

# The Centre Democrat.

SUPPLEMENT, OCTOBER, 10, 1889.

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In the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, No. 231 August term, 1888. In matter of the assigned estate of Jacob W. Musk and F. T. Musser, M. D. Assignees, to the creditors of Jacob W. Musk: you are hereby notified that the undersigned appoints Auditor to make distribution of the balance in the hands of accountants and among those legally entitled thereto, will attend to the duties of his appointment at his office in Bellefonte, Pa., on Monday the 20 day of September, A. D. 1889, at 10 o'clock a. m., when and where all parties interested may attend. Wm. J. Singer, Auditor.

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In the imperial museum at Rio Janeiro, Brazil, is a meteorite weighing over a ton. It is seven feet long and four feet thick. This great mass was transported seventy-one miles by ox wagons to the museum.

A Congregationalist woman in Cambridge, Mass., organized a Monday class for moral and religious instruction to boys and girls of the public schools. Her class now numbers 900 in regular attendance.

By a recent law passed in New York it is forbidden to use stoves for heating passenger cars. Steam or hot water is to be used.

Like other American tourists, the mosquito has gone from our shores to Europe this summer. He was not known there until within recent years.

If Governor Lowrey, of Mississippi, keeps on pursuing the Sullivan-Kilrain prize fighting people a few months longer, somebody will be hurt yet.

South Dakota has already proved her fitness to be a state. She is in debt \$700,000, which is \$200,000 in excess of the amount allowed by her constitution.

The wedding of his eldest daughter revealed to many in this country the fact that the Prince of Wales has a chaplain all to himself. That must be the reason Wales is so good.

Eighteen hundred and eighty-nine will be known for generations in this country as the rain year. Through flood and rain and cloud burst, through destruction, death and suffering, the months move on, and none can predict when the terror will stop.

The Mormons are said to be using every device of craft and statesmanship to obtain possession of Idaho. They will settle it as unsuspected bigamists, get it admitted to the Union and pass of course a non-polygamous constitution. Afterwards, having possession of the state, they can elect such legislatures and enact such laws as they please.

Ever since the Princess Louise-Fife wedding the papers have been telling the story that the new duke is not descended from the ancient thanes of Fife at all, but that the founder of his family was old "Creelie Duff," who got a competency in the egg business. Well, what of it? Wasn't that nobility in embryo? Creelie Duff was merely hatching plans for the eggalotted position his posterity was to occupy in future. Some people are very hard to please.

True history of the Johnstown disaster appears in the August North American Review. Contributions are made respectively by Governor Beaver, Clara Barton and by Maj. Powell, of the United States geological survey.

Governor Beaver tells us that, in the Johnstown district, three inches of rain will cause a freshet. May 31, six inches fell in twenty-four hours, hence the appalling calamity. By the recent floods, twenty of the sixty-seven counties in Pennsylvania suffered, and in ten of them there was loss of life. The relief fund for the sufferers will reach not less than \$3,000,000. A large amount came from the different countries of Europe. In face of disaster like this, all men are brethren.

Maj. Powell says that dams must continue to be built, in spite of Conemaugh, for they are necessary. But those who project them must carefully calculate beforehand the amount of pressure from rain or snow fall the walls of a reservoir will be called on to withstand. This can be accurately done in every case. In laying out a reservoir, first a topographical survey should be made, then a hydrographical survey, to determine the average amount of rain and snow fall over the basin and the amount discharged by streams emptying into it.

Clara Barton writes of the helpful work performed by the Red Cross society. She says that one conclusion has been forced on her through much experience in affording public relief. It is that the relief supplies and money should not be intrusted for distribution to local committees. They are intelligent, honest and disposed to do their best. She thinks, yet though they were spotted as snow, local jealousy would in every case charge them with misappropriating funds. For this reason the distribution should be intrusted to strangers.

Very touching, indeed, is the answer Miss Barton mentions which was returned to hundreds of applications made by those desiring to adopt children orphans by the food.

"There are no orphans—the orphans are dead."

Occasionally Providence does something exactly right, even in the estimation of a sharp business man. One of these times was when he placed a vast and rich deposit of petroleum in the Rocky mountains nearly a mile above sea level, whence it can simply flow through pipes over any distance without having to be pumped. This new find is in British Columbia.

The government survey for irrigation purposes will include the land lying between the mountains along the Pacific coast or a short distance inland from it, and what is called the line of twenty inch rainfall on the east. Every district getting less than twenty inches of rain will be included in the arid lands tract. The twenty inch rainfall extends from Bismarck, D. T., to Corpus Christi, Tex.

A genuine electric vegetable has been discovered in India, in the depths of the forest. If a leaf is broken off, the hand breaking it receives a strong electric shock. No bird or insect ever alights upon this strange plant. It shows all the properties of an electrical machine, deflecting the magnetic needle when it is brought near to it. In a rain storm the electrical properties disappear. The magnetic energy is most powerful at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Strange to say, none of the magnetic minerals are ever found near where this plant grows.

A Twelve Mile Shot.

The professor of gunnery at Woolwich Military academy, England, sent this problem to the artilleryists of the world: Given a gun with a caliber of 9.2 inches, a projectile weighing 890 pounds, the angle of firing being 40 degrees, the velocity at the start 2,375 feet per second, and how far will the shot travel? The gun was wound with wire.

Artillerist mathematicians everywhere bent their heads to the solution of the problem. Once more it is a feather in the cap of the modest United States that the man whose calculation came nearest the mark was Capt. James M. Ingalls, of the First United States artillery. Capt. Ingalls is instructor in ballistics at Fortress Monroe. The calculation was to be for the mean or average distance traveled by two shots. This mean shot is called by artilleryists the "jubilee shot." Capt. Ingalls' figures came within 196 yards of the jubilee shot, and within 11 yards of one of the shots.

The altitude reached and the actual distance traveled by the shots are, however, matters that directly interest the public. The fact that the journey of the mean shot was 12 miles and 83 yards is most startling. The projectile also shot upward into the air to a height of 3 1/2 miles. Shots can be safely fired from a ship at an angle of 18 days. Suppose

ing one of their ships should stop over or eight miles outside of New York or Boston and to pepper those ports with little 380 pound shots?

Oliver Wendell Holmes.

The merry old boy who wrote the "One Horse Shay" reached his 80th birthday this 29th of August. He himself wrote to Julia Ward Howe a few months ago, on her 70th birthday: "It is better to be 70 years young than 40 years old." Dr. Holmes himself, though one of the most industrious men of his century, shows us how to be 80 years young. In fact, it is this eternally youthful quality in the famous author that attracts us so. It is like the sparkle of champagne. The greatest blessing an old man or woman can pray for and strive for is this unfading youthfulness of soul.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes was born in that year prolific of famous men, 1809, in an old gambrel roofed revolutionary house which is still standing. It took several years for the young poet to find out what he did not want to be. His family designed him for the church. He rebelled against it with all the force of a poetic imagination, chiefly because of the general dismalness of the preacher of his childhood—"a clerical visitor with a sad face and a wailing voice." He also studied law for a year and finally settled down to medicine. The medical profession know, him as a marvelous anatomist and microscopist. We outside know him as the Autocrat of the Breakfast Table and the man who wrote the weird and terrible novel, "Elsie Venner," but most of all as the author for youth, whose work is full of humor and joy and brightness, as well as sweetness. As a writer of poetry for special occasions he certainly has not his equal in the English language. One of his sayings which especially tickled the fancy of our British cousins is this: "Give me the luxuries of life and I will dispense with its necessities."

Dr. Holmes became famous when he was 21, and has staid so ever since. May he live to be a hundred years old!

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