

THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED KURTZ, . . . Editor.

CENTRE HALL, PA., NOV. 26, 1884.

ELECTRICITY'S DEADLY WORK.

[Mexico Two Republics.]

A shocking tragedy occurred the other Sunday night in the Zoecia where the beautiful concert pavilion has been erected for the festivities of All Saints and All Souls' days. One life was lost and three men were so seriously injured that life in their case was despaired of. It was a case of peculiar interest. A man known as Pantalon Estrada, a worker in guitars, trying to get the end of an ordinary wire threw it over the electric wire. Estrada immediately fell dead in his tracks. The contact of the two wires killed him. A policeman standing by and a street-car conductor had much of their clothing burned off and were themselves so seriously injured that their lives tremble in the balance. The electric current effected others also more or less. The scene succeeding the tragedy was demoralizing. For a moment the dumb terror of seeing strong men totter and fall as if struck by some invisible hand held the crowd spellbound. Succeeding the terrorized apathy came a wild crush for life. Fortunately exits were plentiful, and to that was due the fact that many were not stamped to death.

John Herbert, of the Electric Light company, mounted a ladder with a silk handkerchief in hand to remove the wire thrown by the unfortunate Estrada. The rain was falling heavily at the time, but he did not notice that the handkerchief was becoming damp. He applied it to the wire to remove it and received himself a severe shock that threw him from the ladder. Falling to the stone pavement, his head was cut open. He will recover, however. The police believe that Estrada represented a gang of pickpockets and thieves and that his object in throwing the wire was to extinguish the electric lights and give his pals a chance to operate. Whether that is so or not is not known, for he who could have told had his lips burned to silence.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTER.

"In the winter of 1877-8, I was confined to the house 3 or 4 months and to the bed 4 weeks with rheumatism. I could get no relief. I began using Henry and Johnson's Arnica & Oil Liniment, and in ten days by the use of half a bottle I was cured."

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SUFFERINGS OF GEN. SHIELDS.

[St. Louis Globe-Democrat.]

"Would you like to see the mate to the ball which passed through the General in the Mexican war?" Mrs. Shields asked. In the response to an affirmative she brought out a grape shot, not like the more modern messenger of destruction, but a great iron ball, with a deep ragged fringe, showing rude casting. It measured full three inches in circumference. This was picked up on the battle-field by an aide of Gen. Scott's. The shot which struck the General entered below the heart, passed through the lung and came out under the shoulder-blade. A surgeon on the Mexican side, who found him, took a silk handkerchief, and, following the course of the wound, drew it entirely through the body. So certain were the medical men that he could not recover that the official report sent out to Washington included Shields among the dead.

"In all the years of our married life," said Mrs. Shields, "I don't think I ever knew him to have one whole night of sleep, undisturbed by that wound. He would get up out of bed and walk the floor by the hour. He was not a man to complain, and very few people knew what he suffered—he could stand so much. After he was wounded in the Mexican war they wanted to cut his left arm off; it had begun to mortify. He told them no. Then they said the only thing that could possibly save him was to cut in and scrape the bone. He told them to do it, and went through the operation without taking chloroform. In the last year his right arm and shoulder were badly hurt by fragments of a shell, and he had much trouble with them. He could never lie on that side. You might think a man who had gone through such sufferings himself would get callous toward the feelings of others, but he didn't. It was not once, but many a time, I have seen him take a mouse that had fallen into a basin of water, and dry the little thing carefully, and let it go, he was so tender-hearted."

SINGULAR POLITICAL COINCIDENCE.

[Charleston News and Courier.]

Senator Brown, of Georgia, in a speech at Atlanta said that the 6,000,000 colored people in the Southern States give those States about 37 Representatives in the House and 37 Senators in the Senate. Over Blaine in the Electoral College is 37, the number of votes which the Southern States gain by the enfranchisement of the colored people. Without those votes the total electoral vote would be 364 and a majority would be 182, which is the Blaine vote exactly. The political power, which was intended to fortify Blaineism and save it from political harm is the means of its undoing. Once again the whirligig of time brings in its revenger. The vote of the Southern States is the safeguard of the Republic.

THE DROUGHT IN VIRGINIA.

Petersburg, Nov. 17.—The drought of the last few months remains unbroken. In some of the upper counties springs and streams are still drying up. The drought is a great drawback to farmers, who, in consequence of the dry and hard condition of the ground, are unable to plow their lands. For more than a month the water in the city reservoir has been so low that only one-half of the citizens have been supplied from that source, the other half being furnished from the river.

THE TROUBLE SAFELY OVER.

Stomach trouble is serious business while it lasts; but what a blessed relief to have it depart! Mrs. F. G. Wells, of 17 Atlantic street, Hartford, Conn., writes that she tried Brown's Iron Bitters for stomach trouble, and that she experienced such relief that the trouble is now entirely cured. She recommends this great iron medicine to all who are afflicted. It cures liver and kidney complaint.

THE ACTOR WHO DOESN'T SWEAR.

"No," said a young actor who had been talking to a little group of companions and using a good many oaths in his conversation, "no, all people who play are not profane. At least I know one actor who doesn't swear. He is George C. Miln, the ex-preacher. I played third wicket in 'Maobeth' in his company one night in St. Paul. Burleigh played Macbeth and Miln played Macduff. When we wickets went out in the caldron scene we were fixed up in first-class style, and we did the whole business as nice any three wickets ever did. But when it came time for the caldron to sink into the earth the trap-door stuck fast and the old soap kettle tipped over sideways and spilled all the torpedoes and green fire and things all over the floor. The stage got into a blaze, somebody shouted 'Fire!' and the audience began to get frightened. Burleigh stood in the wings, swearing like a trooper, but Miln just stood around looking mad, and saying 'Oh, dear!' I got to laughing and so did the other wickets. Somebody turned on the gas and showed the whole thing to the audience. The audience yelled with laughter, and Burleigh swore worse than ever, but Miln didn't do any swearing. Then another time in Kansas City I was playing the secretary to Miln's Richelieu. I dressed for the part in a hurry and didn't take time to put on stage shoes. I had on a long robe and thought I was all right. So I advanced to the front of the stage, struck an attitude and began to look as picturesque as I could. Richelieu was in the middle of a long speech when some fellow in the gallery out: 'Get onto his nob in the light-topped shoes!' That broke the audience up and spoiled the speech. But Miln didn't swear any—he only looked mad. Any other actor would have sworn under his breath for five minutes."

BYRON IN EXILE.

Lord Malmesbury, whose title until his father's death in 1841 was Lord Fitzharris, gives a very amusing account of his visits to country houses, of his foreign travels, and of the friendships he made after leaving Oxford. At Rome he saw much of the Countess Guiccioli, who—Byron having died five years before—had got over her grief for the loss of her poet, and liked to talk of him and his eccentricities. In reference to "Don Juan" "she told me that she wrote all the last cantos on play-bills (some of which I saw myself), or on any odd piece of paper at hand, and with repeated glasses of gin-punch at his side. He then used to rush out of his room to read to her what he had written, making many alterations, and laughing immoderately. She was very proud and fond of him, but described him as having a very capricious temper, and with nothing of the passion which pervades his poetry, and which he was in the habit of ridiculing—in fact, with a cold temperament. With all his abuse of England, he insisted on keeping up old customs in small things, such as having hot cross buns on Good Friday and roast goose on Michaelmas Day. This last fancy led to a grotesque result. After buying a goose and fearing it might be too lean, he fed it every day for a month previously, so that the poet and the bird became so mutually attached that when September 29th arrived he could not kill it, but bought another, and had the pet goose swung in a cage under his carriage so that after four years he was moving about with four geese."

THE GULF STREAM.

The Gulf Stream, which, if not the most extensive, is at least the best known of all currents, has just been styled the most beautiful oceanic river in existence. Its course has always puzzled philosophers. After passing round the Gulf of Mexico, it rushes out into the Atlantic with very considerable force between Florida and the West India Islands. On entering Florida Strait from the Gulf of Mexico, its rate is from sixty to one hundred miles per day, and on leaving the "Narrowes," from seventy to one hundred and twenty miles. When the extension of the Gulf Stream drift passes between the British Islands and Iceland, it moves only with an average rate of five miles a day—a rate which would occupy upwards of three months to carry its waters from the south-western extremity of England to the north of Scotland. In its earlier stages the stream is known by its clear blue waters and accompanying fair weather. On passing Cape I latters it increases in width, and, when skirting the southern edge of the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, it proceeds with diminished velocity and temperature. In the vicinity of Halifax and Newfoundland it meets the waters of the cool Arctic current which is setting to the southward, and these waters run side by side without mixing, the line of separation sometimes being so sharp that a difference of temperature amounting to 33° Fahrenheit has been observed within the distance of a few ships' lengths.

"How is your husband to-day, Mrs. Jones?" "He is very ill indeed." "Worse than he was?" "Oh, yes, the nurse says he is beyond the reach of doctors, now." "I'm glad to hear it." "What? What?" "I'm glad to hear it. Now, if you can only keep him beyond their reach I think he will get well rapidly."

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CAPITAL PUNCH.

A huge punch bowl is to be found in almost every house in Washington, and punch-making has become a fine art. One of the most famous punch-makers was the late Charles Astor Bristed. His punches were neither too strong nor too weak. In other words, one glass would not make you drunk, neither were you obliged to drink several gallons in order to reach a point of exhilaration. This point of exhilaration is the place to stop drinking. Daniel Webster Punch is a complicated drink that calls for whiskey, rum, champagne, arrack, maraschino, green tea, lemon, sugar and a very little water. A party of distinguished Scotch gentlemen, who were in the city not long ago, during their stay were invited to visit the private residence of a prominent gentleman. During the evening a light collation was served in the dining-room and a huge punch-bowl was set out. The head of the party, a Scotchman, who at home occupies the position of provost in his native town, stepped up and tasted the punch, and, turning to an acquaintance, said: "That seems very light; I think it would take a man a long time to get drunk on that." This cool liquor glided very easily down the provost's throat, and a second glass followed. Pausing before beginning a third glass, he engaged in conversation for a moment, then he shook his head, and said: "I don't see what is the matter with me. His eyes became half shut, and as he stepped forward he nearly lost his balance. Turning in the most surprised fashion, he looked at the punch-bowl and said: "Do you know, I think that drink is very innocuous. What is it made of?" His friend replied, "Whiskey, rum, claret, champagne, sugar and lemons and a little water." The Scotchman understood at once what was the matter.

INTERNATIONAL ERRORS.

They have been mostly connected with Biblical matters, and intended to further party interests. It is said that Field, a printer of the time of Charles I, was paid £1,500 by the Independents to alter a single letter in the third verse of Acts, vi., so as to make the word "we" read "ye," and so as to give the right of appointing pastors to the people, and not to the apostles. The deplorable state of the press in Field's time may be realized from the fact that Bishop Usher, on his way to preach at Paul's Cross, asked at a stationer's for a copy of the Bible; and on examining it found, to his astonishment, that the text from which he was about to preach was not in the book! The well known "Vinegar Bible" was published in 1717, and obtains its name from the Parable of the Vineyard being printed as the Parable of the Vinegar. One of the most willful alterations of the text, and one which cost its perpetrator her life, was committed by the widow of a German printer. One night, while an edition of the Bible was being printed in her house, she took the opportunity of altering the word Herr into Narr, making the verse read: "he shall be thy fool," instead of "he shall be thy lord." The celebrated Bibles of Sixtus V. Their sole fame is the multitude of errors which crowd their pages, notwithstanding that his Holiness Sixtus V. carefully superintended every sheet as it passed through the press, and finally prefixed to the first edition a bull forbidding any alteration in the text.

HOW TO REDUCE FAT.

Dr. Schwanninger, of Munich, has discovered a new mode of reducing the bulk of the human frame. It is never to eat and drink at the same time, but to let two hours intervene. He has, it is said, cured Prince Bismarck of a tendency to obesity in this way. Fat people have now their choice between four systems: 1. The original Banting, which consists of eating nothing containing starch, sugar or fat. 2. The German Banting, which allows fat but forbids sugar or starch. 3. A Munich system, which consists of being clothed in wool, and sleeping in flannel blankets instead of sheets. 4. Not eating and drinking at the same time. In Huxley's "Elements of Physiology" he divides foods into proteids, which are composed of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen, and which consist of gluten, albumen, blood serum, fibrin, synntonin, casein, gelatin and chondrin; fats, which are composed of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, and consist of all fatty matters and oils; amyloids, which are composed of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen, and consist of starch, dextine, sugar and gum, and minerals, which consist of water and sundry alkalis, earths and metals.

HIBERNICISMS.

"I like action," remarked a candid Celt, "but I hate work." This is a home truth of the widest application to the Irish character. Among special Celtic characteristics, which it is my aim to illustrate, I would give a prominent place to the power of apology. "It was not the dithrop I had taken," said a Kerry peasant charged with being drunk and disorderly, "but I had a smoke out of a neighbor's pipe, and that leaned upon me."

As a man is known by his company, so a man's company may be known by his manner of expressing himself.

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PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD—(Philadelphia and Erie Division)—on and after May 11, 1884.

Table with columns for destination (e.g., Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Pottsville) and departure times for various train services like Erie Mail, Niagara Exp., and Sea Shore Exp.

LEWISBURG AND TYRONE RAILROAD TIME TABLE IN EFFECT NOV. 17, 1884.

Table with columns for direction (Leave Westward, Leave Eastward) and departure times for stations like Montandon, Lewisburg, and Tyrone.

THE OLD STAND!

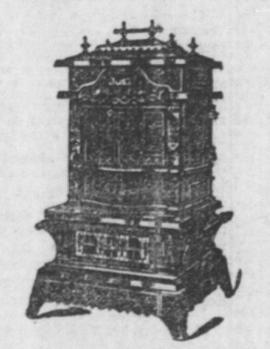
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