### FRANCIS MURPHY'S STORY.

H's Account of the Tragic Occurrence which Led to his Recognized Transcrines Octor.

Francis Murphy, the temperance re-vivalist, has given the Troy (N. Y.) Times the following history of the events which culminated in his entering the

lecture field as a temperance orator : In the year 1850 I was propriator of the Bradley Hotel, at Portland, Me. It was a respective busies, and enjoyed a good reputation and patronage. On the Ist of September of that year the St. John's boat arrived at the whurf, and a large number of quests entered the hotel to particle of breakfast, and some registered with the view of remaining in the city. After the musts had prepared themselves for breaktast, they were all shown to the dining room with the exception of one man, who remained seated in the office, with head bowed and hands covering his face. I asked him whether he was going in to break-fast. He lifted his head and said, "I have got no means of paying for it." I bade him to go right in and get something to est. I saw by his looks that he had been drinking, and stood in need of a substantial meal. There was a scar on his face, and he said to me, "I've been having a pretty hard time, and would like to have something to drink more than food." I took him them by the taile; and that no person into the bar and gave him some liquor, after which he went into the diring room and partook of breakfast. Upou coming out he desired an interview with me, when he told me he was a tailor by trade, an utter stranger in the city, that he had no means, and asked me if I would trust him to a week's board, pro would do that; and more than that, I would do that; and more than that, I interested myself in his welfare, and webt out and secured a situation for him. It's name was entered, upon the registry of the hotel - Patrick Murray, St. John's, N. B. On the evening of the 3d of September he came in late to The wife of Capt, Hager, of New York-who was superintending the ex-cavations in the harbor -her sister and cousin, with two children, were scated at their private table. Murray began in a free way a conversation with Mrs. gan Hager, whereupon the waiter requested him to desist. He arose from the table in an angry mood and left the dining room. Mrs. Hager paid no attention to the man, and upon concluding sup-per went to the sitting room and engaged in conversation with Mrs. Murphy, after which she started to her own apar ments, and Murray assaulted her. I was summoned, and, Murray, declin-ing to quit my house, I tried to pull him out, and after a struggle he fell to the foot of the staircase with a fractur-ed skull. He died four days afterward. I was arrested and tried for the

murder of that man. The trial lasted eight days and occasioned great excitement. I had to meet the projudice of the friends of the Maine liquor in w from the fact that I kept a hotel at which liquor was sold, and I was bitterly de-nounced and charged with having given nounced and charged with having given the man liquor. I never gave him but one glass of liquor in my life, and that was for medicine, and I had done all I could to assist him to a life of sobriety and usefulness. I can never tell how much I suffered for being tried for mur-der in the presence of my wife and much I suffered for being tried for mur-der in the presence of my wife and family and friends. The verdict was manslaughter. The case was appealed, and I was admitted to bail in the sum of \$10,000. Gen, Shepley and A. A. Stoat becoming my bondsmen. I res turned home very much depressed to think I had been convicted of such a helmous offence, when before Gou I knew I was entirely innocent. I then was very much treabled, though patient and kind, and bore in her fare the sufand kind, and bore in her face the suf-ferings she endured at the terrible calamity that had come upon us and our children. For about one year I kepton tute circumstances. I remained in jail to whom the letter is to come, accord-three months. On the 15th of August, ing to another popular superstition, the at a religious meeting held in the prison by Capt. Cyrus Sturtevant, I made up my mind, God heiping me, never to sell another drop or drink another glass of perance, and from that time, April, 1871, I date my entrance into the work to which I have dedicated the remainder of my life.

beating it on the head on either side, according to the direction required. This custom prevailed for a considerable time, in spite of a law which was passed in the early part of the seventeenth century imposing severe penal-tics upon persons found guilty of "plow-ing by the horse's tail." A paper in the "Transactions of the Society of An tigencies of Scatland" speaks of "the awaward custom of yoking horses by the tall, and the driver of harrows walking backward, with his face direct-ly turned to the horse which be led." The Rev. C. Olway, says: "In ancient times, all through the West of Ireland, it was the practice to work both the the plow and the barrow with borses drawing from their tails. I am assured that it is still (1840) a part of the Erris instandry." In 1634, during the reign of Charles L, the Irish Parlia-ment passed the following: "Act against Pionghing by the Tayle, Pull-ing the Wool off Elving Sheep?" "No outputs of parliaments shall. person or persons whatsoever shall, after one years next ensueing the end of the present Parliament, plough harrow, draw, or worke with any horse. or persons whatsoever shall, after the end of this present Parliament, pull the wool off any living sheep, or cause or procure to be pulled instead of shearing or clipping of them, and if any shall do contrarie to this act and the intention thereof, that the justices of assize at

wards before the miserable animal, and

the general assizes to be holden before them, and the justices of peace at their quarter-sessions, shall have power by this net to enquire of, heare and determine all and every offence and offences done contrary to the present act, and to punish the offenders which shall do contrary to the same, by fine and imprisonment, as they in their discretion shall think fit."

#### CANDLE OMENS AND SUPERSTI- being extensively employed for TIONS.

The customs and superstitions con-nected with candles are extremely nu-merons. A letter in the London Times of 25th March, 1873, relates to sales "by inch of candles?" "When the bid-ding is opened, a so all candle --similar to a yesta--is lighted; at each bid a new one is lighted and if no new bid is given one is lighted and it no new out's given before it goes out, a second, and on that going out without a bid, a third candle is lighted. The fast bidder at the time the third candle goes out is declared the purchaser." In Pepys's Diary, under the date 6th November, 1660, we read: "To our office where we not all for the sub of the shift of a met all for the sale of two ships by an inch of candle-the first time that 1 ever saw any of this kind-where I obever saw any of this kind—where I od-served how they do invite one mother, and at lenst how they all do ery, and we have much to do to tell who did cry last." The word "ery" used here is evidently the same as our medern word "bid." The custom, like many another, has not wholly did out in England, as the following from a Bristol paper of the 20th March, 1873, proves: "The practice of letting by luch of catalle still prevails in the county of Dorset. At the annual letting of the parish meadow of Broadway, near Weymouth, incoming tenant. This year the candle was extinguished suddenly."

Candle omens are Lumerous and vari ous. Some are almost too well known children. For about one year I kepton drinking, and became exceedingly reck-less. My friends had mo locked up July 30, 1870, in the county jail in Portland, after which my famity re-moved from the hotel and were compeli-of tailow," says throw, "rising up against the wick of a candle, is sight to fine the motion of tailow," says throw, "rising up against the wick of a candle, is sight the winding sie et, and deemed an omen of death in the famity," The same moved from the hotel and were compell-ed to take up quarters in a little tene-ment house on what was known as the "back cove," and were in very desti-tute circumstances. I remained to were the person opposite to it will shortly receive a letter. To find er place." another popular superstition, candle-stick should be struck on the table, and whoever the spark falls opposite will receive the letter. If it fails after one knock, it comes the next day; after one knock, it comes the next day; intoxicating liquor. Meantime the case had been appealed and the ventiet sus-fained. I was arraigned and somenced the visit of a stranger from that port of for a period of sixty days in the county jall at Portland. On the expiration of my sontence I was invited to deliver an address in the City Hall on Gospel ten-gerance, and from that time. Another the second day, and so on. A kind of fungas in the conde predicts the visit of a stranger from that port of the country nearest the object. Upon this that pedantice writer Sir Thomas Browne observes: "The fungous par-ects about the wicks of candles only indicate a moist and pluvious air, which hinders the avoiation of the light and favillous particles, wherenoon they set the upon the smast. That candles and lights burn blue and dim at the appar llights durn blue and dim at the appari-tion of spirits may be troe, if the am-bient air be full of sulphareous spirits, as it happens often in mines." Can-dies when they burn blue are a sign of a spirit in the house or not far from it, says Melton, in his "Astrologaster." And Hero says to her lover in "Oyld Transition." Travestle ?' Vestle 1." \* For list hight late, to two yest true, My scale, and set, hight how, Wi sci, and poor me in month is sta. And expectation of blacks spiratell." W-10 sensor eyes, and harms, and call."

waking dreams, says, "The girls have their omens too; they saw rings in the candle." A writer in the Gentleman's Magazine, 1795, states that the Irish, when they put out a candle, say, "May the Lord renew or send us the light of heaven." George Herbert also refers to the saying in his "Country Parson." The Venetians have a blt of folk-lore, which reads: " On the wedding night heave the candle burning, as the one who puts it out will die first."

-A young New Yorker who has been travelling in the East, could not resist the temptation of journeying to Bagdad. which through the "Arabian Nights" and their roseate descriptions of the saracenic capital. He has written home a private letter expressing his. bitter disappointment at the Bagdad of his fancy as compared with the Bagdad of fact. Instead of finding a beautiful and wonderful city, the centre of Arabic civilization and refinement, possessed of 300,000 picturesque inhabitants, he found a shrunken town of 60,-000 ignorant and repulsive mussulmans, with narrow, dirty, unpaved streets, full of ruts, and strewed with carcases which would make perpetual pestilence, but for devouring dogs, the only scavengers.

 $-\Delta$  very simple process is freeing, woodland newly brought into cultivation from the stumps of trees. A hole about two inches in diameter and eighteen inches in depth is bored in the stump about autumn, filed with a concentrated solution of saltpetre, and closed with a plug. In the following spring a pint or so of Pams in the Back, Sides, and Loins are post petroleum is poured in the same hole and set on fire. During the course of the winter the saltpetre solution has penetrated every portion in Gravel, Bright's disease, Seminal lasses, Len contrast and lost vigor, no matter of how long the stump, so that not only in from one to these days. Do not despain hese liate or doubt for it is really a specific and neverfuls. It is guredy a vasciable program-tion. By its time y use thousands of cases that this, but also the roots, are thoroughly burnt out. The ash is left in situ, and forms a valuable manure.

have been considered incurable by the most emiment Paysicians have been permanently cured. It is also moor set by the regular J'hy-so and and Medical Societies throughout the -Some time ago, when a former Commissioner of Indi-an Affairs, Mr. N. G. Taylor, was explaining to Little Ray- tar each. Al orders to be adarcessed to en the chief of Arapahoes, the difference between heaven and hell, and the fact that each 554 MAIN ST., WORCESTER, MASS. would be open to mankind,irrespective of race or color, the chief answered; "It is a good notion-heap good-for if all HAVORITE PUBLICATIONS. the whites are like the ones I know, when Indian gets to heaven few whites will trouble him-pretty much all go t'oth-

P PLANE LESTIE'S CHIMNEY CORN'E. - This resulting periodical, the best American amits 1-arial, sory ruley and house famid-ments to a rule and the construction of the matrix star and the series of the series of the parameter of the original depends of our propio-ant into the neuron and been so for propio-tic series in the construction of the series of the best of the construction of the parameter of the most substructure of the parameter of great neuron the most of the series in the set of the best of the construction of the series of the most substructure and which of merid, taking a most from the full which of merid, taking as —Those newspapers which are too proud or too obstinate to retract any unjust or improper language which they have admitted to their columns should profit by the example of an example of the obstant. The subjects we have the bolt of the obstant we have a different we have a Those newspapers which refer to the unseemly habit of asking a mature single lady her age. This is insolent, but may be forgiven. But to ask a society " colonel " the number of his regiment or the scene of his service-that sort of scene has gone quite far enough.



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#### HISTORY OF THE PLOW.

The history of the plow is remarkable; the most ancient and simple of ma-chines, yet it has been almost the last to indergo improvement. The first plow is supposed to have been the rule branch of a tree, cut so as to have a cleft end, the point of which, dragged atong the surface of the ground, scrap-ed a fuirrow into which seed were thrown. It seen occurred to the husthrown. It such contrast to the hus-bandman that he might relieve his own habor by yoking an animal to the long arm of this primitive instrument; then arose the necessary for a handle, added to the back, so that the plow might be guided. The strength of the animal scon wore away or broke the cleft of the branch, and this beceasity gave rise to the invention of means for attaching movable shares, first af would and next movable shares, first of wood, and next of stone, copper or iron, worked to a shape adapted to the cutting of furrows, so as to avoid the excussive labor aris-ing from the plowman's having to lean upon the plow with all his weight to upon the plow with all his weight to press if into the earth. Just such an implementaethese, conjectures indicate, was by the Saxons. Some of the facts connected with the history of the plow connected with the astrry of the piece are almost incredible. In Invland there once provalled a custom of "plowing by horse's tail." The draught-pole was hashed to the twill of the horse, and, as no harness was employed, two men horse's tait." The draught-pole was tashed to the tail of the horse, and, as no harmess was completed, two men too, is supposed to secure for himself there the secure tashed being the secure too the plow, the other to direct the linge, when he did by walking hack.

And the following beautiful lines, from the "Knight of the Burning Pesile," show the significance of bluish burning camiles :

Surfing catalies :
Course, you wrone lowers are dead, And whiles I alog, Weip and wring
Every head, and wring
Every head, and overy head
It is with express suddeat rew. Rounds blans at a disputies on a Kat blan their wiss of men monerma?
A candle burning blan seems, however, the burning blan seems, however,

to be, besides, a sign of frost :

through a sign of the error of

-Square umbrellas are reported as the latest things in Paris. That's nothing. We have been using square um-Condies are said to be difficult to light when there is an approach of wet weather, and the same reason will cause their wicks to swell and emit small exbrellas a long time: at least

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