TERMS OF THE MINERS' JOURNAL.

Terms of Subscription:

TWO DOLLARS per annum; payable in advance—$2 25 if not paid within six months—and $2 50 if not paid within the year.

To clubs:

For ten (to one address, in advance,) $15 00
Fifteen do do do 20 00
Twenty do do do 25 00

No subscriptions must be invariably paid in advance, and sent to one address.

To agents, in general:

The Journal will be furnished to Carriers and others at $1 per hundred copies, cash on delivery.

Teachers supplied with the Journal at $1 in advance.

Notice to new patrons.

Subscribers are required to give timely notice of the discontinuance of their newspapers, or they will be held responsible for another year's subscription.

Postmasters are requested to take their newspapers out of the office, and state the reasons why they are directed, they are refused or neglected, until they have settled the bills and the publication discontinued.

Subscribers who remove to other places without informing the publishers, and the newspapers are sent to the former direction, are held responsible.

The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers and periodicals from the post office, or removing, and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

MINERS' JOURNAL,

AND POTTSVILLE GENERAL ADVERTISER.

I WILL TEACH YOU TO PIERCE THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH, AND BRING OUT FROM THE CAVERNS OF MOUNTAINS, METALS WHICH WILL GIVE STRENGTH TO OUR HANDS AND SUBJECT ALL NATURE TO OUR USE AND PLEASURE.—*Dr. Johnson.*

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING, BY BENJAMIN BANNAN, POTTSVILLE, SCHUYLKILL COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

VOL. XXXV. SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 12, 1859. NO. 7.

BANNAN'S STEAM PRINTING OFFICE.

Having procured these Presses, we are now prepared to execute JOB and BOOK PRINTING of every description at the Office of the Miners' Journal, cheaper than it can be done at any other establishment in the county such as

Books, Pamphlets, Bill of Lading, Large Posters, Railroad Tickets, Blank Bills, Paper Books, Articles of Agreement, Time Books, Bill Heads, Order Books, &c.

At the very shortest notice. Our stock of JOB TYPE is more extensive than that of any other office in this section of the State, and we keep hands employed expressly for Jobbing. Being a practical Printer ourself, we will guarantee our work to be as neat as any that can be turned out in the cities. PRINTING IN COLORS done at the shortest notice.

BOOK BINDERY.

Books bound in every variety of style. Blank Books of every description manufactured, bound and ruled to order at shortest notice.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

One square of 10 lines, 50 cents for one insertion—subsequent insertions, 25 cents each. 3 lines one time, 25 cents—one month insertion, 12½ cents each. All advertisements over 3 lines, for short periods, charged as a square.

Space.	One.	Two.	Three.	Six.	Twelve.
Three lines,	63	88	$1 25	$2 25	$3 00
Four lines,	90	1 25	1 75	2 75	4 00
Five lines,	1 00	1 50	2 00	3 00	5 00
Six lines,	1 25	2 25	2 50	4 00	6 00
Seven lines,	1 25	2 25	2 75	4 50	7 00
Eight lines,	1 25	2 25	3 25	5 00	8 00
Nine lines,	1 25	2 25	3 00	5 50	9 00
One square,	1 25	2 25	3 50	6 00	10 00
Two squares,	2 25	4 00	5 00	9 00	14 00
Three squares,	3 50	5 00	7 50	12 00	18 00
Four squares,	4 50	6 00	8 00	14 00	20 00
Quarter col.,	8 00	9 00	12 00	18 00	30 00

Business notices, for short periods, as per agreement.

Professional notices, $1 each—accompanied with an advertisement, 50 cents each.

Advertisements before Marriages and Deaths, 10 cents per line for first insertion—subsequent insertions, 5 cents per line. Nine words are counted as a line in advertising.

Merchants and others, advertising by the year, with large and a standing advertisement not exceeding 15 lines, will be charged, including subscription, 16 00
Do do do to the amount of four squares, with change, 20 00

Without changes, at the rates designated above.

Advertisements set in larger type than usual will be charged 50 per cent. advance, on these prices. All cuts must be charged the extra price of letter press.

No Patent advertisements received from Advertising Agents, except at 25 per cent. advance on these rates, unless by special agreement with the publisher.

Marriages 25 cents each. Deaths accompanied with notices, 25 cents, without notices, no charge.

All notices, except those of a religious character and for educational purposes, will be charged 25 cents for any number of lines under 10. Over 10 lines, 4 cents per line additional.

Proceedings of meetings not of a general or public character, one square out of 4 cents per line for each insertion.

Obituaries or eulogies will be charged at that 25 lines. Over 25 and not 50 lines a half column—and 82 lines a column. 252 words make a column—1476 a half column—and 738 a quarter column. All notices over a half square, charged at the rate of 4 cents per line, for one time, and 3 cents per line for three times.

Yearly advertisers must confine their advertising to their own business, or others will be charged. Real estate, &c., are not included in business advertisements.

IRON WORKS.

EAGLE IRON WORKS.

Tamaqua, Schuylkill County, Pa.

HENRY WALTERS respectfully invites the attention of the business community, and especially to the proprietors of Collieries, Rolling Mills, Forges, Furnaces, Saw Mills and the Managers of Railroads, to the Iron Works, at Tamaqua.

Having one of the oldest practical Machinists in the county of Schuylkill, and having always made it his business and daily duty to study the different ways presented by different Mechanics, to facilitate the Hoisting, Breaking and Shipping of Coal in the Anthracite regions, in the fashion of Pennsylvania, he consequently flatters himself that he is as well prepared to construct, furnish with machinery, Steam Engines of any power, Gearing for Rolling Mills, Blast Furnaces, Rolling Mills, &c. He will also continue the business of Mining and Selling the celebrated *Pine Forest White Ash* and *Excelsior Swabb Veins Red Ash Coals*, being sole proprietor of these Collieries. GEORGE W. SNYDER.

January 21, 1857. 3-tf

PALO ALTO ROLLING MILL.

The Subscribers beg leave to announce to their friends and the public generally, that their new Rolling Mill at Palo Alto is now complete, and in full operation, and that they are prepared to roll Railroad Bars of various patterns, weighing from 22 to 56 per yard. Also, different sizes of flat, square and bolt merchant's bar iron.

Orders for rolls or bar iron are respectfully solicited, and will meet with prompt attention if left either at the Rolling Mill, Bright & Leech's Hardware Store, Market street, or their office, N. E. corner of Coal and Second streets, 2d story. HAWOOD, LEE & CO.

Pottsville, Jan. 1, 1859. 1-tf

TO COAL OPERATORS & MINERS

Pioneer Boiler Works.

The subscriber respectfully invites the attention of the business community to his Boiler Works and Railroad street, below the Passenger Depot, Pottsville, Pa., where he is prepared to manufacture BOILERS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, such as Sheet Iron, Slat Stacks, Blast Pipes, Gasometers, Derricks, &c., &c. Boilers on hand.

Having practical mechanic and having for years devoted his whole attention to this branch of business, he flatters himself that work done at his establishment will give satisfaction to all who may favor him with a call. Individuals and Companies will find it greatly to their interest to call and examine his work before engaging elsewhere.

All orders thankfully received and promptly executed, on the most reasonable terms.

JOHN T. NORRIS.

Pottsville, Dec. 25, '58. 47-tf

BEAVER MEADOW IRON WORKS.

Office W. Hudson respectfully invites the public that he is now proprietor of the Beaver Meadow Iron Works, and is fully prepared to manufacture, at this well known establishment, Steam Engines and Boilers, Grist and Saw Mill Gearing, Coal Breakers, Coal Pumps, Railroad and Drift Cars, and every other description of Iron and Brass Castings suitable for the coal mining or other business, on the most reasonable terms. Also, Blowing Cylinders for Blast Furnaces and Machine work in general.

Repairing of all kinds done with neatness and despatch at the lowest prices. All work furnished by them warranted to perform well. They would solicit those orders who may want articles in their line to kindly favor them with their orders, which will meet with immediate and prompt attention.

Beaver Meadows, January 1, '59. 3-y

AS LAND IRON WORKS.

THE SUBSCRIBERS are now fully prepared to furnish, at the Ashland Iron Works, Steam Engines and Pumps of any power and capacity, for mining and other purposes. Coal Breakers of every size and pattern now in use, together with castings and forgings of every description. Coal and Drift Cars of all sizes and patterns, large Truck and Horse Cars—all furnished at the shortest notice. The subscribers flatter themselves that, in common as every member of the firm is a practical mechanic, they will be able to furnish machinery that will compare favorably with any in the region. All orders directed to L. P. GARNER & Bros., Ashland, Schuylkill county, Pa., will receive prompt attention.

L. P. GARNER,
MICHAEL GARNER,
JOSEPH GARNER.

Ashland, May 10, '57. 1y

DEHAVEN'S IRON WORKS,

Minersville.

THE Subscriber is prepared to manufacture STEAM ENGINES of any power, Pumps of any capacity, and Coal Breakers of every description; as well as every other kind of machinery used in Mines, Furnaces, Rolling Mills, Saw Mills, &c. From the facilities possessed for manufacturing, and a long experience in the business, work can be furnished at the establishment at the very lowest prices, and of superior quality.

Persons desirous of putting up machinery of any kind, are invited to call and examine patterns and become acquainted with prices before contracting elsewhere.

Orders of every kind are solicited, and strict attention will be given to their prompt execution.

WILLIAM DEHAVEN.

Minersville, December 9, 1857. 49-tf

WASHINGTON IRON WORKS.

Pottsville, Pa.

THOS. WREN respectfully invites the attention of the business community to their New Machine Shop and Foundry, fronting on Norwegian street, where they are prepared to execute all orders for Machinery of any kind, such as Steam Engines, all kinds of Gearing, Coal Breaker Mills, Grist and Saw Mills, Single and Double Acting Pumps, Coal Breakers, Drift Cars, Railroad Castings, such as Chairs for Flat and T Rail; Frogs, Switches, &c.; all kinds of cast and wrought Iron Railing, Railing erected by mechanics, and having made the Railing of the Coal Region their study for years, feel confident of their ability to furnish work of this description as cheap as any other establishment in the country. Parties are invited to call and examine their work before purchasing elsewhere.

All orders punctually attended to, and promptly executed, on the most reasonable terms.

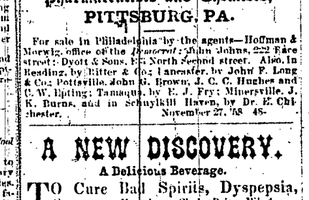
THOS. WREN,
JAMES WREN.

Nov. 21, '57. 47-tf

MEDICINAL.

BOERHAVE'S

HOLLAND BITTERS



THE CELEBRATED HOLLAND REMEDY FOR

DYSPEPSIA,

DISEASE OF THE KIDNEYS,

LIVER COMPLAINT,

WEAKNESS OF ANY KIND,

FEVER AND AGUE,

EVERY FARMER AND EVERY FAMILY has its peculiar Bitters, compounded according to some favorite recipe, handed down from father to son, perhaps. The principle that a tonic stimulant is necessary in every household, is undisputed, yet being compounded by unskillful hands, often contains elements with incompatible and inconsistent—sometimes positively hurtful. We here offer to the public, in a highly concentrated form, a Bitters that will exactly supply this want, prepared upon scientific principles, compounded of simples, acting in harmony, yet each fulfilling its own remedial office.

THE PHYSICIAN is here offered, in a convenient form, a perfectly safe *an Incident*, which, acting upon the circulation, raises the action of the system to the standard of health, especially after any debilitating attack of disease, after depression from heat, or any local or accidental cause; an *Anti-Spasmodic*, which, with a general stimulant power, acts with a peculiar influence upon the nervous system, calming nervous irritation, when taken properly, without the least tendency to the brain, and without that distressing reaction which is the bane of most tonics—often causing more injury than the original disease.

AS A TONIC, moderately and permanently exalting the energies of all parts of the frame, producing *necessarily* a healthy increase of the action of the various organs, chemically changing the acidity of the stomach, and actually increasing the secretion of bile, thereby in regulating permanently the biliary secretions.

NOTICE.—Whoever expects to find this beverage will be disappointed, but to the sick, weak and low-spirited, it will prove a grateful aromatic cordial, possessed of singular remedial properties.

Caution.—The great popularity of this delightful Bitters has induced many imitations, which the public should guard against purchasing. Be not persuaded to buy anything else until you have given BOERHAVE'S HOLLAND BITTERS a fair trial; one bottle will convince you of its infinitely superiority to all these imitations.

$5—Sold at $1 per bottle, or six bottles for $5, by the

SOLE PROPRIETORS,

BENJAMIN PACE, JR. & CO.

MANUFACTURING

Pharmaceutists and Chemists,

PITTSBURG, PA.

For sale in Philadelphia by the agents—Hoffman & Morwitz, office of the *Democrat*; John Johns, 222 Race street; Dyott & Sons, 132 North Second street. Also, in Reading, by Ritter & Co.; Lancaster, by John F. Long & Co.; Pottsville, John R. Bannan, C. G. Hughes and W. W. Bigler; Tamaqua, by E. J. Fry; Minersville, J. K. Burns, and in Schuylkill Haven, by Dr. E. Chichester. November 27, '58. 48-

A NEW DISCOVERY.

A Delicious Beverage.

TO Cure Bad Spirits, Dyspepsia, Nervousness, Heartburn, Chole Pains, Wind in the Stomach or Pains in the Bowels, Headache, Drowsiness, Kidney Complaint, Melancholy, Delirium Tremens, Intemperance.

Weak and Sickly Constitutions are Suddenly Restored to Health and Vigor.

DR. DARIUS HAM'S

Aromatic Invigorating Spirit.

It Stimulates, Exhilarates, Invigorates, but will not Intoxicate or Stupify.

AS a medicine, it is quick and effectual, curing the worst and most inveterate cases of Dyspepsia, Kidney Complaints, and all other derangements of the stomach and bowels, in from Four or Five Minutes to Twenty-four Hours.

It will instantly revive the most melancholy and drooping spirits, and restore the weak, feeble, nervous and sickly to health, strength and vigor.

As a social companion, it will exactly suppit this want, prepared upon scientific principles, compounded of simples, acting in harmony, yet each fulfilling its own remedial office.

THE PHYSICIAN is here offered, in a convenient form, a perfectly safe *an Incident*, which, acting upon the circulation, raises the action of the system to the standard of health, especially after any debilitating attack of disease, after depression from heat, or any local or accidental cause; an *Anti-Spasmodic*, which, with a general stimulant power, acts with a peculiar influence upon the nervous system, calming nervous irritation, when taken properly, without the least tendency to the brain, and without that distressing reaction which is the bane of most tonics—often causing more injury than the original disease.

AS A TONIC, moderately and permanently exalting the energies of all parts of the frame, producing *necessarily* a healthy increase of the action of the various organs, chemically changing the acidity of the stomach, and actually increasing the secretion of bile, thereby in regulating permanently the biliary secretions.

NOTICE.—Whoever expects to find this beverage will be disappointed, but to the sick, weak and low-spirited, it will prove a grateful aromatic cordial, possessed of singular remedial properties.

Caution.—The great popularity of this delightful Bitters has induced many imitations, which the public should guard against purchasing. Be not persuaded to buy anything else until you have given BOERHAVE'S HOLLAND BITTERS a fair trial; one bottle will convince you of its infinitely superiority to all these imitations.

$5—Sold at $1 per bottle, or six bottles for $5, by the

SOLE PROPRIETORS,

BENJAMIN PACE, JR. & CO.

MANUFACTURING

Pharmaceutists and Chemists,

PITTSBURG, PA.

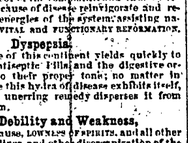
For sale in Philadelphia by the agents—Hoffman & Morwitz, office of the *Democrat*; John Johns, 222 Race street; Dyott & Sons, 132 North Second street. Also, in Reading, by Ritter & Co.; Lancaster, by John F. Long & Co.; Pottsville, John R. Bannan, C. G. Hughes and W. W. Bigler; Tamaqua, by E. J. Fry; Minersville, J. K. Burns, and in Schuylkill Haven, by Dr. E. Chichester. November 27, '58. 48-

MEDICINAL.

OLDEST ESTABLISHED DRUG STORE IN THE COUNTY.

"SIGN OF THE GOLDEN EAGLE,"

Centre Street, Pottsville.



The exclusive business of this establishment insures at all times a fresh supply of the purest and best DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS, &c., &c.

The proprietors, the senior being a druggist of thirty years' experience, give their personal attendance at all times.

☞ Particular attention paid to Physicians' Prescriptions.

☞ Paints, Oils, Glass, Dye-stuffs &c., in large assortment, wholesale and retail. JOHN D. BROWN & SON.

June 26, '58. 26-

CHAS. W. EPTING,

Wholesale and Retail

Druggist and Chemist.

S. E. Corner Centre and Norwegian Sts.,

(*Opposite Mortimer's Hotel.*)

POTTSVILLE, PENNA.

MANUFACTURER AND SOLE PROPRIETOR OF Epting's Pectoral Mixture.

EPTING'S PECTORAL MIXTURE cures Coughs.
EPTING'S PECTORAL MIXTURE cures Influenza.
EPTING'S PECTORAL MIXTURE cures Bronchitis.
EPTING'S PECTORAL MIXTURE cures Sore Throats.
EPTING'S PECTORAL MIXTURE will relieve consumptive patients in advanced stages of the disease.
EPTING'S PECTORAL MIXTURE sold by Jacob L. Shuman, Orwigsburg.
EPTING'S PECTORAL MIXTURE sold by J. Keller Burns, Minersville.
EPTING'S PECTORAL MIXTURE sold by Wm. B. Kurtz, Schuylkill Haven.
EPTING'S PECTORAL MIXTURE sold by all druggists generally throughout the county.

October 25, '57. 43-

THE GREAT AMBASSADOR OF HEALTH TO ALL MANKIND.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

A Boon to the Sick!

The want of a sterling medicinal to meet the ills and necessities of the suffering portion of humanity, and one entirely free from mineral and other deleterious particles, was severely felt till this all powerful medicine was ushered into the world: HOLLOWAY'S INVALUABLE PILLS have become the BOTHER-HERMENEUT of all nations. Their attribute is to PREVENT as well as to CURE; they attack the CAUSE or ROOT of the complaint, and thus by removing the hidden cause of disease so pleasurously and repulsive to the feelings, energies of the system, resulting nature in her task of VITAL and FUNCTIONARY REFORMATION.

Dyspepsia.

The great scourge of this continent yields quickly to a course of these antiseptic Pills, and the digestive organs are restored to their proper tone; no matter in what hideous shape this hydra of diseases exhibits itself, this searching and unerring remedy disperses it from the patient's system.

General Debility and Weakness,

From whatever cause, LOWNESS of SPIRITS, and all other signs of a diseased liver, and other disorganization of the system, vanish under the eradicating influence of this all powerful antiseptic and detergent remedy.

Bilious Disorders.

The proper quantum and right condition of the bile is of momentous importance to the health of the human frame. HOLLOWAY'S medicine expels the bilder seeds of the complaint, and renders all the fluids and secretions pure and fluent, cleansing and resuscitating the vital functions of the body.

Sickly Females

Should lose no time in trying a few doses of this regulating and renovating remedy, whatever may be their complaint; it can be taken with safety in all periodical and other disorganizations, and its effect is all but miraculous.

Unrefuted Proof.

The testimony of Nations is unanimously borne to the health-giving virtues of his noble remedy, and certificates in every quarter are flowing hence witness to the UNRIVALLEDNESS of their INFINITE worth.

Holloway's Pills are the best remedy known in the world for the following diseases:

Asthma,	Dropsy,
Bowel Complaints,	Debility,
Coughs,	Fevers and Ague,
Colds,	Female Complaints
Chest Diseases,	Headaches,
Costiveness,	Indigestion,
Dyspepsia,	Influenza,
Diarrhœa,	Inflammation,
	Worms of all Kinds,
	Inward Weakness,
	Liver Complaints,
	Low Spirits,
	Piles,
	Stone and Gravel,
	Secondary Symptoms,
	Tumors,
	Venereal Affection's

☞ Caution!—None are genuine unless the words "*Holloway, New York and London*," are discernable as a *Water Mark* in every leaf of the book of directions around each pot or box; the same may be plainly seen by *holding the leaf to the light*. A handsome reward will be given to any one rendering such information as may lead to the detection of any party or parties counterfeiting the medicines or vending the same, knowing them to be spurious.

☞ Sold at the Manufactories of Professor HOLLOWAY, 80 Maiden Lane, New York, and by all respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicine throughout the United States and the civilized world, in boxes at 25 cents, 63 cents and $1 each.

☞ There is considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N. B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each box.

June 5, '58. 23-1ycow

THE LIVER

INVIGORATOR!

PREPARED BY DR. SANDFORD.

Compounded Entirely From GUMS,

IS one of the best PURGATIVE and LIVER medicines now before the public, that acts as a *Cathartic*, easier, milder, and more effectual than any other medicine known. It is not only a *Cathartic*, but is a *Liver remedy*, acting first on the Liver of the morbid matter, then on the stomach and bowels to carry off that matter, thus accomplishing two purposes effectually, without any of the painful feelings experienced in the operations of other *Cathartics*. It acts on the system at the same time that it purges it; and when taken daily, in moderate doses, will strengthen and build it up with unusual rapidity.

The Liver

Is one of the principal organs of the human body; and many of the diseases to which it is liable, proceed from the derangements to be found in the Liver. To prove that this remedy is a fact found, any one person troubled with *Liver Complaint*, in any of its forms, has but to try a bottle, and conviction is certain.

These Gums remove all morbid or bad matter from their places a healthy flow of bile is established, causing food to *digest well, purifying the blood*, giving tone and vigor to the whole machinery, removing the cause of the disease—effectually and permanently.

Bilious attacks are cured, or prevented, by the occasional use of the Liver Invigorator.

One dose after eating is sufficient to relieve the food from rising and souring, prevents fever retiring, loosens the bowels at night, and will cure *Dyspepsia*. One spoonfuls will always remove obstruction removes and makes a perfect cure. Only relieves *Cholera* while time before eating gives vigor. One dose will cure *Chronic Diarrhœa* needed to throw out of the *Cholera*. system at a long sickness. *Jaundice* removes all sallowness from the skin. *Dropsy*, by exciting the absorbents.

Liver and Bowel Complaints dose.

We take pleasure in recommending this medicine as a preventive for *Fevers and Ague, Chill Fever, and Fever of a Bilious type*. It operates with ease, and is willing to testify to its wonderful virtues.

All who use it are giving their unanimous testimony in its favor.

Mix water in the mouth with the Invigorator, and swallow both together.

THE LIVER INVIGORATOR

Is a Scientific Medical Discovery, and is daily working cures, almost too great to believe. It is not a mere *gentle, often the last dose giving benefit*, and seldom more than one bottle is required to cure any kind of *Liver Complaint*, from the worst *Jaundice* or *Dyspepsia* to a common *Headache*, all of which are the result of a *Diseased Liver*.

Price, $1 per bottle.

DR. SANFORD, Proprietor, 345 Broadway, New York.

☞ Retailed by all Druggists. Sold in Pottsville by HENRY SAYLOR; and in Tamaqua, by E. J. FRY.

June 19, '58. 25-1y

DRAFTS ON EUROPE.

BELL & SON'S DRAFTS on the Quaker House of John & Edward Corderoy & Co., of London, and on the Belfast Banking Co. of Ireland, always for sale in sums from £1 and upwards by the subscriber, at his Bookstore, Pottsville. These firms have nothing to do with the Passenger Lines, and they are considered the safest houses in this country and in Europe. BENJ. BANNAN.

CRACKERS.

LUNCH, Soda, Water, Sweet, Ginger and Wine Crackers, received fresh every week from Philadelphia, by BEATTY & BEEBNER.

Pottsville, Jan. 29, '59. 5-

RAILROAD IRON.

CONSTANTLY on hand, T Rails for mining purposes, at reduced prices, for cash or good paper. HAWOOD, LEE & CO.

Pottsville Dec. 26, '57. 52-tf

CHOICE TEAS, BLACK AND GREEN. BEATTY & BEEBNER have received and for sale, very choice Black and Green Teas, which they offer to their customers at fair rates.

Pottsville, Jan. 29, '59. 5-

WORDS FOR MUSIC.

BY GEORGE P. MORRIS.

Fare thee well—we part forever!
All regrets are now in vain!
Fate decrees that we must sever,
Ne'er to meet on earth again.
Fare thee well!

Like the shadow on the dial
Lingers still our parting trial!
Life has no severer trial,
Death no pang to equal this.
All the world is now before thee,
Every clime to roam at will,
But within the land that bore thee,
One fond heart will love thee still.
Yet farewell—we part forever!
All regrets are now in vain!
Fate decrees that we must sever,
Ne'er to meet on earth again.
Fare thee well.

THE HIDDEN HAND.

BY EMMA D. E. N. SOUTHWORTH,

AUTHOR OF "THE BRIDE OF AN HEIRESS," "THE DESERTED WIFE," ETC., ETC., ETC.

CHAPTER I.—THE NOCTURNAL VISIT.

* * * Whence is that knocking!
How! at the south entry! Hark!—more knocking!
I hear a knocking
At the south entry! Hark!—more knocking!
SHAKESPEARE.

Hurricane Hall is a large old family mansion built of dark, red sandstone, in one of the loneliest and wildest of the mountain regions of Virginia.

The estate is surrounded on three sides by a range of steep, gray rocks, spiked with clumps of dark evergreens, and called, from its horseshoe form, the Devil's Hoof.

On the fourth side the ground gradually descends in broken rock and barren soil to the edge of the wild mountain stream known as the Devil's Run.

When storms and floods were high, the loud roaring of the wind through the wild mountain gorges, and the terrific raging of the torrent over its rocky courses, gave to this savage locality its ill-omened names of Devil's Hoof, Devil's Run and Hurricane Hall.

Major Ira Warfield, the lonely proprietor of the Hall, was a veteran officer, who, in disgust at what he supposed to be ill-requited services, had retired from public life to spend the evening of his vigorous age on this his patrimonial estate. Here he lived in solitude, with his old-fashioned housekeeper, Mrs. Condiment, and his old family servants and his favorite dogs and horses. Here his mornings were usually spent in the chase, in which he excelled, and his afternoons and evenings were occupied in small convivial suppers among his few chosen companions of the chase or the bottle.

In person Major Warfield was tall and strongly built, reminding one of some old iron-limbed knights of the olden time. His features were large and harsh; his complexion dark red, as that of one bronzed by long exposure and flushed with strong drink. His fierce, dark gray eyes were surmounted by thick, heavy black brows, that, when gathered into a frown, reminded one of a thunder cloud, as the flashing orbs beneath them did of lightning. His hard, harsh face was surrounded by a thick growth of iron-gray hair and beard that met beneath his chin. His usual habit was a black cloth overcoat, crimson vest, black leather breeches, long, black yarn stockings, fastened at the knees, and morocco slippers with silver buttons.

In character Major Warfield was arrogant, domineering and violent—equally loved and feared by his faithful old family servants at home—disliked and dreaded by his neighbors and acquaintances abroad, who, purely from his house and partly from his character, fixed upon him the appropriate nickname of OLD HURRICANE.

There was, however, other ground of dislike besides that of his arrogant mind, violent temper and domineering habits. Old Hurricane was said to be an old bachelor, yet rumor whispered that there was in some obscure part of the world, hidden away from human sight, a deserted wife and child, poor, forlorn and heartbroken. It was further whispered that the elder brother of Major Warfield had mysteriously disappeared, and not without some suspicion of foul play on the part of the only person in the world who had a strong interest in his "taking off." However these things might be, it was known for a certainty that Old Hurricane had an only sister, widowed, sick and poor, who with her son dragged out a wretched life of ill-requited toil, severe privation and painful infirmity, in a distant city, unaided, unsought and uncared for by her cruel brother.

It was the night of the last day of October, 1845. The evening had closed in very dark and gloomy. About dusk the wind arose in the northwest, driving up masses of leaden hued clouds, and in a few minutes the ground was covered deep with snow, and the air was filled with driving sleet.

As this was All Hallow Eve, the dreadful inclemency of the weather did not prevent the negroes of Hurricane Hall from awakening themselves out of their equitable old minister's jurisdiction, and going off in a body to a banjo breakdown held in the negro quarters of their next neighbor.

Upon this evening, then, there was left at Hurricane Hall only Major Warfield, Mrs. Condiment, his little old housekeeper, and Wool, his body servant.

Early in the evening the old hall was shut up closely, to keep out as much as possible the sound of the storm that roared and raged without, as the blasts occasionally came down the chimney, and shook the whole house as if determined to force an entrance. As soon as she had seen that all was safe, Mrs. Condiment went to bed and went to sleep.

It was about ten o'clock that night that Old Hurricane, well wrapped up in his quilted flannel dressing gown, sat in his well padded easy chair before a warm and bright fire, taking his comfort in his own most comfortable bedroom. This was the hour of the earliest enjoyment to the selfish Sybarite, and the nearly lonely old man was indulging himself in his favorite luxury of a social glass of warm negus. It will do him good after his cold ride."

"I thank you, Major Warfield! I will take the rest, but not the negus, if you please, to-night."

"Not the negus! Oh, come now, you are joking! Why, it will keep you from catching cold, and be a most comfortable nightcap, disposing you to sleep and sweat like a baby! Of course you spend the night with us?"

"I thank you, no! I must take the road again in a few minutes."

"Take the road again to night! Why, man alive! it is midnight, and the snow driving like all Lapland."

"Sir, I am sorry to refuse your proffered hospitality and leave your comfortable roof to-night, and sorrier still to have to take you with me," said the pastor, gravely.

"Take him with you! No, no, my good sir! no, no, that is too good a joke—ha! ha!"

"Sir, I fear that you will find it a very serious one!—Your servant told you that my errand was one of imminent urgency?"

"Yes, something like life and death——"

"Exactly—down in the castle, near the Punch Bowl, there is an old woman dying——"

"There, I knew it. I was just saying there might be an old woman dying. But, my dear sir, what's that to me? What can I do?"

"Humanity, sir, would prompt you."

"But, my dear sir, how can I help her? I am not a physician to prescribe——"

"She is far past a physician's help."

"Nor am I priest to hear her confession——"

"Her confession God has already received."

"Well, and I'm not a lawyer to draw up her will."

"No, sir; but you are recently appointed one of the Justices of the Peace for Allegheny."

"Yes; well, what of that. That does not comprise the duty of my getting up out of my warm bed and going through a snow storm to see an old woman expire."

"Excuse me for insisting, sir; but this is an official duty," said the parson, mildly, but firmly.

"I'll—I'll throw up my commission to-morrow," growled the old man.

"To-morrow you may do that, but meanwhile, to-night, being still in the commission of the peace, you are bound to get up and go with me to this woman's bedside."

"And what the deuce is wanted of me there?"

"To receive her dying deposition."

"To receive a dying deposition! Good Heaven! was she murdered, then?" exclaimed the old man, in alarm, as he started out of bed and began to draw on his nether garments.

"Be composed—she was not murdered," said the pastor.

"Well, then, what is it? Dying deposition! It must concern a crime," exclaimed the old man, hastily drawing on his coat.

"It does concern a crime."

"What crime, for the love of heaven?"

"I am not at liberty to tell you. She will do that."

"Wool, go down and rouse up Jehu, and tell him to put Parson Goodwin's mule in the shafts for the night. And tell him to put the black dragsheet over to the close carriage, and light both the front lanterns—for we shall have a dark, stormy road——Shut the door, you infernal!—I beg your pardon, parson, but that villain always leaves the door ajar after him."

The good parson bowed gravely; and the major completed his toilet by the time the servant returned and reported the carriage ready.

"To the Devil's Punch Bowl—was the order given by Old Hurricane as he followed the minister into the carriage. "And now, sir," he continued, addressing his companion, "I think you had better repeat that part of the church litany that prays to be delivered from battle, murder and sudden death; for if we should be so lucky as to escape Black Donald and his gang, we shall have at least an equal chance of being upset in the darkness of these dreadful mountains."

"A pair of saddle mules would have been a safer conveyance, certainly," said the minister.

Old Hurricane knew that, but though a great sensualist, he was a brave man, and so he had rather risk his life in a close carriage than suffer cold upon a sure-footed mule's back.

After many delays and perils, the pastor and old Hurricane arrived at their destination, called the Witch's Hut or Punch Bowl. Old Hurricane, left in the coach, on a ragged couch, by a gray haired and emaciated woman, evidently near unto death. On being informed that a magistrate had arrived, she insisted on everybody else leaving the room, as she would speak with him alone. Her request having been complied with, Old Hurricane drew from his pocket a Bible, administered the oath and then said:

"Now then, my good soul begin—the truth; the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, you know. But first, your name?"

"Is it possible, you don't know me, master?"

"No! I, in faith!"

"For the love of heaven, look at me and try to recollect me, sir! It is necessary some one authority should be able to know me," said the woman, raising her haggard eyes to the face of her visitor.

The old man adjusted his spectacles and gave her a scrutinizing look, exclaiming at intervals—

"Lord bless my soul! it is! it ain't! it must! it can't be! Granny Grewell—the—the—the—undertaker's wife that disappeared from here some twelve or thirteen years ago?"

"Yes, master, I am Nancy Grewell, the undertaker's wife that disappeared from here some twelve or thirteen years ago?"

"Yes, master, I am Nancy Grewell, the undertaker's wife that disappeared from here some twelve or thirteen years ago?" replied the woman.

"Heaven help our hearts! And for what crime was it you ran away? Come—make a clean breast of it, goodman! You have nothing to fear in living, for you are past the arm of earthly law now!"

"I know it, master."

"And the best way to prepare to meet the Divine Judge is to make all the reparation that you can by a full confession!"

"I know it, sir—if I had committed a crime; but I have committed no crime, neither did I run away."

"What? what? what?—What was it then? Remember, witness, you are on your oath!"

"I know that, sir, and I will tell the truth; but it must be in my own way."

At this moment a violent blast of wind and hail roared down the mountain side and rattled against the walls, shaking the witch's hut, as if it would have shaken it about their ears.

It was a proper overture to the tale that was about to be told. Conversation was impossible until the storm had raved itself and was heard dying in deep reverberating echoes from the depths of the Devil's Punch Bowl.

"It is some thirteen years ago," began Granny Grewell, "upon just such a night of storm as this that I was mounted on my old mule Molly, with my saddle-bags full of dried yarbs, and stilled waters and such, as I allus carried when I was out tendin' on the sick. I was on my way a-going to see a lady as I was sent for to tend."

"Well, master! I'm not used to say, as I never was afraid of man, beast, nor spirit, and never stopped at going out all hours of the night, through the most lonesomest roads, if so be I was called upon so to do. Still I must say that just as me and Molly, my mule, got into the deep, thick, lonesome woods as stands round the old Hidden House in the hollow, I did feel queerish, 'case it was the dead hour of night, and it was still how strange things some seen and hearn, yes, and done too, in that dark, deep, lonesome place. I don't know even my mule Molly felt queer too, by the way she stuck up her ears, stiff as quills. So, partly to keep up my own spirits, and partly to courage her, I says I, 'Molly,' says I, 'what are ye afeard on? Be a man, Molly!' But Molly stepped out cautious, and pricked up her long ears all the same.

"Well, master, it was so dark I couldn't see a yard afore Molly's ears, and the path was so narrow and the bushes so thick we could hardly get along; but just as we came to the little creek as they calls the Spout, cause the water jumps and jets along till it empties into the Punch Bowl, and just as Molly was cautiously putting her fore foot into the water, out starts two men from the bushes and takes poor Molly's bridle!"

"Good heavens!" exclaimed Major Warfield.

"Well, master, before I could say out, one of 'em sings out to the other to cut off my retreat back, and with the other hand on my mouth he says:

"'Be silent, you old fool, or I'll blow your brains out!'"

"And then master, I saw for the first time that their faces were covered over with black crape.—I couldn't—I screamed if they'd let me, for my breath was gone and my senses were going along with it from the fear that was on me."

"Don't struggle, good woman, or you'll be shot!" says he; "I am not a highwayman, but a Government officer in search of a deserter. Be silent, and you shall not be hurt,' says the man as had spoke before.

"Struggle! I couldn't—I struggled to a saved my soul! I couldn't speak! I couldn't breathe! I liked to have a dropped right off'en Molly's back. One on 'em says, says he:

"'Give her some brandy!' And t'other takes out a flask and puts it to my lips and says, says he:

"'Here, drink this.'

"Well, master, as he had me still by the scruff o' the neck I couldn't do no other ways but open my mouth and drink it. And as soon as I took a swallow my breath come back and my speech.

"'And oh, gentlemen,' says I, 'if it's your money or your life' you mean, I hasn't it about me! 'Deed 'clare to the Lord-a-mighty I hasn't! it's wrapped up in an old cotton glove in a hole in the plastering in the chimney corner at home, and if you'll spare my life, you can go there and get it,' says I.

"'You old blockhead,' says they, 'we want neither one nor t'other! Come along quietly and you shall receive no harm. But at the first cry or attempt to escape this shall stop you!' And with that the villain held the muzzle of a pistol so nigh to my nose that I smelt brimstone, while t'other one bound a silk handkercher 'round my eyes, and then took poor Molly's bridle and led her along. I couldn't see in course, and I dasent breathe for fear of the