THE
"CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN,"
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, AT
CLEARFIELD, PA.

ESTABLISHED IN 1827.

The largest Circulation of any Newspaper in North Central Pennsylvania.

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G. B. GOODLANDER,
Publisher.

## Cards.

JOB PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION neatly executed at this office.

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**H. W. SMITH,**
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
11:1:73 Clearfield, Pa.

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**J. J. LINGLE,**
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
1:18 Philipsburg, Centre Co., Pa. y:pd

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**ROLAND D. SWOOPE,**
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Curwensville, Clearfield county, Pa.
oct. 9, '78-tf.

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**OSCAR MITCHELL,**
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
☞Office in the Opera House. oct9, '78-tf.

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**G. R. & W. BARRETT,**
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
January 30, 1878.

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**ISRAEL TEST,**
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
☞Office in the Court House. [jy11,'67

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**HENRY BRETH,**
(OSTEND P. O.)
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
FOR BELL TOWNSHIP.
May 6, 1878-1y*

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**WM. M. McCULLOUGH,**
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Masonic building, Second street, opposite the Court House. je26,'78-tf.

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**W. C. ARNOLD,**
LAW & COLLECTION OFFICE,
CURWENSVILLE,
*26 Clearfield County, Penn'a. 75y

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**S. T. BROCKBANK,**
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Opera House. ap 25,'77-1y

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**JAMES MITCHELL,**
DEALER IN
Square Timber & Timber Lands,
jel1'73 CLEARFIELD, PA.

---

**J. F. SNYDER,**
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Pie's Opera House.
June 26, '78tf.

---

WILLIAM A. WALLACE. DAVID L. KREBS.
HARRY F. WALLACE. JOHN W. WRIGLEY.
**WALLACE & KREBS,**
(Successors to Wallace & Fielding,)
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
jan1'77 Clearfield, Pa.

---

F. G'L. BUCK. A. A. GRAHAM.
**BUCK & GRAHAM,**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
All legal business promptly attended to. Office in Graham's Row—rooms formerly occupied by H. B. Swoope. july24, '78-tf.

---

Frank Fielding.. W. D. Bigler...S. V. Wilson.
**FIELDING, BIGLER & WILSON,**
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
☞Office in Pie's Opera House.

---

THOS. H. MURRAY. CYRUS GORDON.
**MURRAY & GORDON,**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
☞Office in Pie's Opera House, second floor.
9:30'74

---

JOSEPH S. M'ENALLY. DANIEL W. M'CURDY.
**McENALLY & McCURDY**
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
☞Legal business attended to promptly with fidelity. Office on Second street, above the First National Bank. jan:1:76

---

**A. G. KRAMER,**
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Real Estate and Collection Agent,
CLEARFIELD, PA.,
Will promptly attend to all legal business entrusted to his care.
☞Office in Pie's Opera House. jan1'76.

---

**J. F. McKENRICK,**
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
All legal business entrusted to his care will receive prompt attention.
Office opposite Court House, in Masonic Building, second floor. aug14,'78-1y.

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**DR. E. M. SCHEURER,**
HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN,
Office in residence on First st.
April 24, 1872. Clearfield, Pa.

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**DR. W. A. MEANS,**
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
LUTHERSBURG, PA.
Will attend professional calls promptly. aug10'70

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**DR. T. J. BOYER,**
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Office on Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.
☞Office hours: 8 to 12 a. m., and 1 to 5 p. m.

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**DR. J. KAY WRIGLEY,**
HOMŒPATHIC PHYSICIAN,
☞Office adjoining the residence of James Wrigley, Esq., on Second St., Clearfield, Pa.
july31,'78-tf.

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**DR. H. B. VAN VALZAH,**
CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
OFFICE IN MASONIC BUILDING.
☞ Office hours—From 12 to 2 P. M.
May 12, 1875.

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**DR. J. P. BURCHFIELD,**
Late Surgeon of the 83d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, having returned from the Army, offers his professional services to the citizens of Clearfield county.
☞Professional calls promptly attended to. Office on Second street, formerly occupied by Dr. Woods. [apr4,'66-tf

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**HARRY SNYDER,**
BARBER AND HAIRDRESSER.
Shop on Market St., opposite Court House.
A clean towel for every customer.
Also manufacturer of
All Kinds of Articles in Human Hair.
Clearfield, Pa. may 19, '75.

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# CLE

GEO. B. GOODLANDER, Edit

VOL. 53--WHOLE NO.

## Cards.

JUSTICES' & CONSTABLES' FEES. We have printed a large number of the new FEE BILL, and will on the receipt of twenty-five cents, mail a copy to any address. my28

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**WILLIAM M. HENRY,** JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AND SCRIVENER, LUMBER CITY. Collections made and money promptly paid over. Articles of agreement and deeds of conveyance neatly executed and warranted correct or no charge. 23jy'73

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**JOHN D. THOMPSON,**
Justice of the Peace and Scrivener,
Curwensville, Pa.
☞Collections made and money promptly paid over. feb22'71tf

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**JAS. B. GRAHAM,**
dealer in
Real Estate, Square Timber, Boards,
SHINGLES, LATH, & PICKETS,
9:10'73 Clearfield, Pa.

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**REUBEN HACKMAN,**
House and Sign Painter and Paper Hanger,
Clearfield, Penn'a.
☞Will execute jobs in his line promptly and in a workmanlike manner. apr4,67

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**JOHN A. STADLER,**
BAKER, Market St., Clearfield, Pa.
Fresh Bread, Rusk, Rolls, Pies and Cakes on hand or made to order. A general assortment of Confectionaries, Fruits and Nuts in stock.—Ice Cream and Oysters in season. Saloon nearly opposite the Postoffice. Prices moderate.
March 10-'75.

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**WEAVER & BETTS,**
DEALERS IN
Real Estate, Square Timber, Saw Logs,
AND LUMBER OF ALL KINDS.
☞Office on Second street, in rear of store room of George Weaver & Co. [jan9, '78-tf.

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**RICHARD HUGHES,**
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
—FOR—
*Decatur Township,*
Osceola Mills P. O.
All official business entrusted to him will be promptly attended to. mch29, '76.

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**J. BLAKE WALTERS,**
REAL ESTATE BROKER,
AND DEALER IN
Saw Logs and Lumber,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Graham's Row. 1:25:71

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**E. A. BIGLER & CO.,**
DEALERS IN
SQUARE TIMBER,
and manufacturers of
ALL KINDS OF SAWED LUMBER,
8-7'72 CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.

---

**G. H. HALL,**
PRACTICAL PUMP MAKER,
NEAR CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
☞Pumps always on hand and made to order on short notice. Pipes bored on reasonable terms. All work warranted to render satisfaction, and delivered if desired. my25:1ypd

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**THOMAS H. FORCEE,**
DEALER IN
GENERAL MERCHANDISE,
GRAHAMTON, Pa.
Also, extensive manufacturer and dealer in Square Timber and Sawed Lumber of all kinds.
☞Orders solicited and all bills promptly filled. [*jy19'72

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### Livery Stable.

THE undersigned begs leave to inform the public that he is now fully prepared to accommodate all in the way of furnishing Horses, Buggies, Saddles and Harness, on the shortest notice and on reasonable terms. Residence on Locust street, between Third and Fourth.
GEO. W. GEARHART.
Clearfield, Feb. 4, 1874.

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**JOHN L. CUTTLE,**
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
And Real Estate Agent, Clearfield, Pa.
Office on Third street, bet. Cherry & Walnut.
☞Respectfully offers his services in selling and buying lands in Clearfield and adjoining counties; and with an experience of over twenty years as a surveyor, flatters himself that he can render satisfaction. [Feb. 28:63:tf,

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**S. I. SNYDER,**
PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER
AND DEALER IN
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry,
*Graham's Row, Market Street,*
CLEARFIELD, PA.
All kinds of repairing in my line promptly attended to. April 23, 1874.

---

**Great Western Hotel,**
Nos. 1311, 1313 and 1315 Market Street,
*(Directly opposite Wanamaker's Grand Depot.)*
Philadelphia, Penn'a.

Terms, $2.00 per day.

This Hotel is near the new Public Buildings, new Masonic Temple, U. S. Mint, and Academy of Fine Arts. T. W. TRAUCK, Prop'r.
OPEN ALL NIGHT! jy17,'75-1y

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### Clearfield Nursery.

ENCOURAGE HOME INDUSTRY.

THE undersigned, having established a Nursery on the 'Pike, about half way between Clearfield and Curwensville, is prepared to furnish all kinds of FRUIT TREES, (standard and dwarf,) Evergreens, Shrubbery, Grape Vines, Gooseberry, Lawton Blackberry, Strawberry, and Raspberry Vines. Also, Siberian Crab Trees, Quince, and early scarlet Rhubarb, &c. Orders promptly attended to. Address,
J. D. WRIGHT,
sep20-68-y Curwensville, Pa.

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**ANDREW HARWICK,**
Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.,
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN
HARNESS, SADDLES, BRIDLES, COLLARS,
and all kinds of
*HORSE FURNISHING GOODS.*

A full stock of Saddlers' Hardware, Brushes, Combs, Blankets, Robes, etc., always on hand and for sale at the lowest cash prices. All kinds of repairing promptly attended to.

All kinds of hides taken in exchange for harness and repairing. All kinds of harness leather kept on hand, and for sale at a small profit.
Clearfield, Jan. 19, 1878.

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WEST BRANCH
**INSURANCE AGENCY.**
PENTZ & BROCKBANK, Agents.
(Successors to Murray & Gordon.)

The following first class companies represented:

| | |
|---|---|
| North British & Mercantile Fire Ins. Co., of England | $25,000,000 |
| Scottish Commercial Fire Ins. Co., of England | $10,000,000 |
| North America, of Philadelphia | 4,700,000 |
| Fire Association, of Philadelphia | 3,100,000 |
| Watertown Fire, New York, insures farm property only | 700,000 |
| Mobile Fire Department Ins. Co | 275,000 |

Persons in the country wanting insurance, can have it promptly attended to by addressing us in person or by letter. Lowest possible rates in first-class companies. No assessments. Office in Pie's Opera House.
ANDREW PENTZ, Jr.,
S. T. BROCKBANK,
Clearfield, May 1, 1876-1y. Agents.

# ARFIELD REPUBLICAN.

tor & Proprietor.

PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN.

TERMS—$2 per annum in Advance.

2,612.

CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 1879.

NEW SERIES—VOL. 20, NO. 10

## *IMPORTANT LEGISLATION.*

The following act to prohibit the running at large of cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats and hogs, in the several townships and boroughs of this Commonwealth, has been presented by Mr. Ackerley, in the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania:

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That from and after the third Tuesday in February, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and eighty, it shall not be lawful for the owners, or any person or persons having charge or control of any cattle, horses, mules, sheep, goats, or hogs, to suffer or permit the same, or any one thereof, to run at large in any of the townships or boroughs of this Commonwealth, and any owner or owners, person or persons, as aforesaid, who shall suffer or permit any one of the animals above named, to so run at large, shall forfeit and pay a penalty of two dollars for each head of cattle, horses, or mules, and fifty cents for each sheep, goat, or hog, so suffered or permitted to run at large, to be recovered as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of any constable, road commissioner, or supervisor, in the townships, or street commissioner, or constable, in the boroughs, of this Commonwealth, and they are hereby directed and empowered without any authority, other than this act, to seize and secure any animal, of the kind named in this act, that may be found running at large, and the same to sell at public sale, in the same manner as is or may be provided for selling strays, giving the owner, if he or she can be found, at least five days notice previous to such sale; if the owner shall pay to the officer, having such animal or animals in charge, the penalty for each animal, as provided in the first section of this act, and also pay for the expense of keeping said animal or animals, then it shall be the duty of said officer to deliver them to the owner thereof; but if he shall make sale of aforesaid, he shall pay the overplus, if any after deducting the said penalty and expenses, to the owner. And the officers aforesaid, shall pay the school treasurer of said township, ward, or borough, the one-half of all penalties recovered under this act and retain the other one-half for his services. *Provided,* That no officer aforesaid, shall be required to take up or secure any of said animals outside of the district for which he has been elected. *Provided,* That when any animal or animals shall have been sold under the provisions of this act, without the knowledge of the owner, the purchaser of any such animals, shall be required, at any time within thirty days, to surrender the same to the proper owner, if such demand is made, upon payment being made to such purchaser of the full sum he or she may have paid therefor.

SEC. 3. That it shall be lawful for any person finding any animal or animals, as aforesaid, trespassing upon his premises, or running at large upon the public roads, or highways; running through, or immediately adjoining his premises, to seize or secure such animal or animals and deliver the same to an officer of his district, as before specified, to be dealt with, as hereinbefore provided for, and with the same effect as if the seizure had been made by the said officer.

SEC. 4. That if any constable, supervisor, or road commissioner, in the township, or constable or street commissioner in the borough, shall neglect or refuse to secure any animal or animals, as aforesaid, found running at large, after being notified by any person to seize and secure the same, such officer shall pay a fine of five dollars for the use of the common schools of the ward, borough, or township, in which said animals shall be found running at large, to be sued for and collected by the school directors of said ward, borough, or township, as debts of like amount are now collected by law. *Provided,* That this act shall not apply to any of said animals that may have accidentally escaped from their proper owners or enclosures, proof thereof being made before a justice of the peace in and for said district. *And provided, further,* That no animal or animals shall be liable to be seized, as aforesaid, when found on or upon so much of any public road or highway as may run through the premises of the owner of said animals.

SEC. 5. On the request in writing of at least fifteen qualified voters of any township, or borough, presented to the constable thereof, of at least twenty days prior to the township, or borough elections, to be held on the third Tuesday of February, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and eighty, and of any year thereafter, of their wish to vote upon the question of stock running at large, in said township, or borough, it shall be the duty of the said constable to give public notice at least fifteen days prior to the said day of election, by at least ten written or printed handbills, put up in the most public places in said township, or borough, that the question of stock running at large in said township or borough, will be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors thereof, at the said election; and it shall then be the duty of the judges and inspectors of election, of the said township, to receive from each qualified voter, tickets either written or printed, or partly written and partly printed, upon the question of stock running at large in said township or borough, which tickets shall be labeled on the outside, "question of stock running at large," and on the inside "in favor of stock running at large," or "against stock running at large," and to deposit said tickets in a box to be provided for that purpose by the said judges and inspectors, as is required in case of tickets voted for township or borough officers at said election, and the tickets so received shall be counted at the closing of the polls and a return thereof, signed by officers of the said election, shall be returned forthwith to the clerk of the court of quarter sessions of the peace, for the proper county, to be by him filed and entered among the records of the said court; and a duplicate return shall also be made, and signed by the said election officers, and delivered to the judge of said election, to be by him deposited forthwith with the town clerk of the proper township, or the borough clerk, as the case may be, to be filed by the said clerk in his office for the inspection of the public. *Provided,* That an election under this section shall not be held in the same township or borough oftener than once in four years.

SEC. 6. That in receiving, counting and making returns of the votes cast upon the question of stock running at large, the judges, inspectors and clerks of the said election, shall be governed by the laws regulating township and borough elections, and any fraud committed by any one of the said officers shall be deemed to be perjury and shall be punished as the said crime is now punished by law.

SEC. 7. The owner or person having control or charge of any of said animals, permitted or suffered to run at large, in any township or borough in which a majority of the electors at the last previous election held in said township or borough, on the question of running at large therein, have voted against stock running at large, shall, in addition to the penalty mentioned in the first section of this act, be liable to any person or persons in an action of trespass for all damages done to such person or persons, his, her or their property, by any of said animals, while so suffered or permitted to run at large, whether such person or persons has a fence around his, her or their improved lands or not, and nothing in this shall be so construed as to prevent any person from proceeding against any animal or animals under the stray laws of this Commonwealth. *Provided,* That this act shall not in any way change or affect existing laws in relation to line fences. *And provided further,* That this shall not apply to any locality in which a special law upon the subject of stock running at large is now in force.

## *THE BLACK DEATH.*

### TERRIBLE DETAILS OF RUSSIA'S VISITATION—VIRULENCE OF THE DISEASE.

A private letter from St. Petersburg, dated January 27, and printed in the New York *Evening Post,* tells the following dubious story, a part of which has been in print before:

"I have a sad story to tell. You have probably heard some reports about the epidemic prevailing in Russia. It is a most fearful disease, brought here by the soldiers from the East. It has spread in the southern provinces of Russia at a rapid rate. Thousands upon thousands have died with it within the last five days. The victims when taken sick live only about two hours, and turn as black, all over, as a negro. All the physicians ordered to the care of the sick have died within twenty-four hours after their arrival. The corpses are burned, and so are the houses in which the people die. Whole towns have been laid waste during the last few days. The Government has placed a cordon of soldiers around the infected provinces, so that the people cannot get out and spread the disease. Any who attempt to leave and break through the cordon are shot dead on the spot.

"The people are beginning to feel uneasy all over the empire. The Government, of course, does not allow the news to get out. All reports are suppressed, but the worst of all is that nobody can get out of the empire. The Austrian and German Governments have placed a double cordon of soldiers along the frontiers, preventing all persons from entering their territory from Russia. All persons from Russia by railroad are stopped at the frontier and detained twenty days in quarantine, their baggage and clothing disinfected, and if they prove all right, after the lapse of twenty days they are permitted to cross the border. During the twenty days' quarantine people are housed in large sheds and barns, without any accommodations or comforts. Of course a knowledge of this fact keeps people from traveling. There is no possibility of slipping out anywhere.

"May God grant that the disease—'Black Pest,' as they call it here—may in some way be checked. I believe the Government is doing all in its power to prevent the disease from spreading; but if it is not stayed soon then the victims may fall by the thousands daily. It is much worse than the yellow fever was in the South last Summer. It was brought by a Tartar soldier a month ago, who, on leaving the Turkish territory, pulled off from a dead Turk on the battle-field a handsome silk shawl, which he tied around his body. On arriving in his native town he presented the shawl to his sweetheart, a girl of nineteen years. She tied it around her body and danced about for joy in a room in which were some twenty-five people. In two hours she died, and five hours after the introduction of the shawl into the room the whole party of twenty-five had died. All turned black. In three days the whole town, containing 1,100 people, had died, with the exception of forty-three persons, who had fled in time. From this town the pest began spreading all over the country."

## *AMUSING BABY.*

You must learn how to take care of children and amuse them to make it pleasant for them and yourself. If their is a baby to keep for an hour, find out whether it has been asleep lately, or if it is near its time for taking a nap. If it is growing tired and fretful, very likely it needs to sleep, whether it wants to or not. Begin by making the little thing comfortable, if you want any comfort with it. See if its feet and hands are warm, and its little body about the waist. Babies are often chilly in warm weather, because the air creeps under their clothes, and it never fails to make them cross. Then you want to rub its little body gently till it grows warm, not rubbing briskly, but moving your hands softly, and letting it lie warm on the skin. If the baby is too heated, and the drops are about its chin, and its face flushed, bathe it gently about the neck with fine soap and tepid water, passing the sponge and lather gently under its chin and behind its ears. Babies love to be bathed three or four times a day in warm weather. But you must be careful to keep it out of a draught, for the fine thread of air that comes from the crack of a door can chill a baby when it is being washed, enough to bring on serious consequences. Remember when your baby sneezes, it is getting too cold, and for a baby to be chilly means a stomache ache or a head ache at once. The only notion some people have of amusing a baby is to toss and bounce it till it gives up crying for want of strength and goes to sleep, as tired out as you are after a long, leg-aching walk. A baby's life is one of a good deal of suffering at best, and you have no idea how it can be tormented by rough handling and loud noise, and bright light in its eyes, and getting too cold or too warm, with not a hand to help itself. Now a baby likes to be petted as much as a kitten does; and if you get it warm and snug and comfortable it will thank you as pleasantly as a kitten; let this advice guide you never to toss or frolic with a baby unless it shows signs of feeling like it, by crowing or springing, as it will when it feels well enough for fun. Otherwise it prefers to lie on the lap and be stroked and have its back rubbed, which is a perfect luxury to all babies, or to be sung to not loud, but in soft, sweet tunes, crooned over it.

If it is rebellious and screams, wet a handkerchief in water warm enough to feel pleasant to your own eyelids, and blindfold the little rebel with it, laying a soft towel over the whole head to keep it warm. I have blindfolded my baby this way many a time and quieted him in two or three minutes. It is one of the best ways of soothing a child off to sleep, for it cools its little irritable brains and quiets its nerves. The baby will fight against it lustily for a minute or two but when it finds it cannot get the bandages off, it gives up, and very soon will be cooing itself to sleep. If you should sing to it while quiet this way, and loosen the handkerchief gently, you will find under it a baby thoroughly tranquil and good humored, ready for play or such conversation as you may attempt. An amusement my baby used to relish very much, that I called his incantation, was to lay him on the bed, flat on his back, and stroke him with both hands from head to foot over his long gown, singing to a monotone tune: "His mother will smooth him down, smooth him down, smooth him down," a performance that used to send him off in shrieks of delight. I suppose it was soothing to him, and suited his sense of the grotesque, for babies have a strong sense of the absurd. Then they love to have something to do, a spray of leaves to strip, or a flower to pick to pieces or a heap of sand or bran on a newspaper to poke in, or a ball to roll, with somebody to make up the game. To save yourself running to pick it up, make a return ball, with string enough fastened to one side to draw it back, no matter into what corner it rolls to. A dog or cat, covered with an old scrap of fur and stuffed with down will be a favorite plaything, and a heap of fine paper clippings, that blow and scatter when it grabs them, will amuse a child highly. You may give a baby and the whole house relief, when it is fretful from teething, by picking the tiniest fragments of ice off a lump with a pin, and putting them in its mouth. A wise doctor told me to do this, and it made one baby happy through his trying time, anyhow. The bits must not be any thicker than the pin itself, so as to melt immediately in its mouth, and it will cool the swollen, fevered gums, and stops its fretting like magic. Be patient with the baby while it is teething. Do you know its little gums ache then just as a boil does when it is coming on? and most of you know how that feels. The doctor said it was safe to give the baby all the ice it would eat in fine bits, for it melted and was warm water before it was swallowed. and could do no harm, but much good.—*From Behaving.*

## *THE ALLIGATOR AT HOME.*

### PEPPERED BY TOURISTS FOR PLEASURE AND HUNTED TO DEATH FOR HIS SKIN AND TEETH.

A correspondent writing from Jackson, Fla., says: Among the throng of people travelling southward to escape our Northern winter may be found many sportsmen, armed with rifle and revolver and with plenty of fixed ammunition, cherishing one hope above others of shooting an alligator. Large are the numbers who go forth to shoot, but few are the alligators slain. The rivers, bayous and many of the lakes of the Gulf States, are thickly populated with alligators, or lagarfos as they are known by the Spanish-speaking portion of the inhabitants. On sunny days they may be seen stretched upon the sloping banks of streams or floating idly on the glassy water, nothing visible but the top of the head. From the decks of the little flat-bottomed steamers which carry many tourists through the weird beauty of the upper St. Johns and Ocklawaha rivers every winter, the alligator receives volley after volley of rifle and revolver balls. There are but two places in an alligator where a shot will prove fatal—in the eye and directly under the forearm. The first, being very small and protected by a heavy casement surmounted by a projecting cap, can be struck only by the best marksman. Except when taking a sun bath, the tender spot under the shoulder is never exposed. The chance of shooting an alligator, especially by a novice, is therefore not alarmingly great.

Although very clumsy, their quickness in some cases is remarkable, as when in the water a speed of from five to eight miles an hour is made and on land they are able to throw themselves over half a circle using the forefeet for a fulcrum, striking their enemy with their tail with tremendous force. In getting food the alligator displays a remarkable degree of cunning. Fish is acceptable, and to catch them a number of alligators form in line, driving the fish before them into a cove or inlet. Then each alligator makes a rush, catches a fish in his open mouth; rises to the surface, tosses the fish into the air, at the same time expelling the water by a current of air drawn through the nose, and is ready to bolt the fish when it falls. Owing to the formation of the teeth the alligator cannot masticate his food, but bolts it in small chunks. The gullet is not large. Prey of size is concealed until it begins to putrefy, when it is sought and devoured. The largest animals are attacked if they get into the water, dragged down and drowned. Last spring a large ox went into the waters of Lake Jackson, not far from Tallahassee, to drink. An alligator fastened to the fore leg of the animal, crushing the bone. The ox struggled to the shore, dragging his antagonist with him. At this time the shore was black with alligators, attracted by the smell of blood, and some crawled upon the bank. The ox fought valiantly, tossing one of the monsters high in the air, from which fall he lay on the ground stunned a considerable time. But the wounded ox again got in the water, and a mammoth alligator closed on his nose and dragged him under.

Not long ago a Florida paper told a story of the charming of an alligator by a rattlesnake. The latter, upon discovering the former, attracted attention by sounding an alarm. The alligator turned his head several times as if he wanted to get away, but as often faced the snake again. "Towards the end of half an hour," says the paper, "with fixed eyes the alligator moved slowly towards his terrible enemy until within striking distance, when the snake curled himself more compactly and struck the alligator. For a moment the alligator shook tremendously, and then as if by magic made a semicircle backward and brought his tail down upon the would-be assassin with fatal result." On several occasions captured alligators and rattlesnakes have been put in an enclosure to fight for the benefit of spectators, and in a majority of cases the snake has been victorious, having succeeded in striking his fangs into the alligator's open mouth.

Alligators are oviparous; the female laying as many as 200 eggs, somewhat larger than goose eggs, in a nest scooped out of the soil near the water. A thin matting of leaves and twigs separates the layer of eggs, which are left to hatch by the sun's heat. When the young alligator breaks its shell it is from eight to ten inches in length, and at once takes to the water and the established ways of getting food. They may often be seen playing together like young kittens. At this age great numbers are captured by the negro boys, who sell them in the towns to Northern visitors to carry home as curiosities.

Up to a year or two ago the war on alligators came near to exterminating them. The skins and teeth are the only parts of value. For several years from twenty to twenty-five thousand of the former were annually taken, the hunters receiving 50 cents to $1 apiece for them. The greatest hunter of Florida got 1,000 skins in a five months' campaign. The skins from the sides and belly were stripped off and shipped North and made into leather for boots and shoes. These were once quite fashionable, but are seldom seen now, and in consequence the alligator lives in great security. The demand for jewelry and ornaments made from the teeth seems to have been pretty thorougly supplied, and few are hunted for this purpose.

Occasionally an alligator from ten to fifteen feet in length is wanted for a museum, and there is no difficulty in letting the contract to a colored man. When caught his feet are tied over his back and the powerful jaws fastened with many wraps of rope. He is then shipped to his destination in a strong box. Stuffed alligators are far oftener exhibited, the mounting being a comparatively easy and inexpensive process.

## *A MODEST OLD MAID.*

General Passenger and Ticket agent Townsend of the Wabash Railway always loves a good story. He relates the following told by a well-known politician and tourist of Indiana. The event happened not long ago, while the Indianian, whom we will call Hoosier for short, was riding in a Pullman car over the Wabash road. The car was crowded and the most conspicuous passenger was an old maid, exceedingly peevish and hard to suit. She was extremely modest and had a marked antipathy to men. She had hired a berth in the centre of the car, and never having ridden in a sleeping car before, she supposed she had a right to the whole section. Imagine her consternation, then, after retiring, when a man—a great horrid man—pulled aside the curtain and proceeded to climb into the upper section. She screamed long and loud, raising the whole car. When the conductor ascertained the cause of her discomfiture, and explained to her the true state of affairs, she ejaculated: "Oh, my! I never could sleep with anybody anywhere near me;" and after considerable higgling she purchased the whole section. By this time the whole car car load had wakened up to listen to her sorrows. She, thoroughly roused and excited, started to go to the water cooler to get a drink, but after she had gone part way she chanced to remember that she would not be able to recognize her berth on her return back, and so pinned a small piece of paper on the curtain of her section, after which she slipped down the aisle, congratulating herself on her shrewdness. But no sooner had she got out of sight than one of the many wicked men who had been disturbed by, and led to swear at the modest old girl's screeches and conversation, was vile enough to take the piece of paper pinned to her berth and attach it to a berth a short distance away. Soon the old dame came minncing back to her couch. She steered straight for the tell-tale, and hurrying lest the eyes of vulgar men might be upon her, she hastily pulled aside the curtain, and with all the agility of an uncertain age, sprang in and sought seclusion under the folds of the generous coverlids. But suddenly there came from the recesses of that section a howl and a growl which awoke the sleepiest passenger. The old maid had crawled into bed with a man, and that man had actually called her a "bold, bad woman." She jumped from the berth, and with some unearthly yells, soon brought the conductor and porter to her relief, who, upon learning the facts in the case, conducted her to her own berth. Her enjoyment for the balance of the night may be imagined by the reader. Poor woman!

## *THE STAGE AS A MORAL INSTRUCTOR.*

With the progress of civilization and the more liberal education of the masses, the ignorant prejudice and indiscriminate hostility entertained and exhibited by the moral and religious elements of society toward drama and everything connected with the stage have almost entirely died away. The most devout and constant church member may now attend the theater with their families without provoking the wrath of the clergyman or incurring the dangerous displeasure of the church session. Indeed the occasional presence of an Episcopal or liberal Presbyterian minister in a theatre, is no longer looked upon as 'phenomenal' or contrary to the 'eternal fitness of things.' Such an evidence of the progress of the religious mind toward liberalism must be gratifying to all truly philanthropic men whether connected with the church or not.

But still further progress in the same direction is not only possible but eminently desirable. It is not enough that the devout and pious Christian should be taught to admit that the stage is not the invention of the devil, and the theatre doors the gates of hell; he should go further and inquire whether plays and play-acting might not be made powerful and effective instruments of moral reform, or even religious teaching.

We do not mean to commend, nay, we set our unqualified condemnation upon that terrible profanation of sacred things exhibited in the mimic representation of passion and death of our Lord, which has been performed in Europe and attempted here; such sacrilege can only be the outgrowth of brutal ignorance or desperate blasphemy. But how many lessons of benevolence charity, forbearance, temperance, faith, hope and love may be beautifully and impressively taught on the stage. Where else can the power and punishment of evil passions be so strikingly shown?

What minister whose opportunities for portraying the struggles of truth and falsehood, purity and corruption, virtue and depravity, justice and infamy, shame and repentance, as they occur, in almost every human heart, will compare with those of the Actor, seconded by all the properties and appliances of the stage? The remorse of Lady Macbeth as she appears in the sleep walking scene, after the successful perpetration of the crime that makes her Queen of Scotland, tells a more solemn and impressive story of the awful punishment of murder than a thousand sermons could do. The anguish of the fratricide King of Denmark when he discovers that even the power to pray has been withdrawn from him may be made more effective than a score of revivalists' tales of conscience-stricken criminals. But we might multiply illustrations *ad infinitum*, which would be useless, since what we have said will hardly be gainsayed. Our present purpose is only to point out to the clergy and the Christian public, the stage, under proper directions, as a moral and religious teacher, to call their attention to the great influence it exerts, and to suggest that by a generous, but discriminating patronage, to mould the influence for good, always shunning and discountenancing the low, the immoral, the vulgar and sensational, and patronizing the pure, the chaste and the elevating.

Thus and only can the stage be purified and reclaimed, until no longer a mere panderer to the oft depraved tastes of its patrons, it becomes a creator and moulder of enlightened thought and a co-laborer with the pulpit and the press in the great work of reforming and elevating mankind.—*Pittsburg Critic.*

## *A BOOK AGENT VANQUISHED.*

Yesterday evening Professor Stewart went into the Delmonico (Virginia City, Nevada) restaurant and asked Andy, the irrepressible head steward, to bring him some stuffed mutton and parsnips. No sooner had the Professor fairly seated himself at one of the small tables than a book agent came in and took the other side of the board. The two men were strangers, but, as a matter of course, this book peddler couldn't keep still, and presently made some conversational advance to Stewart:

'Are not these meteorological disturbances somewhat peculiar for these latitudes?'

The Professor paused a moment, as he was smashing a potato, and replied:

'Guess it's about the same thing every year.'

'In seasons of atmospheric depression alternating with unexpected boreal excitements and rapid changes resultant on sudden accumulations of moisture, such dispositions of the storm-belt are not in my opinion, entirely uncalled for.'

'Exactly,' remarked the Professor, lifting a fly out of his coffee.

'But, continued the agent, delighted at the style in which he was crowding the Professor, 'I doubt not but that certain energetic polarization of the molecules in the mineral deposits have an attraction for the electrically charged clouds.'

At those points the Profsesor, who had been knocked around the ring and crowded to the ropes, so to speak, became fairly roused to his position, and slogged for the other's nose at once.

'Ah, exactly, my friend; in the ledge are vast deposits of minerals. Found in volcanic matrices and disintegrated by the upheaval of plutonic rock and semi-fused masses of silicious alumnia, mingled with homogeneous *debris* of porphyry, the molecules of kaolined feldites, with a slight potash bass, the decomposition of feldspar is most affected along the line of the horizontal cleavage, and necessarily the liberated oxidine of manganese combining with the percolation of the alkalis which permeate the entire mass causes a pronounced state of polarization, which can not fail to account for the peculiar attraction in the vicinity. I might further explain the intricate chemical properties of the belt by illustrating the—'

By this time however, the book agent, who during the round had been verbally pasted in the jaw, smashed in the nose, and biffed in the eye, rose from his seat, paid full price for his half eaten meal, and shot out of the place. Andy said he examined the Professor, found his pulse regular, no signs of perspiration and his mind intact.—*Virginia (Nev.) Chronicle.*

## *WHEAT GROWING.*

According to the statements published in the Lewistown newspapers, the farmers of Mifflin county have been raising some huge wheat crops during the past year; and a Blair county farmer, through the columns of the Altoona *Tribune*, sails in in this way: "I noticed in the *True Democrat*, a paper published in Lewistown, a very interesting table compiled by A. G. Gibboney, Esq., of Bellville, Union township, all of Mifflin county, and in the widely celebrated valley of Kishacoquilas generally. The result was that on 2,072 acres in Menno township 57,-926 bushels were produced, all Fultz wheat, and in Union township on 2,-564 acres 71,260 bushels were produced, being an average of 27 4-5 bushels per acre, and in Menno township an average of 27 3 5 bushels per acre. Seeing that all items down to one or two acres included we infer that every crop was embraced that was grown in either of these townships.

"This certainly looks like good farming, and although that valley has long enjoyed a high reputation for the excellence of its soil, it is so long since it has been under plow that it might be now exhausted like some similar lands in just such valleys further south. This showing tells plainly that both industry and judgment prevail in the conduct of these farms. With that class of farmers soil never deteriorates. And the noble profession of tilling the soil on sound rules will thus ever secure comfort, competence and respect to the thinking and energetic husbandman.

"While the thanks of the lover of agriculture are due to Messrs. Gibboney and Hazelett, one thing they lack yet. They modestly give us the result of their labor, withholding comment or elucidation as to the mode of cultivation that realized such results. Now a word of well done, and won't you please let us have some technical light? Let us have answers to the following inquiries:

1. How deep did they average in plowing the ground?
2. How deep did they set the drills?
3. How much seed to the acre, and what date of the sewing?
4. To what extent do they apply barnyard manure?
5. To what extent lime, how many bushels per acre and at what time after the land was plowed, sod turned down, or before?
6. Obtain the average opinion as to the wheat growing?
7. To what extent is gypsum used on the wheat growing?
8. Is it cut with harvester or reaper? which is the most popular?" K.

# EDUCATIONAL.

BY M. L. McQUOWN.

The Department requires the County Superintendent to report annually the number of school scholars of the proper age not in school. To be correct in this matter, we have left a blank circular in the hands of each teacher, and we hope none will fail to report promptly at the close of their school.

During the month of February, we visited forty-eight schools in Bell, Beccaria, Bloom, Burnside, Brady and Union townships. In doing this we traveled 300 miles, were accompanied by twelve directors, met thirteen parents in the schools, wrote thirty official letters and attended one Local Institute, spending in all, twenty-four days in official duties.

### SPECIAL NOTICE TO TEACHERS.

As the schools are about closing, we shall be under obligations if teachers will send us the names, age and distance that all pupils came, who attended school every day during the term. The scholars who attend school every day during the term are deserving of notice, and we desire to publish the names of all such as soon as sent us by the teacher, with the hope that it may prove an incentive to others to endeavor to become so honorably distinguished.

### NOTICE TO DIRECTORS.

We have received from the Department the annual supply of bound copies of County Superintendents' Reports of the condition of schools in their respective counties, together with State Superintendent's report and the usual statistical report, forming in all a useful and well-arranged volume. Each Board is entitled to three copies. We expect to pack them and label them for each Board and send them out at the first opportunity. Directors, when in Clearfield, will favor us by calling for their quota.

### PERSONAL MENTION.

Charley Farewell, teacher of Turkey Hill school in Knox township, has been very ill for some time. We are glad to report him convalescent at this time.

Messrs. I. S. and Wesly McLarren, of Decatur, and Mr. Fisher, of Karthans, formerly teachers of this county, will graduate at the Lock Haven State Normal School this coming Summer.

C. W. Scott, of Williamsport, was among the distinguished visitors at the New Washington Local Institute.

Smith V. Wilson, Esq., L. E. Weber, ourself and lady, were highly entertained by J. R. McMurray and lady, while attending the Institute at New Washington. Mr. and Mrs. McM. will accept our thanks.

### ROLL OF HONOR—REPORT OF AURAND SCHOOL.

TROUTVILLE, PA., Feb. 14, 1879.

*Prof. M. L. McQuown, Superintendent of Clearfield county:*

DEAR SIR: As requested I will send the report of my school for the month, for scholars that reached 100 per cent. The report is as follows: 14 scholars come 22 days and belonged 22 days; 2 come 20 days and belonged 20 days; 2 come 12 days and belonged 12 days; 2 come 10 days and belonged 10 days; 4 came 6 days and belonged 6 days; making an average of 100 per cent. The second month the females reached 100 per cent., and males 90 per cent.

The above report is for the month ending Nov. 26, 1878. I have no doubt but that the report would have been as good every month following, had it not been for disease in the community. The parents manifest a deep interest in the school. Yours etc.,

G. W. NELSON, Teacher.

### COMMUNICATED.

LUTHERSBURG, Feb. 20, 1879.

M. L. McQUOWN:—I send you the Roll of Honor, for the third month, of Pine Swamp school:

Sally Kirk, Mary Lines, Laura Shaffer, Joseph Kirk, Charley Nolder, Johnson Kirk, James Farley, Woody Kelley, Freddie Bell, Lydia Kirk, Mary Kelley, David Kirk, Lavilla Neeley, Samuel Kelley, James Kirk, Austin Kirk, Thomas Kirk, Harry Nolder.

We also enjoyed a well-laden Christmas tree during the Christmas season. Each scholar received a present, and some received quite a number of useful presents. The teacher received abundantly of the fruits of the tree. We had very interesting literary exercises the same afternoon. Respectfully,

SADIE MORGAN,
Teacher of Pine Swamp School.

### THOUGHTS FOR TEACHERS.

"Teach one thing at a time. Teach that thing well. Teach its connections, as far as possible, with all other things. Teach that it is better to know *everything* of *something* than to know something of everything."

"Pour in knowledge gently." Plato, one of the wisest men of ancient Greece, observed that the minds of children are like bottles with very narrow mouths. If you attempt to fill them too rapidly, much knowledge is wasted and little received, whereas with a small stream they are easily filled. Those who would make prodigies of your children act as wisely as if they would pour a pail of water into a pint measure.

"The best results of education ensue not from trying to put something called knowledge into our scholars, not simply from stowing away in compartments of the brain, so much history here, so much arithmetic there, and so much geography in another, like the calico, crockery, and fancy goods in the store, but rather from illustrating that better and more literal meaning of the word education, the drawing out of the faculties of the mind, rousing them into activity, giving them strength, directness, and precision of effort, energy and capacity for work."

"Cramming never was and never will be educating. If educating is drawing out, cramming is driving in; if the one means bringing up or nurturing, the other means pressing down or stunting; always the opposite. Cramming asks, How much? How soon? Educating, How well? How long? Cramming cares nothing for the teacher or scholar, but only for the school or the system. Educating makes everything of the teacher and scholar, and leaves the school, if it can be spoken of as a separate object, and the system very much to themselves, sure they will be right if the teacher and scholar are. Education aims straight at the will. It is not so much what young people are learning, as how they are learning, or how much they want to learn, which proves their training. The best points of training are motives."

## *EYESIGHT AND READING.*

### HOW THE INJURIOUS EFFECTS UPON THE EYES MAY BE AVOIDED.

M. Javel, in a recent lecture, tries to answer the question, Why is reading a specially fatiguing exercise? and also suggests some remedies for this fatigue. First, M. Javel says reading requires an absolutely permanent application of the eyesight, resulting in a permanent tension of the organ, which may be measured by the amount of fatigue or by the production of permanent myopy; secondly, books are printed in black on a white ground. The eye is thus in presence of the most absolute contrast which can be imagined. The third peculiarity lies in the argument of the characters in horizontal lines, over which run our eyes.

If we maintain during reading a perfect immobility of the book and the head, the printed lines are applied successively to the same parts of the retina, while the interspace, more bright, also effect certain regions of the retina, always the same. There must result from this a fatigue analogous to that which we experience when we make experiments in "accidental images," and physicists will admit that there is nothing more disastrous for the sight than the prolonged contemplation of these images. Lastly, and most important of all, in M. Javel's estimation, is the continual variation of the distance of the eye from the point of fixation on the book. A simple calculation demonstrates that the accommodation of the eye to the page undergoes a distinct variation in proportion as the eye passes from the beginning to the end of each line, and that this variation is the greater in proportion to the nearness of the book to the eye and the length of the line.

As to the rules which M. Javel inculcates in that the injurious effects of reading may be avoided, with reference to the permanent application of the eyes, he counsels to avoid excess, to take notes in reading, to stop in order to reflect, or even to roll a cigarette; but not to go on reading for hours on end without stopping. As to the contrast between the white of the paper and the black characters, various experiments have been made in the introduction of colored papers. M. Javel advises the adoption of a slightly yellow tint. But the nature of the yellow to be used is not a matter of indifference; he would desire a yellow resulting from the absence of the blue rays, analogous to that of paper made from a wood paste, and which is often mistakenly corrected by the addition of an ultramarine blue, which produces gray and not white. M. Javel has been led to this conclusion both from practical observation and also theoretically from the relation which must exist between the two eyes and the colors of the spectrum.

His third advice is to give preference to small volumes which can be held in the hand, which obviates the necessity of the book being kept fixed in one place, and the fatigue resulting from accidental images. Lastly, M. Javel advises the avoidance of too long lines, and therefore he prefers small volumes, and for the same reason those journals which are printed in narrow columns. Of course every one knows that it is exceedingly injurious to read with insufficient light, or to read too small print, and other common rules.

M. Javel concludes by protesting against an invidious assertion which has recently been made "in a neighboring country" (Germany, no doubt), according to which the degree of civilization of a people is proportional to the number of the short-sighted shown to exist by statistics; the extreme economy of light, the abuse of reading to the detriment of reflection and the observation of real facts, the employment of Gothic characters and of a too broad column for books and journals are the conditions which, M. Javel believes, lead to myopy, especially if successive generations have been subjected to these injurious influences.

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## *AMERICANS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT IN PARIS.*

The newspapers of the United States would render a great service to their countrymen by giving publicity to the fact that people who come to Paris in search of work will have their labor for their pains. Scarcely a week passes by that one or more Americans do not apply at the several offices in Rue Scribe for employment. Some of the applicants come from their homes alone, others lead brothers and sisters along, and, in many instances, the solicitors for work bring their wives and children with them. In nine cases out of ten these people have left America without first ascertaining whether Paris is a fertile field for employment or not, and they are, besides totally unacquainted with the language and the business methods of the country. How any one can expect to better his condition by quitting his own land, and coming to one whose language and customs he is wholly unfamiliar with, it is difficult to imagine. And yet we do not exaggerate when we say that those instances are increasing every year. The past season was, to be sure, exceptional in the number of people who were left without occupation at the close of the Exhibition, and it might be urged that they came over with certain employment in view. Some did, and a great many more did not; and when the Exhibition was over several of the latter class who had managed to subsist somehow during the Summer months found themselves without the means to pay their passage home. Outside of these exceptional cases the number of folks who wonder over here in ordinary years in the expectation of finding work has steadily increased, and it is time that the newspapers of the United States plainly laid the facts of the case before their readers. Paris is not a place that offers any advantages to Americans who are obliged to work for a livelihood. What few situations there are do not yield anything more—and oftentimes less—in proportion to the skill and intelligence required than similar ones in New York or any of the large cities of the United States. It is, therefore, not only unwise for Americans to come to this city without the means of returning home in case they fail to find employment, but it is unjust to the people here who are obliged to send them back. The American colony has calls enough upon its generosity from deserving people who, by unforeseen circumstances, find themselves destitute in this city, without being called upon to help those whose distress has been brought about by their own want of forethought or by willful disregard of sound advice at home.—*Paris Letter.*

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THE LAST FOLLY.—A few false leaders and pretended friends of the colored man held a solemn caucus in Washington the other night to consider the idiotic subject of migration recently stimulated in the Senate by the speech of the demagogical Windom. The fragrant Pinchback acted as Chairman. The fertile fields of Kansas were spoken of as excellent spots whereon to colonize the discontented negroes of the South, but how to get them there was the question. J. R. Lynch, of Mississippi; Prof. Greener and Cardoza, of South Carolina, and many other prominent colored men were present. It was decided to call a conference of all the leading colored citizens in the United States to meet in Nashville Tuesday, May 9.

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A Pittsburg car conductor has a Roman penny of the date of Cæsar, which was recently given him by an Italian emigrant, who found it in an ancient ruin in Rome.