

# Clearfield Republican.

J. H. LARRIMER, Editor.

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## The Republican.

## Miscellaneous.

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J. H. LARRIMER.

## BUSINESS CARDS.

**A. T. SCHRYVER,**  
HAS resumed the practice of medicine, and will attend promptly to all calls in his profession, by day or night. Residence opposite the Methodist church. May 4, 1858. 6 mo.

**DENTAL CARD.**  
A. M. SMITH offers his professional services to the Ladies and Gentlemen of Clearfield and vicinity. All operations performed with neatness and despatch. Being familiar with all the late improvements, he is prepared to make Artificial Teeth in the best manner. Office in Shaw's new row. Sept. 14th, 1858. 1yr.

**DR. R. V. WILSON,**  
HAVING removed his office to the new dwelling on Second street, will promptly answer professional calls as heretofore.

**J. H. LARRIMER & TEST,** Attorneys at Law  
Clearfield, Pa., will attend promptly to Collections, Land Agencies, &c., &c., in Clearfield, Centre and Elk counties. July 29.—y

**JOHN TROUTMAN**  
STILL continues the business of Chair Making, and House, Sign and Ornamental Painting, at the shop formerly occupied by Troutman & Rowe, at the east end of Market street, a short distance west of Linn's Foundry. June 13, 1855.

**THOMPSON, HARTSOCK & CO.**  
Non Founders, Curwensville. An extensive assortment of Castings made to order. Dec. 29, 1851.

**L. JACKSON CRANS,**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW, office adjoining his residence on Second Street, Clearfield, Pa. June 1, 1854.

**H. P. THOMPSON,**  
Physician, may be found either at his office at Seefeld's hotel, Curwensville, when no professionally absent. Dec. 29, 1851

**FREDERICK ARNOLD,**  
Merchant and Produce Dealer, Luthersburg, Clearfield county, Pa. April 17, 1852.

**ELLIS IRWIN & SONS,**  
AT the mouth of Lick Run, five miles from Clearfield, MERCHANTS, and extensive Manufacturers of Lumber, July 25, 1852.

**J. D. THOMPSON,**  
Blacksmith, Wagons, Buggies, &c., &c., ironed on short notice, and the very best style, at his old stand in the borough of Curwensville. Dec. 29, 1853.

**D. R. WOODS,** having changed his location from Curwensville to Clearfield, respectfully offers his professional services to the citizens of the latter place and vicinity. Residence on Second street, opposite to that of J. Crans, Esq. my: 156.

**P. W. BARRETT,**  
MERCHANT, PRODUCE AND LUMBER DEALER, AND JUSTICE OF THE PEACE, Luthersburg, Clearfield Co., Pa.

**J. L. CUTTLE,**  
Attorney at Law and Land Agent, office adjoining his residence, on Market street Clearfield. March 3, 1853.

**A. B. SHAW,**  
RETAILER of Foreign and Domestic Merchandise, Shawville, Clearfield county, Pa. Sunbury, August 15, 1853.

**PLASTERING.**—The subscriber, having located himself in the borough of Clearfield, would inform the public that he is prepared to do work in the above line, from plain to ornamental of any description in a workmanlike manner. Also whitewashing and repairing done in a neat manner and on reasonable terms. EDWIN COOPER. Clearfield, April 17, 1857. 1y.

**D. O. CROUCH,**  
PHYSICIAN—Office in Curwensville. May

**YOUR TEETH.**  
TAKE CARE OF THEM!!  
D. R. A. M. HILLS, desires to announce to his friends and patrons, that he is now desirous of all his time to operations in Dentistry. Those desiring his services will find him at his office, adjoining his residence at nearly all times, and always on Fridays and Saturdays, unless notice to the contrary be given in the town papers the week previous.  
N. B. All work warranted to be satisfactory. Clearfield, Pa. Sept. 22nd, 1858.

**JOSEPH PETERS,**  
Justice of the Peace, Curwensville, Penna.

**OSE** door east of Montelias & Ten Eyck's Store. All business entrusted to him will be promptly attended to, and all instruments of writing done on short notice. March 31, 1858.—y.

**BLANKET** Articles of Agreement, legal form between School Directors, and Teachers, for use of the office of the "Clearfield Republican."

### CHRISTMAS IN THE OLDEN TIME.

Christmas in the Olden Time. At the very name what visions called up to the mind's eye of gay parties bringing in the Yule-log; of the rousing Wassail-bowl; of Mummings and masking; of the Boar's-head decked with holly; and of the arrival of the Christmas guest at the old Manor House in an old-fashioned snow-storm, with servants lighting him with torches to the door, where the squire, in spite of the tempest stands ready to receive him.

Most of these old customs have been long disused even in England, while few of them ever existed at all in America. As the pastimes of our ancestors, however, they have an interest to us, which the frequent allusions of the poets have increased. We will consecrate a page or two, therefore, to an account of the ancient games, customs and observances of Christmas-time, graphically alluded to in the well known lines of Scott:

"The fire, with well dried logs supplied,  
Went roaring up the chimney side;  
The huge hall-table's oaken face,  
Scraped till it shone the day of grace,  
Bore then upon its massive board  
No mark to part the squire and lord.  
Then was brought on the lustrous lawn  
By the old blue-coated serving man,  
Thien the grim boar's head frowned on high,  
Decked out with bays and rosemary.  
Well can the green garn'd ranger tell,  
How, when, and where the monster fell;  
What dogs before his death he tore,  
And all the baiting of the boar;  
While round the merry Wassail-bowl,  
Garnished with ribbon, blithe did trowl."

The custom of adorning houses, churches, &c., with branches of Mistletoe Holly, and other winter shrubs and trees, is perhaps of older date than any other Christmas observance. It had its origin in England with the Druids, who were the priests of ancient Briton long previous to the invasion of that country by the Romans under Julius Caesar. It was their wont, at a certain season of the year, to resort to the forests in which grew the largest oak trees, followed by a great concourse of people of all degrees. There with many ceremonies they proceeded to cut down a quantity of the branches of the mistletoe growing on the oaks, which, having divided into small pieces, they distributed amongst the religious students and votaries who had accompanied them, and who, considering these branches so many emblems of good fortune, adorned their dwellings with them. There was a sacredness attached to the custom which preserved its practice for a long period, and we find it mentioned in many of the old records. A peculiar sanctity was attached to the Mistletoe.

"Christmas, the joyous period of the year!  
Now bright with Holly all the temples strew,  
With Laurel green and sacred Mistletoe."

The Drauidal custom appears to have survived the shock attending the incursions of foreign races, and the overthrow of the old established religion; and Christianity, loth to wage war with every ancient usage, consented to retain this one as the most innocent of them all. Indeed, green boughs seemed to have been almost universally looked upon as emblems of purity. Stowe, the old English Chronicler, relates that not only the parish church, public offices, and houses were adorned with holly, ivy, bays, and other greens of the season, but that conduits and standards in the streets were likewise garnished.

The custom of burning the Yule-Log, was, it appears of Anglo-Saxon origin. That race of people were in the habit of celebrating a feast at the Winter solstice, which they called the Jul, or Yule, and on this occasion they were wont to burn a log of wood, as an emblem of returning light and heat, the sun being then at its furthest point from them. From that feast the burning of the log became transferred to the eve of Christmas Day; and, as such, was never omitted till the early part of the present century. It is now rarely to be met with, and then in very remote rural districts.

The Yule-Log was the stem of one of the largest trees that could be found on the estate of the proprietor in whose halls it was to raise its cheerful flame. It was hewn down on the Candlemas Day, in the month of February of the same year; then kindled where it fell, and suffered to burn until sunset, when the fire was extinguished, and the log laid in a proper place until it was required at Christmas. At the appointed time it was carried into the mansion hall by a number of domestics, amidst much rejoicing, and kindled on the hearth with much mirth and merrymaking. It was generally large enough to last during that night and the whole of the following day.

The Wassail-Bowl, like the Yule-Log, had its origin amongst our Saxon forefathers. In the old legend of Vortigern and Rowena, we find the first mention of the custom of Wassailing. At a feast given by Hengist, the Saxon chief, to Vortigern, the British King, the royal guest was bewitched with the young and beautiful daughter of his entertainer. While on her knees, the fair Saxon damsel presented the wine cup to the British Monarch, exclaiming "Lover Kyning Wasshall!" or, as we should express it, "Your health, lord king!" Vortigern, not understanding the custom, had it explained to him by one of his suit, who tells him according to the poetical legend, that it was a complement paid him by the fair maid.—

"Hk man that love where him think,  
Shall say 'Wasshall!' and to him drink,  
He that drinks shall say Wasshall;  
And Vother shall say again, Drinkhall!  
That says Wasshall, drinks of the cup;  
Kissing his fellow, he drinks it up."

The Saxons were never without handing round a drinking or pledge-cup, or Wassail-bowl, at all their feasts; and in course of time this practice became transferred to the Christmas festivities, now only recognized in the custom of drinking healths or toasts.

The Waits or Christmas Bards, are a remnant of the old minstrels attached to courts and cities and added to their musical offices the more important, though less pleasant duty of watching and guarding the streets. They perambulate the principal thoroughfares in small parties, crying the hour at each corner, or street, or lane; and inasmuch as in these remote days—during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries—our cities were not lit up at night by any thing like lamps, these Waits carried beacons, or large fires, supported upon high poles. Their office appears to have fallen into disuse during the reign of Henry VIII., and subsequently, the watchmen established on a better footing, exercised their musical powers only at Christmas time; and hence the bands of nocturnal musicians in England, still perambulating the streets at this season, in the "witching hour of night."

Mummings, or masked players seem to have their name from the Danish *Momme*, or the Dutch *Momme*, to mask; and there is reason to believe that this custom of dressing and masking had its origin in the practice of exchanging clothes between men and women, at the *Satoralia*, a feast of the Romans. The Mummings of the early ages appear to have been of both sexes; and being dressed in strange costume and masked, went about at feast times, from house to house, reciting verses and singing songs.

Masques were a species of play formerly exhibited in the Inns of Court. One of these entertainments was exhibited in the inner Temple in the fourth year of the reign of Elizabeth, in which the celebrated Leicester, then Lord Dudley, was the principal actor. During the Christmas of 1601, we read that the Twelfth Night of Shakespear was performed in the hall of the Middle Temple. In the reign of Elizabeth and James I., these Masques were most popular, and oftentimes got up at great expense. During the latter reign, Masques were performed at Whitehall by the principal nobles of the court.

The Lord of Misrule was an officer appointed in all large establishments, to superintend the arrangements for the Christmas revels. In Scotland he was called the *Abbot of Unreason*; whilst at the Universities, where festivities at Christmas were always rife, he took the title of *Imperator*. The office of this dignitary began upon All-Hallows Eve, and terminated at the end of the twelve days of Christmas.

Bear-Baiting, or worrying of bears by dogs, formed another pastime, which, although indulged in by all ranks at other times of the year, was nevertheless one of the sports which constituted the Christmas festivities of the times of Elizabeth.

**PROMISCUOUS DANCING.**—A clergyman of the old foggy school, says the *Harrisburg Telegraph*, has written an article in denunciation of "promiscuous dancing," and calls upon the faithful to hold in "orthodox abhorrence." The "promiscuous dancing" which the reverend gentleman so much dislikes, is the dancing of men and women together. That, being pleasant, is naughty; whereas as the dancing of men with men, women with women being a very poor flavorless thing, is permitted. Now we agree with our cotemporary that "promiscuous dancing" is, in itself, not only no sin, but an innocent pleasure and healthful exercise—one of the natural and universal expressions of that delight in being alive, which is the blessed boon of youth and health. That man must have an essentially low and vulgar mind who can look upon a group of youths and maidens, moving with light hearts and little feet through the giddy mazes of a dance, and stain the fair vision with thoughts of sense and sin. This removing of the landmarks of morality—this branding with moral reprobation acts which in themselves are not morally wrong—is never done without danger to the essential interests of morality itself. The truth is, that all these attempts, on the part of men clothed with spiritual power, to suppress the innocent pleasures of life, are subtle manifestations of selfishness and love of power. They are illustrations of the old fable of the fox that has lost his tail in a trap, and endeavored to persuade his brother foxes to submit to the same mutilation. Public opinion exacts from clergymen, and in many denominations from laymen who have made public profession of religion, an abstinence from certain forms of amusement; and unless their religion be of the finest temper they will not look with complacency upon others who are enjoying pleasures from which they are themselves debarred.

**DARK REFLECTION.**—Uncle Bill Fidd was a drover from Vermont. Being exposed to all kinds of weather, his complexion suffered somewhat; but at the best was none of the whitest. Stopping at a public house, a man of notorious bad character, thought as Uncle Bill came in, he would make him the butt of a joke, and as the black face of the weather-beaten man appeared in the door, he exclaimed: "Meroy on us, how dark it grows!" Uncle Bill, surveying him from head to foot coolly replied: "Yes, sir—your character and my complexion are enough to darken any room."

### THE DEAD ALIVE.

[From the Birmingham, England, Daily Post.]  
The young girl whose singular restoration to life has been previously recorded is still living. Having opportunity of inquiring into this very remarkable affair, we are enabled to give the following particulars:

The girl, whose name is Amelia Hinks, is twelve or thirteen years of age, and resided with her parents in Bridge street, and dwindling away under some unaccountable complaint, about three weeks ago, she, as her friends imagined, died. The corpse was then removed to another room. The body was rigid and icy cold. It was washed and laid out with the usual deathly accompaniments, penny-pieces being placed over the eyes, and the coffin was ordered.

For more than forty eight hours the supposed corpse lay beneath the winding sheet, when it happened that her grandfather, a very aged man, came from Leamington to the neighborhood of Nuneaton. On going with a female relation to see the corpse, the old man removed one of the copper coins, and although the eye remained closed, he fancied he saw a movement beneath the lid. The woman with him at first ridiculed the idea, but on looking more closely, she too observed a movement. The medical attendant was apprised of the circumstance; and, although he at first treated the matter as a delusion, the application of an instrument to the region of the heart soon convinced him that there was life within the apparent corpse. The body was then removed to a warmer room, and the existence of life soon became apparent. By degrees animation was restored, a loud sneeze placing the fact of her being a living subject beyond all doubt. When speech was restored, the girl described every thing that had taken place from the time of her supposed death. She knew who had closed her eyes and placed the coppers thereon. She also heard the order given for her coffin, and could describe the various remarks made over her as she lay in her death-chamber.

At first, on her restoration, she refused all sustenance, and on some ailment being forced upon her she became frightfully excited, and though in a state of extreme debility, it required great force to hold her. Since that period her conduct has been very strange. She entertains a wish to destroy her father and mother, and on one occasion, when they were asleep in the room with herself, she rose from her bed in the dead of the night, went down stairs for a light, and having first destroyed, by burning, some needlework which her mother set great store upon, she set fire to the curtains, and then retired to her bed, from which it was thot impossible that she could have moved. In fact so mysterious was the origin of the fire that her parents were quite at a loss to account for it, until the girl herself confessed having been the cause. She now lies in such a state that she can neither be called alive nor dead, the former state being only ascertained by a careful examination of her pulse. Were it not that there is no motive for deception, and the parents being creditable people, in this very extraordinary affair, which is causing considerable excitement in Nuneaton and the neighborhood.

### Wonderful Phenomenon

We chronicled on Tuesday the killing of an elephant, recently escaped from a menagerie. We regret to learn that before he was killed he did great damage, and utterly ruined one planter in Hindis county, Miss. Passing through his plantation, the huge beast came across two stacks of fodder—one of the stacks he devoured instantly, while he hoisted the other on his trunk, and bearing it before him, he marched on in solitary grandeur. He soon reached a point where the negroes of the plantation were taking their dinner, when the unusual sight which met their eyes so frightened them that they all turned white! When their fears subsided, finding that they were all white men and women, they deliberately walked off, and left the owner of the plantation without a solitary day.

This remarkable phenomenon may seem rather strange to the incredulous, but if any one doubts the truth of our statement, a highly respectable gentleman of this city is prepared to substantiate it in every particular. We have often heard of persons' hair being instantly turned from sudden and overpowering fear, but do not remember before to have heard of an African's skin turning white from the same cause. While we sincerely sympathize with the owner of the negroes in his severe loss, we earnestly hope that this remarkable case will be thoroughly investigated by philosophers.—*Veckebury True Southern.*

### INNOCENT PLEASURES.

The Rev. Dr. Bellows, of New York, in an excellent address on "Mirth," remarked: "For my part, I say it is all solemnity. I have become sincerely suspicious of the piety of those who do not love pleasure in any form. I cannot trust the man who never laughs; who is always sedate; who has no apparent outlets for natural springs of sportiveness and gaiety, that are perennial to the human soul. I know that nature takes revenge on such violence. I expect to find secret vices, malignant sins, or horrid crimes springing up, in this hot bed of confined air, and imprisoned space; and therefore it gives a sincere moral gratification, any where and in any community, to see innocent pleasures and popular amusements, resisting the religious bigotry that frowns so unwisely upon them. Anything is better than that dark, dead, unhappy social life; a prey to ennui and morbid excitement, which result from unmitigated puritanism, whose second crop is unusually unbridled licence or infamous folly."

### Sir Charles Napier on Cherbourg.

Sir Charles Napier has addressed to the London journals a long letter respecting Cherbourg and what he saw there. His conclusion respecting the strength of Cherbourg is:—"We had not time to count the guns, nor, perhaps, would it have been prudent; but, judging from the extent of the fortifications, and the ground they covered, there could not have been less than 2000; and, from the loud reports, they must have been of very heavy calibre. So many guns, so many different forts, at a considerable distance from each other, would require a large army to defend, and a still larger army and fleet to attack; and the probability is Cherbourg would not be seriously attacked with a view to its capture, but it might be so tormented that a fleet could not lie there with impunity." He is of the opinion that in the event of a war Cherbourg can be better watched from Alderney, Portland, and St. Helens, than Brest was during the last war with France. What he fears is "that in times of profound peace, France having a large army at command, a large fleet, and a large number of seamen always ready, may suddenly make an attack on this country from Brest, Cherbourg, Bologne, or any other channel port she pleases. Remember this does not now require ships of war (though she is preparing steam transports to carry 15,000 cavalry); she would only have to seize steamers—no matter whom they belonged to—collect them at Cherbourg, and this is only 60 miles from Portland. I do not say France would do this, but we were told last summer by the Chancellor of the Exchequer that we were within a few hours of war. The same thing has happened once or twice before, and may happen again, and this great and rich country ought to leave nothing to chance. We must either arrange with France to keep up a moderate navy, or we must keep up a well manned and well disciplined fleet; and this may be done at a very moderate expense." The gallant admiral then recommends that we should maintain a channel fleet of ten sail of the line, manned entirely by able seamen, with only 100 marines to each ship, so that in case of need a portion of the crew might be transferred to ten sail of the line kept in reserve, the complements being filled up by landmen and marines. He proposes that ten sail of the line should be kept in readiness to be manned by the coastguard. He likewise recommends the establishment of the marines should be increased by 500 men. By these means he thinks that we should be enabled to send 30 sail of the line to sea at any moment, a force sufficient to defy the world. As for the French ships which he saw at Cherbourg, he considers them fine ships, well manned, and kept in good order.—*English Paper.*

### NOT TO BE TAKEN IN!

An exchange paper has the following capital story about one of the best fellows in the world—who has no fellow: Mr. Fields, the Boston publisher, has a wonderful memory, and his knowledge of English literature is so available that when a friend wishes to know where any particular passage may be found he steers at once for the corner and consults the man who is very likely to give the desired information. A pompous would-be-wit, not long ago, thinking to puzzle him and make a sport for a company at dinner, informed them prior to Mr. Fields' arrival that he had himself that morning written some poetry, and intended to submit to Mr. Fields as Southey's, and inquire in which of his poems the lines occurred. At the proper moment, therefore after the guests were seated, he began: "Friend Fields, I have been a good deal exercised of late trying to find in Southey's poems his well known lines, running thus—can you tell us about what time he wrote them?" "I do not remember to have met with them before," replied Mr. Fields, "and there were only two periods in Southey's life when such lines could possibly have been written by him." "When were those?" gleefully asked the witty questioner. "Somewhere," said Mr. Fields, "about that early period of his existence when he was having the measles and cutting his first teeth; or near the close of his life, when his brain had softened, and he had fallen into idiosyncrasy. The versification belongs to the measles period, but the expression clearly betrays the idiotic one." The funny questioner smiled faintly but the company roared.

### PARSON BROWNLOW AND HIS CUSTOMERS.

The late Knoxville Whig contains a characteristic and pathetic appeal from its editor to his former customers at Jonesboro, where the Whig was originally published. He offers to take bills on the Bank of East Tennessee, which are worth twenty cents on the dollar, in full payment, and adds: "Persons wishing to square up with us can now do so. If, however, they wish to get off at a cheaper rate, they can withhold even these bills, and we promise during the coming year to receipt them in full through the paper, forever, and file our claims against them in the High Chancery of Heaven, and let them settle with their God in the world to come. And to leave all without excuse, we further agree to take Shanghai chickens, hoop-skirts, boot-jacks, broom combs, baby jumpers, fishing tackle, wooden combs, pins, blackening old boots, patent medicine, sucking pig, frozen cabbage, old clothes, Colt's revolver, second-hand tooth brushes, ginpot cakes, parched corn, circus tickets, tally, or any other article found in a retail store."

The best thing in the world for low spirits is to have a clear conscience and a warm heart. Never be guilty of anything that would trouble your mind, keep your heart warm with love for every one, and you will pass thro' the world as smoothly as over a sea of glass.

### REPORT

#### of the Postmaster General.

The fact is prominently set forth that from and after the 1st of July next, the mails to be conveyed between New Orleans and Washington in three and a half days. The expenses of the department, over and above its resources, have regularly increased ever since the reduction of postage. It would, however, be erroneous to suppose that this charge upon the "mail" is to progress in a ratio proportionate to what it has been for the last few years. Our postal system is now extended over the whole country, from one ocean to the other, and there can be but little further expense resulting from an overland connexion with California. Except one other route, no other is now thought of as likely to become necessary.

The Postmaster General proposes, in lieu of franking privileges now allowed by law to members of Congress, that the Secretary of the Senate, or such other officers as may be designated for the purpose, furnish the members with postage stamps to be used on all letters, public documents, &c., transmitted by them in the mails, and keep an account of the stamps furnished each member, to be paid for out of the contingent fund of the House; all letters, etc., to members of Congress to be prepaid at the mailing office.

A uniform rate of postage of five cents on all distances is proposed. On the 30th of June last there were in operation 8,296 mail routes, the length of which is estimated at 290,693 miles, and cost \$7,795,418 being an addition of 18,002 miles to length of routes, and \$1,173,372 to the cost in a year. The total estimates for the current year are \$10,515,947, and the total expenditures of the department in fiscal, the year ending June 30th, \$12,722,476.

The estimate of receipts and expenditures for 1858 exhibits a deficiency of \$3,682,127. The P. M. General says by the time the contract for the California lines, via Panama and Tehuantepec, expire in Oct. 1st 1859, it is probable that route by Lake Nicaragua will have been opened and in successful operation there. This presents the question whether one two or three of these routes shall thereafter be employed for mail purposes. Tehuantepec route is shortest and at the same time most readily protected. But it will be comparatively too new, and the time of staging too long. While it is destined, no doubt, to become a transit of the first importance, and will deserve the highest patronage and encouragement, still it can not supersede the necessity of one or more routes through Central America.

It is of the highest importance that the route by Nicaragua should be re-opened, and its undisturbed use for the transportation of the mails, passengers, troops and munitions of war, secured by the solemn guarantee of the public treaty. Without this, in view of the unstable condition of the local governments of the Central America, the safety and security of transportation can hardly be relied on. As calculated to furnish the requisite facilities of communication between Europe and the Southern and Southwestern States, the projecting lines between Norfolk and England, and between New Orleans and Bordeaux, are among the least important to be established. The Postmaster General regards as highly important that the line to Vera Cruz should be continued.

The whole number of post offices on the 30th of June last was 27,977, of which 400 are of the class denominated Presidential; whole number established during the last fiscal year, 2,121; number discontinued, 739; increase, 1,391; number of postmasters appointed, 8,284. Of these 4,335 were to fill vacancies occasioned by resignation, 998 by removals, 278 by deaths, 292 by change of names and sites, and 2,121 on the establishment of new offices.—

Whole number of offices, December 1, 1858, 28,573. On the 30th of June last, there were in operation 8,296 mail routes. The number of contractors was 7,044.—The length of those routes is estimated at 290,693 miles; total amount of transportation 78,765,491 carats; cost \$7,795,418. Compared with the service reported 30th of June, 1857, there is an addition of 18,002 miles to the routes, and \$1,173,372 to the cost. The total estimates for the current year are \$10,515,947. The total expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1858, amounted to \$12,722,476. The estimates of receipts and expenditures in 1858—expenditures \$14,776,520; means \$11,094,393; deficiency \$3,682,127.

A VIRGINIA DIAMOND.—Mr. G. P. Matthews, of Virginia, has exhibited at the Cincinnati Times office what he claims as a diamond of the first water, and the largest in the world, it has an inch and a half of diameter, and nearly an inch of thickness. The Times says:

It is surpassingly brilliant, particularly when viewed by gas-light. Mr. Matthews says he has been offered for it \$24,000.—It was found by the father of its present possessor in the gold mines in Buckingham county, Virginia, about seventy years since. It has remained in the rough state ever since, until a few weeks ago, when Mr. M., being satisfied by every test that it was in reality a diamond, took it to New York and had it dressed. This precious gem weighs 144 carats. The Koh-i-noor, if we remember weighs 106 carats. There have been several diamonds found in the gold regions of Virginia. Last year one found in said locality was sold at Richmond for \$500.

During the search "instituted" by the editor of a Newark paper for female composers, it is reported that the following dialogue took place:

Briester—"Good morning Mr. Heuheck! Have you got any daughters that would make good type-setters?"  
Heuheck—"No—but I've got a wife that would make a good devil."