The Carbon Advocate.

H. V. MORTHIMER, Proprietor. INDEPENDENT—"Live and Let Live." $1.00 a Year if Paid in Advance.

VOL. V., No. 2 LEHIGHTON, CARBON COUNTY, PENNA, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 9, 1876. Subscribers out of County, $1.20

CARDS.

Furniture Warehouse.
V. Schwartz, Bank street, *dealer in all kinds of Furniture. Coffins made to order.*

Boot and Shoe Makers.
Clinton Bretney, in *Lecan's building*, Bank street. *All orders promptly filled—work warranted.*

W. M. RAPSHER,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
BANK STREET, LEHIGHTON, PA.
Real Estate and Collection Agency. Will Buy and Sell Real Estate, Conveyancing neatly done. Collections promptly made. Settling Estates of Decedents a specialty. May be consulted in English and German. Nov. 22.

JAS. R. STRUTHERS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
☞ Office:—2d floor of Rhoad's Hall,
Mauch Chunk, Pa.
All business entrusted to him will be promptly attended to. May 27, 1y.

DANIEL KALBFUS,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW,
Mauch Chunk, Pa.
☞ Office, above Dolon's Jewelry Store, Broadway

JNO. D. BERTOLETTE. JAS. S. LOOSE
BERTOLETTE & LOOSE,
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELLORS AT LAW,
Office—Corner of Susquehanna and Broadway.
MAUCH CHUNK, PENNA.
Can be consulted in German. [July 24 '87

P. S. HERMAN,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Next Door to First National Bank,
MAUCH CHUNK, PA
☞ Can be consulted in German. [jan9.

H. A. BELTZ,
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,
Oberly Building, BANK-St., LEHIGHTON.
Conveyancing, Collecting and all other business connected with the office promptly attended to. Also, Agent for the Purchase and Sale of Real Estate. April 15-y1

THOMAS S. BECK,
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,
BANK Street, LEHIGHTON, Pa.
Conveyancing, Collecting and all business connected with the office promptly attended to.
☞ Agent for first-class Insurance Companies, and Risks of all kinds taken on the most liberal terms. jan. 9, 1875.

W. A. DERHAMER, M.D.,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
Special attention paid to Chronic Diseases.
Office: South East corner Iron and 2nd sts., Lehighton, Pa. April 3, 1875.

DR. N. S. REBER,
PRACTICING PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Office, BANK Street, next door above the Postoffice, Lehighton, Pa. Office Hours—Parryville each day from 10 to 12 o'clock; remainder of day at office in Lehighton. Nov. 23, '72.

THOMAS KEMERER,
CONVEYANCER,
AND
GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT
The following Companies are Represented:
LEBANON MUTUAL FIRE,
READING MUTUAL FIRE,
COMING FIRE,
POTTSVILLE FIRE,
LEHIGH FIRE, and the TRAVELERS' ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
Also Pennsylvania and Mutual Horse Thief Detective and Insurance Company.
March 20, 1875. THOS. KEMERER.

"76."

BRADY'S CENTENNIAL CIGAR AND TOBACCO EMPORIUM AND BILLIARD ROOM, one door above Hauk's Bakery.
Bank St., Lehighton.
Also, GENERAL NEWS AGENCY. Daily and Weekly Papers and Lakeside Library regularly supplied. April 1, 1876.

DAVID EBBERT'S
Livery & Sale Stables

BANK STREET, LEHIGHTON, Pa
FAST TROTTING HORSES,
ELEGANT CARRIAGES,
And positively LOWER PRICES than any other Livery in the County.
Large and handsome Carriages for Funeral purposes and Weddings. DAVID EBBERT.
Nov. 22, 1872.

TO CAPITALISTS!
A LIMITED NUMBER OF SHARES OF THE CAPITAL STOCK OF THE
Lehighton Gas Light Co.
still remain undisposed of. Shares FIFTY DOLLARS. Subscriptions to the Stock will be received and information furnished on application at this office.
H. V. MORTHIMER.
Lehighton, April 22, 1876.

Manhattan OIL Company,
OF NEW YORK.
Lubricating and Illuminating Oils.
WM. N. MARCUS, Room 32, Merchants' Exchange, THIRD and WALNUT Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. Nov. 11, 1875.

Railroad Guide.

NORTH PENNA. RAILROAD.

Passengers for Philadelphia will leave Lehighton as follows:

8:43 a. m.,	via. L. V.	arrive at Phila.	at 6:45 a. m.
8:12 a. m.	via L. V.	arrive at Phila.	at 9:30 a. m.
7:47 a. m.	via L. & S.	" "	11:00 a. m.
7:42 a. m.	via L. V.	" "	11:00 a. m.
11:07 p. m.	via L. & S.	" "	2:05 p. m.
10:57 p. m.	via L. V.	" "	2:05 p. m.
2:27 p. m.	via L. & S.	" "	5:40 p. m.
4:47 p. m.	via L. & S.	" "	8:15 p. m.
4:44 p. m.	via L. V.	" "	8:15 p. m.
8:22 p. m.	via L. V.	" "	8:25 p. m.

Returning, leave depot at Berks and American Sts., Phila., at 7:00, 8:35 and 9:45 a. m.; 2:10, 3:45 and 5:15 p. m.
Fare from Lehighton to Phila., $2.55,
Excursion Tickets, $4.00
April 17, 1876. ELLIS CLARK, Agent.

CENTRAL R. R. OF N. J.
LEHIGH & SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION.
All Rail Route to Long Branch.
PASSENGER STATIONS IN NEW YORK FOOT OF LIBERTY ST., AND FOOT OF CLARKSON ST., UP TOWN.

Time Table of Oct. 2d, 1876.

Trains leave Lehighton as follows:
For New York, Easton, &c., at 7.47, 11.07 a. m., 2.26, 4.47 p. m.
For Philadelphia, 7.47, 11.07 a. m., 2.26, 4.47.
For Mauch Chunk at 10.20 a. m., 1.09, 5.38, 8.48 p. m.
For Wilkes-Barre and Scranton at 10.20 a. m., 1.09, 5.38 p. m.
Returning—Leave New York, foot of Liberty St., at 5.40, 8.45 a. m., 1.00, and 4.00 p. m. Leave foot of Clarkson St. at 12.30, and 3.30 p. m.
Leave Philadelphia, from Depot North Penn'a R. R., Third and Berks St., at 7.00, 9.45 a. m., 2.15, 5.15 p. m.
Leave Easton at 8.35, 11.40 a. m., 3.55, 7.00 p. m.
Leave Mauch Chunk at 7.40, 11.00 a. m., 2.20 4.40, p. m.
For further particulars, see Time Tables at the Stations.
PASSENGERS FOR LONG BRANCH CHANGE CARS AT ELIZABETH.
H. P. BALDWIN, *Gen. Passenger Agent.*
July 4, 1874.

PHILA. & READING RAILROAD.

Arrangement of Passenger Trains.

NOV. 28TH, 1876.
Trains leave ALLENTOWN as follows:—
(VIA PERKIOMEN BRANCH.)
For Philadelphia, at *6.20, 6.30, a.m., 5.55 and *6.25 p. m.
SUNDAYS.
For Philadelphia at 3.10 p. m.
(VIA EAST PENNA. BRANCH.)
For Reading, † 2.30, 5.50, 8.55 a. m., 12.15, 2.10, 4.30 and 9.00 p.m.
For Harrisburg, † 2.30, 5.50, 8.55 a. m., 12.15., 4.30 and 9.00 p.m.
For Lancaster and Columbia, 5.50, 8.55 a.m. and 4.30 p.m
†Does not run on Mondays.
SUNDAYS.
For Reading, 2.30 a.m. and 9.00 p.m.
For Harrisburg, 2.30 a.m, and 9.00 p.m.
Trains FOR ALLENTOWN leave as follows:
(VIA PERKIOMEN BRANCH.)
Leave Philadelphia, *8.30, 7.30 a. m., 5.15 and *5.25 p. m.
SUNDAYS.
Leave Philadelphia, 8.15 a. m.
(VIA EAST PENNA. BRANCH.)
Leave Reading, 7.40, 7.45, 10.35 a m., 4.00, 6.10 and 10.30 p m
Leave Harrisburg, 5.20, 8.10 a. m., 2.00, 3.57 and 7.50 p. m.
Leave Lancaster, 8.10 a.m., 12.55 and 3.45 p.m.
Leave Columbia, 8.00 a. m., 1.00 and 3.35 p.m.
SUNDAYS.
Leave Reading, 7.20 a.m.
Leave Harrisburg, 5.20 a.m.
Trains marked thus (*) run to and from depot 9th and Green streets, Philadelphia, other trains to and from Broad street depot.
The 8.30 a. m. train from Philadelphia and 6.25 p. m. train from Allentown have through cars to and from Elmira, N. Y.
The 5.25 p m. train from Philadelphia and 8.30 a. m. train from Allentown have through cars to and from Mauch Chunk.
J. E. WOOTTEN,
Nov. 28, 1876. *General Superintendent.*

PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD,
PHILADELPHIA & ERIE RR. DIVISION.

Summer Time Table.

On and after SUNDAY, APRIL 23d, 1876, the Trains on the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad Division will run as follows:

WESTWARD.

ERIE EXPRESS leaves	New York	9.20 a.m.
	Philadelphia	12.55 p.m.
	Baltimore	3.20 p.m.
	Harrisburg	5.00 p.m.
arr. at	Williamsport	8.55 p.m.
	Lock Haven	10.30 p.m.
	Erie	10.05 p.m.
ERIE MAIL leaves	New York	8.25 p.m.
	Philadelphia	11.50 p.m.
	Baltimore	2.10 p.m.
	Harrisburg	4.25 a.m.
	Williamsport	8.35 a.m.
	Lock Haven	9.40 a.m.
	Renova	10.55 a.m.
arr. at	Erie	7.50 p.m.
NIAGARA EX. leaves	Philadelphia	7.20 a.m.
	Baltimore	7.30 a.m.
	Harrisburg	10.45 a.m.
arr. at	Williamsport	1.50 p.m.
	Lock Haven	3.15 p.m.
	Renova	4.15 p.m.
	Kane	8.45 p.m.
	Buffalo	...
L'K HAVEN AC. l've	Philadelphia	8.00 a.m.
	Baltimore	8.30 a.m.
	Harrisburg	1.25 p.m.
arr. at	Williamsport	6.10 p.m.
	Lock Haven	7.30 p.m.
SUNDAY EX. leaves	New York	8.25 p.m.
	Philadelphia	11.55 p.m.
	Baltimore	2.10 p.m.
	Harrisburg	4.10 a.m.
arr. at	Williamsport	7.40 a.m.

EASTWARD.

PHILAD'A EX. leaves	Erie	7.00 p.m.
	Lock Haven	6.30 p.m.
	Williamsport	7.55 a.m.
arr. at	Harrisburg	11.40 a.m.
	Baltimore	6.15 p.m.
	Philadelphia	3.30 p.m.
	New York	6.45 p.m.
DAY EXPRESS leaves	Kane	6.50 a.m.
	Renova	10.10 a.m.
	Lock Haven	11.20 a.m.
	Williamsport	12.40 a.m.
arr. at	Harrisburg	4.10 p.m.
	Philadelphia	7.20 p.m.
	New York	10.15 p.m.
	Baltimore	7.55 p.m.
	Washington	9.02 p.m.
ERIE leaves	Erie	11.20 a.m.
	Renova	8.55 p.m.
	Lock Haven	10.05 p.m.
	Williamsport	11.15 p.m.
	Harrisburg	2.45 a.m.
	Baltimore	7.35 a.m.
	Philadelphia	7.00 a.m.
	New York	10.10 a.m.
FAST LINE leaves	Williamsport	12.35 a.m.
arr. at	Harrisburg	3.55 a.m.
	Baltimore	7.35 a.m.
	Philadelphia	7.35 a.m.
	New York	10.25 a.m.
SUNDAY EX. leaves	Williamsport	8.15 a.m.
arr. at	Harrisburg	11.40 a.m.
	Philadelphia	3.30 p.m.
	New York	6.45 p.m.
	Baltimore	7.35 p.m.

Erie Mail West, Niagara Express West, Lock Haven Accom. West and Day Express East make close connection at Northumberland with L.&H.RR. trains for Wilkesbarre and Scranton.
Erie Mail West, Niagara Express West, Erie Express West and Lock Haven Accommodation West make close connection at Williamsport with N. C. R. W. trains north.
Erie Mail West, Niagara Express West and Day Express East make close connection at Lock Haven with B. E. V. RR. trains.
Erie Mail East and West connect at Erie with trains on L. S. & M. S. RR., at Corry with O. C. & A. V. RR., at Emporium with B. N. Y. & P. RR., and at Driftwood with A. V. RR.
Parlor Cars will run between Philadelphia and Williamsport on Niagara Express West, Erie Express West, Philadelphia Express East, Day Express East and Sunday Express East. Sleeping Cars on all night trains.
WM. A. BALDWIN, Gen'l Sup.

Carbon Co.'s Sons
Carbon Co.'s Sons
Carbon Co.'s Sons
Carbon Co.'s Sons

WELCOME! TO
WELCOME! LAURY & PETERS'
WELCOME! LAURY & PETERS'
WELCOME! LAURY & PETERS'
WELCOME! LAURY & PETERS'
WELCOME! Post-Office Building,
WELCOME! Post-Office Building,
WELCOME! Post-Office Building,
WELCOME! Post-Office Building.
WELCOME! TO SEE
WELCOME! THE NEWEST SUITINGS,
WELCOME! THE NEWEST SUITINGS,
WELCOME! THE NEWEST SUITINGS.
WELCOME! THE NEWEST SUITINGS.
WELCOME! Cloths, Cassimeres and Vestings
WELCOME! which we make up in Fashionable and Durable Styles at Lowest Price for Cash.
WELCOME! BESIDES CLOTHING
WELCOME! BESIDES CLOTHING
WELCOME! Visitors can see Stacks of Hosiery, Piles of Underwear, Hundreds of White Shirts, Hats Caps,
WELCOME! Boots and Shoes by the dozens,
WELCOME! Trunks, Satchels, and Traveling
WELCOME! Bags, Umbrellas, and other articles for the wear and use of
WELCOME! MAN AND BOY KIND,
WELCOME! MAN AND BOY KIND.
WELCOME! Welcome also to
WELCOME! LAURY & PETERS',
WELCOME! LAURY & PETERS',
WELCOME! LAURY & PETERS',
WELCOME! LAURY & PETERS',
WELCOME! BANK STREET,
WELCOME! BANK STREET,
WELCOME! Lehighton,
WELCOME! Lehighton,
WELCOME! where the stock of Gents Furnishing Goods comprise the choicest quality combined with the
WELCOME! ONE LOWEST PRICE,
WELCOME! ONE LOWEST PRICE.
WELCOME! ONE PRICE TO ALL,
WELCOME! ONE PRICE TO ALL,
WELCOME! The Buyer reserving the privilege of returning goods or receiving back his money if not content with his bargain.

Laury & Peters
Laury & Peters
Laury & Peters
Laury & Peters

ONE PRICE CASH STORE,
ONE PRICE CASH STORE,
Post-Office Building,
Post-Office Building.
BANK ST., LEHIGHTON.
BANK ST., LEHIGHTON.
Sept. 30-m3

CARBON ADVOCATE
CHEAP
JOB PRINTING OFFICE,
LEHIGHTON, PA.

Every description of Printing, from a
Visiting Card to a Poster.
CARDS,
BILL HEADS,
LETTER HEADS,
NOTE HEADS,
STATEMENTS,
PROGRAMMES,
POSTERS,
HAND BILLS,
DODGERS,
CIRCULARS,
SHIPPING TAGS,
ENVELOPES,
PAMPHLETS,
BY-LAWS, &C., &C.,
Done in the best manner, at very Lowest Prices.
We are prepared to do work at as cheap rates as any office in the State that deals honestly with its customers.
OUR MOTTO IS
Cheap, Prompt & Reliable.
☞ Orders by mail receive prompt attention.

A Good Family Medicine
SWAYNE'S
Tar and Sarsaparilla Pills.
☞ **HEADACHE,** Langour and Melancholy generally spring from a disordered stomach, costiveness or a torpid liver. Each may be speedily removed by Dr. Swayne's Tar Pills, which stimulate the liver and stomach to a healthy action in removing all biliousness, and producing regular evacuations of the bowels.
LIVER COMPLAINT,
that dreaded disease from which so many persons suffer, is frequently the cause of
Headache, Indigestion and Dyspepsia,
is speedily relieved and are often permanently cured by their use. Fevers are often prevented by the use of these Sarsaparilla Pills, as they carry off, through the blood, the impurities from which they arise. For COSTIVENESS there is nothing so effectual as
Swayne's Tar and Sarsaparilla Pills.
They are purely vegetable, and act specially on the Liver as Blue Mass or Calomel, without any bad results from taking.
Describe symptoms in all communications, and address letters to DR. SWAYNE & SON, Philadelphia. No charge for advice. Sent by mail on receipt of price. Price 25 cents a box; five boxes for $1.
ASK YOUR DRUGGIST FOR THEM.

New Advertisements.

THE LUNGS!
CONSUMPTION!
This distressing and dangerous complaint and its premonitory symptoms, neglected cough, night sweats, hoarseness, wasting flesh, fever—permanently cured by "Dr. Swayne's Compound Syrup of Wild Cherry."
BRONCHITIS—A premonitor of Pulmonary Consumption, is characterized by catarrh, or inflammation of the mucous membrane of the air passages, with cough and expectoration, short breath, hoarseness, pains in the chest. For all bronchial affections, sore throat, loss of voice, coughs,
DR. SWAYNE'S COMPOUND
Syrup of Wild Cherry
IS A SOVEREIGN REMEDY.
Hemorrhage, or spitting blood, may proceed from the larynx, trachea, bronchia or lungs, and arise from various causes, as undue physical exertion, plethora, or fullness of the vessels, weak lungs, overstraining of the voice, suppressed evacuation, obstruction of the spleen or liver, etc.
Dr. Swayne's Compound Syrup of Wild Cherry
strikes at the root of disease by purifying the blood, restoring the liver and kidneys to healthy action, invigorating the nervous system.
The only standard remedy for hemorrhage, bronchial and all pulmonary complaints. Consumptives or those predisposed to weak lungs, should not fail to use this great vegetable remedy.
Its marvelous power, not only over consumption, but over every chronic disease, where a gradual alterative action is needed. Under its use the cough is loosened, the night sweats diminish, the pain subsides, the pulse returns to its natural standard, the stomach is improved in its power to digest and assimilate the food, and every organ has a purer and better quality blood supplied to it, out of which new recreative and plastic material is made.
SAVED HIS LIFE.
A REMARKABLE CURE!
Was that of Edward H. Hanson, Engineer at George Sweney's Pottery, 1331 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia. He had a violent cough, night sweats, sore throat, great weakness, spit at different times a pint of blood, gave up all hope of recovery. Through the use of "*Dr. Swayne's Wild Cherry Syrup*" became a sound and healthy man, and remains so to this day, although over twenty years have elapsed since he was cured.
PRICE ONE DOLLAR. Six bottles $5. If your druggist or storekeeper does not sell it, we will forward half dozen, freight paid, to any address, on receipt of price.
PREPARED ONLY BY
DR. SWAYNE & SON,
330 N. Sixth Street, Philadelphia
Sold by all Prominent Druggists.

Itching Piles!
PILES, PILES, ITCHING PILES,
Positively Cured by the use of
SWAYNE'S OINTMENT.
HOME TESTIMONY:
I was sorely afflicted with one of the most distressing of all diseases Piles or Piles, or more commonly known as Itching Piles. The Itching at times was almost intolerable, increased by scratching, and not unfrequently became quite sore.
I bought a box of "Swayne's Ointment." Its use gave quick relief, and in a short time made a perfect cure. I can now sleep undisturbed, and I would advise all who are suffering with this distressing complaint to procure "Swayne's Ointment" at once. I had tried prescriptions almost innumerable, without finding any permanent relief. JOS. W. CHRIST,
Firm of Roedel & Christ,
Boot and Shoe House, 344 North Second-street, Philadelphia.
SKIN DISEASES.
SWAYNE'S ALL HEALING OINTMENT is also a specific for TETTER, ITCH, SALT RHEUM, SCALD HEAD, ERYSIPELAS, BARBER'S ITCH, ITCH BLOTCHES, ALL SCALY, CRUSTY, CUTANEOUS ERUPTIONS. Perfectly safe and harmless, even on the most tender infant. Price 50 cents, 3 boxes for $1.25. Sent by mail to any address on receipt of price.
Sold by all the leading Druggists.
Prepared only by
DR. SWAYNE & SON,
330 North Sixth-st., Philadelphia.

ADORN YOUR HAIR.
USE
LONDON
Hair Color Restorer
FOR RESTORING
GRAY HAIR
To its Natural Vitality and Color.
HERE IS THE PROOF
Of its Superior Excellence.
Read this Home Certificate, testified to by Edward H. Garrigues, one of the most competent Druggists and Chemists in Philadelphia, a man whose veracity none can doubt:
I am happy to add my testimony to the great value of the "London Hair Color Restorer," which restored my hair to its original dark color, and the hue appears to be permanent. I am satisfied that this preparation is nothing like a dye, but operates upon the secretions. It is also a beautiful hair dressing, and promotes the growth. I purchased the first bottle from Ed. H. Garrigues, druggist, Tenth and Coates-sts., who can also testify my hair was very gray when I commenced its use.
MRS. MILLER,
No. 730 N. Ninth-st., Philadelphia.
DR. SWAYNE & SON.—Respected Friends: I have the pleasure to inform you that a lady of my acquaintance, Mrs Miller, is delighted with the success of your "London Color Hair Restorer." Her hair was falling rapidly and quite gray. The color has been restored, and the falling out entirely stopped by its use.
E. H. GARRIGUES,
Druggist, Cor. Tenth and Coates-sts., Phila.
All that art can accomplish in beautifying, strengthening, thickening and adorning the hair is effected by using "London Hair Color Restorer." It stimulates and forces a new growth; if gray, restores its natural color, and renders it silky and beautiful; cures dandruff; keeps the scalp clean, cool and healthy. All druggists sell it. Price 75 cents; six bottles, $4. Sent by express to any address.
SWAYNE & SON, 330 N. Sixth st., Philad'a, SOLE PROPRIETORS.
For Sale by all Druggists.
July 15, 1876-y1

A Collection of Echoes.

[*Mark Twain in the Atlantic for December.*]

"My parents died, alas! when I was a little, sinless child. My Uncle Ithuriel took me to his heart and reared me as his own. He was my only relative in the wide world; but he was good and rich and generous. He reared me in the lap of luxury. I knew no want that money could satisfy. In the fulness of time I was graduated, and went with two of my servants—my chamberlain and my valet—to travel in foreign countries. During four years I flitted upon careless wing amid the beautious gardens of the distant strand, if you will permit this form of speech in one whose tongue was ever attuned to poesy; and, indeed, I so speak with confidence as one unto his kind, for I perceive by your eyes that you, too, sir, are gifted with the divine inflation. In those far lands I revelled in the ambrosial food that fructifies the soul, the heart. But of all things, that which most appealed to my inborn æsthetic taste was the prevailing costume there among the rich of making collections of elegant and costly rarities, dainty objects de vertu, and in an evil hour I tried to uplift my Uncle Ithuriel to a plane of sympathy with this exquisite employment.

"I wrote and told him of one gentleman's vast collection of shells; another's noble collection of meerschaum pipes; another's elevating and refining collection of undecipherable autographs; another's priceless collection of china; another's enchanting collection of postage stamps—and so forth and so on. Soon my letters yielded fruit. My uncle began to look about for something to make a collection of. You may know, perhaps, how deeply a taste like this dilates. His soon became a raging fever, though I knew it not. He began to neglect his great pork business; presently he wholly retired and turned an elegant leisure into a rapid search for curious things. His wealth was vast and he spared it not. First he tried cow-bells. He made a collection which filled five large salons, and comprehended all the different sorts of cow-bells that had ever been contrived, save one. That one—an antique, and the only specimen extant—was possessed by another collector. My uncle offered enormous sums for it, but the gentleman would not sell. Doubtless you know what necessarily resulted. A true collector attaches no value to a collection that is not complete. His great heart breaks, he sells his hoard, he turns his mind to some field that seems unoccupied.

"Thus did my uncle. He next tried brickbats. After piling up a vast and intensely interesting collection the former difficulty supervened; his great heart broke again; he sold out his soul's idol to the retired brewer who possessed the missing brick. Then he tried flint hatchets and other implements of primeval man, but by and by discovered that the factory where they were made was supplying other collectors as well as himself. He tried Aztec inscriptions and stuffed whales—another failure after incredible labor and expense. When his collection seemed at last perfect a stuffed whale arrived from Greenland and an Aztec inscription from the cundurango regions of Central America that made all former insignificant. My uncle hastened to secure these noble gems. He got the stuffed whale but another collector got the inscription. A real cundurango, as possibly you know, is a possession of such supreme value that, when once a collector gets it, he will rather part with his family than with it. So my uncle sold out and saw his darlings go forth never more to return, and his coal-black hair turned white as snow in a single night.

"Now he waited and thought. He knew another disappointment might kill him. He was resolved that he would choose things next time that no other man was collecting. He carefully made up his mind, and once more entered the field—this time to make a collection of echoes."

"Of what?" said I.

"Echoes, sir. His first purchase was an echo in Georgia that repeated four times; his next was a six-repeater in Maryland; his next was a thirteen-repeater in Maine; his next was a nine-repeater in Kansas; his next was a twelve-repeater in Tennessee, which he got cheap, so to speak, because it was out of repair, a portion of the crag which reflected it having tumbled down. He believed he could repair it at the cost of a few thousand dollars, and by increasing the elevation with masonry treble the repeating capacity; but the architect who undertook the job had never built an echo before, and so he utterly spoiled this one. Before he meddled with it it used to talk back like a mother-in-law, but now it is only fit for the deaf and dumb asylum. Well, next he bought a lot of cheap little double-barrelled echoes, scattered around over various States and Territories; he got them at twenty per cent. of by taking the lot. Next, he bought a perfect Gatling gun of an echo in Oregon, and it cost a fortune, I can tell you. You may know, sir, that in the echo market the scale of prices is cumulative, like the caret scale in diamonds; in fact, the same phraseology is used. A single-carat echo is worth but $10 over and above the value of the land it is on; a two-carat or double-barreled echo is worth $30; a five-carat is worth $950; a ten-carat is worth $13,000. My uncle's Oregon echo, which he called the Great Pitt echo, was a twenty-two carat gem, and cost $216,000—they threw the land in for it was 400 miles from a settlement.

"Well, in the mean time my path was a path of roses. I was the accepted suitor of the only and lovely daughter of an English earl, and was beloved to distraction. In that dear presence I swam in seas of bliss. The family were content, for it was known that I was sole heir to an uncle held to be worth five millions of dollars. However, none of us knew that my uncle had become a collector, at least in anything more than a small way, for æsthetic amusement.

"Now gathered the clouds above my unconscious head. That divine echo, since known throughout the world as the Great Koh i-noor, or Mountain of Repetitions, was discovered. It was a sixty-five carat gem. You could utter a word, and it would talk back at you for fifteen minutes, when the day was otherwise quiet. But, behold, another discovery was made at the same time; another echo collector was in the field. The two rushed to make the purchase. The property consisted of a couple of small hills with a shallow swale between, out yonder among the back settlements of New York State. Both men arrived on the ground at the same time, and neither knew the other was there. The echo was not all owned by one man; a person by the name of Williamson Bolivar Jarvis owned the east hill, and a person by the name of Harbison J. Bledso owned the west hill; the swale between was the dividing line. So while my uncle was buying Jarvis' hill for $3,285,000 the other party was buying Bledso's hill for a shade over $3,000,000.

"Now, do you perceive the natural result? Why, the noblest collection of echoes on earth was forever and ever incomplete, since it possessed but the one-half of the king echo of the universe. Neither man was content with this divided ownership, yet neither would sell to the other. There were jawings, bickerings, heart-burnings. And at last, that other collector, with a malignity which only a collector can ever feel toward a man and a brother, proceeded to cut down his hill! You see, as long as he could not have the echo he was resolved that nobody should have it. He would remove his hill, and then there would be nothing to reflect my uncle's echo. My uncle remonstrated with him, but the man said, 'I own one end of this echo; I choose to kill my end; you must take care of your end yourself.'

"Well, my uncle got an injunction put on him. The other man appealed and fought it in a higher court. They carried it up clear to the Supreme Court of the United States. It made no end of trouble there. Two of the judges believed that an echo was personal praperty, because it was impalpable to sight and touch, and yet was purchasable, salable, and consequently taxable; two others believed that an echo was real estate, because it was manifestly attached to the land and was not removable from place to place; other of the judges contended that an echo was not property at all.

"It was finally decided that the echo was property; that the hills were property; that the two men were separate and independent owners of the two hills, but tenants in common in the echo; therefore defendant was at full liberty to cut down his hill, since it belonged solely to him, but must give bonds in $3,000,000 as indemnity for damages which might result to my uncle's half of the echo. This decision also debarred my uncle from using defendant's hill to reflect his part of the echo without defendant's consent; he must use only his own hill; if his part of the echo would not go under these circumstances it was sad, of course, but the Court could find no remedy. The Court also debarred defendant from using my uncle's hill to reflect his end of the echo without consent. You see the grand result. Neither man would give consent, and so that astonishing and most noble echo had to cease from its great powers, and since that day that magnificent property is tied up and unsalable.

"A week before my wedding day, while I was still swimming in bliss and the nobility were gathering from far and near to honor our espousals, came news of my uncle's death, and also a copy of his will making me sole heir. He was gone; alas! my dear benefactor was no more. The thought surcharges my heart even at this remote day. I handed the will to the Earl; I could not read it for the blinding tears. The Earl read it; then he sternly said: 'Sir, do you call this wealth?—but doubtless you do in your inflated country. Sir, you are left sole heir to a vast collection of echoes—if a thing can be called a collection that is scattered far and wide over the huge length and breadth of the American continent; sir, this is not all; you are head and ears in debt; there is not an echo in the lot but has a mortgage on it; sir, I am not a hard man, but I must look to my child's interest; if you had out one echo which you could honestly call your own, if you had but one echo which was free from encumbrance, so that you could retire to it with my child, and by humble, painstaking industry cultivate and improve it and thus wrest from it a maintenance, I would not say you nay; but I cannot marry my child to a beggar. Leave his side, my darling; go, sir; take your mortgage-ridden echoes and quit my sight forever.'

"My noble Celestine clung to me in tears, with loving arms, and swore she would willingly, nay, gladly, marry me, though I had not an echo in the world. But it could not be. We were torn asunder, she to pine and die within the twelve-month, I to toil life's long journey sad and lone, praying daily, hourly, for that release which shall join us together in that dear realm where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest. Now, sir, if you will be so kind as to look at these maps and plans in my portfolio I am sure I can sell you an echo for less money than any man in the trade. Now this one, which my uncle got thirty years ago, and is one of the sweetest things in Texas, I will let you have it for—"

"Let me interrupt you," I said. "My friend, I have not had a moment's respite from canvassers this day. I have bought a sewing machine which I did not want, I have bought a map which is mistaking in all its details; I have bought a clock which will not go; I have bought a moth poison which the moths prefer to any other beverage; I have bought no end of useless inventions, and now I have had enough of this foolishness. I would not have one of your echoes if you were even to give it to me. I would not let it stay in the place. I always hate a man that tries to sell me echoes. You see this gun. Now take your confection and move on; let us not have bloodshed."

But he only smiled a sad, sweets mile, and got out some more diagrams. You know the result perfectly well, because you know that when you have once opened the door to a canvasser the trouble is done and you have got to suffer defeat. I compromised with this man at the den of an innocent hour. I bought two double-barrelled echoes in good condition, and he threw in another, which he said was not salable because it only spoke German. He said: "she was a perfect polyglot once, but somehow her palate got down."