

H. B. MASSER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE, MARKET STREET, OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE.

A Family Newspaper—Devoted to Politics, Literature, Morality, Foreign and Domestic News, Science and the Arts, Agriculture, Markets, Amusements, &c.

NEW SERIES VOL. 3, NO. 6.

SUNBURY, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA., SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1850.

OLD SERIES VOL. 10, NO. 39.

TERMS OF THE AMERICAN. THE AMERICAN is published every Saturday at TWO DOLLARS per annum in advance...

H. B. MASSER, ATTORNEY AT LAW, SUNBURY, PA.

Business attended to in the Counties of Northumberland, Union, Lycoming and Columbia.

BANK NOTE TABLE. CORRECTED WEEKLY.

Table listing bank notes from various locations including Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio, and Maine.

A CALL TO HOUSEKEEPERS At the Cabinet Ware Rooms of SEB'S HOUP & CO.

Thankful for the patronage of his friends and customers during the 17 years he has been in business in this place...

Fashionable Furniture. Having secured a Hearse and made the necessary arrangements for the purpose...

REFORM YOUR HABITS. Come ye, with parents here and nearby. We'll visit you for a brighter Saturday...

EDWIN HALL, (Late of the Firm of WATKINSON & HALL) No. 24 South Second Street, Philadelphia.

SELECT POETRY.

From Godey's Lady's Book. "I HEAR THE WINDS WHISTLE." BY A. T. LEE, CAPTAIN U. S. A.

A Clever Sketch.

THE DOUBLE TRIAL.

For many years, Sir James Fanshawe, Bart. of ancient family and large estates, had resided at Abbey, about seven miles from the county town.

On the day of the Assizes at a well-known county town in England, this young female, Eveleen O'Neill, was brought into the dock under an accusation of having murdered Miss Fanshawe.

It was charged that this orphan cousin, this dependent, deliberately murdered her benefactress, tempted by mercenary motives. Miss Fanshawe having previously made a will, leaving her property to Eveleen, in case she should die unmarried.

With regard to the chamber, no time was lost in making a strict and well-conducted examination of the apartment; and the result was, that several most extraordinary matters were brought to light.

er's reach. This apparently indicated two important facts: first, that the murder must have been a deliberately planned affair; secondly, that it must have been committed by some one intimately acquainted with the apartment.

The hair was first thought to be Miss Fanshawe's own; but, on examination, none was torn from her head; neither did the lock correspond in the least with hers, either in color or in length.

The rational mode, according to the best authorities, is most unquestionably to eat when hungry. To think first, that as the body is composed of various materials, various articles of food are necessary to sustain it.

Then, after having adjusted the variety and quantity, the appetite should regulate the diet. "Being in health," says Walker, "it is easy to keep so, where there are facilities of living rationally."

These principles having been established, we are further required to look into the manner in which we place the food in our stomachs, or in other words, in which we stow it away.

It appears, then, that the latter was not guilty, from the death-bed confession made by an old woman, the substance of which is as follows: "She said, that 44 years ago, she had lived as lady's maid with Miss Fanshawe, of Abbey, and that lady having several times scolded and threatened to discharge her for gross neglect of her duties, an awful spirit of revenge took possession of her, and she determined to murder her mistress.

She actually had the hardihood to attend the trial of Eveleen, and when the counsel for the latter uttered the remarkable expression, that perhaps the real murderer was then present, she felt ready to step away, but soon recovered—and she afterwards beheld the execution of Eveleen

without experiencing an atom of remorse, either for her death, or that of the first victim. From that time forward, she, in her own words, became and continued emphatically "a child of Hell!"

From the Scalpel. DINNER AND DESERT: PRACTICE AND PRECEPT.

The dinner awaits you, sir. "Odds, blazes, I'll not be absent at the grace!"

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herd, we have a kind of feeling "that it is the duty of all men, to the best of their abilities, to enlighten an another's understanding. And if I see my brethren of mankind in a state of sin and superstition, isn't nae business o' mine, think ye, to set them right, and enable them to act according to the dictates of reason and nature?"

Consequently we say to the reader, if what we have advanced is not in accordance with his previous habits, notions and reflections; if what we have quoted is not of a convincing character, the field is open, and to our mind the authorities are abundant to prove the necessity of reform.

Therefore, according to our notion, the grand secret is to live rationally: to eat when hungry, and to take especial care that the quality of the article, the cooking, the serving and the various little appointments, be as near perfection as possible, and let the mind and the stomach be in a condition to receive the supply.

MYSTERIOUS OCCURRENCES. We copy the following—more mysterious even than the "knockings" which have claimed so much attention of late—from the editorial columns of the New York Sun, of the 23d ult., and which will claim the more attention from the matter of fact character of this paper.

Not the least wonderful of these things was the discovery in different parts of the house, generally in the morning, of a species of hieroglyphic characters upon the walls, and on the floor of the piazza, and also on oiled paper.

Up to the 15th instant these manifestations invariably occurred in the day time. On the night of that day they were maintained with increased violence, and without cessation, until about four o'clock in the morning.

While at the supper table the previous evening, he was amazed more than once at the falling upon the table of a knife, or fork, or upon apparently from the ceiling overhead; and while seated near the fire, after tea, books, daguerreotype cases, and other articles, would fall from tables and shelves which were distant six to ten feet from any person in the room.

mensions—spoon, knife, fork, book or poker being occasionally moved. The disturbance was neither constant nor regular. At times nothing at all would happen for hours, and again a succession of falling, or throwing incidents would occur within a few minutes of each other, and in different parts of the house.

One evening he thus ran into a room adjoining that in which the family was sitting, from whence had proceeded the noise of something falling to the floor, and immediately uttered a piercing scream. His friends going in found him on the floor, writhing in a fit. He was taken up and cared for, and recovered from it the next day, when he said that the cause of his screaming was that somebody caught him around the body just above the hips, and was lifting him up, as he feared, towards the ceiling.

On one occasion, two gentlemen of our acquaintance made a thorough examination of the upper part of the house, leaving the whole of the family below stairs.

A gentleman and his wife who reside in the vicinity, and had been with the family frequently while these strange things were going on, and, as well as the family, were passing and repassing every few minutes, nine figures representing females in a kneeling posture, before each of which was a Bible, opened, and a passage therein marked by the turning down of a leaf to it, or by a small piece of paper laid upon it.

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workmanship,) seemed to jump from the shelf and fall to the floor near his feet; he being, the while, the only person near them.

The chamber spoken of was located similar to the usual second story hall bedrooms in our city dwellings. The door to the hall was locked. After his unsatisfactory search in the closet, the gentleman stationed himself in the doorway leading to the large chamber, the door being wide open, and the door from that chamber to the hall being shut tight.

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