compensation to be arranged upon presentation of an intact head or mostly-intact body. Contact Adem Corum at the Democracy Encampment.

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