Christmas, 1871.

Lo! now is come our joyfullest feast
Let every man be jolly;
Each room with ivy leaves be dressed,
And every post with holly.

Now all our neighbors' chimneys smoke
And Christmas logs are burning,
Their ovens they with baked meats choke,
And all their spits are turning.

Without the door let Sorrow lie,
And if, for cold, it hap to die,
We'll bury it in a Christmas pie,
And evermore be jolly.

Farm, Garden and Household.

A CERTAIN CURE FOR EARACHE.—No house should be without a bottle of arnica. It is indispensable in case of cuts, burns and bruises, and in ear-ache it is a sovereign cure. As soon as any soreness is felt in the ear—which feeling almost always precedes the regular "ache"—let three or four drops of tincture of arnica be poured in, and then the orifice filled with a little cotton to exclude the air, and in a short time the uneasiness is forgotten. If it is not resorted to until there is actual pain, the cure may not be so speedy, but is just as certain. If one application of the arnica does not effect a cure, it will be necessary to repeat it, it may be several times. It is a sure preventive for gathering in the ear, which is the usual cause of ear-ache. We have never yet known any harm or serious inconvenience to attend this use of arnica; though, if the spirits with which it is made are very strong, it may be diluted with a little water, as the spirits—not the arnica—will sometimes cause a temporary dizziness of the head, which is unpleasant.

RAISING CALVES.—The method which we have used in rearing calves may be found to possess some interest to readers of the *Rural New Yorker*. With us it has proved uniformly successful and satisfactory. The calves are selected as much for the good qualities of their dams as for their individual excellence, and are allowed to remain with the cow from two to three weeks. We never remove a calf in bitter cold weather, as its welfare depends in a great measure upon the start it gets; and if it is worth raising at all, it is worth giving a good start. At first it is offered warm, skim milk. This it generally refuses the first meal, and sometimes the second, but rarely oftener. We never allow them to suck the fingers, and save many a cold and aching hand. They readily learn to drink by themselves, thereby thriving much better, and costing much less trouble. As soon as possible a little bran is mixed with the skim milk, and shortly afterward thick milk is substituted for the skim milk. The quantity is increased until the calf receives about five quarts of milk and a pint of meal a day. We use equal parts of bran and corn meal, or corn and oats. The drink is always warmed in cold weather by mixing with hot water. Calves fed in this manner, and having plenty of good hay, will weigh from 500 to 550 pounds at eight months old. They are then weaned, and continue to thrive on good hay and grass alone, the heifers having a calf of their own at 22 or 23 months old, and being fully able to do so. This method is used in an ordinary farm, with medium sized, good milking, native and grade cattle.

An Unreported Conversation.

During the Grand Duke Alexis's walks through the Bridgeport cartridge factory, he pointed to several workingmen and inquired of Governor Jewell, "Are these men what you call the common people?" The Governor replied that they were a fair specimen of the working classes of this country. "But do you mean to say that these get into official position?" further asked the imperial scion. "Perhaps not any of these men," rejoined Governor Jewell; "but men of their class do; they are educated men, most of them—that is, they can all probably read and write, and most of them take and read the newspapers." "Do you know of any case where such men have actually been elected to office?" again queried the curious Alexis. "O certainly," the Governor said; "I myself, worked in the shop as a tanner till I was twenty years of age;" and the announcement seemed to puzzle the Duke a good deal. Here was the Governor of a State, as well Dressed and as gentlemanly appearing as himself, who had actually worked in a shop, and this man was welcoming him in behalf of a hundred thousand voters; it was more of an enigma than the boy had cipbered on previously; but as he goes through the country he will ascertain, upon inquiring, that very many of the public men here have come direct from the workshop. In Massachusetts, where he is now visiting, Governor Claflin was a shoemaker, Senator Wilson was a cobbler also, and General Banks was a machinist.—*Hartford Courant.*

The Jews in Jerusalem.

In Jerusalem, as in Rome and elsewhere the Jews are shut up in a separate quarter, and *that* the meanest, darkest, filthiest. One twilight I came unexpected into their settlement. It was a mud lane, lined with hovels, through which a funeral procession was slowly moving, the body-borne on men's shoulders in the dress of life, a perfect tatterdemalion crew waiting as they followed. Coming to the Land of Promise to die, many of them are robbed on the way, and all are preyed upon after they arrive; so that, I apprehend, nothing is more real about them than their wretchedness. They have no counsels to interfere when a tax is exacted the second time in the same year. If injured, they must suffer in silence; if plundered by Arabs, they have no hope of redress. Only conversion would make them outwardly comfortable, and that they hate as perdition. Generous help is constantly sent them from abroad, but none two much, though the amusing story is told of Sir Moses Montefiore having spent all his money in alms at Jerusalem, and being obliged to borrow at usurious interest from one of the beggars he had relieved, that he might get back to London.—*E. W. Howland, in Lippincott's Magazine.*

SOMETIME.—It is a sweet, sweet song, warbled to and fro among the topmost boughs of the heart, and filling the whole air with such joy and gladness, as the songs of birds in when the summer morning comes out of darkness, and day is born on the mountains. We have all possessions in the future, which we call 'sometime.' Beautiful flowers and singing birds are there, only our hands seldom grasp the one, or our ears hear the other. But, O reader! be of good cheer, for to all the good there is a golden 'sometime;' when the hills and valleys of time are all passed; when the wear and fever, the disappointment and sorrow of life are over; then there is the place and the rest appointed by God. A home-stead! over whose roof fall no shadows or ever-clouds, and over whose threshhold the voice of sorrow is never heard; built upon the eternal hills, and standing with the spires and pinnacles of celestial beauty among the palm trees of the city on high, those who love God shall rest under thy shadows, where there is no more sorrow nor pain, nor the sound of weeping 'sometime.'

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN.—The number of languages spoken is 3,064. The number of men is about equal to the number of women. The average of human life is about 33 years. One quarter of them die before the age of 9. One-half before the age of 17. For every 1,000 persons, one only reach 100 years. To every 100, only 9 reaches 65 years; and not more than 1 in 509 reaches the age of 80 years. There are on earth 1,000,000,000 of inhabitants. Of these 33,333,333 die every year; 2,780 every hour, and 60 every minute—or one every second. These losses are about balanced by the number of birth.

WAGES IN ENGLAND.—Different classes of workmen in Chatham Dockyard have sent up petitions to the Lords of the Admiralty asking for an increase of wages. No replies have yet been received by the officers for the men. The laborers assert that higher wages are urgently needed from the dearness of provisions, their ay now being $3.50 per week.

A Christmas Poem.

THE SOLILOQUIES OF JIMMY SMITH, AGED NINE.

I wonder if the minister
Ain't almost through? He ought to be.
He'd preach four hours, straight ahead,
If people'd listen, seems to me.

I guess he don't remember how
He used to feel, when he was small.
I'd sneak out, if I only dared,
And thought ma wouldn't care at all.

I wonder how the turkey 'll taste;
I wonder which of us will get
The wishbone. Lucy's such a pig,
She'll grumble if she don't, I'll bet.

I wish Aunt Mary and the boys
Had staid at home; I don't see why
They had to come—of course, I can't
Be helped, three times to oyster pie.

Now they are here; the oranges
I'm pretty sure won't go twice round.
It just my luck—well, I don't care;
I'll grab the biggest, that I'm bound.

I mean to taste of everything
That's on the table. How I wish
I was as thin as Uncle John!
Then I could clean out every dish.

I'm awful hungry; I'll make up
For it, if it should take all night,
Oh dear! just think, if after all,
I shouldn't have an appetite!

There, now they're goin' to sing the hymn,—
You won't catch Jimmy Smith about
These diggings any longer, cause
He'll eat for home when meetin's out.

SEVEN P. M.

I wonder what the doctor said
To ma, behind the closet door;
One dose of castor oil's a cinch—
Hope they won't give me any more;

They're taking down, I do believe,
Most everything that's on the shelves.
I guess they wouldn't, if they had
To take the nasty things themselves.

There comes the paragoric; there,
The little bottle's full of gin.
Gee! There's the peppermint.
I hope they'll put some sugar in.

That looks like ipecac; and that
Is laudanum, I guess, or squills.
They'll find it pretty hard to make
Me take those horrid camphor pills.

Oh, dear! I wish some other boy
Could have the pain that's in my head;
I wish Tom Jones or Billy Grey,
Instead of me, was sick in bed.

I wish I hadn't gone without
My breakfast, 'cause it doesn't pay
To starve yourself, and then to stuff—
I won't on my *next* Christmas Day!

CHRISTMAS CAROLS.

It was Christmas Eve all over the world. In a thousand homes loving hearts, happy or sad, were filled with thoughts of kindness, and sympathy, and love. Busy hands were weaving offerings for the morrow, and busy feet were hastening homeward to cheerful, waiting firesides. In a pleasant homestead a young girl of sixteen was busily engaged in adding the finishing touches to some dainty bit of workmanship. She formed a pretty picture herself, as she sat curled up in the deep window sill, where the fire-light, brightening in the twilight, flashed its warm color over her shining hair and delicate cheek. Her soft, dark eyes shone with a subdued but earnest light, and the little figure managed the dainty material of her work with a graceful and deft manipulation attractive to the beholder. The beholder was a gray-haired man, who occupied the great arm-chair in the window corner of the fire-place, and who leaned upon his cane and watched the pretty maiden, fair young Rosamond, at her work, and smiled to think how like she was to another Rosamond he had known, and loved, and buried, in the years so long gone by.

"Keep good watch, Grandpa," said the fresh young voice. "Don't let anybody send along your side 'unbeknownst,' as Biddy says. I'm so afraid Papa will steal a march on me. I wouldn't have him to see this for a pretty. Isn't it a beauty? *Won't* he be pleased with it? Come now, Grandie, dear, don't look so solemn and owlish. It's Christmas Eve. What are you thinking of so deeply?"

The old man looked up and smiled.

"I was thinking, Rosie, of how good and pleasant it is to have Christmas come, and to have one day in all the year on which there is so much good will. I was thinking how all these love gifts that we make to each other, and all the kind feelings we have toward one another, go to form a precious love-gift to the Lord of Christmas. Indeed, the 'peace on earth and good will to man,' that prevails on Christmas Day *is* the 'Glory to God in the Highest.'"

"That's beautiful, Grandie dear," exclaimed the young girl. "It's a genuine Christmas Carol. I always did say that my Grandpa's fireside lectures were sermon and hymn all in one. Oh, dearie me, here comes Papa up the steps, with his arms full of bundles. Let me run." And gathering up her work Rosamond went from the room.

At the same hour that Rosamond's papa ascended the steps of his beautiful home, another father entered the door of an humble cottage not far distant. He bore no Christmas bundles in his arms. His eyes were sad and his manner dejected. Before the cheerful fire, whose ruddy blaze lit up the small, low room, a young girl was kneeling while she toasted slices of bread for the evening meal.

"It's Christmas Eve, Papa," she said, with a lively nod of welcome. "Stoop down and give me a good, sweet, *cool* kiss; this fire is toasting my cheeks as well as the slices. Mamma is putting Bud to bed. He went sound asleep on the rug and *wouldn't* wake up. Tea is all ready. I wish Harry was there."

Maybe it was the cheerful fire-warmth, or maybe the bright young face and cheery tones of the little daughter that wrought the charm—I only know that the sad eyes brightened to a fond smile as the father looked lovingly into the upturned face of his child. The room was cosy and comfortable, although the furniture was plain and the adornments of the simplest kind. The table was spread for tea, and the cloth, and cups and saucers, and plates, were speckless and shining, and laid with scrupulous nicety. The teapot simmered on the hearth, and within a smooth oval of hot ashes lay the mealy brown jackets that were to form the evening meal. The mother entered the room and greeted her husband with a smile. At the same moment a boyish voice was heard at the door, and a pair of stamping feet on the doorstep kept time to a sort of rude melody that the boy's voice sang to the words:

Now it is winter, and I am discontent,
My coat is somewhat like an ugly rent,
And all the snow from off the top of the house
Came down into my bosom—sqush-ker-souse.

"Harry Minturn, you noisy youngster," exclaimed the girl, gayly, as she sprang to open the door, "why, where have you been? You're covered with snow!"

"I should say so," said the boy, shaking himself.

"Dame Hinckly's old slant roof avalanched just as I popped under the eaves—hence my *costchume*. I don't care It's Christmas Eve, and I've earned fifty cents carrying bundles, and have got two jobs for to-morrow. We'll have a Christmas supper if we *don't* have plum-pudding and turkey dinner."

"Sh—sh," interrupted his sister. "Get off your coat and come to tea. We've elegant roast potatoes and toast."

Somehow the brave, cheery boy, and the equally bright and brave sister, made the homely room seem almost radiant, and the sad-eyed father and patient mother sat down to the frugal meal with a Christmas carol of thankfulness in their hearts for the peace that was theirs in the gift of their noble-hearted children. True, they were poor and in sore trouble, but the trouble came not nigh them in the same manner that it had come to some of their neighbors. They had not ungrateful, rebellious children to wring their hearts with anguish. And they chose to praise God for the blessings He had given them, rather than to repine for what He had denied them.

"We must lose the cottage, Mildred," Mr. Minturn said to his wife when alone with her, "but we must not lose our trust in God. Let us sing a hymn of praise. Our home will be sold next week, but we can celebrate our last Christmas in the dear old place with a pleasant sound of carols, can't we?"

When Rosamond went from her grandfather she sought her own room to put by her little treasure.

"A love-gift to the Lord of Christmas," she repeated to herself. "That is beautiful—but I have no such gift. None of mine are meant for him. I never think such good and holy thoughts of myself."

She glanced over the array of presents she had with such interest prepared.

"Something for every one who will be likely to give me something," she said aloud. "And I'd never a thought of any one else. *Christ's birthday, and no gift for Christ.*"

At the table Rosamond's father said: "I heard to-day that the Minturn cottage is to be sold next week under a mortgage. Minturn's been unfortunate lately—out of employment so long. It will go hard with him to lose his home. It won't bring over eight hundred dollars at auction, and the mortgage calls for three hundred more. The interest and costs will consume another hundred. He won't have much left."

"What a pity," said Mrs. Gale; "such a good man, and such a nice family. Can't something be done?"

"I don't see what," said Mr. Gale. "Poor Minturns. How sad they must be to-night. It quite spoils my Christmas."

After tea Grandpa called Rosamond into the library.

"Come, Rosie," he said, "what am I to do? It's too hard for our neighbor Minturn to lose his home this way. I *could* help him by making a little sacrifice."

"Oh *do* help him then," said Rosamond.

"But if I do, somebody must needs do without the Christmas present I intended to bestow."

"Well, Grandpa, who would be so selfish as to care?"

"I am afraid my little Rosie will," said Grandpa. "My one gift is intended for her, and it is to cost just four hundred dollars. I have selected it, and intend buying it to-night, and having it sent up in the morning—unless, indeed"——

"Oh, Grandpa! a present for *me* to cost four hundred dollars! *Is it—is it* a new piano? Oh, you dear, beautiful Grandpa. Just what I had so longed for. My old, worn-out hurdy-gurdy is a real trial to me."

She had quite forgotten everything and everybody save the much wished for piano and the generous and doating grandfather. Suddenly she recollected.

"Oh, Grandpa," she said, "I understand you now. Either I must give up the piano or the Minturns must give up their home."

She threw her arms around her grandfather's neck, and hid her face, and the tears that *would* come, upon his shoulder. It was a sharp struggle between self-love and Christ-love. The dear grandpa's words came to her mind—"a love-gift to the Lord of Christmas"—and she whispered, as she kissed the old man's silvery locks, "Dear Grandpa, we will not buy the piano. We will make a love-gift to the Lord instead.

"Rose of the world," murmured her grandfather fondly, "you make my heart sing for joy. No music that you could ever have drawn from the piano I had hoped to give you could have yielded me such delight as does your sweet voice now, when it speaks in accents of unselfish love. It chimes in my heart a true Christmas Carol."

"Then each has sung a carol to the other," said the young girl, her face beaming with smiles, "only mine would never have been sung at all had not yours been sung first. Aren't we happy, Grandie? I feel almost as if it were my home that was saved."

"We mustn't be selfish on Christmas Eve. Get me my coat. I'll go down and speak a good word to Minturn," said the good old man. Tears were in *his* eyes now. When Grandpa returned Rosamond was sitting at the old piano, and the family were singing a Christmas Carol—

"Chime, bells, chime.
Glory be to God above—
Christ has come to live and love,
Chime, bells, chime."

"The old hurdy-gurdy sounds splendidly to-night, Gran lie, dear," cried the young girl.

"Rose of the world," said Grandpa, softly, "it is because of the love-gift."

And the Christmas Carols chimed lovingly all the dreamful night, not only in the hearts of the dwellers in the abode of plenty, but in the grateful hearts of those who sang carols while yet in darkness, and to whom the Lord of Christmas had sent his servant with a promise of help for their time of trouble. "*Glory be to God in the highest, and on earth peace, and good-will toward man.*"—*The Little Corporal.*

"Behind the Mask."

A singular change has come of late over the face of Spring—which would be an old remark at this wintry, shivery time of the year if I meant the season instead of my dog. I have been a long while absent from the old house, and up on my return, this evening, the brisk brown tail that once gyrated in such a spasm of glad welcome, wagged a most feeble greeting. The dog bounded not as of yore to my very shoulder, nor wheeled about me in ecstatic circles. There was a welcoming wriggle still, but not the old, abandoned, unkempt fury.

But as the dear fellow sits yonder neat the andirons, there is a tender look in his dark eye that tells me, quite as well as the former agony of joy, that his cup runneth over with the happiness of my coming back. His front is to the fire, but his small, fine head is cocked on one side, while he watches me with full content. And as I looked into that frank face of his, every line of which is as familiar to me as my own, I notice the change of which I spoke.

The hair upon his forehead is turning white, two lines of gray run down even to the point of the nose, and there is a look of age about his features—about his whole bearing indeed—that I never noticed before.

When one comes to think of it—as terriers go, Spring *is* an old dog. Many a summer has shed its leaves since we laid his mother in her narrow tomb—a queer little African circus-dog, she—about half Spring's size, and with hide as bare and smooth as an elephant's, save for the half-dozen gray hairs that stood erect on her head, imparting an air of wise and sprightly venerableness—and the scrimpy tuft at the end of her tail. And Spring's companions have likewise fallen away from him, one by one, leaving him to his solitary path and fireside—solitary save for human sympathy and cheer. Zoo was the last to go—that genial animal, the tradition of whose early corpulence still in thin old age hung about his shrunken sides, rendering every movement replete with dignified unwieldiness.

The strangest part of this change in Spring is the old-young look. He seems like a boy with his grandfather's spectacles and wig. I cannot reconcile the gray hairs and weary movements with the atmosphere of youth that remains. His young soul surely is masquerading in this ancient guise. But I can see through the domino, my dog! You may not know that you are wearing any—you wonder, I think, at the unwonted film over the clear vision, at the invisible bands that bind those lithe; and willing limbs.

What have the mutations of time, the chemic laws, to do with the souls of us? "He who loves is in no condition old."

Spring, my dear fellow, do you love your master?

There, there! that will do, you rascal,—Down, I say! Down!

DRAINING LANDS.—Henry Taylor, an English farmer, who had drained many thousand acres of land, gave his view to the Farmers' Club on this subject. Draining should be deep, four feet at least; deeper would be better. On heavy lands, 20 feet apart would be proper; on lighter lands 66 feet might do. Draining lands infested with Couchgrass would rid them of that weed in two years. The soil should not be returned into the ditch in a wet state, or the drains would not act; the earth would consolidate, and he had known two years to elaspse before any benefit assured; while if the earth was dry when replaced the drains would act at once. Tiles should be large enough to carry off the water with facility. If full, the flow was retarded. The cost of draining in England was from $25 to $40 per acre.

The New York *Mail* asserts that "many fashionable ladies, who are partial to low-necked dresses and have not a pretty neck, wear a false neck of wax or alabaster, which, when a heavy necklace is worn with it, can hardly be detected from the real article."

Destruction of the Walrus.

A correspondent of the New Bedford *Standard* furnishes the following: For the past three or four years the North Pacific whaling fleet have been taking walrus in the months of July and August, as the whales in those months go into the ice and around Point Barrow, out of the reach of whalemen. During all the years from 1849 to 1867 the whalemen had let the walrus alone or taken a very few. In 1868 a few ships commenced taking walrus, and did quite well, securing from 200 to 600 walrus, and destroying half as many more. In 1869 a large number of ships were engaged in the business, but in 1870 the whole fleet (with two or three exceptions), "went in" and took all they could. Probably not less than 50,000 female walrus, with their young, were killed and destroyed. The past year three-fourths of the fleet were engaged in the business, but the walrus were shy and far into the ice, and they did not do as well. Shipmasters had to send their boats 20 and 25 miles to find them.

The Arctic walrus are nearly all females, who go into the Arctic in the Summer months to bring forth and nurse their young, which the males will have very fond of and attached to. They will never forsake their young, but will take them in their flippers and hold them to their breasts, even when their destroyers are putting their sharp lances through and through them and the blood streaming from every side, uttering the most heartrending and piteous cries, and so until they die, and then the little ones must starve, unless the whaleman can thrust his lance through it and send it to the bottom. This is one of the most cruel occupations that I know of, and many a humane whaleman has felt guilty and turned aside as he did it. The walrus average about twenty gallons of oil and four pounds of ivory.

But the worst feature of the business is that the natives of the entire Arctic shores from Cape Thaddeus, in the Anadir Sea, to the farthest point North, a shore line of more than a thousand miles on the West Coast, with the large island of St. Lawrence, the smaller ones of Diomede and King's islands, all thickly inhabited, and our own coast of Northern Alaska, are now almost entirely dependant on the walrus for their food clothing, boats and dwellings. Twenty years ago whales were plenty and easily caught, but the whales have been destroyed and driven North, so that now the natives seldom get a whale. This is a sad state of things for them.

Several captains lately arrived home have told me that they saw the natives, 30 and 40 miles from land, on the ice, trying to catch a walrus to eat, and were living on the carcasses of those that the whalemen had killed.

How Caves are Formed.

It becomes an interesting question to find out how this subterranean system was made; for in so many cases a valley passes into a ravine, and that into a cave, that the cause which has formed one must have formed all. It requires but a cursory glance to see at once that running water was the main agent. The limestone is so traversed by joints and lines of shrinkage, that the water sinks rapidly down into its mass, and collects in small streams, which owe their direction to the dip of the water and the position of the fissures. These channels are being continually deepened and widened by the mere mechanical action of the passage of stones and silt. But this is not the only way in which the rock is gradually eroded. The limestone is composed in great part of pure carbonate of lime, which is indissoluble in water. It is, however, readily dissolved in any liquid containing carbonic acid, which is an essential part of our atmosphere, and is invariably present in the rain-water, and is given off by organic bodies. By this invisible agent, the hard crystalline rock is always being attacked in some form or other. The very snails that take refuge in its crannies leave an enduring mark of their presence in a surface fretted with their acid exhalations, which very often pass current among geologists for the borings of phelades, and are the innocent cause of much speculation as to the depression of the mountain-tops beneath the sea in comparatively modern times. The carbonic acid taken up by the rain is derived in the main from the decomposing vegetable matter which generally forms the surface soil on the limestone. Its effects are to be seen in a most marked degree in the bare, grey masses of rock fenced "pavements," that stands out like *roches moutonnees* from the purple heather, and are worn and fissured into the strangest possible shapes. Sometimes the surface is made up of a number of sharp points that look like a sheaf of sword-blades; at others are ravines and caves in miniature; and very generally the strata are divided into a series of large angular blocks, which work with the greatest freedom. The minute fossil shells and fragments of crinoids standing out in bold relief testify that the agent which removed so much rock is chemical, not mechanical. This invisible agent is equally at work in the caves as well as above ground, everywhere attacking the surface, even out of reach of the streams. The endless varieties of stalactite and stalagmite are merely so much solid matter taken by it out of the rock, and re-deposited where the excess of carbonic acid in the water happens to be taken up by a free current of air. To it, then, as well as to the mechanical power of the stream, the formation and enlargement of caves must be assigned.

A Sleepless Secretary.

The following is told of Sir Evan Nepean, formerly under Secretary of State of Great Britain:

One summer night he was affected with an unaccountable sleeplessness, and, being quite weary of lying awake, he got up, dressed, and went out at three o'clock, A. M., strolling aimlessly, more from daily habit than anything else, down to the home office. Entering his private room, his eye caught the following entry in a memorandum book:

"A reprieve to be sent to miners ordered for execution at York."

Although he knew that he had done his own part of the business, he was seized with a nervous uneasiness, fancying that perhaps the other people had not done theirs. The feeling was so strong upon him, that he called up the chief clerk in Downing street, who said he had sent it to the clerk of the crown, whose business it was to forward it to York.

"But have you the receipt and certificate that it is gone?"

"No."

"Then let us go at once to his house in Chancery Lane."

They did so, and found him stepping into his gig for a holiday. He had forgotton the reprieve, and left it locked up in his desk. The fleetest express procurable was dispatched, and reached York just as the condemned man was entering the cart.

NEW YEAR'S EVE IN IRELAND.—Carlton, one who knew the Irish peasants better than almost any one, describes the manner in which New Year's Eve is celebrated in the "Ould Country." "Here, in a snug barn, some old Milesians are dancing in the New Year in their own light hearted way. Phelim, the merriest boy of them all, is trying to dance down Norah. Ould Barney, who has been a 'dark' these ten years, is scratching away his liveliest jigs for the glory and honor of the occasion; being cheered up at intervals with eggshells full of the finest 'potheen' to be found south of Innishowen. While dancing goes on in one part of the barn, in an other, the older parties are seated, who are enjoying themselves with a pleasant game of cards, a glass or two of the right stuff, and their pipes." Oft during the evening, midst the fun and pleasantry prevailing, can be heard a merry voice exclaiming these cheerful words, "Erin go Bragh."

The Probate Court of Cincinnati has just decided that an attorney cannot receive compensation for partial or unfinished services; that he must go through with a case once undertaken, or surrender all pecuniary claims against his client. Also, that he cannot, without the consent of the client, transfer to another attorney a case intrusted to him.

UNITED STATES CONGRESS.

IN THE SENATE.

Bills were introduced appropriating $200,000 for the repayment of the duties collected on Russian hemp since Aug. 5, 1871, in excess of the rate levied and paid on Manilla hemp; amending the bankruptcy act; to encourage the laying of new telegraph cables; bill to facilitate specie payments. It provides that each National Bank shall, on the 1st of July, 1872, have on hand at least three per centum in gold coin of its aggregate amount of notes in circulation, and shall increase the amount of gold coin on hand three per centum every six months up to July 1st, 1874, making then 15 per centum; and thereafter shall keep its reserve in gold coin, instead of legal-tender notes, to the extent of its aggregate amount of notes in circulation. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The Senate was occupied an entire day in discussing the caucus resolution for an investigating Committee, which was finally passed in an amended form.

A resolution was introduced that there be maintained in each State or Territory a system of free common schools, but neither the United States, State, Territory or municipal corporation shall aid in the support of any school wherein the peculiar tenets of any denomination shall be taught.

Mr. Sumner (Rep., Mass.) gave notice that at an early day he would offer a joint resolution providing that no person who has once held the office of President shall hold the same a second term.

Mr. Blair (Dem., Mo.,) offered a resolution, which was adopted, directing the Committee on Investigation and Retrenchment to inquire whether any Minister of the United States in any foreign country is engaged in any mining company and using his official position for the promotion of its interests, and if so, whether his doing so is compatible with his duties as such Minister.

IN THE HOUSE.

In one day in the House near one hundred bills were introduced. Among them were the following: To reduce internal taxes and abolish the office of Collector of Internal Revenue; to authorize the payment of 50 per cent. of customs duties in legal-tender notes; to punish bank, insurance, State and Government officials for bribery and corruption; changing the standard weight of silver coins, and limiting the amount of their issue; further to facilitate the immediate transportation of certain importations to the port of destination; granting homesteads to soldiers; regulating the mode of the payment of duties on imports; also to refund to judicial officers taxes on salaries collected from them under the income tax; to prevent cruelty to animals in transit by railroads; to prevent the appointment of dishonest and incompetent Government officials, and making the officers appointing, and the members of Congress recommending them, responsible for their misconduct; to abolish the export bonded warehouses for tobacco and snuff; also for the repeal of the special tax on manufacturers and dealers in tobacco and segars; to refund the cotton tax collected in 1865, 1866 and 1867; also, for a Government building in Nashville, Tenn.; to secure the public lands to actual seitlers under the Homestead and Pre-emption laws; for a preliminary survey for a ship canal from the southern point of Lake Michigan to the Mississippi River, near the mouth of the Ohio; to legalize polygamist marriages in Utah, and to dismiss all criminal proceedings in Utah against polygamists; to amend the National Banking act; also, to repeal the Bankruptcy act; to prohibit contracts for servile labor, for the admission of Utah as a State.

Mr. Haldeman (Dem., Penn.) asked leave to offer a resolution expressing the profound regret of the House at learning of the angry severity with which the present Government, of which M. Thiers is President, has pursued the prisoners captured from the Government of the Commune at Paris.

Objection was made, when Mr. Haldeman moved to suspend the rules so that the resolution might be offered and adopted.

Mr. Cox (Dem., N. Y.) wished to offer an amendment condemning the atrocities of the Spanish Government, but the Speaker stated that no amendment was in order.

The House refused to suspend the rules—Yeas, 95; Nays, 86.

Bills were introduced repealing all statutes which forfeit the pensions of widows by reason of a second marriage; fixing the rate of internal tax on all kinds of manufactured tobacco at 16 cents per pound; regulating the mode of payment of customs duties and equalizing the value of Treasury notes; to extend the time within which applications may be made to refund the cotton tax.

Civil Service Reform.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19, 1871.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In accordance with the act of Congress approved March 6, 1871, I convened a Commission of eminent gentlemen to devise rules and regulations for the purpose of reforming the civil service. Their labors are now complete, and I transmit herewith their report, together with the rules which they recommend for my action. These rules have been adopted, and will go into effect on the 1st day of January, 1872. Under the law referred to, as I interpret it, the authority is already invested in the Executive to enforce these regulations, with full power to abridge, alter, or amend them at his option, when changes may be deemed advisable. These views, together with the report of the Commissioners, are submitted for your careful consideration, as to whether further legislation may be necessary in order to carry out an effective and beneficial civil service reform. If left to me, without further action of Congress, the rules prescribed by the Commission, under the reservation already mentioned, will be faithfully executed; but they are not binding on my successors without further legislation.

I ask for all the strength which Congress can give me to enable me to carry out the reforms in the Civil Service recommended by the Commissioners and adopted, to take effect, as before stated, on Jan. 1, 1872. The law which provides for the convening of a Commission to devise rules and regulations for reforming the Civil Service, authorizes, I think, the permanent organization of a primary board under whose general directions all examinations of applicants for public office shall be conducted. There is no appropriation to continue such a board beyond the termination of its present labors. I therefore recommend that a proper appropriation be made to continue the services of the present Board for another year; and, in view of the fact that three members of the Board hold positions in the public service, which precludes them from receiving extra compensation under existing laws, that they be authorized to receive a fair compensation for extra service rendered by them in the performance of this duty.

U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Dec. 19, 1871.

A NEW TERRITORY.—The bill introduced into Congress, by Mr. Ramsey, for the erction of the Territory of Ojibway, subtracts for that purpose so much of Dakota as lies north of 46 degrees north. The Missouri flows through the proposed territory, and the North Pacific Railroad will cross it. Before forming a territorial government, however, there ought to be somebody to be governed. With the exception of soldiers, Indian traders, and a few settlers in Chippewa, Stevens, and Shyenne counties, there are no inhabitants but Indians, in the northern half of Dekota. On account of the hostility of the Indians, the comparative poverty of the soil, and the detestable water, years will probably elapse before any important settlement is formed. The erection of a territorial government, is, under the circumstances, quite unnecessary.

SAD CASE.—Mr. C. Machant, who lost all of his property by the great fire, committed suicide in Chicago recently. He left a note filled with tender references to his mother, wife and children. His wife, who has been an invalid since the fire, became insane at the sight of her dead husband.

Antiquity of Man.

Professor Duncan, in addressing the British Association upon the principal geological changes which have occurred in Europe since the appearance of man, premised that no trace of man has been found associated with any deposits formed during the glacial period in Northern Europe. The earliest remains of man and his works, and of the beasts associated with him and hunted by him, rest upon those deposits resulting from glacial causes, and are, therefore, later in time. A second period, however, of mountain glacialation took place, when the glaciers of the Alps and Pyrenees, especially, extended far into the districts below them. This was subsequent to the existence of man, since the mud and gravel produced by the grinding down of the mountain sides during this period, and its stratification over the plains, are found to cover the remains of man and his works; and, therefore, to be of a later epoch.

This second glacialization, and the arrangement of the wash, are suggested as forming a line of separation between the paleolithic period, when man used rude stone weapons, and the neolithic period, when smooth, polished instruments were manufactured; and, in general sense, marking the time when the great mammalia disappeared from the northern and western parts of Europe.

Among the principal geological changes which occurred after the appearance of man in Europe, our author enumerates the subsidence of an area of land which connected Sicily with Crete and Northern Africa north of the Sahara; the formation of the Straits of Gibraltar; the excavation of the valleys of Northern and Eastern France; the separation of the coasts of France and England, in the region about Dover and Calais, and that of the Isle of Wight from the main land; the formation of a great part of the British Channel; a considerable upheaval of the Scandinavian peninsula and Denmark; the uprise of the Desert of Sahara in Africa, after the second extension of the Alpine glacier.

Suicide Committed.

As the result of an inactive state of liver and stomach, producing headache, obtuse intellect, dullness, dispondency, dementia, and finally insanity, is no uncommon occurrence. All these disagreeable symptoms and bad feelings are most certainly dispelled by the use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It revitalizes and builds up the whole system. A little book on Chronic Diseases sent free. Address R. V. Pierce, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y. Golden Medical Discovery sold by all druggists. 377

The other day Molecule propounded the following to Atom: "A boy said to a gentleman, 'My father and mother have a daughter, but she is not my sister.' Now how do you explain that?" Atom reflected in vain and to his every suggestion received a negative reply, and was forced to give it up. "Why it's simple enough," said Molecule with an exasperating smile, 'the boy lied!'"

Do it.—do what? Go to your grocer and buy a box of J. Monroe Taylor's Cream Yeast Baking Powder, and ever after you will have no other.

For Dyspepsia,

Indigestion, depression of spirits, and general debility in their various forms; also, as a preventive against fever and ague, and other intermittent fevers, the "Ferro-Phosphorated Elixir of Calisaya," made by Caswell, Hazard & Co., New York, and sold by all druggists, is the best tonic, and as a tonic for patients recovering from fever or other sickness, it has no equal.

IF WE CAN benefit the readers of this paper any by recommending *Parsons's Purgative Pills* to be the best anti-bilious medicine in the country, we are willing to do so. We have had about as good a chance to know as any one.

FOUR EVILS.—Whoever habitually used any alcoholic preparations as an "appetizer" will be likely to suffer from four evils, viz.: an overplus of food in the stomach, impaired ability to digest it, the pangs of dyspepsia, and a doctor's bill. DR. WALKER'S VINEGAR BITTERS, the great Teototal Restorative of the age, without over-stimulating the palate or irritating the stomach, imparts a healthful appetite, promotes digestion, regulates the liver and bowels, purifies the blood, and thus, instead of entailing four evils, confers four inestimable benefits.

More than 16,000 families, averaging five persons each, have applied for, and nearly all of them are still receiving aid in a greater or less degree from the Chicago Relief Committee.

FOR THROAT DISEASES and Affections of the chest, "*Brown's Bronchial Troches*," are of value. For Coughs, Irritation of the Throat caused by cold, or Unusual Exertion of the vocal organs, in speaking in public, or singing, they produce beneficial results.

WORTHY OF NOTE.—An exchange says there is scarcely a day passes that we do not hear, either from persons coming into our office or in some other way, of the success of *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment* in the cure of coughs and colds, so prevalent about town just now.

WESTWARD HO! Full particulars of a new colony now forming free. Address W. E. Patten, No. 3 Bowling Green, New York city.

COLLINS & CO.'S CAST STEEL PLOWS only $3.00 each. For information how to obtain them address, Collins & Co., 212 Water street, New York.

MR. CHARLES W. HASSLER, No. 7 Wall Street, New York, is the person you should write to if you wish to buy or sell any *Railroad Bonds.*

FINANCIAL.

Investment Securities.

JAY COOKE & Co., are now selling, and recommend as a profitable and safe investment for all classes, the First Mortgage 7-30 Gold Bonds of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, bearing Seven and Three-Tenths per cent. gold interest (more than 8 per cent. currency), and secured by first and only mortgage on the entire Road and equipment and on more than 23,000 Acres of Land to every mile of track, or 500 Acres of Land to each $1,000 Bond. The highest current price will be paid for U. S. Five-Twenties, and all other marketable Securities received in exchange. Pamphlets, maps and full information, as well as the bonds themselves, will be furnished on application by JAY COOKE & Co., Philadelphia, New York and Washington, and by most Banks and Bankers throughout the country.

The Markets.

NEW YORK.

BEEF CATTLE—Prime to Ex. Bullocks $	.11¼@	.12¾
First quality	.11 @	.11¾
Medium & Ordinary	.10 @	.11
Ordinary quality Cattle	.09 @	.10
Inf'r or lowest grade	.06 @	.09
MILCH COWS	30.00 @	60.00
HOGS—Live	.07 @	.07¾
Dressed	.09 @	.10¼
SHEEP	.06 @	.07¾
COTTON—Middling	.19¾ @	.20
FLOUR—Extra Western	4.25 @	4.70
State Extra	4.50 @	4.75
WHEAT—Amber Western	1.60 @	1.65
" State	1.57 @	1.67
White Genesee Extra	1.60 @	1.70
RYE—Western	.90 @	.91
BARLEY—State	.90 @	.90
CORN—Mixed Western	.78 @	.82
OATS—Western	.53 @	.55
PORK—Mess	15.25 @	16.00
LARD	.9