"Father Abraham"

IS PUBLISHED BY

J. D. PYOTT,

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

We have concluded to restore the old price, as well as the old name of Father Abraham. In so doing, we still have as low a figure as any other paper of our size, and a good newspaper cannot be furnished at a lower rate without loss.

Our rates are as follow, and we shall hereafter be compelled to require payment IN ADVANCE, as a widely-scattered circulation run on a credit basis creates unnecessary labor in keeping accounts:

One Copy, One Year.....$1.50
Five Copies, One Year.....6.00
Ten Copies, One Year.....10.00

Premium—The Pamphlet containing the "*Campaign Breefs fun Pit Schweffelbrenner*," is given as a premium to every new subscriber sending us $1.50—also to every person sending us a club of five or more.

N. B.—Old Subscribers to the *Enterprise* can renew their subscription for *one year* at the old rate of $1.25, if they send us the cash in advance before the first of January next.

Editorial Notes.

—Washington Territory is shipping cattle, sheep and hay to British Columbia in considerable quantities.

—A purveyor of dog's meat for sausage making, has actually been arrested in New York with a carcass in his possession.

—Daniel Boone's axe, rifle, aged sister and numerous terrapins are traveling separately through the newspapers. Stories about him are a boon no longer.

—A breach of promise case between an Anglo-Saxon citizen of Oregon, and a darky maiden of the forest, has been amicably settled by the marriage of both parties.

—Hunters who have spent the last month killing venison, declare the report that the deer are affected with the eppizootic, or any other disease, to be perfectly untrue.

—The Missouri *Republican* calls the Greeley and Brown electors of that State "mutton-heads." They were simply the representatives of its own principles. The *Republican*, therefore, makes itself out a sheep who has gone astray.

—Professor Blyden, who is making an exploring expedition into the interior of Africa, writes from a town eighty miles from Freetown, Sierra Leone, that he has found a Mohammedan university with about a thousand pupils, including a large number of girls, who are studying Arabic.

—A remarkable example of rapid work is afforded in the completion of the Cairo and Vincennes Railroad one hundred and sixty miles in length, which furnishes a more direct eastern outlet for the various lines which concentrate about Cairo in Illinois. It was begun about the 1st of April last, and is now finished, so that trains will begin to run to-day.

—The Chicago thieves are getting to be as sharp and cool as the lawyers of that enterprising town. While a New York jeweler was enjoying his supper at a hotel in that city the other night a thief broke open his trunk, transferred sixteen thousand dollars' worth of watches and trinkets to a valise, went to the office, paid his bill and disappeared.

—The Franklin *Citizen* says: During the past two weeks developments in Sugar Creek townspip and along the valley of Sugar creek have proved that nearly the entire section of country lying between French creek on the west, Sugar creek on the north, Oil creek on the east and the Allegheny river on the south, is good oil territory.

Proposed Liquor Law.

The bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Pomeroy, in response to a movement for the suppression of the liquor traffic in the District of Columbia and the Territories, inaugurated by the National Temperance Society, of which the Hon. Wm. E. Dodge, of New York, is president, and indorsed by other temperance organizations in various parts of the country, provides, First, that no person shall be allowed to manufacture, import, sell, exchange, barter, give or dispose of any intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage in the Territories of the United States or in the District of Columbia; second, that regularly licensed druggists may sell liquor for medicinal and scientific purposes and the mechanic arts only, provided they label and mark the article containing the liquor distinctly as other poisons and medicines are marked, and keep a book of registry, showing the name of the person to whom delivered, the quantity, date of sale, and on whose order or prescription the sale was made, and such registry to be submitted, as required, to the inspection of the Board of Police in the district, or before any Court in a trial at law; and, third, that any licensed druggist or other person violating the provisions of the act shall be subject to a fine of not less than $500 and to imprisonment for three months; and, in default of payment of the fine, to three months' additional imprisonment; and be also liable for all damages accruing from the sale or other illegal disposition of intoxicating liquors as a bererage. This bill is less stringent but partly the counterpart of the law of 1834, now in force relative to intoxicating liquors in the Territories, but applicable to the traffic with Indians only.

Astronomical Discoveries.

The attention of the Royal Astronomical Society of London has recently been directed to a paper read before them by Prof. Wilson, in which he stated that a careful examination of all the observations made upon the double star, Castor, have led him to the remarkable conclusion that Castor and its double are moving in hyperboles, that consequently their mutual relations are but temporary, and that each will, at some time in the future, move independently of the other. Prof. Wilson says that their relations to each other are similar to those of a certain class of comets which are sometimes brought within the temporary influence of our sun, but which, after passing their perihelion in our system, move off into space with a curve which will never admit of another return to our own system. This supposition, if confirmed, will, it is thought, lead to a more close examination of the movements of other binary or double systems of stars, on the ground that Castor can hardly be considered the only exception to the general rule.

Notes of Broken Banks.

It is the popular idea that the notes of a broken national bank are worthless, and an enterprising firm in New York have taken advantage of that belief by advertising to redeem, at a very heavy discount, of course, the bills of such banks. By reference to the national banking law, it will be seen that each national bank is compelled to deposit Government bonds with the Treasurer of the United States sufficient to redeem their currency in the event of a failure. Any note, therefore, on these broken banks is good, and worth even a premium, for, theoretically at least, under the law, only a certain amount is allowed to a certain section, and, upon the failure of a bank in any particular section, other parties desiring to go into the banking business in that section must gather together its notes, have them redeemed by the United States Treasury, and apply for a charter to establish another bank in the same locality. The premium is offered from the fact that others want the banking privileges.

School Law.

It seems to be decided, at last, that the Fourteenth Amendment does not provide for every possible conflict of opinion between white and colored people. In considering the education of the children of the two races in the same schools, two Northern courts have recently held that the question belongs to the School Boards for decision, and not to the amendment or to the citizens. Their arguments are that any classification which preserves substantially equal school advantages is not prohibited by either the State or Federal constitutions; that the citizen cannot dictate where or by what teacher his children shall be taught; and that "equality of rights" does not imply that white and colored children shall be educated in the same school any more than it implies the education of both sexes in the same school.

It is proposed to take a census of the children who attend or do not attend school in Philadelphia. Blank forms have been prepared, under a resolution of the Board of Public Education, and, with the aid of the mayor and police force, the names of all the persons between the ages of six and eighteen years in the city are to be recorded.

Grow Plump.

Dio Lewis gives the following advice: Go to bed about half-past eight or nine o'clock, and don't be in a hurry about getting up in the morning. On going to bed and getting up in the morning, drink as much cold water as you can swallow. Soon you will learn to drink two tumblers; and some persons will learn to drink still more. Drink all that your stomach will bear. Spend a good deal of your time in the open air without hard exercise, but exposed to the sun. If practicable, ride in a carriage some hours every day. Remain out long enough to give you a good appetite, but do not work hard enough to produce excessive perspiration. Eat a good deal of oatmeal porridge, cracked wheat, Graham mush, baked sweet apples, roasted and broiled beef, though the vegetable part is more fattening than the animal part. Lie down an hour in the middle of the day, just before you take your dinner, to rest, and if possible take a nap. Cultivate jolly people. "Laugh and grow fat" rests upon a sound physiological basis. A pleasant flow of the social spirit is a great promoter of digestion. Keep your skin clean, sleep in a room where the sun shines, keep everything sweet and clean and fresh about your bed, sleep nine, if possible ten hours in the twenty-four; eat as I have told you, cultivate jolly spirit, and in six months you will be as plump as you could wish.

Fire-Proof.

In the general discussion now going on as to rendering buildings proof against fire, we are surprised to see that no reference is made to any process for rendering wood less combustible. When the wood pavement in Main and Market streets was put down our readers will remember that we were told the wood was "burnettized," and that it would not rot nor burn. Being sceptical on this subject, we picked up some pieces and put them in the furnace under our boiler, where, to our astonishment and satifaction, we found they would only smoulder and gradually waste under the intense heat, not at any time breaking out into a blaze. A building with timbers burnettized would be more fire-proof than if it had iron beams, for they would not throw down the walls by their expanding and contracting. The process of burnettizing is a well-known one, and comparatively inexpensive. It should be more generally been in preparing timbers for building as well as for other purposes. —*Poughkeepsie Eagle.*

SUBSCRIBE for *Father Abraham*,

Meat-Eating.

There is no civilized country in the world in which so much meat is eaten, or in which so much is wasted by bad cooking, by profusion, and by absolute unthrift, as there is in this country. Whether this meat-eating is beneficial seems to be more than doubtful. Are our men or our women stronger, healthier, larger-limbed, ruddier and fairer, than Europeans of corresponding occupation and habits of life? The Irish girls who come out here and go into domestic service, come generally with rosy cheeks and full figures. They probably have not eaten fresh meat once a week in their lives, in many cases not oftener than once a month. Once here, they rush ravenously at the joints, the steaks, and the chops, which are to them luxuries, and the great signs of luxurious living. The result is that almost invariably they lose the figures, and the rosy cheeks, and the health that they brought with them and that came with, if not of, a diet of potatoes and butter-milk. The more observant of them have already begun to notice this themselves. And in the second generation the change is more manifest. There is rarely a paler and thinner creature than your Irish girls of the second generation. In brief we all of us have eaten too much meat—too much for our health, probably, and certainly too much for the well-being of our pockets. Great brawny Scotchmen live month after month on oat meal and butter-milk, and a healthier, harder-working class of men it would be hard to find. Why must we be every day eating flesh and fat? In particular: Why should our women and children be, like Sir Andrew Aguecheek, such great eaters of beef? Among our more comfortably-situated classes, it is safe to say that they eat meat twice a day. There is no need of this; and more, it is not wholesome. Women, who are not hard-workers, and children, are much more healthy upon a lighter and less concentrated diet. Children, until they reach their teens, do not really need meat at all, and are the better in health and in looks for not having it.

In countries where the science of living is better understood than it is with us, they live, even among the wealthier classes, upon bread, porridge, milk and fruit. The boy who may be seen at American hotels and boarding-houses, making his breakfast on ham-and-eggs and broiled fish, all of them at once before him, and eaten in alternate bits, is unknown in Europe, where he would have his oat-meal porridge, or his bread-and-milk. There is nothing more certain, in regard to this subject, than that our consumption of meat, particularly by women and children, is needless and unwholesome.

But if this be true, what shall be said of our extravagance in our use of this same most costly article of food? We are profuse in our provision; but in our preparation and consumption we are viciously wasteful. We all want to have the costly cuts, and we all cook our meat in the most wasteful manner, and we all waste—throw away and allow to spoil—that which would support a poor family in France. To get a joint or a steak, and then to roast or broil—say rather, to bake or fry—it at a range or cooking-stove, is the sum total of our general knowledge of cooking. The meat is wasted and spoiled in the cooking, by which its bulk and its nourishing properties are diminished; it is wasted in the eating, and what remains is also too often wasted, when it is not filched by servants for the tables of their "mothers" and their "cousins." And for this destruction of good and costly food the neglect of personal supervision on the part of house-keepers is mainly accountable. Much of it is due also to the absolute ignorance of the younger housekeepers, who have learned nothing and have wished and now wish to learn nothing of the proper direction of a kitchen.

These, then, are prominent among the causes of the difficulty which housekeepers of moderate means find in providing for their tables; an unnecessary consumption of the costliest and not the healthiest article of food; a wasteful and idjurious cooking of it; and a lack of watchfulness over the kitchen and meat safe, on the part of house-keepers. If the men and women who feel this difficulty will but have the courage to face the risk of being called mean, and will diminish their consumption of meat, and regulate it well, they will do much to relieve themselves; they will gain in health as well as in comfort, and in so doing they will, by diminishing an unreasonable and extravagant demand, do something to reduce the price of meat, and diminish, in two ways, their own butcher's bill.

France.

There is no longer even the appearance among leading Frenchmen of submission to the relative political position of their country and Germany. Gradually, as the "indemnity" is being paid into the public treasury at Berlin, the German troops in various departments of France are withdrawn, and liberty of speech, which was considerably checked during this occupancy by a foreign and easily-irritated force, is freely exercised in denouncing the conquerors. Thus, in the provinces, it is more vehement and still more hostile, this expression of opinion, than in Paris. Three weeks ago the great medical school of Paris was reopened. M. Charles Robin, the eminent lecturer on anatomy, addressed the students—not upon medicine or surgery, as might be expected, but upon the political crisis. He forcibly denied the truth of the assertion made by some German philosophers, that France is stricken with intellectual paralysis, and argued, in a manner more fanciful than logical, that this assertion *must* be untrue, because, when France had shaken off the ignoble Imperial government, and returned to republicanism, plain and simple, Germany had saddled herself with an empire. A good deal of talk in this vein was greeted with enthusiastic applause, which was loud and long-repeated after he said, with thundering voice and energetic action: "Let us not forget Alsace and Lorraine, and let us remember what Italy did for Rome!" After this appeal there was no teaching that day. The pupils dispersed, shouting "*Vive la Republique!*" and the professors returned home when the coast was clear. What President Thiers most dreads is that some premature action on the part of Young France, some mad-brained start to retake the surrendered provinces, may give Germany opportunity and justification for replacing an armed force on French territory. Prussia bided her time from 1806 to 1870, but France is not likely to wait as many months as Prussia waited years.—*Press.*

Louisville is deciding upon so amending its charter as to make street improvements payable by the city at large. The general tendency of all municipalities is in the same direction.

Horace Greeley.

Everybody knew Horace Greeley. Whoever knew him was the better for the knowledge. America was better for his having lived in it.

Horace Greeley died [illegible] on board.

If you would write the fittest epitaph that the great man's life deserved, write upon Greeley's tombstone:

When this man's wife died, he did not weep.

It was great, that a poor farm boy educated himself by reading borrowed books under the light of pine knots; it was great, that the child of poverty, so self-educated, attained the independence of wealth, unassisted by anybody's dollars; it was great, that this farm boy, educated by himself from borrowed books read by the light of pine knots, and made opulent by his own unassisted exertions, should begin, found and establish the New York *Tribune*, and never printed a line of bought editorial, told no bribed praise, said no untruth for malice or for money; it was great, that the New York *Tribune* became the model for that editorial press by which the American race is educated; it was great, that the New York *Tribune* made the great Republican party, the accomplisher of Emancipation and of perfect Democracy; it was great, that Horace Greeley, arisen, by himself, from the nothingness of ignorance and want of opportunities into the perfect education, lifted by himself, from the boscurity of an obscure farm into the most conspicuous place in the metropolis of the most conspicuous nation in the world, became the accepted honest editor, when the whole press was believed to be purchaseable—became the accepted pure statesman, when all politics was believed to be rotten, and politicians treacherous, hirelings became the fabled "Honest" man, when the sense of integrity between man and man was believed to be lost in the hurry and the successes the fortunes of life, but it was ten times greater than all these, that a man who had calculated and exact ambition, the extraordinary attainments, the solid philosophy, the iron purpose, the unfaltering will, the wonderful sense, that led Horace Greeley, without one single help from luck, up from where he had been, through all he had come, to where he stood so substantially above all his contemporaries—had still a heart as big as his head; had still at his time and in his kind of life an unsullied love for his wife; had still at his time of life a married affection so old, so pure, so strong, that he forgot the steady and deserved ambition of his steady and wonderful life, forgot that he was a Presidential candidate, in the stronger consciousness that he was a husband, and that his wife was dying; had still at his time of life a heart so married that he forgot all his past and its deserved consummation in his dying wife's danger—forgot the Presidency, to him a thousand times a greater thing than it had ever been to any other American, in his dying wife's agony; a perfect husband's heart, so yet like the perfect groom's, that when the woman, to whom at the marriage altar he gave his offering as pure and untouched as he cherished the return, and who had since then been the full and better half of his good and intense life, died—that great heart went out.

We are glad that Horace Greeley died when he did. When during his lifetime any public virtue was denied of Americans, his countrymen answered the denial by pointing to Horace Greeley. When during his lifetime any public virtue was asserted to be in decadence in Americans, his countrymen denied the assertion by pointing to Horace Greeley. And now, when recent and present morals shall be lifted into public sight to castdoubt upon American domestic virtue his countrymen will again still point to Horace Greeley, and, after telling all the manly qualities of the man, proudly claim the vindication of that in the death of him whose heart went out when his wife died.—*Law Advisor.*

A Fearful Journey.

Last Sunday night a man named Josiah T. Haight, a native of and a recent arrival in this city from Wooster, O., after "fighting the tiger" in one of our sporting rooms on Saturday night, found himself "broken," without even so much as sufficient to pay his hotel bill. After wandering round the city all day Sunday, he conceived the idea of endeavoring to reach Topeka, Kansas, by stealing a ride upon the Kansas Pacific night express. With this intention he partook of a hearty supper at his hotel, near the Union depot, wrapped himself up as warmly as possible, and started out to Armstrong Station, two miles west of Kansas City. There, while the train was stopped, he crawled upon the pilot of the icy locomotive, and crouched down upon the trucks beneath the smoke-box.

The train moved on at a rapid rate. The cold, bitter winter's wind swept keenly, and passing through Haight's clothing, chilled him to the marrow. He soon discovered that he must inevitably freeze to death in his present uncomfortable condition, but there was no escape. The train rushed on through the Kaw bottoms, never halting, never stopping. Haight found himself gradually sinking, benumbed and without feeling, down into the cross bars of the truck frame. Gradually he dropped down until he found himself jammed between the warm smoke-box and the axles.

The noise and clatter of the machinery became deafening, the keen prairie winds whistled and shrieked around the rushing locomotive. Haight knew he must die if left in this perilous position a little longer. But their was no escape until the train halted. He thought of dropping down upon the ties which glided beneath him with lightning rapidity. This he knew would be instant and certain death. He would have done so, but he found himself unable to get through the network of iron bars; so he gave himself up to his fate. One by one the stations glided past him in the bright, frosty moonlight. Edwardsville, Lenape were passed, when the train "slacked up" and glided slowly to the water tank at Stranger Creek.

Here Haight aroused himself with desperate energy and made a determined effort to extricate himself from his perilous condition. Cramped, benumbed and half dead, he crawled out from the trucks and out to the side of the track. The train moved on, and young Haight attempted to rise, but suffered such acute agony from cramp that he was obliged to call for assistance. He was sent back to this city on a freight train on Monday. His feet and hands are badly frozen. He has communicated with his friends who reside at Emporia, and will leave to-day for that place. He will hereafter have a mortal aversion for faro and free rides in winter.—*Kansas City Times.*

Mr. John M. Goodwin, C. E., of the Erie Railway, proposes the formation of a "Society for the Protection of the Persons and Property of Travelers," and to that end has drafted a bill authorizing the organization of the society for presentation to Congress.

News and Other Items.

Sending up toy balloons by the thousand is the latest advertising novelty.

An excellent vein of coal has been discovered at the Cape of Good Hope.

A New Haven lady's bustle burst in church, and out rolled a *Police Gazette*.

A hundred dead Chinese were shipped in one freight invoice from San Francisco lately.

A man in Indianapolis has a railroad suit on hand which began in 1861, and is not finished yet.

A Terre Haute lady recently squandered $42 in a telegram to her husband in Europe, informing him of an additional responsibility.

An amateur editor in Indianapolis has made a fortune by his pen. His father died of grief after reading one of his editorials, and left him $130,000.

Mr. Plantamour having spared us a universal conflagration last August, now prophesies that we shall be frozen to death one hundred and thirty-nine years hence.

One hundred barrels of oranges per week are being shipped from the St. John's river, in Florida, but those who can afford to wait will not sell before January.

The latest item in the perpetual war between Chicago and St. Louis is the discovery by the latter that "St. Louis has a policeman named Heavens, and Chicago has one named Ell."

Stanley will make a sensation when he lectures in this country, dressed in a suit of clothes made by a Ujiji tailor, consisting of a twine string wound around his big toe and a straw hat cut low.

But one man has died at Cheyenne with his boots off since the town sprouted, and he had them in his teeth, and was crawling out of a bed-room window, when an avenging pistol ball let daylight shine through him.

They say that the Wabash river is so low that the fish are compelled to stand on their heads to get water sufficient to moisten their gills. The inhabitants walk up and down the river bed and pull fish as they do onions.

The longest matrimonial engagement on record is that of a couple who were married at East Lyme, Mass., on Thanksgiving day. They were betrothed in 1871, and had been drawing out the sweetness of the engagement season ever since.

The California Chinese are so fearful of witchcraft that they refuse to lodge in a strange bed without first burning over it a cabalistically inscribed paper. Probably a little quicksilver put around in stray corners would prove even more effective.

Maud Merril was shot dead in a house of ill repute, in New York, last night, by a man, who said she was his niece, and who escaped from the house after committing the murder. The girl's real name is said to be Martha Smith, and her age 22.

Good again. The Supreme Court of Wisconsin have just decided a case against the Western Union Telegraph Company, holding them responsible for the prompt transmission of dispatches, and liable for pecuniary losses growing out of their neglect or delay.

The steamship Sacramento, of the Pacific Mail Company's line, has been wrecked on a reef off San Antonio, Lower California. She had 150 passengers on board who were all saved. The steamship Montana left San Diego yesterday for the scene of the disaster.

The *State Gazette*, of Austin, Texas, rejoices with exceeding great and diabolic joy that Chicago and Boston have been devastated by fire, because those cities were conspicuously energetic in raising troops against the rebellion, and it hopes and believes that Philadelphia will come next.

The commandant at Havana has just summoned a number of the ladies of that city "to present themselves at the artillery barracks to defend themselves against charges of treason," etc. When Spain begins fighting women in the hope of conquering Cuba, the chances of victory must be waxing small and few and far between.

New York people are just now in trouble about their coffee. A chemical analysis has revealed to their astonished senses, the fact that the beverage served at the principal hotels and restaurants of that city is a strong infusion of roasted beans, chicory, sweet potato peelings, with a trace of burnt tobacco stems to put a head on it.

The Richmond Granite Company, doing business on the river about four miles from Richmond, have just made one of the largest blasts on record, having secured a solid piece of stone of excellent quality 60 feet long, 50 feet deep, and 46 feet wide, measuring 188,000 cubic feet, and weighing 11,500 tons, or 23,000,000 pounds.

The bright side of the great diamond swindle is the wonderful revelation it has caused of the glories of a country of which little before has been known. Every chronicler of the various parties has a new story to tell, and none of their tales lack interest. While the expeditions were of no value whatever to the interests in which they were projected, they have certainly been of some service to the country.

A new advertising dodge has just been invented in Paris. Of late a number of bank bills have been seen in circulation with slips of paper pasted upon the back. At first it was supposed that the bills had been torn and mended, but as the same thing was seen on new bills, a more careful examination was made. It was found that an enterprising tradesman had pasted his advertisements upon the back of the currency of the realm.

As there has been a good deal said of the danger to health of using the sewing machine, it is worth while to mention that Dr. Parker recently read a paper on the subject before the State Medical Society, of Virginia, in which he maintained that fatigue is not disease; that there is no reason to conclude that the use of the muscles employed in machine work for a reasonable time is injurious; and that a machine may be used by a woman for four or five hours daily, if she be in ordinary health, without injury.

Secretary Delano has asked Congress for an appropriation of $20,000 for the purpose of printing a series of very valuable maps in the census reports. Much has been said in regard to these maps, and it is certain that they have not been too highly praised. But is should be remembered that the originator and executor of the idea was Arthur De Witzleben, a draughtsman, who was clerk in the office at a salary of $100 per month. He could not, for a long time, prevail upon the authorities to adopt the idea, but they finally did, and soon raised Mr. De Witzleben's salary to $200 per month. His devices were found valuable, but his maps, in which he took so much pride, went out as the productions of others.

Paul Du Chaillu, the famous traveler, sailed from New York last Saturday for a third visit to Norway and Sweden.

Texas tax-payers are resisting the payment of the State school tax, and levies have been made in a number of cases.

The lock-out in the English potteries, which threw thirty-five thousand persons out of work, has come to an end. It was agreed to refer all questions as to wages to a Board of Arbitration.

Mean men will sometimes put a very fair valuation upon themselves. A brave young sailor at Newport lately saved two men from drowning, and they rewarded him with a glass of beer.

The Laporte *Argus* says: "In South Bend, Ind., they use small packages of quinine for change. As everybody takes it, they look upon it the same as legal tender, and it passes off without difficulty."

The St. Louis *Democrat* now has an eight-cylinder buzz saw in full blast in the room where it keeps its exchanges. Nineteen dead bodies were lowered from that part of the building last week, and the good work still goes on.

San Francisco papers say that the open country fires which occurred this season near the boundary line in Lower California surpass, in severity and extent of country burned over, those of any year within the recollection of the oldest settler.

The Stockholders of the great insurance companies in Hartford are rather discouraged since the Boston fire, and the Hartford papers are discussing the desirableness and discretion of turning some of the capital now invested in insurance into channels which do not involve so much risk.

The Hon. Edward Tompkins is dead, at Oakland, California. He was a prominent lawyer in that State. He gave $50,000 worth of real estate, some time ago, to found the Agassiz Professorship of Oriental Literature and Language in the California State University, of which he was one of the regents.

The amount received by the Treasurer of Harvard College to make good the loss of a quarter of a million destroyed by the Boston fire, now amounts to $115,000. The officers and professors of the College have contributed with a liberality which is remarkable, considering the small salaries they receive.

President Eliot of Harvard having forwarded the diploma of doctor of laws to President Grant, the latter has responded by a letter thanking the faculty for the honor, and assuring them that he shall ever hold in high esteem the parchment and letter accompanying it, as marked testimonials of their approval.

An invention to melt snow on railroads has been contrived by a citizen of Bedford county, Virginia. The object is to melt the snow and ice on a railroad track as the train runs. This is to be effected by means of a flame of sufficient intensity to produce the result instantaneously. A very good invention if it will accomplish the purpose.

One of the most singular incidents of the Boston fire was the fact that three gentlemen (who are brothers-in-law) in business in different streets, each escaped being burnt out by the intervention of a single store, the fire coming within one building of the three establishments. They did not get burned out, but all "came within one of it."

It is reported that a number of New York merchants are about to make investments in Santo Domingo, with a view towards increasing the trade between the two countries. Civil feuds and the natural indolence of its inhabitants have left great openings for the profitable investment of American merchants' money and energy in San Domingo.

Professor Tyndall has just perfected a new respirator for firemen, in which the solid particles of the densest smoke are arrested by films of cotton wool wetted with glycerine, and the most pungent gas by layers of charcoal. By this simple means firemen can remain without burning buildings for upward of an hour at a time with safety and comfort, so far as their respiration is concerned.

New Orleans continues to push ahead. It is to have another line of steamers to Liverpool and London, consisting of five large steamships, and the city is now making a strong bid for the Western grain trade, of which it will doubtless secure a large share. It is intended to ask the government, this winter, for an appropriation sufficient to clear away the bars at the mouth of the river, which has long been a serious annoyance to the commerce of the port.

An Albany paper says that when, in the Electoral College last Wednesday morning, the officers came to seal up the envelopes containing the vote, preparatory to mailing it for Washington, there was need of a seal to set the wax. President White, of Cornell University, one of the electors, had on his finger a seal ring, a gift from Goldwin Smith, the English scholar, bearing the device of the winged figure of victory, and the wax was stamped with that appropriate seal. This was felicitous.

Bridgeport, Connecticut, tells a curious story of an unclaimed trunk. Fourteen years ago a regularly checked trunk arrived by one of the trains, and no one calling for it, it was placed in the baggage room, where it lay for eleven years. At the expiration of that time a gentleman appeared with the duplicate check and arranged to pay $2 for storage, promising to call for his trunk the following day. Three years have since passed, but the trunk still awaits his return.

In central Kentucky there has recently been discovered an immense hole in the earth, circular in form, sixty or seventy feet in diameter, of a funnel shape for twenty-five or thirty feet, when the diameter is diminished to ten or twelve feet. Below this point it has never been explored and sinks to an unknown depth. On throwing a stone into this hole or sink, its ring as it strikes the sides gradually dies away without being heard to strike any bottom. It is supposed that visitors have already thrown more than one hundred cart loads of rock into it.

Among the students at the Chicago University are three Japanese youths. One of them, who renders his name into English as Matzudaira, is a prince, being brother of the Tycoon. Two others, Sibuwaka and Chimura, are sons of Damios. They are all intelligent and very gentlemanly in their deportment; in fact, their whole bearing shows that they are of no ordinary "blood." But they are wholly ignorant of anything embraced in an English education, having no idea of geography, arithmetic, etc., but appear to have been well instructed in Japanese learning. A fourth one, Inowooye, came to the University, but, having no liking for literary pursuits, concluded to make himself familiar with our agriculture, and is now on a farm near Elgin, about forty miles from Chicago.

Pennsylvanisch Deitsch

BREEF FUM SCHWEFFELBRENNER.

SCHIFFELTOWN, December der 9t, 1872.

MISTER PRINTER:

My fortune is g'macht! My nawma geht uf de posterity nuf we'n balloon! An scientificker reffolooshen is om kumma un ich bin de kærl for's in gong tsu setza.

Ehner Fulton, sawga se, het de shteam peif inwent—sell wo se so greislich loud peifa macha wann o's de injine kummt uf em railroad, so das de kee, un de sei un olly onner leit ous em weag shteppa wann de cars kumma. Un selly very shteam peif hut aw der Fulton an grosser g'moraleister monn g'maucht.

Der alt fillossaffer Franklin hut inwent we mer der blitz in 'ma g'witter shtorm runner bringt uf der ærds budda. For olters huts ols yusht so ivver-tswarrich rivver un nivver el g'shlauga, druvva in de wolka, awer sellamohls hen de g'witter-root macher ols nix tsu du g'hot. Awer we de Franklin sei inwenshun g'macht hut d'no is de g'witter root bissness orrick brisk warra.

Der Perfesser Morse hut inwent we mer so telligraff dispatcha obshickt fun ehm pole om der onner bis es awkumma is om rechte plotz, un sidder sellan hen se shun a line g'shponnt der gons weag bis noch Filadelfy.

Now, all des sin grossy inwenshuns, awer—now mind wass ich der saug—ich hob an inwenshun ous geplann'd de oll de Fultons un Franklins un Morsa in klehny wunsliche insicknitfissance nunner sink'd, un morga hob ich im sinn ob shicka for my patent recht, un d'no bin ich ready for Shtata, county un township rites tsu ferkawfa.

Awer, du wit ferleicht wissa wass my ucie grossy inwenshun is? Ich will der 's ousfeerlich explaina:

Du weasht se sin alleweil draw for'n narrow-gage railroad baua, un er yusht drei foos bried sei tswisha de riggel. Un doh fergonga hob ich aw in der Tseitung g'leasa dos se hen ommanot ehner der yusht sivvatsea tsul, meest, un dos se grossy trains druf runna.

Now my plan is for an single track railroad—ehner mit yusht a single riggel un de train druf runna uf de willossopeed principle. Awer so an commoner rail duts net, un my plan is for ehner mit a groove in der mit, about drei tsoll deef, un de redder dort drin tsu runna.

Suppose awer du wunnersht we mer's macht dos de cars net umfolla wann se yusht a set single file redder hen for druf runna. Der plan is orrick simple. Mer dut evva yush an monn uf der top fun yeadam car shtella mit so longy balance poles, un wann der car a wennich tsu weit uf ea side lean'd donn muss er evva sei g'wicht a wennich uf de onner side shmeissa, un sell mus d'no de gons train uf em centre balance grawd ahead runna macha.

Un noch an advantage is des: We shtærker dos de train runnt we safer dos es is, weil's kea tseit hut um tsu folla wann 's fun finf-un-dreisich biss finf-un-sivvatsich mile de shtund runnt.

Un noch ehns. Uf so an single rail track railroad konn's kea unglick gevva by kollishen, weil se's gor net proweera dehta mit tswea trains uf em single rail on annonner ferbei tsu geh.

So an railroad kennt mer orrick wohlfehl baua, weil er net mehner dos about an foos un a holwer bræd sei braucht. Of course wann mer lumber odder keshta riggel druf fahrt muss mer se der longa weg uf de cars lawda. For shtea kohla deht 's nix ous macha—yusht mer muss evva net tsu feel uf amohl uf lawda.

Now der advantage fun mein single rail patent is dos es yusht ea riggel nemmt onshtoll tswea, un de cross ties konn mer der longa weag leaga, un sell safed nochamohl orrick feel geld.

Un es safed aw feel geld wann 's ons bricka baua gebt, for mit so 'ma single rail track brauch mer gor kea brick baua—an ordlich long shtick timber, we se de foos bricklin baua, is suffishent.

Un lastly my inwenshun is feel wært weil es de narrow-gage beat all hollow—dut in fact der entire gage obshoffa un olleanich geh.

Wann du now fun ennich ebber weasht dar an narrow-gage baua will, donn sei so goot un du en uf posta fun weaga mein patent single riggel railroad track. Wann se geld seafa wella on rails, redder, cross-ties, un so sach, donn missa se tsu meer kumma.

Ich deht garn a pahr township rites ferkawfa, wohlfehl for cash, provided se kumma bol.

Un now will ich 's tsu deer lussa eb ich net aw an grosser inwenter bin, un eb sell net my nawma immortaleisa set.

De Bevvy mehnt aw my plan wær an grosser improofment uf der narrow-gage plan, weils der gage entirely ivverkummt.

Yours trooly,

PIT SCHWEFFELBRENNER.