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☞ Letters and communications, by mail, will have prompt attention.

For the Argus.

IMPROMPTU.

Suggested by a recent "*Flora'* Exhibition."

"A rose would quite as sweetly smell
By any other name,"
So saying which, with meaning rife,
The poet gave to fame.

"For wit, when well its order made,"
Will often shine as bright,
As if upon the moment's spur
Twere ushered into light

And thus an apt proverb too,
By word or act applied,
Is none the worse of having been
"Already cut and dried."

VERE. SAT.

Position in Sleeping.

Hall's Journal of Health has an article on this subject, upon which it is argued that it is better to sleep upon the right side than on the left, and says, after going to sleep, let the body take its own position. If you sleep on your back, especially soon after a hearty meal, the weight on the digestive organs, and that of the food, resting on the great reim of the body, near the backbone, compresses it, and arrests the flow of blood more or less. If the arrest is partial, the sleep is disturbed, and there are unpleasant dreams. If the meal has been recent or heavy, the arrest is more decided, and the various sensations, such as falling over a precipice, or the pursuit of a wild beast, or other impending danger, and the desperate effort to get rid of it, arouses us; that sends on the stagnating blood, and we wake in a fright, or perspiration, or trembling, or feeling of exhaustion, according to the degrees of stagnation, and the length and strength of the effort made to escape the danger. But when we are not able to escape the danger, when we do fall over the precipice, when the tumbling building crushes us—what then? THAT'S DEATH! That is the death of those of whom it is said, when found lifeless in their bed in the morning: "They were as well as they ever were, the day before:" and then it is added, and ate heartier than common. This last, as a frequent cause of death to those who have gone to bed well, to wake no more, we give merely as a private opinion. The possibility of its truth is enough to deter any rational man from a late and hearty meal. This we do know with certainty, that waking up in the night with painful diarrhœa, or cholera, or bilious colic, ending in death in a very short time, is properly traceable to a late large meal.

THE POLITICAL HOROSCOPE.—The Charleston Mercury has been casting the horoscope of the South looking forward as far as 1860, and is exceedingly sad at the prospect. Hear how it moans:

"The last election returns will be made to the people of the country, and its results will determine the federal representation of the States, and the political power of sections. The election of 1857 will occur under that institution of the electoral vote, and what will be the issue? Unhappily, we are not allowed to deceive ourselves with deceitful auguries of success. For years the political control of the confederacy has been escaping from the grasp of the South, and rapidly accumulating in the States of the North. As the South sinks in the scale of power, abolitionism is aggrandized at the expense of slavery, and must soon attain an extreme and irresistible ascendancy. In 1860 the North will elect its own President, in defiance of the united opposition of the slave-holding States.

"The South can no more recover its ancient ascendancy in the confederation, than the weak can bind and master the stronger power returning to grasp from the victim whose oppression excites lustful appetite. The unequal and unjust policy on the part of the Federal Government, and the same combination of circumstances which have reduced the South to its present state of dependency, and elevated the North from its original inferiority, to a triumphant domination, will aggravate the disparity ever between the sections, until one becomes the helpless slave of the other."

☞ SKIRTS AND UMBRELLAS.—Whalebone has nearly doubled in price within the past four months, in consequence of the enormous consumption of the article in skirt-hoops. The New York Post, of Saturday, says:

"Where the wholesale price was forty or fifty, it is now eighty or ninety cents a pound. The commercial list of to-day reports a sale of eight thousand pounds at ninety-five. An umbrella seller informs us that at retail he has been obliged to pay a dollar and a half a pound for the manufactured article, and the five dollar umbrellas of two months ago are now sold for two. Nor is this all. The braces have become greatly attenuated, being hardly more than half the size they were in the old-fashioned umbrellas. So that the prospect is, we shall be compelled to rely wholly on steel braces, which have experienced no such 'appreciation.'"

FORE-THOUGHT.—Jefferson Davis, ex-Minister of War, has made an impressive speech in Mississippi, in which he dictates to Mr. Buchanan a policy for the next three years and nine months, and postpones the crisis of the Union until 1860, when he thinks that unless the North shall have previously succumbed, a *casus belli* will have arisen between the sections.—This adjournment of the closing struggle is kind and considerate. It shows at least this, that the Democracy reserves enough for Presidential elections. A crisis is worth at any time a year.

Governor Walker.

Roger A. Pryor draws the following rich sketch of Mr. Buchanan's new Governor of Kansas. Coming as it does from the pen of an ardent Democrat, and a warm supporter of Mr. Buchanan last fall, it possesses a peculiar significance. He says:

"The Hon. Robert J. Walker was appointed Governor of Kansas. With a reputation for a larger measure of talents than usually falls to the lot even of statesmen, he has never yet been suspected of the least particle of personal honesty. A bankrupt with a splendid income, a millionaire at the expense of widows and orphans, a speculator in fictitious stocks, and a jobber upon other people's money—he was the last man in the Union to whom the President should have intrusted a mission implying so much of private honor and public virtue as the Governorship of Kansas. That he would obey the impulse of his own venal ambition, was as certain as that a vulture is governed by an instinct for carrion. Originally emigrating to the South from a Northern State, with a view of promoting his personal fortunes, he shook its dust from his feet the moment the generous people of Mississippi gave him a national reputation. Since the close of the Polk administration he has resided in the North, and has pursued the occupation of a political and pecuniary adventurer. Consumed with a passion for place, he has revolved every scheme of self-aggrandizement, from a seat in the Cabinet to the Presidency of a railroad."

Profanity.

Profanity in a child is a terrible thing. We encountered a lad some six or eight years of age on the street the other day, who was swearing terribly at a companion; no one in the army of Flanders ever indulged in fouler profanity than this mere child. Where he had learned to profane the name of the Deity we know not, but if he has parents, a mother that loves him, a father who cherishes great hopes for the future—we pity them. Their boy can never be else than a curse and a shame so long as his lips utter blasphemies. The swearer, however proud or elegant he may be, has nothing of the true gentleman in his nature, and halo of Divinity will never concentrate his achievements.

Let no boy indulge in profanity, in the hope to acquire an appearance of manliness—for the good and true will regard him as a blot on God's beautiful earth, and will shun him as a pestilence. Wherever he may walk, the flowers will wither under his tread, and his memory will be in the hearts of men a bitter thing forever.

DESCRIPTION OF A PUG UGLY.—The New York correspondent of the Boston Courier writes as follows.

"Have you seen a 'pug ugly?' He is of Baltimore origin, and of the species of the 'killer,' known in Philadelphia, and 'short boy,' of New York. You have nothing in your city which at all resembles the pug, the killer or the short boy. The 'pug' or 'pug,' as he is sometimes called, derives his name not from anything expressive in his own physiognomy, but from the effects which he produces upon the countenance of an adversary. Every time he strikes he 'pugs ugly,' and, as a consequence, an 'ugly pug' follows. He is of a limited stature, has a compressed face, close-cropped hair, and is generally firm built. Alone he is a coward; but, like all bullies, is brave when there is a crowd at his back. He likes to talk vulgar when decent people are within hearing, and always has a ruffianly epithet at his tongue's end. He can be enlisted in any cause for money, which he prizes only as a means of gratifying the most brutish appetites. He is usually to be found in the neighborhood of an engine or porter-house, and he understands the merest wink."

A CARGO OF IRISH GIRLS.—The City of Mobile, Capt. Marshall, sailed from Liverpool for New York, on the 26th ult, freighted with over 900 passengers. Among these are a party of 120 young women, and 14 men, members of 13? different families, the expenses of whose immigration are defrayed by public subscription from nearly 4,000 different persons, the majority of whom are laborers and servant girls, to a fund entitled the "Irish Pioneer Emigration Fund." The object of the institution of this fund is to raise the wages and otherwise better the condition of poor families in the poorest districts of Ireland by the assisted emigration to the United States or Canada of one member of each family, specially selected on account of good character and industrious habits, in the expectation that the person so assisted will not only better their own condition, but will according to the usual generous practice of emigrants, also send for, or otherwise greatly help the rest of the family in Ireland.

A POPULAR DELUSION.—It is an error to suppose that a man belongs to himself. No man does. He belongs to his wife, or his children, or his relations, or his creditors, or to society in some form or other. It is for their especial good and behoof that he lives and works, and they kindly allow him to retain a certain percentage of his gains to administer to his own pleasure or wants. He has his body and that is all, and even for that he is answerable to society. In short, society is the master and man is the servant, and it is entirely according as society proves a good or bad master whether the man turns out a good or bad servant.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—Amid all the political changes which have agitated the country, Charleston, S. C, has shown herself a model of equanimity. She has had but two Post-masters under the present Constitution of the United States, the late venerable Thomas Wright Bacot, who was appointed by President Washington, soon after his inauguration, who died in office, and the present worthy Post-master, the Hon Alfred Huger, who was appointed by President Jackson, in January, 1835, on the decease of Mr. Bacot.

☞ All the fools are not dead yet In Marion county, Ohio, a few days ago, a man sued another for the rent of a house. On the trial, evidence was adduced that the house was haunted, and the jury decided that defendant be paid $15 as damages, instead of paying rent.

THE OLD WORLD.

Letter From Bishop Simpson.

Correspondence Pittsburgh Gazette.

First night in Liverpool—Vivils—City awaking—Incidents—Journey to London—Parks—Village of Crewe—Tamworth—Atherstone—Rugby—Dr. Arnold—St. Albans—Verulum—Abbey &c.

EDITORS GAZETTE.—After having attended church immediately on my arrival, and being pleasantly fixed in my lodgings, the hour for rest approached. But, no slumber came to my eyelids. From my room I looked out on the masses still in the street at eleven o'clock. And when my head was on the pillow, visions of the past—the distant—and the future, rose before me. I was in England—Old England. The stories of olden times, which I had read in the days of my boyhood haunted my memory. The old Celt, the Roman, the Saxon, the Dane, the Norman passed in review. Poets, orators, philosophers, statesmen, warriors, martyrs, puritans chevaliers and pilgrim fathers crowded the galleries of fancy. Then, too, came in strange juxtaposition, scenes across the Atlantic. Home, loved ones, valued friends, church enterprises, church responsibilities, mingled together, until at last, less and less distinct, they faded away, and I was—asleep.

Early in the morning I awoke, and the mornings, I assure you, at this season of the year, are very early here. Whether it was the absence of the rocking of the ship as some supposed, or whether it was nervous excitement from surrounding scenes, I cannot say; but I learned that this sleeplessness for the first night in England is very common. For full two hours before breakfast I walked the streets and saw the city awaking. The humble classes of population were arousing to their daily toil, and from courts, and alleys, and lanes, poured forth poorly dressed and care-worn masses to toil for the pittance on which they lived from day to day. A little later the more active men of business began to appear, and near eight o'clock the better class of shops and stores were opened.—One or two small matters attracted my attention. The first was that nearly all the *news boys*, of which there were comparatively few, were half-grown *girls*. The second was, that amongst the poor in the streets, hurrying to and fro at an early hour, were many, very many, women with *bare feet*.

The day was spent in Liverpool in arranging some business matters, in preparing for further travel, and sight-seeing. But as I must necessarily spend two or three weeks in Liverpool, at the British conference, I shall defer all general remarks until that time.

At nine o'clock on Tuesday morning we started for London by the Great North Western Railway. It leaves Liverpool through a very long tunnel, and very shortly afterward passes through a beautiful country. Indeed our whole journey was a succession of delightful landscapes. Everything was beautiful. The farms were neatly and tastefully cultivated, and agriculture in England is rather a system of gardening. Here and there were fine parks and stately edifices, evidently the abode of the rich. Then we hurried by the little cottages with mud walls, generally white-washed, and contrasting strongly with green shrubbery surrounding them and with their brown thatched roofs. On some of these cottages the thatch was so thick and so brown it seemed as though they had stood for centuries. Every few miles manufacturing villages have sprung up along the road exhibiting and developing the resources of the country.

Among the towns which have been specially benefitted by the railroad, and which have grown almost as our American towns, is the village of Crewe. It is a centre from which radiate a number of different lines, and it contains large establishments for building and repairing locomotives. On a rising ground, with its park and a small lake, is Crewe Hall, the seat of Lord Crewe.

On the route we passed Tamworth, at the junction of the rivers Tame and Anken—Adjacent to this place was the residence of the late Sir Robert Peel. The mansion is occupied at present by his son, Sir Robert Peel. As the traveler passes the estate, thoughts of the splendid career and the sudden and untimely death of one of England's greatest statesmen are necessarily suggested. Though a high Peer of the realm, he had more than ordinary sympathy for the masses. The closing words of one of his services. Said he "It may be that I shall have a name sometimes remembered with expressions of good will in the abodes of those whose lot it is to labor and to earn their daily bread by the sweat of their brow, when they shall recruit their exhausted strength, with abundant and untaxed food—the sweeter because it is no longer leavened by a sense of injustice."

Near Atherstone is a park, said to contain some of the finest old oaks in England. The village is situated on the old Roman road, for in 1850, in digging in one of the streets, about three feet below the surface were found several Roman coins, and a portion of paved streets. But to me one of the most interesting points was the town of Rugby. It is somewhat famous for its fairs, and for the old church of St. Andrew in the early English style, with its embattled towers. But its chief attraction is its Grammar school, over which the late learned and talented Dr. Arnold presided. It was founded in the days of Elizabeth, and endowed with some adjacent land, and with eight acres then of but little value in London. Eighty years ago the rental of the London property was less than six hundred dollars per annum. It is now more than thirty thousand dollars a year. The great fame of the school was, however, chiefly the result of the labors of Dr. Arnold.—His writings have been extensively circulated, and he is ranked as one of the chief originators of the party in the Church of England, known as the Broad Church. His successor in the school, Dr. Tait, has recently been appointed by Lord. Palmerston as Bishop of London.

Twenty-two miles from London we passed St. Albans, a town of some seven or eight thousand inhabitants. It derived its name from the old Monastery, which was so called for Albanus, the martyr of Britain.—Upon the other side of the river Ver was the old British city, Verulam, founded before London, and taken for the possession of the Romans by Suetonius. Here, too, were fought several battles between rival factions in England. The first translation of the Bible into English was printed on a press placed in its Abbey. A portion of the memorable Abbey is built of Roman tiles from the ancient city of Verulam.

Near four o'clock we entered the suburbs of London, and after passing many rows of houses and crossing many streets, we arrived at the depot. From the distance we had traveled we supposed we had advanced far into the city, but, after taking carriages we found ourselves nearly three miles from our lodging place; and yet, that was outside of the old city of London.

Taking lodgings at the Exeter Hotel, which is situated in the Strand, we were in the midst of many objects of great interest. But preferring a more quiet abode, we selected Wood's Hotel in Furnival's Inn.—Here a few days have been spent in sight seeing, but I must defer the description until another time. Yours, &c.,

M. S.

LONDON, June 3?, 1857.

The Hail Storm in the District of Columbia.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

The hail and thunder storm which passed over the city of Washington and its vicinity on Sunday afternoon, created sad havoc to window glass, and also did much other damage. From the *Star* we gather the following additional particulars:

The Smithsonian Institution lost 2000 panes of glass; Hughes, gardener, lost 7,500 panes and had his garden, flowers and rare plants ruined. The beautiful field of oats in the square west of the Smithsonian Institution is cut down as if with a scythe. In nearly all the private gardens the grape vines, peach trees, strawberry vines and vegetables are entirely ruined.—The government green house at the foot of the capitol is a wreck. The Union Hotel has lost 400 panes of glass and sustained a damage of some $300; the new government armory has lost every pane of glass on the northwesterly front; the skylights of the capitol, three-eights of an inch thick, were cracked and broken; the American House (Mrs. Beveridge's,) was struck twice by lightning, by which the top of a chimney was demolished, the plastering torn off the ceiling of the private entrance and the carpet ripped up in one of the parlors.

The lightning-rod at the Rev. Mr. Tennsdale's church undoubtedly saved that edifice from destruction, as a ball of fire was seen to pass down it, causing vivid light. Rev. Mr. Carother's church, corner of Fifth and I streets, lost some 200 panes of glass; the tin roof of the church was also badly bruised. The Rev. Mr. Carothers himself, while in the neighborhood of the church, was so much stunned by the electric fluid as to be rendered unconscious for a time. Grace Church, Island, (Rev. Mr. Holmead's,) also suffered severely from the hail.

The sky-lights and windows of Brown's Hotel suffered not a little, as also did another exposed building, the Catholic Orphan Asylum, on F st. It is estimated that the cost to the government and corporation of repairing breakages upon the street lamps will not be less than $2,000. The Burnet House lost 63 panes of glass; Mrs. King's, F street; 30 panes Trinity Church some $600 worth of stained glass. Capt. Birch lost 120 panes of glass from his residence near the steamboat wharf.—Much injury was done to the fine plate glass of Mr. George Parker's residence.

The storm, luckily, did not "cut a very wide swath" in its course, and was not even felt as near the city as the half way tree, between this place and Alexandria.

The last storm of this description is said to have occurred on the 26th of May, (also on Sunday,) 1834.

In Georgetown the storm was also severe Much damage was done to gardens, window-lights, &c. The principal sufferers are Mrs. Capt. Boyce and Mr. C. W. Pairo.—The west front of the Union Hotel, the Bridge staeet Presbyterian church, the college buildings, the public school house, besides several of the other churches, and many private buildings also suffered severely. In a portion of Fairfax county, Va., the wheat and corn were greatly injured.

☞ A bet was made recently between two farmers in France, about the speed of horses and oxen, with the same load the same distance; the distance traveled was about twelve miles; a four horse team was put to a wagon loaded with about 10,000 pounds of root pulp. The oxen were two yoke with the same load. The horses beat them only seven minutes, and would themselves have been beaten had they not been the best in the country.

☞ The election of delegates to the constitutional Convention in Minnesota, stands, Republican, 58; Democrat 46; doubtful 4—giving a working majority into Republican hands.

THE SEXTON.

Nigh to a grave that was newly made,
Leaned a sexton old on his earth-worn spade;
His work was done, and he paused to wait
The funeral train through the open gate;
A relic of by-gone days was he,
And his locks were white as the foamy sea—
And these words came from his lips so thin,
"I gather them in! I gather them in!"

I gather them in! for man and boy,
Year after year of grief and joy,
I've builded the houses that lie around
In every nook of this burial ground.
Mother and daughter, father and son,
Come to my solitude one by one—
But come they strangers, or come they kin,
"I gather them in! I gather them in!"

Many are with me, but still I'm alone!
I'm king of the dead—and I make my throne
On a monument slab of marble cold;
And my sceptre of rule is the spade I hold.
Come they from cottage or come they from hall
Mankind are my subjects—all, all, all!
Let them loiter in pleasure or toilful spin,

I gather them in—and their final rest
Is here, down in the earth's dark breast—
And the sexton ceased—for the funeral train
Wound mutely over that solemn plain;
And I said to my heart, when time is told,
A mightier voice than that sexton's old,
Will sound o'er the last trump's dreadful din—
"I gather them in! I gather them in!"

Ludicrous Effects of the Appearance of a Comet in 1712.

As everybody is on the *qui vive* in regard to the Comet, and as all sorts of ideas are "around" in regard to it, we give the following amusing sketch gleaned from an old paper:

"In the year 1712 Mr. Whitson, having calculated the return of a comet which was to make its appearance on Wednesday, the 14th of October, at five minutes after five in the morning, gave notice to the public accordingly, with a terrifying addition that a total dissolution of the world by fire was to take place on the Friday following. The reputation Mr Whitson had long maintained in England, both as a divine and a philosopher, left little or no doubt with the populace of the truth of his prediction.

"Several ludicrous events took place. A number of persons in and about London seized all the barges and boats they could lay their hands on in the Thames, very rationally concluding that when the conflagration took place there would be the most safety on the water. A gentleman who had neglected family prayer for better than five years informed his wife that it was his determination to resume that laudable practice the same evening, but his wife having engaged a ball at her house, persuaded her husband to put it off till she saw whether the comet appeared or not. The South Sea stock immediately fell to 5 per cent. and the India to 11; and the captain of a Dutch ship threw all his powder into the river that the ship might not be endangered.

"The next morning, however, the comet appeared according to the predictions, and before noon the belief was universal that the Day of Judgment was at hand. About this time three hundred and twenty-three clergymen were ferried over the Lambeth, it was said, to petition that a short prayer might be penned and ordered, there being none in the Church service on that occasion. Three maids of honor burnt their collection of novels and plays, and sent to the bookseller's to buy each of them a Bible and a Bishop Taylor's 'Holy living and Dying.' The run upon the bank was so prodigious that all hands were employed from morning till night in discounting notes and handing out specie. On Thursday considerably more than 7,000 kept mistresses were legally married in the face of several congregations And, to crown the whole farce, Sir Gilbert Heathcote, head Director of the Banks, issued orders to all the fire officers in London requiring them to keep a good look-out and have a particular eye on the Bank of England."

A SNAKE REMOVED FROM A WOMAN'S STOMACH.—The Logansport (Ind.) Phoos states that Dr. A. Myers of that city, who has acquired some celebrity as the inventor of a trap for the removal of tape worms, has recently performed a cure that is worthy of more than ordinary mention.

Mrs. E. Ryan of Fort Wayne, about 20 years of age; has been severely afflicted for four years with a sensation in the stomach, as though there was some reptile moving in it. During that time she was treated for various diseases by numerous physicians of skill, and by several for tape worm.

Hearing of Dr. Myers' new process for the removal of porasite from the human stomach, Mrs. R. went to Logansport and placed herself under his charge. Within two weeks Dr. M. removed from her stomach a snake about 3½ feet long, and 1½ inches in diameter, and relieved her of all her sufferings, instead of aggravating it as had been the result of previous treatment she received. The latter part of her illness she was unable to attend to the domestic care of her family or even to take care of herself. It required two hours to prepare for retiring at night, an equal length of time transpired before she could lie down—and often she was deprived of sleep for nights together. Frequently she would walk the floor until exhausted, because unable to lay down without the most excruciating pain. Mrs. Ryan's own words are, that her sufferings were such that she often prayed for death to relieve them. Mrs. R. supposed she swallowed the snake, which was apparently o the water species, while drinking from a spring in the evening, at her former residence west of Fort Wayne.

She left the care of Dr M. for home, feeling as though she was saved from worse than death.

Clandestine Courtships.

There is a tolerably good story going the rounds, of a young man who woed a young lady, and fearing a repulse from the parents, conducted his courtship in a clandestin manner. Finally an elopement took place, the young gentleman gaining a supposed heiress of good family, who, however, turned out to be no heiress, and no relation whatever to the family in which she lived, and where she was in reality employed as a seamstress—although she had the address to conceal these facts from her wooer.

The story is not a very remarkable one; it has not even the merit of novelty; it appeared many years ago in a fuller form in Blackwood—but its moral is as good now ever it was. It is pointed at those sneaking souls who cannot comprehend that anything can be completely done either in love or war, unless it is done clandestinely. Unconcious that the character they thus aquire must eventually detract from their moral reputation for strength and dignity, they always work under cover, putting infinite faith in "lying low," and as a natural consequence very generally sinking integrity in the lower sort of lying Young men of this class almost invariably proceed, even in the most honorable love matters, as if they were affairs involving deadly disgrace; and as a natural consequence they frequently find themselves deceived, if not in matters of family and money, at least in that of their wives. Young ladies who encourage such *sub rosa*, courtship, and are willing to deceive parents, generally continue by deceiving husbands also; while in other matters, and especially in business, few persons are particularly anxious to deal with men, the heavier half of whose thoughts are treated as inscrutable secrets. Mystery is after all the real parent of crime—and generally of very contemptible crime.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

Making a Claim.

As many persons in the East, who contemplate coming to the West, don't know what the above phrase means, nor are they acquainted with the modus operandi of securing a claim, we will give them this form which we conceive to be the way in which it is done.

There is a sort of unwritten code of laws known as "Squatter Law" which regulates this matter, possession being here as elsewhere, regarded as "nine points in the law." This code is administered by a tribunal, called a "Squatter Court," and its decisions are considered as binding among squatters as the determinations of the regularly organized judiciary. All disputes are submitted to this Court, and its decisions are final.

The new squatter selects his claim where ever he can suit himself best, provided the land he selects be not claimed by some one else before him. He marks it out by stakes or by blazing the trees around it. He then applies to the nearest squatter organization and asks to be admitted as a member, which is readily done. The organization informs him how much improvement he will be required to make, to entitle him to their protection as a squatter. Some require more, some less. Those near the town require more improvements than those remote.—Pledges are then taken of him that he will assist in protecting each member of the association in the possession of his claim; and if necessary to the accomplishment of this object will fight a little. Also that he will abide the decision of the Squatter Court, &c.

By this arrangement, many men of small means are enabled to get good farms at the cost of entry or for the apprised value at public sale.

At the public sale no one is permitted to bid against a squatter, or if such should be the case, the individual doing so, will be very likely to endanger his personal safety. The whole proceeding is somewhat primative, but in the main is just and equitable.—*Leav. Times.*

REPORTED HOMICIDE BY A SON OF HENRY CLAY.—The Cincinnati Commercial of Saturday contains a report that a quarrel took place on Thursday, at Lexington, Ky., between John Clay, Esq, a son of the departed statesman, and a horse-trainer named Edgar. High words passed between the parties, and led finally to a personal encounter, when Clay drew a revolver and fired twice at Edgar. One ball entered his mouth, and passed out behind his ear. Another ball lodged in the back. Edgar is reported mortally wounded, and is, perhaps, dead before this time. Clay immediately left Lexington, and has not been heard from since. The parties have not been on amicable terms for some time. John, we believe, is the youngest surviving son Henry Clay. Of his older brothers, one—Henry Clay, jr.—was killed at the battle of Buena Vista; and another, James B. Clay, is now a Democratic candidate for Congress.

☞ A few days ago and old gentleman and his lady were coming down from Iowa city to Davenport, when the cars were crowded. A young man got up and gave the old lady a seat, while his companion, another young gent, remained steadfast, and let the old gentleman stand. This did not suit our old friend, so he concluded to get a seat in some way, and quick as thought, turned to the young man on the seat beside his wife, and said, will you be so kind as to watch that woman while I get a seat in another car? She takes fits.

This started the young gent. He could not bear the idea of taking care of a fitty woman, so the old gentleman got a seat and his wife never was known to have a fit afterwards.

☞ It is stated that on the first day of June there were masses of frozen spray and snow fifty feet in solid thickness, under the American side of the Falls at Niagara

The American Guano Islands.

The construction of the act protecting American interests in guano islands, discovered and now occupied by our countrymen, recently given by Judge Black, the Attorney General, is said to be highly favorable to the enterprise which the act was intended to encourage. The company claiming Tarvis and the new Nantucket Islands, in the South Pacific, have complied with all, the requisitions of the law, by giving the necessary bonds to the United States for the performance of the conditions upon which they receive protection. It requires no further act of Congress to enable them to take possession; and, in fact, they are occupants of the islands, and are loading vessels with the guano for American ports.

The Washington *State* says, that what is most necessary for the interests of the Company, is a fair trial of their guano by practical farmers and gardeners, and that its relative value as a fertilizer should be ascertained. The Patent Office has distributed gratuitously, to all who try it, a few pounds of guano, with directions for its application, and the request that a report of the result of the trial be made to that bureau.

KITE-FLYING EXTRAORDINARY.—The Chinese kite flyers of Sacramento have been astonishing the people there, of late, with strange figures in the heavens. The Union mentions one kite which was in the form of an immense centipede, and which presented a truly unique appearance when floating in the upper air. The Argus says of another—"It was made in the similitude of some Oriental monster—fish, fowl or beast, we could not tell which—with great eyes which were made to 'bat' by a revolving wheel. At first the winking apparatus in one of the eyes refused to work, and the aerial creation made scandalous faces at the people below, It was hauled down, rearranged, and sent up again with bow and strings attached, forming a sort of Eolian harp, which could be heard a great distance."

GALLANT TO THE LAST.—A correspondent of the *Evening Post*, writing on the "Woman Question" says: "I confess in all sincerity, that I have never yet seen an ugly Woman. I never find any woman entirely ugly. I enlarged upon this idea once before an audience of women.—One who was extremely flat nosed said to me: "Sir, I defy you not to find me ugly." "You, madam," I replied, "are an angel fallen from heaven, only you have fallen on your nose." Probably she did not believe me, and has maintained against the whole world that she is ugly.

☞ A celebrated lecturer on natural philosophy was one evening dilating upon the powers of the magnet, defying any one to name or show anything surpassing its powers. An old gentleman accepted the challenge much to the lecturer's surprise, but he nevertheless invited him on to the platform, when he told the lecturer that women was the magnet of magnets—for, if the loadstone on the table could attract a piece of iron for a foot or two there was a young woman who; when he was a young man used to attract him *thirteen miles every Sunday to have a chat with her.*

A NEW COUNTERFEIT.—A new Counterfeit five dollar note, on the Exchange Bank of Pittsburgh, has made its appearance. It is well executed, and will deceive many, unless they are on the look out for it. The vignette represents two females floating in the air. It purports to have been engraved by W. L. Wintly.

NEW WHEAT AND NEW FLOUR. New wheat appeared in Charleston, South Carolina, as long as ten days since, some of which is said to be on its way to northern markets. On the 12th inst., ten barrels of flour from new wheat were shipped from Augusta, Ga., to New York.

☞ Prentice of the Louisville Journal, responsible for the following:—The Washington Union says of the Democratic party that it is very certain not to go to sleep. Perhaps it can't go to sleep for the same reason, that the woman's baby couldn't—its face is so dirty that it can't shut its eyes.

☞ Women are called "softer sex," because they are said to be so easily humbugged. Out of 100 girls it is more likely that ninety-five would prefer ostentation to true happiness; and a dandy husband to a hard working mechanic. This is emphatically and universally so.

☞ A writer in the Christian Examiner thinks the three names which will shine the longest on the Western continent are those of Washington Hamilton and Webster.

☞ Lorenzo Dow once said of a grasping avaricious farmer, that if he had the world enclosed in a single field he would not be content without a patch of ground on the outside for potatoes.

☞ Dr. Francis says Dr. Kane's greatest weight was 97 pounds, and that during the period of his Arctic career he did not weigh more than 93 pounds.

"This is a *grate* prospect," as the prisoner said when he peeped out of his cell window.

We clip the following capital [illegible] from an exchange. Its acuteness is not surpassed by anything in Sardi or Sol[illegible]

The man who does not advertise his business, confesses incapacity and [illegible] and must retreat to the rear rank of vocation.

☞ Speaking without thinking is [illegible] without taking aim