Miners' Journal.

POTTSVILLE, PA.

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1858.

THE RIGHT OF SEARCH.

Recent correspondence between Lord Napier and our Secretary of State, and the complaints that some of our vessels have been delayed on the coast of Cuba by British men-of-war, have directed public attention to the question of the right of search, a point upon which the position taken by our different administrations has been, with but one exception, always the same. It is certainly desirable, remarks the *Courier and Enquirer*, that the terrible slave trade should be suppressed, and that to effect this we should be willing to make such arrangements with those nations who have declared this trade piracy as are consistent with our sense of national honor and the rights of our citizens.

When the British Government had decided upon doing what it could to suppress the slave trade, it made treaties with some of the Continental powers authorizing a mutual right of search by the armed vessels of the other party, of the trading vessels belonging to each contracting party. She applied to our Government to enter into a similar agreement with her, but owing to the consequences growing out of the exercise of the right of search during the wars of Napoleon, the confiscation of the property of our merchants, and the impressment into British vessels of numbers of our seamen—all overtures were for a long time refused. Under Mr. Monroe a convention with Great Britain was agreed upon for a mutual right of search of vessels suspected of being engaged in the slave trade. The treaty arising from this convention provided, that our own coasts should be included within the limits in which this right should be exercised. This clause was objected to by our Government as an implied admission that the slave trade was carried on between our shores and Africa. This objection was not relished by the British Secretary of State, and further negotiation was interrupted. As France, England and Portugal had made treaties conceding the right of search, the vessels engaged in the slave trade now began to assume our flag, as the supposed means of exempting them from all visits. British cruisers, however, still continued to board those vessels which they suspected of being Slavers, and as a consequence they often interfered with those engaged in lawful commerce, breaking up their voyages and sometimes ill-treating the officers and men. To add to these difficulties, the officers respectively in command of the British and American Squadrons on the Coast of Africa, entered into an agreement sanctioning a reciprocal right of search. It was at about this period that the famous Quintupal Treaty was concluded between England, France, Austria, Russia, and Prussia, for the suppression of the slave trade, and in which was conceded the mutual right of search. It was hoped that our Government would have been induced to become a party to this treaty, but the occurrences above mentioned were not yet forgotten, and a correspondence between it and the British Government had ensued which left our relations in rather a critical position. It was at this period that Mr. Webster became Secretary of State, and it was not long ere he brought matters to a termination satisfactory to both parties. This was done by a stipulation that England and our own government, should each maintain on the coast of Africa a sufficient squadron to enforce separately and respectively, the laws, rights and obligation of each of the two countries for the suppression of the slave trade. These squadrons were to be independent of each other, but the two governments agreed to give such orders to their officers as would enable them to act in concert, upon mutual consultation, as exigencies might arise, so as to attain the true object of the treaty. Both governments agreed that, since owing to the facilities afforded by the fraudulent use of flags and other means, the suppression of the slave trade would be delayed, they would unite in remonstrating with those powers in whose dominions the markets for slaves existed.

It will thus be seen that we have always objected to any concession of the right of search, and so unanimous is the opinion of our people in regard to such a right, that it can never be expected that we will yield a hair's breadth. But while this is our determination on this point, it becomes our duty to use the most effective means towards suppressing the slave trade. We have no right to pursue a dog in the manger policy. It has been pretty well proved that our vessels on the coast of Africa have accomplished but little. While the English cruisers have captured numbers of slavers, we have taken but a few. This was chiefly because the vessels we employed were not adapted to the service, and because the victualling station was so far from the cruising ground that much time was spent in sailing to and fro.—The recommendation of Gen. Cass, that we should unite with England in endeavoring to prevent the introduction of slaves into the Cuban market, is a good one, and is in fact, the only means of effectually putting an end to the slave traffic. The closing of the slave markets at once destroys the trade, and this has been already done in the case of Brazil. To do this however, we are bound to employ such a force as will tend, in conjunction with that of other Powers, to attain the object sought. Our experience on the African coast should teach us how this may best be effected.

IT IS HIS ONLY SAFEGUARD.—A Washington correspondent of the *Tribune*, writing under date of May 9, says:

The intimations in the Democratic newspapers that Judge Douglas is seeking reconciliation with the Administration were pronounced false by Judge Douglas himself today. He affirms that he maintains his position upon Kansas to the fullest extent, but at the same time he stands with his party in Illinois on a platform not ostensibly opposed to the Administration, though openly hostile to the Republican party.

Of course. Judge Douglas has placed himself in a position, which he must maintain, or he is "a dead cock in the pit." He cannot consistently yield a point on the Kansas question, which must still make him antagonistic to the Administration on that matter, while the Republican party has no affinity with him on any point, except in the firm determination to resist the forcing of Slavery upon a people that wish Freedom. Beyond that point they cannot, and will not go together. Judge Douglas is wise to maintain his position, for he would be exceedingly unsafe in any other.

MAYOR HENRY'S inaugural is warmly admired. It breathes the right spirit. Not proscriptive, but disposed to seek alone the welfare of Philadelphia. Forney's *Press* commends its statesmanlike tone, and says that no man can continue to be Mayor of Philadelphia who is not animated by the principles of Mr. Henry's inaugural, and he who steadily adheres to them is sure to preserve his own self respect, and to gain the admiration of his fellow citizens.

THE MAINE TEMPERANCE JOURNAL has been typographically improved, while Darius *Forbes*, Esq., has become editor. The *Journal* is an able, fearless, manly opponent of the Rum traffic, one that should receive *generous support*. We like its present appearance.

COOL.—In Philadelphia on Tuesday, ex-Mayor VAUX in his valedictory to the police force, complimented it in a mass for its virtue and fidelity. That there are many worthy men on the police force of Philadelphia, none will deny, but that there are some of the greatest scoundrels that ever went unhung, on it too, the criminal records of that City prove conclusively. If ex-Mayor Vaux's speech was a satire, it is one of the cleverist he ever uttered. Let him immediately revive "John Donkey;" become its editor, and publish that speech in the first number, with an appropriate illustration. It would take.—It is so funny.

Local Affairs.

☞ "*Palo Alto*" in our next. Crowded out this week.

☞ *The Palo Alto and Pottsville Rolling Mills* are now working full time, with every prospect of a continuance.

☞ *A New Cricket Club* has been started in Fishbaugh, composed, principally, of the men working in the Fishbaugh mill. The Club is termed the "UNITED ELEVEN OF POTTSVILLE."

☞ *School Board of Pottsville.*—The New School Board of Pottsville was organized for the ensuing year, by electing BENJAMIN BANNAN, *President*, and CHRISTOPHER LITTLE, *Secretary*.

☞ *Those* of our citizens desirous of obtaining superior Flour, and everything in the Provision and Grocery line, of excellent quality, should pay R. J. Schoener's store, Centre street, opposite the American House, a visit.

☞ *Sudden Death.*—The Minersville *Advocate* says that Mr. Stephen Little, Superintendent of Graham and Duane's Store, Mt. Pleasant, was found dead in his bed on the morning of the 6th inst. Cause of death, apoplexy.

☞ *A Patented Improvement.*—Clifford Pomroy of this Borough, has received a patent for a cast-iron pipe chilled inside, a new article of manufacture, for the purpose of conveying fluids impregnated with, or containing substances which soon destroy iron pipes which are not so chilled.

☞ *Rain* and mud yesterday—of course. Our thermometrical record for the week is as follows:

P. R. & P., TELEGRAPH OFFICE, *Pennsylvania Hall, Pottsville.*

		8 A. M.	2 P. M.	7 P. M.	
Sat.,	May 8,	51°	70°	66°	clear.
Mon.,	" 10,	58	60	56	rain.
Tues.,	" 11,	52	62	52	"
Wed.,	" 12,	56	60	54	"
Thurs.,	" 13,	54	72	64	clear.
Fri.,	" 14,	52	54	56	rain.

☞ *Pottsville Cricket Club.*—This Club fully organized on the evening of the 8th instant. After adopting a Constitution and By-laws, the following named gentlemen were elected officers:—*President*—R. C. GREEN. *Vice President*—L. P. Brooks. *Secretary*—DR. SILLYMAN. *Treasurer*—Wm. Thompson. *Ground Com.*—R. C. Green, Robt. Hunt, D. B. Green, Thomas Riley and Jonas Fox. The initiation fee was fixed at $1, and monthly dues, 15 cents. The Club will meet this afternoon, at the upper end of Mahantango street, for practice.

☞ *The Season.*—It would seem as if more rain than usual had fallen this year. Yet such in reality, is not the case, as will be seen when we state that from the first day of Jan. to the tenth of this month but eight inches and sixty-one hundredths of an inch of rain has fallen, whilst for the same period last year there was eleven inches and thirty-three hundredths of an inch. Last year there was fifty-one inches and 64 100 of an inch of rain and melted snow; during the summer months there was twenty-three inches and 6 100 of an inch of rain.

☞ *Sale of Statuary, Vases, &c.*—We take pleasure in announcing that a sale of Italian Marble Statuary and Alabaster Marble Vases, imported by the well known firm of Sig. Vito Viti & Sons, Philadelphia, will take place at the store-room in the Town Hall, this Borough, on Saturday next, 22d inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M., and 2 o'clock, P. M. The room will be open to visitors on Friday, the 21st. The collection is of the most beautiful and refined character, and the only reason why this mode of sale is adopted, is to avoid the time that would necessarily be occupied in disposing of the works of art at private sale.—This sale will afford an admirable opportunity for the citizens of our county to add to their collections, and we advise on the day of sale a general attendance of connoisseurs.

☞ *Battalion.*—The various regiments of the Sixth Division, paraded for inspection and review during the week. Notwithstanding the unfavorable state of the weather, the turn-out each day, was creditable to the military spirit of the County.

In this Borough on Monday, the First Regiment, commanded by Col. Thomas Johnson, and composed of the First Troop Schuylkill County Cavalry, Minersville Artillery, Washington Artillery, Keystone Rifles, Ringgold Rifles, National Light Infantry, Washington Yeagers, Scott Rifles, Wetherill Rifles, Marion Rifles, Lafayette Rifles and Llewellyn Rifles, paraded, and made quite a handsome display. The Troop had a goodly number out; the Minersville Artillery had 31 muskets; the Washington Artillery, 63 muskets; the National Light Infantry, 21 muskets, and the Scott Rifles, 38 privates. We do not know how many the other companies turned out; but they had their ranks full and looked well. Early in the day rain commenced falling, and continued for several hours, destroying in a measure, what would otherwise have been a pleasant day, and an imposing military display. Quite a number of strangers were in town. Several slight accidents occurred from runaway horses.

An interesting incident of the day was the presentation by Mr. Harry Davis, Daguerreotypist of this Borough, to the Washington Artillerists, of an oval frame, enclosing photograph portraits of the officers of that Company. The presentation was made in a neat speech, by James H. Campbell, Esq., and received by Capt. James Nagle.—The portraits are excellent, and the entire affair reflects credit upon Mr. Davis.

☞ *Although* rain has fallen incessantly for some weeks, yet our hills and valleys are becoming clothed in verdure, and the air is heavy with the perfume of flowers. The grain fields present a lovely appearance, and we are awaiting the transition of budding Spring into the full bloom of gorgeous Summer. How fully at this season can we appreciate the charming verses on Spring by Henry T. Tuckerman, which run as follows:

> Bride of the year! I met thee last
> Amid thy favorite bowers,
> And saw thy virgin form repose
> On banks of Southern flowers;
> Thy breath awoke Creation's lyre,
> Thine eye embodied youth,
> Thy smile gave birth to countless dreams
> Of glory, love, and truth!
>
> Zephyrs, as angels breathing soft,
> And rain more sweet than dew,
> Moulded thy beauty into life,
> Sweet, delicate, and true;
> The sky a deeper azure wore,
> The sea more gently rolled,
> The sun his banner newly decked
> With purple, rose, and gold.
>
> The dim, grey olive's leaf grew bright,
> To feel thy kindly air
> Stir its old boughs, like childhood's cheek,
> Pillowed on hoary hair;
> The cypress wildly waved no more,
> And ceased its dirge-like moan
> To greet thy thrilling touch, and hear
> The music of thy tone.
>
> Thy tender hand drew off the shroud
> From many an Alpine head,
> And lo! where long, dense clouds hung dark,
> A pearly light is spread;
> The ancient moss was green again,
> Beneath thy pitying tear,
> And shrunk the dead leaves from the grass
> As thy light steps drew near.
>
> With pensive sweetness played the founts,
> And streamlets louder sung
> And then thy exposure of hues,
> Around them softly flung;
> The west, reflecting thy deep blush,
> Prolonged its rosy glow,
> The hill-tops felt thy balmy kiss,
> And doffed their garb of snow.
>
> Thy song beguiled the lizard forth
> To ruttle through the broom,
> And dressed the almond-boughs with buds,
> To waft a sweet perfume;
> The bee trilled clear his tiny horn,
> The nightingale her lute,
> Each whispering branch became a harp,
> And every reed a lute.
>
> The aloe raised his pendant spear,
> With a chivalric pride,
> While the dark pines a welcome waved,
> Along the mountain side;
> The lily from its shield of green,
> Looked forth with meek surprise,
> And Twilight lingered from his couch
> To watch thy loving eyes!

☞ *Who does it Hit?*—A writer, probably conversant with the little faults and foibles of people, says, with telling irony, "Keep your eye on your neighbors. Take care of them. Don't let them stir without watching. They may do something wrong if you do. To be sure you never knew them to do anything very bad, but it may be on your account they have not. Perhaps if it had not been for your kind care, they might have disgraced themselves and families, a long time ago. Therefore don't relax any effort to keep them where they ought to be; never mind your own business, that will take care of itself. There is a man passing along; he is looking over the fence—be suspicious of him, perhaps he contemplates stealing something some of these dark nights, there's no knowing what queer fancies he may have got into his head. If you see any symptoms of any one passing out of the path of duty, tell every one else that you can see, and be particular to see a great many. It is a good way to circulate such things, and though it may not benefit yourself, or any one else particularly, it will be something important about some one else. Do keep something going, silence is a dreadful thing; though it is said there was silence in Heaven for the space of half an hour, don't let any such thing occur on earth; it would be too much like Heaven, for the inhabitants of this mundane sphere. If, after all your watchful care, you can't see anything out of the way in any one, you may be sure it is not because they have not done anything bad; perhaps in an unguarded moment, you lost sight of them—throw out hints they are no better than they should be—that you should not wonder if people found out what they were after a while, and then they may not carry their heads so high. Keep it a going; and some will take the hint and begin to help you after a while—then there will be music, and everything will work to a charm."

☞ *Sheriff's Sales.*—The annexed named property will be sold at the Exchange Hotel, this Borough, to-day, May 15th:—Lot and appurtenances, Ashland, the property of James Rook; lot and appurtenances, Ashland, Michael Welsh; lot and appurtenances, Ashland, Michael Silk; lot and appurtenances, Ashland, August Behrend; lots and appurtenances, Ashland, Ernst Orth; tract of land and appurtenances, Foster township, John Barger; land in Rush and North Manheim townships, George D. Boyer; lot and appurtenances, Schuylkill Haven, Samuel R. Dickson; lot and appurtenances, Hegins township, Samuel Kocher; lots and appurtenances, Tuscarora, Moses Link; lot and appurtenances, Schuylkill Haven, William Shadle and Susannah Tress; tract of land, Washington township, Israel Wensel; land and appurtenances, in Branch and Schuylkill townships, and Port Carbon, Christian Buery; lot and appurtenances, St. Clair, Theodore Thorn; lot with appurtenances, St. Clair, John Eichman; tract of land with appurtenances, Hegins township, Michael Bressler; lots with appurtenances, Tremont, Edward Walborn; lot with appurtenances, Pottsville, Robert T. Davis; lot with appurtenances, New Castle, Ephraim Phillips, Reuben Kline and Thomas Weller, Trustees of the Lutheran Church of New Castle; lot with appurtenances, Pottsville, Robert T. Davis, David Davis, Henry M. Jones and Robert Williams, Trustees of Zoar Church, Pottsville, owners or reputed owners, and Robert F. Davis, contractor; lot with appurtenances, Port Carbon, Solomon Landis; farm with appurtenances, West Penn township, Thomas B. Eck; lot with appurtenances, Tamaqua, John A. Sassaman; lot with appurtenances, St. Clair, John Albrecht; tracts of land with appurtenances, Branch township, Mobis B. Bell; lot with appurtenances, Pottsville, Gustavus G. Scholkenberger; lot with appurtenances, Llewellyn, lots with appurtenances, Tamaqua, lot with appurtenances, Tuscarora, John Zulich; lots with appurtenances, Port Carbon, Morits Seligman.

The following described property will be sold at the Pottsville Hotel, this Borough, on Saturday, May 29th, 1858:—Lot with appurtenances, Cressons, as the property of Thomas L. Holt, surviving partner of Frederick W. Humbert, deceased; farm with appurtenances, North Manheim township, William Collins; lots with appurtenances, Port Carbon, lots with appurtenances, Hubleyville, farm with appurtenances, Schuylkill township, James Beury; lot with appurtenances, Minersville, John S. Jones and Sarah Wooley; lot with appurtenances, Pottsville, James M. Beatty; lots with appurtenances, McKeansburg, George Medlar; lots with appurtenances, St. Clair, Chas. R. Abbott; lot with appurtenances, Pottsville, Joseph Shelly; lot with appurtenances, Pottsville, John T. Nicholas; lot with appurtenances, Ashland, Jacob Stump; "Irish Catholic Church," Ashland, Right Rev'd John N. Neumann, Bishop of the Diocese of Philadelphia, owner or reputed owner, and John H. James, contractor; lots with appurtenances, Pottsville, James Russell; land in Wayne and Washington townships, Jno. L. Zerbe; lots with appurtenances, Schuylkill Haven, Frederick Heiney, and land in Norwegian township, Robert McCarter and Joseph S. Ruckel.

PROCEEDINGS OF COURT.

REPORTED FOR THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

An adjourned Court for the trial of civil cases was held last week, which continued during the whole week. A large number of the cases were settled before trial, and some of the most important were continued. We give a report of those tried.

Robert R. Porter vs. Lydia M. Kunsinus and Mary J. Stewart.—This was an action of replevin. The plaintiff was the tenant of the defendants of a house in the Borough of Minersville, and was indebted to them for rent due, amounting to $142 50. The defendants issued a landlord's warrant for the rent due, and levied on the goods of the plaintiff, which were replevied by him.—The plaintiff offering no evidence to show that no rent was due, or that the goods levied on were not liable to be levied on for the rent, the jury found a verdict of $142 50 rent due to the defendants, and assessed the value of the goods replevied at $300.

[Conclusion of cases next week.]

GOTHAMITE BUBBLES.

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE MINERS' JOURNAL.]

Milk and "Milkmaids"—Blackwell's Island Lunatic Asylum—The Religious Anniversaries—American Vessels Searched into by British Cruisers—Railway Slaughter—Mystery Cleared up—Useful "Institution," &c.

NEW YORK, Wednesday, May 12, 1858.

DEAR JOURNAL:—It is an old saying, and a true one, that one half the world knows not how the other half lives. Here, the Fifth Avenue nabob, as he rolls over the cubical blocks of Broadway, in his luxuriously cushioned carriage, knows not, and would not care, if he did know, that creatures wearing the same form, and possessing similar sensibilities, are in other quarters of this huge city, suffering the pangs of hunger and disease, and living, the police and newspaper reporters only know how. It is only when the journals here regale their readers with some fresh act of horror, that pious New York raises its eyes, and ejaculates, sepulchrally, "Oh!" Not many days since a poor German rag-picker, who lived in a nest of rag-pickers, his countrymen, near 'the Hook,' was stoned out of his wretched quarters because his neighbors discovered that he and his family lived upon the foulest 'leavings' of the dead' dogs, cats, and rats that he found in the streets during his search for rags and paper. A rotting incident, yet our citizens need not be squeamish, for it is to be feared that if all who eating and drinking could not bear close examination in this regard were to be subjected to such treatment, one-half the population of New York would be pelting the other half. For next to bread no article of food is of such universal and general consumption as milk; and it is safe to say that of the milk used in this city, one-half is tainted with disease. There are few persons who have not some notion, more or less vague, that there is a fluid called Swill Milk extensively sold in New York and its suburbs, which is poor stuff, and perhaps not altogether wholesome. But very few, even of those who had thought most upon the subject, were prepared for the results of the investigation instituted by the Common Council of Brooklyn into the condition and management of the cow stables in the outskirts of that city, and to which the recent exposures of Frank Leslie's weekly illustrated paper have directed renewed attention.

It was long ago well known to all dairy-men that the milk of a cow would be increased in quantity and not injured in quality by feeding to her once a day a soft, warm 'mash' of some farinaceous substance. This led very naturally to the experiment of using the refuse, or slops, of distilleries for that purpose; and it succeeded so well, in one respect, that for many years past a cow stable and a distillery have been considered necessary complements to each other. The distiller derives great revenue from the so-called dairy-man; the dairy-man's gains are increased ten-fold by what would also be the refuse of the distiller. But, as not unfrequently happens in such cases of money making, both parties thrive at the expense of a third: the third in this case being the people who buy the milk, and who suffer sorely in pocket, in health, in the very lives of those who are nearest and dearest to them.—And there is another poor, dumb sufferer;—the cow. She, driven to the swill stable, for many days refuses the reeking mess which is poured out before her; but impelled by hunger she finally eats it; ere long, with taste perverted by habit and necessity, prefers it; and finally is reduced to such a condition that, will she, nill she, she can eat nothing else. Her gums become sore, and her teeth shake in their sockets, and at last fall out of them. She then must drink her food or die. The stables in which these poor creatures are confined are crowded like the hold of a slave ship, (the propagandists of the 'domestic institution' will pardon the comparison,) and over the door should be written in the vaccine language, Who enters here must leave all hope behind.—The cow once led in is tied to her stall and never leaves it unless dragged out dead or to death.—Standing or lying in filth, breathing the foulest air, she remains for the rest of her life a mere machine for the conversion of swill into a substance called milk. Disease attacks these poor beasts; diseases resulting from confinement, neglect, bad air, and improper food, and a disease occasioned by a specific poison, and which is as much a plague as small pox, and which like that pestilence can be given by inoculation. This makes no difference; they are fed and milked as usual; and the product of their fevered and sometimes festering udders is given by ignorant mothers to their innocent children. Their tails rot off joint by joint; their horns and hoofs becoming loathsomely affected; ulcers and running sores break out upon them; and while their very flesh is sloughing from their bones, they are made to take the place of those lovely founts of life from which the mother is at last obliged to withdraw her child. The swill-milk stables in the suburbs of New York are loathsome and pestiferous beyond the belief of any person who has not seen them.

The milk which is produced in these places is, when unadulterated, difficult to be distinguished by the unexperienced eye and palate from that which is pure and wholesome. And even the lactometer affords little help in this regard, for that instrument only tests the density of the fluid, and not its fitness for food. Chemistry and the microscope have to be called in to demonstrate the real difference between this swill-milk and the milk of grass fed cows; and they show, that the elements of milk are combined in the two in widely different proportions, and that while the latter digest in one hour the former often resists the first process of digestion for six hours. Here, to go no farther, is one great source of that mortality among young children in which New York has obtained such a frightful eminence in sanitary annals. But when with this defect of structure in the milk, its lack of nutrition, and its indigestible, irritating quality, there comes also the seeds of disease, what wonder that in a single year in this city there are nearly fifteen thousand deaths of children under five years of age!

Agitation will open people's eyes, and effect reform in this matter. These swill stables are doomed, and even if we are compelled to import our milk hundreds of miles, and pay higher prices, it is certainly preferable to maintaining such nuisances in our midst, and having our children poisoned. Hurrah, then, for the pure fluid, and death to the brawny, "hair on their teeth," New York city milk-*maids*.

Probably, no class of institutions in Europe and this country, have contained more horrible systems of treatment than lunatic asylums. Thanks however, to an improving age, abuses of that description, are becoming rare, and common sense and humanity exert their full sway. The Philadelphia Asylum under Dr. Kirkbride, has a reputation for humanity to patients, while the Lunatic Asylum at Blackwell's Island, here, is conducted successfully, under a similar system. In order to give some idea of the system pursued at the last named Asylum, your readers may be interested in the following interesting sketch, which I extract from the *Tribune*:—

When a patient is received, he is carefully examined, his previous history obtained, and classified by the light of these facts. No medical treatment is undertaken immediately, but salutary influences are observed to follow as the result of regular habits, such as rising, taking meals, and retiring, at fixed hours. He is required, if possible, to keep his own room and toilet in order, so as to occupy his mind and exercise his body. If it be deemed safe, he is allowed to pass the day in open air, or to attend upon other patients, and perhaps engage in the culture of vegetable and flower-garden and other out-door work; or, should he seem to prefer it, in-door work is furnished him in the kitchen and laundry, or sewing and knitting rooms.—Amusements have occasionally been introduced with good effect, music and dancing affording the most gratification to patients, to participate in which even the lady who calls herself "Presidentess," and she who is the "Queen of America" and "Daughter of the Russian Czar," would gracciously condescend to mingle as partners from among the plebeian ranks of the other sex. There are several mo-t excellent musicians in the institution as patients, one a very remarkable pianist, as we can attest; and out of the variety of qualifications, it is easy to make up an orchestra varied and effective at least, if not altogether perfect in its execution. The dancing is occasionally so free a little out of ordinary conventional rules, yet strict propriety of conduct is observed by all. The regular celebration of holidays is another attractive feature, which is much enjoyed by the patients.—Last Christmas an elaborate entertainment was got up, including an instrumental concert, a pantomine, and a ball. A miniature stage was fitted up and prettily decorated, while the large circular stairway and its landing-places served as an auditorium, where the heterogeneous mass of patients watched with great interest the various representations. These pleasures are of course for the better class of patients, or rather for those afflicted with the lighter forms of mania. But there are others by no means so fortunate—women whose intellects have become so impaired that memory, reason, and comprehension are nearly gone, leaving them scarcely above the brute creation in mental capacity; and who, although perhaps capable of partially comprehending, can never be induced to join in merry-making. They spend their time wholly in brooding over melancholy thoughts, apparently without a single ray of hope for the future. Some are ever occupied in devising means to commit suicide or homicide, and cannot be safely entrusted with any weapon with which they might execute their designs. Now and then one complains that he has been placed there by inhuman relatives, and charges that the physicians were bribed to restrain him of his liberty or to poison him. The building occupied by what are called the Bedlamites, or violently insane, is never visited by strangers, on account of the bad effect their presence produces upon the excitable inmates, although raving insanity is generally considered more susceptible of cure than the less violent kind. No corporal punishment is permitted. If the patient be violent or noisy, he is shut up, not in a cell, but in an ordinary room, with the distinct understanding that he shall not annoy others.

The statistics of the institution show that during 1857 there were 326 patients admitted, of whom 130 were males, and 196 females, seven being colored persons. During the same period 221 were discharged, 94 males and 127 females; and 75 died, 37 males and 38 females. Of these, 25 died of consumption; paralysis 7, diarrhœa 6. Of the 326 admitted, 68 were natives, and 258 foreigners; 40 were born in New York, 7 in New Jersey, 6 in Pennsylvania, 157 in Ireland, 55 in Germany, 14 in England, 11 in Scotland, and 4 in France. Eighty-one were married, forty-three married, and 6 widowers; 86 females single, 85 married, and 25 widows. Religious persuasion: 159 Protestants, 155 Catholics, and 12 Jews. There were only 17 admitted who were under 20 years of age; from 20 to 30, 134; from 30 to 40, 88; from 40 to 50, 46; 50 to 90, one woman. Of the 221 discharged, 99 were in less than three months; 39 from 3 to 6 months; 42 from six months to a year; 31 from 1 to 3 years; 7 from 3 to 6 years, and 3 from 6 to 12 years.

The religious community is much interested this week in the anniversaries of the religious societies, which are being engaged to-day upon a discussion of the report of the Executive Committee. Dr. Tyng endeavored to introduce the same resolution which was adopted last year, instructing the Publishing Committee to publish tracts upon "the moral duties growing out of the existence of slavery," but he was refused permission by a large majority. The report of the Executive Committee was adopted finally. The Methodist Episcopal Conference which convened to-day, passed resolutions declaring slavery "a blight upon the fair fabric of which all wise measures should be taken." *Apropos* of religious matters, a complimentary dinner was tendered to the Rev. Robinson Scott on Tuesday evening, at Niblo's Saloon, by the various Methodist societies of this city, in honor of the successful termination of his labors in this country in collecting funds for the spread of pure religion in Ireland—he having collected $70,000 during the past two years, which he carries with him in the *Arabia* to-day. There was a large assemblage, nearly half of whom were ladies. Speeches were made by the Rev. Dr. Murray, the Rev. Dr. Adams, the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, the Rev. W. H. Milburn and others.

Another gigantic swindling operation has been brought to light here, disclosing a conspiracy to defraud to the extent of a few millions. The main operator is Mr. Henry Dwight, a New York banker, hitherto, of course, of the most impeachable standing. The principal victims of the fraud are the stockholders of the Chicago, Alton, and St. Louis Railroad.

The steamer Arabia sailed to-day for Liverpool. She takes out a half-million of specie by way of novelty. Latterly the shipments of specie to foreign ports have been merely nominal in amount.

The New Jersey Central Railroad is doing very well. Its coal traffic has increased 50 per cent. during the last year, being 310,000 tons against 190,000 tons for the year ending in April, 1857.—The necessary docks and facilities for this increased traffic have been provided by the traders themselves, without expense to the company.

Our Government will soon be called upon to take action in a serious matter. I allude to the firing into and boarding of American merchant vessels by British cruisers. The cases have become so numerous of late, that it seems almost as if British naval officers are determined to force us into hostilities with England, in order to protect ourselves from insult. The last outrage of this character is that of the schooner *Mobile* at this port from Mobile. Capt. Hower reports that on the 30th ult., when 25 miles South of Key West, he saw a steamship to windward bearing down for his vessel. He hove to to speak to her, and when within rifle-shot distance the steamer commenced firing rifles at the *Mobile*, the balls from which passed between the men on deck and lodged in the bulwarks. When two more shots had been fired by the steamer, a boat from her was sent on board of the *Mobile*, and those commanding the boat overhauled the vessel's papers, and declared their intention to seize the vessel, she not having a foreign register on board, but afterwards left without doing so. They gave no reason for acting as they did, nor did they deny plainly seeing the American ensign set on her vessel. The steamer was the British war-steamer *Styx*.

Another railroad slaughter. This time it is on the New York Central. On Tuesday, two trains, running upon different tracks, one of them at full speed, met upon the bridge over the Sauquoit Creek, near Whitesboro. The bridge gave way after the engines had crossed it safely, and the passenger cars were precipitated into the creek and piled one upon the other. Eight or ten persons were killed and between forty and fifty more or less seriously injured. Whether the accident was wholly owing to the rottenness of the bridge, or partially to the breaking of an axle on one of the cars, is not certain.

One of our mysteries has been cleared up.—Some time since a barrel, marked "W. H. Jennings, 185 Leonard street, New York," containing the mangled remains of a female, was found in the Hudson River Railroad depot here. It appears that the woman named Sophia Werner, was the paramour in Chicago of a barber named Henry Jumperts. He became tired of, and ill-treated her. His story is, she hung herself at their lodgings, and he to get rid of the body, cut it up, barreled the remains, and sent them on here. Whether guilty of murder or not, the whole affair proves him to be a thoroughly vitiated and hard-hearted man.

The police telegraph is a very useful "institution." During the last quarter the number of messages received and sent from the central office, was 18,184; of these, there were two lost men restored to their friends, 12 women restored to their families, 648 children restored to their parents, 106 stray horses restored to owners, 41 other animals restored to owners, 31 stolen horses telegraphed, 177 fires reported, 31 notifications to owner, 31 descriptions of counterfeit bills, which were about being put in circulation.

JAMES DORRANCE.

I have a little "patch" I am endeavoring to cultivate in the midst of high walls, and with only stray gleams of sunshine. So excuse me, while I "take up the shovel and the hoe."

Truly Yours,

RIP VAN WINKLE.

PEN, PASTE AND SCISSORS.

☞ Deaths in Baltimore last week, 97.

☞ Deaths in New York last week, 430.

☞ Deaths in Philadelphia last week, 192.

☞ Marietta, Ohio, has just been lighted up with gas.

☞ There are are 250 patients in the State Lunatic Hospital.

☞ The shoers of Cincinnati are on a strike for higher wages.

☞ There are in Massachusetts a little rising of one thousand lawyers.

☞ The famous Elder Knapp has just settled over a congregation at St. Louis.

☞ Gen. Comonfort, the exiled President of Mexico, has arrived in New York.

☞ The Susquehanna is in good rafting order, and many rafts are passing down.

☞ Rev. Mr. Giles, the popular lecturer, has taken up his residence at Chicago.

☞ A grand ball was given to Gen. Quitman at Columbia, S. C., a few days ago.

☞ THE TIME—To advertise is the present; the medium, the MINERS' JOURNAL.

☞ Gov. Walker purposes to canvass Kansas against the acceptance of the English bribe.

☞ When you are a whistling in a printing office, and they say "louder," don't you do it.

☞ It is estimated that the fishermen on our lakes receive $640,000 per annum for their fish.

☞ It has been decided that a man is intoxicated when he can't lie on the ground without holding on.

☞ Red cheeks are oxygen. Girls anxious to wear a pair will find them where the roses do—out of doors.

☞ Miss Helen Cunningham, of Burdell notoriety, was married last week to a young New York dentist.

☞ Why do people call for a piece of string; and did anybody ever hear of a person calling for a whole one?

☞ A few Mormons linger in Boston. They are mostly English. Religious services are held every Sunday.

☞ Bishop Simpson, of the M. E. Church, is said to be in such impaired health that his recovery is doubtful.

☞ The actual number of miles of telegraph in the United States at the present time is at least 89,592 miles.

☞ The Indianapolis papers find fault with Governor Willard, for pasturing his cow in the State House yard.

☞ Emigrants arrived at New York from January 1st to May 5th, 12,487. For the same period last year, 35,497.

☞ From the 2d to the 7th of May, there arrived at Philadelphia 10,730 boxes of oranges and 2,550 boxes lemons.

☞ The amount of Lamartine's debts is several times greater than was first reported. It will not fall short of $3,750,000.

☞ Senator Evans, the colleague of Governor Hammond, of South Carolina, died suddenly at Washington on Thursday.

☞ It is said that the President is annoyed by the *temper of the Northern press* in relation to the passage of the Kansas bill.

☞ General Peter Sken Smith, formerly an officer in the United States army, died suddenly at Springfield, Mass., on the 6th inst.

☞ The British *Standard* states that the income to be announced at the British and Foreign Bible Society's May meeting is $765,000.

☞ There are complaints in Boston of a lack of small dwellings, suitable for persons whose incomes range from $800 to $1,500 a year.

☞ A short and chunky man in Detroit was knocked off a house in a fight and fell thirty feet to the ground without the slightest injury.

☞ There is a monster grape vine at Montecito, California, that yielded, last summer, 7000 bushels of grapes, weighing 18,000 pounds.

☞ The Western Store-Houses and Granaries are filled with the crop of 1857, while the promise of another abundant yield is most flattering.

☞ The New York *News* learns that Mrs. Cunningham has received from its mother and taken full charge of the celebrated "bogus baby."

☞ North Carolina has now some 1,600 miles of railroad, and these works were begun when the State had not even an income of over $100,000.

☞ Laborers in Chicago are not likely to get more than six shillings a day during the coming season. Hundreds are there now, out of employment.

☞ In the committee on the factory bill, a witness was asked, "When do your girls marry?" He replied, "Whenever they can meet with a husband."

☞ The Louisville *Courier* says there is now an extraordinary stampede of the slaves in that State. They go off one, two, three, or a dozen at a time.

☞ The New York vitriol throwers have been again at work, squirting their venom and acids upon dresses and persons, imperiling life and property.

☞ Prentice says, "Children should not go bear the woods at present, as the trees are showing. In a few days they will pack their trunks and leave."

☞ Northern New York is not as cold as it is generally supposed to be. A man in Plattsburgh, made forty barrels of wine last season from grapes, raspberries, &c.

☞ A lady in Boston came near dying, last week, from medicines prescribed by a spiritual medium. A temporal physician was called in time to save her life.

☞ A new work is advertised under the ominous title, "*A Woman's Thoughts about Women.*" How could any publisher have undertaken anything so uncharitable?

☞ Madame Strakosch was taken ill on the stage, the other evening, while singing in St. Louis. Nothing serious, as this is the second time she has been so taken.

☞ The Harrisburg *Telegraph* says that hopes are entertained of Charles Fenno Hoffman's recovery from insanity. Mr. Hoffman is an inmate of the State Lunatic Asylum at Harrisburg.

☞ A number of students in the State University of Michigan, indulged recently in a night debauch, when one of them, named George W. Brazie, died from the effects of excessive intoxication.

☞ Reports of the New York markets look encouraging, and if the decline in prices continues for any time, people may really be able to live, without paying everything to the butcher and baker.

☞ Miss Mary Culp, a beautiful and accomplished young lady, who was much beloved by a large circle of acquaintances, was drowned last week in the Little Chiques at Mount Joy, Lancaster county, Pa.

☞ An English paper states: "Yankee steamers are so light on the Western rivers, that they can jump over a sand-bar, float easily on wet grass, and are obliged to lie at anchor when there is a heavy dew."

☞ It is said the early bird picks up the worm; but the gentlemen who smoke, and ladies who dance till three or four o'clock in the morning, will do well to consider that the worm picks up the early birds.

☞ The fashion runs now on straw bonnets and hats for ladies and children. English Bluchers, as well as Leghorns and Italian straws, have all advanced some 25 per cent. at New York in the wholesale price.

☞ Poets have always been poor. Chaucer had no tobacco to chew. Spencer was without a great coat. Goldsmith's jewels were his writings only. What an ungrateful world! as the man said before coal was used.

☞ Sir Robert Peel, whatever be his amount of popularity at home, is thought highly of in Switzerland. The baronet has purchased on the Lake of Geneva a charming property for 200,000 francs, and will receive the rights of Helvetic citizenship in due form.

☞ *The Oxygenated Bitters* are doing wonders in the cure of Dyspepsia, Debility, Jaundice, and Liver diseases. Among the thousand and one preparations that have come up, for these diseases, and those of a kindred nature, this alone appears to