Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., Feb. 19, 1892.

Don't Blame God for It.

We do not know who was the author of the following sensible article, but it is worth repeating and preserving. No whereases in it.

Lately a man in Missouri died soon after gorging himself with veal and hard cider. Societies of which he had been a member at once passed resolutions deploring his death and imputing it to Divine Providence. So it goes right along until Providence is made the scapegoat for no end of things for which men alone are to blame.

A reckless fool sits on a keg of powder smoking his pipe and gets blown into eternity. His friends forthwith lay it all on Providence. An infectious disease spreads because of criminal neglect of sanitary precautions and Providence is held responsible for the "dispensation." People drink water that breeds a pestilence and the account is charged to Providence. A jolly citizen fills up with whisky, dies suddenly and Providence comes in for another entry on the wrong side of the ledger. Foreign emigrants are permitted to land with their infected rags and Providence is accused of cutting down promising young lives just budding into beauty. Typhoid fever or diptheria, scarlet fever or smallpox, yellow fever or cholera breaks out and folks place it at the door of Providence, instead of overhauling their sewers and removing the cause of the deadly scourge.

This is simply the survival of a superstitions kept alive from the earliest times, when pagan priests thought to frighten away sickness by offering presents and making sacrifices to their gods. The birth of Christianity did not kill these absurd superstitions. It lived through the dark ages, and it lives today. The careless people of a pest stricken community will fold their hands and exclaim in mistaken religious fervor:

"God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform."

They forget that the ways of nature are not mysterious and that her laws are immutable; that she keeps a strict account with every human being, that she forces no balances and that when the last penny of the account is checked out the individual passes over to the debit side and death. The laws of disease are as certain and unchanging as the laws of gravitation. Given a person with a state of health a little below par, introduce some typhoid fever germs into him, and he will have typhoid fever. It is a case in which some one has blundered. Sanitarians have for years warned the public of the great dangers of public funerals over the bodies of victims of contagious diseases, but the people will not listen to them. So persistently do they disregard the plain warnings of science that the saying, "the people wish to be deceived," has come into common use.

If they would the ministers could aid scientists in showing the people how to escape disease and death. Let them tell the people that sit under their preaching that sanitary cleanliness is next to godliness, that filth breeds disease, that every filth disease is the result of carelessness, and that every death from such disease is to be laid at the door of man, not of Providence.

The Great Norhwest.

The States of Montana and Washington are very fully described in two folders issued by the Northern Pacific Railroad, entitled "Golden Montana" and "Fruitful Washington." The folders contain good county maps of the states named, and information in reference to climate, lands, resources, and other subjects of interest to capitalists, business men or settlers.

Holders of second class tickets to North Pacific Coast points, via Northern Pacific Railroad, are allowed the privilege of stopping over at Spokane, Washington, and points west thereof, for the purpose of examining all sections of this magnificent state before locating. Northern Pacific through express trains carry free colonist sleeping cars from St. Paul, and Pullman tourist sleepers from Chicago (via Wisconsin Central Line) to Montana and Pacific Coast points daily.

California tourists, and travelers to Montana and the North Pacific Coast, can purchase round trip excursion tickets at rates which amount to but little more than the one way fare. Choice of routes is allowed on these tickets, which are good for three or six months, according to destination, and permit of stop-overs.

The elegant equipment on the Northern Pacific Railroad; the dinner car service; the through first class sleeping cars from Chicago (via both Wisconsin Central Line and C. M. & St. P. Ry.) to Pacific Coast points, and the most magnificent scenery of seven states, are among the advantages and attractions offered to travelers by this line.

The "Wonderland" book issued by the Northern Pacific Railroad describes the country between the Great Lakes and Pacific Ocean, with maps and illustrations.

For any of the above publications, and rates, maps, time tables, write to any General or District Passenger Agent, or Chas. S. Fee, G. P. & T. A., N. P. R. R., St. Paul, Minn. tf.

—An Oregon woman has worked twenty years at stone cutting and a Maine spinster has put in al ost as long a term in making a patchwork bedquilt. And yet there are fool men around who will argue that woman lack patient application.

——The great treasury vault at Washington covers more than a quarter of an acre and is twelve feet deep. Recently there was $90,000,000 in silver stored there, an amount that weighed 4,000 tons and would load 175 freight cars.

——If the departed can know what is going on in the world, heaven is full of angels swelled up like toads, caused by reading the flattering words in their obituaries.

The Railway to Jerusalem.

The first railway to Jerusalem will, we are told, be opened in the spring of the coming year. It is a short line, running only from Joppa, the nearest port on the Mediterranean and intended to accommodate the growing passenger and other traffic between that place and the Holy City. The work of construction is being carried out by a French Company, which began laying down the line in April, 1880. It is fully expected that the speculation will be a paying one. The Company anticipates, at all event, making large profits, after paying the shareholders a guaranteed interest of 5 per cent.

It is stated that over 40,000 persons land at Joppa every year, in order to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and other spots celebrated in sacred history. The number of steamers and other vessels putting into the port of Joppa is now upward of 800 a year, the destination of most of the passengers and merchandise they convey being the capital of Palestine: In evidence of the recent rapid growth of the traffic, it may be mentioned that Joppa has trebled its population within the past thirty years. Tourists will be able to take a return ticket from the port in question and Jerusalem for 20 francs, and, what is more, they will be able to do the journey in far shorter time with infinitely greater safety than hitherto. The rush of tourists from all parts of the civilized world to Jerusalem will, if the expectations of the promoters are fulfilled, be something phenomenal in the immediate future.

Famous "Rides."

The following collections of poetry and prose on famous rides, although still incomplete, the writer believes to be the largest yet brought together:

Sheridan's Ride; T. B. Read.
Tam O'Shanter's Ride; Robt. Burns.
Black Valley R. R. Ride; I. N. Tarbox, D. D.
John Gilpin's Ride; William Cowper.
Charlotte Churchman's Ride; A. A. Preston.
Collins Grave's Ride; John Boyle O'Reilly.
Erl King's Ride; Wilhelm von Goethe.
Ichabod Crane's Ride; Washington Irving.
King of Denmark's Ride; C. E. Norton.
Kit Carson's Ride; Joaquin Miller.
Lady Godiva's Ride, Alfred Tennyson.
Mary Butler's Ride: B. F. Taylor.
Parson Allen's Ride; Wallace Bruce.
Paul Revere's Ride; H. W. Longfellow.
Ride to Aix; Robert Browning.
Skipper Ireson's Ride; J. G. Whittier.
The Radical Ride; A. J. Walker.
Warren's Ride; E. H. Weston.
Young Lochinvar's Ride; Walter Scott.

To the above may be added Geryson's McArthur's Ride, Israel Putnam's Ride Wilhelm's Ride with Lenore. John Sullivan's March, Don Quixote's Parole, Mazeppa's Circus Feat, News from Flodden Field, Pythias' Homeward Race, Ride of the Light Brigade, Ride of Commendatore, and Dick Turpin's Ride.

Princes Who Cannot Borrow.

In regard to the Prussian royal family there is an excellent law, which, had it existed here, would have saved us much money. No royal prince is allowed to borrow, and no one is allowed to lend money to him. If anyone does lend he cannot recover. Acting on this law, Frederick the Great never repaid any Prussian who had lent him money when he was heir to the throne, for he deemed that such a person had not only violated the law, but ought to lose his money for having done an improper action. Were one of our princes to borrow money, and an application to be made to parliament to repay it, the strong probability is that the house of commons would follow the example of Frederick the Great. I would, indeed, go further. I would inflict a heavy fine on any one asking to be repaid by parliament and on any minister asking for a vote for any such purpose.—London *Truth.*

Hezekiah's Surprise.

"Wal, Hiram, if this don't beat all! The old way for doctors was 'kill er' cure,' but here I've found a piece in this here newspaper where a doctor offers 'cash er cure.' It's fer catarrh! I wish we had it—I'd like to try him! Jest listen, Hirman! 'The proprietors of Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy offer a reward of $500 for any case of catarrh which they cannot cure.' That beats all lotteries hollow! The medicine costs 50 cents—your catarrh is cured, or you get $500! Where's my hat? I'm going over to neighbor Brown's, to show him. I never wanted to get within ten foot of him before, but if it is the cure of his catarrh, I guess I can stand it onc't." Sold by druggists.

——An Irishman picked up a round bit of tin in the street. It looked like a coin, and he walked into the nearest saloon and ordered a drink, putting down the disk when he had finished.

"Here!" said the barkeeper: "this is tin."

"Tin, is it?" said the Irishman. "Thin hev wan yurself."—*Judge.*

—Mr. Stranger—Have you no orphan asylum here?

Mr. Granger—What do we need of such an institution? Under our liberal divorce laws every child has more parents than he knows what to do with.—*Puck.*

—Seeker—You have been farming many years in this section and know the peculiarities of the soil pretty well; what do you consider the hardest thing to raise on your farm?

Meeker—The money to run it.—*Boston Courier.*

——"How do you know the ice is thick enough to skate on?" asked his father.

"Because nobody has tumbled in for a week," replied Tommy.

The B. & O. South-western Limited.

On November 20th, the B. & O. R. R. placed in service on its South-western Limited Express train running to Cincinnati and St. Louis an entirely new equipment, built expressly for this train by the famous Pullman Company. The new cars embracea ll the features that have rendered the Royal Blue Line trains so universally popular, and include the safety vestibule, steam heat, Pintsch gas light, and anti-telescoping device, and convenient toilet accessories for men and women. The Royal Blue Line train leaving Philadelphia at 11.35 a. m. makes direct connection with the South-western Limited at Baltimore, where coach passengers change cars. The sleeping cars run through from New York and Philadelphia to Cincinnati and St. Louis without change, arriving at Cincinnati next morning at 7.45 and St. Louis next evening at 6.25. 3t.

ESCALLOPED TOMATOES. — Open a can of tomatoes and pour off almost all the juice. Butter a deep earthen dish and cover the bottom with bread crumbs, then pour on a layer of tomatoes, sprinkle over it a little salt and put bits of butter in several places, then another layer of crumbs and so on until the dish is filled with alternate layers, remembering to season the tomatoes every time and have the top layer of crumbs. Cover over until it it very hot, then uncover and brown quickly.

——Margaret Fuller used to be accounted a very wise woman; and doubtless she was, for Mrs. Sherwood credits her with having once said: "Never talk about yourself, your diseases, your domestics or your dresses. Talk about your friends' interests, not your own."

——Look out for counterfeits! See that you get the genuine Salvation Oil! Do not let the dealer sell you some "just as good," but insist upon getting the genuine with the Bull's Head trademark on the wrapper.

——Hood's Pills act especially upon the liver, rousing it from torpidity to its natural duties, cure constipation and assist digestion.

——Clothes are the best passports among strangers—characters among acquaintances.