Color of the Sea.

How few there are who realize that the ocean is aught else than a raging mass of weltering waves, lashed by storms, to be regarded only with dread, and avoided with aversion! How many gain from it but one or two one-sided impressions! To one the sea is always blue; somehow that idea early fixed itself in his mind, and he has never cared to observe further and revise a first partial impression. To another it always looks green. Nothing more fairly indicates the exceedingly limited habits of observation of the average mind in matters out of its beat than the excessively meager notions which many have of the sea, even after repeated familiarity with it, as in the case of those who cannot plead the excuse of sea-sickness for their ignorance. How few there are who fully appreciate the matchless suggestiveness of that Homeric passage—"The innumerable smiles of the many-voiced sea?" That line only touches on the countless aspects of ocean, and yet it is the finest definition of the sea in the whole range of literature.

Take, for example, the question of color alluded to above: The sea is like a vast kaleidoscope representing in many combinations all the colors of the rainbow; it is not impossible to imagine, that if one were at a sufficient height above the sea, and endowed with the condor's keenness of vision, the round disk of the sea might at once present all these hues to him as in a kaleidoscope; as things are, however, it is not often that one sees more than two or three tints at once, except during a sunset of unusual magnificence, when the reflections are very varied. I remember a sunset during a calm preceding a storm, when the sky was festooned with the pomp and splendor of every variety of cloud; the hues and cloud-forms were nearly equally divided from zenith to horizon in four distinct types of form and color, and the corresponding reflections on the sullen swell of the sea were awful in their dread and varied magnificence. But if such scenes are rare, it is not at all uncommon to see half the ocean a deep purple toward one-half the horizon, dark-viridian green in the opposite direction, especially toward evening or early morning, and this regardless of reflections, at a time when the surface is so broken as to be filled with local color. And after all, it is the local color more than the reflections which is meant when we speak of the color of the water, although in an artistic sense both have a significance. At sea the color is not only a form of beauty conveying pleasure to the mind, but also has a use, like everything beautiful in nature. As a rule, light green indicates shoal water, the lighter the tint the more shallow the depth. The local color is ascertainable by looking down rather than on the surface. Dark-blue water is a sign of great depth—"no soundings," as goes the technical phrase. But, if one looks at blue water at a distance, it is then found to be a very dark green when analyzed and separated from the reflections, which it is sometimes very difficult to do, especially in gray, lowering weather, when the sea is found to give the impression of a sort of leaden purple-gray. But after very careful observation through a long, narrow tube, in order that no conflicting rays of light might disturb the vision, I am convinced that, even in the deepest water, the basal color is some tint of green. In the Bahamas, and among coral islands in general, where the bottom is a white sand and the water of little depth, it is found to be of the most brilliant exquisite green, ranging from emerald to the lightest tints of malachite. It is impossible to overstate the vividness of the colors in those waters, and almost as impossible to try to reproduce them on canvas; for, to one who has never seen them, the artist so daring as to reproduce those colors would be considered stark mad. The red is scarcely less vivid in the West India waters, being the complementary color of green, and, wherever a rock near the surface or a cloud shadow obscures the green tint, red is immediately produced, and even the cloudless sky at mid-day is also a soft rose-color. By this means the sponge-fishermen and wreckers are able to navigate their sloops about through the most intricate reefs, which are indicated by purple patches as clearly as on a chart. The Bermudas present similar colors, but with less vividness.—*Appleton's Journal.*

Moths in Furniture.

Taken as a whole, throughout the country, housekeepers suffer more annoyance and destruction of furniture, carpets and woolen garments by moths than from any other pest. The little red ant is a great nuisance in some localities, but it is not destructive and not very prevalent. Moths are universal, and whole sets of costly upholstered furniture fade away, losing their beauty and substance, even after days, weeks and months of watching, beating, and picking with painstaking care. Latterly, establishments have been opened in leading cities to kill moths. First it was done by removing the upholstery from the wood and thoroughly baking it. More recently liquid preparations have been used. But the necessity of transporting furniture to these establishments, and the large expense, have been serious obstacles. Some parties advertise to sell a moth-killing secret for a certain sum of money. We are happy in being able to announce to the readers of the *American Agriculturist* an easy, simple process, that we have tried the past season, with what appears to be a complete success. (We mentioned it to a furniture dealer and repairer, and he said he had practiced it for some time, and that it was a sort of "trade secret.") *The Process:* A set of furniture that seemed to be alive with the larvæ, from the mouth it came new, and from which hundreds of these pests had been picked and brushed, was set into a room by itself. Three gallons of benzine were purchased at thirty cents a gallon, retail. Using a small watering pot, with a fine rose sprinkler, the whole upholstery was saturated through and through with the benzine. *Result:* Every moth, larvæ and egg was killed. The benzine dried out in a few hours, and its entire odor disappeared in three or four days. Not the slightest harm happened to the varnish, or wood, or fabrics, or hair stuffing. That was months ago, and not a sign of a moth has since appeared. The carpets were also well sprinkled all round the sides of the rooms with equally good effect. To have known this two years ago, would have been worth at least fifty dollars in the saving to a single set of furniture, and would have saved many days of most annoying labor. For furs, flannels, indeed all woolen articles containing moths, benzine is most valuable. Put them in a box, sprinkle them with benzine, close the box tightly, and in a day or two the pests will be exterminated, and the benzine will all evaporate on opening.

Caution: Benzine, in fluid or vapor form, is very inflammable; therefore, when using it, have no fire or burning light in the room—not even a match on the floor to be trod on. With this precaution, it is safe. With the windows open, its odor even will soon disappear. —*American Agriculturist.*

Caucasian Greetings.

The etiquette of salutation in the Caucasus is extremely elaborate and ceremonious. It does not by any means satisfy all the requirements of perfect courtesy to ask a mountaineer how he is, or how his health is, or how he does. You must inquire minutely into the details of his domestic economy, manifest the liveliest interest in the growth of his crops and the welfare of his sheep, and even express a cordial hope that his house is in a good state of repair and his horses and cattle properly protected from any possible inclemency of weather. Furthermore, you must always adapt your greeting to time, place and circumstances, and be prepared to improvise a new, graceful and appropriate salutation to meet any extraordinary exigence. In the morning a mountaineer greets another with: "May your morning be bright!" to which the prompt rejoinder is: "And may a sunny day never pass you by!" A guest he welcomes with: "May your coming bring joy!" and the guest replies: "May a blessing rest upon you."

In the Philippines.

Thickly grouped before the church porch and around the building, the men, lithe, middle-aged and ruddy-brown of various shades, are dressed, if of the better sort, in loose shirts or blouses, home-manufactured from the finest fiber of the "abaca," or Manila hemp, as the plant (really a sterile variety of the ordinary fruit-bearing banana) is called; or, more delicate yet, from "pina," the pineapple leaf texture, airy as the choicest lace, the peculiar workmanship of the Philippines. White, or light yellow, and interwoven sometimes with flower-patterns, more generally with brilliant stripes of Chinese silk, red, yellow, green or blue, the "baro," or blouse, is an essentially national dress, though in the neighborhood of Manila modified too often into an uncouth resemblance of a European shirt. Beneath it a pair of white or light-colored trousers are belted round the waist; the feet, usually bare, or protected by sandals at most, are, on occasions like this, not seldom incased in patent-leather boots of Spanish fashion; the head is protected by the "salacot," a round, mushroom-like hat, of about a foot in diameter, close plaited in gray and black intersecting patterns of tough "nito" or liana fiber; the circumference tastefully ornamented with silver bands and flowerets, an excellent and picturesque sunshade, ill exchanged, though, happily, but seldom, for the European hat of silk or straw. The poorer chamber wear a like dress, but of coarser materials, in which red or orange commonly predominate, and on the head a "salacot" devoid of ornament. But while the men's attire, though national in the main, shows occasional tokens of European influence, the women, with wise conservatism, retain their graceful Malay costume unaltered as of old. Wrapped in the many colored folds of the silken "saya," or "sarong," and over it a second, but narrower, waistcloth, also of silk, reaching down to the knees, and dark in hue; her breast and shoulders covered with delicate "pina" texture, while the matchless abundance of her raven hair ripples from under a white snooded kerchief far down her back, not seldom to her very heels, a Malay woman could hardly, even did she wish it, improve on the toilet bequeathed by her ancestors. Silver or gold ornaments are not much in feminine use. It is true that the Malay type of face is generally too flat for regular beauty, and the eye, though larger than the Chinese, is seldom full-sized; but only a form of beauty conveying pleasure to the mind, but also has a use, like everything beautiful in nature. As a rule, light green indicates shoal water, the lighter the tint the more shallow the depth. The local color is ascertainable by looking down rather than on the surface. Dark-blue water is a sign of great depth—"no soundings," as goes the technical phrase. But, if one looks at blue water at a distance, it is then found to be a very dark green when analyzed and separated from the reflections, which it is sometimes very difficult to do, especially in gray, lowering weather, when the sea is found to give the impression of a sort of leaden purple-gray. But after very careful observation through a long, narrow tube, in order that no conflicting rays of light might disturb the vision, I am convinced that, even in the deepest water, the basal color is some tint of green. In the Bahamas, and among coral islands in general, where the bottom is a white sand and the water of little depth, it is found to be of the most brilliant exquisite green, ranging from emerald to the lightest tints of malachite. It is impossible to overstate the vividness of the colors in those waters, and almost as impossible to try to reproduce them on canvas; for, to one who has never seen them, the artist so daring as to reproduce those colors would be considered stark mad. The red is scarcely less vivid in the West India waters, being the complementary color of green, and, wherever a rock near the surface or a cloud shadow obscures the green tint, red is immediately produced, and even the cloudless sky at mid-day is also a soft rose-color. By this means the sponge-fishermen and wreckers are able to navigate their sloops about through the most intricate reefs, which are indicated by purple patches as clearly as on a chart. The Bermudas present similar colors, but with less vividness.—*Appleton's Journal.*

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FOR THE FAIR SEX.

News and Notes About Women.

If names go for anything the sweetest girl in America is Miss Saccharissa Sorghum, of Kokomo, Ind.

Hand-painted buttons are a novelty. Ladies industriously inclined, buy the plain flat buttons and paint them to suit the costume for which they are intended.

Smooth hair is just now the distinguishing feature of Parisian beauties. It is very trying to plain faces, and unless particularly young and pretty, ladies do not adopt it.

Miss Belle Caldwell, a graduate of the Wheeling (W. Va.) Female college, class of 1877, and a teacher for the last year in that institution, has just gone out as a missionary to Bangkok, Siam.

The princess royal of England and crown princess of Germany is a model of thrift. She blows out superfluous wax candles with her royal lips, has her children's dresses turned and dyed, and locks up delicacies where the servants cannot get at them.

Mrs. Julia C. R. Dorr, of Rutland, Vt., has received the personal thanks of King Alfonso, of Spain, for her sonnet on the late Queen Mercedes, which appeared in *Scribner's Monthly* and was translated into Spanish by order of the Spanish minister at Washington.

Mrs. Julia Corson, of New York, whose efforts to instruct poor people in the methods of making palatable dishes from cheap materials of food have been persistent and untiring, proposes to extend her field so as to include the whole country, and has addressed a petition to the national commissioner of education, asking him to issue a circular to his agents in the South and West, directing them to give information concerning the local style of cooking and the ingredients and receipts in any local dishes. The request has been complied with.

A curious lawsuit has just been decided in Paris. Prince Galitzin, a well-known man about town, wished to marry, and asked his mother to find a wife for him. She called in a woman who made a specialty of arranging marriages, who labored for eighteen months to find a suitable partner for the prince, but failed. She then applied for the pay which the prince's mother had promised, but the latter refused on the ground that the other had not been successful. The end was a lawsuit against the mother for $1,200 but the jury gave her only $100.

Encouragement of Natural Beauty.

A London medical journal of high authority says that efforts are making by a number of women of prominence to form a "School of Beauty" in England, the members pledging themselves to do everything in their power to render themselves comely by natural means. Prizes are to be given to those who can move with ease and grace, and so furnish evidence of good health and physical unconstrainment. Something of this kind is needed here, remarks an exchange. Although American women have, to a great extent, seen the folly and ugliness of lacing and going thinly clad in cold weather, there are still many who think an absurdly-small waist attractive, and any number that so pinch their feet that they cannot walk comfortably or becomingly.

They do these ridiculous things generally because they imagine that men admire them. If men have done so, they do so no longer. They prefer healthy and graceful women to invalid and awkward ones, as all women must be who cramp their waists, wear shoes too small, or dress in any way to interfere with their freedom and satisfaction. Nature and beauty are one. No woman can be beautiful who violates or hinders nature. The more nearly she approaches the natural the closer she comes to loveliness. Women have heard such a thousand times, and accept it mentally. Yet in their blind worship of false gods, they sacrifice themselves to infirmity and deformity. It is entirely incomprehensible to men that so many women will endure pain and incur disease from a mistaken notion of beauty.

Fashion Notes.

Gold braids and gold embroideries are to be revived.

Lace mitts are worn at the moment on all occasions.

The new fashionable shade is called "lees of wine." It is used in combination of satin with velvet.

Garnet bead trimmings are new and very fashionable. They are used on bonnets, as well as dresses, and also on cloth mantles.

Black enamel balls, made to fit over solitaire ear-rings, are worn by ladies as a safeguard to their jewels when they don't care to have them seen.

The large black "Reynolds" hat is all the rage among ladies of picturesque and artistic taste. But it requires a handsome brunette face and striking form to do it justice.

Thick black ruches are fashionably worn around the throat without any intermixture of white. They are made of kilt-plaited thread lace and ruching of crepe lisse, and are not only attached to black dresses, but are worn around the throat as dog collars.

A Fight Between a Hindoo and a Tiger.

The man wore no clothing except coarse linen trowsers, and was armed with a ponderous knife and a small conical shield. The travelers accompanied him to the lair of the animal. As soon as we reached the spot the man boldly leaped into the hollow, at the same time uttering a shrill cry, in order to arouse his enemy from his slumbers. Upon seeing its resolute aggressor advancing, the animal raised itself upon its fore legs with a terrific howl.

As the little Hindoo continued to approach, which he did slowly, and with dark eyes keenly fixed upon the face of his formidable foe, the tiger rose to its full height and began to lash its sides furiously with its tail; yet it evidently appeared to be in a state of great embarrassment. Still the man advanced deliberately and undaunatedly; the uneasiness and rage of the excited beast increased with every step. At length it crouched, evidently with a determination to make its terrible spring.

The man suddenly stopped, when the tiger paused, turned up its head, and, uttering a horrible noise between a snarl and a howl, made one step forward and sprang toward its victim, who instantly bent his body, receiving the animal's paws upon his shield, dashed the knife into its body, and fell under, but almost entirely beyond the extremities of his wounded enemy. The creature turned upon his back, the little Hindoo regained his feet in an instant, striking the prostrate tiger with astonishing quickness and precision a desperate blow upon the throat, which completely severed the windpipe, at the same moment springing with the quickness of thought beyond the reach of the monster's claws. The tiger died almost immediately.

Rattlesnake's Bites.

As to the remedies for the bite of the rattlesnake, a physician in western Pennsylvania says that whisky is a specific. He treats twenty or thirty persons a year for rattlesnake bites. The bites rarely prove fatal when whisky is used in season. The rattlesnake always strikes at the neck, or as high up as he can get. In experiments in Indianapolis every animal put into the snake's cage was struck in the neck. The snake's fang makes a very small wound, and but little blood escapes. Inflammation sets in at once. The animal struck seems to suffer very little pain, but to be rather in a stupefied condition. Human beings are said to suffer acute pain from the wound. It is not known whether or not the rattlesnake poisons the animals that it desires for food, but it is known that it can swallow its own poison with impunity. It is said also that a human being may swallow rattlesnake poison with perfect safety if there is no wound about the mouth. There is one animal invulnerable so far as the rattlesnake is concerned, and that is the hog. The hog wages war upon all snakes, innocent and poisonous, and destroys them with eagerness.

CURIOSITIES OF JOURNALISM.

A Few of the Blunders that Have Been Made in Journalism.

Having been engaged in journalism, off and on, for the past twenty-seven years, I have taken some pleasure now and then in collecting a variety of curious errors which have occurred during that time in the leading papers in the United States and elsewhere. The most common (and unavoidable) class of errors is that arising from mistakes in punctuation; and next in order, errors resulting from defective orthography. Hardly a newspaper in the world, of account, is there that has not suffered in this way, and, as a general thing, the errors most infernal to the editor, but funny to his readers, are to be met with in the most influential and best circulated sheets. This fact is easily accounted for, a great deal of the late matter of a morning paper finding its rapid way into the columns without the knowledge of that indefatigable enemy of "blacksmiths," the proof-reader. In the first place, I will present a few of those oft-occurring errors—the results of defective punctuation. Some twenty-one years ago I cut the following from the advertising columns of the New York *Herald*:

"HOUSEKEEPER—A highly respectable middle-aged woman, of economical habits, who has been filling the above situation for upward of eleven years, and who is now deceased, is anxious to meet with a similar one."

"These lines were written nearly fifty years ago by one who has for several years lain in the grave for his own amusement."

This combination of defective punctuation and grammatical impurities is not entirely confined to the advertising columns of newspapers. Reporters, who ought not to, are constantly making their department ridiculous by such startling announcements as follows, in an account of a steamboat explosion:

"The captain swam ashore, and subsequently saved the life of the stewardess; she was insured for $15,000, and was full of railroad iron."

Joe Howard, author of the "bogus proclamation" of Lincoln, formerly of the New York *Times*, and now of the *Herald*, wrote of the Bill Poole obsequies in New York, in 1855: "The procession was very fine, as was also the sermon of the minister." He afterward inserted after a word fine (by a caret), "and nearly two miles in length"—forgetting that this addition would also refer to the sermon. The pronouns are the source of vexatious *contretemps*, and I select two at random from my scrapbook:

"During the storm a cow was struck by lightning and instantly killed, belonging to the village physician, who had a beautiful calf seven days old."

"During the celebration a child was run over, wearing a short, red dress, which never spoke afterward."

Persons unaccustomed to advertising phraseology frequently express themselves in language liable to exceedingly absurd misinterpretation. Thus, in "Situations Wanted," read that a "respectable young woman wants washing;" the proprietor of a bone mill advertises that "parties sending their own bones to be ground will be attended to with fidelity and dispatch."

A miller, in a testimonial to the merits of a powder for destroying vermin, writes: "Two weeks ago I was full of rats, and now I haven't one."

The next most common class of errors is that resulting from mistakes of orthography. Thus, upon a gala occasion at Rochester, N. Y., in 1859, Mrs. Stanton declaimed against what she termed "white males." But the next morning the *Democrat* had it "white mules."

In Mr. Curtis' oration of the unveiling of the Sedgwick monument, at West Point, some years ago, he used the familiar quotation, "*Ubi libertas ibi patria*" (where liberty is there is my country). Imagine the astonishment of the cultivated author of "Prue and I," when perusing his address in the *Standard* the next morning to meet, "You be *libertas*, I be *patria*."

A most villainous kind of newspaper error is that which results occasionally from a mixing up of two or more articles. One of the most provoking of the kind appeared in Senator Anthony's newspaper, the Providence *Daily Journal*, in 1853, and resulted from a mixing up of two articles (for which an old type, named Ned Angell secured his walking papers), which raised a dreadful commotion the next day throughout the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations. The articles mixed up were the announcement of the departure for Europe of a prominent and beloved pastor of C——Church and a description of the peculiar movements of a dog affected with hydrophobia. As it appeared in the *Journal*:

"The Rev. Mr. R——, after many years of faithful service in the cause of Christ, will take his departure from us on Tuesday, so as to take the Collins steamer Arctic, which leaves New York on Thursday. Mr. R——has for a long time been in ill-health, a fact which has for some time been painfully realized by the members of his congregation. So they resolved upon a European trip for their beloved pastor, and on Saturday made him acquainted with the delightful fact. Accompanying the report of the committee was a nicely filled purse, which was placed at the disposal of the pastor, who, after thanking them, made a run down South street as far as Planet, then up Planet to Benefit street, where he was caught by some boys, who tied a tin pail to his tail. On they went again, up Benefit stacet and down College, at the foot of which he was shot by a policeman."

Is it to be wondered at that such an item raised Ned out of his situation?—*Ben C. Truman in Boston Courier.*

Most Wonderful Railroad in the World.

The Callao, Lima and Oroya railroad, generally known as the Oroya railroad, now the Transandine railroad, is probably the most wonderful railroad in existence, according to so good an authority as the *Railway Age*. It was contracted for by Henry Meiggs in 1869, at a cost of $21,904,000, or $27,000,000 in bonds. Work was begun in January, 1870. Ballasted with cobble-stones, no dust arises; trains every half hour; fare forty cents; four separate depots accommodate different parts of the city. No one who makes a round trip on this road ever repents it, and seldom desires a second. The heights and distances are so great that few heads are not affected.

From San Mateo to Anchi the road passes through the "Infernillos" (Little Hill). Nearly perpendicular walls from two to three thousand feet hem in the river Rimac, having a width of from two to four hundred feet. At first, it was proposed to make a cut in the side of these mountains, but, fearing the falling of loose rocks, it was decided to tunnel. Miners were let down with ropes, one-quarter and one-half mile long, to certain indicated points on the rocky wall every 500 feet, more or less, and, after they had entered a few feet, began working to the right and left, using the entrance as a place from whence to throw the excavated material. About midway a bend in the river made it necessary either to make a dangerous curve or span the chasm. The latter was chosen, and now a bridge unites the tunnel about four hundred feet above the river bed. Emerging from the second of these tunnels at Anchi, the Rimac is recrossed, and the road follows up the river Blanco a few miles, which it crosses, and then enters a mountain, where it turns around in a curved tunnel, and, emerging a few hundred feet above, recrosses the river and returns, passes Anchi and continues up the river Rimac. At Chicla, a few miles further, the road passes the town, crosses its own track and the Rimac, turns and passes again, and, reversing, turns and again doubles on itself, having passed Chicla five times.

The view from the summit, 15,568 feet, at the entrance to the Galera tunnel, is not so imposing as at other points. A plateau of a few miles square, with lakelets and patches of snow and surrounded by peaks, many covered with snow, is all one sees. But the oppression of breathing, the quickened pulse, 130 to 140 per minute, the dull, dizzy head, the cold, frosty air, make an impression one never forgets.

THE BARON BELA.

Strange Ruse of al Hungarian Nobleman whose Life was Heavily Insured.

Several years ago a Hungarian nobleman, well known in sporting circles as a horseman and hunter, named Baron Bela Olnyi, triumphed over a crowd of rivals, and born home as his bride the rich and beautiful baroness, Irma P——yi. Baron Bela was at that time a wealthy landed proprietor, and was able to indulge to the full all his inclinations and whims. His married life was a happy one. Years followed one after the other, but they were not all alike. The beautiful baroness, as time wore on, presented her spouse with six of the dearest little barons and baronesses that ever were seen, and Baron Bela began to dabble in speculations. It was the old, old story, that has been repeated a thousand times. Toward the end of 1874, the baron's vast possessions, which were worth nearly two millions, had been sold, and the family mansion in Pesth was mortgaged to its last brick. Of all this the fair baroness was kept in complete ignorance, and the family establishment was maintained in its usual style.

When the baron realized that he was completely ruined; and that all that was left was his wife's property, which could not be touched, he formed a singular resolution. He got his life insured in five different companies for one hundred thousand gulden in each, the terms being that this amount should be paid over to his family in case he should die within a year. None of the insurance companies objected to pocketing the premium of two thousand florins from a man just forty-five years of age, in the full vigor of life and in exuberant health.

The day, however, Baron Bela had the last policy in his pocket, he entered upon an entirely different course of life. He had been a man who never missed a race or a hunt, who went to the club every day, and regularly took his drive or ride on horseback in the park; now he was to be seen nowhere in company, not even by his dearest friends. Nor did he remain at home in the bosom of his family. He left his house every morning early, and only returned in time for dinner. After dinner he disappeared again, and remained absent often until midnight. During this time nobody knew where he kept himself secluded.

The change in his external appearance was not less remarkable. He had previously been gathering rather stout. He now began to lose flesh. His cheeks, which had been florid, changed to an unhealthy paleness, his eyes lost their brightness and were surrounded with heavy circles of blue, his face became haggard, and his strong manly voice became cracked and feeble. When these symptoms of dangerous disease multiplied in such a striking manner, the friends that occasionally visited him and his wife endeavored to persuade him to take medical advice, and to explain his mysterious absences. His answer was a positive refusal. Finally, in October, the physical constitution, once so strong, could no longer withstand the agency so potent for evil which was undermining it, and Baron Bela was compelled to take to his bed. Physicians were called in. They shook their heads ominously, and declared that it was a case of galloping consumption; that the disease had already reached a stage in which all human aid was in vain. Hardly fourteen days later, the sufferings of the poor baron were in fact terminated by death. After his death a will was found, by which he bequeathed to his wife his life insurance policies, and acquainted her with the fact of the lose of his entire fortune. No other course was open for the baroness except to prefer her claims for the half million due on the policies through her solicitor. The solicitor, however, immediately ran against difficulties. It was thought incredible that a man who had been examined only ten months before by five physicians, and pronounced in good health, could have died of the disease mentioned. The five companies came to the conclusion that a plan of slow suicide had been deliberately adopted, and they all refused payment of the amounts demanded.

The companies interested went further, and undertook to penetrate the mystery of the daily absences of the baron, of which they had previously got wind. After long and extensive researches, they finally ascertained that early in January the baron had hired a small apartment in a thirty, narrow street, in a remote quarter of the city, and every each day remained in it for a considerable time. The neighbors never saw him hold any intercourse with any one. The rent of the apartment had been paid up to the end of December, and after the baron's death it had been locked up. To clear up the hidden mystery within that room, it was necessary to invoke the arm of the law. Upon proper evidence a warrant was issued, the fatal door was opened by a locksmith, and, in breathless anxiety, the room was entered. A comfortable sofa, a table, two chairs and two chests constituted the entire furniture. Great was the amazement when the two chests were opened. The first contained a well-worn dressing-gown, a pair of loose Turkish trowsers, a fez, and about ten or twelve long tobacco pipes. The second chest was divided into square compartments, and there were left in it about two hundred foreign cigars, of the government brand, costing two kreutzers each, and about half a pound of what is known in the trade as common smoking tobacco. From the wrappers found in the lower compartments, it appeared that the baron had smoked up about three thousand five hundred of these two-kreutzer cigars, and about a hundredweight of the common trade tobacco.

At the request of the representatives of the insurance companies, a proper record was made of the facts discovered; and thereupon the companies, under the circumstances, justified their refusal to pay the amount insured by referring to the provision in the policies by virtue of which the contract was to become null and void in the event of suicide. The counsel for the baroness urged, in reply, that smoking ten or fifteen two-kreutzer cigars a day could hardly be denominated an attempt at suicide.—Chemical and medical investigations were instituted by both parties, and the managers of the royal tobacco factory were called upon for an opinion. The cause of his death is believed to have been due to nicotine, taken into his system in poisonous quantities through the process of smoking.

Words of Wisdom.

Most people judge men only by success or fortune.

We are never so happy or unhappy as we suppose.

Modesty in your discourse will give a luster to truth, and an excuse to your error.

Everybody seems to think himself a moral half-bushel to measure the world's frailties.

Society is a masked ball where every one hides his real character and reveals it by hiding.

Minds of only moderate caliber ordinarily condemn everything that is beyond their range.

The strength of a nation, especially of a republican nation, is in the intelligent and well-ordered homes of the people.

Grief knits two hearts in closer bonds than happiness ever can, and common sufferings are far stronger links than common joys.

Great souls attract sorrows as mountains do storms. But the thunder-clouds break upon them, and they thus form a shelter for the plains around.

"See how I tread on the pride of Plato!" said Diogenes, as he entered the richly-carpeted room of that philosopher. "But with greater pride," was the searching reply.

How idle the boast, after all, is the immortality of a name! The idol of today pushes the hero of yesterday out of our recollection; and will, in turn, be supplanted by his successor of to-morrow.

A man wants to see the person against whom he has the greatest reason to guard himself. Let him take a glance at the mirror, and he will have a very fair likeness of the individual he is looking for.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

Eastern and Middle States.

The steamer Adelphi, which runs between South Norwalk, Conn., and New York city, exploded her boiler while near Gregory's Point. The force of the explosion shook the steamer from bow to stern, and tore away a large section of the boiler. A space of about fifty feet long by twenty-five feet wide was ripped out of the port side of the boat, and the saloon deck above the boiler was hurled overboard, carrying along such of the passengers as were occupying the seats and sofas. Immediately after the explosion the air was filled with flying fragments of wood, followed by a hissing cloud of escaping steam, and then the screams of affrighted passengers upon whom the disaster came with appalling suddenness. The people on board ran hither and thither in their fright, some of the women making a frantic rush for the windows, while many put on life-preservers, in anticipation of a struggle for life in the water. One passenger gives his experience as follows: "The first thing I knew of that anything had occurred was a hissing noise, as though the steam was escaping somewhere. There was at the moment no concussion or report, such as usually follows the bursting of a boiler. Before I had time to speak or think timbers were flying in every direction. A huge piece of timber flew past me and cut off the skirt of my coat as clean as the tailor could have done it. I was so excited that I did not notice it until I got ashore. The timbers all appeared to come from the starboard side of the boat, and some bodies went rushing through the air with them, landing in the water at distances of from twenty to fifty feet. An instant after the boat forged ahead, and the victims were left struggling in the water. On board it was like a madhouse, the women screaming and fainting, the men rushing to and fro, stamping upon each other, in their well-meaning endeavors, there. Some shouted, Nobody knew what he did or any reason why he was doing it, and I was just as insane as the rest. It would have been absurd if it had not been so terrible. How long it was before the boat was pulled up at Gregory's Point or what anybody did in the meantime I cannot say. The captain was tolerably cool, and somehow his orders were obeyed. A considerable part of the main deck was gone and there was a big hole in the port side. After getting ashore the people began to recover their wits and to inquire who was hurt, lost, killed and missing. I saw several bodies brought ashore before I left, and there must be not less than fifty persons wounded." Twelve persons were killed and twenty-one injured, several fatally.

As a funeral procession was crossing Atlantic avenue, Brooklyn, a locomotive came thundering along and ran into one of the carriages, knocking it to fragments and killing the occupants into the street. The driver of the carriage, Mary E. Redmond, aged sixteen, and Thomas Calahan, aged twelve, were killed, and four other persons in the vehicle were injured.

The Dime savings bank, of Hartford, Conn., has been enjoined by the bank commissioner from the further prosecution of business.

Major August Ballman, who fought under Napoleon I., died at Newark, N. J., the other day, aged ninety-seven years. He had been one of the first Bonapartists in the terrible march from Moscow and in numerous battles, ending at Waterloo, and was decorated with the cross of the Legion of Honor.

The trustees of the suspended Teutonia savings bank, of New York, have been held for trial, for embezzlement of the institution's funds.

George Bancroft, the historian, was thrown from his carriage while out riding at Newport, R. I., and severely injured.

The New York city grand jury has made a presentment, declaring the Metropolitan Elevated railroad a nuisance and an invasion of private rights, and asserting that many of the annoyances caused by the road could and should be removed.

A destructive fire in Easton, Md., destroyed an entire block of valuable buildings, entailing a loss estimated at from $75,000 to $100,000; partly covered by insurance.

An Australian team of eleven cricketers arrived in New York, from England, where they have made a successful tour, defeating many of the best clubs of Great Britain. Their visit to this country was played with twenty-two picked players from New York, whom they defeated by a score of 162 to 161, with four wickets to spare.

The Vermont legislature organized and elected James L. Martin speaker.

Officers of the Secret Service, assisted by United States marshals and deputies have been actively engaged in running down an extensive gang of counterfeiters, operating at various points in Kentucky and Tennessee. The gang was thoroughly organized, and has been operating extensively in the manufacture of counterfeit silver coin and currency. By a preconcerted movement, the officers succeeded in arresting twenty-six of the gang, and in capturing a large amount of machinery and counterfeit money.

Western and Southern States.

Somebody in Boston has sent $1,000 to the secretary of the treasury, to be placed to the credit of the sinking fund.

The Nebraska Democrats have nominated a ticket headed by John D. Howe for supreme court judge. Three of the nominees are on the ticket of the Greenback party.

During an encounter between Cheyenne Indians and United States troops, sixty miles north of Fort Wallace, Kansas, lieutenant Colonel Lewis was killed, and two men wounded. The hostiles were defeated.

Two officers attempted to arrest a tramp near Akron, Ohio, on suspicion of being concerned in a robbery, when they were set upon by a gang of thirty tramps and had to flee for their lives. Thereupon a militia company was called out, and arrested eighteen of the tramps, the rest escaping.

The Republicans have been successful in Colorado, by nearly 2,000 majority on the State ticket. The legislature will be about two-thirds Republican.

There has been another fight between hostile Indians and United States soldiers. Six of the troops were killed, and the bodies of thirteen settlers, who had been murdered by the Indians, were found.

The Nebraska and Texas Republicans have held State conventions and nominated tickets.

United States officers made a raid on illicit whisky distilleries in three counties in Arkansas, taking ten prisoners and seizing several large stills.

Prairie fires in Minnesota have destroyed thousands of tons of hay.

From Washington.

The Chinese embassy to the United States—the second that has ever visited this country—was formally received at the White House by the President and cabinet. The Chinese minister read an address in his native tongue, after which he presented his credentials. The President replied to the minister's address and then a general hand-shaking and presentation of the members of the cabinet to the embassy followed.

The public debt was decreased $3,196,534 during September. Since June 30, 1878, the decrease is $9,878,845.84. Cash in the treasury, October 1, $255,342,240.45. Total debt, less cash in the treasury, $2,025,908,485.98.

The payments made from the treasury by warrants during September were as follows: On account of civil and miscellaneous, $4,514,173.26; on account of war, $2,775,118.36; on account of navy, $1,117,278.03; on account of interior (Indians and pensions), $5,576,859.19; total $13,981,428.84.

The total amount of coinage executed at the United States mints during September was 3,129,550 pieces, valued at $8,333,500. Of this amount 365,650 pieces, valued at $5,576,500 were in gold, and 2,764,000 pieces in standard silver dollars.

Foreign News.

British troops have sailed from England for India, to take part in the campaign against the Ameer of Afghanistan.

The acting United States consul-general at Port-au-Prince, Hayti, reports the recent occurrence of a destructive cyclone, which arose within the limits of the Caribbean sea, lasting two days and spending its force upon the entire south coast of the island, while the section north of Port-au-Prince was exempt. At Jacmel the loss of property was great. At Aux Cayes, Canaillon and at Acquim the loss of life and property was appalling. At the former place hundreds of houses were unroofed and others were destroyed, while the last-named places are almost entirely obliterated. Two American schooners—the Halley C. Bunker, of Ellsworth, Me., and the Wardwell, of New York—were completely wrecked. The crews were saved, and have been provided for by the acting consul-general as shipwrecked and distressed seamen.

Cyrille Dion, a well-known billiard player, died in Montreal a few days ago.

At Glasgow, Scotland, the City of Glasgow bank, on of the great Scotch corporations, has failed, with the enormous liabilities of $50,000,000. The failure is generally attributed to its resources being locked up in bills, shares and debentures of various kinds that were not readily convertible. It is also said to be due to large advances on American securities, grain and real estate, the values of which are largely depreciated. The failure is the heaviest that has taken place in Scotland since 1857, when the institution also suspended, and is regarded as a national disaster. The creditors will not suffer far any loss, as the 1,300 stock holders are liable and will be held responsible to the extent of their means.

A dinner to General Grant was given at Paris, the other day, by United States Minister Noyes.

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