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MISCELLANEOUS.

MIDNIGHT.

Hufeland, in his treatise on sleep, has some curious as well as forcible ideas on the necessity of devoting midnight to rest and sleep. He considers that the period of twenty-four hours, which is produced by the revolution of the earth on its axis, marks its influence most definitely on the physical economy of man. Diseases show this regular influence in their daily rise and fall. Settled regular fevers exhibit a twenty-four hour flux and reflux. In a healthful state, there is manifest the same regular influence, and the more habitual our meals, our hours of exercise or employment, and our hours of sleep, the more power is there in the system to resist disease. In the morning, the pulse is slower, the nerves calmer, and the mind and body fitted for every description of labor. As we advance towards the evening of the day the pulse becomes accelerated, and an almost feverish state is produced, which, in excitable people, becomes an absolute evening fever. Rest carries off this fever by its sleep, and the refreshing opening of its pores which sleep produces. In this nightly respiration, there is an absolute crisis of this evening fever, and this periodical crisis is necessary to every one, for it carries off whatever useless or pernicious particles our bodies may have imbibed.

This evening fever, Hufeland thinks, is not entirely owing to the accession of new chyle to the system, but to the sun and of the light. The crisis of this fever, to be most effective by regularity, ought to take place at midnight when the sun is in its nadir, and then the body becomes refreshed for the early morning labor. Those who neglect this period, either push this diurnal crisis into the morning, and thus undermine the importance of its regularity, or lose it entirely, and arise to their labors unrefreshed by sleep. Their bodies will not have been purified by the nightly crisis, and seeds of disease will thus have been planted.

Nervous people are peculiarly subject to the influence of this evening fever, and think they cannot labor without its excitement. Hence their mental efforts are performed in the night alone, the important time for the crisis of their nervous excitement passes over in wakefulness and no refreshing perspiration cleanses the body or strengthens the nerves. Such people will wear out soon unless they change their habits and seek rest when nature and the human constitution dictate.

These considerations ought to be deeply studied and regarded by all who are in the ruinous habit of turning night into day, and of changing the functions of each. A failure of health will soon manifest the truth of these remarks.—*Hartford Courant.*

A FEMALE BEAR HUNTER.

A work on "Oriental and Western Liberia" has just been published in London, some extracts of which and among others the following appear in the London Athenaeum. The people there are mighty hunters, but mightiest among them all was Anna Petrovna, the scourge of bears—young, slim, firm-footed, pretty, powerful and active. In girlhood she had started out to emulate her brothers and bring home a bearskin. It was the practice of this Amazon to track the terrible game herself, and once, hearing that a huge black bear had been seen in a neighboring forest, she rose before dawn, rode thither, and dismounted, and found his trail:
 "There was a heavy dew on the grass in the open glades, and she observed that Bruin was taking his morning rambles, his track being quite fresh. Looking to the priming of her rifle and adding powder to her flask, she went on with a firm step. The bear had made many turnings on his march, but she followed him with all the sagacity of a blood-hound, and never once lost his trail. Hour after hour passed, however, and she had not caught a glimpse of him. As it threatened to be a long chase, Anna had recourse to her little bag, sat down by a small stream and made her breakfast on a piece of rye bread, washed down with a draught from the pure liquid flowing at her feet. Having ended her frugal meal, she shouldered her rifle and pushed on. She had another long and fruitless walk. Satisfied, however, that she was on his track, she pursued it till she arrived at a bed of high plants, that included the giant fennel, of the flowers of which the bears are very fond.
 While proceeding along the edge of this bed, a fresh indication, well known to hunters, assured her that the long sought for game was at hand. As she was creeping cautiously forward, out rushed the bear, with a loud growl, about twenty yards in front. Quickly she threw forward the prongs of her rifle, dropped on her knee and got a good sight, the animal staring at her, almost motionless. She now touched the trigger, there followed a flash, a savage growl succeeded, then a struggle for a minute or two, and her wish was accomplished—the bear lay dead! After taking off his skin, she started in search of her horse, which she found at no great distance; for she had been brought back nearly to the spot where she commenced the chase.

She was shortly on her way home, and astonished her family on her entrance to the cottage, by throwing the skin on the floor. Since this time, Anna Petrovna has engaged with and killed sixteen bears."

Drunkenness and Insanity.—The following statistics show that insanity exists in all countries in the ratio of drunkenness:—In Holland and Belgium the consumption of intoxicating drinks is two gallons to every individual, and there is one lunatic to every 3000 people; in France the consumption is five gallons to every individual, and there is one lunatic to every 600 of the people; in Normandy three and a half gallons of intoxicating drinks are consumed by each individual, and there is one lunatic to every 750 of the people; in America three gallons are consumed by each individual, and there is a lunatic to every 650 of the people; in England three gallons are consumed by each, and there is a lunatic to every 800 of the people; in Scotland four gallons are consumed by each, and there is a lunatic to every 679 of the people; in Ireland there are five and a half gallons consumed by every man, woman and child, at least that amount in proportion to population, and there is in that country one lunatic to every 550 of the people.

A Brutal Execution.—A revolting scene recently took place in the city of Cologne at an execution. A woman convicted of the murder of her husband was to be decapitated by the guillotine. She was placed in proper position by the executioner, but the knife instead of descending perpendicularly took an oblique direction, and was buried deep in the victim's shoulder blades. A defect was found in the machinery, a blacksmith had to be sent for, and a full half hour elapsed before the instrument was repaired. At the second descent of the knife, the spectators were horrified to observe that the instrument again missed its aim and entered the shoulders of the unfortunate criminal. Some time again elapsed before, at the third attempt, the instrument fairly separated the head from the shoulders. It appears that the executioner had been but recently appointed, and was not sufficiently versed in the minutiae of his art.

Death of a Widow at Prayer.—A lady named Catharine Gray, who resided in Newark, N. J., fell dead in her house, at an early hour on Tuesday morning, while at prayer. Her death is attributed to grief and depression of spirits by the death of her husband, who was lost by the wreck of the Central America, on which he was a passenger. Both the death of herself and husband have been occasioned by the delay in the reception of a letter by her husband, who was in California. He sent a letter containing a check for \$250, and stated that when she acknowledged its receipt he would forward another. By some means the letter was delayed, and a number of steamers having arrived since he wrote, without bringing him an answer from his wife, he feared that something was wrong, and took passage home in the ill fated Central America, and met a watery grave. Three children, the eldest but two years old, are left orphans.

A Case of Destitution.—A friend told us a few days since of a case of destitution, in a neighboring township, such as we were not prepared to hear of in our country.—Our informant was called upon to make a coffin for a girl of about 14 or 16 years of age, who had died. When he went to the house, he found no furniture of any description in the same; the mother had no shoes or stockings, nothing but a thin calico dress, and the children were no better clad than she was. There was not a bite of food in the house, and starvation was staring them in the face, and it is feared that this was the real affliction which caused the poor girl's death. Our informant immediately went to work among the neighbors, and collected provisions to supply their present urgent wants.—*Clearfield Journal.*

Make a Beginning.—Remember, that in all things, if you do not begin, you will never come to an end. The first weed pulled up in the garden, the first seed set in the ground, the first shilling put in the savings bank, and the first mile travelled in a journey, are all important things—they make a beginning, and thereby a hope, a promise, a pledge, an assurance that you are in earnest with what you have undertaken. How many a poor, idle, erring, hesitating outcast is now creeping and crawling his way through the world, who might have held up his head and prospered, if, instead of putting off his resolutions of amendment and industry, he had only made a beginning.

A German prince, in a dream, seeing three rats—one fat, the other lean, and the third blind—sent for a celebrated Bohemian gypsy, and demanded an explanation. "The fat rat," said the sorcerer, "is your prime minister, the lean rat your people, and the blind rat yourself."

A man in Rhode Island lately committed suicide by hanging himself two days after he had married a girl thirteen years of age.

Principal Events of General and Local Interest During the Year 1857.

August.
 1st. Cambria Rolling Mill, Pennsylvania, burned; loss \$60,000.—Moses murdered by Donnelly in New Jersey.—T. L. Tompkins murdered in New York.—J. P. Beane killed at Baltimore.—Prize fight in Canada; Bradley beats Ranken.
 2d. Political riots in Baltimore.
 3d. Eugene Sue died near Armeey, France.
 4th. Mrs. Cunningham arrested for production of fictitious heir to estate of Dr. Burdell, at New York.—Hon. J. C. Dobbin died at Fayetteville, North Carolina.—\$60,000 of property burned at Painesville, Ohio.—Prof. Wm. Couper, of Glasgow, died.
 5th. Atlantic telegraph cable landed at Valencia, Ireland, and laying begun.—Riots between Police and Irish in New York.
 6th. Fire at Bloomington, Illinois; destroyed \$50,000 of property.
 7th. Cable of Atlantic telegraph, while being paid out from United States Steamer Niagara, broke; three hundred miles had been laid.—In Jourdepo, Persia, fort struck by lightning; magazine exploded, killing one thousand people.
 8th. John Wilson Croker, the reviewer, died, aged twenty-seven.
 9th. One man, with seventy mules, burned in a stable at New Orleans.—Storm and flood in England; many lives lost by drowning.
 10th. William Lee Smith shot dead in Philadelphia by George Freeth.—Storm in Western Virginia; three men killed by lightning.
 11th. English emigrant ship Dunbar wrecked off Sydney; every soul (121) lost but one sailor named Johnson; loss \$500,000.
 12th. D. S. McKim hung at Hollidaysburg.—Steamers M. Taylor and Spaulding burned at Jersey City.—Several persons killed during hurricane in Missouri.—In about one hour a desperate man named Robinson, in Texas, killed three men, tried to kill his wife and blew his own brains out.
 13th. Destructive hail storm in West Pennsylvania.—One of Dupont's powder mills exploded, killing A. I. Dupont and three workmen.
 14th. Money panic started at New York by failure of Ohio Life and Trust Company; \$1,000,000 of attachments issued, mainly by foreign creditors.—John E. Thayer, Boston millionaire died.
 15th. Rev. Rufus W. Griswold died at N. York, aged 43.
 16th. Skirmish between United States Cavalry and Indians in Minnesota; 3 Indians killed and 8 wounded and captured.
 17th. Martin G. Penn, prominent politician died in Louisiana.

September.

1st. Fearful panic in New York money market; defalcation in Mechanics' Banking Association discovered and many failures occurred.
 2d. Election day in California; smart earthquake felt in various parts of the State.
 3d. Carpenter's Hall, in which first Congress sat, re-occupied by Carpenters' Society, it being anniversary of Congress meeting there.—Three men killed and cars smashed by accident on Camden and Atlantic Railroad.—Barque Ala, of Philadelphia, sailed for London with sixteen souls on board and a full cargo. Never heard from.
 4th. Religious riots in Belfast, Ireland; one killed.
 5th. Rev. J. B. Finley, pioneer Methodist minister in the West, died at Eaton, Ohio.
 6th. Rev. Dr. John Ludlow died in Philadelphia.—Bent capsized at Milwaukee; six men drowned.
 7th. Submarine telegraph, connecting Europe and Africa, laid between Bona and Tenada, 145 miles.
 8th. Massacre of emigrants by Indians and Mormons on the plains near Santa Clara.
 9th. August Comte died in France, aged 60.
 10th. Gale and marine disasters on Southern U. S. Coast.
 11th. California steamer Central America Capt. Herndon, sunk after a heavy gale, carrying down nearly every man on board; total number lost, 350; saved, 178; women and children saved by brig Marine, having been sent on board before the C. A. sunk; the Marine and barque Ellen saved many on board the C. A. at the time she went down; Capt. H. was among the lost; the steamer a total loss, with \$1,600,000 in specie.—Six persons poisoned in Alabama, by a negro cook, who was immediately burnt alive.
 12th. Brigham Young publicly denounced and defied U. S. authority at Salt Lake City.
 13th. Andrew Jackson, Sr., refuses to deliver Gen. Jackson's snuff box, bequeathed to "the bravest son of New York," to Major Dyckman.—Brig Nancy, of Halifax, wrecked; seven of her crew lost, two saved, after being lashed to the rigging five days.
 14th. Two hundred vessels burnt and sunk at Novaya-Ladoga near St. Petersburg, loss immense.—Chief Justice H. C. Murray, of California, died at Sacramento.
 15th. Yellow fever becomes epidemic at Lisbon, causing great excitement in Portugal.
 16th. City of Paita, Peru, damaged to the extent of \$500,000 by an earthquake; river Paita suddenly rose to a great height.—City of Delhi taken by the British, after five months' siege; assault lasted six days; great slaughter of East Indians; King of Delhi and two sons taken prisoners, and the latter shot.
 17th. Gen. Nicholson, R. A., died of wounds at Delhi.
 18th. Russian line-of-battle Lefort founded in a squall in Gulf of Finland; upwards of 1000 souls perished.
 19th. Conspiracy of Santa Anna to revolutionize Mexico discovered and frustrated.
 20th. Stringency in Philadelphia money market reached panic; Bank of Pennsylvania suspended, causing a run on all other Banks.—Emperors of France and Russia met for conference at Stuttgart.
 21st. Run on Philadelphia Banks continued with such vigor as induced partial suspension by all; \$5 and \$10 notes paid and

checks marked; interior Banks generally suspended, with Baltimore and Wilmington Banks.
 22nd. Panic in money tremendous; Philadelphia Banks all in confusion; call issued for extra session Pennsylvania Legislature; suspension extended to Washington and the Virginia Banks.
 23rd. Brigham Young, by proclamation, orders the U. S. troops to leave Utah, and defies United States.
 24th. New York Banks hold out; money reported easier and no failures; startling defalcation of F. W. Porter, Secretary American S. S. Union—\$88,000 disappeared.

October.

1st. Emperors of Austria and Russia hold conference at Weimar.
 2d. Panic awful in New York; all market falling and no sale for any stocks.—Fire man killed by falling walls at Pittsburgh.—Propeller and warehouses burned at Sandusky, Ohio.—Ragmurb mutineers defeated in India; forty-five British killed.
 3d. Thomas Kilby cuts off his wife's head in Montgomery county, Pa.—Gen. Greathead beats Sepoys at Bolundshur; fort of Malabar taken from Sepoys.
 4th. Firemen's parade in Philadelphia; first for five years.—Governments trains destroyed by Mormons near South Pass.—Gen. Greathead beats Indian mutineers at Allyghur; British loss 100, mutineers 1000.
 5th. Election in Kansas carried by Free State party; M. J. Parrott elected Congressional delegate by 5000 majority.
 6th. National fast day, on account of Indian troubles, in England.
 7th. Gloomy times in New York; Bowen & McNamee, with other firms, failed.—Two shocks of earthquake at St. Louis and in Illinois.—Bank of England advanced rate of discount to 6 per cent. on hearing of American crisis.
 8th. Two bank suspensions in New York.—Gov. Walker, of Kansas, refused to receive pro-slavery fraudulent election returns and driven out of Leocompton.—American ship Warden dashed to pieces on the English coast; 7 men drowned.
 9th. Illinois Central and Erie Railroad protested in New York and Brooklyn Savings Banks.—G. W. P. Custis died at Arlington, Va.—Thomas Crawford, sculptor, died at London, aged 43.
 10th. Gen. W. F. Packer, elected governor of Pennsylvania; S. P. Chase, Governor of Ohio; Americans carry Maryland; riots in Baltimore; three killed.—Eighteen New York Banks suspended.—Douglas Maguire, first editor in Indiana, died.
 11th. \$50,000 of property burned at Grand Tour, Illinois.
 12th. After desperate struggles the 57 New York Banks all suspended specie payments, causing suspension all over the State. New England, Michigan, and all over United States.
 13th. Train on New York Central Railroad thrown down embankment; 2 killed, 20 wounded.—Steamer Tropic sunk in Missouri river; 15 lives lost.
 14th. Fire and gunpowder explosion at Brownsville, Texas; 4 killed; loss \$200,000.
 15th. Walls of new beer vault fell in at Williamsburg, N. Y.; 4 men killed.—Two murders in Brooklyn.—In New York, Rogers, aged 17, kills Swanston.
 16th. Desperate affrays with fatal results in Boston.—Schooner with warehouses, burned at Port Stanley, C. W.; loss \$60,000.
 17th. Terrible fire in Chicago; twenty persons killed; loss \$600,000.—Storm on Lake Michigan, vessels lost and thirty men drowned on steamer Reindeer.
 18th. News of loss of Central America received California, causing general gloom; little business done in San Francisco.
 19th. Slight earthquake in Southern New York.—Sugar refinery burned at Cincinnati; loss \$50,000.
 20th. Financial panic in England and on the Continent; many heavy failures.
 21st. Utica (N. Y.) lock factory burned; loss \$50,000.—Gen. Valentine Best died at Danville, Pa.
 22nd. Baltimore placed under martial law by Gov. Ligon; great fears of political riots.—Freshets in Northern New York and New England; great damage to canals and railroads.—Boiler explosion, wounding several persons, at Providence, R. I.; loss \$60,000.
 23rd. Gen. Cavaignac died in France, aged 55.

November.

1st. Railroad depot at Cairo, Ill., burned; loss \$150,000—800 English troops defeated mutineers at Kutina, India.
 2d. Unsuccessful attempt to launch steamer Great Eastern (or Leviathan) at Millwall, London—New York State election carried by Democrats, Wisconsin and Massachusetts by Republicans, Louisiana and New Jersey by Democrats, and Maryland by Americans—Colonel Johnson, commanding U. S. Utah Expedition, arrived at Camp on Ham's Fork and pushed on towards Salt Lake.
 3d. Financial crisis at its height in England; consols 88; many failures—Richard Carter, President of Anthracite Bank, Tamagqua, shot dead in Philadelphia by T. W. Smith.
 4th. Rate of discount raised to 9 per cent. by Bank of England.
 5th. Mass meetings of unemployed in New York; march through Wall street, causing excitement among financiers—Shocking murders, rapes, &c., in New York—Comonfort made Dictator of Mexico.
 6th. Tornado along Memphis and Ohio Railroad in Tennessee—Contingent of Madepore (East Indian) troops murder their officers, but are routed by British—Hamilton shot dead in New York by Marony.
 7th. Unemployed demonstrations in New York, causing much excitement—Meeting of stockholders of Bank of Pennsylvania; directors resign and declare affairs in utter confusion—Sir Colin Campbell, with 5000 men, crossed the Ganges to relieve Lucknow.
 8th. Goshen Bank, New York, robbed of \$20,000—Stores in Tremont Row, Boston, burned; loss \$100,000.—Rate of discount raised to 10 per cent. by Bank of England—Western Bank of Scotland suspended.
 9th. Bank panic everywhere in Great Britain; at Hamburg many failures—Gen. Wm. Walker with 300 filibusters escapes from New Orleans—Heavy fire at Sonora, Cal.

12th. Unemployed demonstrations in Philadelphia and New York—Steamboat Reindeer sunk in the Mississippi—British panic suddenly arrested by issue of small notes and suspension of Bank Charter Act.
 13th. Upper Mississippi river closed by ice—Gen. Walker sailed from Mobile on new Nicaragua expedition.
 14th. Mills burned at Lockport, N. Y.; loss \$100,000—Gulf steamer Opelousas lost, with twenty-five lives; among the lost Gen. Hamilton of South Carolina.
 15th. Geo. R. Gliddon, Egyptologist, died at Panama, aged 50.
 16th. Steamboat Cataract burst boiler at Lisbon, Mo.; five killed and fifteen wounded—Panic in breadstuffs market in England; lower qualities totally unsaleable—Francis Vincent murdered in New York.
 17th. Canemi convicted of murder of policeman Anderson of New York.
 18th. Second attempt to launch steamer Leviathan.
 19th. Very heavy snow storm in New York, New England and Canada; gale on Lakes—Four murders and several outrages in and about New York—Steamboat Rainbow burned near Napoleon, Arkansas; seventy lives lost—Storm on Ohio river; coal boats sunk and lives lost—Half of Olean, New York, burned; loss \$60,000—Free State Convention in Kansas resolved to stand by the Topeka Constitution.
 20th. \$50,000 worth of property burned at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.
 21st. James G. Birney died at Eagleswood, New Jersey.
 22nd. Worth monument inaugurated at New York—General Walker lands at Punta Arenas.
 23rd. Rupture between President and Gov. Walker about Kansas; breach in Democratic party widening—Thanksgiving in twenty States—Athenian building in Philadelphia burned; loss \$35,000.
 24th. W. S. Tuckerman arrested for mail robbery at New Haven, Connecticut.
 25th. Steamer Allegheny sunk at St. Louis; two men drowned; loss \$25,000—Financial panic reached Warsaw, where numerous failures occurred.

December.

1st. D. F. Tieman elected Mayor of New York over F. Wood—Martha A. McIntyre murders her own illegitimate twins and her mistress's child, at Tamworth, N. H.—Five negroes sentenced to be hung at Natchez, Miss., for murdering their overseers.
 2d. Money pressure at Hamburg heightened; confidence being restored.
 3d. Exposition of shocking swindling and forgery in Board of Health at Philadelphia—Railroaders in employ of Erie Railroad strike and commit outrages at Piermont—Christian Rauch, German sculptor, died at Dresden.
 4th. Renewal of panic at Hamburg; forty-one houses failed up to date.
 5th. Thirty-fifth Congress organized—Warehouses on Market and Eighth streets, Philadelphia, burned—Pension granted to Gen. Havelock, R. A., for brilliant services in India.
 6th. First message of President Buchanan read in Congress—Extra session Kansas Legislature convened—Commodore Paulding, U. S. N., captures Gen. Walker, with 150 men, at Punta Arenas.
 7th. Acting Governor (Secretary) Stanton removed by the President—Senator Douglas delivers his great speech, attacking the administration and defending the Nebraska bill.
 8th. German law in relation to commercial bills suspended for relief of Hamburg merchants.
 9th. Specie payment resumed by thirty-seven New York banks; twenty having broken up during panic.
 10th. Col. F. M. Wyncoop accidentally killed near Tamaqua, Pa.
 11th. R. J. Walker resigned Governorship of Kansas—A Swiss, named Albert Stroub, kills his wife and two children at Westfield, Mass.
 12th. Fight between pro and anti-slavery men at Fort Scott, Kansas; several reported killed.
 13th. President's message received with depression by Kansas Legislature.
 14th. Slight shock of earthquake in South Carolina.
 15th. C. W. Little killed at Rochester, N. Y., by wife and brother-in-law.
 16th. Free State men refuse to vote in Kansas, and Leocompton Constitution adopted with slavery clause.
 17th. Final passage of bill authorizing issue of \$20,000,000 U. S. treasury notes.
 18th. Resolution, virtual declaration of war against Utah, passed by House at Washington.
 19th. Murders and outrages in Philadelphia—Fire at Buffalo, N. Y.; loss \$25,000.
 20th. Great indignation in the South at Com. Paulding's capture of Gen. Walker.

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