The Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, Publisher. REGARDLESS OF DENUNCIATION FROM ANY QUARTER. $2 per Annum, in Advance.

VOLUME XXVIII. TOWANDA, BRADFORD COUNTY, PA., JUNE 13, 1867. NUMBER 2.

TERMS OF PUBLICATION.

THE REPORTER is published every Thursday Morning, by E. O. GOODRICH, at $2 per annum, in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS, exceeding fifteen lines are inserted at TEN CENTS per line for first insertion, and FIVE CENTS per line for subsequent insertions. Special notices inserted before Marriages and Deaths, will be charged FIFTEEN CENTS per line for each insertion. All resolutions of Associations; communications of limited or individual interest, and notices of Marriages or Deaths exceeding five lines, are charged TEN CENTS per line.

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One Column,	$75	$40	$30
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Estray, Caution, Lost and Found, and other advertisements, not exceeding 10 lines, three weeks, or less, $1 50
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Merchants and others, advertising their business, will be charged $20. They will be entitled to a column, confined exclusively to their business, with privilege of change.

☞ Advertising in all cases exclusive of subscription to the paper.

JOB PRINTING of every kind, in Plain and Fancy colors, done with neatness and dispatch. Handbills, Blanks, Cards, Pamphlets, &c., of every variety and style, printed at the shortest notice. The REPORTER OFFICE has just been re-fitted with Power Presses, and every thing in the Printing line can be executed in the most artistic manner and at the lowest rates. TERMS INVARIABLY CASH.

Cards.

GEORGE D. MONTANYE, *ATTORNEY AT LAW*—Office in Union Block, formerly occupied by JAMAGFARLANE.

DOCTOR EDWARD S. PERKINS, Offers his professional services to the citizens of Frenchtown and vicinity. Calls promptly attended to.
May 28, 1867.—1y*

W. T. DAVIES, Attorney at Law, Towanda, Pa., Office with Wm. Watkins, Esq. Particular attention paid to Orphans' Court business and settlement of decedents estates.

MERCUR & MORROW, *Attorneys at Law*, Towanda, Penn's, The undersigned having associated themselves together in the practice of Law, offer their professional services to the public.
ULYSSES MERCUR, P. D. MORROW.
March 9, 1865.

PATRICK & PECK, ATTORNEYS AT LAW. Offices:—In Union Block, Towanda, Pa., formerly occupied by Hon. Wm. Elwell, and in Patrick's block, Athens, Pa. They may be consulted at either place.
H. W. PATRICK, apl13 W. A. PECK.

H. B. McKEAN, *ATTORNEY & COUNSELLOR AT LAW*, Towanda, Pa. Particular attention paid to business in the Orphans' Court. July 20, 1866.

HENRY PEET, *Attorney at Law*, Towanda, Pa. jun27, 66.

DR. H. WESTON, *DENTIST.*—Office in Patton's Block, over Gore's Drug and Chemical Store. 1jan66

EDWARD OVERTON Jr., *Attorney at Law*, Towanda, Pa. Office in Monanyes Block, over Frost's Store. July 13, 1865.

DR. R. DAVIES, LeRAYSVILLE, PA. has permanently located at the office formerly occupied by Dr. B. DeWitt, for the practice of his profession. May 9, 1867.

JOHN N. CALIFF, *ATTORNEY AT LAW*, Towanda, Pa. Also, Government Agent for the collection of Pensions, Back Pay and Bounty.
☞ No charge unless successful. Office over the Post-Office and News Room. Dec. 1, 1864.

DOCTOR B. DEWITT, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.—May be found during the day—unless otherwise engaged—on Main-st., a few doors below Codding & Russell's. Residence corner of William and Division-sts., lately occupied by E. A. Parsons.
Towanda, April 28, 1867.—1y*

JONES & DEMOREST, *Coopers*, Towanda, Pa. All kinds of Cooper Work on hand and made to order. Particular attention given to repairing. Work can be obtained at the shop in the Keystone Brewery, or at the store of W. A. Rockwell. Cash or work, paid for stock. May 9, 1867.

O. D. STILES, M. D., *Physician and Surgeon*, would announce to the people of Rome Borough and vicinity, that he has permanently located at the place formerly occupied by Dr. G. W. Stone, for the practice of his profession. Particular attention given to the treatment of women and children, as also to the practice of operative and minor surgery. Oct. 2, '66.

DR. PRATT has removed, to State street, (first above B. S. Russell & Co's Bank). Persons from a distance desirous of consulting him, will be most likely to find him on Saturday of each week. Especial attention will be given to surgical cases, and the extraction of teeth. Gas or Ether administered when desired.
July 18, 1866. D. S. PRATT, M. D.

DOCTOR CHAS. F. PAINE.—Office in GORE'S Drug Store, Towanda, Pa. Calls promptly attended to at all hours.
Towanda, November 28, 1866.

EDW'D MEEKS—AUCTIONEER. All letters addressed to him at Sugar Run, Bradford Co. Pa., will receive prompt attention.

FRANCIS E. POST, *Painter, Towanda, Pa*, with 10 years experience, is confident he can give the best satisfaction in Painting, Graining, Staining, Glazing, Papering, &c.
☞ Particular attention paid to Jobbing in the country. April 9, 1866.

J. K. VAUGHAN—*Architect and Builder*—All kinds of Architectural designs furnished. Ornamental work in Stone, Iron and Wood. Office on Main street, over Russell & Co.'s Bank. Attention given to Rural Architecture, such as laying out of grounds, &c., &c. April 1, 1867.—1y.

J. J. NEWELL,
COUNTY SURVEYOR,
Orwell, Bradford Co., Pa., will promptly attend to all business in his line. Particular attention given to running and establishing old or disputed lines. Also to surveying of all unpatented lands as soon as warrants are obtained. my17

W. HERSEY WATKINS, *Notary Public* is prepared to take Depositions, Acknowledge the Execution of Deeds, Mortgages, Power of Attorney, and all other instruments. Affidavits and other papers may be sworn to before me.
Office opposite the Banking House of B. S. Russell & Co., a few doors north of the Ward House. Towanda, Pa., Jan. 14, 1867.

D. D. KNAPP,
Watch Maker and Dealer in Gents and Ladies Watches Chains and Finger Rings, Clocks, Jewelry, Gold Pens, Spectacles, Silver ware, Plated ware, Hollow ware, Thimbles, Sewing Machines, and other goods belonging to a Jewelry Store.
Particular attention paid to Repairing, at his old place near the Post Office, Waverly, N. Y. Dec. 3, 1866.—tf.

JOHN MORAY,
ARTIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER.
Will promptly attend to all business in his line. Special attention given to Landscape and Stereoscopic Photography. Views of Family Residences, Stores, Public Buildings, Animals, Machines, etc., taken in the best manner. Particular attention given to the novel and beautiful stereoscopic representation of objects. Orders received at Wood & Harding's Photographic Art Gallery, Towanda.
Towanda, April 23, 1867.—y1.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE opened a Banking House in Towanda, under the name c. G. P. MASON & CO.
They are prepared to draw Bills of Exchange, and make collections in New York, Philadelphia, and all portions of the United States, as also England, Germany, and France. To Loan money, receive deposits, and to do a general Banking business.
G. F. Mason was one of the late firm of Laporte, Mason & Co., of Towanda, Pa., and his knowledge of the business men of Bradford and adjoining Counties, and having been in the banking business for about fifteen years, make this house a desirable one, through which to make collections.
G. F. MASON,
Towanda, Oct. 1, 1866. A. G. MASON.

NOTICE.—L. C. NELSON would hereby notify all persons indebted to him that he has sold out his store, and all accounts not settled by the first of July next, will be left for collection. May 3, 1867. tf. 1.

Hotels.

WARD HOUSE, TOWANDA, PA.
On Main Street, near the Court House.
C. T. SMITH, Proprietor.
Oct. 8, 1866.

AMERICAN HOTEL,
TOWANDA, PA.,
Having purchased this well known Hotel on Bridge Street, I have refurnished and refitted it with every convenience for the accommodation of all who may patronize me. No pains will be spared to make all pleasant and agreeable.
May 3, '66.—tf. J. S. PATTERSON, Prop.

SNYDER HOUSE, a four story brick edifice near the depot, with large airy rooms, elegant parlors, newly furnished, has a recess in new addition for Ladies sex, and is the most convenient and only first-class hotel at Waverly, N. Y. It is the principal office for stages south and express. Also for sale of Western Tickets, and in Canada, on Grand Trunk Rail-way. Fare to Detroit from Buffalo, $4, is cheaper than any other route. Apply for tickets as above to
C. WARFORD.
☞ Stabling and care of Horses at reasonable rates.
Waverly, N. Y., Oct. 26, 1866.—3m. C. W.

Millinery and Dress Making.

MISS GRIFFIN,
Would respectfully ask the ladies to call and examine her stock of Spring Millinery Goods, just received from New York. Every thing beautiful and new, in the line of Bonnets, Hats, Trimmings, etc. She takes pleasure in offering to her friends and the public generally.
Of her work, those who have patronized her, are the best judges, and to them she refers.
Towanda, April 23, 1867.—6w*

MISSES WOUGHTER & SHIPMAN,
DRESS MAKERS.
Rooms over Bramhall & Cowell's Store, Main Street. Second Door below Beidleman's Block.
Towanda, Pa., April 5th 1867.—3m.

MILLINERY.
MRS. J. C. PIERCE,
Would announce to the citizens of Towanda, and the public generally, that she has just returned from New York with a well selected assortment of Goods, and opened a

MILLINERY STORE,
Over Shlam's Clothing Store, in the front room formerly occupied by W. C. Bogart, Esq., where she will be pleased to see the Ladies of Towanda and vicinity, being confident that with a varied and well-selected assortment she can supply their wants.
Having procured the services of one of the best Milliners from the City, she believes that she can give entire satisfaction. Particular attention given to STRAW WORK.
☞ Come and see us. Don't forget the place, over Shlam's Clothing Store, next door to Mercur's Store.
Towanda, April 8, 1867.

MISS M. A. BUFFINGTON,
Would announce to the ladies of Towanda and vincinity, that she is now prepared to give her time and attention to

DRESS MAKING,
And solicits a share of their patronage. All orders will be promptly attended to. Rooms at the residence of N. J. Keeler, (up stairs) two doors east of Dr. Pratt's office, on State street.
Towanda, April 15, 1867.

NEW MILLINERY
AT MONROETON.
MISS EMMA SILL & MISS MARION S. RIDGWAY,
Having just returned from New York with a fine and well selected assortment of
MILLINERY AND FANCY GOODS,
Would inform their friends, and the public generally, that they would be pleased to receive a call from them at their rooms formerly occupied by Mrs. H. M. Tracy.
☞ Particular attention given to Straw Work.
April 17, 1867.

Miscellaneous.

I. O. OF O.F.—BRADFORD LODGE No. 167, I. O. of O. F., meets at Odd Fellows Hall, every Monday evening from the first Monday in April to the first Monday in October at 7½ p. m., from October to April at 6½ p. m.
J. S. CAREY, Sec'y.
April 23, 1867.

PUBLIC DRAY.—The subscriber has had made a new and convenient DRAY and will hereafter be prepared to do hauling for all persons desiring his services.
His Dray will stand in front of Patch's store, when not engaged and all orders may be left at that store.
The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited, as by prompt attention to orders, and, by punctuality and low charges, he is determined to merit a share of custom.
FRANK STEPHENS.
March 28, 1867.—3m*

GRIST MILL.—I have purchased the grist-mill known as the Hale Mill, situated near the mouth of Towanda Creek, and about two miles south of Towanda Borough.
I take this method of notifying my old friends of my location, and am in hopes to gain many new friends and patrons by strict attention to my business. All I ask is a fair trial, as I am well satisfied that I can suit my customers.
WM. BAHR.
South Towanda, April 23, 1867.

NEW ARRANGEMENT
AT THE
NEWS ROOM AND BOOK STORE.
The undersigned having purchased the BOOK STORE AND NEWS ROOM of J. J. Griffiths, respectfully invite the old patrons of the establishment and the public generally, to call and examine our stock.
ALVORD & BARBER.
S. W. ALVORD. F. E. BARBER.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS EXPERIENCE IN DENTISTRY.
J. M. Shurtz, M. D., would respectfully inform the inhabitants of Bradford County that he is permanently located in Waverly, N. Y., where he has been in the practice of his profession for the past four years. He would say that from his long and successful practice of 25 years duration he is familiar with all the different styles of work done in any and all Dental Establishments in city or country, and is better prepared than any other Dental operator in the vicinity to do work the best adapted to the many and different cases that present themselves oftentimes to the Dentist, as he understands the art of making his own artificial teeth, and has facilities for doing the same. To those requiring under sets of teeth he would call attention to his new kind of work which consists of porcelain for both plate and teeth, and forming a continuous gum. It is more durable, more natural in appearance, and much better adapted to the gum than any other kind of work. Those in need of the same are invited to call and examine specimens. Teeth filled to last for years and oftentimes for life.—Chloroform, Ether, and "Nitrous Oxide" administered with perfect safety, as over four hundred patients within the last four years can testify.
I will be in Towanda from the 15th to 20th of every month, at the office of W. K. TAYLOR, (formerly occupied by Dr. O. H. Woodruff.)—Having made arrangements with Mr. Taylor, I am prepared to do all work in the very best style, at his office. April 23, 1867.

IMPORTANT TO DAIRYMEN.
DUNBAR & McMAUGHT'S FIRKIN STOP.
Use it, and when you come to market your butter, you are saved the annoyance of having your firkins mutilated and disfigured, by removing the head. Use it, and you need no cloth over your butter, when the firkin is filled, and it requires no attention, while in the cellar.
Send your orders to Dunbar & McMaught, Allen, Bradford county, Penn'a., who will send for circulars, and further information.
May 23, 1867.

Selected Poetry.

THE VOTER ON ELECTION DAY.
BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

The proudest now is but my peer,
The highest is not more high:
To-day, of all the weary year,
The king of men am I.
To-day alike are great and small,
The nameless and the known;
My palace is the people's hall,
The ballot-box my throne.

Who served to-day upon the list
Beside the served shall stand;
Alike the brown and wrinkled fist,
The gloved and dainty hand!
The rich is level with the poor,
The weak is strong to-day:
And sleekest broadcloth counts no more
Than homespun frock of gray.

To-day let pomp and vain pretence
My stubborn right abide;
I set a plain man's common sense
Against the pedant's pride.
To-day shall simple manhood try
The strength of gold and land;
The wide world has not wealth to buy
The power in my right hand!

While there's grief to seek redress,
Or balance to adjust,
Where weighs our living manhood less
Than Mammon's vilest dust—
While there's a right to need my vote,
A wrong to sweep away,
Up! clouted knee and ragged coat!
A man's a man to-day!

Miscellaneous.

FOR THE REPORTER.

The trial of JOHN KINGSLAND, for killing his wife, has excited more remark than that of any other in our recollection. We are so little accustomed to "treasons, stratagems, and broils," that a matter of the kind stirs us all up with a desire to vindicate the majesty of the law, and to punish the guilty, if guilt there is.—The excitement is no more than might have been expected when we consider the nature of the imputed crime, and the circumstances of apparent brutality which attended its perpetration. Another element of surprise was the defense,—the energy, and we may say talent, employed to impress the jury, and the community, with the belief that the prisoner at the bar was insane. Seldom, we think, has a criminal had more talented and accomplished lawyers than JOHN KINGSLAND, and rarely have legal gentlemen been more eloquent or pains-taking, than those who appeared in his behalf. The plea of the counsel who opened the case in the defense, was an effort worthy his reputation and standing at the bar, and had it been made by even the best criminal lawyer in the country, it would in no wise have detracted from his reputation.

The closing plea in the defense was a logical deduction from the assumed data, and though it, at times, rose to a thrilling eloquence, yet it lost in effectiveness, because, as we suppose, its energies were dissipated by the necessity of elucidating so many points.

While we award to the defense the honor it so well deserves, we are bound, in simple justice to aver, that the prosecution was conducted with equal if not superior ability. It is over difficult to strive against preconceived opinion, and it was pretty generally believed, when the counsel for the defense closed his argument, that the prisoner would be acquitted. What the jury thought at this juncture we have no means of knowing, but it is fair to infer that they, too, in whole or in part, had caught the infection. The authority of authorship, the deference always extended to eminent skill, and justly so, is ever sufficient to weigh down the plain, every-day, homespun promptings of common sense. This is the day and age of hobbys, scientific or otherwise. Cain was born a day too soon. He should have had the benefits of some of our modern systems of medical jurisprudence, and entered up a plea of insanity.

The opening pleas of the counsel for the prosecution were well argued and to the point, so much so as to receive the unqualified commendation of the opposing counsel, but it was the one which closed the case that brought conviction to the jury and sealed the fate of the unfortunate man at the bar. That plea was a close and severe analysis of the evidence, a candid and forcible examination of the facts, a gathering up of apparently incongruous threads into a web, an arranging and assorting of broken ends and minor fragments (for the minor is ever an expondent of the major,) into a system of evidence, addressed to the reason and common sense, with just the fervor and enthusiasm, which is sure to impress a jury. We may well feel proud of our own local ability, when we see it successfully encountering the best from abroad.

The plea of insanity, in these days, is relied upon to excuse almost all cases of murder, however atrocious and revolting their perpetration may have been. It is undoubtedly true, that there are more unsound minds in our community than ever before, and it is just as true, that there are more brawls and assassinations than ever before; but that insanity lies at the bottom of most of them, we should be slow to believe. And yet, where has there been one, except that of Probst, in Philadelphia, in which insanity has not been urged with all the acumen which attaches to the legal profession, in mitigation of the crime? Subsequent events have shown in more than one case, where the plea has prevailed, that a few months residence in an Insane Asylum, under the eye of a discriminating Superintendent, has dissipated the dream of insanity indulged in by juries and experts, and turned loose upon the world a double-dyed villain. We now refer to the testimony of Dr. Hoon, the able Superintendent of the Bethlehem Hospital for the Insane, England.

Insanity, when clearly proved, is not in all cases an excuse for crime, and yet the question put to the expert is "do you believe the prisoner insane?" as if an answer in the affirmative disposed of the case and settled the matter of responsibility. Far from it, for there are hundreds of monomaniacs whom every rule of law, and common sense, would hold responsible. I may believe I govern the sun, and hold the planets in their courses, but that delusion does not excuse me for burning my neighbor's barn. I may cherish the delusion that some insignificant law has made me pay a few dollars more school, or borough tax, than I ought to pay, but that does not excuse me for concocting treason against the whole system of law, and turning traitor. The delusion and insane act should hold a relation, and be proportioned to each other; and otherwise, responsibility ensues. Delusion, then, is no test of responsibility. We see, as above, how delusion, which is insanity, may exist in the mind, and the insane be responsible for crime. Is it not wrong, then, for courts and juries to inquire no further of experts than the single question, "Do you think the prisoner insane?"

We believe that courts have adopted what they call a legal definition of insanity—or rather, that they treat it in a legal sense, making a knowledge or consciousness of the distinction between right and wrong, a test of responsibility as well as of insanity. Now, we think, there is an important difference between responsibility and insanity, and we hope the difference may be clearly seen in the preceding paragraph—if it is not, we shall despair making it appear. We further think, that in more than one half the cases of confirmed insanity, there is a clear and definite consciousness of right and wrong, as lively a sense of moral obligation and duty, as may be seen in characters the most eminent and virtuous.

The records of Insane Asylums show a large proportion of patients, who are patterns of piety and devotion, who are strictly conscientious, which they could not be, if they were insensible of moral truth. We, who are sane, judge the world by our own, common, universal, standard of abstract right; they who are insane, judge it by *theirs*, and theirs in its particular application to themselves, involves the same moral sense which ours does. They are a law to themselves. There is a fault in their faculty of comparison. Perception and reflection disagree—like and unlike are wedded,—congruity and incongruity come together,—reason is delusion, imagination is hallucination, and judgment error, and all this, because the comparative faculty is perverted by disease, and the mind is holding its uncertain way without a directing will. Insanity in the mind, is like anarchy in the state. It is a medley of

"Sweet bells jangled out of tune and harsh."

We have also what is termed a "medical sense" of insanity. We will briefly compare the two and see to what we arrive by a strict adherence to the dicta of theory, and the authority of great names. Medical men say that insanity is a disease of the brain. This may be true. Now the wisest of them can not point out a different state and condition of the brain of one raving with insanity, from that of one raving with anger. They are the same in both. In both the corporeal structures are gorged with blood, irritated, perhaps inflamed. In both the face is flushed, the eye is wild, the speech is threatening, and every nerve is tense with excitement. Both are beside themselves. Now if both are charged with a murder committed in that state, which of them will you punish or will you punish neither, or will you punish both? The court says both are devoid of a sense of right and wrong, we will punish neither—the medical man says both brains are diseased, we will punish neither, and thus both escape, when one of the two deserve punishment, and the public good demands it.

Medical men do not, however, as a class, favor the belief that passion is always a manifestation of insanity. They are men of too good sense.—But it is logically inferred from the theory they propound. That idea is embraced by an easy-going, loose, school of philosophers, who prefer eating and sleeping, to working and thinking. Passion, such as anger, revenge, jealousy, &c., is an exalted, intensified action of a power of the mind, a necessary power, which, absent from the mental organization, reduces it below the common level of humanity. The mind is rarely clear from the operation of passion—it is either exalted or depressed, either loving or hating, either sorrowing or rejoicing, either hoping or despairing, either mad or pleased, either blessed or cursed. What channels are worn in the soul by the play and surges of seventy years of passion, and yet, what mark has been left to tell the inquirer how well the balance of sanity and passion has been preserved?

If ever courts and juries are uncertain as to what the verdict should be, it is when passion so well simulates insanity, that the line between them is not easily discernible. Insanity is often mistaken for passion, but we think passion is oftener mistaken for insanity. In the natural course of events, there are a thousand cases of passion for one of insanity. We are not sure, though, that it would be fair to say the chances are a thousand to one in favor of passion, in a given case, but just as we look at it now, it seems so. Passion and insanity touch at so many points, they seem so much alike, that a just opinion can never be formed from the circumstances alone. Other things may throw a light which will satisfy every reasonable doubt.

And other things do throw a light. What has been the habit?—that second nature of the soul, whose laws have become despotic by being pampered and indulged. It tells the whole story of character,—it shows every bent and turn of mind and disposition through the successive periods of life—how it has warped the reason, and bent the will, and forged the "unseen ligament" which binds the nobler part of an immortal being to brutish propensities and lusts; and what has been the will?—that executive faculty of the soul which restrains, directs, controls, governs, commands, and executes all. Has the will held an uncertain purpose, has it veered and shifted and turned aside, and away, or has it gone out a purpose, and a strength, and a word of power? For such is its office. To bind the several faculties in one great design, to concentrate their energies to a single point, to make the mind a unit, itself the controling faculty, to exercise a wise supervision, to restrain irregularities—all this, and these, are functions of the will. That the will may restrain and control irregular and undue manifestations of mind, and by reason of this, be competent to restrain insane manifestations, will be clear to any one who will attend for a single moment to his own thoughts. They come and they go, "tribe following tribes and train pursuing trains," and they come and they go without apparent order or sequence. Now, let him attempt to arrange and regulate them, he will find he can, and that he can hold them to a stern scrutiny, at his pleasure—that he can change their direction, substituting not only a particular idea for another, but also whole trains of associated thought for others, as easily as he can the words he clothes with them. This is system, method, discipline. All men who think, and think much, and think to a purpose, acquire it—some more readily than others, to be sure, but it is possible to all. It is habit—it is a boon conferred by cultivation, by persistent effort, by determined will. But you say, a sane mind accomplishes all this;—one that is insane is unequal to it. It is often so, no doubt, but we think there are but few cases in which a discreet and proper exercise of the will, may not be greatly serviceable in the forming stage of insanity. The will often retains its natural integrity, long after all the other faculties are in "wild confusion lost," and while we know that in a healthy mind the sole function of the will is to "order its harmonies" and to direct them to a proper end, why may we not expect its salutary influence here. The body has its *vis medicatrix naturæ* and why not the mind? Does not experience prove the point for which we contend? Every intelligent nurse or physician in an Insane Asylum, will assure you, that judicious impressions of the will, moral inducement to correct thought, are the base, the fundamental principles of curative agencies.

"There are more things in Heaven and Earth, Horatio,
Than are dreamed of in our philosophy."

More, much more, might be said just here, but we have said all that seems necessary to indicate our view of the propriety of considering the function and office of the will, in investigating the subject of insanity and responsibility. If the will is the one power of the mind which more than all the others determines the status, the moral condition, the manhood of the man—if the man himself in its earliest promptings and impulses, may check it, sway it, change it, direct it,—if he may use it as an agency in the discharge of the duties of life, it can not be studied too much nor can too much pains be taken in its education. Had he, who but yesterday, stood at the bar of the Commonwealth, broken from the enthralment of an ill-educated will, and from habit grown imperative by indulgence, as he might have done, society would not to-day mourn her violated law, nor would the blood of an innocent woman cry to Heaven against her slayer.

SHOOTING A SHARK.

A ship-of-war lay at anchor in the beautiful bay, and the waters slept around her, smooth as a mill pond and silvery as glass. The sailors were idly moving here and there on the ship's deck, for there was nothing to be done. The old boatswain, a favorite of all, was among them telling stories, or, as they call it, "spinning long yarns." Among this crew was a bright little boy, a son of the old boatswain, the idol of his father, and the pet of all the sailors. He was so cheerful, and bright, and good-natured that there was nothing which they would not do for "little Jem."

The morning was warm, and the water just at a right temperature for bathing. A group of the sailors leaned over the ship, and seemed greatly delighted with something they saw. It was "little Jem," their pet, far out from the ship swimming along. He could whirl over, dive, float, or shoot like a duck.

"Boatswain," cried one, "what a swimmer little Jem is."

"Ah," said his father, "he seems to take to the water. I never had to teach him."

"Boatswain! boatswain! a shark! a shark! Oh, he will get Jem in one minute more!"

The old man leaped up, and by a single glance took it all in. There was the son playing in the water, lying on his back, unconscious of any danger, and a huge shark making straight towards him, and it was plain that in a moment more he would be crunching the limbs of the boy.—The father remembered that one of the cannon was shotted. Quick as a flash, and with almost superhuman strength, he wrenched the gun in place, depressed the muzzle, aimed a few feet between the child and the shark—just where the fish would be in a single instant. The match was applied the gun roared and reeled.—The poor father sunk down beside the gun, too faint to look. The smoke of the gun cleared away, and up rose a shout from the sailors, almost as loud as the roar of the gun.

"What is it?" called the father.

"Oh, Jem is safe. There lies the shark, dead and torn in pieces! How could you move the gun and get her off so quickly and so accurately?"

"I believe God helped me! Some of you bring Jem!"

The next moment a boat was lowered and the oars were bending, as she cut her way to the boy. He had just began to understand the thing, and was paralyzed with terror. Gently they lifted him into the boat, and in a few minutes placed him in the arms of his weeping father. The old man seemed to receive him as from the dead, and could only rock him in his arms and cry like a baby.

How wonderful that Providence that stepped in, and from a source so uncommon and unsuspected, saved the life of that child! The only man who could have managed the gun so quickly and accurately, the only man who thought of the thing, was the father! And when life and death hung on an instant of time, and on the accuracy of his eye, and the steadiness of his hand, how he had them all in full use as long as needed!

ONE OF THE BOYS.—A youngster came home after having a glorious time in the puddles, his face all aglow and his rubber boots full of water.—The punishment of staying in the house for the remainder of the day did not seem very hard at first; but as his little heart warmed up with the recollection of the triumphs of the morning when he had waded deeper than any of his playmates dared to, he could bear the restraint no longer, and went to his mother, saying: "Please, mother, whip me, and let me go out again!"

AN unfortunate Kentucky editor thus addressed his delinquent subscribers; "Friends we are penniless. Job's turkey was a millionaire compared with our present treasury. To-day if salt was two cents a barrel, we couldent buy enough to pickle a jay-bird!"

OUR NEW POSSESSIONS—RUSSIAN AMERICA.

The following articles, translated from the *Cologne Gazette*, probably gives as intelligent and dispassionate an account of the territory as can now be presented:

If the cession of the whole of Russian America to the United States is ratified, it will be a very important event; not because the acquisition of a large tract of land by the United States promises an increase of power; for territorial extension is not desirable, and Russian America is no paradise; yet it may prove an Eldorado in furs, and its situation on the North-west coast of the Continent will be of great significance. The territory is 11,500 (German) square miles in area, lying on the north-west slope of the Rocky Mountains; has many snow-peaks and volcanoes, and is densely wooded in the valleys, and on the rivers and inlets of the coast range. The coast has many harbors, shut in by the Prince of Wales and George IIId's Archipelagoes. The Kossack Dechenes first discovered Behring's Straits, which were explored by Behring 80 years afterward, and received his name. The volcanoes are generally very high, and streams are abundant, though unemployed. The climate is very diversified, and much milder than between the same parallels on the eastern coast of America or Eastern Asia. The coast as far as the peninsula of Aliaska, has mild Winters and cool Summers, with abundant rains, very favorable to vegetation; but fruit trees do not prosper. There are scarcely 700 Russians among the 70,000 inhabitants, just one in a hundred; 1,500 are half-breeds of Russians and Indians. Only 15,000 Indians are civilized, and the rest are scattered over the vast region. Esquimaux inhabit the eastern half of Alaska, and there are about 2,300 Alcots in the eastern portion; they also inhabit the islands of their name. The seat of government of the country is New Archalgel, containing 2,200 inhabitants. Twenty-five years ago, it had not a population of more than 750 souls. The timber and furs of the country became very useful when the Russians settled on the Amoor; up to that time, it was more of a burden than a blessing. For America, the case is quite different. This purchase annexes the middle portion, on the west of the British auriferous regions, that England has long regarded with a covetous eye. The northwestern coast of America is out of the regular course of commerce. This will now change, and the year 1867 will be the beginning of a new era for it.

About the middle of January, the Colorado arrived at Shanghai from San Francisco to open a regular trade across the Pacific, and the steamer Great Republic, of 4,000 tuns, is soon to follow. The telegraph company reports the line already laid as far as New Westminister, the capital of British Columbia.

Steamships and telegraph lines will unite those distant regions to the civilized world and give them new life; and lands that were once called desert wastes will become mines of untold wealth to a persevering and industrious race of people. But the greatest good of this treaty—far more important than the acquisition of territory—is the winning of a cordial good understanding between the two enlightened nations of the northern hemisphere. The friendly relations between Petersburg and Washington take place at the very time when Napoleon III., hoping for a dissolution of the American Union, is speculating upon the establishment of a throne in the Western World. The French therefore, have hated to see this friendly feeling increase, and they say in contempt: "Russia is to be well compensated for this loss!" What compensation can the United States afford? They have no possessions in the Old World; but they have abundant means, quite enough to make an offensive and defensive alliance, and such trifles, of immense importance to the Czar. Now that Russia is casting a longing look on Western Asia, her sovereign is conscious of the importance of a friendly union with a mighty naval power on the Western Continent.

For these reasons the negotiations in Washington are watched with great anxiety by France and England.

As Prussia has a good understanding with the United States, as well as Russia has, this *entente cordiale* between Washington and Petersburgh, in case of war in Europe, may be more beneficial than detrimental to the cause of Germany.

ON THE ISTHMUS.

We saw nothing that looked like cultivation of the soil, nothing that looked like a vegetable gardon, nothing that looked like work, except keeping the railroad in repair. I think these people are content with just what they can gather from the forest of fruit and vegetables, and it may be the extreme heat of the climate forces that contentment upon them. They truly take no thought for the morrow what they shall eat or what they shall drink, or wherewithal they shall be clothed. In fact, the children put on no clothes at all, to obstruct the cool breezes so much courted by every one in the Torrid Zone. I said there were no cultivated fields, no plowing, no reaping, but from all appearances there must be one continuous harvest of fruit of spontaneous production, unnumbered palms of numberless variety of leaf and fruit, lemon trees and orange, cocoanut and bread fruit, pine-apple and bananas budding, blossoming, ripening and decaying and every hill side and by the banks of every stream, and intersepted among, a thousand varieties of trees are so many kinds of vine, some large and heavy like ropes, hanging from the tops of the tallest trees; others more frail and beautiful, climb a *single leaf of fern fifty feet in length*, then lift their fragile arms to catch the down coming vine from the broad limbs of some spreading oak or gum tree, thus making the whole forest one continued swamp of vegetation, of fruit vine and blossom. Ours was a through train, flying by station, village and hamlet with equal speed, giving us little time for observation.

POETRY IN UNDRESS.

An English paper which rejoices in the name of the Ladies' Own, thus plays tricks with rhyme and reason: "It is many years since I fell in love with Jane Jerusha Skeggs, the handsomest country girl by far, that ever went on two legs.

By meadow creek, and wood and dell, so often did we walk, and the moonlight smiled on her melting lips, and the night winds learned our talk. Jane Jerusha was all to me, for my heart was young and true, and loved with a double twisted love, and a love that was honest too. I roamed all over the neighbor's farms, and I robbed the wildwood bowers, and I tore trousers and scratched my hands in search of choicest flowers. In my joyous love I brought these to my Jerusha Jane, but wouldn't be so foolish now, if I were a boy again. A city chap then came along, all dressed up in fine clothes, with a shiny hat, and a shiny vest, and a moustache under his nose.

He talked to her of singing schools (for her father had a farm,) and she left me, the country love, and took the new chap's arm. And all that night I never slept, nor could I eat the next day, for I loved that girl with fervent love that naught could drive away. I strove to win her back to me, but it was all in vain; the city chap with the hairy lip married Jerusha Jane. And my poor heart was sick and sore until the thought struck me, that just as good fish still remained as ever was caught in the sea. So I went to the Methodist church one night and saw a dark brown curl peeping from under a gipsy hat, and I married that very girl. And many years have passed and gone, and I think my loss their gain; and I often bless that hairy chap that stole my Jerusha Jane."

AN ITEM FOR NUMISMATOLOGISTS.—A San Francisco journal says that a firm in that city have perhaps the only complete set of American coins in the hands of private individuals in the United States. They have the American silver dollar for every year, from 1794 to 1866, half dollars from 1794 to 1867, quarter dollars from 1796 to 1867, dimes from 1796 to 1861, half dimes from 1794 to 1857, three cent pieces from 1851 to 1867, two cent pieces from 1863 to 1867, cents from 1793 to 1867, and half cents from 1763 to 1857. This collection had occupied more than fifteen years of Mr. Repiton's time, and cost about twenty thousand dollars. As an instance of the rarity of some of the coins we will state that the silver dollar of 1801 costs $950 and Mr. Repiton had before he succeeded in finding one he could purchase, made an unsuccessful tender of $1,500 for one in possession of a gentleman residing in Salem, Mass. Of the silver dollars of 1838 only eighteen were minted, and consequently they are very rare. The silver dollar of 1852 is also very rare, and is rated by numismatologists at from $300 to $500. Besides this collection of American coin they have specimens of the coins of nearly all nations, and some coins two thousand years old. The coins are a great curiosity, and their owners could readily sell them for $50,000.

THE MOSSES.—Who but Ruskin could have written the following beautiful possage, in regard to the moses?

"And, as the earth's first mercy, so they are its last gift to it. When all other service is vain, from plant and treee, the soft mosses and gray lichen take up their watch by the headstone. The woods, the blossoms, the gift-bearing grasses, have done their parts for a time; but these do service forever. Trees for the builder's yard, flowers for the bride's chamber, corn for the granary, moss for the grave. Yet, as in one sense the humblest, in another they are the most honored of the earth-children. Unfading as motionless, the worm frets them not, and the autumn wasts not. Strong in loveliness, they neither blanch in heat, nor pine in frost. To them slow fingered, constant-hearted, is intrusted the weaving of the dark, eternal tapestries of the hills; to them, slow-pencilled, iris-dyed, the tender framing of their endless imagery. Sharing the stillness of the uninterrupted rock, they share also its endurance; and while the winds of departing spring scatter the white hawthorn blossoms like drifted snow, and summer dims on the parched meadow, the drooping of its cowslip gold—far above, among the mountains, the silver lichen spots rest, star-like, on the stone; and the gathering orange stain upon the edge of yonder western peak reflects the sunset of a thousand years."

☞ The following is the "nub" of a yarn which is told about a big, whisky guzzling fellow, who came home one night drunk and sat down by the fire to warm his feet, which were regalar "worm killers," says the legend. After dozing some time he awoke chilly; the embers were entirely hid from view, and seeing his feet, mistook them for his little boy, when, with a majestic side wave of the hand, he said; "Stand aside, my little son and let your poor father warm himself."

AN old lady refused to let her nieces dance with a young graduate because she heard he was a bachelor of arts, whereby she understood he was an artful bachelor.

"You don't seem to know how to take me," said a vulgar fellow to a gentleman he had insulted. "Yes I do," said the gentleman,—"by the nose."

A BILL posted on the walls in country village announces that "lecture will be delivered in the open air, and a collection made at the door to defray expenses."