# Ancaster Intelligencer.

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# Mliscellaneous.

The Valley and Pass of "Hell" in Montana Territory. A correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial, writing from the "Head-quarters of the Yellow Stone, Montana," gives the following description of the "Valley and Pass of Hell," in that Ter

ritory:
And here, from the spot on which I stand, with my companion on this exploring expedition, tracing my notes, I drink in the views, so weird, so passing strange, that even in my wildest dreams ever aught like this was seen. As day light is dying on the Yellow-stone hills the sun melting down into the verge o the horizon, shooting his slanting rays far into the gloom of grotesque cliffs, and lingering upon the loftier peaks, converting their rugged surfaces into purple and gold, theislands in the river swell bold and beautiful in the rosy light, while yonder distant cone like hill stands against the sky a conspicu-ous mass fringed with fire. The gigan-tic mountains to the west cast their shadows far down into the silent valley at our feet, while the silvery Yellow stone flows on its whispering way, breaking the sombre aspect of the plain with the line of its gleaming waters. In this valley mysterious wonders have been made visible from time immemorial, of which the mobile Saxon never heard. The Indians in the vicinity tell us it has al-ways been thus. Out of this plain, or valley, rather, which extends over an area of fifty miles, issue a million sharp jets of bluish-white flame, interspersed yets or orush-write name, interspersed with fitful puffs of pearly vapor, which sail npward in endless turbinated convolution, until reaching a high altitude, they dissolve and blended with the limiting cloud which have a second or the state of the sta fluctuating cloud which hangs over the valley, as if to shield it from mortal eyes. The plain is dotted with innumerable rumps, from whence these vapory and flery columns are emitted. In their formation they resemble miniature volcanoes. Fire springs like these may be found in China; and the geysers of Ice-land are but results of volcanic action of the same nature, though of greater force and power than the hot springs in the valley of the Yellow Stone. One cannot help thinking that flereest fires rage somewhere below the external ene of the plain, to thus fan and force flames above the surface. A gentleman and a savant connected with our party ascribes these igneous streams to gases escaping from a "veiled hell," Another specialty of volcanic action may be observed by closer investigation of the conical hills which loom up from the surface in every direction. Though there are no deep craters in their summits, it is an easy matter to detect a gentle hollow in each, more or less deep, covered with crumbling particles of

lava-like rock. The base and sides are also thickly strewn with the like porous deposits—some of very large size like enormous cindery cakes, the refuse of a foundery furnace. A sulphurous odor is in the atmosphere, reminding one of our companions of his experience of a choke damp. Surrounding the entire plain are lofty calciferous rocks, eroded nd skeletonized by action of rains or shifting bodies of water, which now bear the appearance of inverted pyra-mids, prisms, and various other configurations. Besides preparing detritus, which lay piled in heaps at the foot of the cliffs, frequent torrents had so cor-roded and dismantled the rocks that one would imagine that a destructive fire had raged and burned up a city, by the quantity of fallen columns which lay scattered around in the most indescrib able confusion. In the insterstices of the debris there bubbled numerous saling springs, and, continuing our ex amination further, we discovered several hotwater springs from whence vapory columns continually ascended. On test-ing the warmth of the water with Fahrenheit's thermometer, the mercury. which stood previously at eighty degre shot up to one hundred and eighty gress. The tread of our horses feet sounded hollow, while the noise seemed to reverberate along the earth like an The tread of our horses feet echo. Not a blade of grass was to be seen. excepting along the margin of the tiny streams. The whole aspect of the plain was arid in the extreme. Ghastly relics was and in the extreme. Ghastly relies of animal life covered the ground along the stream. This was evidently caused by the gathering of the buffalces in the fall to cross the Sweet Grass, where they luxuriated for a season, protected by the rising hills from the bleak winds, which with the force of simoons awaen over with the force of simoons sweep over

with the force of simoons sweep over the northern prairies, until the severity of the season and the scarcity of grass compelled them to leave, when they found their egress prevented by the deep snows in the passes, and they must have perished from hunger and cold, leaving their bones to be picked by hungry wolves, and to be bleached in the sun and rain.— No language can give any idea of the fearful desolation of this wonderful val-ley. It struck our hearts with a nameley. It struck our hearts with a name-less dread. Not a wolf infested the chambered cavities of the cliffs; not a chambered cavities of the clins; not a buzzard hovered over the vicinity. All was silent in this Valley of Death. One of the party of explorers bestowed upon it the significant appellation of "Hell." It is a rich field, however, for the geological savant, and though famous trayellers to describe the sulenders of love to describe the splendors of Alpine scenery, dwell upon the classic heights of Olympus, dilate upon Leba-non, Mount of Glory, and foster their imagination among the Scriptural mountains of Judah, there are grander scenes by far in this new-born world of ours—with valleys far more idyllic than any old Europe can boast, and rivers of greater depth and larger volume. Travlers have descanted long enough upor the state and melancholy inanities of the Orient. Let him that suffers with ennui, and the soul that hankers af-

ter vitalizing realities, travel in the berean regions of the Upper Yellow-stone, and mighty mountains, savannabs of exceeding fertility, and valleys clothed with Eden loveliness, will be seen side by side with a plain teeming with diobolisms, from which you can-not energe save through the "Pass of Hell." Through such a pass did we grope our way in almost profound dark-, as night had set in long before we entered the lonely defile.

The Bell Bird. Wandering in a tropic forest amids the gorgeous growths and wild garlands of climbing vine and brilliant blossoms in the early morning, one's ears, are lit erally pained with the mingled din that comes from every where; above, below, behind, before, right and left; curious cries, jubilant songs, angry discussions, growls, suarls, croaks and hisses, from bird, beast, insect and reptile, make the jungle a very Babel of unintelligible sounds. Then as the scorching sunrays pierce the clustering tangle of veg-etable life, one by one the sounds die away, they close their petals, the leaves drop languidly from every branch and spray; not a breath of air stirs even the cate tree ferns; the stillness is that of death, as if the world of things had

ceased to be.

As you crouch under the wide leaver of the plantain, seeking shelter from the burning heat, suddenly a loud sound is heard, like a deep, full toned bell; a short time elapses, and again it sounds, and so on at intervals of three or four minutes; often, other singers join the peal, and then the "forest chimes" toll their mournful music from far and near. You cautiously creep out, and peer curi ously in the direction of the noise, to discover what living creature could pro discover what fiving creature could produce a sound so exactly like a bell. At last you spy him out, and catch him in the very act, seated on the top of a dead paim—his belfry. By travelers he is aptly named the "bell-bird."

On the top of the head there is something like the horn of the fabled unicorn.

This tube of flesh is hollow, and com municates with the palate. When the "bell-bird" is silent, this strange spire like affair hangs down over the beak, just-us the red fleshy wattle dangles on the front of a turkeycock's head; but when sounding his bell like voice, it is

filled tightly with air, and stands erect and stiff as a horn.

A late fraveler says: "At a distance of three miles you may hear this snow-white bird tolling every four or five minutes like a distant convent bell."

# Our New Sporting Ground.

VOLUME 68

A Thrilling Walrus Hunt. A correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, writing from Port Clarence, Russian America, narrates the following:
While at Kingegan, an Esquimaux village of 900 inhabitants, on the straits, I accompanied the natives in one of their wairus hunts in Behring's Sea, which was hort dangerous and exciting.

which was both dangerous and exciting. Before venturing into the straits, North wirds are chosen, and incantations per-formed to insure safety. Their boats, which are made of walrus hides stretchwhich are made of wairus hides stretched over light wooden frames of driftwood fifteen feet long; are kept near the water's edge in readiness to start without loss of time. With the wind fair, we started. About fifty boats, each containing nine Esquimaux, shoved of from the land we at the same time and from the land ice at the same time, and general race was indulged in as we ddled out to sea.

The scene was grand and exciting. Every Indian pulled with all his strength, shouting and hooting as they strength, shouting and nooting as they dodged among the lee floes with bare heads, and hair streaming in the wind. This was kept up until we were about forty miles out from shore, when they became separated in their search for walrus. Here a stop was made to listen for the bark of the animals which were heard hout a mile shead of the . (One of heard about a mile ahead of us. One of the Indians exclaimed, ah mal-vak-tok (great many) and we paddled hastly forward until we were in sight of the walrus, which were lying on the floes in large numbers, as far as the eye could reach, barking and playing with their young. Here another stop was made, and everything gotten ready for the attack. Spears, guns, and harpoons were placed where they could be seized in-stantly, and a large walrus-hide rope was stretched the whole length of the boat just inside the gunwale, to each end of which were attached large seal-

skiu buovs. Kap ai-tuks were put on over their deerskin coats, and every dark object carefully hidden from the view of the animals. After these preparations we paddled rapidly and noiselessly forward, shooting the bow of the boat up on the floe which had been selected with the walrus upon it. As they plunged off into the water each Indian hurled his spear into one of them, and fastened the ine attached to its head to the rope connecting the buoys in the boat, which were immediately thrown overboard, and the captured walrus allowed to and the captured warrus anowed to plunge and snort around in the water. As they come to the surface they are killed by thrusting a long lance through the body, or shot in the head when they do not come close enough to be lanced. When all were killed they were towed to a large flee headed or skinned and to a large floe, hauled out, skinned and

This is the work of but a moment, as those Esquimaux are well skilled in the use of the knife and thoroughly un-derstand the anatomy of these animals. One of them extracted the bullet from the brain of a large walrus which I had shot, and gave it to me as a remembrance of the hunt. After the operation of dressing, every part of the animal, ex-cept the gall, for which they have no use, was thrown into the boat, and we started for more, paddling and sailing around among the floes for nearly two days without success. A heavy for set-tled down upon us, and we were lost for several hours, when it cleared away with a strong South wind, which ren-dered our position extremely critical, as

'The ice was here, the ice was there, The ice was all around, It crack'd and growled and roar'd and howl'd, Like noises in a swound." Our escape seemed almost miraculous,

an opening happening to occur, through which we dodged until we reached open water, when we set sail and reached shore in safety after being three days boats have gone out in this manner and never returned.

How the Romans Lived. If anything more was wanted to give us an idea of Roman magnificence, we would turn our eyes from public monuments, demoralizing games and grand processions; we would forget the statues in brass and marble, which out the problem of the lighting in behittents. numbered the living inhabitants, so numerous that one hundred thousand have been recovered and still embellish Italy; and would descend into the lower sphere of material life—to those things which attest luxury and taste-to ornaments, dresses, sumptuous living and rich furniture. The art of using metals and cutting precious stones sur-passed anything known at the present

lay. In the decoration of houses, in social entertainments, in cookery the Romans were remarkable. The mosaics, signet ings, cameos, bracelets, bronzes, chains vases, couches, banqueting tables, lamps, chariots, colored glass, gildings, mirrors, mattresses, cosmetics, perfumes, hair dyes, silk robes, potteries all attest great elegance and beauty. The tables of thuga root and Delian bronze were as expensive as the sideboards of Spanish walnut, so much admired in the great Exhibition at London. Wood and ivory were carved as exquisitely as in Japan and China. Mirrors were made of polished silver. Glass cutters could imi tate the colors of precious stones so wel that the Portland vase, from the tomb of Alexander Severus, was long considered as a genuine sardonix; could be hardened so as to cut stone.

The palace of Nero glittered with gold and jewels. Perfumes and flowers were showered from ivory ceilings. The halls of Heliogabulus were hung with cloth and gold, enriched with jewels. His beds were silver and his tables of gold. Tiberius gave a million of sesterces for a picture of his bedroom. A banquet dish of Dæsillus weighed five hundred pounds silver. The cups of Drusus were of gold. Tunics were em-broidered with the figures of various animals. Sandals were garnished with precious stones. Paulina wore jewels when she paid visits, valued at \$800,000. Drinking cups were engraved with scenes from the poets. Libraries were adorned with busts and presses of rare woods. Some were inlaid with tortoise

shell, and covered with gorgeous pur ole. The Roman grandees rode in gilded chariots, bathed in marble baths, dined from golden plate, drank from crystal cups, slept on beds of down, reclined on luxurious couches, wore embroidered obes, and were adorned with precious stones. They ransacked the earth and the seas for rare dishes for their banquets, and ornamented their houses with carpets from Babylon, onyx cups, cups from Bythinia, marbles from Nu-midia, bronzes from Corinth, statues from Athens—whatever, in short, was precious or curious in the most distant countries. The luxuries of the bath almost exceed belief, and on the walls were magnificent frescoes and paint-ings, exhibiting an inexhaustible productiveness in landscape and mytho-

## luctiveness.

Economical Darkeys. A Radical newspaper boasts that the negroes of the South have deposited considerable sums in savings banks during the last year. That may be so; but, says the St. Louis Republican poor laboring white men in the North might deposit considerable sums in savings banks, too, if the Federal Government would furnish them houses to live in, food to eat, clothes to wear, and schools for their children, as it does for the negroes. But, instead of such favors, the white men of the North are compelled to furnish all these things for themselves and then pay taxes to support negroes and enable them to lay by money in the savings banks besides. It used to be said that this was a white man's government; but through Radical bureaus and such like agencies, it is practically a government in which whitemen have to labor and pay taxes for the benefit of negroes, and yet, in the face of these practical facts, the Radical demagogues talk about "equality before the law."

At a recent Masonic celebration Austin, Nevada, the orator of the day gave the following as the reason why emales are not allowed to become Maons. It is novel and not very complimentary to the fair sisters—and the fel-low deserves to be black-balled:
"Woman sometimes complains that

woman sometimes companies that she is not permitted to enter our Lodge and work with the craft in their labors, and learn all there is to be learned in the institution. We will explain the reason. We learn that, before the Almighty had finished his work, He was in some doubt shout greating Eve. The mighty had finished his work, He was in some doubt about creating Eve. The creation of every living and creeping thing had been accomplished, and the Almighty had made Adam, (who was the first Mason,) and erected for him the finest Lodge in the world, and called it Paradise No. 1. He then caused all the bearts of the field and the fowls of the easts of the field and the fowls of the air to pass before Adam for him to name them, which was a piece of the work he had to do alone, so that no confusion might thereafter arise from Eve, whom He knew would make trouble if she was allowed to participate in it, if He created her beforehand.

Adam being very much fatigued with the labors of his first task fell asleep, and when he awoke he found Eve in the Lodge with him. Adam, being Senior Warden, placed Eve as the pillar of beauty in the south, and they re-ceived their instructions from the Grand Master in the east, which, when finished, she immediately called the Craft from labor to refreshment. Instead of attending to the duties of her office, as she ought, she left her station, violated her obligations, and let in an expelled Mason, who had no business there, and went around with him, leaving Adam to look after the jewels. The fellow had been expelled from the Grand Lodge, with several others some time before But hearing the footsteps of the Grand Masters, he suddenly took his leave teiling Eve to make aprons, as she and suddenly took his leave Adam were not in proper regalia. She went and told Adam, and when the Grand Master returned to the Lodge he found his gavel had been stolen.
He called for the Senior and Junior
Wardens, who had neglected to guard
the door, and found them absent. After searching some time he came to where they were hid, and demanded of Adam what he was doing there, instead of occupying his official station. Adam replied that he was waiting for Eve to call the Craft from refreshment to labor again, and that the Craft was not properly clothed, which they were making provision for. Turning to Eve, he ask-ed her what excuse she had to offer for er unofficial and unmasonic conduct She replied that a fellow passing him-self off as a Grand Lecturer had been riving her instructions, and she though t was no harm to learn them. The

Finding that Eve was no longer trustworthy, and that she had caused Adam to neglect his duty, and had let in one whom He had expelled, the Grand Master had the Lodged closed, and turning them out, set a faithful Tyler to guard the door with a flaming sword. Adam, repenting of his folly, went to work like a rain storm, and covered the woods, bridges and huts with light gray colored ashes, resembling snow when slightly covered with dust. As the eruption increased that the continued shower expanded until it had taken into its destructive embrace every appearance of yegetation. At Adam, repeating of his folly, went to work like a man, and a good Mason, in order to get reinstated again. Not so with Eve; she got angry about it, and commenced raising Cain. Adam, on account of his reformation, was permitted to establish Lodges and work on the lower degrees: and while Eve was allower degrees; and, while Eve was allowed to join him in the works of charity outside, she was never again permitted to assist in the regular work of the Craft.

be an inside mason. The Last Wager of Battle in England An English paper says: "There has died in Birmingham a poor old man, one event of whose history forms an important mark in the progress of civil-ization in England, especially as relat-ing to the old barbarous mode of settling disputes, and trying causes by the "wager of battle." The deceased, William Ashford, was the last person who was challenged in an English Court to meet, in single combat, a man whom he accused as the murderer of his sister. On the 28th of May, 1817, a beautiful young woman named Mary Ashford, in her twentieth year, went to a dance at Erdington without prope protection. She left the festive scene at man named Abraham Thornton, a farmer's son in the neighborhood. They were last seen talking together at a stile near the place, but next morning she was found dead in a pit of water, and there were evidences that she had been murdered. General suspicion pointing to Thornton, he was arrested, and tried for murder at Warwick assizes in August; but, though strong circumstantial evidence was against him, the defense,

which was an alibi obtained a verdict of

not guilty."
"The feeling of surprise and indignation at his acquittal was so intense
that a new trial was called for, and an appeal was entered against the verdict by William Ashford, the brother, and next of kin to the murdered girl. Thorn ton was again apprehended, and sent to London in November, to be tried before Lord Ellenborough and the full Court of Queen's Bench. Instead of regular of Queen's Bench. Instead of regular defense by arguments, evidences and witnesses, Thornton boldly defled all present modes of jurisdiction, and claimed his right, according to ancient custom, to challenge his accuser to fight him, and decide his innocence or guilt by the 'wager of battle.' His answer to the court was, 'Not guilty, and I am ready to defend the same by my body.' He accompanied these words by the old act of taking off his glove and throwing it down upon the floor of the court.

"At this stage of the proceedings, Wm. Ashford, who was in the court, actually came forward, and was about the court that to accept the challenge by picking up the glove, when he was kept back by those about him. With what wonder did the assembly, and indeed the nation, ask, 'Can a prisoner insist on so obsolete a mode of trial, in such a time But with greater wonder and regret was the judgment of the court received; for after several adjournments, it was de-cided, in April, 1819, that the law of England was in favor of the 'wager of England was in favor of the 'wager of battle;' that the old law sanctioning it had never been repealed; and that, though this mode of trial had become obselete, it must be allowed. Thornton was therefore discharged, and, being set at liberty, left England for America, where he died in obscurity.''

Niagara in a New Form. The Niagara Falls correspondent makes the following statement: Thursday was a wonderful day in the annals of Niagara Falls. The strong easterly gale, which to you blew snowbanks and confusion, simply sent the waters of Lake Erie westward, leaving the Niagara river and tributaries lower than they were ever before known. Buffalo creek was so low that all the vessels in it were grounded, and Niagara Falls was a rivllet compared with its nativegrandeur. The bed of the American branch was so denuded that you could travel in its rocky bed without wetting your feet, and the mysteries that were never fore revealed came to light on that day. Rocks that heretofore were invisible ap-peared in their full-grown deformity peared in their full-grown deformity upon the surface, and great was the consternation among the finny tribes. The Three Sisters were accessible to foot-passengers, and many traversed where human foot had never trod, with perfect impunity and dry feet. Below the Falls was the wonder of wonders. The water was full twenty feet lower than years and the oldest inhabitant. than usual, and the oldest inhabitants gazed in wonder at the grand transfor-mation. Near the Suspension Bridge the celebrated rook at Witmer's mill, and was rescued several years ago, which barely projects its head above the water, was laid bare twenty-feet above the surface.

The Reason Why a Woman Cannot be Mount Vesuvius—The Grand Eruption. At a recent Masonic celebration at dicated much disquietude, and, from dicated much disquietude, and, from the extreme frequency and violence of earthquakes which occurred during the few preceding months, it was judged few preceding money, and that some great movement or eruption that some great movement or eruption. The appearance, howwas portended. The appearance, how-ever, was not so immediate as to restrain curiosity or to prevent repeated visits to the crater, which visits of late had been more numerous than at any former pe riod up to last Sunday, when two gen-tlemen ascended and remained there some time. Nothing unusual was then

remarked, nor any external evidences, except rather a stronger emission of smoke from the interstices of the conical hill at the bottom of the crater. To those who have not visited this description is previously necessary and indispensable to form any conception of it, and to better understand the account which follows; for no one living can expect to see it in the perfection and beauty in which it was on last Sunday morning.

About two thousand feet above the

level of the sea—estimating from conjecture—on the south side of the mountain, and rather more than two-thirds its height, opens a circular chasm, somewhat exceeding half a mile in diameter, and between four and five hundred feet in depth. Exactly in the centre of this capacious bowl rose a conical hill, about two hundred and sixty or three hundred feet in height and about two hundred in diameter, richly covered with variegated shrubs, brush-wood and vines above half way up, and the remainder powdered over with virthe remainder powdered over with vir-gin sulphur to the top. From the fis-sures in the cone and interstices of rock a thin white smoke was constantly emitted, occasionally tinged with a slight bluish flame. The precipitous sides of this magnificent amphitheatre were fringed with various evergreens aromatic shrubs, flowers and many Alpine plants. On the north and south sides of the base of the cone were two pieces of water—one perfectly pure and tasteless, and the other strongly impregnated with sulphur and alam. This lonely and beautiful spot was rendered more enchanting by the singularly melodious notes of a bird—an inhabitant of these upper solitudes, but seldom

seen below. The present eruption is one of the most terrible that has occurred during this century. As the bells were ringing the our of noon on the 15th, an abrupt and dreadful crash from the mountain, with a severe concussion of the earth and tremulous noise in the air, alarmed al around it. The reopening of the flery furnace was proclaimed in a moment by the vast collection of thick, black, opy-smoke, like that from an immense lasshouse, bursting forth at once and rising to the sky, showering down sand Grand Master then asked her what had become of his gavel; she said she didn't know, unless the fellow had taken it driven before the wind to the south and night a very considerable degree of ig-nition was observed upon the lips of the crater; but the two gentlemen before mentioned, who visited it last, did not notice any visible ascension of the

The same awful scene presented itself on Tuesday. The fall of favilla and calcined peobles still increased, and the compact pitchy column from the crater rose perpendicularly to an immense anied by a noise and was acco at intervals like the mutterings of distant thunder. On Wednesday all these menacing symptoms of horror and com-bustion still gathered more thick and terrific for miles around the dismal, half obscured mountain. The prodigi-ous column shot up with quicker motion, dilating, as it became elevated, like a balloon. The sun appeared in total eclipse, and shed a meridian twilight over us that aggravated the awful gloom of the scene, now completely powdered over with falling sulphurous and ferru-

ginous particles. It was evident that the crisis was yet to come—that the burning fluid was struggling for a vent, and laboring to hrow off the superincumbent strata and obstructions which suppressed the flery torrent. At night it was manifest that t greatly disengaged itself from its burden by the appearance of fire flashing now and then and flaking around the mouth of the crater.

On Thursday, the memorable 21st of November, the reflection of the sun or this majestic body of curling vapor was sublime beyond the power of the im-agination to conceive, Any comparison of the glaciers of the Andes, or of the Cordilleras, with it can but feebly convey an idea of the fleecy whiteness and brilliancy of this awful column of mingled smoke and clouds. An hour or two afterwards it assumed a more sulphurous cast, like what we call thun-der clouds; and in the course of the day a ferruginous and sanguine appearance, with much livelier action in the ascent, and a more extensive dilatation, as if almost freed from obstruction.

In the afternoon the noise was incessant, and resembled the approach of thunder, coming nearer and nearer. As yet there were no convulsive motions consternation now seized all beholders.

or sensible earthquake; but terror and The inhabitants near the base of the mountain abandoned their houses, with their live stock and everything they possessed, and fied precipitately to the nearest town. The laborers became confused, forsook their work, looked up to the mountain, and as it continued to rumble and shake, they trembled with dread of what they could not understand

nor describe. About four o'clock the noise became more alarming, and just before sunset the clouds reflected a bright copper color, suffused with fire. Scarcely had the day closed when the flame burst at length, conical in shape, from the crater, through the mass of smoke; the rolling of the thunder become more awful and of the thunder became more awful and deafening; electric flashes quickly suc-ceeded, attended with loud claps; and now, indeed, confusion began in earnest. Those only who have witnessed such a sight can form any idea of the magnificence and variety of the lightning and electric flashes. Some forked zigzagedly playing across the perpendicular column of the smoke coming from the crater's mouth, like rockets of the most dazzling brilliancy; others, like shells with their trailing fuses lying in different para-bolas, with the most vivid scintillations trailing from the dark, sanguine column, which now seemed inflexible and immovable

by the wind.

Shortly after seven the mighty caul-Shortly after seven the mighty cauldron began to simmer, and the ebullition of lava to break out over the northwest side. This, immediately after boiling over the orifice and flowing a short way, was opposed by an acclivity of a higher point of land, over which it was impelied by the immense tide of liquid fire that drove it on, forming the figure V in grand illumination. Sometimes, when the ebullition slackened or was insufficient to urge it over the obwas insufficient to urge it over the obstructing hills, it recoiled back, like a refluent billow from the rock, and then again rushed forward, impelled by fresh supplies, and scaling every obstacle, carrying rocks and woods together in its course down the slope of the mountain, until it precipitated itself down some vast ravine.—
Vast globular bodies of fire were seen Vast globular bodies of fire were seen projected from the fiery furnace, and, bursting, fell back into it or over it on the surrounding bushes, which were instantly set in fiames. About an hour and a half afterwards another stream of lava was descending to the eastward.—

The thundering noise of the mountain and the vibration of sound that had been so formidable hitherto, now mingled in the sullen monotonous roar of the rolling lava until it became so tertible that dismay was almost turned the rocks beneath. The most singular that dismay was almost turned the rocks beneath. The most singular feature about this hot spring is, that it The thundering noise of the mountain and the vibration of sound that had been so formidable hitherto, now mingled in the sullen monotonous roar of the rolling lava until it became so terrible that dismay was almost turned into despair. At this time the first earthquake was felt. This was followed by showers of cinders that fell with a hissing noise that lasted for two hours. At three o'clock in the morning a rolling on the roofs of houses indicated

the fate of Pompeii or Herculaneum. The crackling and corruscations from the crater at this period exceeded all that had yet gone before. The eyes were struck with momentary blindness, and the ears stunned with the agglomeration of sounds. People sought shelter in cellars, under rocks, or any-where, for everywhere was nearly the same. The miserable peasantry were knocked down and wounded and many killed in the open air. Several houses were set on fire, and estates in the imnediate neighborhood were ruined.

Had the stones that fell been propor tionately heavy to their size not a creature could have escaped with life. These, having undergone a thorough fusion, were divested of their natural gravity, and feil almost as light as pumice, though in some places they were as large as a man's head. The dreadful rain of stones and fire lasted upwards of an hour, and was again followed by cinder

surrounding country was in a state of oscillation—not agitated by shocks vertical or horizontal, but undulate, like water shaken in a bowl. The break of day, if such it could be called, was truly terrific. Darkness was only dispelled at nine o'clock, and the birth of morning dawned like the day of judgment. Chaotic gloom en-veloped the mountain, and an impene-trable haze hung over the sea with black, sluggish clouds of a sulphurous cast. For miles around the country was covered with favilla, cinders, scoria and broken masses of volcanic matter. This, the last eruption of Mount Ves-uvius, is on the grandest scale that has occurred within the last hundred years.

changed, and its beauty probably gone

from four to six o'clock in the morning.

Earthquake followed earthquake almost omentarily, or rather the whole of the

A Good Story. They tell a good story of how Rev. Dr. Bethune—now dead--a wit, a scholar and eloquent divine—was once put in a ueer position by an intimate friend. The doctor, at the time, was settled over a congregation in Brooklyn, and was very popular. A Connecticut congregation gave him a call, and "called" a thousand dollars per annum better a thousand dollars per annum better than the Brooklyn people. But he had formed a strong attachment to his par-ishioners, and thinking that his sphere of service could not be changed to advantage, he was not tempted by an in-

valuage, in was not compared of accrease of salary. So he remained, to the great delight of his people.

All of the doctor's parishioners were not saints. There were a few sinners among them—else why preach the gos-pel? And among the last was a jovial pew-holder, fond of lush, and apt at all times to get more than he could carry. Neither was he particular at what time of the day he got drunk. He suited his inclination, and had no method in his

Bilkins—well, that was not his name but it will do—Bilkins heard of the doc tor's refusal, and he was delighted. In the very sight of his pleasure he cross-ed Fulton Ferry, carrying about a quart brandy.

Dr. Bethune crossed in the same boat,

Mr. Bilkins," murmured Dr. Bethune. t was on fire. His interlocutor continued:

"Our people have got to make up that thousand dollars—got to! If they don't I'll do it myself. Se-see if I don't!" "But, my dear sir," remonstrated the doctor, "speak a little lower. You are drowning—"
"Yes-s-s," interrupted the other.— "I know what you said. You spurned the offer. You s-s-said you wouldn't go —not an inch. You told them, as a good,

pious clergyman ought, that you'd see 'em d-d first.'' A Peep Into Brigham Young's Seraglio. But let us seek a field of interest. But let us seek a neid of interest.
Here on our right hand are the private grounds of him who ruleth in Zion,
Brigham Young. Twenty acres he owns in the heart of the city, where are pleasant walks and floral beauties, surrounded by a stone wall. Within this enclosure are three princely mensions. where live his thirty wives and num-berless progeny. Each of these houses carries a name, that disorder and confusion may not arise in the camp of Israel. They are the Bee Hive House Lion House and White House on the Hill. This mighty wall is designed to shut out the world, to exclude inquisitive sight, but we shall venture to describe the scene within. It is the hour of sunset, gilding the mountains with rapturous light.— We approach the massive iron gates, and unlike Moore's disconsolate Peri, and unlike Moore's disconsolate Peri, we are permitted to enter the domestic paradise. Strolling leisurely along the grassy walks, our attention is attracted to the singular movements of an elderly woman, her hair streaked with silver threads, yet with a step firm and elastic. This evening's air is inviting, and she seems to enjoy the freshness. In her hand is an open book (can it be "Griffith Gaunt; or Jealousy?") which closes with a nervous twitch of the hand as her fading eye rekindles with a look that would seem to say, 'Oh, how I despise you! 'This woman, forty years ago became Brigham Young's first wife. But who can be the victim of that malig-

who can be the victim of that malig-nant scorning? What poor mortal is being crushed between her clenched teeth? Can it be I, only a looker-on— a harmless and unoffending Gentile? No; but we have discovered the study of her hate—the bohum upas that has been planted in her side. Yonder is a cluster of trees—they are aspen and maple—and under their thin, yellow-tinged tops is a bright eyed woman of twenty summers, who now leans upon an old man's arm. By what power we know not, but, as if drawn by magic hand, our steps are directed thither-ward. The now mistress of the heart and situation flashes winsome looks and breathes poetic words; he, old man that he is, and slave of sensualism, treads the floor of his own paradise, and smiles approving glances. This man is Brigham Young, and this woman his very last and much the prettiest wife. No wonder that the "old creature" looked the disagreeable. Perhaps there are others peeping from behind damask curtains who are also mourning the loss

## of their place in that old man's affec-A Great Curiosity.

tions.

There is, says the Reese River Reveille, in Monitor Valley, Nevada, a short distance south of Humphrey's Station, a singular boiling cauldron, now known as Diana's Bowl, which is well worthy of a visit. In the centre of a low, round hill, composed of sedimentary matter there is a natural bowl about seventy feature about this hot spring is, that it does not appear to have outlets, and yet its level does not seem to vary. The its level d surface of the water is some twenty feet lower than the rim of the bowl, and can be reached only by the aid of a

The present condition of the country, in its financial, political and moral aspects, is truly alarming. The grand carnival of the war, with its disbursements of six or seven truly alarming. The grand carnival of the war, with its disbursements of six or seven hundred millions a year, is ended, and as the bills come in for settlement we begin to realize the tremendous pressure which is upon us of heavy taxations, widespread corruptions, general depression in trade and universal distrust.

The Southern States, wrested from the abaliton are rapidly refers from the religible refers to the respective present the respective research.

The Southern States, wrested from the rebellion, are rapidly going down to ruin. The failures in their crops since the war from droughts and floods, and worms and frosts, have left the Southern planters with their money and credit exhausted and uncertain as to the needful bread for their families during the winter. The Southern negroes at the same time, shiftless and wasteful, have, as the rule, consumed their scanty enrings, and with staryation staring scanty earnings, and with starvation staring them in the face there is a prevailing sense of danger that they may, here, there and everywhere, without a moment's warning, everywhere, without a moment's warning, in their bloody reprisals, inaugurate a reign of terror and a war of races, General Gillem's report of the dreadful condition of things in Mississippi will apply more or less to all the rebel States from Virginia to Texas. They are all driving on from bad to worse, and unless some speedy and comprehensive measures of relief and reform are interrogged the civilized world within a are interposed the civilized world, within a few short months, may be shocked with the revival in "the great republic" of those horrible scenes of St. Domingo which marked the African movements there for negro equality and negro supremacy.

We have no doubt that with the reassembling of the two houses of Congress after New Year's they will, by official facts and vouchers, be fully convinced that between the impoverished whites and the swarms of idle and destitute blacks in the unreconstructed rebel States there is serious are interposed the civilized world, within a

unreconstructed rebel States there is serious danger of a reign of robbery, violence and blood. Politically divided, as the inhabitants of those States already are, into the white man's party and the black man's purty, it will require the most skilful handling to prevent a general rising between the two races for a mutual war of extermination. There may, perhaps, be some scenes of this character among the holiday diversions of the South, while our national law-makers are enjoying their unreconstructed rebel States there is serious national law-makers are enjoying their Christmas festivities in the North and de-luding the meeting with the fallacy that they have brought or are bringing about the reign of "peace on earth and good will to men."

men."

And what is the state of things in the North? Our merchants are doing little or nothing, though selling at less than cost; our manufactories, to a ruinous extent, are suspended or cut down in their operations; suspended or cut down in their operations; our mechanics, in still increasing numbers, are thrown out of employment; the unemployed and the destitute in all our great cities are more numerous now than they have been in any month of December for thirty years. Hard time is the general cry, and before they can be better there is a general apprehension that they will be worse. There is no confidence in the present head of the National Treasury, and there is no confidence of any substantial or seasonable relief from this Radical Congress. Why should there be, when all the legislation of these Radical reformers since the collapse of the rebellion has been de-

legislation of these Radical reformers since the collapse of the rebelion has been devoted to the negro—to negro philanthropy, freedmen's bureaus, negro equality, universal negro suffrage and Southern negro supremacy?

These reckless radical fanatics, in all these schemes looking to a political negro balance of power for mere party purposes, have been sowing the wind, and they will reap the whirlwind. General destitution and threatened disorders of volence and blood in the South; general stagnation, deblood in the South; general stagnation, de-pression and distrust in the North; oppres-Dr. Bethune crossed in the same boat, carrying an umbrella.

The brandy carrier happened to catch a sight of him, and at once staggered towards him, exclaiming in his loudest tones:

"How do you do. Mr. Bethune? Let me take your—hic—hand. my dear sir-r-r! I'm proud to testify-yi-yi my respect for you, sir."

"Speak a little lower, if you please, Mr. Bilkins." murmured Dr. Bethune. Mr. Bilkins," murmured Dr. Bethune.

"Yes-s-s, sir, you've stood by our pulpit like a man. Them cussed nutmeggrinding, ham-starving Yankees wanted to take you from us—offered you a thousand dollars a year more—did they?

By this time the attention of the crowd was fixed on the couple. Dr. Bethune's face was always florid; now it was on fire.

His interlocutor continued: and all other Presidential candidates, wil we expect from the people nothing short of a sweeping political revolution in our national elections of 1868, from Maine to California,—N. Y. Herald.

### nother Horrible Negro Murder in North Carolina.

Correspondence of the New York Herald. Newbern, Dec. 20, 1867.—Scarcely a day has elapsed and I have again to record a-nother of those negro outrages so frequen at the South since the emancipation of that unfortunate race—another brutal murder. But a few days since and the peaceable cit-izens in this vicinity were thrown into a state of the most violent excitement and state of the most violent excitement and terror by the horrible murder of Colonel Nethercutt, and the inhuman beating his wife received at the hands of the murderers, who also attempted incendiarism. The affair I am about to record, is a twofold tragedy, the negro murderer meeting death at the hands of a herole boy, not more than tourteen years old.

ourteen years old. Night before last the residence of M Daniel Doughity, on the public road lead-ing from Neuse to Trent, was invaded by a gang of negro desperadoes, who intest this portion of the State. Upon reaching the portion of the State. Upon reaching the nouse one of the party entered, the others remaining outside, as is usual in such cases, to guard against intrusion, while their bloody work is being perpetrated.

Ben Carmer, the murderer, who met his deserved fate, finding no one present but a Mr. P. Bratcher and a small boy, seized the former and demanded all the money there was in the house. A violent struggle, lustwas in the house. A violent struggle, lasting for some moments, now ensued, the negro, being very powerful and muscular, freeing himself. He immediately drew a revolver, discharging it twice, one of the balls taking effect in Mr. Bratcher's abdomen, the other in his right arm. From the wound in his abdomen, which was mortal, he has since died. At this juncture of affairs the weak and puerile boy displayed in a marked degree his courage and heroism. When the struggle had assumed its flercest aspect, and the negro had drawn was in the house. A violent struggle, lastheroism. When the struggle had assumed its flercest aspect, and the negro had drawn his pistol, the boy slipped behind a door, and seizing the gun belonging to Mr. Dough ity, took steady and deliberate aim at the negro murderer, fired, and instantly killed him. The remainder of the gang outside, seeing their leader lying prostrate in his gore, fled, as negroes will always do when they encounter true manly courage. The boy remained in the house, the sole survivor of this two-fold tragedy, administering to the dying wants of Mr. Bratcher until assistance arrived. This section is daily the scene of the most unparalleled nurders; the people live in terror, and if measures the people live in terror, and if measures are not adopted to restrain the growing ne-gro violence the country will become depopulated

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or the United States also makes a donation of 12,800 acres of land to the mile, which will be a source of large revenue to the Compaly, Much of this land in the Platte Valley is among the most ferthe in the world, and other large portions are covered with heavy pine forests and abound in coal of the bet et quality.

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five millions have been paid in upon the work lready done
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