Female Blackmailers.

"I know of instances of blackmailing operations in this city," said one of the ablest and most trusted detectives in the country to a writer in the New York *Graphic* recently, "which were I at liberty to give all the facts for publication, would be the town talk for a month. I have made their operations a study, and I myself am astounded at the weakness of human nature. These people thrive upon the fears of men and women, who, by the display of a little courage and discretion, could have saved themselves from the exactions of their tormentors. By this I mean that by openly defying blackmailers, into whose clutches they had unfortunately fallen, they would have foiled them. The first step in treating with them at all is the entering wedge of their misfortunes. I know a leading merchant of this city, a man whose character is spotless, who has for a quarter of a century been one of the leading pillars in one of the most aristocratic uptown churches, and who is credited with being a man of rare nerve and prudence, who for the past fifteen years of his life has paid $50 monthly to a woman who he knows to be a professional blackmailer. You ask me why, knowing her to be such a character, he consents to be so boldly and continuously robbed. He is rich; the woman possesses some tell-tale letters written by him to a third party, and rather than be exposed he pledged himself to provide for her in the manner I have indicated, and he will do so as long as he or she lives.

"I know of another case in this city which has proved to be even more disastrous. The victim in this instance, too, is a widely-known and a wealthy business man. He became involved in an intrigue, and was hounded by two blackmailers to whom he paid $55,000 as hush money. He eventually succeeded in quieting them, but refused positively to prosecute them, although aware of their character, fearing publicity. These fiends—I can call them by no other name—have been the cause of the wreck of fortunes, the suicide of more than one man, and of untold misery in many families in this city. Only a year or so ago a wealthy Chicagoan, who had been indiscreet, suffered himself to be frightened by a professional who had become cognizant of his waywardness. He paid her thousands of dollars, neglected his business, and finally, when utterly ruined, frankly told her that he had made his last payment to her. She threatened to expose him, told him she would kill him, followed him from place to place, believing that he had still some money left, and eventually put her threat into execution and shot him dead. A short time ago I was called on professionally by a gentleman who wished my aid in getting rid of a man and woman who had persecuted him grievously. He had met them at one of the fashionable hotels at the Catskills, and had carried on a flirtation with the woman, who was young and fascinating. Of course he had compromised himself, and thought that he had been visited unexpectedly by the woman's alleged husband, who demanded, under pain of the fullest exposure, $10,000. He gave the man his check for $7,000 on one of the city banks, thinking that was the easiest way to settle the trouble, and was assured that therein the matter would end. A month later he received a letter, in which an additional sum of money was demanded. Realizing that compliance with his request would render him liable to further assessments, he placed the matter in my hands. I saw at once that he had been the victim of blackmailers, and immediately called on the outraged husband, who had come down from Garrison's that day, and was then waiting to see my patron at the Putnam house on Fourth avenue. He grew highly indignant when I informed him that he would not get another dollar, and threatened to eject me from his room when I told him I would send him to State prison if he further annoyed the gentleman. I gave him a good choking when he became unbearably insolent, which so frightened the villain that he has not been heard of since."

The Pennsylvania Mountains.

The doctor, therefore, with the two ladies, took passage for Harrisburg. They were equipped for the mountains, with valises, short flannel dresses, waterproofs, a pound or two of good tea and a tin pot. The doctor carried gun, fishing-tackle and a flask of Scotch whisky, which was his one catholic remedy in the woods for cuts, fevers, colds or rattlesnake bites.

At Harrisburg they took the Niagara express to Lock Haven, a cheerful little lumber town lying high among the hills, where they spent the night. Early in the morning the doctor called Sarah to the window of the inn parlor.

"There is my old friend, Hoeven with the spring wagon. I wrote for him to meet us. Hoeven is the cabinetmaker among the Nittany mountains."

"I am afraid this is a civilized wilderness to which you are taking us, doctor," said Sarah. "No cabinet-makers adorned our Virginia Canaan."

"Oh, the Pennsylvania spurs of the Alleghanies are tame compared with those of Virginia or the Carolinas. The very hills are leveled on top, you will observe, as if some ancient Church Gog or Magog had set his broad foot on the every peak, flattening them down. Elk and McKean counties are tolerably savage, but even there the yellow farmhouses with green shutters and the big barn are beginning to show themselves. A few deer, bear and foxes still hide up in the fastnesses of the hills to which we are going, but they are fast disappearing. There are no wolves nor panthers, such as we shall find in the higher ranges of the Appalachian mountains in North Carolina and West Virginia. Every county in Pennsylvania is yoked down to civilization by a 'pike' and toll taxes."

"I'm very glad to hear it," exclaimed his wife. "And what society shall we find, George?"

"You will not have a chance to study any of the picturesque phases of human nature, of which you are fond, I'm afraid, my dear." said the doctor anxiously. "Plenty of bear-hunters and moonshiners in North Carolina. But the Dutch or Scotch-Irish farmer has taken possession of the most solitary recesses in the Pennsylvania mountains outside of the mining districts. His wife has her patent churn and wringer, her parlor with hair-cloth chairs, and photograph album on the table; his boy is at some cheap local college, and his daughter drapes her calico polonaise by the latest fashion in the *Bazar*."

"But what kind of society is there?" demanded his wife, impatiently.

"There is church twice a month, sewing bees, and apple-butter stirrings. The older women seldom leave their kitchens except to go to church. The wife of a 'near' Pennsylvania hill farmer is perhaps the hardest-worked living being in the United States. But as for the girls, schools and magazines, and a day or two at the Exposition in 1876, have leavened the young people. The girl does not make as good butter as her mother, but she works tidies and decorates pickle jars. She has her lover, of course. He does not bring her flowers or opera tickets, but a leg of mutton week from the sheep his folks have killed. But there is as fine an aroma of love in it as in the costliest bouquet."

"Don't talk such nonsense to Sarah," said Mrs. Mulock, sharply. "What did we come to these mountains for, I wonder? If only to study vulgar love-making and tawdry apings of fashion, we need not have left New York."

"We are going to study nature, and I am taking you to Centre and Clinton counties, my dear," said the doctor, meekly, "because the mountains there, though lower than others in the range, are more precipitous and picturesque than any in the State. I can show you there in miniature the peculiar features of Californian scenery; the same effects of volcanic action on the hills, the great sand deposits, and the canons."—*Rebecca Harding Davis, in Harper's Magazine.*

A Future Empress' Children.

Recently one of the children of the Princess Royal of England, now the wife of the heir of the German emperor, had been ailing, and with maternal solicitude the princess personally supplied the little invalid with many of its requirements. This innovation on German court etiquette produced utter dismay, and was brought to the notice of the empress, in answer to whose expostulation the princess replied: "If my mother, the Queen of England and Empress of India, can carry milk in to one of her children, who like it so much more because given by her, I think I may do so without forgetting my position."

FOR THE FAIR SEX.

Fashions in Hair Dressing.

The hair is dressed very simply this season, and close to the head, showing all its outlines. The voluminous puffs and chignons worn last year are entirely out of fashion, and very little false hair is used, except in natural-looking switches for enlarging the braids in which the back hair is arranged. Low coiffures are most in favor, though ladies who are short, or those with round faces, still wear the hair dressed high, though puffs and braids are not used by them. The only stylish high coiffure is formed by combing all the hair upward from the nape of the neck, then covering the top or crown of the head with a large soft knot, made by tying a switch in a loose, fluffy knot, and tucking the ends beneath out of sight. If the forehead is low, the front hair is then combed straight back, and left plain; but if the forehead is too high, it is shaded by irregular Montague waves, or else by a short bang. Low coiffures are more generally becoming to the oval faces of American ladies. The popular chatelaine braids are still used quite low at the back, and these are now two loops, each plaited of three tresses, put straight and quite together down the middle of the back of the head; then each is curled around in a loop, which, when spread out, fills all the space between the ears. This is very easily arranged with false hair, but is more troublesome for those who have sufficient natural hair to form the braids. Large coils are worn again, and are placed very low down. These are not the small Greek knot, nor yet the plait rolled around, but are long thick tresses twined carelessly, or else twisted in a thick rope coil. Besides the becoming Montague curls there are three ways of arranging the front hair: First, with the loose waves that look natural, and leave the parting of the hair visible; second, in the water waves that are made to lie flat on the forehead; and third, with the short bangs cut off quite square at the corners. The natural-looking waves must not be fluffy, now that smooth hair is again in fashion. They are easily made by putting up the hair on two or four hairpins, and wearing it so all night. The hair should be only slightly moistened, as when made wet the waves will be too much like creped hair. Hairdressers say they cut bangs for ladies of thirty years and under, precisely like those worn by children, though ladies should not allow them to grow as long as the bangs seen on children. A little bandoline is used on these straight bangs, and also on the water waves, and this is the only dressing now commended for the hair. An occasional shampooing to keep the hair clean, and a great deal of brushing, done in quick strokes, after each of which the hand is passed over the hair, will be found better than any nostrums for making the hair retain its natural luster. When a false front must be used by reason of baldness, or to give the natural hair time to grow, that with five water waves, made quite flat, and showing no parting in the middle, is one of the best. Another false piece has large, deep, natural-looking waves covering the entire top of the head. Still another is a narrower band or tress of hair slightly waved and cut off in front to form some Montague locks. For the back hair, when there is very little natural hair, a long full switch is arranged to form a crown braid, quite far back, and each end is then turned up to make chatelaine loops. For this thick braid it is well to buy the crimed, fluffy hair that has had the crimp "baked" in, so that it is permanent, as this is not so heavy as a straight switch.

Very young ladies wear the back hair fastened in a small knot quite low, in the fashion now called l'Anglaise. With the the coiffure a la Vierge the front hair is in smooth bands drawn down behind the ears. For full-dress occasions a comb or single flower placed low behind the left ear is sufficient ornament. With the small bonnets now worn on the back of the head, smooth bands, or else natural-looking waves, are best for the front hair, as these are nothing to the size of the head. The old fashion of twisting pearls in the coil of hair is revived by Parisiennes. The preference here is for thrusting a dagger of shell or of jet through the back hair, or else wearing a narrow comb stuck in one side in Spanish fashion. Side combs of shell are also used again. A pretty caprice with morning toilets is that of wearing a tiny Japanese fan not larger than the shell daggers thrust through the knot of hair in the way seen in pictures of Japanese women. Natural flowers are used in the coiffure to match those now worn on the corsage. Artificial flowers are entirely abandoned for such purposes. It is the fancy to wear only a single large flower low at the back, instead of a cluster or wreath of smaller ones. The flower on the corsage is then chosen to match, and is worn on the left side of the neck, quite high and far back; if other flowers are used, they are stuck in the belt on the left side. Ladies who have gray hair do not conceal it by any disguise whatever, eschewing not only dyes, but even laces, hand-dresses and caps, except the muslin caps worn in the morning. Children still wear bangs on the forehead, while the back hair is long and flowing. Larger girls wear Marguerite braids, or else braided loops, with either a bang or natural waves in front. The unclean practice of putting oil on the hair has been abandoned, and the natural oil of the hair is brought out by much brushing with a stiff brush; the shampooing keeps the scalp clean and prevents the accumulation of dandruff, which is said to be increased by the use of fine combs. There is in the market a new electric brush, which is reputed to promote the growth of the hair, and also to cure headaches. This brush has met with great favor in England, where it has been warmly commended in high quarters.—*Harper's Bazar.*

Long Heads of Hair.

In one of his recent lectures in London, Doctor Erasmus Wilson exhibited the photograph of a woman thirty-eight years old, five feet five inches high, whose tresses, when she stood erect, enveloped her entire form in a golden veil, and trailed several inches on the ground. The longest fibers measured six feet three and one-half inches. Thirty inches is the mean length for females, and three feet is considered a very remarkable length. This is exceeded, however, by two American women—one whose hair measures seven feet six inches, and another, the wife of a druggist in Philadelphia, whose luxuriant chevelure is almost as long, and so thick that when seated upon a chair she can completely cover herself with it.

Photographing Under Water.

The recent Tay bridge disaster naturally turned the attention of photographers to ways and means of taking photographs of the submerged carriages and girders. If the water is clear enough for the eye of the diver to discern the wreckage lying on the bottom, it is also clear enough to allow of pictures forming within the camera. The idea of photographing under water is not a new one, and has been frequently discussed; but difficulties have arisen from the fact that photographers being unaccustomed to diving, cannot accompany their instruments, and that the slightest agitation of the apparatus will blur and spoil the portrait. It is therefore necessary to construct a steady apparatus, which a skillful diver may be able to manipulate. Two Scotch photographers have devised apparatus answering the purpose, and one of them has taken several photographs in the Frith of Clyde, near Gourock. One view represents a sandy bottom, with a number of hugh boulders shaggy with sea-weed strewed around, together with an old anchor. The camera is inclosed in a water-tight case, and fixed to a loaded tripod, which is lowered into the water. When the latter has reached its position on the bottom the camera-cover is withdrawn by means of a pull-cord; but electricity could be utilized for this maneuver. Apart from its value in accurately portraying submerged structures, the new appliance would be very useful on deep-sea exploring expeditions, for taking pictures of coral reefs and other wonders of the deep.

At the Panoptikon of Dresden there is on exhibition a curious piece of mechanism, entitled "Get Up." Over a bed is a dial, the index of which is set over night to the hour at which the sleeper wishes to arise in the morning, which, when it reaches the bed, as a mild preliminary to more decisive action, lights a powerful lamp, so placed as to cast its rays directly on the sluggard. Should this gentle hint fail, five minutes later the bed automatically falls asunder, causing its sleepy occupant to lapse to the floor with a force and suddenness that prove fatal to slumber.

RELIGIOUS NEWS AND NOTES.

The Crees, of Hudson Bay, have given up heathenism and become nominal Christians.

The Rev. J. T. Duryea, D. D., will deliver the Yale lectures on "Preaching" next winter.

A Women's home missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church has been formed in Cincinnati.

Eighty ministers have received the degree of D. D. this season, forty-six that of LL. D. and twenty that of Ph. D.

The general convention of the Protestant Episcopal church will meet in New York city for its triennial session Wednesday, October 6, 1880.

There are in New York city eighty-five Protestant Episcopal churches. Their number has doubled in twenty-five years.

There are eighty-eight young men's christian associations in New York State, fifteen having been organized within a year. The membership is more than 12,000.

For sixty-two years the Moravians have been at work among "Greenland's Icy Mountains." It is estimated that during this time 70,000 Greenlanders have been gathered into the Christian church.

Bishop Hurst has since his elevation to the bishopric of the Methodist Episcopal church, received from two institutions the degree of LL.D. They are Dickinson college and Ashbury university.

A national conference of young men's christian associations, of which there are 370 in Great Britain, will be held soon in Manchester. Associations having less than 250 members will be entitled to send two delegates, and all having more will be entitled to send three.

A circular has been sent to all pastors of Methodist Episcopal churches asking them to raise twenty-five per cent. additional for the episcopal fund to what they have been raising, as there are four new bishops to be provided for, and the whole support of the episcopacy is now hrown upon the churches.

Religious services were held in Edinburg and other parts of Scotland on a recent Sunday in commemoration of the struggles of the Covenanters of the seventeenth century, and of the declaration of religious liberty made by the Cameronians in 1690. There was an open air service in Edinburg attended by 10,000 or 15,000 people.

There are seventy-five Baptist churches without houses of worship in the State of Minnesota. The annual for 1879 gives 146 churches, so that one-half are houseless. According to the same ratio in other remote Western States and Territories, there must be quite 400 Baptist churches without a place of their own in which to meet.

All the Presbyterian theological seminaries in the United States graduated 140 students last year, as follows: Union, 38; Princeton, 35; Western, 16; Auburn, 12; Northwestern, 16; Lane, 6; Danville, 2; San Francisco, 3; Lincoln, 6; Biddle, 4; German seminary at Bloomfield, 3.

The ordained foreign missionary force of the leading denominations in the United States is as follows: Methodist, 103; Congregationalist, 155; Presbyterian, 137; Baptist, 72, and Episcopalian, 79. The number of converts from heathenism at the various stations is divided as follows: Baptist, 11,638; Methodist, 32,430; Congregational, 15,125; Presbyterian, 11,497, and Episcopal, 4,499.

The recent remarkable religious movement in France is attributed largely to the distribution of the Word of God. Rev. Dr. Fisk, of Paris, reports that four million copies of the Scriptures have been sold in France; that all the young men in the army have been taught to read the Gospel of John, and that 500,000 young men know that Gospel by heart; and that 100,000 soldiers, driven into Protestant Switzerland during the late war, have returned to France, each with a New Testament and various religious tracts.

The oldest missionary society in existence, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, states in its one hundred and seventy-ninth annual report that among the results of the society's work are 135 bishops, more than 5,000 clergy, and upward of 2,000,000 members of the communion. During the past year there have been 593 missionaries engaged, of whom 152 have labored in Asia, 124 in Africa, 65 in Australasia and the Pacific, 256 in America and West Indies, and 146 in Europe. There are also about 1,395 catechists and lay teachers, mostly natives, and about 250 missionary students.

The Lost Well.

In the Sahara desert only a few wells are found; they are looked upon with reverence, as the gift of God. It is not, as some suppose, a vast flat region, but interspersed with mountains; rocks of vast size are as common as sand. No country is so difficult to traverse, for there are no landmarks; the only trees a caravan leaves is the bones of the horses or camels that die by the way. Those who travel the desert carry water and food enough to last them from well to well; and, if they lose the route, they all usually perish.

An old legend tells us that a certain tribe had found a well among the mountains, and around it for years seemed to satisfy his wants, and to give him perfect happiness. The summer months they passed on the banks of the Nile. It was so curiously hidden that it was impossible to find it except in this way: One of the tribe stayed all summer there, and on a certain day watched for the return of the others; they having arrived at a certain white, camel-shaped mountain, made a fire, and the watcher seeing this, built one on his mountain; thus were they guided to the oasis.

At one time the tribe returned and built a fire, but no response was elicited; they waited, they sought for the path, but all in vain, and they were obliged to return to Egypt, losing from hunger and thirst a very large number of the tribe; the secret of the approach to the well had disappeared; it existed only in tradition.

Nearly 100 years passed, and a young man having escaped from the oppression of the chief, made his way into the mountains. He traveled three days in search of a well, wandering among the valleys; finally he was obliged to ascend a mountain of dazzling whiteness. He remembered the tradition—it was shaped like a camel. Looking there, he descried in the far distance what looked like the green tops of some palm trees. Toward these he pressed nearly overcome with heat, thirst and weariness. It was a beautiful spot; the palm trees had grown luxuriantly and tall; only an aged man resided here, surrounded with a species of antelope. He was the watcher who had been left. He had been unable to build the fire, having fallen from the rocks. Nor could he find the way out. Since then stones have been set up to mark the way.—*Scholar's Companion.*

Armies of the World.

The following table, which has been carefully compiled, shows the regular army, the annual cost of the same, and the cost per head of all the principal nations of the world:

Countries.	*Regular Army.*	*Annual Cost of Army.*	*Cost per Head.*
Austria-Hungary	296,218	$ 50,680,000	$1 35
Argentine Repub	8,283	*4,514,018	2 49
Belgium	46,277	8,787,909	1 64
Bolivia	4,022	1,126,916	56
Brazil	16,500	10,862,406	97
Canada	3,000	1,013,944	27
Chili	3,510	.....	....
China	700,000	.....	....
Colombia	2,500	288,000	16
Denmark	35,703	2,406,109	1 26
Egypt	62,920	*4,452,522	20
France	470,000	100,007,623	2 70
Germany	419,559	92,573,403	2 16
Great Britain	115,720	65,161,015	1 90
Greece	12,397	1,494,800	1 02
India, British	58,170	76,875,960	40
Italy	199,577	37,983,755	1 36
Japan	35,380	7,506,000	21
Luxembourg	513	100,480	48
Mexico	22,387	*10,554,745	1 13
Netherlands	61,803	10,265,990	2 65
Norway	12,750	1,480,760	81
Persia	28,400	3,400,000	56
Peru	13,200	.....	....
Portugal	35,733	4,342,928	1 07
Roumania	130,158	3,310,198	65
Russia	787,900	144,215,615	1 99
Servia	14,150	869,138	2 97
Spain	330,000	49,146,491	2 48
Sweden	36,495	3,579,940	87
Switzerland	106,102	2,419,213	58
Turkey	157,667	24,763,095	63
United States	26,914	37,082,735	91
Uruguay	4,060	*2,364,100	5 35
Venezuela	5,494	.....	....

*Army and navy.

Vermont has furnished 186 foreign missionaries, twenty-six of whom have labored in Turkey.

TIMELY TOPICS.

At a Cincinnati brewery there is a machine recently imported from Germany which is under contract to make a ton of ice—or to produce cold equal to a ton of ice—for ninety cents. The plan is to station the machine in a side building, and to send the cold air or water through tunnels in the street into the cellars. In the fermenting cellars cold water is sent by pipes through the tubs, having coil pipe inside. Into the storing cellars, where the beer is in casks, the cold blast is injected full into the cellar, turning it into a monster refrigerator. The estimates are carefully made, and confidence is expressed in the success of the plan.

The rapidity with which the railroads from the Indus valley to Sibi, at the mouth of Bolan pass, have been constructed exceeds that of any similar work in the United States, the country of fast railroad building. The distance from Lakken, in the Indus valley, to Sibi is 134 miles, and the railroad over this distance was finished in 101 consecutive days. The last sixty-two miles occupied exactly one month—from noon of December 14 to January 14. The last ninety miles ran through a desert, and all food, water and means of shelter had to be transported by train. The consumption of water by the men and animals was 30,000 gallons a day, and in some cases the engines had to run 200 miles without stopping to take water.

A writer on Australian life in the Boston *Commercial Bulletin* tells how a sick man was found by his mate at the diggings murdered, and his gold gone. The culprit was found, but contrived that night to escape with the money, which, for safe keeping, had been placed in the place of detention. Nothing could be heard of him, but a few days later came the following: "Mr. Magistrate: Jim Bell (the murdered man) was once a mate of mine. He was a good man. You will find his murderer at the head of Dead Horse gully. I have kept the gold for a reward.—KANGAROO BILL, captain of the bushrangers." They found the murderer's remains—a fleshless skeleton, every bone picked clean. He had been staked down on the ground, with his back to an ant hill, and left for the ants to eat him alive. A more awful retribution can scarcely be conceived.

At a recent meeting of the Dulwich (England) College Geological club Mr. B. G. Jenkins read a paper on "The Origin of Waves of Cold." The object of the paper was to show the very remarkable effect of the planet Venus upon the earth. Many years ago the present astronomer royal proved that the disturbing effect of this planet was so great that the earth was materially pulled out of its orbit by it. Mr. Jenkins shows that it is to this disturbing action we must look for an explanation of the cold waves which roll through the atmosphere on an average every eight years—as in 1829, 1837, 1845, 1855, 1860, 1871, 1879—and that for the next forty years the temperature will be below the average, as it has during the past forty years been above the average. With regard to high temperature, he stated that for the last fifty years a heat wave has been observed to pass over the earth every twelve years, nearly and contemporary with the arrival of the planet Jupiter about perihelion, and that we are on the eve of the next heat wave.

In one of several suits in the United States circuit court, recently brought by the Adams and the Southern express companies against certain Southern railroad corporations, it was stated that these two companies cover 21,200 miles of railroad, employ 4,300 persons, and make 900 daily trips over 64,500 miles, aggregating nearly 20,000,000 miles of travel annually. For the transportation of their freight, they pay the railroad companies over $2,000,000 a year. In 1878 they carried for the government $1,200,000,000. In 1879 they carried $661,000,000 for the government and $1,080,000,000 for the public. In New York city Adams express company receives and delivers an average of 14,000 packages daily, and uses 918 horses. The invested capital of all the express companies in the United States exceeds $30,000,000. The express business has grown to these enormous proportions in about forty years. It was in 1839 that William F. Harnden made a trip from Boston to New York as a public messenger, having in his charge some packages, commercial paper and money. In 1850 the express line was started between the same two cities by Alvan Adams and P. B. Burke. In 1841 Mr. William B. Dinsmore became a partner, and took charge of the New York branch of the business. The success of these pioneers led to the formation of other lines between other cities.

An Officer Saved by His Dog.

The Denver (Col.) *Tribune* tells this story of how a dog saved his master from drowning: Last Monday a number of soldiers went from Fort Craig to the Rio Grande for a bath. Among them were Captain Jack Crawford. After being in the water about three-quarters of an hour Captain Jack started to cross to the other side of a sand bar, on which the water was only from six inches to a foot deep. Several of the others followed Jack and they had considerable fun tripping each other and rolling over in the water, while two of the boys got Jack down in the shallow water and tickled him in the ribs until he was nearly exhausted with laughter, being very ticklish. In order to get away from his tormentors Jack rolled over toward the deep water on the lower edge of the bar, and when he got up on his feet he kept backing down stream, and although there was not more than two feet of water where he stood, yet the current was so strong that it would carry him down should he lose his footing. He kept splashing water on those who had been tickling him and bantering them to come on after him, when suddenly he made two or three desperate efforts to get back, but failed. Yet he said not a word, or the others might have joined hands and reached for him. No one dreamed for a moment that he was trying to extricate himself from the quicksand. All at once he went down like a piece of lead. The next instant Jack's dog Hero, a beautiful St. Bernard, was seen swimming toward his master, while he set up a howl that seemed to say, "I'm coming." Jack came up about twenty-five yards below where he went down and right in the center of a terribly swift current, near where the river made a quick, sharp turn. He was almost exhausted when the sand broke from under him, and, striking a whirlpool, he could make little or no headway, and had to use all his strength to keep from being caught in the suction. Hill, a soldier, as soon as he saw the dog go for Jack, also sprang in the current, but Hero got to Jack first, just as he was going down the second time, and taking him by the hair of the head brought him above water. Jack, who never lost his presence of mind, caught the dog by the back just above the hip, and the faithful Hero brought him safe to shore almost a mile below where he first went down. This was a narrow escape, as an officer and five soldiers went down nearly in the same place a few years ago and were never seen. A wagon and team of mules disappeared in the river two years ago and have not turned up yet. An old Mexican brought Jack over from the opposite shore in a boat, while Hero never ceased licking his hands and face until he came out of the boat.

A Remarkable Centenarian.

A remarkable centenarian lives near Greenup, Ky. Andrew Hood was born near Winchester, Va., October 17, 1769. Accustomed to wild frontier life, his father got tired of Virginia as the advancing civilization approached his settlement, and when Andrew was eleven years old the major removed thence to a place eight miles below Prestonsburg and subsequently to the mouth of the Little Sandy, in Greenup county, where he died and was buried. He speaks familiarly of Daniel Boone, who was a hunting companion of his father, and whose departure for Missouri in a flat bottomed boat he distinctly recollects. Were it not for his almost total deafness many interesting facts might be learned from him. His habits are quite peculiar. He sleeps all day, retiring when the sun rises, and sits up from sunset till the next morning. He takes three meals a day, never smokes, but chews moderately; used to drink whisky, but has reformed, and loves to poke a fire which burns on the hearth summer and winter.

DR. TANNER'S FAST.

Living Forty Days Without Food—How He Passed the Last Day.

Dr. Tanner, the Minneapolis wonder, has won his great race against the grim and gaunt specter of famine, having been without food of any description for forty days. For two weeks of that period he managed to exist without imbibing any water, but the attempt almost set him crazy, and he was obliged to take to hydrogen in order to succeed; had he not he would have collapsed before half the feat of abstinence had been completed.

During the last ten days his sufferings were intense, and nobody but himself has any idea of what torture he experienced during that period of his remarkable battle with nature. His wonderful will power sustained him to the end, and often when it looked as though he would have to succumb, by a mighty effort his will gained the mastery over his stomach and kept it in submission. His worst battles were fought within the last four or five days, when the slightest exertion caused emesis, or eructation of wind from the gastric region. Toward the end he was rather irritable, although at times, when he realized the fortieth day was near, he would become jocose and talkative. To the end he retained all his senses, and at no time was he too weak to indulge in any pedestrian exercise he had he desired to. He was visited by nearly ten thousand persons, and their presence often stimulated him considerably.

Fully two thousand persons visited Clarendon hall on the last morning to see the faster, and he received quite an ovation at their hands. The presents, too, had been coming in lively all morning, and were arranged on tables within the inclosure in the center of the main hall. There were seven or eight watermelons, packages of baby food, small boxes of crackers, Russian milk wine, a pair of embroidered velvet slippers, a medal in the shape of an immense ship cracker, with an appropriate inscription and decorated with red, white and blue ribbons, a piece of framed cardboard, having the following embroidered upon it in worsted:

Fasted from June 29, 1880,
[Awarded to Dr. Tanner]
N. Y. C.,
To August 7, 1880.
BELLE SILVERBERG.

A watermelon weighing forty-six pounds bore the following inscription: "To Dr. Tanner—For his first meal, from a Georgia State Horticultural society, which convened at Chamberlain's hall, Atlanta, Ga., July 30, 1880." There were also baskets of roses, innumerable boquets, a small box of rusty nails, and a large cucumber.

Shortly before noon of the last day the faster was examined, and it was found that his temperature was ninety-nine degrees, his pulse was ninety-two to the minute and his respiration seventeen. He was then resting in a small ante-room, pointing on Thirteenth street. He held a peach in his hand, and as the steam whistles in the neighboring factories announced the noon hour he delightfully exclaimed: "The time is over, and I am glad. Now, I'll put this away," as he prepared to eat the peach, but it was taken from him. He was then escorted within the inclosure on the floor of the main hall, where an arm-chair had been placed on top of a table for him. He stepped upon the scales which he tipped at 121½ pounds, making a loss in avoirdupois of thirty-six pounds since the beginning of the fast. He was greeted with vigorous applause by the eight or nine hundred spectators in the hall, who crowded around the railing, and a crowd of at least 5,000 persons congregated upon the sidewalk.

From this moment Dr. Tanner was a changed being. He laughed, he moved around in his seat, he shifted his cane, his hand trembled for the first mouthful of food that was to be given to him. One of the doctors took from the table a quart bottle of milk, and uncorking it slowly filled a lager-beer glass. The faster crossed his legs and leaned forward to watch the operation, and a man in the audience called for "three cheers for the plucky doctor." The cheers were given, and, strange to relate, a painful pleasant, but Dr. Tanner never took his eyes off the glass of milk until they were obscured by the rim as he raised it to his lips. He made three draughts of the half pint of milk, and the sympathetic audience laughed loudly and cheerily as he said, when he handed the glass back to his attendant, "That's good." The glass was filled again, but Dr. Tanner put it away almost untasted. Then he rearranged the dressing of his slippered feet, and an order was given to "cut the Georgia watermelon."

A moment afterward Dr. Tanner leaned back in his chair and looked helplessly at his attendants. Then he said: "I am tired out. I must have more air." Dr. Gunn ordered perfect quiet in the hall and the window space in the south gallery, which was jammed with people, was hastily cleared. Fans were again brought into play and Dr. Tanner soon received enough to gase smilingly on the richly colored sections of the watermelon that lay on the table at his feet. First he devoured it with his eyes and then leaning forward he scooped out a great slice from the center and resting his forehead upon the head of his cane began to eat it slowly and with great relish. He was like a boy. He rolled his eyes around and smacked his lips and played with the knife that had cut the melon as the watermelon melted in his mouth.

The reporters had been eager to catch every word that fell from Dr. Tanner's lips, and as he did not speak loud enough to be heard five feet away they knelt down upon the floor near him, so that they would not obstruct the view of persons in the audience. Dr. Tanner wiped his mouth after finishing the first piece of melon and then said, drily: "This is the first time I ever had the newspaper reporters kneel to me." Then he reached for another piece of the melon and one of the doctors cautioned him not to over-indulge his appetite.

"I know how to do this business," he answered. "This is what lets up the strain. Let every one side and let me have my own way." Just as he had got a good bite of the second piece of watermelon his brother-in-law went up to him and spoke to him in a deprecating way. Dr. Tanner did not cry this time. He only looked at his relative out of the corner of his eye and said: "Oh, I'm running this thing now. Before the first thing I did was to eat half a big watermelon. It's only water." Dr. Tanner then shook his finger playfully at Dr. Gunn and took another slice of the melon. This third piece of watermelon seemed to satisfy his appetite for the time being. He leaned back in his chair again and nursed his cane. Then Dr. Gunn said: "Ladies and gentlemen, Dr. Tanner has broken his fast. He has accomplished his object. He is now going to leave the hall, and I wish that you would clear a space for him." Dr. Tanner hopped down from his improvised throne, hurried into the ante-room, and in a few minutes—at 12:30—entered Dr. Gunn's carriage and was driven to Dr. Gunn's residence.

After his arrival at Dr. Gunn's residence, Dr. Tanner slept for half an hour, then ate another slice of watermelon, and followed that up in a short time by demolishing half a pound of beefsteak, which was the first substantial food he had taken in forty days. In a little while he ate two more large slices of watermelon and an apple. At midnight he retired, having consumed in all since breaking his fast, a pint of milk, a pound of steak, two watermelons, three apples and five ounces of wine. On the following day he developed an astonishing appetite, and did little more than eat. In the thirty hours following the conclusion of his fast he ate over eleven pounds of meat, not counting the watermelons, apples and milk. His watchers asserted that all this food did not cause him the least uneasiness. He gained over *eight* pounds in the thirty hours after his fast had ended!

When Dr. Tanner came to New York from Minnesota he weighed 184 pounds. He was six weeks making arrangements for his fast, and when he began his experiment his weight was 157½ pounds. He weighed 121½ pounds on the day his fast ended. He had therefore lost 62½ pounds since he came to the city, and thirty-six pounds since he began his fast. Dr. Hammond, the well-known New York physician, whose assertion that a forty-days' fast was a physical impossibility led Dr. Tanner to make the attempt, came out in a card in the New York papers declaring that he believed the fast had been fairly conducted.

On each day of his fast Dr. Tanner weighed as follows:

Day.	*Pounds.*	*Day.*	*Pounds.*
1st	157½	25th	131½
3d	153	26th	131
5th	147½	27th	130½
7th	145½	28th	129½
11th	139½	29th	....
13th	136½	30th	130
14th	135½	31st	128
16th	132	32d	127½
17th (8:30 p. m.)	133½	33d	126½
17th (11 a. m.)	135½	34th	126½
18th	136½	35th	....
19th	136	36	....
20th (4 p. m.)	135½	37th	125½
20th (5 a. m.)	135	38th	....
21st	135	39th	122½
22d	133½	40th	121½
26th	132½		

Decrease of Cattle.

It seems to be the opinion of those who have examined the matter pretty thoroughly that a considerable decrease will be found in the stock of the United States and Territories, after the shipments of this year are over. We are of the opinion that this may be the case in regard to such as are sufficiently well-bred for shipment to foreign markets; so-called inferior stock, we question whether much, if any, deficiency will be found. Yet, in any event, there will unquestionably be a considerable advance in the price of cattle another year, as well as in that of sheep and swine. There are two reasons why this may be so—the first of which is the greatly increased tide of emigrants to our country this season, who will be consumers instead of producers for a twelvemonth to come; and the second reason is, so numerous are the losses sustained in Great Britain and Ireland during the past eighteen months, in domestic animals, that their wants for this year will, doubtless, be larger than the past have been.—*Rural New Yorker.*

DR. TANNER'S FAST.

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