

THE LEHIGH VALLEY.

From an Occasional Correspondent. I have just taken a trip over the Lehigh valley route from Philadelphia northward, through some of the most beautiful portions of our State.

The connecting roads forming this line are the North Pennsylvania Railroad, from Philadelphia to Bethlehem; the Lehigh Valley, from Bethlehem to Pittston, and the Pennsylvania and New York Railroad from the latter place to Waverley, on the Erie Railway, near the State line, and 240 miles from Philadelphia.

At Bethlehem, 54 miles from Philadelphia, our route strikes the Lehigh river. This is the junction of the North Pennsylvania and the Lehigh Valley Railroads, and a very handsome and convenient passenger depot has been erected for the joint use of both roads.

Proceeding northward, you reach the flourishing young city of Allentown, with its huge rolling-mill, smelting works, and extensive manufacturing, containing a population of 20,000 inhabitants, rapidly augmenting in wealth and members, by Catasque, Hohen-dunna, and several smaller but not less interesting manufacturing towns, past Slatington, so named from its celebrated roofing slate, through the Lehigh Gap to Packerton, with its extensive car shops.

From here nature seems to have vied with art in producing a combination of novelties unsurpassed anywhere in the Northern States. Massive mountains, dense forests, green fields, winding streams, fertile valleys, deep gorges, towering heights, rushing waters, and the untold wealth of nature make up a *tout ensemble* interesting beyond conception, and of which a brief description gives but an indefinite idea, being not inappropiately denominated the "Switzerland of America."

From Mauch Chunk up the meanderings of the Lehigh river to the Summit new features constantly present themselves.

Leaving the noise of the artisan and those grand old hills "in whose vaults lie hidden the archives of the universe," you approach the interminable native forests dividing the upper Lehigh from the classic Susquehanna, passing Penn Haven Junction, Rockport, and the more sprightly town of White Haven.

A short distance beyond Fair View—a station at the top of the mountain—the eye takes in the entire Wyoming Valley, from Campbell's Lodge, on the north, to Nanticoke Dam, on the south, a distance of twenty-one miles.

Descending from this grand natural observatory, you ride across the famous valley over grounds made sacred by Revolutionary tradition, and famous in legend and story.

Leaving the theatre of Campbell's Gertrude of Wyoming by the sinuous windings of this beautiful stream, over the track of the Pennsylvania and New York Road, firmly embedded in the surface of the hard-bested toptath, past rocky glens, bristling mountains, bright openings, densely-shaded islands, and highly-cultivated farms, through the miniature county of Wyoming, you at length strike the extensive domain of Bradford county, at a point not far from Frenchtown, so called from its early settlement by a colony of French noblemen, who fled the terrors of France during the tragic "reign" of Danton, Robespierre, and Marat.

For fifty miles you traverse this county, passing through the valleys of Wyalusing and Wyanising, crossing the river on a fine bridge 1500 feet in length, reaching Towanda, the county seat, beautifully located on a hillside, gently sloping to the river and facing the rising sun. At this point the Barclay Railroad and the Sullivan and Erie Road form a junction with the Pennsylvania and New York Railroad.

From Towanda you pass up the west bank of the river to Athens, the junction of the Chenung and Susquehanna rivers. Crossing the Chenung at this place, you have a ride of four miles over a beautiful undulating plain, terminating at Waverley on the New York and Erie Railway, in time to take the evening express for Elmira, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, or the not less attractive and beautiful "Watkins Glen," situated at the head of Seneca Lake, twenty-two miles from Elmira and forty-two miles from Waverley.

NEW YORKISMS.

From Our Own Correspondent. NEW YORK, June 28, 1870.

The great initiatory step has been taken—the step that is to drive Biddy into common sense and good behavior, or to sweep her, socially speaking, from the face of the earth. We have put up with her airs and her graces long enough. We have paid her from twelve to seventeen dollars a month; we have been brow-beaten in our own kitchens, and not allowed to call on our hearthstones our own; we have been obliged to put our washing out and to iron our own bosoms and wash our own door-steps; we have allowed her one afternoon a week and every other Sunday out, "cousins" ad libitum and holidays whenever she bespoke them; we have been "sassed" by her to the last point of endurance, and now the weapons of revenge are put into our hands. The Chinese servant looms up. He is not good-looking; he is not proficient in English; he is not prepossessing in manner. But he is "willing." He puts into constant use that great compendium of the virtues, the desire to give satisfaction. In all seriousness and solemnity I tell you that Jack Chinaman and his wife—when he has a wife—are being introduced as servants into the homes of New York and suburbs. I don't know whether you will find advertisements to that effect in the newspapers, but I do know it is a fact. A lady and gentleman of my acquaintance residing in Hoboken a fortnight ago experienced the last stage of infinite disgust and hatred of everything Irish in the way of servants. They had tried every variety of Biddys, under every variety of conditions, through a long married life, and the conclusion to which they had come was that if any Biddy of their experience got into Purgatory, it would not be through the intervention of their prayers if she got out under a thousand years. So they came to town, and sifted all the channels of news until they found a Chinaman and his wife. These two orient pearls they seized upon, and instead of stringing them at random, as is the poetical tradition with respect to orient pearls, set them to work, John to gardening and Mrs. Pigtail to housework. The brooms are new, but they do sweep clean. So my friends assure me, at least. But then, since nothing could be worse than the average Biddy, perhaps the complacency of these innovators in the art of house-keeping is not to be greatly wondered at. But this is not, by any means, the only case I have heard of, although it is the only one of which I have such clear and definite knowledge. Yesterday morning the inestimable woman who is responsible for my board and lodging, and who interprets the first sentence of the *Noster pater* into "Give us this day our daily hash," entered my room and informed me that she was going to dispense with two Irish girls who made her life a torment to her, and to endeavor to get along with one Chinaman instead. She thought with a little instruction that he could be taught to make beds, bake bread, sweep, dust, scour, wash, and iron fully as well as the Emerald Island failures, and without a tithing of the ingratitude, drunkenness, and impudence. It is well. I shall expect to see a little mite of a peaked-up Mongolian face, looking as if it were made of persimmons and mahogany, stuck right over against my place at table when I go home to dinner. I shall take for granted that my pigeon-pie will be handed to me by one who speaks pigeon-English, and that the culinary pottery and earthenware will be broken all the less in proportion as the vernacular is broken by the Celestial handler of them all the more. Ring out, wild bells! Ring out the requiem of Biddy, ring in the annunciation of John Chinaman. Ring in the era of the coolie, with a pinch from the morals of Confucius and a speck from the justice taught by mandarins.

The "Evening Post" is one of those good old snoring newspapers which only know they are living in the nineteenth century from the evidences of other journals' enterprise which are scattered around them. In the government of its own affairs, however, it has its hobbies, the laws of which possess a degree of irrefragability to which those of the Medes and Persians were a bagatelle. One of these laws, for instance, has relation to the costume of its employees. In obedience to it no one connected with the editorial or business departments of the *Evening Post* is permitted to represent that paper with any coat on other than a black one. The formula designating the nature of full evening costume for gentlemen is not more precise and imperative than this requirement of the *Af-ternoon Grandmother*. Journalists upon other papers wear what coat they will, both as regards texture, color, and pattern. Not so those upon the *Evening Post*. In this sweltering weather you see these unhappy gentlemen going to and from their places of business, giving forth the richest exudations of their being beneath an agony of broadcloth, and thinking themselves sufficiently repaid by the honor of working for the author of "Thanatopsis." I don't know, but I presume, that no editor is permitted to use a pocket-handkerchief that is not hemstitched. I cannot swear, but I suspect, that such vulgarities as dickies, butterfly-ties, and false wristbands would not be tolerated by the Bear-Brummelian manager of that aristocratic sheet. I cannot venture to unconditionally affirm, but I secretly imagine, that an employe discovered with a cotton umbrella, or a pair of patched shoes, or a collar button not of pure gold, would be immediately dismissed. And serve him right! It is not every paper that can find time, amid the hurry of editorship, to lay down rules of etiquette, and to see that every employe is kept well up to the mark!

Madame Lanner's Ballet. About twenty-five years ago Madame Weiss introduced a combination of ballet and pantomime at the Old Park Theatre in this city. The majority of the dancers were children, varying in age from ten to fifteen. In the troupe of ballet-dancers that Madame Kate Lanner is soon to present at Fisk's Grand Opera House, the same characteristic features are to be observed, with the exception that the artists are all adults. The troupe is now on its way hither, and will arrive in the steamer *Allemania*. Possibly it may make its appearance next Monday; if not, then on either the Saturday or the Monday following. The principal members of it are Madame Lanner herself; Madlle Bertha Lind, a Swede, and said to be a niece of Madame Goldschmidt; Signor Albert Gerardini, director; M. and Madame Alberti, pantomimists and mimics; De Francesca and Van de Verne, male dancers; besides ten premieres and eighteen coryphees, numbering altogether nearly sixty individuals. Among the ballets that are to be presented are *Le Diable a Quatre*, *Papillon*, *Faust*, *La Giselle*, *Rose de Seville*, *Esmeralda*, *Robert and Bertrand*, *Cinderella*, *Les Deux Femmes*, *Postillon* and *Vicandiere*, and half a dozen others whose names cannot recall with sufficient exactness to specify. One of Mr. Fisk's most trustworthy agents assured me only yesterday, with one hand upon his heart and the other raised to heaven, that although they had been swindled in the case of the Spanish ballet and the *Khedive* of Egypt, this ballet was undoubtedly a big thing. It would either make them or mar them for the summer season. The last place at which they performed was Lisbon, at which they created a great *furor*. But what would please Lisbon might not please New York. ALI BABA.

A SOUTHERN SNAKE. A SCRETTITIOUS WAY OF OBTAINING NOURISHMENT—HE IMPREUDENTLY EXPOSES HIMSELF AND IS KILLED—A MARVELLOUS STORY. Some of the papers in the South and West are trying which can tell the toughest snake story. The *States Journal* recounts one which we think fairly entitles its editor to the champion belt. A negro woman living near Chesterfield, Virginia, according to the *Journal*, has a nursing child, which occupies the entire night usually in imbibing its regular nourishment. The woman has frequently, during the period, imagined, while in a semi-somnolent state, that both the maternal founts were being used at the same time, and mentioned the circumstances to her husband and several friends, who puzzled their brains to account for it. She was afflicted with asthma, and frequently sat during the warm evenings with her dress loosened to allow of greater ease in breathing. One evening she was sitting thus, half asleep and half awake, when she felt something creeping over her shoulder and down upon her bosom. She immediately roused her torpid faculties, and glancing down, saw a monstrous black snake in the act of nursing, its basilisk eyes gleaming into hers. Of course she was frightened almost out of her senses, and screamed and threw up her hands in the wildest terror, which alarmed his snakeship into loosening his hold and executing a prompt disappearance. The alarm also awoke her husband, who was at once informed of the astonishing circumstance. He, rightly thinking that the reptile would return and attempt to finish his meal, took a favorable position and waited for him. In a short time the snake, which was of enormous size, came out, and after a sharp battle was despatched. This is certainly a remarkable story, but it is vouched for as remarkably true by our Richmond contemporary.

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