TERMS OF THE "AMERICAN." H. B. MASSER, JOSEPH EISELY. PUBLISHERS AND SPROPRIETORS.

H. B. MASSER, Editor.

Office in Centre Atley, in the rear of H. B. Mas-ser's Store.]

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TO EMMA.

DRMA, would that I might C U smile as once B.1. And bid my troubles B E Z and calm once more. I N V much those happy hours. That time in blest R A. When you for me called Love's sweet flowers. And said they'd ne'er D K. 'Twas but an M T tale U told, As I can plainly C: For your I looks dull and cold Whene'er it rests on me. X M N well my wounded breast, Nor jeer my hapless fate : Your P T might, if once contessed, My griefs X 10 U S. ICUR2BM and By 0 so poor as I ; But M A, you may yet be placed In sorrow, by and by, I oft have dwelt in X T C Upon your beauteous form ; Your charms are now like * * to me That glisten through the storm. Alas U spurn my OF, and Ull marry Molly May : And we will go to O I O, Or else to 1 O A. Then fare ye well. U fickle 1. I ne'er can W : Putafter all is said and done. My Molly's fickle 2. I'll put a † to my breast-U know the reason Y : And when I close my 1 to rest.

D R M A don't !----- good by.

RIPE FRUIT AND DYSENTERY -There is pernicious projudice with which people are too generally imbued : It is that fruits are injurious in the dysentery-that they produce and increase it. There is not, perhaps, a more false prejudice. But fruit, and that which is imperfectly ripened, may occasion colics, and sometimes diarrhea-but never epidemic dysentery. Rive fruits of all kinds, especially in the summer, are a true preservative against this malady. The greatest injury they can do, is in dissolving the humors, and particularly the bile, of which they are true solvents, and occasion a diarrhum. But even this duarrhum is a protection against the dysentery. Whenever the dysentery has pervaded, I have eaten less animal food and more fruit, and I have never had the slightest attack. I have seen eleven patients in the same house ; nine were obedient to the directions given, and atefruit; they recovered. The grandmother, and a child she was most partial to, died. She prescribed to the child burnt brandy and oil, powerful aromatics, and forbade truit. She followed the same course herself, and met the like fate. A minister, attacked with dysentery, ate o'clock in the morning and 6 in the evening ; he was entirely cured.- Tissot. THE OSSIFIED MAN OF DUBLIN - A writer in the Christian Advocate, under the head of "Transatlantic Recollections," Speaking of the Museum at Doblin remarks :--- "What calls and rivets the attention of every stranger, whether scientific or otherwise, is the celebrated skeleton of an ossified man ; it is said to be the only instance of entire ossification ever known. It is the skeleton of a young man named Clark, who was of large frame and strong constitution. Falling asleep in the open air, during a state of perspiration he caught a severe cold, at which time, it is supposed, o-sification commenced, and continued to progress for many years by slow degrees, till finally he was bone, except the skin, eyes and entrails. For a length of time before his death his joints grew together so that he could not move ; and thus did death in this horrible and terrific form creep over him by slow degrees, until at length his sight departed, his tongue became stiff and useless, his teeth grew together, in one solid mass of bone, so that to prolong his miserable existence an sperture had been broken, through which to pour nutriment."

SUNBURY AMERICAN.

AND SHAMOKIN JOURNAL:

Absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority, the vital principle of Republics, from which there is no appeal but to force, the vital principle and immediate parent of despotism .- JEFFERSON.

By Masser & Elsely.

Sunbury, Northumberland Co. Pa. Saturday, August 24, 1814.

JOHN JACOB ASTOR.

From the Philadelphia Dollar Newspaper, A Graphic Sketch of the late Disastrous Flood in the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers .- Immense Loss of Property --Shock of an Earthquake.

CAPE GIRARDEAU, Mo., July 24, 1844. MESSRS, EDITORS :- The mighty Mississippi, the Missouri, or the Missourian, (for we want a name, to distinguish the main stream from mountain to ocean,) unsurpassed in its course, unlimited in its resources, gathering waters from every quarter, stretching out in its tributaries from east to west, invading the very verge of the great lakes in bibulous ambition ; though it rolls on for the most part in unassu- and where the bluffs are in sight it has been ming repose, now and then merely lifting up better, for at the foot of the bluffs the bottom its head to cast a glance at advancing cultiva- lands often decline, and thus become flooded, tion, yet there are times when it seems determined to assert its supremacy, its undivided times a hill appears and all congregate to the sway, and utter awful warnings of its over- spot, men, women, children, horses, sheep, hogs whelming power. From such an epoch are we and steers, looking around with anxiety on the just emerging-from such a deluge as surpas- wild expanse of water. The horses neigh, cows ses the recollections of the oldest settlers.

Mississippi, ruin has been more than abandant the meantime drift logs come floating by, and since the first of April, but the river was not sometimes hegs mounted on them, holding on Paul to pay Peter." This did not please ; much affected by it till about the middle of May. tenaciously and making the most of their nauti-The volume of vater which it has poured down cal knowledge. Houses come past, sometimes since that time is truly astomshing. This great twenty per day, some mere logs, some respecrise appeared to be declining about the begin- table. The Mary Tompkins steamer, up the ning of June, and the river seemed to be retur- Missouri, in one part of her trip, could get no ning, though slowly, to its bed. It was imagi- wood but what she picked up, and that was not hap in sleep. That night his chamber was abned by many that this first rise was the usual enough to keep her going. Carried away by annual elevation of the waters, and that it con- the current, she swept over a prairie and brought tained the mountain freshets and the melting of down the cotton wood in an alarming manner. the snows. Some old settlers asserted that they It once was thought impossible for her to es- banished to Siberia, and must forthwith comcould recognize the mountain floods by the cool- cape, and indeed, had the timber been compact mence his sad journey. He was merely allowness of the water; some entirely denied this, she would have been turned bottom upwards. and maintained that the snows had not yet. The Belle Air, at Chester, struck a sunken changed their character. But a short time pro- house, or partly sunk, upset it, and on shearing which, strongly guarded, moved forward, two ved that the worst rise was yet to come, and around struck a stone mill, knocked off a corner, since that time we have had a perfect deluge, but carried away her cook house, forward ghard his companions in the vehicle. They advanced devastating the bottom lands and the river prai- and steam connecting pipe. Kaskaskia has briskly during the night, and when day returnries in a terrible manner, destroying the crops been quite submerged ; the Nuns (Sisters of ed the actor was blindfolded. in toto, and in some cases destroying the very Charity) carried to St. Louis, and the Repubsoil, covering it with black rafts of dirty drift lican office and press gone down somewhere wood, and overwhelming that again with sand- near Davy's Locker. All the river towns have ken from his eyes he found himself in a wretchbars and mud. About the first of July, this se- suffered more or less; some may be said to be ed hovel. Coarse food was set before him, cond fresh was at its height, though this period entirely ruined. At Lexington, an acre of while an officer with whom he had formerly would of course vary in the distance of some land, with five houses on it, slid into the river, been on intimate terms, looked on in cold forbohundred miles. At this time it was an awful and of Nashville, only seven houses are left, ding silence, yet sublime sight, swelling from bluff to bluff, 'This flood has indeed surpassed the great flood and approaching like a majostic series of riotous of 1785, called by the French "the year of the lakes, nine or ten miles in breadth, in the prai- great waters," (l'annee des grandeseaux.) The rie and untimbered districts. In other parts, committee appointed have estimated the damthe astonished river wandered through the deep age in Howard sounty alone, a small county, at recesses of the forest, and passed unseen and \$100,000; 45,000 acres of land were covered red to offer the Emperor of all the Rossias at surprised beneath interminable shades. But by the fresh, and in many places overland with his own table ! So outrageous a surcastin his where it was confined to a narrow and tocky and and mud ten and twelve feet deep. And imperial majesty could not forgive." channel, as at the Grand Chain, or obstructed this is only one county of thirty or lorty. There with islands, as at the Fatal Grave-yard, its vi- is some talk of applying to Congress for new olence, roaring and irascibility were fearfully | lands, as was the case after the New Madrid emphatic. It hurled its wrath in vain against earthquake of 1812; and it is suggested that the rocks-in vain it endeavored to undermine the States of Missouri and Illinois remit taxes their solidity ; but when it encountered the al- on property so injured, for two or three years. luvial islands, its power was visible at every Many lives have been lost, of which nothing cente." turn. It broke over their opposing points, un- will be heard, as the settlers live apart here, and dermined their timber, and hurled it with inces- in a manner so solitary that would surprise the sant crashing into the midst of the boiling tor- resident of a city or its environs. In one inrent. At night the noise was peculiarly awful, peculiarly impressive-it was a restless plung- after being three days in the water, and up to ing of a battering ram against the crumbling their arm pits when relieved; two men were three pounds of red currants, between seven towers of Nature's citadel, and sounded omaiously and alarming to the sad and wakeful sufferers-to those whose corn, whose fences, whose cordwood, whose dwellings were successively taking flight for "shores unknown and strands of other climes." It was indeed an awful sight, in the day time, to see the ancient monarch of the forest bending his venerable head, and at last prostrating himself before the turbid tyrant. There might be seen, at a time, of trees, a whole uniform company, performing the Eastern custom of prostration, and then ruthlessly hurled away by the implacable torrent. The whole river was, besides, encumbered with a strange and to a stranger on unaccountible mixture of floating matter, masses of living and dead timber, loads of cord wood, black logs, that had perhaps been for ages embedded and embayed, here and there a house, here a shed, and here a corn-binn, here hay, straw, and other things indiscribable, sometimes apart, sometimes straggling ; often combined in a confused and fearful mass ; now whirling in an eddy, now swinging round a point ; now caught on the head of an island, and driven upwards and inland by the wild mass of confusion behind, apparently unwilling to arrest its course under any circumstances, and to any obstacle. Many of the islands (one of which, near the Grave-The Anacreontic muse does not slumber yard, contains nine or ten thousand acres) have had invaluable crops upon them, and immense deed, many individuals have lost to a serious neighbor, thus delivered his message :-amount, and are thoroughly disheartened with the bottom lands, so much and so liberally lauded in all parts of the Union. The great Amer-

l earthquakes, some convulsion of that kind may ! have opened the rocks at what is called the Grand Chain, and, perhaps, before that time, the river flowed down through the abovementioned swamp, which is only a short distance above the Grand Chain. However that may be, a complete river, some miles broad, at present exists between Scott and Cape Girardeau counties fourteen and fifteen feet deep in parts, and to cross which a boat has been built on the spot, capable of conveying horses, cattle, &c., over. Terrible disasters have affected the stock ; they are drowned out utterly in many places ; and cut off all access except by boats. Somelow, and slicep bleat their full voiced alarm, Through the whole of the country west of and look instinctively to man for a rescue. In

The Emperor and the Comedian. AN HISTORICAL ANECDOTE. Many monarchs have delighted in an extravagant and startling exhibition of power, but the Russian despots, perhaps, more frequently than others have been in the habit of blending dramatic contrivances both with vengeance and playfulness.

The emperor Paul was a strange, half-mad personage ; he honored with his favor many humble persons, and among the number, one Frogere, a French player, who had the honor of occasionally dining at the imperial table. where sometimes his sallies were held to be brilliant. One day a compliment was paid to the emperor which went to exalt him above his ancestor Peter the Great. The emperor affected modesty, but at the same time attempted a witticism, remarking that so to flatter him was "robbing Peter to pay Paul ;" and appealed to Frogere if that were fair. The player, for the sake of a joke rather than the truth, instantly admitted that it was not, "as there was no probability that ever any one would be able to rob there was too much sarcastic truth in it to pass current in that society. Every one looked blank ; the party broke up before the gloom had passed away, and Frogere, much disconcerted. retreated to his bed, and tried to forget the misruptly entered by an officer and four armed men, and the emperor's warrant for his arrest was produced. It was announced that he was

ed time to procure himselt with a change of clothes, when he was forced into a carriage, soldiers with pistols and a drawn sword being

A stop was at length made ; he was remo wed from the coach, and the bandage being ta-

Frogere was too much afflicted to eat .-"What have I done," he exclaimed, "to merit this severity !"

"Need you be told !" inquired the officer "have you forgotten the mad insult you ventu-

"Heaven is my witness," said Forgere,

John Jacob Astor, the son of a bailiff, was the first two years, and would not begin to afborn in the small village of Waldorf, near Hei- ford very profitable returns before the expiradleberg, in the grand duchy of Baden, in the tion of the second decade. During the third year 1763. In March, 1784, he landed at Bal- decade, it would have netted him something like timore, having sailed from London in the pre- \$1,000,000 per annum. If we esteem him an ceding November, and been detained three enterprising merchant who awaits, for a year months by the ice in Chesepeake Bay.

Vol. 4 -- No. 48 -- Whole No. 204.

"It is said that in a storm offour coast, which threatened the destruction of the ship and crew, ous and self relying spirit, which, regardless of while the other passengers were lost in appre- the "changes and chances of this mortal life," hension, and regardless of aught save self preservation, Mr. Astor appeared upon deck, ar- ject, destined only to mature at the expiration rayed in his best clothes. This excited some of ten years?" surprise, and when asked his object in discarding the more appropriate garb he had worn wealth, however, has been the natural rise of during the voyage, he replied-that if he escaped with his life it would be with his best clothes, and if he perished no matter what became of them.' Luckily the storm passed over.

During his detention in the Chesapeake, he ande the acquaintance of a countryman of his. a furrier by trade, who willingly initiated him into the mysteries of his craft, and connselled him to invest the proceeds of his merchandise -a portion of which consisted of musical instruments from a brother's manufactory in Lon- er hours, perhaps, to his counting room than don-in fors. Mr. Astor was then twenty most mercantile men. He generally left busiyears of age, and having decided to become a furrier, brought to his new pursuit all the ac- it is to be presumed that his mind was always tivity of youth, with those habits of diligent observation which had developed themselves in which has deen heaped together by his own exhis character.

This was at the close of the revolutionary cles .- Balt, American, war. Peace had been proclaimed with Great Britain the year previous ; but the British military outposts within our territory had not been relinquished, and the commercial intercourse with Canada was restricted. Mr. Astor has been heard to observe that, at the time, he prophesied that ten years would elapse before Oswego, Niagara, Detroit, Michilimsekinac and other posts within our lines, would be relinquished; and said to himself, "then when the frontiers are surrendered, 1 will make my fortune in the fur trade."

Both predictions were accomplished. The treaty with Great Britain, of 1794-5, removed restrictions on our trade with her colonies, and surrendered the above outposts, and then Mr. Astor, having the trade with the Canadas and with our western country, both open to his enterorise, proceeded rapidly to realise the fortune, the foundation of which was laid in more than ten years of thrift and patient industry. By the first year of the present century, he the tampering jour had produced a thing which

and amarsed something like \$250,000. Forty four years have since clapsed. By the natural ing somewhat ashamed of it, hid it in a pile of

we should be moderate in estimating his actu-

of thirty-seven could look back with satisfaction

upon the carcer of the boy of eighteen, who,

under the slude of a linden-true, near his na-

his home for a foreign land, to be honest and

In 1809 he founded the American fur compa-

ny, but, soon dissatisfied with even the large

profits derived from that concern, he conceived

the idea of founding a permanent settlement on

the Pacific, connected with the settled portions

of the country by a series of trading posts, and

by these means to monopolise the fur trade

west of the Rocky Mountains within the pre-

cincts of the United States. The provisions,

ments in the north, and receive furs in ex-

change. With these latter and those amassed

cordingly in 1810, a party of 60 men started

of the same year, the Tonquin was despatched

were exposed to every trial and suffering-nud,

industrious and never to gamble."

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length of time they are to be published, will be continued until ordered out, and charged accordingly.

CJ Sixteen lines make a square,

tablishment would prove a bill of costs during the retarn of his vessel from Canton or the Pacific, what term shall we apply to the adventurorganises and executes a vast and costly pro-

One of the greatest sources of Mr. Astor's real estate in New York. At one periol he invested two-thirds of his annual gains in land, and he now possesses whole acres in the most valuable quarters of the city. And it is a singular feature in the history of one dealing so constantly, and in so large sums, and, moreover, whose entire fortune was probably, at times, on the bosom of the ocean, that he was never known to mortgage a lot. Mr. Astor has always been an early riser, but has devoted fewness at two o'clock in the afternoon, although engaged in the acquisition of that vast fortune ertions alone, and amid many and great obsta-

A YANKEE SHOEMAKER

'You hain't no occasion for a jour nor nothing, spose,' said a jolly son of St Crispin from the land of wooden nutmegs, as he entered a shoe establishment, with his kit nicely done up in his apron."

'Wonder if I hain't,' was the reply of the boss.

'Why, I should like a dozen if I could get 'em-but what kind of a shoe can you make !' '____, as to the matter o' that,' said the shoemaker, 'I reckon how I can make a decent sort of a craft."

"Spread your kit then," said the boss. "I'll give you a pair to try, and if your work suits me, I can give you a steady seat of work.'

Crispin was soon hammering and whistling away as happy as a clam at high water, and the boss was called away on some business which detained him two or three hours-meanwhile bore some faint resemblance to a shoe, and feel-

with Moore, nor did the pathetic die with Byron, for a western poet has given the following to posterity :

> When Peggy's dog her arms imprison, often wish my lot was hissen How often I should stand and turn, To get a pat from hands like hern.

A man being reprimanded for swearing, reonly swear at those who bother me.

plied that he did not know any harm in it. "No partial and almost imperceptible points. At the owe us." harm in it,' said the person present ; "why do dividing line between Cape Girardeau and Scott you not know the commandment, 'Swear not county, commences that remarkable swamp, things to those who know how to justly appreat all ?" "I do not swear at all," said he ; "I which has been ages bygone the bed of a migh- ciate their value ; but there are many who judge ty river. As this country has been subject to 1 of both only by their covering

stance, three men were taken off of two horses, also taken from a tree top, where they had been twenty-four hours. Hundreds of families thirty years" was hardly appreciated. are encamped on the bluffs, where bluffs are to he found ; but a few miles south of Cape Girar- gain blinded, and the carriage pursued its dean City every thing is dead flat on both sides journey. At intervals it stopped, a scanty meal of the river. Cape Girardeau City is the onlylanding on the river which comes to the water's had been travelling he could not tell, but he edge, that has not seriously suffered ; but the concluded they had reached the confines, when Cape, as is familiarly called, rises fast from the river, and is luckily set between ridges of rocks, upper part of his dress loosened, his arms pintonso that it is not like so many localities on these waters, which are flourishing to-day and swept away to morrow. Commerce, a small village landing in Scott county, defended by a bold ridge of rocks, has also a lucky position, ("barring the bar," as the Irish would say,) and has only been inconvenienced by the removal of the goods in one store and one warehouse. But, alast the prairies and bottoms below. But it is no pleasant picture. Let us lament in silence. And now the cry is, as the river is declining, what a terrible time of sickness we shall Yours, respectfully, have. DOWLEN.

P. S .- We have just had a slight earthquike, half past 3, P. M., 19th July. It was a more vibration, which rocked the house, apparently from S. W. to N. E., and was more annear than alarming.

SMART Boy .-- A negro boy being sent by made by the then potent despot, the miserable piles of cordwood-all, all have perished. In his master to borrow a pound of lard from a emperor Paul.

"Missus Thompson massa sent me over to ican Bottom containing hundreds of thousand of gwine to kill her day before yesterday, and he tainment ended. Frogere and those who remaiacres, has been entirely submerged, except in come over week fore last, and pay you all you ued to the last, withdrew to the chambers in were in every sea, and his cargoes in every make a mate to the shoe, when the shrewd

meast no offence. Can you not make this known ! cannot you intercede for me !" "Impossible ! all I can do is to take care of

your property at Moscow. Any other commission that you may give me I will taithfully ex-

"And am I to be banished for life !" "No; the kindness of the emperor for you forbids him to go so far ; you are only to remain in Siberia thirty years !"

"Thirty years !" Frogere exclaimed with horror. In that mournful hour the vast difference between banishment for life and "only for

The officer took his leave ; Frogere was a was set before the prisoner. How long they blinded with more care than ever, he found the goods, and ammunition of the Pacific settlement were to be supplied by a vessel sent aned, and in this situation he was placed on a nually from New York. The same vessel was seat. He heard the jarring sound of muskets, also to convey supplies to the Russian establishand the military word of command, and recommended his soul to heaven. Another moveat the settlement during the year, she was to ment was at hand, when the bandsge fell from proceed to Canton, and invest the proceeds of his eyes, and he found himself in the same place . hor cargo in silks, tons and nankeens. Acwhich he had filled when he hazarded that joeular remark which had coused hun to experience from New York for Oregon, and in September so much affliction. The emperor presided, and all present laughed delighted with the imperia) prank, for such it was, which had driven the two subsequent ones were lost-the colonists chiert of it half a dozen notes round the palace under the circumstances described, -- some fourduring the war of 1812, the settlement, unpriand-twenty hours. For poor Frogere the change. tected by the Government of the United States, was too violent; he fainted in the moment when and threatened by a British man of war, was his safety was announced, and did not immediaately revive to receive the congratulations of ner's to the northwest fur company. those courties who could admire such a fearful experiment on the actor's feelings as had been

Another still more remarkable scene was the palace. An alarm was suddenly given, principal city of our country,

A good book and a good woman are excellent all arose, and sought the emperor's apartment. They entered them, and found the cause of

eather chips that lay on the floor, and proceed course of accumulation, this sum would have a ed to make another, which he had barely time mounted, at the end of such a period, to nearly , \$6,600,000 ; but, in Mr. Astor's hands, it has to finish, when his employer entered and began increased to nearer tour times that amount, for to examine it.

'Look here, mister,' said he 'I guess you didn't make the mate to this : it is the greatest al wealth at \$20,000,000. In 1800 the man botch that ever was made in my shop, that's a fact?

'P'raps you'd like to bet a triffe on that,' said tive village, had resolved, on the eve of leaving | the shoemaker,

'Bet,' responded the boss, 'why, I'll bet a ten dollar bill against a hand of tobacco, that there never was a shoe made in this shop half so had as this !

'Done,' said Crispin, at the same time casting a sly wink at his shopmates, 'but stop, let me see if I have got so much of the weed with me. Oh ves, here's a whole hand of Cavendish,' and laying it on the cutting board, he ventured to suggest the propriety of having the suetskin laid along side of it, which was no sooner done, than he proceeded to draw from its hiding place the other shoe.

"Here bess," said he, 'you must decide the bet ; say which of the two shoes is the worst." "Well, I guess I'm tairly sucked in this time." replied the basi, pushing the Cavendish and shinplaster towards the rightful owner, and throwing a ninepence to the youngest appreatice. The boy needed no farther instruction as to his duty, but was off in the twinkling of a hed-post, and soon returned with a quart of blackstrap, with which all hands regaled themon the same errand. This vessel and one or selves.

After all had drank, and Crispin had pocketed the money, he turned to the boss and said, "Now boss, Pit bet ten dollars that I can make a better shoe than any other jour in the shop --P'rhaps you'd like the ten dollars back-will treacherously sold, by one of Mr. Astor's part. You take the bet !'

"Tobesure I will," the bess replied, produc-Thus ended a grand and well contrived en- ing another X, and laying it on the lap stone, terprise, after so great an outlay and loss as the Yankee putting his with it. Crispin was would have annihilated most American fortunes. again soon at work, and made a shoe which About \$1,000,000 were expended in the car- the boss was forred to acknowledge couldn't shortly afterwards got up in the same place. rying out of plans which were entirely frus- be beat, and the Yankee cooly stowed away the borrow or beg a pound of hog tallow ; he say The emperor joyously supped with the perfor- trated, and which were in progress at the same blunt. The boss, however, consoled himself he got de old sow up in de pen, fatten 'em ; he mer and a select company. When the enter- time that the American fur company was in with the idea, that he had got a first rate workfull operation, when the ships of the projector man, if he was a wag, and told him to go on and Yankee, being well satisfied with his day's

"As an instance of the magnitude of the work significantly replied, "Let some of your views of Mr. Astor, it is stated that, had his a- jours make a mate to it if they can;" and puttheir disturbance was more than a joke, as ex- gents succeeded in effecting a permanent set- ting his sticks t gether, and hidd no the how a tended on the floor lay the corpse of the despot. I tlement at Astoria, he anticipated that the es- hearty good bye, again started on a tramp.

ment was made, which told hum the fittal mo-