cried I.

The kettle had just began to boil next

Christmas," a giggle, and a note from Mer mistress. The note read:

Winterpippin sends her weusie and Nathaniel Bracket, and

ber that they will, as a great favor, give her their company in her rooms this

And at seven precisely the invited guests were assembled in the widow's pretty parlor. Dear me! How pretty it was. Christmas greens were festooned

all around the walls, and anchors wreaths, and hearts, and crosses were

in large dark green letters, brightened

charming of all there was the widow herself in a pearl-gray silk with scarlet ribbons at her throat and scarlet flowers

in her hair.
When Nathaniel—poor fellow, how

his empty sleeve annoyed him-and I

the same time we did, and Mr. and Mrs.

Summer?

"never played, now.

But Mrs. Summer blushed and said

"But you can," insisted the widow in her genial way. "You surely have not forgotten. "Local to hear you playing

so muct and so well when you first

moved hee, and Mr. Summer sang then Am. Many a happy hour have I passed listening to you both." And

Mr. Summer, with a conscious contrite

look in his face, put his arm around his

wife and led her to the piano.

Then Nathaniel took the widow, and

Mr. Summer Mrs. McChilly's grand-

daughter by marriage, and Mrs McChilly's grandson Mrs. Rose, and

Mr. Rose me, and we had an old-fash-ioned quadrille dance in the old-fash-

ioned way-and a jig to end with. And

Mrs. McChilly declared it made her feel like dancing herself, and she would have

danced, too, I believe, if it hadn't been for her rheumatic foot. As it was, she

beat time to the jig tune with her cane

until her arm was so tired she couldn't

beat any longer, and Nannie and the

Rose, who had a voice suited to it. The

comic song had a silly, rollicking chorus

in which the company all joined with as

"Tra-la-la-tra-la lu Tra-la-li—and that will do."

much earnestness as though their lives

And then supper. Such a supper! Roast turkey, wanberry sauce, mince pie, crisp celery, home-made bread, pickles, tongue, stewed oysters, candies

and wax dolls (the dolls beside the chit-

dren's plates.) And when we were all through and back to the parlor again,

sat in the center of the half-eircle, said:

I would like to tell you a wonderful dream I had last night."

"Delighted to hear it!" from all sides.
And, while the Summer baby crowded

itself to sleep in its mother's arms, and

the Rosebuds, on the floor at their father's feet-each with a new doll

clasped to their breast-drooped their

shining heads until they sank upon the

near them, the chairs in the half-circle were drawn closer and all eyes were

fastened on the Widow Winterpippin's

"I went to bed last night," began the

'And I began to dream directly.

And everybody in this house was in

hat dream," the widow went on. "Yes,

children and all. I thought it was

Christmas night, just as it is now, and

widow in a low voice, "very tired."
"I should think so," said every

"No, indeed!"

Any objection!"

sunny face.

woman listener.

depended upon their doing so.

who else was to come-" we'l

ice to begin with. You wil

Nannie can hold

Mrs.

"And p

wondere

forgotten.

partners.

And I've got a note for everybody

house, and there's to be a supper, So don't cook no dinner, miss," he little maid, laughing outright.

little maid was almost always (This little maid was almost always laughing his when respect she much resemble for black-eyed mistress.)
"By we'll come with pleasure, Nannie," and I. "Yes, miss," and away she

evening at seven o'clock.'

VOL. IX.

RIDGWAY, ELK COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1879.

NO. 43.

Christmas. ds, merry rhymes. with the Nestive chimes. childhood's Christmas times. ge forgets his years to tell,

ocs old glees all love so well; sood bands to wildish pleasures, s out slaves o blithesome measures, kened by the season's spell. be to the n high!"

more bristmas morning. one, glorious dawning Care, thuday's bright eye the stan again.

inst how agairs story in the just how agairs story in the push of he had been house, or what the call for the thin, pale face lighted up fulness and joy, albeit a that across it, every now and the things their sickness—debts at the present moment—Mr. Rose then out of work for three long their able to ray.

his empty sieeve annoyed him—and I arrived, Mrs. McChilly and her grand-children were already there—the old lady in the easiest chair in the room nearest the fire, with a glass of lemonade of which she was very fond (how did Widow Winterpippin manage to find out everybody's little weaknesses in the out everybody's little weaknesses in the control of the property of the same of draining?) on a small when able to pay.

the first floor Mrs. McChilly—old.
The first floor Mrs. Mrs. Mrs. Rose and the the children of the first floor fl the bonds, willed her by her brother, buds, as we called the children, wee, who had lately died in San Francisco darling, auburn-haired girls, came in at

and received by her a few day e. making her already in comfortable, very or sphere of life would be considered comfortable circumstances - what in Her girlish-looking granddaugh- their appearance a few moments later. ter, by marriage, was darning the old lady's stockings, and thinking of the dear, merry, young brother-in-law, banished from his home half a year ago -ahome which had never been so sunshiny since—because he had dared to fall in love without his grandmother's consent, and the boyish-looking husband of the grand narriage, was writing rectful, lectionale letter to the bankshed one, under cover

of the daily account-book. On the second floor pretty, gray-eyed, brown-baired Mrs Commer was hushing the baby to sleep, and dronring tears on its little, golden had whenat he husband who lay snoring on the age, having left a convivial party

and done many times during the last mappy year, with aching flead and try pockets.

In the third floor jolis, plump, black-d, rosy-checked, generous (out of her come of a thousand a year, she may ome of a thousand a year she gave ay at least one-circuit) Widow Winppin was calmly sleeping in her thoroughly tired out by a hard work, and Nannie, her little maid, th the cat in her lap, was dozing in spasmodic nanner in a rocking-chair

the kitchentire.

And on the burth floor brother Nanniel and I fere talling a late supper
nniel and I fere been bliged to remain hause I has been, bliged to remain lager than sual a lim store where I has clerk, it leing it custom of our aployer to that the service all holiay week (without, however, thinking it necessary to equite such services with there never cald be a kinder brother— would not, thugh he be ever so hungry, eat supper util I was there to make and pour ou the tea. "It tastes so and pour o much better om your hand, sis," he

sed to say as a printer, and had lwart, singing, whistling nat dreadful day in Sepbeen a fine, fellow entil he met with the resulted in the loss of

Since theme had been on the invalid list, and san and whistled and joked no more. W had, fortunately, some when this misfortune money say us, but it was now almost And Nat began to worry about that among other things; but I never loss heart. Why should 1? I health and strength and twelve delars a week. And we could manage not to starve or freeze on twelve ollars a week, and Nat's overcoat and my cloar could both be turned, and-

somebody was coming home soon.

Widow Winterpippin—God bless her
—proved an angel of goodness during
our trouble, coming to sit with Nat herpillows Nannie had thoughtfully placed our treable, coming to sit with Nat her-selfwhen his arm was at the worst;—I had to go to the store after the first few days, or the salary would have ceased, though they did, for a wonder, give me an extra half hour at noon when I went home to lunch—sending Namie to wait on him when he was getting better, and making all sorts of nice dishes to tempt his appetite, and lending him all the books and keeping the room bright with beautiful flowers. But it wasn't this kindness which made Nat fall in love with her. Oh, no! for he fall in love with her. Oh, no! for he Nannie and I were waiting, just as we had fallen in love with her long before, did to-night, for the company to arrive.

was on the point of telling her so hen that cruel machinery grasped his And they began to arrive as the clock struck seven. First came Mr. and Mrs. Rose and the rosebuds, looking so smiling and happy that I said at once, 'You have good news to tell me.' arm. But I must give her up now, Susie," he said to me—we had no secrets from each other—" though I love her more

"'Mrs. McChilly—dear, kind Mrs. McChilly—(Mrs. McChilly sat bolt upright in her chair and closed her lips firmly as her name was mentioned), has paid the doctor's bill, Mrs. Rose began, And promised, she having so many business acquaintances, to look out for a situation for me, said Mr. Rose. 'And a perfect shell, maining to sho after living so nest in the cere than ever. Twould have been no match in a worldy sense, for her before—a printer with only what he earned from week to week, and a pretty young widow, owning houses and lands sufficient to give her an income of a thousand a year. But now it is simply impossible. Disabled for life, I must make up my mind she is going to love us and be our friend always as long as we are good, said the children, beginning to sing the Sweet By-and-Bye so loudly that we did not hear Mr. Aubrey come in; but there he to be a burden on you, and see her You'll do no such thing, Nathaniel," d I. "What has come over you? It hear Mr. Aubrey come in; but there he was, his face glowing and his eyes sparkling (Mr. Aubrey was the grandson with whom Mrs. McChilly had quarreled); and he cried out, 'God bless her! my mother's mother. I knew she couldn't stay mad long. She's forgiven me and kissed Alice.' (Alice was the young girl with whom he had fallen in love without the old lady's permission.)

"And all of a sudden there was Mrs. McChilly among them, being welcomed seems to me that the people who are the jolliest when they are jolly are the bluest when they are blue. One would think you'd lost both arms and legs to hear you talk. Do you forget your favorite motto, 'Nil desperandum,' to say noth-ing of 'Up, guards, and at 'em?' But Nat continued very low in his

spirits, all I could do or say. And this is how affairs stood in our house the Christmas er before that Christmas McChilly among them, being welcomed with loving words and hugs and smiles—the eldest rosebud had a glass of lemonade ready for her—and saying, 'Dear, dear, what is a little money to gratitude and affection like this?' morn g and I had just called out, "Mery C mas" to Nat, hearing him stir in his own room, when Widow Winterpippin's blue-eyed little maid knocked at the door, with a "Merry Chairm of the control of the

"Nothing, answered Mr. Summer, who was there all of a sudden, too, who was there all of a sudden, too, with his wife and baby, looking position in the last substitution of the last substit held up a letter from somebody far away, that I might see and rejoice with her. And Nathaniel-what a ridiculous

"Oh, but you must, I cried.
"Indeed you must," they all cried.
"Well, it I must, I must," said the widow, with a sweet, little nervous laugh. "I thought Nathaniel followed

widow, with a sweet, laugh. "I thought Nathaniel followed me into the d'ning-room, where I had gone to take a last look at the supper table—ch, it's too ridiculous."

"Nothing of the sort," said Mr. Summer. "I don't believe it. I've no doubt it was the most sensible thing Nathaniel hung wherever they could be hung, and above the mantel, "Merry Christmas," by crimson berries greeted us as we en-tered the door. And there were stands ver did-in a dream. filled with lovely geraniums and be-gonias, and like in each window, and a splendid fire in the grate and the most

"And please go on," begged his wife.
"And he took my hand," the widow went on, "and said—oh! I can't teil you went on, "and said—on! I can't tell you all I dreamed he said, but he ended by saying: 'And so, of course, I must think of you no longer—a poor, crippled fellow like mc." And I said—""What did you say?" cried Nathaniel, springing to his feet and looking eagerly

oward her, totally forgetful of the rest of the company. 'Nathaniel Bracket, you are an

". Just as I expected," murmured poor at., sinking into his chair again. "If you have lost your arm—your old arm," the widow calmly proway of eating and drinking?) on a small round table by her side, and the grandright arm,'" the widow caimly pro-ceeded, "'you haven't lost your head, and that head, as I happen to know, con-tained the usual, perhaps sellittle more son and his wife looking over the photo-Mr. and Mrs Rose and the three rosethan the usual, amount of brains, and if, as I hear, a thousand or two will give you an interest in Tom Allen's business. why what is to prevent me, having a litthe money at my command and no one to take care of but myself, lending it to you—for the sake of your sister, of whom I am very fond? Or if you won't Summer, he looking worn and haggard, and she with traces of tears around her beautiful eyes-and the baby-made that we are almost all Widow Winterpippin-we look at it in that way, why can't I become a partner, a very silent one and you manage for me, taking a fair equivalent for your services?" And that's the

Never!" shouted Nat, springing from his chair once more and taking a few steps toward her, "The dream 'never steps toward her, "The dream 'never ended in that way, Nathaniel made some

further remark, I'm sure he did."
"I believe he did," said the widow, knitting her pretty brows, though in thought, while a rosy blush overspread her face, "but dreams grow so shadowy at the last and this became so very in distinct after I had spoken of going the printing business myself that I can scarcely remember—"

"That Nat Bracket said." prompted Nathaniel, "God bless you for a darling! and I'll accept the offered load on condition that you'll add to it a Christmas gift—a gift above all price—your precious self."
"Well, well, how did you ever

know?" exclaimed the widow in pretended surprise.

'Can't imagine," said Nat, his eyes parkling with fun for a moment, and then, as she rose from her seat, he came and stood before her and said, entreatand stood before her and said, entreatingly, "But I don't know what answer you dreamed you made."
"Nor I," laughed the widow.
"But I do," said Mrs. McChilly, with

baby took it and beat away, utterly regardiess of time, until all the ladies had made their final courtesies to their an emphatic rap of her cane; "I do-Mrs. Nathaniel Bracket." After the dance we had a lovely ballad from Mr. Summer, who had a fine tenor voice, and a comic song from Mr.

And we all shouted and clapped our hands like a parcel of children, and then we all (not one of us. I'm sure, could have told why) cried a little and were quietly feeling for our handkerwere quietly feeling for our handkerchiefs to wipe away the tears, when the
old lady spoke again, looking down on
the Rosebuds, who were still sleeping.
"I will be a friend to these little ones
and their parents," she said, "a good
friend. That part of the dream shall
come true. As for my grandson—"

"Here he is," screamed Nannie, with
a hysterical laugh, as she flung open the
door that led into the dining-room.

door that led into the dining-room. And there he was, to be sure, with his sweetheart on his arm, and in an in-

sitting in a half-circle around the grate-fire, a cup of fragrant tea or coffee in every hand, Widow Winterpippin, who stant they were both kneeling before their grandmother, with one of her wrinkled hands in blessing on each lowed, young head. Mr. Summer turned from the pretty tableau and bent and kissed his wife, and softly whispered something to her

that made her "eyes like stars" indeed, as she exclaimed in a voice trembling with joy, "My part of the wonderful dream has already come true.' " And mine came true this morning. said I, as I took the letter from my

"And mine," stammered Nat, as his

only arm stole around the widow's waist, "can it come true?"
"I! can," said Widow Winterpippin.

Beils were first set up in churches as a defense against thunder and lightning. The first bell hung in England was in Chimes were invented in Belgium

The season's entertainments have been notably free from annoyance by coughing. Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup does this. Price 25 cents

Traits of Animals.

A cat was sent by express, carefully boxed, from Dansville to Rochester, a distance of fifty miles. Not many days afterward, tabby came walking into

When a good horsewife of Kirkaldy went for a ham that had hung from the rafters, it had a fair exterior, but it was a perfect shell, skip and bone only re-maining to show its form, while the rat, after living so sum tuously, had built a she is going to love us and be our friend nest in the center, and was easily captured.

A parrot belonging to Capt. Eichelberger, of Baltimore, was always present at family prayers. One morning, when in the garden, a hawk flew down and seized the parrot, when it shrieked:

"Oh, Lord, save us! Oh, Lord, save us!" which so frightened the hawk that he dropped his prize.

At Priest's by the road from Calaveras Green Calaveras Ca down the road to meet it, then bounds back to the poultry yard, catches chickens, bites their heads off, and takes them to the cook. He takes one chicken for

each gertieman in the stage, never making a mistake. As expert in antique coins in Paris is spoodle. The money being placed upon a table the dog is introduced, and after nosing among them will knock off the table all the bad pieces with his paw. After acquiring great fame it was found the whole thing was a trick. ter took care to handle only the bogus coins, and the poodle's decisions were

arrived at by faculty of scent. A wandering "chippy" was picked up by a St. Louis lady and placed in the cage with her canary. In the morn-ing it was released, when the canary mourned as if it had lost its mate. In the evening the chippy returned, and part of the dream that about Nathaniel Bracket was. Really, I don't think I the canary struck up one of the liveliest notes and seemed gratified. This was repeated for three days. Then chippy failed to return. The canary drooped

A couple of seals, the property of Major Urch, of Portsmouth, N. H., were kept in a tank, and were as tame as dogs. One of them died recently, and Major Urch concluded to give the other its liberty, it seemed to grieve so much at its loss. He took the tank to the river bank and released the seal, think-ing it would swim out to sea. It swam ail around the river, but soon returned crying in discress and flapped into its old quarters on the bank, and stubbornly refused to be ejected.

A monkey belonging to a gentleman of the south of France often helps the cook. Being given a pair of partridges to pick one day, he seated himself in an open window. A hawk flew down and snatched one of the birds, when the monkey tricked the hawk by secreting himself, and, waiting, soon saw him come for the other, when the monkey caught the thief. Plucking both the hawk and the remaining partridge, he took them to the cook, and the change was not discovered until the game (?) was served at table

egs, when it turned upon the boy, who to me: was soon released by the appearance of Joe Betzler, a neighbor, upon the scene, who shot and killed the bird. It mensured seven feet from tip to tip of wing. A spider is a glutton, as was evidenced

by an experiment recently made. A gentleman arose at taybreak and supspider who had an extensive web, with a fly. This was at 5:50 o'clock A. M. The spider was then feeding on an earwig. He came for the fly, rolled him up, and returned to his first course. At seven o'c.ock, his earwig had been demolished, and the fly at eight o'clock. At nine o'clock he gave it a daddy-longlegs, which he ate at noon. At one he greedily seized a blue-fly, and during the day he counted 120 green flys, or midgets, all dead and fast in his net.

Two Pictures.

Miss Blanche Murray is a very proper oung lady. Last week she caught her little brother smoking.
"You terrible thing," she hissed, "I

am going to tell father on you!" This is only corn-silk," murmured

the boy patiently.
'I don't care what it is. I am going to tell on you, and see that you don't get into that beastly horrid, degrading habit; I wouldn't have anything to do with smokers.'

It is evening. Miss Murray is sitting on the front stoop with Algernon. It is moonlight, and the redolent spirits of honeysuckle and syringa are wafting bliss to their already intoxicated

"Would little bird object to my smoking a cigarette? "None at all," replied Miss Murray "I like cigarettes, they are so fragrant and romantic. I think they are just too delicious for anything."

Then I'll light one. "Do, and blow some of the smoke in my face, it is so sootling and dreamily Paradisie Then he lights a cigarette, and they talk about the weather for two hours

The Great Advance in Paper. The paper-makers seem to have become crazy upon the subject of prices of

paper, and are rushing things in a man-ner most remarkable. Within a period of sixty days the prices of print and book papers have advanced over fifty per cent. Paper since September has been put upon the combination price-list at an advance of forty per cent. per pound. At a meeting of the Chic division of the American Paper-Makers' Association, held in Chicago recently, the following prices to dealers wer

No. 2 book (maschine finished). 11 to per pound Sized and super-calendered book, 12 to per pound These are the manufacturers' prices until the next meeting of the associa-

fixed upon.

What We Mean by a "Boom."

This word, now in such common use by all classes of politicians and trades-peoples, and used to signify that politics are in a ferment and trade rushing, was probably used in the time of Noah, if not anterior to the date of that old patri-arch. We do not care, however, to investigate Noah's record, nor to ascertain just what words were in use about the time he was gathering his great family into the ark, but having once got them all safely in, and the doors and windows closed, it is quite safe to as-sume that when he heard the rushing of the mighty waters, and felt the ark ris-ing with the tide, he could not but, if he did not, exclaim, there was a big "boom" on somewhere! Here are some definitions of the word which we find in Webster, Worcester and elsewhere:

Boom—To rush with violence, as a ship under a press of sail.—Webster.

She comes booming down before it.—

The bittern booms it in the reeds .-And even Tennyson in one of his poems says:

> At even the beetle boometh Athwart the thicket lone.

Our own Washington Irving, in on of his fine descriptions, speaks of Alarm gans booming through the night air. Hillhouse, in one of his finest poems

The hoarse waves booming to the ocean shore. Falconer, also, in one of his earlier

O er the sea-beat ship booming waters roar. When used by lumbermen, a "boom" is understood to mean a chain of logs, or rather a succession of logs fastened to-gether by chains and used in a stream

o intercept logs in their passage down. Worcester says: Boom—To rush with violence, as ship under press of sail Nautically, to boom along, means to move rapidly,

etc.

We think we have given sufficient number of definitions of the word to explain its full meaning, without deeming it ne essary to inquire into its deri-nation. It is certainly, just at this time, an expressive word, when applied to business, for in every department and in all directions trade is certainly rushing along like a torrent, like a ship under full sail before a stiff breeze, and its roar in this and other great com-mercial cities is not unlike that of tempestuous waves, when heard at a dis-tance, as they dash against some rockbound shore. It is a very good and expressive word; will have its day as one of common usage while the present trade boom lasts; and, as we have shown its use by many distinguished poets and prose writers, we feel like saying something in its behalf. It represents force, strength, flow, vigor, energy, and all that, and so does trade and commerce at this time. Let them

boom !- Coal Trade Journa .. A Pyramid of Snakes.

In the savannas of Isacubo, in Guiana I saw the most wonderful, the most An enormous eagle in Georgia swept down upon two little girls aged three and five years, throwing them to the ground. It buried its talons in the face and arm of the elder and attempted to by her struggles. Alittle brother seven preferred to skirt the great fcrests, a carving knife, shahing the carving knife and carving knife. "Here, sir; come and see serpents in a pi e." He pointed out to me something elevated in the middle of the savanna, which appeared like a bundle of arms. One of my company then said This is certainly one of these assemblages of serpents which heap them selves on each other after a violent tem-

pest. I have heard of these, but have never seen any. Let us proceed cautiously, and not go too near.

When we were within twenty pages of it, the terror of our horses prevented our near approach, to which, however, none of us were inclined. Suddenly the pyramidal mass became agitated; hor-rible sounds issued from it; and thousands of serpents rolled spirally on each other, shooting forth out of the circle their hideous heads and presenting their envenomed darts and fiery eyes to us. I own I was one of the first to draw back. But when I saw that this formidable phalanx remained at its post, and appeared to be more disposed to defend itself than to attack us, I rode round it in order to view its order of battle, which faced the enemy on every side. I then sought what could be the design of this numerous assemblage, and I concluded that this species of serpents dreaded some colossean enemy, which might be the great serpent, or the cayman, and that, having seen this enemy they unite themselves in order to resist him a mass .- Baron Von Humbold

Sunday in Japan.

The banks and foreign newspaper offices are closed; bankers and journalists are proverbially plous fine. The larger hongs, owned by foreigners, are closed also. So too, are the consulates, of course. But all the small native shops, even those within the foreign concession, are open. Carpenters and blacksmiths, and stone-masons, and shoemakers, and tailors, and tinkers are all at work as usual. Two-wheeled drays, laden with stone and building material, and chandise, drawn by stalwart, naked men, who accompany each step with the monotonous "he-how," or half-song and half-ejaculation, are lumbering through the main theroughfares. The bar-rooms and billiard saloons are all open and having a fine run. The puppet shows are in tull blast. The club rooms are thronged with a gay rollicking class of middle-aged men. The hotels have their usual quarto o loungers, who come hither to exchange local gossip of the week. We listen to their conversation partly because we could not well avoid it if we would; because it is a good opportunity to study the moral and intellectual fone of the place. Good nature hides a multitude of feibles. No one seems cross or in ill humor, though the an unt of "cross words" and obscenity appalling. There seems to be an all ost universal laxity in morals, without the slightest care to conceal it. People live extravagantly, and often beyond their means; and when a fast man breaks down in purse, the next thing in order is a change of residence or suicide. - Japan-

A correspondent asks us: "What is tion, at which time another advance of from one and a half to two and a ha'f cents per pound may be expected. your idea of the saddest thing on earth?" Easy enough! A tailor with a good memory.—Wheeling Leader. AN ELECTRIC SPRING.

The Most Wonderful Natural Curiosity Tet Discovered.

The beautiful Buffalo valley—the mountaineer's paradise, and one of the most romantic spots in Tennessee—lies most romantic spots in Tennessec—lies along the eastern bank of that lovely mountain stream, the Caney Fork. Three or four miles from the mouth of this valley stands "an old water-mill, whose huge iron-bound wheel, it is said, performed its last revolution somewhere about the year 1818. The mill in its day was no doubt a wonder in that part of the country, for, judging by its present appearance, it must have been the most wonderfully constructed building of its kind ever erected in that vicinity. of its kind ever erected in that vicinity, It is now the home of rats and owls, and the ashes of the jolly old miller, who long years ago was the life and light of the place, sleep peacefully on a neighboring hill. Under this old mill is the most wonderful spring of which the world has ever heard. Among the inhabitants it is known as the Davil's habitants it is known as the "Devli's Spring." No one seems to know how or when it received this unpleasing, i a-portunate appellation. Few people, other than those living in the immediate neighborhood, know of its existence, and they rarely visit it, from the fact that it is believed to exert a powerful and evil influence over all who are rash enough to venture sufficiently near its confines to allow a single drop of the bubbling, boiling fluid to fall on them or their garments. Besides, the old mill is said to be haunted, and this alone would keep those superstitious people from risking their lives by frequenting the ac-

cursed place. Not withstanding the harrowing tales related by the natives of the loss of fortune, reason, and finally death to those who had ventured in too close proximity to the unhallowed spot, a gentleman recently visited the mill and the spring, the latter of which he thoroughly examined, pronouncing it the most remarkable patural curiosity he had ever seen. The spring is de-scribed as boiling up from the center of a solid rock, its shape being very like that of a bushel measure and about as large. The sides of this basin or hole are perfectly smooth, having the appearance of having been polished by the hand of man. Its depth is not known. The people who reside in the immediate vicinity say it is without bottom. How this may be we are not prepared to state, but true it is that an iron wedge and three hundred feet of cord failed to reach it. The water is of a dark blue color and boils up with great force-so great that it spouts up several inches above its proper confines. And not only does it boil up with immense force, but whirls around with tremendous velocity, something after the fashion of a whirlwind. The gentleman who describes it says that he dipped an ordinary tin dipper

into the spring for the purpose of pro-

curing some of the water for a closer examination of its qualities, and that the moment the dipper touched the water it was wrenched from his grasp as though it had been struck from his hand by a stroke of lightning, and indeed, he states, that his arm felt very much as if it had been suddenly paralyzed. In en-deavoring to regain the dipper, which did not sink more than six inches below the surface, but which kept whirling round and round so fast that it was almost impossible to see it, he placed his hand into the sensations he experienced at the in-tant his fingers touched the water were ingularly strange, causing him to think that thousands of needles had pierced his body at one time. But he didn't succeed in getting the dipper out. He tried time and again to wrench it from its fastenings, but the greedy waters seemed louth to give up their strange captive, to which they clung with more than a vise-like grasp. Giving up all hopes of rescuing the dipper with his hands, the gentleman bethought himself of an empty flask which he carried in his companion. With this he again at-tempted to lift some water from the spring, and was rewarded with success not, however, without a considerable effort, for it required his entire strength to prevent the angry waters from snatching the flask from his hands. Pouring a single drop of the strange fluid in the pa'm of his left hand he examined it minutely with a magnifying glass with the most satisfactory results. He states that the drop of water closely resem-bled a flake of snow viewed with the same instrument. He examined several other drops, and, strange to say, each presented a marked difference in appearance. The first assumed the shape of a star, the second that of a crescent, the third a dagger, the fourth a comet, and so on. After concluding his examination, the gentleman resolved to further test the qualities of the water by tasting it. Letting a drop fall on his tongue, he was surprised and delighted to find that it sparkled like the best brand of cham-pagne. He then concluded to swallow a portion, which he did with the most delightful effect. He says the moment the water began descending his throa he enjoyed the most pleasant sensation of his life. It was indeed as if he were truly sipping the nectar of the gods. The draught seemed to divide itself into a million parts the moment it passed his throat; a portion passing with the speed of lightning along every vein of his body. So delightful was the effect that he forgot for the time where he was, and uttered peal after peal of the wildest possible laughter. Owing to the peculiar effects which the water has on the human system, the gentleman before leaving the place christened the spot The Electric Spring." He claims that this name is occuparly appropriate, for there is no doubt but that the water is heavily charged with electricity. He will endeavor next summer to form a company for the purpose of merging the

-Nashville (Tenn.) Bunner Accidents in the deep shatts of Ne vada mines are usually caused by falling; but there was an exception re-cently. The iron cage in which men and metal are hoisted out of the Union mine is raised with a wire rope seven inches thick by an engine of a thousand-horse power. Six men started on the rise of over a quarter of a mile, and for half the distance were lifted at the ordinary safe speed. Then the cage moved faster and faster, until it was shooting upward at a rate that took their breath away. The engineer had lost control of the machinery, which was running with frightful velocity. On reaching the surface the cage broke through the roof of the sheltering house as though it had been paper, hurling the men into the air, and breaking the great cable. No lives were lost, but thirteen bones were

place into a summer resort, as it is be-lieved that the waters of the spring will

cure any and all ills that flesh is heir to

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Pleasant quarters - Twenty-five-cent The Utah delegate in Congress, Mr Cannon, has six wives.

Truth lies-When it is crushed to earth. - New York News.

"I like your impudence," as a pretty girl said when her beau kissed her. A single property in California is half the size of Rhode Island.

Five children of Charles Dickens survive him-three sons and two daugh-To take out a patent in the United

States, costs about \$60, of which about \$25 goes to the solicitor.

Mr. Mori, who was once Japanese minister at Washington, has been sent to the cort of St. James.

A salmon caught near Vancouver island, on the Pacific coast, weighed ninety-eight pounds.

It is indeed a brave man who has courage enough to peer into the future Thirty-eight thousand five hundred

and forty one persons by the name of Smith draw pensions from the United States government.

"Day-After-To-Morrow" is the name of a Cherokee Indian chief. He is the brother of Procrastination .- Wa'erloo Observer. Every kind of leather of oak and

sumae tannage is produced in Cincin-nati, there being thirty tanning estabishments there. As many women learn to know their

husbands, they wish they had learned to "No"them when they were only sweethearts.—Steubenville Herald. The Canc-Growers' association fin-

ished its deliberations at St. Louis yesterday. The other association for raising Cain is still in session at Washington.-Chicago Journal. The roses of pleasure seldom last

that plucks them, and they are the only roses which do not retain their sweet-ness after they have lost their beauty. He that embarks in the voyage of life will always wish to advance rather by the impulse of the mind than the

strokes of the oar, and many founder in the passage while they lie waiting for Turning for the moment from affairs of State to sporting matters, we note that a Cincinnati gentleman yesterday broke 998 glass bails out of a possible 1,000,

with the but end of an army musket .-Cincinnati Enquirer. A fashion letter says "pinched waists are now thought vulgar." Fashion letters may say what they please, but as long as the owners of the waists don't make a fuss about it, young men will continue to pitch 'em—Norristowa Her-

A walnut timber boom is going on in Tennessee. Every water-mill and saw-mill is sawing it fast. Already \$20,000 worth has been shipped from Lewisburg. There is a large demand for it in London, and Tennessee people expect great things of the European market.

A man fell through one of the winhill the other day, and his distracted landlady speaks of him as "a paneful roomer." But then she hardly knew what she was saying, poor thing .- Burington Hawkeye.

The Norristown Herald regards approvingly the maintenance of the old custom of flinging an old slipper after a ride, but holds the practice of flinging after a would-be son-in-law a poot containing the foot of a girl's

father as despicable. There are over 15,000 carriage manufacturers in the United States, who emdoy upward of 100,000 hands, pay ut from \$28,000,000 to \$31,000,000 for abor annually, and produced during past twelve months upward of 1,200,000 carriages, amounting

value to \$125,000,000. The number of paper mills in the United States have increased to 812, employing 22,000 hands, and their average annual product is estimated at 317,387 tons of paper, valued at \$67,-000,000, and the capital invested in

them is placed at \$43,500,000. The position of the Chinese in Brazil is a peculiar one. The government enview of more extensive tea and silk culture, while the people oppose Mon-gols on the ground that their immigraion will prevent that of the more de-

sirable Europeans. Juries sometimes give very curious verdicts. One of the most remarkable was found by a Washoe jury in a case of milk-stealing. The prisoner was tried on a charge of stealing milk from another man's cow. It was proved that he had frequently milked the cow at night, thereby causing his neighbor and approvance. The great vexation and annoyance, ury desired to express in their verdict their sense of the aggravated nature of the offense. They therefore found the prisoner "guilty of milking the cow in the first degree."-Waco (Texas) Telephone.

What He Mistook for a Dog.

A young man who had recently ar ived from the East was engaged at the United States fish-hatching establish-ment on McCloud river. One day last week he took a rowboat and pulled up the river a short distance, crossed to the opposite side, and prepared to go ashore Just as he was stepping out of the boat the young man looked up on the bank over his head, and saw what he thought over his head, and saw what he thought was a large mastiff dog. "Some of those Indians have stolen him," he thought to himself, "and I will take him home with me." Climbing the trail with difficulty, he was soon face to face with his mastiff. He whistled, and snapped his thumb and fingers, coaxingly, but instead of taking his advances kindly, the animal uttered a low growl, and oscillating his tail from side to side. and oscillating his tail from side to side. prepared to go for that young man. The latter, now terribly alarmed, started for his boat, tumbling headlong down the hill, and just managed to get into his craft and push it into the stream as an immense speciaen of the California lion landed upon the shore. Of course, the ion would not take to the water, so the young man was safe; but he says he shall be careful how he makes overtures to strange dogs in a strange country after this. He was entirely unarmed at the time, and after he got into his boat heard the growls of another in the bush, showing that evidently there was a pair of the "creatures."- Portland Oregonian.