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## THE CENTRE REPORTER. FRED KURTZ, -- EDITOR.

Judge Elwell advises people not to settle in Florida. We will take the Judge's advice. Centre county is as good a corner to stay in as any on this continent.

A breach of promise case ended at Lock Haven, Pa., last week, in which the defendant, Sterritt Quigley, a prominent lumberman, who had been attentive to Miss Adeline Fortney, the plaintiff, for 15 years, was made to pay \$4,500 from a claim originally made for \$20,000.

A duel ending with the death of both combatants occurred at Springville, Ariz. Wm. Pitman and a man named Blaine had agreed to fight out a quarrel over cards, and going outside the store they fired at the same instant. Pitman fell dead and Blaine died in two hours.

The Sugar Trust bought the North River refinery for \$325,000 and then stock it at \$700,000. And yet to get dividends on valuation of this kind it has been necessary to raise the price of sugar only half a cent a pound, showing the business skill of the Trust, which Attorney Parsons was so proud of in his testimony.

All signs indicate a Democratic victory in our county, next fall. Democrats have seen the folly of allowing themselves to be deluded into fighting their own nominations instead of the enemy, which led to the defeat of our ticket last fall. A few disorganizers cannot fool voters again into such a movement. We are glad that the feeling of Democrats is for harmony. Harmony means victory, and harmony we will have.

"Meat-axe Mills," is what the tariff monopolist Philad. Press calls the chairman of the ways and means committee, of the lower house of congress, because he favors a tariff reform measure which is not monopolistic but fair to all. If the bill reported by Mr. Mills becomes a law, every farmer and laboring man will be several dollars better off each year, and to that extent the meat axe can be used to slice off a good many more beef roasts for the family of the farmer and working man, who are now terrified so sorely that they have no use for a meat axe.

From the manner in which the Philad. Press and other high tariff organs are aborning to create a high tariff sentiment and opposition to the views of Cleveland's tariff mess ge, it is plain the monopolists are floundering uphill work to make the masses believe a high tariff is to their interests. The people see into the game, and the more Cleveland's message is read the more friends his arguments gain. If the message is not a sound one, had not the high tariff organs better print it once a month? Not a bit will they, they are afraid of it, and only cry "free-trade," and that will not scare any one—it is baby work.

The secretary of the treasury makes the statement that at the present rate of increase of the surplus in the United States treasury it will reach \$155,000,000 by the first of July. Think of it! One hundred and fifty five millions of dollars unnecessarily taken from the earnings of the people! And yet the high tariff monopolists insist that there shall be no reduction of customs taxes.

If this immense sum of money had not been taken from the people it would now be in circulation. Every merchant every manufacturer, every workman would be enjoying the benefit of its employment in trade and business.

### RANDALL'S BILL

Randall's tariff bill contemplates an aggregate reduction of \$95,000,000 of this \$25,000,000 in duties.

Mr. Randall has completed his tariff bill, and will introduce it in the house to-morrow. In explanation of its terms and scope, he makes the following statement: The bill repeals the entire internal tax on tobacco and on fruit brandies. It also repeals the license tax on whole-sale and retail liquor dealers, leaving these, as recommended by Jefferson, so that "the State authorities might adopt them." It makes alcohol used in the arts free, and reduces the tax on whisky to 50 cents per gallon.

"On the tariff bill is a careful and complete revision of the whole tariff system. It carries to the free list a large number of articles now paying duties and which enter into consumption, either as raw material, or otherwise, and in the production of which there is no injurious competition between this and other countries.

"In the revision of the tariff the aim has been intelligently to apply consistent principles to all branches of industry; and in so doing our industrial system has been considered as a whole, and differing from other industrial systems in the important fact that the labor in this country receives a larger share of the annual products of labor and capital combined than in any other country. This important advantage to the labor interests of the United States the bill aims to preserve throughout, while at the same time, "in fairness to all interests, as stated in the Chicago platform, to reduce and equalize" the duties on imports.

### THE LAW OF LIBEL

The Pittsburg Times was sued for libel because of a tart publication which ruined the business of a citizen and neighbor. The Times proved that "the item had been received from a source believed to be reliable, and alleged that the statement contained in the publication was substantially true. Having established this George C. Wilson, esq., very ably conducted the case for the Times, took the position that it was entirely within the bounds of legitimate journalism for newspapers to publish as current news such matters as involve open violation of law or justify police interference, even though the doing so may reflect upon the actors and tend to bring them into public disgrace and contempt. This view was shared by the Court and jury; hence the verdict of acquittal." The Times concluded as follows:

The result of this trial is important to newspapers, and to the public generally. It may be considered as enlarging the liberty of the press, inasmuch as it clearly defines for newspapers a limit of immunity from conviction for libel far beyond what has been understood as the safety line. There is no danger to the public in this. Newspapers honestly and honorably conducted do not seek to give publicity to affairs that are the concern of the parties interested. Such misstatements of facts as are made are in every case due to causes beyond the control of those responsible for the publication. We speak with certain knowledge when we add that no class of men are more ready to fully correct such errors than journalists. They feel that a relation almost, if not quite, confidential, exists between the editor and his reader, and that this can be sustained only by strict adherence to duty and honor. This often involved the necessity for the publication of unpleasant truths, as in the case cited. There never is occasion to libel any man or interest.

### THE GREAT STORM.

Of Monday's great storm we have the following intelligence:

From New York. The storm which broke over the Atlantic coast last evening has extended to the interior of the State.

Up to noon there had been no communication with Philadelphia, and there is but one wire working between Cleveland and New York by way of Buffalo.

In this city the hardest snow storm for years began early this morning, and at 8 o'clock the snow was more than a foot deep. The wind caused drifts which in the upper part of the city were three and four feet high.

From Michigan come reports of the severity of the storm. Railroads are blocked by snow drifts.

A delegation representing the Ancient Order of Hibernians called upon Mayor Hewitt to ask him to review their parade on St. Patrick's Day. He replied:

"Now, I may be a candidate for mayor next fall, or for president, and I may want all the Democratic votes I can get. Every one knows that the Irish vote is strong enough to elect any candidate in this city for which it is cast. But for the purpose of getting this vote I shall not get down to the level of consenting to review any parade, be it Irish, Dutch or any other nationality. I shall review no parades except those which I am officially required as Mayor to review."

### CATASTROPHES IN CHINA.

#### GREAT DESTRUCTION BY A RECENT EARTHQUAKE—MANY PERSONS DROWNED.

San Francisco, March 11.—The Hong Kong Mail, copies of which were received here by Friday night's China steamer, gave a description of the earthquake in the province of Yunnan, December 15, which caused frightful mortality. The Mail says: "Into the interior department of Ching Chau the disturbances were extremely violent, being continued at irregular intervals for four days, when they ceased entirely. The departmental city is said to have been reduced to a mass of ruins, scarcely a house escaping damage and over five thousand persons are reported to have been killed by falling buildings. Many of them were burned under the ruins, while the number of injured is too large for computation. Yamen was destroyed, the magistrate escaping with slight injury. At the prefectural city of Lamou the effects of the earthquake were scarcely less disastrous. At this place when the shock was being felt an enormous chasm opened in the earth and water was thrown out from its depth. At Lou Chau in Cenen, a striking change has been caused in the appearance of the country, large tracks of land being swallowed up and the surface changed into a lake. In Lo Chau more than ten thousand persons are said to have perished. The imperial commissioner who was especially appointed to investigate the loss of life in the Yellow river inundations, sends an official report to the emperor of China that the total number of persons drowned is over 100,000 and the number destitute is 1,800,000, and apart from those a number of persons flooded have been driven into other districts.

The Philadelphia Press, having obtained the responses of the Republican county committee of Pennsylvania to the question as to their presidential choice now that Mr. Blaine is out of the field, sums up the result as follows:

"There is no concentration of opinion whatever. The choice of the chairman is divided between Senators Cameron, Sherman, Harrison, Allison and Quay. Mr. Depew, Judge Gresham and others; but no one man gets more than a fourth of the entire number, and even the preferences indicated are put forth in a tentative and uncertain way." The Gresham and Sherman men are doing the most work these days; but the latter is troubled by an incipient Foraker boom and the former by ex-Senator Harrison. If Blaine don't come in as a last resort, the candidate is most likely to go to New York, or to the outside man on whom New York influence is concentrated. That is, if there can be concentration.

### COAL TO SUCCEED CATTLE IN WYOMING.

"The world at large doesn't know it," said Capt. Murrin, "but Wyoming has the biggest coal fields in United States, more iron ore than can be found anywhere else on earth, big lakes of soda, more oil than we could possibly use, veins of copper ore and stone and marble quarries. The territory has wonderful natural resources, and these will be developed before long. The cattle days are gone, the hundred and hundreds of miles of wire fences on government land will be torn down, and the territory will drop far down on the list of cattle producers. The business has really retarded the development and growth of the territory, and it may be for the best after all.—Kansas City Times.

Senator Ingalls has written for the Chicago Journal an elaborate article on the proportion of college graduates in Congress. From his analysis it appears that of the seventy-six Senators thirty have received a classical education, and forty-six, or eight more than one-half, have been educated in common schools and academies. Of the 333 Representatives and Territorial Delegates but 107 have attended college, while 225, or fifty-nine more than one-half of the entire number, are either self educated or have received their instructions at institutions whose curriculum did not extend beyond the ordinary English studies.

The official canvass of the vote of the special election in the Eleventh Michigan Congressional district, gives Seymour, Republican, a plurality of 398. The same district in 1884 gave about 7,000 Republican majority. The cause of this great change is to a considerable extent attributable to a desire for tariff reform. A Republican editor from that section recently admitted that "the labor people are strongly tinged with tariff reform views, so much as to endanger Republican ascendancy in Michigan." Of course if the change through the State is anything like so large as in the Eleventh district the State is overwhelmingly Democratic.

Meat-axe Mills' tariff bill, as the Philad. Press terms it, simply means to enable the farmer and working man to have good beef cuts as well as the highly protected monopolist.

## GERMANY'S AGED RULER DEAD.

### THE VENERABLE AND HONORED EMPEROR PASSES AWAY.

FREDERICK III., THE TITLE OF THE NEW KING OF PRUSSIA—THE CROWN PRINCE TO PROCEED TO BERLIN—POLITICAL ANIMOSITIES ALL FORGOTTEN.

Berlin, Marc 9.—Emperor William died at 8.30 o'clock this morning. He died holding the empress by the hand. He had been in a stupor since 3 o'clock. He was delirious for a brief period at 5 o'clock, during which he is reported to have exclaimed: "I am a man of peace, but if Russia forces me to war I shall faithfully side with my ally, Austria." Eye witnesses of the scenes at the death of the emperor state that during the last few hours of his life he suffered no pain. Shortly after 8 o'clock all the members of the family staying at the palace, the court dignitaries, generals and ministers of state, were summoned to the chamber in which the emperor lay dying. The emperor was in a half-sitting position on a camp bedstead. All the members of the royal family took places at the bedside. The room was crowded.

At the opening of the lower house of the Prussian diet to-day, Herr von Puttkamer, vice-president of the Prussian Ministerial council, announced the death of the emperor. When the Reichstag met to-day Prince Bismarck, with deep emotion, informed the members of the death of the emperor. He also announced that the new king would assume the title of Frederick III, and that he would leave San Remo to-morrow, and that he will arrive at Berlin in due course of time. When Prince Bismarck entered the Reichstag at 11.35 o'clock this afternoon he deposited the imperial order closing the session. The order was the last official document signed by the late emperor. The house received the communication with evident satisfaction, the more so because Herr Von von Puttkamer, in announcing the death of the Emperor William to the lower house of the diet, had not alluded to the new emperor. This omission has created a painful impression. The Reichstag then adjourned for an indefinite period. After the adjournment, Prince Bismarck descended from the elevated seats occupied by the members of the Bundsrath into the body of the house, and greeted Count von M-like. The members crowded around him as he showed the order dissolving the Reichstag, all being anxious to see the last signature of the emperor.

The emperor yesterday was able to sign the order proroguing the Reichstag, otherwise the signing functions were assumed by Prince William. All the troops are kept in the barracks in readiness for the contingency of taking a new oath of allegiance.

The death of the emperor was announced to the populace by the lowering to half-mast of the standard over the palace. Flags at half-mast are displayed on all the public buildings. An immense concourse of people is gathered outside the palace. The multitude is silent and sorrowful.

Victoria, wife of Frederick William, when she heard of the Emperor's death, rushed into the garden of the San Remo villa, crying as if her heart would break. Like her mother, Victoria of England, "she wept to wear a crown."

The Emperor William left a personal fortune of \$75,000,000, showing him to have been a thrifty man as well as Napoleon the Third, who surrendered to him at Sedan, and who had put away some millions for the rainy day which may come even to monarchs.

### THE FINAL LEAVE-TAKING.

Towards 7 o'clock Friday morning, it was noted that the emperor's mind was becoming clouded and his words less consecutive. Then most of his royal relatives took their final leave. The Lutheran Court Chaplain came in, and the imperial Hohenzollern drifted insensibly but calmly from his lethargy into dissolution. Some of the Emperor's sorrowing servants were admitted into the room to view the remains, while Dr. Van Laner, the Chaplain and the Chamberlain went out to announce the solemn tidings. The expression of the dead Emperor's face was tranquil with the effect of benignant old age, though the anxieties of the last few weeks and the final illness left their visible traces.

The sombre significance of the spectacle was enhanced by the fact that the mighty old man, the cessation of whose heart beats has changed the situation in the whole of the Old World, lay at rest in a room furnished with soldier-like simplicity, with a dressing table, a chest of drawers of antique fashion, two or three skin rugs on the floor, a few souvenirs here and there, a small crucifix above the bed, and nothing more. The remains still lie on the iron bedstead, are covered with a white cloth and surrounded by candles.

The new emperor Frederick left San Remo for Berlin on Saturday.

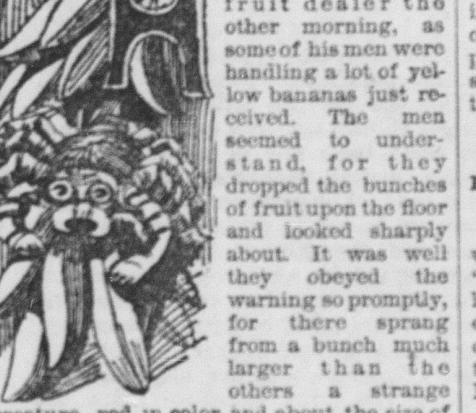
Even with a special train and all facilities, it is difficult to see how the journey around by Insbruck can be made in

much short of fifty hours, and this for a man with a fatal throat disease, a haunting insomnia and the crushing weight of his father's death and his own transient succession to imperial state is the most trying ordeal. It is needless to say that his progress will be watched with great anxiety.

The brave Crown Princess, or Empress now, goes with him, of course, and Sir Morell Mackenzie also, but no mention in the despatches is made of what, if any, German doctors accompany the party. Their reception in Berlin on Monday will be a sight wonderful to see.

The impressions of a town, whether it be a big or small one, are often affected by the character of the hotels. A clean, well kept and thoroughly comfortable hotel predisposes one in favor of the town where it is located. There is little excuse for the shabby hotels that are found in many places, and especially in the South, and which give a semi-barbarous air to the town where they are found. Badly cooked food, beds swarming with vermin, the absence of a cheerful reading room, and a general squalor, accompanied with high prices for such miserable accommodations, will discourage any traveler. An elegant hotel in a small place improves the tone of the whole community, begets a spirit of enterprise and is a factor in the work of progress. No lazy or illiterate man can well manage such an institution and it is a lucky thing for any place when some one of means erects a commodious and attractive inn and appoints a genial and capable person to superintend it.

## DEMONS OF THE FRUIT.



I THERE! Look out! yelled a Chicago fruit dealer the other morning, as some of his men were handling a lot of yellow bananas just received. The men seemed to understand, for they dropped the bunches of fruit upon the floor and looked sharply about. It was well they obeyed the warning so promptly, for there sprang from a bunch much larger than the others a strange creature, red in color and about the size of a man's hand.

"Look out, it'll bite! It's a tarantula!" shouted Taylor, scrambling upon a counter. The others followed his example and got out of the way of the ugly beast. The tarantula, for it was one of those poisonous insects, sprung savagely out and landed with some noise on the floor. Its ugly body quivered with rage and its many legs moved constantly. It traveled with incredible rapidity for an insect of its peculiar build. Taylor seized a large pasteboard box and ran after the tarantula. After an exciting chase, he cornered it, just as it was about to tackle an apple barrel. He covered it with the box, which he immediately scooped over and closed by putting on the cover.

This done, he sent it over to Dr. Storm, who killed the insect, extracted its poison for use as medicine, put up the body in alcohol and sent it back to Taylor. The fruit man exhibits it preserved in a bottle.

"An awful waste of good alcohol," he says. It has shrunk now, but is still a good sized bug. It is dark red in color and is covered with sandy hair. It possesses ten legs and is not a pleasant sight to look upon. It would certainly never be preserved for its beauty. With it in the bottle is an egg which was afterwards found in the same bunch. When found it was about the size of a hen's egg, and quite as solid. It evidently contained little insects, but Taylor said he wasn't quite ready to go into the business of hatching tarantulas this year, so he put it in the bottle with the old one. The alcohol has made the egg, if such it can be called, soft and pulpy, and it has become transparent enough to show that it contains several tarantulas.

"We find several of these cheerful customers every year," said Taylor, speaking to a Chicago news reporter on the subject. "We also get choice consignments of scorpions and centipedes and other pleasant exotics from the tropics. The demand for them is rather light, however, and we find that people don't hanker after them. Now, here," he said, producing another specimen containing a different insect, "is a red scorpion. Nice, joyful-looking bedfellow, isn't he? He came here in a bunch of bananas two years ago. There was a tarantula in the same bunch, and as soon as the clerk who was handling the fruit saw them, he thought he must have them again, for he dropped the fruit and ran out of the store. If he is still running in the same direction and at the same rate, he must now be somewhere near Winnipeg. Well, the two insects got sight of each other and went to fighting like cats and dogs. We gave them all the room they wanted and didn't interfere even when we saw that the scorpion was a little froggy in the fifth round. They killed each other at last, but the tarantula got smashed and we couldn't preserve him."

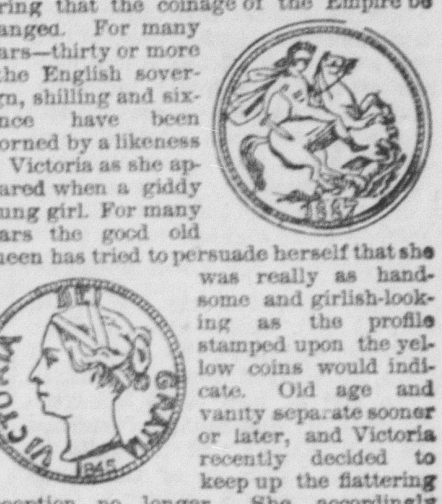
The scorpion has eight legs and a muscular tail with a sharp thorn in the end of it. Mr. Taylor said that he had given several specimens of both insects to universalists. He had a centipede which he caught the other day. It is a small one, being about two inches long and supplied with plenty of locomotive power and long feelers besides.

"I notice that these and other bugs always come in the yellow bananas," he continued, "and never in any other fruit. Just bananas come from lower Nicaragua.

## NEW COINAGE FOR ENGLAND.

### A Profile of Victoria as She Looked Her Jubilee Day

Our English cousins are jingling new coin in their pockets, and numismatists will have to add a number of fresh coins to their collection before it will be complete. Queen Victoria celebrated her jubilee in a variety of ways, and among others by ordering that the coinage of the Empire be changed. For many years—thirty or more—the English sovereign, shilling and sixpence, have been adorned by a likeness of Victoria as she appeared when a giddy young girl. For many years the good old Queen has tried to persuade herself that she was really as handsome and girlish-looking as the profile stamped upon the yellow coins would indicate. Old age and vanity separate sooner or later, and Victoria recently decided to keep up the flattering deception no longer. She accordingly called the official designer and instructed him to make a die that would stamp an impression of her Majesty as she really looked. After several unsuccessful attempts an acceptable design was submitted, and an order issued by the Queen directing that all other stamps and dies be called in.



"The new English coins are of a very neat design," says Mr. Stevens, a dealer in rare coins. "The entire coinage is changed, and a new piece added. The standard English coins have been the shilling, sixpence, two-shillings (florin), two-and-sixpence (half-crown), five shillings (crown) and sovereign. To this has been added a four-shilling piece. When these coins were struck off there was a big premium on the sixpence. Every Englishman wanted a jubilee sixpence, and at first they were very hard to get."

## A DUTCH DOLL.

### Its Marvellous Comprehension, and What It Can Do—How It Is Constructed.

"What was a Dutch doll?" "I wonder whether it is any thing like a French doll!" "With a regular trousseau!" "Oh, how long the time seems!" were a few of the exclamations that burst forth from some children clustered expectantly about the tightly-closed doors of a drawing-room in New York City.

"Mamma promised me a surprise for my birthday," Ella Young was saying to her impatient guests, when suddenly the folding-doors slid open.

Upon the floor at the far end of the room the children saw a queer, dumpy, white-robed little figure about two feet in height, with gloved hands modestly clasped over its breast, whose charcoal eyes, nose and mouth contrasted comically under its big sun-bonnet, with a suspiciously white complexion.

"My dears, allow me to introduce to you Fraulein Spokenpuppe," said Mrs. Young, who was standing by a large table just behind the homely, quaint figure. "Although a stranger just arrived on our shores, she understands our language perfectly, and possesses a marvellous comprehension. Dolly, bow to the company."

The doll bent slowly forward.

"Play the piano, Dolly!"

Dolly's ten little fingers strummed loudly upon the floor.

"Can you whistle, Dolly?"

Dolly shook her head.

"Hold up four fingers of your right hand."

Immediately four fingers of a well-developed right hand were widely clawing the air.

"Scratch your head, Dolly," and the bonnet was almost torn from her head in her frantic endeavors to prove her intelligence and obedience.

Then the children took turns in propounding questions to the talented stranger, until finally, becoming tired and teased, Dolly suddenly dismembered herself, kicked a pillow high into the air, and rushed into the midst of her delighted audience, and chased them screaming from the room.

Like the children at the birthday party, I feel that the reader will be curious to learn exactly how the Dutch doll was made, so I give an explanation of it.

The materials for a Dutch doll are a pillow, a string, a hood or sun-bonnet, a piece of charcoal, a pair of gloves and a night-gown.

A boy lies on his face beneath a table, which must touch the wall on one side, while from its top a cloth falls to the floor, completely draping the remaining three sides.

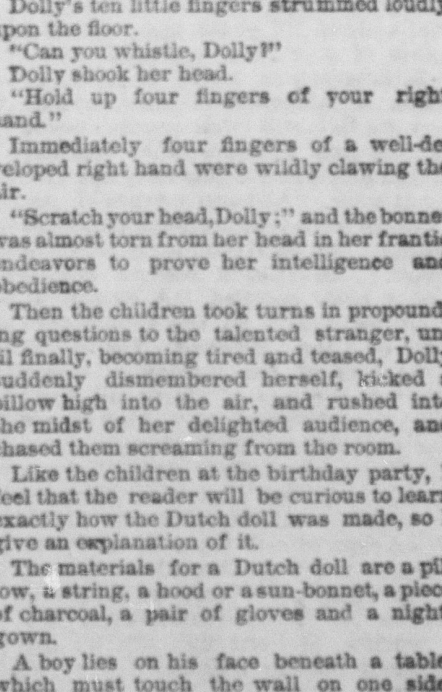
One of the boy's legs is drawn up tightly against his body, and the other one (from which the boot has been taken) is bent at the knee, and stands upright outside of the hanging table-cloth.

This foot and leg are inserted between a small, longish pillow and its case—the leg being separated from the table-cloth only by this latter; the upper corners of the pillow are drawn backward and pinned together at the heel, while a string tightly tied around the center of the pillow and leg divides the head and body of the doll. Across this protrude boy crouches a second child, facing the upright leg, with his hands and arms extending from under the table, one on each side of the pillow. The night-gown is then put on, the arms well introduced into the sleeves; the gloved hands clasped in front at the doll's waist, and finally upon the head is placed the hood or sun-bonnet, and nose, eyes and mouth are outlined with a piece of charcoal. Particular care must be taken in the arrangement of the night-gown where it touches the leg of the boy, so that even Dolly's lowest bow may not suggest to some the secret of her formation.—M. Koon, in Harper's Young People.



### THE CHEERFUL TARANTULA.

The cheerful Tarantula and the Pleasant Scorpion Brought to Your Very Door.



Revolutionary Widows.

Of the twenty-six widows of revolutionary soldiers drawing pensions from the Government, three, at least, are out West. Mrs. Betsey Wallingford, who is ninety-two, lives in Mankato, Minn. She was thirteen when she married Jonathan Wallingford, who was fifty years old, and had served all through the war of the revolution.