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

From Peterson's Magazine.

YEARS AGO.

We together played in childhood,
We together roamed the wildwood,
Gathered flowers and gathered shells,
By the lake, and by the dells,
As we wandered to and fro,
Years ago.

And we lay beneath the willow,
With a green moss for a pillow,
While the long twigs bent above us,
Like the hearts of those who love us,
Dreaming dreams that none might know,
Years ago.

As we sought with eager fingers,
Where the fragrant violet lingers,
Fancies beautiful and fairy,
But alas! so very airy,
In our hearts did burn and glow,
Years ago.

As we plucked the scented flowers,
In those sunny, childish hours,
As we twined the graceful wreath,
We, with quick'ning coming breath,
Told our visions high and low,
Years ago.

Now beneath the turf thou'rt lying,
And the flowers are o'er thee dying.
Leaves are showering o'er thee fast,
Like my memories of the past,
When you and I roamed to and fro,
Years ago.

Falls of Niagara.—A letter written at the falls of Niagara says:

For fifteen years I have been an annual visitor here, and Niagara has never before impressed me with so much sublimity. I attribute it to a greater quantity of water at present than upon any former occasion. The Cataract itself does not present any marked change of features, but the "Rapids" and the "Whirlpool" are more grand and impetuous than the "oldest inhabitant" can recollect. It is stated, upon reliable authority, that the surface of Lake Erie is from five to six feet higher now than before for thirty years. Much land is inundated upon the southern shore of said lake, and the farmers along shore are loud in their complaints against the public works at Black Rock, which they allege dam up the Niagara River so as to cause the rise in the lake.

Price of Land Warrants.—The demand for land warrants is steadily increasing, in consequence, it is said of an act passed at the late session of Congress, authorizing land warrants issued under the act of 1855, to be received in half payment for the land on the railroad lines held at $2,50 per acre, heretofore payable cash in gold. This is an important law, and has advanced the new warrants to the same value as those under the acts previous to 1855. Advices from the land offices at Council Bluffs and from Kansas, state that the government receives little money for its lands, land warrants being almost the only medium of payment. The prices of warrants at the land office, rule at about $2 per acre for the 80s and 160s, and ninety-five cents for the 320s.

☞ William B. Astor, Esq., of New York city, has determined to build three magnificent steamships, so constructed that they can be used for commercial or naval purposes. The object that Mr. Astor has in view is to give work to several thousand suffering mechanics and laborers at present out of employment. When the vessels are completed, he will offer them for sale to the United States Government, and in case it should decline, to the European powers. Any surplus that may remain after payment of the cost of construction, and a reasonable interest, Mr. Astor intends to divide among the workmen. The cost will be about $3,000,000!

Major General John A. Quitman, of the U. S. Army, died at his residence, near Natchez, on the 17th inst., aged 58 The deceased was a native of Dutchess county, N. Y., where his father was the pastor of a Dutch Reformed Church. In early life he emigrated to the South, and became a Mississippi planter. His brilliant services on the field in the Mexican war, under the appointment of President Polk as Major General, are well known to the whole country. In 1857, he was elected a member of Congress, and last fall, re-elected without opposition.

☞ There are many improvements to be made at Mount Vernon, and among them, are the restoration of an old church on the premises, built by Washington, which has long gone to decay, and the building of a mausoleum, to cost from $25,000 to $30,000. We hope the efforts of these noble ladies will be crowned with success, and that they may accomplish all their undertakings. Every lover of his country cannot but be proud of these ladies for rescuing the "Mecca of America" from the ruin and decay fast settling upon it.

Cure for Burns.—The *Gazette Medicale* of France, says that, by an accident, charcoal has been discovered to be a cure for burns. By laying a piece of cold charcoal upon a burn, the pain subsides immediately. By leaving the charcoal on one hour, the wound is healed. as has been demonstrated on several occasions. The remedy is cheap and simple, and certainly deserves a trial.

Terrible Earthquake in Mexico.

FIFTY LIVES LOST—DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT $6,000,000.

City of Mexico, June 30, '58.

I had mailed my last letter to you but fifteen minutes before; and was on my way back to my hotel, when suddenly the earth rocked beneath my fee; I was precipitated against the wall of a house; the house commenced to crack and roll about like empty bottles in water; the streets were rapidly filled with young and old—some in full dress, some in no dress—all making the most frightful ado; some laying flat on their bellies, but most on their knees, calling on all the saints in the Mexican calendar to save them, their wives or husbands, their children, &c.; horses, dogs, and even the mules and the stupid asses in the streets stood stock still, quivering in every part.—A second or more gave me an idea of what was transpiring, and recollecting the exclamation of a *cargador* a few seconds before, that there was an earthquake, I recovered myself as I was going headlong in the street on the rebound and betaking myself to a doorway took out my watch and commenced making notes of time and events As I laid hold of one side of the door—which was the San Francisco, near the corner of Vergan—the houses in the street appeared to me to be rocked about as if they were made of cork, and at the time were floating on a stormy water. Windows cracked; parlor lamps were hurled through portals into the streets; altogether there appeared to me but little chance of getting through the trouble with the whole body and bones so I made my way as best I could over the heaving pavement of the corner of the street—moved thither by the general instinct exhibited by all living creatures. A crowd of leperos, donkeys, horses, some ladies and a few gentlemen, soon formed my companions. When I arrived at the corner I was the only person standing—all the rest were on their knees or bellies; but a few seconds brought several who also kept an upright position—most of them for bravado. At the corner I could see the National Theatre, the Hotel Iturbide, the Progresso, the Academy at the corner, and several other large buildings. They were all heaving to and fro in the most alarming manner For my own part I could not conceive how they were able to resist one of the shocks, so violent were they and so heaving. But fortunately, no house in the range of my vision came down. The shocks lasted for nearly three minutes, although all the heavy swells passed within the space of two minutes.

The first shock was light and unperceived by me, although noticed by a *cargador* whom I was passing at the moment, who was seated on a corner stone. I had time to cross the street after the first shock, and had gone some twenty feet when the statement of the *cargador* turned out true.—After the heavy shocks there were several lighter ones, which were very annoying to foot passengers. The earth was contracting into its place, and gave several disagreeable twinges and jerks.

The first shock came from the south-southeast, and was followed by three from the same direction, when the motion suddenly turned to east and west, and gave us four heavy surges, which was followed by others of less strength.

The whole affair created the most intense excitement throughout this city, which admitted no abatement for three or four days. The previous gossip, which had existed regarding the forced loans, banishments, &c., suddenly was hushed, and all were absorbed in learning the truth of the calamity which had passed. For the first night and day the populace flocked to the squares and principal openings of the city. The first night the Alameda and Grand Plaza were filled with thousands of people who kept watch, for sleep they could not, on account of a drizzling rain. A general impression prevailed that there would be a repetition within thirty-four hours after the visitation Fortunately this did not come.

The circuit of this earthquake is not yet exactly known, but already it is known to have extended over an area of six hundred miles. It is also impossible as yet to ascertain where the shocks come from. Some incline to the belief that they originated in the volcano of Jorulia, in Michoacan, on account of the almost [illegible] of the town of Patzcuaro; others think the shocks were caused by some internal movement on the Pacific coast, near Acapulco, as the village of Chilpancingo has suffered severely, sixty houses having been thrown down.

Carriages have been permitted to pass in several streets since the 21st, but many are still closed, and the houses in those streets are undergoing repairs.

Novel Shooting.

The Louisville Journal says:

Captain John Travis is determined to keep the people here astonished with the use of the pistol. Having abandoned his idea of shooting oranges from a living boy's head he has resolved upon showing his skill in a manner no less wonderful, if not so dangerous. He has made up a shooting match with J. J. Breckenridge, of Kentucky, upon the following terms: Breckenridge is to shoot his rifle at a distance of two hundred yards, off-hand, at a target, twenty shots. Travis is to shoot the pistol made by Morgan James (a beautiful pistol, which we have heretofore described) a distance of a hundred yards, with a rest, the same number of shots. The bullet holes in the target are then to be measured from the center with a string, to determine the winner. The shots will be made at the Oakland Race-course, near this city, on the first of October next.

☞ A correspondent of a N. York paper writes that while traveling at the South, he attended a negro meeting, where the sable preacher offered an earnest prayer for the white element in our population.

"KIVER UP, STRANGER."

There is a spot, in the South-Western part of this State, known as the "Fiery Fork of Honey Run"—a delicious locality, no doubt, as the run of "honey" is, of course, accompanied by a corresponding flow of "milk," a mixture of milk and honey, or at any rate, honey and "peach" is the evidence of sublunary contentment, every place where they have preaching!

"Honey Run" is further christianized by the presence of an extremely hospitable family, whose mansion, comprising one apartment—neither more nor less—is renowned for being never shut against the traveler, and so our friend found it during the chill morning air at the expense of a rheumatism in his shoulder—its numerous unaffected cracks and spaces clearly showing that dropping the latch was a useless formality. The venerable host and hostess, in their own apartment, usually enjoy the society of two sons, four daughters, sundry dogs and 'niggers,' and as many lodgers as may deem it prudent to risk the somewhat equivocal allotment of sleeping partners.—On the night in question, our friend, after a hearty supper of ham and eggs, and a canvass of the Fiery Forkers—the old lady having pointed out his bed—felt very weary, and only looked for an opportunity to 'turn in,' though the musquitoes were trumpeting all sorts of wrath, and no net appeared to bar them. The dogs flung themselves along the floor, or again rose, restlessly, and sought the door step, the 'niggers' stuck their feet into the yet warm ashes; the old man stripped, unscrupulously, and sought his share of the one collapsed looking pillow, and the sons cavalierly followed his example, leaving the old woman, 'gals,' and 'stranger,' to settle any question of delicacy that might arise.

The candidate yawned, looked at his bed, went to the door, looked at the daughters; finally in downright recklessness, seated himself upon the 'doway,' and pulled off his coat. Well, he pulled off his coat, and then yawned, and then whistled, and then he called the old lady's attention to the fact that it would never do to sleep in his muddy trousers; and. then he undid his vest, and then he whistled again, and then suddenly, an idea of her lodger's possible embarrassment seemed to flash upon the old woman, and she cried:

'Gals, jest turn your backs round till the stranger gits into bed.'

The backs were turned, and the stranger did get into bed in 'less than no time,' when the hostess again spoke:

'Reckon, stranger, as you aint used to us, you'd better kiver up till the gals undress, hadn't you?'

By this time our friend's sleepy fit was over, and, though he did 'kiver up' as desired, somehow or other the old counterpane was equally kind in hiding his blushes, and favoring his sly glances. The nymphs soon stowed away, for there were neither bustles to unhitch nor corsets to unlace, when their mamma, evidently anxious not to smother her guest, considerably relieved him. 'You can unkiver now, stranger; I'm married folks, and you aint afeard of me, I reckon!'

The stranger happened to be 'married folks' himself; he unkivered and turned his back with true connubial indifference, as far as the ancient lady was concerned; but, with regard to the 'gals' he declared that his half raised curiosity inspired the most tormenting dreams of mermaids that ever he experienced.

Mt. Washington.—The editor of the Boston Atlas, writing from Mount Washington in New Hampshire says:

"Of the view from Mt. Washington it would be easy to write profusely and enthusiastically, but it has been so often described and descanted upon that I shall not do it. Suffice to say that it is full of grandeur, greatness and granite, like all prospects from mountain heights; it is inspiring and richly repays the tourist for all the toil of the ascent.

I was struck with the contrast between this and the views I have enjoyed from Mansfield, Camel's Hump, and Sterling, peaks of the Green Mountains. The view from either of the latter is far more beautiful and varied than from Mt. Washington, but not so full of grandeur; from the latter the multitude of the mountains, for hundreds of miles around, are grouped together, affording a prospect which for sublimity cannot be equalled that the Atlantic, far distant may be descried when the air is free from mist or smoke; but from the Green Mountains you have a panorama of mountains, lakes, rivers and villages, with the whole expanse of the beautiful Champlain. I was not aware before that the contrast between two mountain prospects, where nearly the same features are included, could be so great, but the reader can try both, as indeed he should, and then decide. Let every body, who can, go stand—once at least in his life time—on Washington's sky-piercing summit, bathe his brow in its coronet of clouds and he will say, "It is good for me to be here."

Fat Salaries.—Henry Ward Beecher, says a New York paper, has a yearly salary of $5,000 and a parsonage rent free, and that with his literary earnings, his income is $12,000. E. H. Chapin has $5,000 per annum and makes as much more by lecturing. Dr. Bethune has $2,500, but is the possesser of a fortune outside of his professional earnings. Dr. Adams, says our authority, has $5,000 a year and a rich wife Dr. Hawks has $9,000 a year and a house. Dr. Taylor of Grace church, has $10,000 and the fine parsonage adjacent to the church. Rev Messrs. Tyng, Bellows, Osgood, Cheever, and other leading clergymen, receive from $3,000 to $6,000 per annum.

☞ A cotemporary, noticing the appointment of a friend as postmaster, says: 'If he attends to the mails as well as he does to the females, he will make a very attentive and efficient officer.'

SUN STROKE—A TOUCHING CASE.

A case occurred yesterday afternoon, on West Sixth street so touching in its details that we must relate it in full.

A little boy between twelve and fifteen years of age, a member of a poor family, had been out in search of employment.—He found none, but way off in a part of the city distant from his home, he came across a number of workmen demolishing a house. As he could obtain no employment and take no money home, the thought struck him that he might gather fuel from the ruins, and take a load of it home to save expenditure from the scanty family treasury. He gathered a heavy load of shingles, and securing them in a bundle, threw them across his back and started homewards. The load was heavy, the weather was hot, but he persevered.

While passing along Sixth street, he was overcome by the heat, and fell prostrate on the side walk. A crowd hastily gathered around him, some [illegible] to do this, and some that and all doing nothing. No, not all. There was one, an elderly gentleman, a kind hearted old bach, noted alike for his charities and popular verse, who silently proceeded to the relief of the lad. Getting down upon the pavement he laid the boy's head in his lap, poured cold water slowly over his forehead, and bathed the limbs. He continued this process until signs of returning life were exhibited in deep moans. The Samaritan, still holding the boy's head on his lap, bathed the forehead and fanned the tortured features. Gradually the boy's eyes resumed their natural appearance, and he became conscious.

"Get a little brandy," said the Samaritan—"All he wants now is a little stimulant."

The liquor was procured, and the glass put to the lips of the poor boy. He gently pushed it aside.

'No, no,' said he, 'I can't drink brandy. My mother would be angry with me if I did it!'

'But you must take it, my lad,' replied the elderly gentleman. 'It will give you strength.

'I can't,' was his reply. "It ruined my father!"

His earnestness was touching. He resisted all persuasion to touch the liquor, but finally a small quantity, it being deemed essential, was forced down his throat. He soon revived sufficiently to go home in an express wagon.—*Cin. Times.*

Interesting Statistics.

Among other interesting facts of De Bow's statistical view of the United States, we may mention that the foreign vote of the country is one-twelfth of the whole; that the State of New York has about one-eighth of the population of the Union; that there is one house to every six persons in the country; that the number of persons who live east of the Mississippi is twelve times greater than those who live west thereof; the distance between New York and New Orleans is more than that between London and Constantinople, or Paris and St. Petersburg; over two-fifths of the National Territory is drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries; of the 1,597 political newspapers published in the United States in 1850, 855 were Whig and 742 were Democratic. There are four hundred thousand Indians in our territory; at the close of the Revolution, there were but thirty-six thousand in the old thirteen States, according to an estimate of General Knox; direct and indirect tax paid by each person in the country $4 24; number of real estate owners 1,500,000, or one in about 3.19 of the free males over twenty-one years of age; number of Federal office-holders (exclusive of army and navy) 35,456, a nine-fold increase since in 1800, the population having increased about five-fold; one-fourth part of the people reside in villages, towns and cities; the number of people to a dwelling in New York city averages more than 13, in Boston nearly 9, in New Orleans 9½, in Richmond about 5.

The Rarey (Horse-Taming) Family.—The "Rarey Family" consists of four brothers, who have been raised from boyhood in Groveport, Ohio. Their father was of German descent, a farmer and raiser of [illegible] and they were brought up [illegible] pursuit more or less to the present [illegible] They are all, however, in possession of the art of 'horse-taming.' The oldest is William H., who made the first discovery of the principles of the nature of the horse that led to the perfection of the system that is now astonishing the world. The second is Charles W., who is now teaching the system in the western part of Ohio. The third is Frederick, who now lives on his farm about two miles from Groveport. The fourth and youngest is John S. who together with his oldest brother William H. has devoted his life to the study of the horse, is now teaching the nobility of Europe the results of his experience.

Indian Beauties of Kansas.—Quindaro is on Wyandotte Indian lands, and there are Indian beauties around here in every direction. The names of some of them are peculiar. Among them I met Polly Big-foot, Mary Mud-cake, Susan Johnny-cake, Polly Between-the-logs, and Sally Spitfire. The Wyandotte Belle lives two miles below here—a bright-eyed, round-faced, chubby-cheeked girl of some twenty-two years, but afflicted with that black sickness so common to white girls—melancholy. I imagined at first that her sombre mood proceeded from a consciousness that her Indian blood excluded her from white society, but found it only an unrequited love. Indian girls here of any ambition will not marry Indians, for most of the tribe have become drunken and worthless. They therefore turn their eyes to white alliances, and to be disappointed in a white love is doubly painful.—*Cor. of the Cin. Gaz.*

TRIP LIGHTLY.

Trip lightly over trouble,
Trip lightly over wrong,
We only make grief double,
By dwelling on it long
Why clasp woe's hand so tightly?
Why sigh o'er blossoms dead?
Why cling to forms unsightly?
Why not to joy instead?

Trip lightly over sorrow—
Though this day may be dark,
The sun may shine to-morrow;
And gladly sing the lark;
Fair hope has not departed,
Though roses may have fled;
Then never be down hearted,
But look for joy instead.

Trip lightly over sadness,
Stand not to roll at doom,
We've pearls to string of gladness,
On this side of the tomb.
While stars are nightly shining,
And heaven is overhead,
Encourage not repining,
But look for joy instead.

A Spread Eagle Toast.

At Prentiss Centre, Missouri, on the 5th the following was the second regular sentiment:

Our Nation—Begotten amidst the storms of the sixteenth century, its infantile movements were dim and indistinctly seen on board the May Flower, on the rock of Plymouth, at Jamestown, on the plains of Monongahela, and on the heights of Abraham; the "capricious squalls" of its infancy were heard in the tea party of Boston, in Faneuil Hall, on the plains of Concord, Lexington, and Bunker Hill; in his boyhood he ran barefooted and bareheaded over the fields of Saratoga, Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth, and Yorktown, whipping his mother and turning her out of doors; in his youth he strode over the prairies of the boundless West, and called them his own, paid tribute to the despots of Barbary in powder and ball, spit in his father's face from behind cotton bales at New Orleans, whipped the mistress of the ocean, revelled in the halls of Montezuma, straddled the Rocky Mountains, and with one foot upon golden sand, and the other upon codfish and lumber, defied the world; in his manhood, clothed in purple and fine linen, he rides over a continent in cushioned cars, rides over the ocean in palace steamers, sends his thoughts on wings of lightning to the world around, thunders at the door of the Celestial Empire, and at the portals of distant Japan, slaps his poor old decrepid father in the face, and tells him to be careful how he pecks into any of his pickaroons, and threatens to make a sheep pasture of all the lands that join him. What he will do in old age, God only knows.—May he live ten thousand years, "and his shadow never be less."

Noble Sentiments.

Judge Smyser, of the Bucks and Montgomery district, in a recent elaborate and able opinion, refusing to remove a board of School Directors for having built a large and commodious school house, in place of a dilapidated and worthless affair, gave expression to the following just and most truthful sentiments. They are words of judicial wisdom that should be copied by the press throughout the State:

"The Common School system may now be regarded as permanently established in Pennsylvania. It has become part of the settled policy of the State. It has, therefore, become alike the interest and duty of all, opponents as well as friends, to withdraw any further opposition to it, and to unite and co-operate in endeavors to improve and perfect it. To this end, good, convenient and suitable school-houses are indispensable; and they should be arranged on a scale of permanency corresponding to the system itself. The day for mere temporary shifts and devices, such as men were content with whilst it was uncertain whether the system would not be abandoned, has gone by—and true wisdom and sound economy now call for a different management."

[illegible] Courses.—Since the original States have been added to the Union.—Their names and order of their admission have been as follows:

Vermont	1791	Missouri	1821
Kentucky	1792	Michigan	1836
Tennessee	1796	Arkansas	1836
Ohio	1802	Iowa	1845
Louisiana	1811	Florida	1845
Indiana	1816	Texas	1846
Mississippi	1817	Wisconsin	1848
Illinois	1818	California	1850
Alabama	1819	Minnesota	1858
Maine	1820		

Pulling Teeth in Old Times.—The primitive method of abstracting teeth in Scranton is thus described by a correspondent of the N. Y. Express:

"One end of a firm hemp string was fastened upon the aching member, while the other, securely tied around a bullet purposely notched; was put in the barrel of a flint-lock musket, loaded with an extra charge of powder. When all was ready, the desperate operator caught hold of the gun and 'let drive.' Out flew the tooth and away bounded the musket several feet. This mode of extracting teeth became the chosen and only method practiced in this region for many years."

☞ A lady asked Dr. Statts if he did not think the small bonnets the ladies wore had a tendency to produce congestion of the brain? 'Oh, no,' replied the doctor, 'ladies who have brains don't wear them.'

WIFE WANTED.

From the Cass County Republican.

A native masculine, on the sunny side of thirty, who has never committed matrimony—got up on the original plan—between five and seven feet high—who was never called handsome except in jest—with a heart of flesh capable of receiving an impression—hand neither larger nor harder than a brick—accustomed to daily labor—free from debt—minus all kinds of change and territory—possessed of a slight knowledge of human nature and things in general—great lover of music—constant reader of Godey, but not of the ledger—of good habits—whose greatest failing is an excess of modesty—would form a partnership with [illegible] opposite sex, providing she can come up to the following scratch:

1st. She must not be a gossiper, spiritualist, believer in the doctrine of woman's rights, nor member of more than four political or secret societies.

2d. Her form must not be like an angel's, but full and in good shape. Hair natural, but neither red, sandy, nor inclined to curl. Eyes not like a dove—neither black nor white—but to look straight and not squint. Waist not too small nor larger than a tub. Feet of reasonable dimensions—free from blemishes and neatly dressed.

3d. Her teeth, voice, judgement and constitution must be sound or in good repair.

4th. She must not be above feeding the pigs, and attending to matters during her husband's absence; of being seen with him when poorly dressed, or patching his breeches in case of actual necessity.

5th. She must fully understand the difference between looking over and overlooking, (shirts and other traps,) and between tweedle dee and tweedle dum.

6th. She must be strong and healthy, able to carry a large luncheon (and a small jug) some distance, and in case of sudden indisposition will be expected to help her lord home and put him to bed. Also not to be easily frightened at strange noises or jump very high at the sight of toads, frogs, and other insects.

7th. She must be willing to stay at home one whole day in the week, and on others get breakfast before leaving—cold dinners to be 'set up' on washing days only.

8th. She must on all occasions let her husband's hair, whiskers, razor and boot jack alone, and suffer him to have the safe key in his trousers pocket.

9th. She must be satisfied with nine-tenths of the entire profits for 'pin money,' and limit her amount of dress, jewelry, dimity and size of crinoline accordingly.

Last Scratch—She must have a whole soul, a heart not petrified but shining through every feature, ready to speak kindly to the downcast and broken hearted, or to burst forth in sympathy with affliction or poor relations.

Any young lady favorably disposed, possessing the above qualifications, who can cheerfully submit to these regulations, with sufficient cash in hand to supply her extra wants for three days, can address, TR. HISRAW.

Care of the gentlemanly editor of this paper, or to Bachelor's Hall, Dowagiac, Mich.

Legal Decision—Life Insurance.

Judge Yerger, of Vicksburg, Miss., in the case of Miles & Adams vs. Martha E. Jackson et al., decided that a policy of life insurance is not subject to attachment either in law or equity, to satisfy the claims of creditors.

In this case C. A. Jackson assigned his policy of $5,000 to the defendants and the next day died insolvent. Among other questions, the validity of the transfer was brought before the court, and decided affirmatively. The following is the language of the court on this point: "It is futher more well settled that where a debt of service, or compensation of any kind is not due, and where the party to whom the same is payable, by his own act, or omission to perform some act, may defeat it, it is not liable in law or equity to be subject to the claims of creditors, as where a party's compensation depends on his performing certain [illegible] by refusing or omitting failed or refused to pay his annual premium, or payments, the policy is defeated, and no creditor has a right to make such payment to uphold the policy, and secure it as a means of paying his debt, unless such right is inserted in the policy itself. In this view of the law, this court would have no jurisdiction to grant the relief prayed for by the complainants."

Can a Man be his own Grandfather?—The Query answered in the affirmative: "There was a widow and her daughter-in-law, and a man and his son. The widow married his son, and the daughter the old man; the widow was therefore mother to her husband's father, consequently grandmother to her husband. They had a son to whom she was great-grandmother; now as the son of a grandmother must be either a grandfather or great uncle, this boy was therefore his own grandfather. N. B. This was actually the case with a boy at school at Norwich.

Wild Pigeons.—The Western States are literally swarming with wild pigeons making sad havoc among the grain. One man in Marion county, Ohio, lost sixteen acres, another eighteen, another ten, and so on. They cannot be driven away, for when fired at, they only rise to light again within a few rods. Hundreds and thousands have been slaughtered within a few days by the citizens, but the numbers do not seem to diminish in the least.

DESCRIPTION of GREAT SALT LAKE.

The annexed is a fair description of this remarkable lake, and is altogether the best we have ever seen. The writer becomes exceedingly poetical at the close: But we fear the sentiment is manufactured, and not spontaneous or heartfelt:

"The lake is on the west side of the valley, eighty miles long, forty miles wide, without sink or outlet. The deepest water is forty-one feet interspersed with islands, mostly at the north end, two at the south end one twenty miles long the other fifteen; on the east, island, brother Parr keeps a herd of some cattle, a fine ranche, plenty of water, plenty of wood. The best island, (Stanbury's) has very little wood and fresh water, but fine grass; cattle summer and winter on these islands, making the sweetest beef I ever saw. I have boiled salt at the south end of the lake. [illegible] of Kanesville, [illegible] miles north, bordering on the Lake, any amount of coppers and alum. Three years ago (54) three pails of water made one of salt. The lake has risen seven feet in five years! It now takes nearly five pails of water to make one of salt; so that not much salt makes on the beach now. Four years ago I loaded a wagon in two hours with as handsome coarse salt as you ever saw, and as good quality. The water is impregnated with glauber salts, lime, copperas, alum, muriatic acid, &c. The salt springs issue from the foot of the mountains. There is not a pure fresh water spring on the south end. The spring which we use from is too much flavored to suit strangers. It is a wild romantic place, but I love it, it is my home, we were driven from our homes by a band of ruffians, that would give us no rest day or night. Here we can sleep amid the dashing of waves, the howl of the wolf, and the grizzely bear, and the yell of the savage.

Squabble in an Indiana Bank—A "Run."

The New Albany *Tribune* has the following in regard to some banking transactions in that city. It says: "For some time past there has been considerable excitement in financial circles in regard to runs upon the Branch Bank in this city. The history of the matter is about as follows: At the last term of the Circuit Court, suit was brought by the bank against certain parties upon a protested acceptance for one thousand six hundred dollars, and against John Briggs as endorser. When the case was called, the Bank proposed to dismiss it so far as first parties were concerned, and take a judgment against Mr. Briggs. A judgment was not given. Mr. Briggs became incensed at the bank, and soon after presented one thousand dollars of its notes, which were redeemed in five cent pieces. This still further incensed Mr. Briggs, and he has continued to run upon the bank. Mr Mann, the Cashier, counted out one thousand six hundred dollars of the notes and presented the acceptance in payment. Mr. Briggs demanded his notes or the gold, and after some hot words the notes were returned.

On Thursday William Lockwood presented one hundred dollars of the notes of the Bank. He was offered silver for them which he refused. Yesterday Alex. Dowling, a Notary Public, presented the same notes and demanded the gold. Mr. Mann counted out ninety dollars in silver and ten in gold. Mr. D. examined the silver and finding that it had been coined since 1853, and was consequently not pure silver, refused it and demanded his notes again. Mr. Mann refused to give them up or to redeem them in gold. Mr. D. being thus placed in a bad dilemma, proceeded to the office of Mr. John S Davis to consult him. Mr. Davis returned to the Bank with Mr. Dowling and asked Mr. Mann to give up the notes or redeem them in gold. He refused to do either. Messrs. Davis and Dowling then proceeded behind the counter, when Dowling and Mann both seized the package of notes, and Davis seized Mann's wrist and wrenched them from him. In the scuffle a ten dollar bill was dropped and a five dollar bill torn in two. Mr. Mann then ordered the parties out of the Bank.

Real Estate in Boston.—The hard times are beginning to tell upon some classes of real estate in the city. Stores and houses of certain sizes continue to let well, and to bring good prices; but the number of houses for sale or to rent is large, and is daily becoming larger. When leases have terminated, rents have fallen, south part of the city, [illegible] be purchased at less than cost. In some instances a profit is obtained by the builder, through the advance in the price of land; but speaking generally, many houses are to be had for considerably less than the land, materials and labor would cost to-day.

The Condition of the Thames.—Such is the poisoned and filthy state of the Thames, at London, that the fish are sickened, and become so helpless that they can be taken out with the hands. On being placed in pure water they revive. An officer of health writes to the Times that the aspect and odor of an open sewer is not so offensive or unhealthy as the Thames for the reason that there is a constant agitation and whipping up of its filthy contents by steamboats. He proposes that the traffic between the bridges by steamboats be stopped entirely, and their proprietors compensated.

☞ A conscientious person affirms that he once in his life beheld people "minding their own business." This remarkable occurrence happened at sea, the passengers being too sick to attend to each others concerns.

☞ "Homestead exemption," exclaimed Mrs. Partington, throwing down the paper, "its come to a pretty pass indeed, that men are going to exempt themselves from home just when they please, without any proviso for cold nights."