

THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED KURTZ, . . . Editor. CENTRE HALL, PA., FEB. 18, 1885.

THE MAHDI'S FEROCITY.

The Fearful Atrocities Committed at the Capture of Khartoum.

London, Feb. 10.—The Mahdi caused the massacre of all of Gordon's men together with their wives and children. General Gordon was killed on the morning of Jan. 27. The garrison at Gubat is exasperated over the news of the massacre. The scenes of the slaughter are described as surpassing the Bulgarian atrocities and rivaling the worst horrors of the Sepoy mutiny. The panic-stricken Egyptians were captured in their flight and put to death with the most fiendish tortures. Some were transfixed with spears and left to bleed to death. Most of the victims were mutilated in a most horrible manner. The eyes were gouged out, noses were slit and tongues were torn out by the roots. In many cases the mutilated parts of the victims' bodies were thrust in their mouths while they were still living. The massacre included many non-combatants and the Egyptian women were subjected to shameful indignities. More than 100 women and young girls were given over to the Mahdi's followers to be used as slaves. After the slaughter many Arabs were seen rushing about the streets with the heads of the Egyptians impaled upon their spears. The next night was spent in a saturnalia of blood and debauchery.

HOW GORDON MET HIS DEATH.

London, Feb. 11.—The Daily News, which appeared this morning in mourning out of respect for General Gordon, publishes the following from Gakdul: The natives who escaped from Khartoum say General Gordon was killed while in the act of leaving his home to rally the faithful troops. The latter were cut down to a man, and for hours the best part of the town was the scene of merciless slaughter, not even women and children being spared. All the notables were killed, except the treacherous pashas and their followers.

TWO VERY UGLY TWINS.

They go hand in hand, and lead their victim a terrible trot down into the valley of the shadow of death. One is neuralgia, the other rheumatism. These generally proceed from disordered blood. Brown's Iron Bitters knocks out these ugly twins by setting the blood aright and invigorating the system. W. T. Osborn, of Coville, Ala., used Brown's Iron Bitters for the rheumatism and neuralgia with most happy effect. It also cures dyspepsia.

ALMSHOUSE IN FLAMES.

Eighteen Inmate Burned to Death. Over Two Hundred Roaming the Streets of the City.

Philadelphia, Feb. 11.—Eighteen raving maniacs were burned to death in the insane department at the Blockley almshouse on the west side of the Schuylkill river to-night in a conflagration which needed nothing to make the most horrible disaster of the kind ever known in the history of the city. The fire originated in the wing of the old building of the insane department of Blockley which fronts toward the Schuylkill river and directly east of the main building of the almshouse. This wing is 115 feet front and 60 feet deep, connected on the south with the main building of the structures of the insane department which runs south 400 feet, a similar wing to the one in which the disaster occurred. In this north building where the fire broke out there were sixty separate cells for vio-

THE MOST REMARKABLE CASE OF ALL.

A gentleman writes us from Philadelphia, Centre county, Pa., that his little girl was horribly afflicted with scrofula. Her body was full of sores, discharging continually thick yellow purulent matter, and her eyes so swollen and inflamed as to almost blind her. One bottle of McDonald's Blood Purifier has to all appearances entirely cured her. Our neighbors as well as ourselves consider the cure remarkable.

A bonafide case. The address of the family can be obtained from the editor of this paper. Sold by J. D. Murray, JOHNSTON, HOLLOWAY & Co., Philadelphia Agents.

BURNED TO DEATH WITH THEIR HOME.

Concord, Ohio, Feb. 11.—A house occupied by the family of Hiram Atkins burned here yesterday, and to-day Atkins and two children were found burned to death. Atkins was an old man and a helpless invalid, and his young wife left with a man, representing as her brother, a few hours after the fire.

NO GRIPING, NO DRASTIC PURGING.

Take two or three of McDonald's Improved Liver Pills for first dose and follow with one pill every night at bedtime. So quietly and surely will they correct a torpid or disordered liver and regulate the bowels, that you will feel like a new person by the time you have used one box. Money returned to dissatisfied buyers. JOHNSTON, HOLLOWAY, & Co., Philadelphia, Agents. Sold by J. D. Murray.

A GIRL AND BLEW HIS BRAINS OUT.

Wooster, Ohio, Feb. 10.—At Shreve last night Wilbur Peters, a Chester lover, shot and fatally wounded Laura Chester, just as she was leaving the roller skating rink for her home. The young man then placed the revolver in his own hand and blew his brains out. The affair has created intense excitement.

THE MAGIC MIRROR OF JAPAN.

At a recent meeting of the German Asiatic Society of Japan a paper was read by Dr. H. Muraoka, of Tokio, on the magic mirror of Japan. It is generally supposed that its magical quality was discovered only recently; but it was, says Dr. Muraoka, known for a long time in Japan. Old ladies have told him that in their youth, 50 years since, they frequently noticed, when at toilet, that the reflection of the sun from the mirror on the wall or ceiling contained the figures or letters on its back. It is said to have been known to the Romans in connection with some of their mirrors, and any one concealing a mirror possessing this quality was arrested as a sorcerer; but the authority for this statement is not given. The subject has engaged considerable attention, as will be seen from the fact that in recent years a list of 14 writers on the subject is quoted, from Stanislaus Julien, in 1847, to Messrs. Ayrton and Perry, quite lately; and as the subsequent discussion showed, there are omissions even in this list. These writers, especially the two latter, have demonstrated beyond doubt that unequal convexities in the mirror beget its magical quality. The polished surfaces are convex, but the convexity is not continuous, and is broken in certain places. After going over what has already been done in the subject and its results, the author describes his own investigations. The ridges of the mirror are far from being all answered by the discovery of unequal convexity. For example how is the inequality caused—by pressure, heat, or changes in the molecular tension of the metal plates? The writer tried many experiments to answer the question, and he succeeded by means of chemical agents in drawing lines on the flat back of a mirror which were reproduced on a reflected image from the front. His results are that the irregularity in convexity is caused by the grinding, which alters the molecular tension; that the magic mirror may be produced at will, (it was generally supposed to be the work of chance alone), and that the magical quality attributed to it is not confined to Japanese bronze, but is common to all firm elastic substances. A curious process employed by mirror workers is described by Dr. Muraoka. It appears to be one of the secrets of the craft. If the surface of a mirror has been made concave by mechanical pressure, the injury is not repaired, as might be expected, by hammering the other side or otherwise forcing the metal back into its place. The workman takes an iron tool with rounded, but slightly rough, top, and rubs the concave portion of the mirror in all directions until a fine network of scratches has been formed. The place then rises of itself, and, instead of being concave, become more convex than the rest of the surface. This convexity is then shaved away by a knife made for the purpose until it becomes even with the rest of the mirror. When this is done the whole surface is again ground, polished, and amalgamated.

THE LATEST IN EXPLOSIVES.

The latest thing in explosives is blasting paper. Dynamite, it is claimed, is nothing to it, and it can be made at so small a cost that the present condition of the dynamiter's treasury would suffice to furnish enough of it to blow all England into smithereens. It is a patent of a Viennese by the name of Petry and is now coming into use in excavating for building purposes. It is made of common blotting paper. The paper is coated with a hot mixture composed of seventeen parts of yellow prussiate of potash, 17 parts of charcoal, 35 parts of refined salt, 70 parts of chloride of potash, and ten parts of wheat starch, added to 1,500 parts of water. The sheets are dipped in the boiling mass and dried. Then they are cut into strips, which are rolled into cartridges, and the article is ready for use.

The old plan of felling trees by means of the axe and wedge has fallen into disrepute. The lumberman in Canada, Maine and Southern forests now use dynamite, which is more expeditious and effective than any means yet tried. Several channels are dug underneath the trees at the roots or bored into the trunk. The dynamite cartridge is then placed in these channels and exploded. The tree, instead of being scathed or mutilated, as is often the case when the wedge and axe are used, is lifted right out of the ground and falls intact. Large logs are split and stumps raised by the same means.

FATHER AND SON.

The following story is told of Alexander Dumas. When the first successful novel of the son appeared, old Alexander wrote to his son, as though to a stranger, congratulating him on his book, and adding that he ought to know something about the difficulties of novel-writing, as he had himself been guilty of several. Alexander fils replied in the same spirit, thanking his correspondent for his congratulations, of which he felt especially proud, as coming from one of whom he had often heard his father speak in the highest terms.

The trombone is the back but of the ancients; and it was revived about 1,790, after a model found in Pompeii.

An extra discount of 10 to 20 per cent. on all ladies' and children's coats, at the Bee Hive.

NEW YORK BEGGARS.

All the members of this respectable fraternity have their regular "beats." The blind and lame beggars, with the wheezy two-organs and cranky accordions, all have their corners by a tacit understanding among the "profession;" and if the blind man should "see" the lame man encroaching upon his "beat," there would doubtless be a fight or foot-race. Beggars are found in front of all the uptown hotels; each one having his regular hotel square. They are there about meal time, in all their loathsomeness, under the mistaken idea that people are generally in the best humor after eating, and consequently the most liberal. Those who eat at high-priced restaurants and European hotels are generally thinking of the protective tariff charges are in no humor to bleed again. After dinner the beggars leave their beats on a roving commission, and roam at random on Madison and Fifth avenues like a blind freight train. They manage to get to the theatres about the time they are out, and "work" the emerging crowds for all they will stand. They know that a man is more liberal, or rather fooli-ly liberal, when with a lady, especially if the couple are not married. But citizens who know these whining impostors, do not consider it a lack of charity to refuse them. But a stranger frequently gives, fearing his lady friend would deem him an "unfeeling fellow" were he to refuse. They then lie in wait at the restaurants until the last theatre goer has gone home. Beggars make from two to five dollars a day. They ask for "only a penny" but rarely receive less than a nickel. Citizens whose sympathies are aroused, but whose doubts of their sincerity are scarcely removed toss them a penny. Strangers give a nickel or ten cents; frequently westerners, to whom begging is something new, toss the mendicants a quarter or even a half dollar, and regard the look of surprise from the by-standers as a compliment of their generosity, rather than to their credulity. In the lower portion of the city, especially on Sixth and Third avenues, the beggars on these streets are more persistent in their entreaties and invariably insulting when refused. Perhaps it is owing to their desperation. They get comparatively few pennies, and very rarely more than a penny from any one giver. They are met at the doors of business places with a cool reception; and at the residences they do not fare much better. It mainly depends upon the frame of mind in which they find the servant girl and the condition of the pantry. Many of these beggars are so bold and impudic as to enter a cheap restaurant and importune men who are stinting their meals because of their poverty. These embolden beggars will stand on the corners at nightfall and importune shop girls and poor laboring men who are walking home, forty or fifty blocks, to save car fare. "Never was New York so overrun with beggars as it is now, and about the best way to get rid of them," said an old New Yorker, "is to license them, and make them pay a revenue like any other trade."

ABOUT WOMEN.

Bill Arp says: There is no record anywhere in any history, of a happy married state where a man had more than one wife. Lamech had two, but the Scriptures say no more about him. Adam had but one, and Noah one, and they started the business of peopling the world. Old Father Abraham had one, and when he took another on the sly old Aunt Sarah got after him and failed on the second one with a thresh pole and ran her off. Jacob had two; and if ever a man deserved two he did, but they didn't get along well, though they were sisters. Moses had only one. King David had several, but he was cursed with 'em, and actually committed murder to get one of 'em, and lived in anguish ever after, for he said, "My sin is greater than I can bear." Old Solomon must have had an awful time of it, for he had a thousand, and they kept him so harassed and bedevilled that he flew to his inksstand and wrote that he had found one good man, but a good woman in a thousand he had not found. Of course not. How could a woman be good when she is only a thousandth part of a wife? But Solomon repented of his folly and said it was all vanity, and advised all men to "live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest," and to "beware of strange women." I never think of the surplus wives who are sealed to the Mormons without a feeling of sadness and pity, for every new one causes the others a pang of shame. They are all in prison, and their dependence is like that of a caged bird that tamely looks for food. There is no escape, for woman is a proud creature and will suffer in silence rather than parade her folly to the world. Did you ever notice how a woman will suffer and be strong, especially if she has a child to keep her company?

It is not in the bright, happy day, but only in the solemn night, that other worlds are to be seen shining in their long, long distances. And it is in sorrow—the night of the soul—that we see the farthest, and know ourselves natives of infinity and sons and daughters of the Most High.

An extra discount of 10 to 20 per cent. on all ladies' and children's coats, at the Bee Hive.

ALWAYS ON TIME NEVER GET LEFT. DON'T BE LATE IN SELECTING YOUR HOLIDAY PRESENTS!

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LOOK! MIDWINTER ADVERTISEMENT OF Wm. Wolf & Son.

During this month our stock of winter goods must be reduced. Our space is limited and room must be made for Spring and Summer stock. To effect this we have concluded to reduce prices on such goods. We can not sacrifice first quality goods at the prices sometimes requested by customers, but we will do the very best we can and always guarantee that you will see that it was to your interest to buy.

HARDWARE. Centre Hall STOVE EMPORIUM. REAPER SECTIONS AND RAKES, FORKS, SCYTHES, ROPE, BLOCKS, SPROUTS HAY FORKS, &c.

New Arrival of Goods AT NEW STORE! NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS. HARPER & KREAMER, Centre Hall. Have just opened in one of Largest and Best Rooms in the Valley.

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