THE
"CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN,"
PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, AT
CLEARFIELD, PA.
ESTABLISHED IN 1821.
The largest Circulation of any Newspaper in North Central Pennsylvania.

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G. B. GOODLANDER,
Publisher.

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H. W. SMITH,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.

J. J. LINGLE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Philipsburg, Centre Co., Pa. ypd

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

OSCAR MITCHELL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in "Old Westernl building," (up stair).
Oct. 9, '78-tf.

ISRAEL TEST,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office one door east of Shaw House.
jly11,'67

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

W. C. ARNOLD,
LAW & COLLECTION OFFICE,
CURWENSVILLE,
Clearfield County, Penn'a. 78y

S. T. BROCKBANK,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Opera House. ap 25,77-1y

WM. A. WALLACE,.....DAVID L. KREBS,
HARRY F. WALLACE,.....WM. E. WALLACE.
WALLACE & KREBS,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.

SMITH V. WILSON,
Attorney-at-Law,
CLEARFIELD, - PENN'A.
Office in the Masonic Building, over the County National Bank. [mar24-80.

J. F. SNYDER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office over the County National Bank.
June 26, '78tf.

FRANK G. HARRIS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
First-class Life and Fire Insurance Companies represented.
Office in the Opera House. '82.
Mar. 16, '81-1y*

CYRUS E. MURRAY.....CYRUS GORDON.
MURRAY & GORDON,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Pie's Opera House, second floor. 9-10-74

WILLIAM A. HAGERTY,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
OFFICE over T. A. Fleck & Co.'s Store,
CLEARFIELD, PENN'A
Will attend to all legal business with promptness and fidelity. [feb11,'80-tf.

JOSEPH B. 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. jan1:78

J. P. McKENRICK,
DISTRICT ATTORNEY,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
All legal business entrusted to his care will receive prompt attention.
Office in the Court House.
aug14,1878-1y.

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.

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.

Physicians' Cards.

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

DR. W. A. MEANS,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
DUBOIS CITY, PA.
Will attend professional calls promptly. aug19'79

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

DR. J. KAY WRIGLEY,
HOMEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN,
Office adjoining the residence of James Wrigley, Esq., on Second St., Clearfield, Pa.
jan31,'79-tf.

G. C. JENKINS, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
CURWENSVILLE, PA.,
Office at residence, corner of State and Pine streets. Jan. 5th, 1881-tf.

DR. H. B. VAN VALZAH,
CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
OFFICE IN RESIDENCE, CORNER OF FIRST AND PINE STREETS.
Office hours—From 12 to 2 P. M.
May 12, 1875.

DR. J. P. BURCHFIELD,
Late Surgeon of the 85d 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. Weeks. [apr4,'66-tf

CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN.

GEO. B. GOODLANDER, Editor & Proprietor. "PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN." TERMS—$2 per annum in Advance.

VOL. 55--WHOLE NO. 2,737. CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1881. NEW SERIES--VOL. 22, NO. 34.

Cards.

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

JAMES MITCHELL,
DEALER IN
Square Timber & Timber Lands,
jel1'78 CLEARFIELD, PA.

A. V. HOYT,
Land Surveyor and Civil Engineer,
PHILIPSBURG, PA.
All business will be attended to promptly. Dec. 15, 1880-1y.

REUBEN HACKMAN,
House and Sign Painter and Paper Hanger,
Clearfield, Penn'a.
Will execute jobs in his line promptly and in a workmanlike manner. apr6,'67

FRANK FIELDING
AND
WILLIAM D. BIGLER,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Nov. 17th, 1880 tf.

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.

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.

HARRY SNYDER,
BARBER AND HAIRDRESSER.
Shop on Market St., opposite Court House.
A clean towel for every customer.
Also dealer in
Best Brands of Tobacco and Cigars.
Clearfield, Pa. may 19, '75.

JAMES H. TURNER,
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,
Wallaceton, Pa.
He has prepared himself with all the necessary blank forms under the Pension and Bounty laws, as well as blank Deeds, etc. All legal matters entrusted to his care will receive prompt attention. May 7th, 1879-tf.

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. my24-1ypd

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.

E. C. READ.....W. A. HAGERTY
READ & HAGERTY,
FIRE, LIFE AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE AGENCY.
Office in Graham Building, Market street.
Clearfield, - - - - - Penn'a.
[June 15, 1881-tf.]

THOMAS H. FORCEE,
DEALER IN
GENERAL MERCHANDISE.
GRAHAMTON, Pa.
Also, extensive manufacturers and dealer in Square Timber and Sawed Lumber of all kinds.
Orders solicited and all bills promptly filled. *jly18'72

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. Jan. 1st, 1879.

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.

JAMES KERR. CARROLL L. RIDDLE.
Clearfield Insurance Agency.
KERR & RIDDLE, Agents,
Represent the following and other first-class Co's
Companies. Assets.
Liverpool London & Globe—U. S. Br.$4,701,89
Lycoming—on mutual & cash plan.... 5,000,000
Phœnix, of Hartford, Conn..... 2,824,083
Insurance Co. of North America..... 6,423,674
North British & Mercantile—U. S. Br.. 1,742,863
Scottish Commercial—U. S. Branch.... 879,143
Watertown..... 764,818
Travelers (Life & Accident)..... 4,593,454
Office on Market St., opp. Court House, Clearfield, Pa. June 4, '79-tf.

Insurance Agency
—OF—
WILLIAM C. HELMBOLD,
Patton Block, Curwensville, Pa.
Companies Represented:
Commercial Union Ins. Co., Assets.$9,666,702 55
Firemen's Fund Ins. Co., Assets..... 1,166,617 80
Union Insurance Co., Assets..... 1,020,037 99
Travelers' Accident Ins. Co., Assets.. 5,519,194 78
Northern Ins. Co. of New York Ass'ts 346,396 08
Insurance placed on all kinds of property at equitable rates.
Curwensville, Pa., Feb. 16, 1881-tf.

THE MUTUAL BENEFIT
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,
Newark, N. J.
INCORPORATED 1845. PURELY MUTUAL.
ASSETS, Jan. 1, 1881, as ascertained by Examining Commissioners of Massachusetts, Ohio and New Jersey..... $23,726,515 93
LIABILITIES, as stated by the same. 21,911,432 85
SURPLUS by Mass'chu's Standard.. 2,815,082 08
SURPLUS by New York Standard... 5,989,193 08
All policies nonforfeitable after second year; low expenses; large dividends declared and paid every year since organization; ample surplus; surrender values most liberal; losses promptly adjusted and paid.
OFFICERS:
LEWIS C. GROVER, President.
JAMES B. PEARSON, Vice-President.
ED. L. DEBBINS, Sec'y. THEO. MACKEREY, Treas.
POTTER & KEYES, State Agents, 322 Walnut street, Philadelphia, Pa.
H. M. M'ENALLY, Special Agent. Office in Mossop's building, Market street, Clearfield, Pa. [5-3-'81tf.

SEEING THE MIDNIGHT SUN.

CONGRESSMAN COX'S ADVENTURES AT THE NORTH CAPE OF LAPLAND.

SUNSET NO MORE—ARCTIC SCENES IN THE CAPE—THE ROCKY SENTINEL OF THE NORTH OF EUROPE—AWAY NORTH OF ICELAND AND GREENLAND—ONLY 6,000 MILES AROUND THE EARTH.

[From the New York Sun.]

NORTH CAPE, Lapland, July 1, 1881.—It is 10 o'clock at night and we are in sight of the Cape! It grows cold and colder. All wraps are ordered up and out, so that from the deck we may survey the splendid headland. Before taking a local view of the situation, let us see where we are—on our planet. Evidently we are in no ordinary out-of-the-way place. The air, sea, sky, light, and most of all, this mystic volcanic mountain island—wild, bleak, black, bare, and jagged, a thousand feet sheer and clear of the sea, and its surface deeply invested in white—prove our strange situation. The very air blows with a strange chill, and the light, which comes to us over the pole obliquely, has in it a sepulchral semi-shadow in the heart of its mild lustrousness. It is a sort of inner light, burning upon the vestibule of outer darkness. It is a spot to philosophize upon. It hushes the outer senses. It makes one feel the limitations upon our will and works; yet God has enchanted this rocky promonotory by His sunlight, though He grants but a brief Summer.

This was the end we proposed in making this long voyage; and yet before I left Trondhjem I saw a handbill posted on a fish warehouse with the heading:

SPORTING AND PLEASURE TRIP TO SPITZBERGEN BY WAY OF NORTH CAPE.

It assured the festive public that good hunting boats, with harpoons and all necessary implements, would accompany the expedition, and that Mr. Ellertsen, R. S. O. O. R. J. O., an eminent Arctic explorer, would be along, and all for $100, to and fro! What all these alphabetical prefixes mean—though I surmise that the O's refer to the Order of Olaf—I am not assured; but it was rather a damper on our enterprise to know that it was so easy to go so much further into the wild Arctic sea.

At the North Cape we look out upon the Arctic Ocean; and but for distance and Spitzbergen, not to speak of another small isle between, which lies due North, we could see the Polar Sea, if not the pole! Let us be content with the prospect! Besides, have we not gone Eastward as well as Northward? We are over thirty degrees North of New York and Chicago. Our longitude has moved us Eastward; and the time, as men reckon time, has changed. Every five degrees Eastward has made a difference of twenty minutes. Our meals and clocks must undergo their changes. We have come to meet the sun East as well as North, and are adding something to our lives, as some men count living. Being extremely North, and the circles of longitude being less, we mark time more rapidly than in New York; and certainly "make more time" than I have known it to be made in Washington! But whether the degrees be long or short, the real time is the same. A degree here is twenty-two miles, while at the equator it is four times as much.

So accessible are these ultra Northern places by steam voyaging on the coast that we forgot how far North we were. Iceland is far South of us, Greenland is below our line drawn circularly Westward, and Behring Straits is not within our magic Arctic circle. The pole of the magnet would be found attracting us by its marvelous energy, somewhere on the same lines of latitude where we now move, to the throbbing of the engine and the motion of the sea.

How does this wild North rock appear? Its size is not great compared with other mountains, but it is a fitting end of a great continent. It is seamed with long lines of white and black, as though marked by fire and thunder. It has its caves washed by epochs of oceanic tempest. At its base is a green fringe of seaweeds, which, on near inspection, we find very slimy and dangerous to stand upon. Below this is a white line of breakers, in snowy contrast with the bleak mountain and green margin. Our vessel turns around the point and enters into the shadows of the mountain. The harbor, if it be one, is as black as ink. When we stop, the screw stirs the dark flood into flashes of green and white, making it seem to boil with unaccustomed noise, so deep is the silence and solitude. The throb of the engine and the song of the sea cease, and we are comparatively quiet in this lonely cove. We are sent ashore in the captain's gig, the captain himself taking the helm. But the landing is difficult. The slippery boulders give unsafe footing, and one woman at least has to be carried ashore by the sturdy sailors. The rest of us have to be heedful of our steps before we are safe under the frowning rock.

Some of our party—the more vigorous Scotch young men—endeavor to ascend the gulch in the mountain. It has been done. Our captain has done it twice; but not with such a mass of melted and melting snow as now fills up the gorge. We see them afar up, on hands and knees, patiently climbing. They fail and have still more trouble and danger in the descent. The captain calls his company—a score of us—together, and the difficulty of reaching the small boat, especially by the ladies, is overcome.

On our return to the ship each one lays down his trophy. One has a piece of wood evidently borne by the Gulf stream from America. It is palmetto. He holds aloft Bayard Taylor's description, with his proof of the existence of the grand river in the ocean. He dwells on Taylor's description of the island, as it glowed in the blended loveliness of sunrise and sunset, and wondered if his picture would be realized when midnight came? Another Scotchman brings as his trophy a beautiful green cup, with a diamond on it, repeating the verse, with a thrill of music in his voice:

Like a blade of grass keeps its drop of dew.

Another has his thermometer, and has been testing the heat of the water, and is reducing Raumer to Fahrenheit. Some have rounded pebbles as paperweight souvenirs of the spot. The captain, who has been far up the mountain—looking like a little silhouette against the immaculate snow—brings a variety of Arctic flowers for general distribution. My wife has a handkerchief full of little love drops of flowers on the tiniest of moss tendrils. One sturdy engineer bears in his buttonhole a big boquet of the smallest and prettiest of flowers known to the nomenclature of botany. The beauty of the tropics in daintiest sense is thus reproduced at this frozen and bleak end of the continent.

What a kind dispensation is that which places amid the meagre mosses of this far-off Arctic rock these little flowers! How brief is their Summer! May, June, all the seasons of the florescence which are ours, are here the work of a brief week or month. These flowers are the smiles upon these ultimate rocks. These are beautious proofs that Summer has reached these grim abodes, soon to be enveloped in Wintry gloom. They teach us to be

Patient with our loss and pain,
Our troubled space of days so small.

But it is no time to reflect or moralize. We prepare to move from our enchanted, almost sinister, moorings. The gloom which Carlyle, in his "Teufeldsroch," inspires, comes over the soul as we take our last look at this "Infinite Brine," on which he located the low and lazy sun, slumbering on his cloud couch wrought of crimson gold, yet with a light streaming over the mirror of waters, like a tremulous fire pillar—the porch lamp to the palace of the eternal. Shall we realize this weird picture of the cynical yet sublime critic? We will see.

Midnight draws near, and all are anxious. The anchors are lifted. The unusual clangor disturbs one solitary bird, a cormorant, which flies around our boat as though inspecting the invaders of his melancholy home. He is used to sitting upon these rocks—a lone fisherman—from which, unlike the noble gull, he dives for his prey. Steam is up. The hour of 12 approaches. All are on the *qui vive* for the midnight sun! Twenty of us are at the prow with our watches out. The old orb is radiant. The captain calls out: "Five minutes of 12!" Will the orb disappoint us? There is a heavy cloud above in the zenith, but it is lined with silver, and a mackerel line of cirrus clouds lies just above his majesty. Like a king of day he is enthroned without obscuration between the long line of clouds, sitting on pearl and amber, orange and gold, all the hues of the prism intensified with soft, weird radiance by the struggle between sunrise and sunset.

A minute to 12! He still remains round and radiant. Twelve! Hurrah! Hurrah! It is done, and the cheers go up from this solitude, arousing its echoes. The rim of the horizon, far off to the north where the pole is supposed to be, is silvered with a pale, weired beauty. It grows pink, and this Arctic desolation is made a living splendor.

Self withdrawn into a wondrous depth,
Far sinking into splendor without end!

This is the wondrous phenomenon which we have come so far to witness. The captain is on the bridge. "*Il fait accompli.*" I sing out to him from below.

"Give it to me in good English, Meister Cox."

I say, "We are all happy. The great transaction is done."

"Prepare to fish," is the practical response and emphatic order of the captain.

The lines are out, the captain leading with two codfish. I soon follow, and the sailors are busy. Mirth goes around at each success. My wife, a good fisherman generally, tugs away at her long line until, like the gentle admiral, she suddenly "goes below." My courier, Rene, the Dane, catches a monster, all golden as the sun itself. [Cheers.] Then a Scotchman gets in a hideous hog fish of twenty-five pounds. [Laughter.] Our stewardess, Julia, hauls in a monster. [Renewed cheers and laughter.] And so we keep it up till 2 in the golden morning, when to sleep we go, covering the port holes so as to pretend it is night.

We had made many sacrifices to see this remarkable performance of our luminary. Not that either of us was over anxious to find a land where sunset did not occur. We had hoped that there was no realm in this or the future existence where "Sunset" might not come. But I may be allowed to remark that I have borne the sobriquet of Sunset for so many years, and it has sounded with such sweet sibilation, that I had come to believe that I had a sort of fee simple in this fairy land, with its gorgeous palaces and cloud-capped towers.

And must I now be enchanted? Do I live and is sunset no more? Do I see a country where the sun is going, going down amid a *mise en scene* equal, if not superior, to that Ohio evening years ago, which I tried to portray with my poor pen—and yet it does not go down? Was it not enough that for ten long days, or day, there was no night for us, and that the sun, by gliding and glowing in the North without a respite, had disturbed our customary experiences? The reaction might be too sudden. The failure of our old orb to set might—well, there is no telling the cataleptic and other dire consequences. But here was the patent fact? Here were clouds and lights, all the hues of the prism in splendid display, and yet no sunset after all! The unsetting and the unsettable sun! Midnight and yet light all aglow! No gas, no candles, no stars, no moon—only the fiery orb and his "trailing clouds of glory."

But is not the sun all-sufficient without other fires? If he stays up and sets not, what more can the human heart desire? What wonder that the Oriental mind clothed the sun with the majesty of divinity, and that the Magi saluted his coming with worship, as the source of life? What wonder that his beams evoked music from Memnon? Is he not the creator of health and the great benefactor? And we have found a land where he will not and does not set!

The sensation was as new as it was humiliating to my *amour propre*. I recalled the words of a Yankee character:

"It's reelly affectin' to think how little those ere folks is missed that's so much sot by. There ain't nobody, ef they's ever so important, but what the world gets to goin' on without 'em, pretty much as it did with 'em, though there's some little flurry at first."

How much can be done, after all, in nature and in Science, Art and Government, without us. Governments will run, men and women dance, trade proceed, without sunset! Here in this land of the frigid zone, for ten days and more we had seen boats in full rig and sail, mountains of lofty altitude musical with fosses, glaciers miles in length moving on their quiet and steady way, men hauling in fish by the millions, whales disporting, and a steamer pushing its noisy way through deep waters shut in by volcanic walls from angry seas—and yet no sunset! New York and America callous to the fact and moving on restlessly, with alternation of lights and shades, love and hate, good and bad, day and night, thinking of everything, and forgetting that sunsets are not everywhere and forever. Still, though I have seen and recorded the fact that sunset is no longer here, let there be no hasty and premature obituaries.

To appreciate seriously these phenomenas we must go back to the rudiments of astronomy and geography. Before we lost the invisible circle, and while endeavoring to decipher the horseman and the horse, through which the circle is clearly ascertainable, by faith and science, let us look around—around our star! The first impression is that it is round. That is not a complex idea, but there are suggestions about it that to the ordinary mind are complicated, if not confusing, to the general experience. To such this circle and phenomena are a mystery. It is a mystery because above it, in ever-contracting circles, till it runs to naught at the pole the sun shines only a portion of the year, without going under. Within it is a horizon for a part of the years which never hides the blessed light, where our moon and stars forget to light their lamps, and where the earth alone seems repairing to the home of light with "its golden urn." When the Spring begins, this favored region has but a spot of continuous shine, but it grows with the ever widening circle from the pole to the Arctic, until on midsummer's day, the day we left Trondhjem, it has run down lines of longitude twenty-three and-a-half degrees, or 66° 30' North latitude. There it tremulously lingers and moves to the polar regions, there to make the bright little gem of light from which it started.

The other half of this process for half a year is dedicated to the Antarctic, while night for six months folds its wing, radiant with strange auroras, over these regions. These vicissitudes are as orderly as the seasons of the moderate zones. It is our experience which makes them seem eccentric; and this experience gives to the scenery, to time, to the clouds and mountains, the fjords and snows, the glamour of unreality. We are, so to speak, inverted. Some sense of the comic, if not of the cosmic, relations we bear to space and stars and suns comes over us; and the light we bask in at midnight is as strange as that "which never was on sea or land—the consternation of the poet's dream."

Here are day of days and night of nights! This is plain to the eye, and it takes ever so slight a reflection to understand it fully. It is complex, until we remember that the earth goes round the sun—a problem which men have been ready to defend even unto death. In going around the sun, the earth inclines its axis to the plane in which it moves. If the earth did not thus "tenderly incline"—if it stood stiff and perpendicular, without courting the graces—every inch of its surface would have its night and day equally divided. But it plays the erect only twice a year, at the intersection of the ciiptic and the equator. These days of absolute equity of distribution are in the Spring and Fall. But God determined that for a half year our earth should make its bow, half the time to one and half to the other pole. The angle of this obeisance of our earth to its plane measures the distance from the pole to the circle.

It is a plain conclusion from these facts that the circle within which we are moving just now girdles the earth with only 8,000 miles. If we would make a straight march around the circle we would save one-fourth of the journey in miles; and if around where we are now at this north cape on a line of latitude it would be one-half less, or one-fourth of the distance around our globe at the equator. But our business now is not "around," but down to the latitudes nearer home.

S. S. Cox.

PANICS.

A BROAD COMMON SENSE VIEW OF BANKING AND BUSINESS GENERALLY.

The National Bankers recently held a Convention at Niagara Falls, and for several days debated panics and business.

Mr. John Thompson, President of the Chase National Bank of New York city, read a paper on the subjects of panics. Said Mr. Thompson:

The question is so often asked, when will this great prosperity end, or when will another panic sweep over the country? that it becomes not only interesting but absolutely necessary to our safety, to get the best ideas possible and to analyze the signs of approaching danger. Foreshadowing future events—prophesying—is an extra hazardous business. Still, I will recklessly lead off into the financial future, begging you gentlemen to not only discount but to take bank usury, if you please, of my views. Panics do occur about every decade. This ten year period is quite natural; it takes about five years after a revulsion to pay up, compromise or wipe out indebtedness. Then follows five years of prosperity, expansion, confidence in credits—in fact a "boom." The last panic was in 1873; the present prosperity commenced in 1878. We have now had three years of extraordinary augmentation of richness much of it real solid, but most of it emanating from raising prices or putting up quotations. The signs of an approaching "blizzard" are numerous, but very delicate as yet. When the stock market becomes "mixed," and the bulls and bears become desperate, and when the courts grant injunctions liberally, and the financial knavery of the opposing parties and scheming is exposed, then capital and credits insidiously vanish—hoarding is considered the best investment, or loans secured beyond any contingency, even at a nominal interest, which is akin to hoarding. This species of financiering involves contraction; distrust follows, and the credit system is annihilated. When we consider that nine-tenths, and, I think nineteen-twentieths, of our money, so called, is credited and nothing else, it is no wonder that financial panics come suddenly. The most important sign of a coming panic and revulsion is to be found in our trade balances with foreign nations. As over prosperity has been hugely augmented by the importation of gold, so, when the flow of the precious metal is from us, distrust will inspire contraction, and contraction will lead directly to inability to pay. Money not only becomes scarce, but it is absolutely gone. In fact, there is at no time but an inadequate amount of real money to do business on. I feel confident that over ninety-five per cent. of our business and the business of England is done on paper tokens—checks, drafts, notes, letters of credit, &c.—which, so long as confidence is good, are perfect substitutes for money, but, like young partridges, that disappear "on call," not allowing even three days grace. Discounts are declined, deposits drawn and hoarded. Thus not only the credit system and the money token power is destroyed, but the real money itself disappears, not to be again visible until induced out by an enormous depression in prices.

At present there is but one alarming indication of trouble, and that is in the number and magnitude of new enterprises, involving the issue of millions of obligations. In 1871-72, and for half of 1873, this same sign of coming trouble was apparent, but to a fractional extent as compared with the present. As this is purely a convention of bankers, and as I am probably the oldest member of the association, I must be excused in uttering a word of caution to bank managers, more particularly to those at the head of deposit banks. In receiving deposits from the general and promiscuous public we morally, though perhaps not legally, assume a fiduciary trust, and in using such deposits the utmost caution and conversation should be strictly adhered to by always having a sure and speedy controllability over a sufficient amount of our assets to meet any "demand obligation," even in the light of a raging panic. It is criminal to assume liabilities or enter into negotiations, though ever so promising, over which hangs a contingency that may possibly endanger this fiduciary trust. Intimately connected with the ideas that are briefly expressed above is the spirit of speculation, bordering on gambling. It is safe to say that during the past three years nine out of every ten ventures have netted a profit. This is because almost continually prices have advanced. When the panic and depression shall come—as surely as they will—then all adventures will be losses, and many "lambs" will come to grief. I simply touch on this topic because in the delinquency of bank officers it is often shown that the defalcation is the outcrop of a venture. Banks that undertake heavy negotiations which, if fortune favors, will yield enormous dividends, but if fortune frowns, bankruptcy is inevitable, must always stand in the category of doubtful institutions.

We are positively going too fast, and it is the part of wisdom, and I conceive it to be but our duty, to put on the "brakes," that the wreck, when it does come, may be less disastrous. I instance an item of the panic of 1873. Early one morning the active managers of three of the New York city banks were invited to the office of Jay Cook & Co. We were informed that $1,000,000 were necessary by ten o'clock to save that house from protest. What security do you offer? was asked. Answer—"None; our securities are all used." It is needless to say the million was not forthcoming. We left. In fifteen minutes Wall street was in a panic and this is only a duplicate of what transpirde in 1856, when the Ohio Insurance Company suspended. I will not elaborate the progress and results of these panics, for you are all conversant with what transpired in and following 1873. Sufficient to say that houses of undoubted standing were unable to stand, and the New York city banks, after one startling failure—the "Commonwealth"—were saved from suspension of even currency payments by lodging with a clearing house committee securities and taking certificates that were good at the clearing house for debtor balances. The banks then to a great extent, declined cash or currency payments, but certified checks and drafts "good through the clearing house." This was certainly a unique financial measure, but it saved the banks from an out suspension of even currency payments. Specie was then out of the category of money. I refer to these historical events to show that panics do culminate in revulsions of some five years' duration. Gentlemen, I am not prophesying evil, so do not stone me. I am only ringing the bell to awake the brakemen, for unless we 'show up' and guard our assets nothing in the past will compare with what is in the future. The negotiations—the issue of stocks and bonds—are fourfold what they were in 1873.

ABOUT BICYCLES.

There can be no doubt that the bicycle is rapidly increasing in popularity. It is a sport that attracts a fine class of people; a recreation for men and gentlemen, not an excuse for rowdyism by "roughs." For years "wheeling" has been popular in France and England. The bicycle has become a London "constitution." Gentlemen go to and fro mounted upon it. It is used alike for business, exercise and pleasure. Nor is its use confined only to men. The fair sex has taken kindly to that modification of it known as the tricycle, particularly since the Queen herself patronized it. An English dealer in tricycles states that since Her Majesty purchased for her own use a tricycle two years ago over five thousand of these vehicles have been sold to ladies throughout England and Scotland. The bicycle, though so popular in England, is properly speaking a French invention, and has grown or been developed out of the old velocipede, which about a century ago attracted the earnest attention of no less a scientific body than the French Academy.

There have been all varieties of velocipedes introduced at different times and by different persons—velocipedes propelled by the hands alone; velocipedes worked by springs, by cranks, by pedals, by levers, by cords and pulleys. Over thirty distinct kinds of velocipedes have had their day or are still in existence, but the fundamental idea of the true velocipede still remains as at the beginning—*i. e.*, a vehicle with three wheels propelled by both hands and feet. Of this velocipede the modern bicycle (which is, properly speaking, not over ten years old) has been the principal modification and improvement. The bicycle differs from the velocipede in having but two wheels, one very large, the other very small, and being propelled entirely by the feet.

In the bicycle the weight is carried and the power is applied precisely as in the act of walking; your wheel which carries you and which you move is directly under you, not to one side by you. You do not pull, you do not push—you simply, as it were, walk on a wheel. Consequently to all intents and purposes you are merely walking fast, and you derive all the benefits of walking. In this respect the bicycle differs materially from the old velocipede. On the latter the rider did not walk, he sat, as it were, and pushed, which was not as beneficial as standing and walking. In this difference, it is claimed by medical men and enthusiastic bicyclists, lies the cardinal advantage of bycycling, which is claimed to be by the advocates the most directly health-giving of all open air sports.

To its health-imparting properties it owes its start in this country. A few years since a young Boston lawyer found that his pursuit of his profession had undermined his constitution. The physicians pronounced him a wreck. But he was not yet stranded. While there is life there is hope. And he read in an English work of the bicycle and its work. He procured a bicycle with some delay and difficulty, acquired its mastery and made the first appearance as a bicyclist in the thoroughfares of the modern Athens—not in the heart of Boston, one may be sure. There is no chance in the narrow, crooked streets of the "Hub" for a bicycle, but in the wide, pleasant avenues that line the suburbs. From the first, Boston and its people took kindly to the wheel, and in a few weeks the young health-seeking bicyclist had many imitators and disciples. The success of the bicycle was assured.

As a general thing the bicyclist must be self-taught. The best way to learn to manage the bicycle is to procure one, obtain a few hints from "the knowing ones," and begin by going down hill or down an inclined plane. The common idea is that the chief difficulty in learning the management of the bicycle lies in mastering the art of supporting one's self on it when in motion. This is a very natural idea, but nevertheless a very false one. The bicycle in motion supports itself—and its rider. Its very velocity constitutes its safety. As an enthusiast phrased it, "It hasn't the time to fall." But the real difficulty lies in learning how to mount and dismount from the bicycle; and the great art is to manage it, not when it "speeds," but when it "slows." Bicycle races are comparatively easy things. A fair bicyclist can outrun an ordinary horse, but to "hasten slowly" is the point in which the skill is displayed. Consequently great interest is taken in "slow races" as they are called, in which the slowest wins. In these slow races the bicyclist's ability is taxed to the utmost to maintain the upright position of his bicycle. The nearer he attains to an absolute stop the more skill he displays. As for standing still on the bicycle that is from the very nature of the case impossible, unless the wheel is placed at an angle. Going backward on the bicycle is also regarded as a somewhat difficult achievement.

Of course the larger the wheel the greater the speed that can be made, but on any good bicycle a speed of fifteen miles an hour can easily be maintained. The size of the bicycle must be proportioned to the length of the legs of the rider. Anyone who has learned to ride can hire a bicycle for $2 for twenty-four hours, from 8 A. M. to 8 A. M., or $1 for four hours. The best English bicycle costs $140 to $150, while American makes, equally as good will not cost more than $110 to $115. The cheapest bicycle for boys cost $12 to $15.

There are 331 different styles of bicycles, so experts say, now actively in use. The bicycle of 1881 is the combined product of the ideas of four great nations. Of the six ideas which are illustrated in the various component parts, France has contributed two, England two, Germany one and America one. The American contribution or suggestion—that of the rubber tire—is generally regarded as practically the most valuable of all. This rubber tire enables the bicyclist to accomplish the otherwise impossible feat of running up hill. The rubber tire has also been applied with success to the wheels of dog carts and other vehicles.

BICYCLE EXERCISE.

"Now, my dear," said Mr. Spoopendyke, hurrying up to his wife's room, "if you will come down in the yard I've got a pleasant surprise for you."

"What is it?" asked Mrs. Spoopendyke; "what have you got—a horse?"

"Guess again," grinned Mr. Spoopendyke; "it's something like a horse."

"I know! It's a new parlor carpet; that's what it is!"

"No, it isn't either. I said it was something like a horse; that is, it goes when you make it. Guess again."

"Is it paint for the kitchen walls?" asked Mrs. Spoopendyke, innocently.

"No, it ain't, and it ain't a hogshead of stove blacking, nor it ain't a set of dining room furniture, nor it ain't seven gross of stationary washtubs. Now guess again."

"Then it must be some lace curtains for the sitting room windows. Isn't that just splendid!" and Mrs. Spoopendyke patted her husband on both cheeks and danced up and down with delight.

"It's a bicycle—that's what it is!" growled Mr. Spoopendyke. "I bought it for exercise, and I'm going to ride it. Come down and see me."

"Well, ain't I glad!" ejaculated Mrs. Spoopendyke. "You ought to have more exercise, and if there's exercise in anything it's in a bicycle. Do lets see it."

Mr. Spoopendyke conducted his wife to the yard, and descanted at length on the merits of the machine.

"In a few weeks I'll be able to make a mile a minute," he said, as he steadied the apparatus against the clothes pole and prepared to mount. "Now, you watch me go to the end of this path."

He got a foot into one treadle and went head first into a flower patch, the machine on top, with a prodigious crash.

"Hadn't you better tie it up to the post until you get on?" suggested Mrs. Spoopendyke.

"Leave me alone, will ye?" demanded Mr. Spoopendyke, struggling to an even keel. "I'm doing most o' this myself. Now you hold on and keep your mouth shut. It takes a little practice, that's all."

Mr. Spoopendyke mounted again and scuttled along four or five feet and flopped over on the grass plat.

"That's splendid!" commended his wife. "You've got the idea already. Let me hold it for you this time."

"If you've got any strength you hold your tongue, will ye?" growled Mr. Spoopendyke. "It don't want any holding. It ain't alive. Stand back and give me room, now."

The third trial Mr. Spoopendyke ambled to the end of the path, and went down all in a heap among the flower pots.

"That's just too lovely for anything!" proclaimed Mrs. Spoopendyke. "You made more'n a mile a minute that time!"

"Come and take it off!" roared Mr. Spoopendyke. "Help me up! Dod gast the bicycle!" and the worthy gentleman struggled and plunged around like a whale in shallow water.

Mrs. Spoopendyke assisted in righting him and brushing him off.

"I know where you made your mistake," said she. "The little wheel ought to go first, like a buggy. Try it that way going back."

"Maybe you can ride this bicycle better than I can!" howled Mr. Spoopendyke. "You know all about wheels! What you need now is a