Home Affairs.

Destructive Fire.—The Sterling Mills in Snow-Shoe, Burnside township, Centre county, were burnt week before last, together with all the surrounding buildings with the exception of one dwelling house and a considerable quantity of sawed lumber. The Mills were the largest in this section of the State, and belonged to Messrs. Smith, Rhodes & Mott. A store and a number of dwelling houses, were entirely consumed, and so rapid were the flames that not even the furniture and wearing apparel within could be rescued, while several children narrowly escaped death. The fire originated from one of the dwelling houses occupied by one of the employees at the Mills, by a stove pipe passing through the roof. The amount of the loss we did not learn, but it must be large; neither did we learn whether there was any insurance upon it.

The Weather for some time back, has been of the most delightful character for enjoyment and the most favorable for the growth of vegetation that could be desired or imagined; and as a consequence everything green (not even the verdant specimens of humanity with which we occasionally meet,) is in the most flourishing condition possible. The season to all appearances is three weeks earlier than the same a year ago, and if no "untimely frost" nips the plants and blossoms that nature so generously and profusely nourishes, we may expect a most plentiful season.

No Paper.—We were compelled to omit a paper last week by circumstances over which we had no influence. We had ordered paper which should have reached us in good time, but which was delayed two or three days, and when it did come proved to be entirely a different article from that intended, sent us by mistake which we could not use at all, for printing our paper upon; and although we had more on the way it did not reach us in time to remedy the mistake.

The Avenger.—We this week publish the conclusion of this very interesting story, and trust that all our readers have been as much pleased with it as we were when we perused it.

We might also add that we conclude in this number, all of "One-Eyed Saul" that will appear in our columns, and we suppose we ought to apologize to our readers for again cheating with a piece of a story, but we did so on a former occasion, and do not care about repeating the excuse.—We shall not again offend in like manner unless we change our mind.

Court.—Our court last week was a small affair compared with our former May courts. The business transacted was only what could be disposed of without the intervention of juries, an abstract of which will be found in another part of this paper. The next court will be held on the third Monday in June, and will be a jury court.

If You Want good cigars, and of course you do—if you want any, go to the new Drug and Variety Store, on Market street, opposite the late residence of Dr. Lorain, and Geo. Rheem will furnish you with a choice article. We have puffed them in more ways than one and ought to know their merits.

MARRIED.

On the 12th inst., by Abrahaam Snyder, Esq., Mr. Lorenzo H. Rice, of Pike township, and Miss Sarah J., daughter of Hon. James Ferguson, of Lumber city.

At the residence of the bride near Glen Hope, on May 12th, by Rev. W. E. Kirby, Mr. Philip Tubbs, to Miss Addametta Keagy, all of Clearfield county.

On the 15th inst., by John Blair, Esq., Mr. Patrick Gallaher, to Miss Mary Ann Stone, both of Boggs township, Clearfield county.

On the 19th inst., in St. Paul's church, Columbia, by the Rev. Dr. Alexander McLeod, assisted by the Rev. Samuel E. Appleton, Charles J. Pusey, to Ruth Anna, daughter of the late William Aikins, all of Columbia.

We hope that the happy couple just starting upon life's weary journey, may have a pleasant voyage, and also our best wishes for their future happiness.

On the 19th inst. at the residence of the bride's father in Bradford township, by the Rev. J. M. Galloway, Mr. John Rote, to Miss Christiana, daughter of Mr. Archibald Shaw.

Accompanying the above, was a large and delicious cake, which brought smiles to the countenances of the various persons about the office. The cake proved sufficient for and an ample feast for the entire party and several friends who were invited to partake. After the disappearance of the cake, all persons united in a wish for the happiness and prosperity of the donors. The *devil*, however, not content with such common-place expressions of good will, after sundry devices to create the necessary degree of inspiration, and considerable mental perturbation, produced the following:

"Throughout the voyage of life, may
their tempers be as sweet, their hearts as
light, and their spirits as elastic as their
cake, and may they

Have prosp'rous gales
To fill their sails,
While long they ride
Time's ceaseless tide;
And gently waft
Life's fragile craft,
O'er peaceful waves,
To Christian's graves."

And immediately collapsed.

The Ideal and the Real Negro.

The *Argus* says:—The Abolitionists and Republicans of the North have all along been worshipping the ideal of a negro—not the reality. Their orators and slashing philanthropists, who would swear at you for caring nothing about religion, and put you to the torture if you dare to differ from themselves, have been talking about putting the black man on an equal footing with the intelligent and cultivated white man, and have worked the country up to a pitch of excitement on the subject of slavery that threatens its very integrity. All this has been indulged in merely to make political capital on, and not because there was any real prospect or intent to redeem a race whose redemption must be entirely their own work. But whenever these orators and writers chance to go among the negroes—we mean the *real* negro—and observe his nature, his habits, his low intellect and debased instincts, they are forced, if they open their mouths at all, to express their disappointment, and tell the facts of the case just as they are.

In illustration, we give the following extract from an article in the May number of the *Atlantic Monthly*—a publication radically opposed to slavery as an institution; the article is said to be from the pen of Richard H. Dana, Jr., of Boston, and is entitled "A Trip to Cuba":

"We made Nassau at 12 o'clock, on the sixth day from our departure, counting the first as one. The first feature discernible was a tall group of cocoanut trees, with which the island is beauteously feathered; the second was a group of negroes in a small boat, steering towards us with open-mouthed and white-toothed wonder. * * * Other boats then came, like a shoal of little fishes around the carcass of a giant whale. There were many negroes, together with whites of every grade, and some of our number, leaning over the side, saw for the first time the raw material out of which Northern Humanitarians have spun so fine a skein of compassion and sympathy.

"Now, we who write, and they for whom we write, are all orthodox upon this mighty question; we have all made our confession of faith in private and in public; we all, on suitable occasions, walk up and apply the match to the keg of gunpowder which is to blow up the Union, but which, somehow, at the critical moment, fails to ignite. But you must allow us one heretical whisper—very small and low. The negro of the North is an ideal negro; it is the negro refined by white culture, elevated by white blood, instructed even by white iniquity; the negro among negroes is a coarse, grinning, flat-footed, thick-skulled creature, ugly as Caliban, lazy as the laziest of brutes, chiefly ambitious to be of no use to any in the world. View him as you will, his stock in trade is small; he has but the tangible instincts of all creatures—love of life, of ease, and of offspring. For all else, he must go to school to the white race, and his discipline must be long and laborious. Nassau, and all that we saw of it, suggested to us the unwelcome question, whether compulsory labor be not better than none. But as a question I gladly leave it, and return to the simple narration of what befell."

A Terrible Death—*Exacting the Sickles Tragedy for Amusement.*—Gallatin, Tenn., April 24.—A dreadful accident has just occurred at the Law School, about fifteen miles from this place. The students were trying (illustrating) the Sickles case in mock court, when the young man who took the part of Sickles jerked out a pistol, which he did not know was loaded, and shot his most intimate friend, who was taking the part of Key, through the chert. Mr. Tap took the part of Sickles, and Mr. Burke the part of Key. It is a very sad thing, but the shot was purely accidental. It was at first thought Mr. Burke would recover, but mortification has taken place. Mr. Tap has suffered so much in mind that he has two or three times tried to kill himself, but been prevented by his young friends. I hope this lesson will be a warning to the young men here who think nothing of carrying fire arms, and of showing them upon all occasions.—*N. Y. Express.*

Shooting Affair.—A young man named Jackson Yeager, delivered himself up to the hands of the authorities on last Monday evening, stating as a reason for so doing that he had shot a Mr. Reuben Richards at Julian Furnace on that day. The statement lacked confirmation until Tuesday evening, when a constable from that township made his appearance in search of Yeager. It appears that a difficulty has existed between the parties for some time, and that Richards endeavored to force Yeager to leave the vicinity by following him with a horse pistol. Yeager took refuge in the house of a married sister, where he obtained a loaded rifle, and while Richards was approaching fired from a window and shot him in the shoulder. We have not learned the particulars in relation to the condition of the wounded man.—*Democratic Watchman.*

Important Post Office Regulation.—We understand that the Post Office Department, with a view of obtaining accurate and reliable information as to the *number of letters* transmitted in the mails, has so changed the blank form of the "account of mails sent" as to secure official entries therein of the *number* of letters *sent* from each post office; thus to enable the Department in future to report the aggregate number of letters mailed throughout the United States in each fiscal year, or during any specified period of shorter duration. The new banks, calling for this information, will hereafter be supplied to postmasters, and it is presumed that all will have been furnished in time to commence this report by the first of July.—Any postmasters not so supplied should insert the number of an additional column of the blanks now in use.

A Pseudo Marriage Made Binding.—At Clarendon, S. C., a man who had married a woman before a counterfeit magistrate, and deserted her, was sued for her board. The Court decreed for the plaintiff, deciding that the contract was valid and binding. In South Carolina, as in New York, and some other States, the consent of the parties expressed before competent witnesses is sufficient to establish the validity of a marriage.

The North China Herald states that a newspaper published at Shanghai, in China, by the Missionaries, has attained a circulation of 700. The people buy it week by week, paying cash, and each purchaser reads it aloud. The Chinese, it appears, are not behind the age in this matter.

Neck Twisting in Churches.—There are practices tolerated in religious congregations which Christians, who are jealous for the honor of their master's house, should utterly condemn. Decorum is the handmaid of devotional feeling, and for this reason the house of God should never be disturbed by the slightest approach to irreverence. "It is a part of my religion," said a pious old lady, when asked why she went early to church, "it is a part of my religion not to interrupt the religion of others." And we believe, if many a country congregation made it a part of their religion not to twist their necks almost out of joint to witness the entrance of every person who passes up the aisle of the meeting house, it would be better both for their necks and their religion. A gross abuse of religious decorum sometimes needs harsh medicine as a remedy. We give that adopted by Henry Clay Dean, who was at one time chaplain of Congress. The anecdote is from the *Pacific Methodist*:

Being worried one afternoon by this turning practice in his congregation, Mr. Dean stopped in his sermon, and said;

"Now, you listen to me, and I'll tell you who the people are, as each of them comes in."

He then went on with his discourse, until a gentleman entered, when he bawled out like an usher, "Deacon A., who keeps the shop over the way," and then went on with his sermon.

Presently, another man passed up the aisle, and he gave his name, residence, and occupation; so he continued for some time.

At length some one entered the door who was unknown to Mr. D. when he cried out, "A little old man, with drab coat and an old white hat; don't know him—look for yourselves."

That congregation was cured.

Who Got the Money?—Gerret Smith made a complaint in New York last fall, while canvassing the State for Governor, that he had given $6000 to aid the cause of the poor in Kansas, "he had never been able to discover where it had gone or what good it had done." Part of the money has since been accounted for. Governor Robinson of Kansas, in a late speech, informs the public that General Jim Lane has pocketed one thousand two hundred dollars in hard cash out of Brother Smith's pile.

☞ The Paris papers tell a story of great good luck that came to a shepherd boy who picked up, and returned to Count S., a hat which was blown from the Count's head in, the car, to the residence of the lad by a gale of wind. The Count played at a gaming table with two *louis d'ors* (which he had first proposed to give the boy,) and gave the lad the winnings—10,000 francs.

☞ The "modern Athens" is setting a bad example for the outside portion of creation. At the National Theatre, Boston, a sensation play called "Sickles, or the Washington Tragedy," has been brought out. This shameful and disgusting outrage upon the feelings of the unfortunate actors in the Washington affair, is commended by the critic of the Boston *Ledger*.

To Collectors of County and State Tax.

THE Collectors are hereby notified than unless they pay up their duplicates at or before the May Court, that execution will issue forthwith.
By order of Board of Commissioners.
Clearfield, May 4, 1859.—2t. no. 16, vol. iv.

A LIST OF RETAILERS
OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE

In the County of Clearfield for the year 1859.

TOWNSHIPS.	CLASS	AMOUNT.
Brady.		
F. K. Arnold,	14	$ 7 00
Samuel Arnold,	14	7 00
R. H. Moore,	14	7 00
Heberling & Son,	14	7 00
Jacob Kunts,	14	7 00
Carlisle & Co.	14	7 00
Barrett & Co.	14	7 00
A. Montgomery, with Liquor,	14	7 00
Lumber City borough.		
John Ferguson,	14	7 00
John Broomall,	14	7 00
Wright & Co.	14	7 00
Jordan.		
Henry Swan,	14	7 00
McMurry & Hagerty,	14	7 00
David McGehan,	14	7 00
Burnside.		
Russell McMurry,	14	7 00
Allison & Snyder,	14	7 00
E. McMasters,	14	7 00
James McMurry,	14	7 00
Patchin & Son,	14	00
Bell.		
Lewis Smith,	14	7 00
Beccaria.		
Weld & Dickeson,	14	7 00
Wm. Levis,	14	7 00
J. Cooper,	14	7 00
Samuel Hagerty,	14	7 00
Woodward.		
Dollington & Co.	14	7 00
Thomas Henderson,	14	7 00
Whitmer & Co.	14	7 00
Lawrence.		
James Forrest,	14	7 00
Knox.		
Martin Stirk,	14	7 00
Curwensville borough.		
Wm. Irvin,	10	20 00
Eliza Irvin & Sons,	13	10 00
Wm. McBride,	14	7 00
A. Montgomery,	14	7 00
John Patton,	11	15 00
J. D. Thompson,	14	7 00
E. Goodwin,	14	7 00
Boggs.		
Wm. Lumadoo.	14	7 00
Decatur.		
Bowman & Perks,	14	7 00
J. F. Stiner,	14	7 00
Morris.		
E. F. Brenner, Morrisdale,	14	7 00
E. F. Brenner, (2) Kylert'n,	14	7 00
Grahampton.		
John Holt,	14	7 00
J. B. Graham,	14	7 00
Bradford.		
Matthew Forsey,	14	7 50
Edward Williams,	14	15 00
Clearfield borough.		
Wm. F. Irwin,	12	12 50
Richard Mossop,	13	10 00
Reed & Weaver,	12	12 50
Moore & Etzwiler,	12	12 50
Merrell & Carter,	14	7 00
Kratzer & Sons,	12	12 50
C. D. Watson,	14	7 00
George W. Rheem,	14	7 00
Leonard, Finney & Co. Brokers' Office.		
Goshen.		
Eliza Irvin & Son,	13	10 00
A. B. Shaw,	13	10 00
Girard.		
Joseph Irwin & Co.		
J. Augustus Lacount,	13	10 00
Williamson F Humphrey,	14	7 00
Covington.		
Francis Coudriet,	14	7 00
Mullen & Mulson,	14	7 00
With Liquors—		
P. A. Gaulin,	14	00
J. P. Rider,	14	00
Carthage.		
R. J. Haines,	14	7 00
Huston.		
David Tyler,	14	7 00
Hiram Woodward,	14	7 00
Union.		
Daniel Brubaker,	14	7 00
John Shearer,	14	7 00

N B. Those interested will take notice that an appeal will be held at the Commissioners' Office, in the Borough of Clearfield, on the 11th day of June, 1859, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

G. W. LONG,
Sec. Assessors.
May 5, 1859.—no. 16, vol. iv.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

In the matter of the Distribution of the assets in the hands of John L. Cutle, Esq., Administrator of the Estate of J. Biddle Gordon, deceased.

The undersigned, an Auditor appointed by the Orphan's Court of Clearfield County, to distribute the said assets in the hands of the administrator, among the just creditors of the said decedent, gives notice that he will make said distribution on Thursday the 11th day of May next, at the office of Larrimer and Test, in the borough of Clearfield, when and where all persons interested can attend if they see proper.

JAS. H. LARRIMER,
Auditor.
April 20. 1859.—no. 14, vol. iv.