AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING
By John B. Bratton.

TERMS:

SUBSCRIPTION.—One Dollar and Fifty Cents, if paid in advance; Two Dollars if paid within the year; and Two Dollars and Fifty Cents, if not paid within the year. These terms will be rigidly adhered to in every instance. No subscription discontinued until all arrearages are paid unless at the option of the Editor.

ADVERTISEMENTS—Accompanied by the CASH, and not exceeding one square, will be inserted three times for one Dollar, and twenty-five cents for each additional insertion. Those of a greater length in proportion.

JOB-PRINTING—Such as Hand Bills, Posting Bills, Pamphlets, Blanks, Labels, &c., &c., executed with accuracy and at the shortest notice.

American Volunteer.

BY JOHN B. BRATTON. "OUR COUNTRY—MAY IT ALWAYS BE RIGHT—BUT RIGHT OR WRONG, OUR COUNTRY." AT $2,00 PER ANNUM.

VOL. 40. CARLISLE, PA., THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1854. NO. 42.

Poetical.

THE BREEZE OF SPRING.

Dull Winter hastens to be gone,
He's disappearing fast;
The sunny hours are coming on,
The stormy time is past.
The ice no longer binds the rill,
Nor snows their mantle fling,
For every bleak and barren hill
Has kissed the breeze of Spring!

I hear its music in the wood;
It sighs along the vale,
Where summer flowers in beauty stood,
It lingers in the dale;
It plays upon the primrose banks,
And rests its merry wing;
The drooping snow-drop kindly thanks
The western breeze of Spring!

Ah! well it knows where violets grow
In the lone and shady lane;
It bids its sweet, blue fav'rites blow,
And onward speeds again.
It wakes the flowers of the field,
And they their offerings bring;
The flowers their sweetest incense yield,
To scent the breeze of Spring!

The blackbird, from the hawthorn bush,
Renews its lively strain;
On topmost branches stands the thrush,
And tunes his throat again;
At close of evening calm and mild,
He makes the forest ring
With native wood notes, clear and wild—
He loves the breeze of Spring!

The robin leaves his winter friends
For hedge-rows far away—
Above his mossy nest he bends,
And pipes his plaintive lay.
The lark, uprising with the light,
On merry mountain wing—
Strains all his might till out of sight,
And hails the breeze of Spring!

A hundred voices fill the air,
The sun shines warmly down;
Away with each intruding care,
And leave the gloomy town.
Come roam along the wood-path green,
Hear nature's favorites sing,
Enjoy the soul-enlivening scene,
And woo the breeze of Spring!

I AM NOT OLD.

BY PARK BENJAMIN, ESQ.

I am not old—though years have cast
Their shadows on my way;
I am not old—though youth has pass'd
On rapid wings away.
For in my heart a fountain flows,
And round it pleasant thoughts repose;
And sympathies and feelings high
Spring like the stars on evening's sky.

I am not old—Time may have sent
"His signet on my brow,"
And some faint furrows there have met,
Which care may deepen now:
Yet love, fond love, a chaplet weaves
Of fresh young birds and rendant leaves;
And still in fancy I can twine
Tho'ts, sweet as flowers, that once were mine.

Miscellaneous.

THE GARDINER CASE.

REMARKABLE DEVELOPEMENTS.

But few cases have been adjudicated to which the United States government has been a party, of so much public importance as that against Dr. George A. Gardiner, who was recently convicted, and immediately thereafter terminated his existence. It stands forth in bold and imposing nudeity, pre-eminently illustrative of ingenious fraud, venal subtlety, and profligate daring. It is, moreover, characteristic of the objects, pursuits, intrigues and frightful corruption, peculiar to a class of men who regard the treasury of the United States as the most available resource for the exercise of their dexterity and craft. In this respect the judicial result in the case of Gardiner is of incalculable importance. It is exemplary and admonitory.

The recorded verdict of an honest, intelligent, *incorruptible* jury has vindicated the essential truth, that neither the ingenuity of the knave, nor the audacity of the perjurer, nor the influence of the politician, nor the zeal of counsel, nor the pliancy of credulity of the press, nor the utmost latitude of legal favor, nor all these combined, are sufficient to overturn the just rigor and final integrity of the law. It is true that justice is too often foiled, and the impartial administration of the law exposed to bad repute through the successful evasion of its penalties by the guilty. But for these things, the reproach almost invariably belongs to the jury. To the jury, therefore, in the case of Gardiner, the honor of this great and important vindication of the outraged law and public dignity of the United States, attaches in a very eminent degree. One pliant, one corrupt, one venal spirit there could have successfully thwarted all the diligence of the government, all the expenditure of time and money, all the labor of a costly commission, all the skill, vigilance, arduous and thankless toil of a legal prosecution. The result has proved the integrity of the jury; and while we know how to appreciate the valuable services of distinguished men who have contributed to the thorough exposition of this enormous crime, we ascribe the first mead of praise to the jury.

The great importance of the issue involved in this case, together with the public interest which has been awakened by the legal result, and the tragic sequel, has induced us to lay before our readers an outline of current incidents associated with the affair, many of which have never before been published. A vigilant and well-informed correspondent enables us to present the following summary of facts, which will be found intensely interesting to all classes of our readers.

The origin, prosecution and detection of the Gardiner fraud abounds with startling facts, and the mind is puzzled to determine, sometimes, where complicity ends and innocent participation with it begins. By the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, between the United States and Mexico, concluded in 1848, $11,000,000 were to be paid to Mexico, as indemity for the cession of territory to the United States. Out of that sum $8,125,000 was reserved for the satisfaction of the claims of American citizens, who were damaged and interrupted in the prosecution of business affairs in Mexico by the act of war. Prominent among the claimants for a portion of this sum were Dr. George A. Gardiner and Dr. John H. Mears.

A Board of Commissioners was appointed by Congress to adjudicate these claims, who were to sit at Washington. Their decision was to be final and conclusive. The Board consisted of Geo. Evans of Maine; Robt. T. Paine of North Carolina, and Caleb B. Smith, of Indiana. Before this commission, Gardiner presented his claims, aided by distinguished counsel. At the same time, Gardiner presented and advocated the claim of Mears. In his own behalf he demanded as indemnity for the loss of a silver mine, which he was obliged to abandon in San Luis Potosi, the sum of $420,000; and in behalf of Mears, for a quicksilver mine in the same vicinity, the sum of $168,000. Gardiner had resided for several years in Mexico, had practiced as an emerant dentist, and in that capacity had visited the most important mining districts and acquainted himself with their geographical position, their respective values, and the system of mining operations in the different departments.

Thus furnished with material for his purpose, he proceeded to elaborate it, and eventually wrought the intricate fraud by which he imposed on the commission. It is proper to remark here that according to statements derived from Manuel Verastigui, the Mexican accomplice of the party, the whole fraud originated with Mears, with whom Gardiner was acquainted in Mexico.—Mears is said to have framed the design, but was not equal to its fulfilment, and by his own statement admitted Gardiner as a party, "because he was a skilful man and a great friend of General Scott." Gardiner, however grew ambitious upon his estimate of the material within his grasp, and in addition to the quicksilver mine of his friend Mears, valued at $153,000, he set up a silver mine of his own, at nearly half a million.

After about a year spent in preparing his mining title, testimonials and other vouchers, Gardiner came fully armed before the Board of Commissioners, having visited Mexico in the interim. Gardiner was aided as counsel by the Hon. Thomas Corwin, of Ohio, Gen. Waddy Thompson, of N. C., and Edward Curtis, Esq., formerly collector of New York, and an ex-member of Congress. The case was heard as was also that of Mears, and both adjudicated favorably for the the full amounts claimed. Mears' claim was drawn entirely. Gardiner received $88,000 of it, half of which he is said to have kept himself as his share, which led to a rupture between him and Mears. Under power of attorney in Washington $88,000 was received in the name of Jose Pando, an accomplice in Mexico; and $28,000 was paid to Fernando de la Cuesta, an attache of the Mexican legation. The other $4,000 we are not able to account for. All this money is gone past recovery.

Of Gardiner's award, Mr. Corwin is understood to have received a large amount, but sold his fee, whatever it amounted to, for $80,000. Gen. Waddy Thompson is understood to have received a considerable sum. Whether Mr. Curtis received anything we are not informed. He was in the case but a short time, and after he was out of it, rendered important service to the government, as we shall show hereafter, in the detection of the fraud. Gardiner with his share in the Mears' awards left this country for Europe, with some $200,000 subject to his order on deposit with Corcoran & Riggs, and others in Washington and New York. Thus the whole matter seemed effectually closed, Gardiner himself being evidently confidently secure. And now we approach the accident of detection, and shall present the history of that important circumstance, which has never yet been published. We have reason to believe that our correspondent is accurately informed as to the event, if not literally, at least generally to persons and details.

The first Secretary of the Board of Commissioners was Edward W. Johnston. He occupied this position until the whole of the Mexican claims, we believe, had been adjudicated, and then resigned. Dr. Charles W. Davis was appointed his successor. This gentleman is a native of Washington, but had resided 15 years in Mexico. To him, we have reason to believe, belongs exclusively the credit of detecting the Gardiner fraud. It was ordered that the whole of the payers in the Mexican claims should, after adjudication, be filed in the State Department, and it became the duty of Mr. Davis to perform this part of the work. On proceeding to the examination of the Gardiner papers, with a view to their endorsement and arrangement, his attention was arrested by the palpable evidences of fraud. He at once made a more thorough examination, and satisfied himself that they were utterly spurious. The Mears claim, moreover, came under his observation, and it happened that he knew him in Mexico as a fugitive from justice, and a man of bad repute. He was also acquainted with the mining localities in San Louis Potosi. There was, perhaps, no other man in Washington who could have been so appropriately appointed to that situation at that particular time. He at once, and almost intuitively, arrived at a just estimate of the whole fraud. Upon this conviction, he addresses a letter, stating the fact, to Mr. Crittenden, the Attorney General; but finding that his communication was unnoticed, he published a letter in the National Intelligencer, boldly avowing the detection of the fraud, over his own name. This was on 12th of May, 1851.

This letter engaged the attention of President Fillmore, and at a cabinet council, either called for the purpose or otherwise immediately occurring, the subject was discussed, and Dr. Davis summoned to appear. He was asked what information he had to justify the publication in question, when he explained the nature of his duties, his acquaintance with the subject, and his conviction that the Gardiner claim was a bold and daring fraud. President Fillmore reproved him for his hasty publication of the fact, and asked why he had not communicated with the proper officers of the government, prior to such a proceeding. He answered that he had done so—that he had fully informed the Attorney General of the fact. Mr. Crittenden had no recollection of ever receiving anything from Mr. Davis on the subject, and asked in what way he had made the communication.

Dr. Davis replied that he wrote to him. The letter contained an explicit statement of the fraud. He confided the letter to a messenger, who was directed to insure its delivery into Mr. Crittenden's own hand. His messenger, on reaching Mr. C's. office, learned that he was at the Supreme Court, arguing a case there. He waited until Mr. C's return, when the letter was delivered. The messenger saw Mr. C. break the envelope, commence reading the letter, and then withdrew. Upon this statement Mr. C. taxed his memory, and presently was enabled to recall the fact. He had received such a letter, and read it either hastily or indifferently in whole or in part, but having received a number of letters complaining of frauds, partiality, injustice, and so forth, with respect to the wards of the board, and knowing that there was no appeal, either to him or anywhere else, he had regarded the letter as of that character, and had given it no attention. Its importance as coming from Dr. Davis had not fixed his attention.

President Fillmore was deeply moved upon this statement, and expressed himself with much feeling. Mr. Crittenden profoundly regretted his apparent negligence in so momentous a matter, and by his subsequent dilligence and zeal, within the sphere of his official duties, compensated for the error. Happily the resolute spirit of Dr. Davis prevented the consummation of the fraud, so that the misapprehension of the Attorney General did not in any degree impare the case.

The Government was, by this event, fully apprised, and at the same time convinced of the fraudulent character of the whole transaction.—Before proceeding with the active demonstration against Gardiner, another circumstance just subsequent to this event must be mentioned. About the last of June, 1851, Mr. Edward Curtis, whom we named as former counsel of Gardiner, notified President Fillmore of his suspicions about the validity of the claim, and informed the President that a cortain J. A. Porto, a Frenchman, who had resided in Mexico, and an intimate friend of Gardiner, had stated to Wm. S. Parrott and his brother John Parrott, who had also been claimants for indemnity for tobacco, before the Board, that Gardiner told him, (Porto,) on the eve of his departure for England, that he had managed to impose on the Government fraudulent claims, and that a member of the Mexican legation in Washington had assisted him (Gardiner) by procuring from Mexico the stamped paper that was necessary for the forgeries.

Soon afterwards, Mr. Curtis again wrote to Mr. Fillmore, saying that Parrott had seen Porto, who promised to put in writing what he had said to the Parrotts. In this communication, Mr. Curtis also stated that he had been engaged as counsel in Gardiner's case by General Waddy Thompson. The latter, when examined as a witness before the House of Representatives, denied this. Mr. Curtis shortly after went to Saratoga, where Wm. S. Parrott wrote to him, saying that though Porto had promised to give the paper, he had not done so. In July, Parrott wrote a second letter re-affirming Porto's statement, and adding that Porto had declined to put in writing the language of Gardiner, as he had promised. All of which Mr. Curtis communicated to the President, who then directed the district attorney, Mr. Fendall, to bring the matter before the grand jury. Porto was then brought by process before the grand jury, when he denied, positively, that he had ever made any such statements, and declared that he knew nothing about the fraudulent character of Gardiner's claim. Other witnesses, however, were found in Washington who were sufficiently informed upon other matters relating to the fraud, upon whose testimony the indictment was found upon which Gardiner was convicted. We now return to the process of developement.

Mr. George W. Slocum was at this time in Mexico. He was engaged in some investigations there, and at the instance of Gov. Letcher, U. S. Minister, at Mexico, with whom our government had communicated on the subject, proceeded to investigate the matter of the Gardiner claim. He was prevailed on by Gov. Letcher to go to San Luis Potosi and there make a local inquiry upon the subject. He examined the archives, acquired all possible information to substantiate the fraud, performed his duty with fidelity, and made a most satisfactory report. He brought witnesses from Mexico, upon whose testimony the second indictment for forgery was found.

It may be remembered with what pertinacity all these proceedings were assailed by Gardiner and his advisers; and the position they still occupied was such as to render doubtful the result of a prosecution under the existing circumstances At this time the Mexican commission was determined upon by the government, President Fillmore declaring his purpose to expend every dollar in the Treasury that he could constitutionally command to bring the matter to a fair and thorough judicial investigation. Mr. Crittenden, as attorney general, being applied to, furnished an opinion on the construction of law, which justified the special commission. A committee of Congress authorized it, and at the instance of the committee, Henry May, Esq., now a member of Congress from Baltimore, was named as the head of the commission, having been already called into the case by President Fillmore.

The commission proceeded to Mexico, visited San Luis Potosi, explored the whole of the vicinity in which the mine of Gardiner was said to be located. They examined records, mining titles, persons, places, and used all possible dilligence to discover the vacated silver mine, but in vain. They succeeded in discovering the Mexican accomplice of Mears and Gardiner, and while there obtained the correspondence, which, it is alleged, transpired between Gardiner and his brother, and their Mexican accomplice. The commission was empowered to bring witnesses back with them upon such terms as they might deem expedient.

The commission returned with evidence enough apparently, to carry conviction home to every unprejudiced mind. It was presented at the trial of the case which soon afterwards came on. Much of it was ruled out, and all of it was so adroitly assailed by the defense that the jury did not yield their convictions to what was brought before them. They failed to agree, and it was understood that *nine* were for acquittal, and *three*, who, fortunately stood firm to their belief, were for conviction.

A new trial was necessary. And in the interim, another commission was ordered to Mexico under Major Mordecai. The result of their investigation substantiated the facts asserted by the first in every particular. They had, moreover, the attested location of the mine as elicited from the witnesses on the first trial which was alleged to be ten miles south of Lagunilles.

No mine was found there, nor was there any knowledge of one. The nearest mines in that direction were fifty miles south of Lagunillas, observations having been made by Capt. Barry, a valuable and scientific member of the commission, and conclusive testimony advanced by him as to the fact.

Mr. Charles E. Bowes, an American artist, who was despatched to Mexico after the return of the late commission to procure the boundaries of San Luis Potosi, returned with the most decisive proof that the location of the mines in question, was in Queretare, and not in San Luis Potosi. The commission also visited the location of Mears' quicksilver mine. It was discovered——a hole 13 feet deep——dug to order since the award of $153,000! This hole was a concession to the liberality of the United States, and a token of respect from Mears, to the outraged dignity of his dupe. But Gardener did not even offer the pretence of a broken turf.

The whole of this subject has been before a committee of the Senate, who have yet to report upon it. The people have a right to expect at their hands a deliberate and effective protest against all official connection with this fraud.—There has been a most reprehensible commingling of interest in this matter, and with all the charity the public may feel disposed to exercise, there will be a prevailing doubt of personal integrity with respect to all the participants in the *Gardiner fund*, if the several amounts obtained by the respective parties thereto are not voluntarily restored to the treasury.

Moreover, if this voluntary restitution is not made, the public will expect the Senate to authorize legal proceedings against all concerned, without respect to service or person.

Such is a brief outline of some new and prominent facts connected with this celebrated case. We have put them on record in the above form, for the convenience of our readers, and to supply them with an impressive history of an event which we hope will exert a salutary influence upon public and political morality throughout the Union.—*Baltimore Sun.*

AN OVERHEARD CONVERSATION.—"Joe when you grow up, do you mean to be a lawyer, or keep a confectionary store?"

"I hav'nt made up my mind Tom, but ma wants me to be a minister."

"Oh, don't be a minister, Joe, for you can't go to circusses, then."

"I know that, Tom, but a minister, ma says, is the best profession. You know how Mrs. Lovegrew adores Mr. Pettygrew, and would'nt you like to be adorned, Tom?"

"Perhaps I should, but then you can't drive fast horses."

"Oh yes you can; ministers drive fast horses, now-a-days; and besides that Tom, when they have a billious attack, the worshippers send them on a foreign tour, then he gets remembered in wills, and often has nice presents, and ma says it wont be long before every minister has his country seat; and a collegian to write his sermons. Wont that be high?"

Tom acquiesced, and the juveniles indulged in another game of marbles.

☞ "GRACE GREENWOOD"—before she became Mrs. Lippincott—sent the following on St. Valentine's Day:

TO BAYARD TAYLOR.

I send thee here no Valentine,
I only dash thee off a line,
In trembling haste I send it;
Give earnest heed to what I say;
I've a grievous rent in my heart to-day,
I pray thee, *Taylor*, mend it.

☞ We have heard of an old lady who was so very very particularly neat that she always washed her eggs before she broke them into the pan to fry and was always particularly careful, moreover, to spit in the pan to see if the fat was just hot enough to fry them.

The Legend of Heinz Von Stein.

We find the following in the newspapers, credited to the San Diego *Herald*. It is worthy of THACKERAY:

Out from the dark, wild forest,
Rode the terrible Heinz Von Stein,
He paused at the door of a tavern,
And gazed at a swinging sign.

Then he sat himself down in a corner,
And growled for a bottle of wine;
Up came with a flask and a cork-screw
A maiden of beauty divine.

Then he sighed with a deep love-longing,
And said, "Oh, damsel mine,
Suppose you just give a few kisses
To the valorous Ritter Von Stein."

But she answered, "The kissing business
Is not at all in my line,
And surely I shall not begin it
On a countenance as ugly as thine."

Then the knight was exceedingly angry,
And he cursed both coarse and fine!
And he asked her what was the swindle
For her sour and nasty wine?

And fiercely he rose to his castle,
And sat himself down to dine;
And this is the fearful legend
Of the terrible Heinz Von Stein!

THE WIFE OF BLENNERHASSET.

Let us turn, for a time, from the man, to contemplate and gaze upon the person and character of his companion. History affords but few instances where so much feminine beauty, physical endurance, and many social virtues, were embodied with so brilliant a mind, in the person of a female.

Her stature was above the ordinary height of her sex; her form well proportioned and beautifully symmetrical; her manners of the most captivating gracefulness, with sufficient dignity to repel familiarity, and command respect. Her dark-blue eyes, beaming with love and affection, and "sparkling with life and intelligence," looked forth from beneath the long brown lashes which hung as curtains to conceal their charms. Features of Grecian mould, embellished by a complexion whose carnation hue, health, and the hand of nature, had painted. Her hair, which was of a dark brown color, was usually concealed beneath a head-dress of rich colored silk, worn after the manner of the Turkish turban.

Her mind was not less polished than her manners; and the fluency with which she wrote and spoke the French and Italian languages, indicated a high degree of cultivation, which few, even in this golden age of science and letters, have ever attained to. Her taste for dramatic composition led her to adopt, as a favorite pastime, the rehearsal of Shakspeare's plays. These were usually executed with an effect which would have done honor to more professed connoiseurs, and exhibited a talent which needed only cultivation to have won laurels of lasting freshness in the theatrical world. Her familiarity with various French and English authors rendered her an agreeable companion for the man of letters, and proved a valuable assistant to her husband, in recalling to mind some opinion or expression of an author which had escaped his memory.

She cultivated, to some extent, a taste for poetry, and produced several pieces which are still in existence. But it is only in the everyday affairs of life that we can gain a perfect knowledge of the true character of individuals. It was in this peculiar sphere that Mrs. Blennerhasset exhibited an uncommon degree of excellence, and won the affection of all within her influence. She adapted her customs to the society around her, and joined in their amusements and festivities with all the spirit of one accustomed to frontier life from earliest infancy. Riding on horseback was a delightful and healthy exercise, in which she frequently participated. At such times she was usually habited in a fine cloth dress, of scarlet color, richly bespangled with gold and glittering buttons.—From her downy hat waved "the graceful plume of the ostrich," and the rich folds of her drapery fell gayly over the flanks of her noble steed.—Over hill and through dale, with the fleetness of the deer, she took her course, and seldom did her attendant get a glimpse of his sprightly charge until she checked her speed to await his coming.

That she was capable of extraordinary physical endurance, was frequently demonstrated by the long and speedy walks she performed, whether on business or visiting some favorite friend. She has been known to accomplish a pedestrian tour, of from ten to twenty miles, with as much ease as other ladies would make their usual calls among city or village acquaintances. Bounding over them with astonishing agility, she carelessly pursued her way, as though tracing the more familiar paths of the wild woods.

Although she participated in the various amusements through the country, and was the ruling spirit of every assembly, she never neglected the ordinary duties of her household; every apartment received her personal attention, from the kitchen to the chambers, and was duly cleansed and arranged according to her direction. By her were the daily tasks of the servants assigned, while she performed with cheerfulness the duties devolving on herself. In short, like Shakspeare's Portia, "She was, indeed, a rich-souled creature, in whom the first germs of womanhood had blossomed forth, without a weed to check, or a chill to blight their growth."

THAT'S THE ALLEGORY.—A miser, being dead and fairly interred, came to the banks of the Styx, desiring to be ferried over along with the other ghosts. Charon demanded his fare, and was surprised to see the miser, rather than pay it, throw himself into the river and swim to the other side, notwithstanding all the clamor and opposition that could be made to him.

All Tartarus was in an uproar; and each of the judges was meditating some punishment suitable to a crime of such dangerous consequences to the infernal revenues.

"Shall he be chained to the rock along with Prometheus? or tremble below the precipice in company with the Dannides? or assist Sisyphus in rolling his stone?"

"No," said Minos, "we must invent some severer punishment. Let him be sent back to the earth, to see the use his heirs are making of his riches!"

CHITTGONGS AND SHANGHAIS.—The passion for over-grown chickens is extending, at the present moment, over a large portion of the Republic. Every body is going into the poultry business, and with a zeal that makes us look forward to the time when cocks and hens will supply the place of horses and oxen. "Chickens have riz." At the late show at Albany, a pair of Brama-pootras sold for sixty dollars!—this is as much as farmers once paid for cows. While chickens bring this price, it is not at all unusual for eggs to be done at the rate of six dollars per dozen. The moment chickens get as large as hogs, they will sell for the same price per pound. Newell says they will reach that size within the next ten years. By 1860 he supposes he will have Chittgongs of such length, breadth and tonage, that they will have to be fed in stables like horned critters.

Religious Anecdote.

Murray's "Handbook for South Italy" is just published and contains some curious stories respecting Fra Rocco, the celebrated Dominican preacher, and the spiritual Joe Miller of Naples. On one occasion, it is related, he preached on the mole a penitential sermon, and introduced so many illustrations of terror tnat he soon brot' his hearers on their knees. While they were thus showing every sign of contrition, he cried out, "Now all you who sincerely repent of your sins, hold up your hands." Every man in the vast multitude immediately stretched out both his hands. "Holy Archangel Michael," exclaimed Rocca, "thou who with thine adamantine sword standest at the right of the judgment seat of God, show me off every hand which has been raised." In an instant every hand dropped, and of course Rocco poured forth a fresh torrent of eloquent invective against their sins and their deceit. He had a great dislike to tobacco, and when once preaching to a crowd of Spanish sailors, he astounded them by telling them that there were no Spanish saints in Heaven. A few, he said, had been admitted, but they smoked so many cigars that they made the holy virgin sick, and Saint Peter set his wits to work to get them out. At length he proclaimed that a bull fight was to be held outside the gate of Paradise. Thereupon every Spanish saint, without exception, ran off to see the fight, and St. Peter immediately closed the gate, and took care never to admit another Spaniard.

A Practical Joke.

At Long Wharf, Boston, the fishing smacks throw their fish into pits, with sides perfectly water tight, and rising to the decks, while the bottom, which is also a part of the bottom of the vessel, is perforated with holes. A couple of Irishmen who wanted work, supposing those pits to be suken vessels, asked the privilege of pumping them out.

The two tars aboard, who were first class jokers, perceiving the mistake of the Hibernians, replied yes, and asked their price for pumping the smack dry. A bargain was struck for a dollar and a half, a pump was procured, and at work the two men went, one pumping while the other bailed with a basket.

An hour passed on and still they worked, occasionally wondering how deep the hole was, and how much water remained still in the vessel. The two sailors in the meantime had gone up to the wharf, as they said on business.—The captain, who was absent at the time the bargain was made, came on board, and finding the men still hard at work, with the perspiration pouring off their faces, inquired what they were about.

"Pumping out the ship," was the reply.

"Pumping out the ship," said the captain.

"Yes, sir, an' a mighty *dape* one she is entirely," said one of the perspiring Emeralders, as he panted away at the pump handle. "Sure I'm a thinkin' it ll be night before we get her dhry."

"Night!" said the captain, beginning to roar with laughter as he discovered the joke that had perpetrated during his absence. "Night, why, you will not get through till you have pumped out Boston Harbor!"

He then explained the matter to the laborers, who resumed their coats, vowing vengeance upon the sailort who had "*desaved*" them.

Wearing the Beard.

It may be safely argued as a general physiological principle, that whatever evinces a free and natural development of any part of the body is by necessity beautiful. Deprive the lion of his mane, the cock of his comb, the peacock of the emerald plumage of its tail, the ram and deer of their horns, and they not only become displeasing to the eye, but lose much of their power and vigor. And it is easy to apply this reasoning to the hairy ornaments of a man's face. The caprice of fashion alone forces the Englishman to shave off those appendages which give to the male countenance that true masculine character, indicative of energy, bold daring, and decision. The presence or absence of the beard, as an addition to the face, is the most marked and distinctive peculiarity between the countenances of the two sexes.

Who can hesitate to admire the noble countenance of the Osmanli Turk of Constantinople, with his un-Mongolian length of beard? Ask any of the fair sex whether they will not approve and admire the noble countenance of Mehemet Ali, Major Herbert Edwards, the hero of the Punjaub, Sir Charles Napier, and others, as set off by their beard? We may ask, with *Beatrice*, "What manner of man is he? Is his head worth a hat, or his chin worth a beard?" I have noticed the whiskers and beards on many of our most eminent physicians and merchants encroaching upon their former narrow boundaries, while it is well known that not a few of our divines have been long convinced of the folly of disobeying one of nature's fixed laws; but, hitherto, their unwillingness to shock the prejudices of their congregations, have prevented them from giving effect to their convictions.—The beard is not merely for ornament; it is for use. Nature never does anything in vain; she is economical, and wastes nothing. She would never erect a bulwark, were her domain unworthy of protection, or were there no enemy to invade it.—*Rowland on the Human Hair.*

Anecdote of Finn.

FINN was once a witness for the prosecution in a case before the Common Pleas in Boston, and his testimony was so direct and conclusive that the counsel for the defence thought it necessary to discredit him. The following dialogue ensued:

"Mr. Finn, you live in ——— street, do you not?"

"Yes, I do."

"You have lived there a great while?"

"Several years."

"Does not a female live there under your protection?"

"There does!"

"She is certainly known in the neighborhood by the name of Mrs. Finn."

"Is she your wife?"

"No; we were never legally married."

"That will do, Sir; I have no more to ask."

"But I have something more to answer, Sir," replied Mr. Finn, with spirit. "The Mrs. Finn, of whom you have been pleased to speak with so much levity, is my *mother*; and I have not known but *one man* base enough to breathe aught against her. You, Sir, can guess who he is. True, she is under my protection. She protected me through infancy and childhood, and it is but a small part of the debt I owe to her to do as much for her in old age."

The baffled counsellor had no more to say.

TRY IT.—Any human being who will have the presence of mind to clasp the hands behind the back and turn the face towards the zenith, may float at ease and in perfect safety in tolerable still water—aye, sleep there, no matter how long. If, not knowing how to swim, you would escape drowning, when you find yourself in deep water, you have only to consider yourself an empty pitcher; let your mouth and your nose—not the top part of your heavy head—be the highest part of you, and you are safe; but thrust up one of your bony hands, and down you go—turning up the handle tips over the pitcher.

From the New York Evening Post.

COL. BENTON'S HISTORY.

ANNO 1830—ANDREW JACKSON, PRESIDENT.

BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

It has been already shown, that Gen. Jackson, in his first annual message to Congress, called in question both the constitutionality and expediency of the National Bank, in a way to show him adverse to the Institution, and disposed to see the federal government carried on without the aid of such an assistant. In the same message he submitted the question to Congress, that, if such an institution is deemed essential to the fiscal operations of the government, whether a national one, founded upon the credit of the government, and its revenues, might not be devised, which would avoid all constitutional difficulties, and at the same time secure all the advantages to the government and country that were expected to result from the present bank. I was not in Washington when this message was prepared, and had no conversation with the President, in relation to a substitute for a national bank, or for the currency which it furnished, and which having a general circulation, was better entitled to the character of "national," than the issues of the local or State banks. We knew each other's opinions on the question of a national bank itself, but it had gone no further. I had never mentioned to him the idea of reviving the old currency, then, and for twenty years, extinct in the U. States: nor had I mentioned to him the idea of an independent or sub-treasury—that is to say, a government treasury unconnected with any bank—and which was to have the receiving and disbursing of the public moneys. When these ideas were mentioned to him, he took them at once; but it was not until the Bank of the U. States should be disposed of, that anything could be done on these two subjects; and on the latter a process had to be gone through, in the use of local banks as depositories of the public moneys, which required several years to show its issue and inculcate its lesson. Though strong in the confidence of the people, the President was not deemed strong enough to encounter all the banks of all the states at once Temporising was indispensable—and even a conciliation of a part of them. Hence the deposite system—or some years' use of local banks as fiscal agents of the government—which gave the institutions so selected the invidious appellation of "*pet banks*," meaning that they were government favorites.

In the mean time the question which the President had submitted to Congress in relation to a government fiscal agent, was seized upon as an admitted design to establish a government bank—stigmatized at once as a "thousand times more dangerous" than an incorporated national bank—and held up to alarm the country. Committees in each House of Congress, and all the public press in the interest of the existing Bank of the United States, took it up in that sense, and vehemently inveighled against it. Under an instruction to the Finance Committee of the Senate, to report upon a plan for a uniform currency, and under a reference to the Committee of Ways and Means of the House, of that part of the President's Message which related to the bank and its currency, most ample, elaborate and argumentative reports were made—wholly repudiating all the suggestions of the President, and sustaining the actual Bank of the United States under every aspect of constitutionality and of expediency; and strongly presenting it for a renewal of its charter. These reports were multiplied without regard to expense, or numbers, in all the varieties of newspaper and pamphlet publication: and lauded to the skies for their power and excellence: and triumphant refutation of all the President's opinions. Thus was the "war of the bank" commenced at once, in both Houses of Congress, and in the public press, and openly at the instance of the bank itself, which, forgetting its position as an institution of the government, for the convenience of the government, set itself up for a power, and struggled for a continued existence—in the shape of a new charter—as a question of its own, and almost as a right. It allied itself at the same time to the political party opposed to the President joined in all their schemes of protective tariff, and national internal improvement; and became the head of the American system. With its moneyed and political power, and numerous interested affiliations, and its control over other banks, brokers and money dealers, it was truly a power, and a great one; and, in answer to a question put by General Smith, of Maryland, Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate, already mentioned, (and appended with other questions and answers to that report,) Mr. Biddle, the President, showed a power in the national bank to save, relieve or destroy the local banks, which exhibited it as their absolute master; and, of course, able to control them at will. The question was put in a spirit of friendship to the bank, and with a view to enable its president to exhibit the institution as great, just and beneficent. The question was, "Has the bank at any time oppressed any of the state banks?" and the answer, "never." And, as if that was not enough, Mr. Biddle went on to say, "There are very few banks which might not have been destroyed by an exertion of the power of the bank. None have been injured. Many have been saved. And more have been, and are constantly relieved, when it is found that they are solvent but are suffering under temporary difficulty." This was proving entirely too much. A power to injure and destroy—to relieve and to save the thousand banks of all the states and territories, was a power over the business and fortunes of nearly all the people of those states and territories: and might be used for evil as well as for good: and was a power entirely too large to be trusted to any man, with a heart in his bosom—or to any government, responsible to the people: much less to a corporation without a soul, and irresponsible to heaven or earth. This was a view of the case which the parties to the question had not foreseen; but which was noted at the time; and which, in the progress of the government struggle with the bank, received exemplifications which will be remembered by the generation of that day while memory lasts; and afterwards known as long as history has power to transmit to posterity the knowledge of national calamities.

CELESTIAL STABLES.—Elder P———, who whilom preached in a certain town of this "ked'ntry," was so notorious for his queer phrases and very odd comparisons, that it finally behove the deacons to remonstrate with him. The Elder admitted the justice of the charge brought against him; promised to amend his speech henceforward; and hoped that his failings, grievous though they were, would not be the cause of any diminution in their brotherly regard for him: "For, brethren," said he, "we always *have* hitched horses so far, and I hope we may hitch horses hereafter in the stables of eternal glory!"

☞ The more you do for some folks, the more you are "done"—and very "brown" at that. Do a great favor for Suncook to-day, and to-morrow the ungrateful dog will be ready to annihilate you for not doing more. There is no more gratitude inside of some folks' ribs than sincerity in a miser's soul.

Odds and Ends.

☞ Make but few promises.

☞ Approaching—Moving day.

☞ Sloth and idleness lead to vice.

☞ Opposite opinions should not lie on the same bolster.

☞ Saturday next (April 1st) will be "All Fool's Day."

☞ The rich man bears a burden on his journey which death unloadeth.

☞ Comfortable—to tread on a loose brick and get your eyes bunged with mud.

☞ It is the pride of the industrious, well-doing man to have a home of his own.

☞ Boys are like vinegar—the more mother there is in them the sharper they become.

☞ Bacon says justly, the best part of beauty is that which a picture cannot express.

☞ A want of leisure is often only the want of inclination.

☞ Why is a thief called a "jail bird?"—Because he has been a *robbin*.

☞ Why are chickens' necks like door-bells? Because they are often *wrung* for company.

☞ Why is a blade of grass like a note of hand? Because it is matured by *falling due*.

☞ The man who is "a stranger to the finer feelings," proposes to have an introduction.

☞ Honesty sometimes keeps a man from growing rich; and civility from being witty.

☞ In Demerara, every one is "Esq." that wears shoes and stockings.

☞ An india-rubber omnibus is about being invented, which, when jam full, will hold a couple more.

☞ Mechi ventures to predict that, in seven years from this time, steam will universally "spend the plough."

☞ A mess of 'pouts' is easily caught. Tell your wife you can't afford to buy that love of a bonnet at Mrs. Flash's, the milliner.

☞ The fellow who got intoxicated with delight, has been turned out of the temperance society.

☞ Young gentlemen who dress in tight pants and bobtail coats, have received the appellation of "Shanghaes."

☞ Certain books are written not to instruct you, but to let you know that the author knew something.

☞ A sentence in the language of flowers—if you wish for "heart-ease," never look for "mary-gold."

☞ The good things which belong to prosperity are to be wished, but the good things which belong to adversity are to be admired.

☞ There is a boy in Chicago, fifteen years of age, who measures in his boots, (low heeled) six feet and eight inches. His name is *Long*.

☞ There are two things that modest men should never undertake—to borrow money and study law.

☞ The genius who *files* newspapers, lately broke his instrument while operating on a 'hard shell' organ.

☞ The fellow who chopped off his hand the other day, while cutting wood, sent to an apothecary for a remedy for 'chopped hands.'

☞ If we may believe the census, every fifth person in the United States owns a horse; and every tenth a dog.

☞ A man is under arrest in Trenton charged with stealing an umbrella. He is expected to plead in defence 'the custom of the country.'

☞ The remains of the bachelor who 'burst into tears' on reading a description of married life, have been found.

☞ The man who was frightened by the *bark* of a tree, is supposed to have been of a nervous temperament.

☞ The difference between an old woman and a young one is said to be, that one is happy and careless, and the other is cappy and hairless.

☞ The attitude which the Emperor of Russia has most generally assumed during the late negotiations, is that of *lying*.

☞ A man of philosophical temperament resembles a cucumber—for although he may be completely cut up, he still remains cool.

☞ A colored minister was arrested in New York on Sunday night week, charged with throwing stones at one of his congregation!

☞ A Vocalist says he could sing "Way down on the old Tar River," if he could only get the *pitch*."

☞ Many a garret is filled with great bargains, which were purchased because they were cheap, and then laid away to rot.

☞ There is no policy like politeness, and a good manner is the best thing in the world either to get a good name, or to supply the want of it.

☞ How to see the teeth of a beautiful young lady. Praise her rival before her face, and you may depend upon it