Wit and Humor.

MRS. PARTINGTON ON NEBRASKA.

Get the Testament, Isaac, and see what it says about the "New basket bill," said Mrs. Partington, as she came from church the other Sunday, and folded up her long shawl, and placed the bonnet in the old Indian basket under the bed. "It don't say nothing about it," said Ike, who was reading the story of the "Avenging Sword, or the Ghost of the Red Tower of Lunenburg," and did'nt want to be disturbed. "Dear child," said she admiringly, "he is so busy with his Sunday school books!" Ike said not a word but kept devouring the "Avenging Sword," with as much avidity as it were a whole Sunday School library—perhaps more. "It must be in the Bible, Isaac, or our minister wouldn't have preached about it, and on a Sabba' day too. It must be in the Bible.—Perhaps it's in the hypocrisy, Isaac." At any rate it isn't in the good book it ought to be, for what right has a minister to dispense with the gospel if it isn't in the Scripture?" She said this to Isaac, but the boy had got just where the "Avenging Sword" was beginning to *avenge*—where the thrilling part came in—and was oblivious. She might as well have talked to the ancient corporal who hung there in rigid perpendicularity upon the wall.—*Boston Post.*

HORSE LINEAGE.

Every body hereabouts knows that our *quondam* fellow citizen, Sam Mills, is a genius; but the following, which we find in the Coudersport (Potter Co.) *Patriot*, settles the question of his aspirations that way, for all other latitudes. Wanting to dispose of that "favorite horse, the Roan," he announces his ancestry thus:

"It is not certain, whether this Horse's great-grand-sire was the one that Napoleon rode when crossing the Alps, or on the field of Waterloo, or the one that stumbled and fell with Marshal Blucher, or whether he was at the burial of Sir John Moore, or rode by the Cossacks in their pursuit of Napoleon from Russia, or whether he was sired by some common cart horse in the United States; or, lastly, whether he was sprung up like a mushroom, without any ancestry whatever. I know not whether he is of Dutch, French, Spanish, English, Norman, Russian, Arabian, Canadian, or native descent; but if any one doubts his symmetry of form or beauty, let them call and examine for themselves.

For he is quite a 'stage horse,
On wagon or on plow,
But for the race, or in the chase,
He won't do anyhow.

S. M. MILLS.

☞ BLUCHER.—When old Blucher was in England he was invited to Oxford to have a doctor's degree conferred upon him. The fierce dragoon was as much amused as delighted at the idea of the honor, and introducing another Prussian general, who had been his right hand man in all his campaigns, observed, in broken English to the vice chancellor, "Sir, it I am a doctor, this is my apothecary." But the veteran made a better hit than that, before the day was over. At an evening party given on the occasion, amongst others present was a lady of whom it was sometimes whispered that she did not belong to a temperance society. We dare say this was all malice, but on this evening it did unfortunately happen that she was in very high spirits. "Who is that lady?" said Blucher, fixing his eye upon her. "That is Miss Sparkle, the daughter of one of our canons," was the answer; at which the shocking old Field-Marshal thundered forth, with a roaring laugh, "a *canon's* daughter! By Jove, I thought so, she looks *so very much charged!*" The *charge* was probably *grape.*

☞ THUNDER MADE TO ORDER.—The Grand Rapids *Enquirer* tells of a man in "them diggings," who, being informed that thunder was death to worms, and being much troubled with them work in his garden, and despairing too, of any thunder of nature's manufacture, resolved to have some domestic production. Pursuant to this determination, he charged an old musket, muzzle full, took a pail of water and a tallow candle, proceeded to the cabbage garden, raised on the plants copiously from his bucket, made the lantern open and shut sessame, by way of lightning, and then in not haste let off "Old Copenhagen," for thunder. The worms "cut and run," while the manufacturer of the domestic article lay with his back to the earth, rendered oblivious by the knocks caused by the repercussive action of the thunder machine.

☞ SOMETHING WE DON'T UNDERSTAND.—We don't understand why a magistrate always addresses a female as "mygood woman." We don't understand why the baker always laughs with the house-maid when he leaves the bread. We don't understand why a vocalist is encored with a song, he is sure to sing something else. We don't understand why a woman looks pretty on horseback. We don't understand "how to live like a gentleman on a hundred a year." We don't understand why pancakes are only made on a Shrove Tuesday. We don't understand why we never won anything in a raffle. We don't understand why a man invariably insists he is "all right" when he's drunk. We don't understand what shabby black gloves have to do with going to church.

☞ GOOD.—We heard, lately, a little story of one of the lawyers. He was engaged in an important case and was cross-questioning a witness, whose character was unimpeachable, and whose testimony was rather bothersome. In vain did he criss-cross the witness was firm. At last he exclaimed—"Well Mr.——, isn't there something else?—Haven't you forgotten something?" The witness paused a moment as if deeply reflecting, and answered, "Well, really, Mr.——, I can't recollect anything I have forgotten." The lawyer was decidedly *sold.*—*Prockville American.*

☞ "LOOK 'ERE," said a tipsy individual, who was hanging by a lamp-post, "Look 'ere, didn't you know you'd no right to go by me in that way?"

"Why not, my friend?" asked the person addressed, who recognized in the "tight" man an old acquaintance.

"Because—he—it's agin the law."

"Against the law?"

"Why you used to know Bill Nelson, when he was a—he—highly different individual to what he now is; and there's a big law against passing an *altered Bill!*"

☞ A CORRESPONDENT says a pint of alcohol poured in his boots caused all his corns and callouses to peel off, leaving his skin smooth and soft. If this be so, alcohol in the boots must have an effect contrary to the usual one, for we have known many individuals to get tremendously *corned* on much less than a pint of alcohol, largely diluted with Schuylkill.

☞ RAIN-BEAUX.—A lady friend, having sent an umbrella during a shower to an acquaintance, received it the next day with the following verse:

If in winter heaven's signal of hope
Is refused to poor mortals below,
I'll prove—by your lending umbrellas—
That on earth there is still a Rain-beau!

☞ A NEWLY MARRIED man declares that if he had only an inch more of happiness, he could not live. His wife and sister are obliged to roll him on the floor, and spat him with a shingle every day, to prevent him being too happy.

☞ SAXE, the Vermont poet, speaking of the artistic imperfections of our female poets, says: "It seems impossible for Pegasus to trot handsomely under a side saddle!"

LOCAL.

☞ A SUPPLEMENT TO THE ACT INCORPORATING THE POTTSVILLE WATER COMPANY *approved the Eleventh day of April, Eighteen Hundred and Forty-four.*

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That Strange N. Jones, Charles W. Pitman, Daniel Sharpe, Bernard Reily, Benj. Pott, Charles Lord, Jacob Hontsinger, Jr., William Johns, and Jonathan Jonnson or any two of them are hereby appointed Commissioners to do and perform the several matters and things hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, that they shall on or before the first day of March next, procure two or more books and in the manner as follows: We whose names are hereunto subscribed, do promise to pay to the president and managers of the Pottsville Water Company or the treasurer whom they may appoint, the sum of twenty-five dollars for each and every share set opposite to our names in such manner, in such proportions and at such times as shall be determined on by the said President and managers, in pursuance of an Act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, entitled "A Supplement to the act incorporating the Pottsville Water Company." "Witness our hands this ——day of —— one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four." And shall thereupon give notice in two or more newspapers published in the Borough of Pottsville, for the space of ten days or more, where and in what places within the Borough of Pottsville and St. Clair the said books will be opened to receive subscriptions of additional stock to the Capital of the said Company, at which times and places one or more of the said Commissioners shall attend and shall permit all persons of lawful age, either in their own names or in the names of others, when they appear to be duly authorized, to subscribe for any number of shares in the said stock and shall keep the said books open for three successive days, or until eight thousand shares shall have been subscribed, or if the whole number be not subscribed, the President and Managers of the said Pottsville Water Company shall at any time after the first election hereinafter mentioned, open the said books for the subscription of shares until the whole number aforesaid, or so many thereof said shall have been subscribed, or so many thereof as the said President and Managers shall find necessary to carry into full effect the purposes of this act. *Provided*, That any person offering to subscribe in the said books in his or her name, or in behalf of any other person, shall previously pay to the attending Commissioner or officers, five dollars for every share to be subscribed, out of which sum shall be defrayed the expenses of taking such subscriptions and other incidental charges, and the remainder shall be paid over to the Treasurer of the said Company, as soon as one shall be appointed after the said election.

SECTION 2. That when three thousand shares or more of said stock shall have been subscribed the said Commissioners, or any of them, shall give at least ten days notice in two or more newspapers published in the said Borough of Pottsville, of the time and place for the said subscribers to meet, and in conjunction with the present stockholders in the Pottsville Water Company, hold an election for managers of the said Company, who shall choose from among the said subscribers and stockholders, nine managers (a majority of whom shall be residents of the said Borough or its immediate vicinity,) to conduct the affairs of the said Company until the second Monday of January, then next ensuing, and in said election each subscriber and stockholder, and in all elections afterwards, each stockholder shall be entitled to one vote for, each share of stock, bona fide held by him or her, and a majority of the votes given shall be sufficient to elect. It shall be the duty of one or more of said Commissioners to attend the said first election with the said subscription books, also the President or some of the Managers of the said company with their books of stockholders in order that it may be known who are entitled to vote and for how many shares.

SECTION 3. The managers thus elected shall appoint one of their number (who shall reside in the Borough of Pottsville,) President, and the Board being thus organized, they shall appoint one of the said subscribers or stockholders, residing in the Borough of Pottsville, and not a member of the Board of Managers, Treasurer; and they shall also procure certificates for the shares of stock now authorized to be subscribed for the capital of the said Company, and shall deliver one of such certificates, signed by the President with the seal of the Company affixed, and countersigned by the Treasurer, to each person for all shares held by him or her, or for such number thereof as he or she may choose to have in one certificate, as soon as five dollars shall have been paid on each share. After which the said subscribers shall have all the rights and privileges conferred by the act, to which this is a Supplement, on the subscribers to the original stock of said Company, and the said shares shall be transferable in the same manner as the old shares. The said board shall also have all the rights, powers and privileges conferred on the President and Managers of said Company, by the act to which this is a supplement, and shall in all respects immediately succeed to their duties the same as if the term for which they were elected and expired. *Provided*, That should the aforesaid commissioners fail to act or fail in procuring three thousand shares of stock to be subscribed within fifteen days after they first open said books for receiving subscriptions, or to give notice of said election, and manage the powers and duties of said Commissioners, then *remaining unperformed*, shall be exercised and performed by the board of Managers of said Pottsville Water Company, at such time and place as the said board may appoint other Commissioners to do and perform the same thing.

SECTION 4. That the election for Managers of said Company shall be held annually thereafter, on the second Monday in January, of which the President and Managers shall give notice as required by the aforesaid act.

SECTION 5. The said Pottsville Water Company shall have power, and are hereby authorized to take into the Borough of Pottsville a sufficient supply of fresh and pure water from Mill Creek, or any of its branches, or elsewhere in the County of Schuylkill, by means of pipes or trunks, or in any other way, and to construct reservoirs for the reception thereof, and to connect the same with their pipes now laid in said Borough, and lay such other pipes therefrom as they shall deem proper, and for the purposes aforesaid, they shall have the power of purchasing, taking and holding to them, their successors and assignees, any such lands, tenements, hereditaments and estate, real and personal, as shall be necessary for the prosecution and erection of all works necessary for the purposes aforesaid, and of entering on and into all such land and enclosures as may be necessary, and to dig ditches or construct pipes or trunks through the same, and also to divert any of the more small streams of water from their present channels, and to build dams or trunks on or near the same, doing little damage as possible to private property, and paying for whatever injury may be done by them, and for what land they may occupy in the following manner:

SECTION 6. The said President and Managers shall have the right to enter on and into any lands or enclosures with their engineers, artists, assistants and workmen, to lay out and locate the said dams, reservoirs, and the course for the said pipes or trunks, and after the same shall have been laid out and located to the satisfaction of the said President and Managers, they shall give notice to the owners of said lands (if they are known or can be found,) on which the same has been so laid out and located—of the location thereof, and of the desire of the Company to occupy and use the land and route so marked and laid out, and if the said President and Managers and owners cannot agree on the amount of damages or compensation therefor, either of them may apply to one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas of said County of Schuylkill, or said Court when in session, who shall appoint a Jury of three disinterested and judicious men to view said land and route, and make report to said Court, what damage (if any) the owners of said land shall sustain by the use and occupancy thereof, by the said Company, for the construction of their works, or by the diversion of the aforesaid streams, whose report or award shall be subject to the right of appeal by either party, and when appealed from shall be tried as other cases in which damages are claimed by the plaintiff, or if no appeal be entered within twenty days from the filing of said award, it shall have the effect of a judgment and be collected in like manner. And if upon the filing of said award, the said President and Managers shall pay the same, or give adequate security to the satisfaction of two of the Judges of the said Court for the payment thereof, or of such sum as may be finally awarded against them with costs, they shall be allowed and are hereby authorized and empowered to enter on and in said land and enclosures with the necessary engineers, workmen, teams, tools and implements, and proceed forthwith to the construction and completion of all works necessary to carry into full effect the objects and purposes aforesaid, and of the act to which this is a supplement, and the same to alter, repair or renew whenever and wherever they may deem it necessary, without any let or hindrance from the owners of said lands. And where the owners of any of the lands on which the said Company has located any part of its works as aforesaid, are not known or cannot be found or are unknown, are not legally capable of entering into an agreement with said Company, the said President and Managers shall proceed to have the damages ascertained in the manner hereinbefore provided for, where the owners are known and capable of acting and give security as aforesaid, for the amount of damages found or awarded by the Jury, or what may be ultimately adjudged against them, with costs, after which they shall be allowed to proceed with their works on said land as hereinbefore set forth

SECTION 7. The said Company shall at all times have the liberty and privilege to dig all ditches or trenches, and to lay pipes or trunks in, across, and along all public roads, highways and streets, and to alter, repair and renew the same as often as they may find necessary, shutting up and amending any branches they may make as soon as practicable.

SECTION 8. The said President and Managers are hereby authorized to supply with water, the inhabitants of the Borough of St. Clair and Port Carbon, and of the towns of Palo Alto and Mount Carbon, for all domestic and manufacturing purposes, and for all stationary and locomotive engines belonging to individuals or companies within the said limits, or within the Borough of Pottsville, and all that may be along or near the route of the said Company's pipes, and shall have all the rights, powers and privileges as to entering upon land and enclosures and laying down pipes in streets or roads and highways, and of erecting hydrants or fire plugs within the said Boroughs, Towns and limits, as is hereinbefore conferred, or is conferred by the act to which this is a supplement, in relation to the Borough of Pottsville. And of constructing with the said inhabitants, or any Companies for the use of said water, within the limits aforesaid, who shall be liable to the same penalties for taking water from their pipes without contracting for the same, as are contained in said Act, and shall be subject to all such rules and regulations respecting the use and waste of said water, as the said President and Managers may from time to time prescribe and adopt. *Provided*, That before the Boroughs of Port Carbon and Saint Clair shall be supplied as aforesaid, the Councils of the said Boroughs shall respectively enter in an agreement with said Company, to guarantee semi-annual dividends of three per cent. on the additional cost of supplying said Boroughs with water respectively, if the net income from each shall not be equal to six per cent. per annum on the said additional cost of supplying water to each, under the same provisions as hereinafter contained respecting the guarantee to be given by the Borough of Pottsville.

SECTION 9. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the said Company, to keep fair and correct accounts of all moneys received and paid out by him, and no warrants shall be made only on orders drawn upon him, signed by the President of the said Company, and the said President and Managers shall keep a correct account of all orders drawn by them on the Treasurer, and for what purpose the money was expended, for which said orders were drawn. And it shall be the duty of the said President and Treasurer, as early as practical, after the completion of the works authorized by this act, and the introduction through them of the water from Mill Creek or any of its branches, or elsewhere, into the Borough of Pottsville, to make out a correct list of the subscribers to the stock hereby authorized, and the number of shares held by each, and also an account of the receipts and expenditures up to that time, particularly stating the amount of moneys expended in pipes, and the number of miles of pipe laid in the Boroughs aforesaid, as authorized by this act, into the said Borough of Pottsville, which shall be verified by the oaths or affirmations of the said President and Treasurer, which said statement shall be examined by the Auditors elected to audit the Borough accounts, and compared with the vouchers and books of the said President and Treasurer, and if the said Auditors shall find the said list and account correct, and it shall appear from them that the money has been expended in effecting the objects authorized by this act, they shall certify the same to the Town Council of the Borough of Pottsville, which said account and list shall be accompanied by the best estimates the said President and Managers can make of the probable net income applicable to dividends of the said Company for the ensuing year, and if it shall appear from said account and estimate, that there will not be sufficient net income from the works of the said Company, to pay semi-annual dividends of three per cent. on the amount of capital paid in on the subscriptions of stock hereby authorized, except such portions thereof as may have been expended in introducing water into the Boroughs of Port Carbon and St. Clair, the said Council is hereby empowered and required to assess on the last County valuation of all property taxable for Borough purposes, a tax sufficient to make up any deficiency that may be in the income of the said Company, to pay the said semi-annual dividends, which said tax shall be assessed as the water tax, and shall be collected as such, and the account of it shall be kept separate and apart from the account of the general tax for Borough purposes. And it shall be the duty of the said President and Managers of said Company, to give notice to the said Council, at least thirty days before the day *for declaring* dividends, which shall be the same as in the act to which this is a supplement, of the amount that will be required of the Borough to make up the net income applicable to said dividends, which said tax shall be assessed as the water tax, and shall be collected as such, and the account of it shall be kept separate and apart from the account of the general tax for Borough purposes. *And* it shall be the duty of the said President and Managers of said Company, to give notice to the said Council, at least thirty days before the day *for declaring* dividends, which shall be the same as in the act to which this is a supplement, of the amount that will be required of the Borough to make up the net income applicable to said dividends, which said tax shall be assessed as the water tax, and shall be collected as such, and the account of it shall be kept separate and apart from the account of the general tax for Borough purposes. *And* it shall be the duty of the