READING GAZETTE & DEMOCRAT.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE CITY OF READING, BERKS COUNTY, PA.---TERMS: $1,50 A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

J. LAWRENCE GETZ, EDITOR.] SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 3, 1863. [VOL. XXIII.—NO. 37.—WHOLE NO. 1979.

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Office, North-West corner of Penn and Fifth street, adjoining the Farmers' Bank of Reading.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

$1,50 *a year, payable in advance.*
1,00 for six months, in advance.
To Clubs: Four copies for $5, in advance.
Ten copies for $10,

☞ *All papers discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for.*

RATES OF ADVERTISING IN THE GAZETTE.

	1t.	3t.	1mo.	3mo.	6mo.	1y.
¼ Square, 5 lines, or less,	50	50	75	2,00	3,00	5,00
1 " 10 "	50	1,00	1,25	3,00	5,00	8,00
2 " 20 "	1,00	2,00	2,50	5,00	8,00	15,00
3 " 30 "	1,50	3,00	3,75	7,50	12,00	20,00

[Larger Advertisements in proportion.]

Executors' and Administrators' Notices, 6 insertions $2,00
Auditors' Notices and Legal Notices. 3 " 1,50

Special Notices, as reading matter, 10 cts. a line for one insertion.

☞ Marriage notices 25 cents each. Deaths will be published gratuitously.

☞ All Obituary Notices, Resolutions of Beneficial and other Private Associations, will be charged for, as advertisements, at the above rates.

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Yearly advertisers will be charged the same rates as transient advertisers for all matters *not relating strictly to their business.*

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

Executed in a superior manner, at the *very lowest prices. Our* assortment of Job Type is large and fashionable, and our Work speaks for itself.

BLANKS OF ALL KINDS,

Including Parchment and Paper Deeds, Mortgages, Bonds, Articles of Agreement, Leases, and a variety of Justices' Blanks, kept constantly for sale, or printed to order.

EDWARD H. SHEARER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.—OFFICE IN COURT street, North side Reading, Pa. [april 26–6mo.

REMOVAL.
WILLIAM H. LIVINGOOD, ATTORNEY AT LAW, has removed his office to the north side of Court street first door below Sixth. [dec 22–tf

ABNER K. STAUFFER,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.—OFFICE, COURT street, below Sixth, Reading, Pa. [april 20

JESSE G. HAWLEY,
ATTORNEY AT LAW, OFFICE WITH S. L. YOUNG, ESQ., PENN Street, above Sixth, Reading, Pa.
☞ Will be at Friedensburg, every Thursday.
September 29, 1860–1y*

Charles Davis,
ATTORNEY AT LAW—HAS REMOVED HIS Office to the Office lately occupied by the Hon. David F. Gordon, deceased, in Sixth street, opposite the Court House. [april 14

Daniel Brmentrout,
ATTORNEY AT LAW—OFFICE IN NORTH Sixth street, corner of Court alley. [aug 13–1y

David Neff,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN Foreign and Domestic DRY GOODS, No. 25 East ean street, Reading, Pa. [March 10, 1860.

LIVINGOOD'S
United States Bounty, Back Pay and Pension Office,
COURT STREET, NEAR SIXTH.
HAVING BEEN ENGAGED IN COLLECTing claims against the Government, I feel confident that all who have heretofore employed me will cheerfully endorse my promptness and fidelity. My charges are moderate and no charge made until obtained.
WILLIAM H. LIVINGOOD,
oct 18–tf] Attorney at Law, Court St., Reading, Pa

ASA M. HART,
(Late Hart & Mayer,)
DEALER IN FOREIGN AND AMERICAN DRY GOODS, CARPETINGS, &c., Wholesale and Retail, at Philadelphia prices. Sign of the Golden Bee Hive, No. 14 East Penn Square. [april 17–tf

P. Bushong & Sons,
MANUFACTURERS OF BURNING FLUID, Absolute, Deodorized and Druggists' Alcohol; also, Fine Oil, which they will sell at the lowest Wholesale prices, at Reading, Pa.
☞ Orders respectfully solicited. [march 12

DR. T. YARDLEY BROWN,
SURGEON DENTIST.
GRADUATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
Dental College. Teeth extracted by Franklin's Electro Magnetic process, with Clarke's improvement. With this method teeth are extracted with much less pain than the usual way. No extra charge. Offices in Fifth street, opposite the Presbyterian Church. [april 2–1y

Dr. G. M. MILLER
SURGEON DENTIST, FROM THE College of Dental Surgery, Philadelphia. Office: At his residence in Main street, Hamburg, Pa.
☞ Teeth extracted under the influence of Ether, or by the Electro-Magnetic Machine, without extra charge. Scurvy cured.
☞ He has also Patent and other MEDICINES for sale at his office. [may 31

FALL AND WINTER
CLOTHING,
FOR MEN AND BOYS
IN GREAT VARIETY,
SOLD VERY LOW BY
JAMESON & CO.,
Corner 6th and Penn.
sept 6

B. DISSLER
HAS CONSTANTLY ON HAND A LARGE supply of Muslins, Prints, Checks, Tickings, Sheetings, Flannels, Crash, Towelling, &c., which will be sold cheap. Give us a call before buying elsewhere.
August 16

LAUER'S BREWERY
READING, PA.
THE SUBSCRIBER respectfully announces to the public that he has recently enlarged his BREWERY to a considerable extent, and introduced steam-power, and is now ready to supply all demands for
SUPERIOR MALT LIQUORS,
for home and distant consumption. His stock of Malt Liquors, warranted to keep in all climates, is as follows:—BROWN STOUT, PORTER, BOTTLING ALE, DRAUGHT ALE AND LAGER BEER.
june 19–tf FREDERICK LAUER.
N.B.—A liberal per centage will be allowed to Agents abroad.

THE GREAT POINT ATTAINED!!!
A NEW STYLE OF SHUTTLE
SEWING MACHINE,
SO SIMPLE IN ITS CONSTRUCTION, LIGHT to run, and *easy to learn*, that any one can operate it *without instructions*. Sews MUSLINS and the *heaviest* ARMY CLOTHS *equally well.*
A splendid Machine for Tailors, Vest and Pant makers, Hat and Shoe binders, &c., at the low price of $50. A *better* Machine than *any other* in the market, at $75. *Call and see it.*
G. W. GOODRICH,
Jan 25–tf] Nos. 3 and 5 Penn Square, Reading, Pa.

F. P. HELLER,
WATCHMAKER, JEWELER,
AND DEALER IN
WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELRY,
SPOONS, SPECTACLES, GOLD PENS, &c., Sign of the "BIG WATCH," No. 53½ Ea Penn Street, above Sixth, north side, Reading, Pa.
☞ Every article warranted to be what it is sold for Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, &c., repaired with particular attention, and guaranteed. [feb 1–tf

SILVER PLATED WARE.
JUST RECEIVED A FINE ASSORTMENT OF Castors, Spoons, Dessert and Dinner Forks, Butter Knives, &c., &c. For sale at low prices, by
J. L. STICHTER,
Nov 8–3mo] Fifth and Penn Streets

BALTIMORE LOCK HOSPITAL
☞ ESTABLISHED AS A REFUGE FROM QUACKERY.
The Only Place Where a Cure Can be Obtained.
DR. JOHNSTON HAS DISCOVERED THE most Certain, Speedy and only Effectual Remedy in the World for all Private Diseases, Weakness of the Back or Limbs, Strictures, Affections of the Kidneys and Bladder, Involuntary Discharges, Impotency, General Debility, Nervousness, Dyspepsia, Languor, Low Spirits, Confusion of Ideas, Palpitation of the Heart, Timidity, Trembling, Dimness of Sight or Giddiness, Diseases of the Head, Throat, Nose or Skin, Affections of the Liver, Lungs, Stomach or Bowels—those Terrible Disorders arising from the Solitary Habits of Youth—those SECRET and solitary practices more fatal to their victims than the song of Syrens to the Mariners of Ulysses, blighting their most brilliant hopes or anticipations, rendering marriage, &c., impossible.
YOUNG MEN
Especially, who have become the victims of Solitary Vice, that dreadful and destructive habit which annually sweeps to an untimely grave thousands of Young Men of the most exalted talents and brilliant intellect, who might otherwise have entranced listening Senates, with the thunders of eloquence or waked to ecstasy the living lyre, may call with full confidence.
MARRIAGE.
Married Persons, or Young Men contemplating marriage, being aware of physical weakness, organic debility, deformities, &c., speedily cured.
He who places himself under the care of Dr J. may religiously confide in his honor as a gentleman, and confidently rely upon his skill as a Physician.
ORGANIC WEAKNESS
Immediately Cured, and Full Vigor Restored.
This Distressing Affection—which renders Life miserable and marriage impossible—is the penalty paid by the victims of improper indulgences. Young persons are too apt to commit excesses from not being aware of the dreadful consequences that may ensue. Now, who that understands the subject will pretend to deny that the power of procreation is lost sooner by those falling into improper habits than by the prudent? Besides being deprived the pleasure of healthy offspring, the most serious and destructive symptoms to both body and mind arise. The system becomes Deranged, the Physical and Mental Functions Weakened, Loss of Procreative Power, Nervous Irritability, Dyspepsia, Palpitation of the Heart, Indigestion, Constitutional Debility, a Wasting of the Frame, Cough, Consumption, Decay and Death.
Office, No. 7 South Frederick Street,
Left hand side going from Baltimore street, a few doors from the corner. Fail not to observe name and number.
Letters must be paid and contain a stamp. The Doctor's Diplomas hang in his office.
A CURE WARRANTED IN TWO DAYS.
No Mercury or Nauseous Drugs.
DR. JOHNSTON,
Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, graduate from one of the most eminent Colleges in the United States, and the greater part of whose life has been spent in the hospitals of London, Paris, Philadelphia and elsewhere, has effected some of the most astonishing cures that were ever known; many troubled with ringing in the head and ears when asleep, great nervousness, being alarmed at sudden sounds, bashfulness, with frequent blushing, attended sometimes with derangement of mind, were cured immediately.
TAKE PARTICULAR NOTICE.
Dr. J. addresses all those who have injured themselves by improper indulgence and solitary habits which ruin both body and mind, unfitting them for either business, study, society or marriage.
Terrible are some of the sad and melancholy effects produced by early habits of youth, viz: Weakness of the Back and Limbs, Pains in the Head, Dimness of Sight, Loss of Muscular Power, Palpitation of the Heart, Dyspepsy, Nervous Irritability, Derangement of the Digestive Functions, General Debility, Symptoms of Consumption, &c.
Mentally.—The fearful effects on the mind are much to be dreaded—Loss of Memory, Confusion of Ideas, Depression of Spirits, Evil Forebodings, Aversion to Society, Self-Distrust, Love of Solitude, Timidity, &c., are some of the evils produced.
Thousands of persons of all ages can now judge what is the cause of their declining health, losing their vigor, becoming weak, pale, nervous and emaciated, having a singular appearance about the eyes, cough and symptoms of consumption.
YOUNG MEN
Who have injured themselves by a certain practice indulged in when alone, a habit frequently learned from evil companions, or at school, the effects of which are nightly felt, even when asleep, and if not cured renders marriage impossible, and destroys both mind and body, should apply immediately.
What a pity that a young man, the hope of his country, the darling of his parents, should be snatched from all prospects and enjoyments of life, by the consequence of deviating from the path of nature and indulging in a certain secret habit. Such persons must, before contemplating
MARRIAGE,
reflect that a sound mind and body are the most necessary requisites to promote connubial happiness. Indeed, without these the journey through life becomes a weary pilgrimage; the prospect hourly darkens to the view; the mind becomes shadowed with despair and filled with the melancholy reflection that the happiness of another becomes blighted with our own.
DISEASE OF IMPRUDENCE.
When the misguided and imprudent votary of pleasure finds that he has imbibed the seeds of this painful disease, it too often happens that an ill-timed sense of shame, or dread of discovery, deters him from applying to those who, from education and respectability, can alone befriend him, delaying till the constitutional symptoms of this horrid disease make their appearance, such as ulcerated sore throat, diseased nose, nocturnal pains in the head and limbs, dimness of sight, deafness, nodes on the shin-bones and arms, blotches on the head, face and extremities, progressing with frightful rapidity, till at last the palate of the mouth or the bones of the nose fall in, and the victim of this awful disease becomes a horrid object of commiseration, till death puts a period to his dreadful sufferings, by sending him to "that Undiscovered Country from whence no traveller returns."
It is a *melancholy fact* that thousands fall victims to this *terrible disease*, owing to the unskillfulness of ignorant pretenders, who, by the use of that *Deadly Poison, Mercury*, ruin the constitution and make the residue of life miserable.
STRANGERS
Trust not your lives, or health, to the care of many Unlearned and worthless Pretenders, destitute of knowledge, name or character, who copy Dr. Johnston's advertisements, or style themselves, in the newspapers, regularly Educated Physicians, incapable of Curing, they keep you trifling month after month taking their filthy and poisonous compounds, or as long as the smallest fee can be obtained, and in despair, leave you with ruined health to sigh over your own galling disappointment.
Dr. Johnston is the only Physician advertising.
His credentials or diplomas always hang in his office.
His remedies or treatment are unknown to all others, prepared from a life spent in the great hospitals of Europe, the first in the country and a more extensive *Private Practice* than any other Physician in the world.
INDORSEMENT OF THE PRESS.
The many thousands cured at this institution year after year, and the numerous important Surgical Operations performed by Dr. Johnston, witnessed by the reporters of the "Sun," "Clipper," and many other papers, notices of which have appeared again and again before the public, besides his standing as a gentleman of character and responsibility, is a sufficient guarantee to the afflicted.
Skin Diseases Speedily Cured.
☞ No letters received unless post-paid and containing a stamp to be used on the reply. Persons writing should state age, and send portion of advertisement describing symptoms.
JOHN M. JOHNSTON, M. D.,
Of the Baltimore Lock Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland.
may 10–1y]

STRICKLAND & BROTHER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
BOOKSELLERS & STATIONERS,
23 EAST PENN STREET,
READING, PA.
A LARGE AND WELL SELECTED STOCK of
School, Miscellaneous and Blank
BOOKS,
PRAYER BOOKS,
ENGLISH AND GERMAN BIBLES AND HYMN BOOKS,
PERIODICALS,
MUSIC and MUSIC BOOKS,
GOLD PENS, FANCY ARTICLES,
NOTE, LETTER, CAP and PRINTING PAPER and PAPER BAGS.
BLANK BOOKS
—AND—
MERCHANTS' ACCOUNT BOOKS
Made to order; Churches and Sabbath Schools supplied with Tract Society and Sunday School Union publications, at catalogue prices.
☞ Orders from Country Merchants solicited and filled promptly at the lowest wholesale prices.
☞ Teachers supplied with Music at the usual discount.
N. B.—Books and Music sent by mail postage paid, on receipt of Publishers' Prices. jan 18–tf

Groceries, Glass and Queensware.
JUST RECEIVED, A LARGE ASSORTMENT of White Stone DINNER and TEA SETTS, Common White and Edged Ware, with a good stock of GLASSWARE and GROCERIES, at No. 20 North Fifth street.
feb 1] E. D. SMITH.

S. M. PETTENGILL & CO.,
No. 37 PARK ROW, NEW-YORK, & 6 STATE ST., BOSTON,
Are Agents for the *Reading Gazette*, in those cities, and are authorized to take Advertisements and Subscriptions for us at our established rates.

NEW FRUIT—LAYER, BUNCH, AND SALTINA Raisins, Currants, and Citron, just received and for sale at PEOCOCK'S,
dec 6] 60 South 9th street.

Poetry:

A SONG FOR THE NEW YEAR'S EVE.

Away with thoughts of pall and bier,
And cypress bough and funeral tear,
And wailings for the dying year.
Our household fires shall burn to-night
With warmer glow, while children bright
Dance round us in the rosy light.

Life was not given for tears and groans,
The god-like gift of speech for moans,
Or faces made for churchyard stones.
Hang the green holly on your walls,
And let the children's laughing calls
Re-echo through the lighted halls.

Those who have killed the year may weep,
And low in dust and ashes creep,
With wild laments and anguish deep;
But we who loved him best while here,
Can bid him go with festal cheer,
And lights and garlands round his bier.

He came to us a helpless child,
Amid the snows of Winter wild—
Our hearths with blazing logs we piled,
We gave him shelter from the storm,
And closely wrapped his shivering form,
In softest wools and ermine warm.

We fed him from our garden store—
The richest fruits our orchards bore
And nuts from many a foreign shore.
Our corn and wine his strength supplied,
Till, grown to boyhood by our side,
We gloried in his youthful pride.

We gave him flocks and fertile lands,
We bowed our heads to his commands,
And tilled his fields with willing hands;
When lo, to crown his manhood's morn,
The ripening wheat, and tasseled corn,
Were of our loving labor born.

Through all the Summer's noontide heat,
We toiled amid the clover sweet,
And piled its fragrance at his feet.
We reaped his fields of waving grain,
And garnered in the ripe ears of gold the vale and plain,
And sowed the hopeful seed again;

And when the Autumn's withered leaves
Fell rustling round our household eaves,
We gathered in his golden sheaves,
We bound his furrowed brow with maize,
And honored his declining days
With jubilees of graceful praise.

His work is done; his Harvest-home
Is gathered where no blight can come,
And his sealed lips are sweetly dumb
From the full perfectness of bliss,
The rapture trances that ever is
Just where the Heavenly life meets this.

We want for him no death-bells slow,
No sable plumes and hearse of woe,
With mourners wailing as they go.
But bring, in place of tolling knells,
The music of your merry bells,
And cheerful songs for sad farewells.

Hang the green holly on the walls,
Let social mirth and music calls
Ring through your festal lighted hall's.
Life from the Old Year's death is born,
Let bright'ning hopes with smiles adorn
The breaking of the New Year's Morn!

Tales and Sketches.

TRIFLES.

A WORD TO MARRIED PEOPLE.

The ringing of the door bell has a pleasant sound to me, especially in my idle moods. Like an unopened letter, there is a mystery about it, and one waits with a pleasurable excitement to see who or what is coming.

Returning home, one day, earlier than usual, I found my wife had gone out; and, while lounging idly over the paper, the bell rang.

I waited expectant till Bridget appeared with a note, containing a request from my old friend, Dr. Stearns, to ride out to his residence in the country, the next day, to transact some business that had long been pending, and an invitation to bring my wife and spend the day.

I was pleased: first, because I wanted the business completed; and secondly, because I thought I needed a day's recreation.

But the next morning everything seemed to go wrong. Alice could not accompany me, and I could not get off as early as I wished; and consequently, I was peevish and fretful; and Alice reflected my humor, I suppose—as it appeared to me she had never been so unamiable.

At length, however, I drove away, though not in a very pleasant mood. It was a lovely October day; and, as I rode along, noting the brilliant tints of the landscape, memory went back to the golden autumn when I wooed and won my bride.

"How lovely Alice was then!" I thought. "And how happy we were! But that was long ago. Yet nature is the same, though *we* are changed. Let me see: we have been married three years; is it possible it is no longer?"

And I felt a pang, as I contrasted the past and the present, to think that we could have settled down into the commonplace life we now led.

We had no serious trouble, we didn't quarrel; though, when I felt cross, or other things didn't go to suit me, I took no pains to conceal it, and often spoke harshly to Alice, who sometimes replied in the same spirit, sometimes with tears. Yet we were generally good friends. But the charm, the tenderness of our early love had imperceptibly vanished.

I had become careless about my appearance at home, and Alice was equally negligent. Her beautiful brown hair, which she used to wear in the most becoming curls was now usually brushed plainly behind her ears, unless she was going out or expected company. I dismissed the subject with a sigh, at the doctor's gate, with the reflection that it was the same with all married people—*must* be so, in fact—for how could romance and sentiment find place among so many prosy realities? I supposed we were as happy as anybody; and yet, it was not the kind of life I had looked forward to with so many bright anticipations.

The doctor came out and greeted me cordially. In the hall we met Mrs. Stearns, looking fresh and lovely in her pink muslin wrapper, with her jetty hair in tasteful braids. She scolded me playfully for not bringing my wife, chatted a few minutes, and then flitted away, while the doctor, remarking that his motto was, "business first, and pleasure afterward," led the way to the library.

As we entered the room I noticed a vase of bright autumn flowers on the table, imparting an air of taste and cheerfulness to the apartment. I made some remark about it, to which the doctor responded:

"Yes, I am very fond of flowers, and love to see them in the house; and, as I spend much time here, my wife always keeps a vase of them on the table as long as they last."

Our business was finished before dinner, and we walked out in the grounds, which were quite extensive, and tastefully arranged.

There was a variety of flowers in bloom, and I noticed that the doctor selected here and there the finest, until he had a handsome bouquet.

When we reached the house, Mrs. Stearns was standing on the steps. The doctor, still continuing our conversation, gave her the flowers, with a slight bow and smile; and, holding up a spray of crimson berries, which he had broken off, she bent her head while he fastened it among the dark braids of her hair.

It was a trifling incident, yet their manner arrested my attention. Had I been a stranger, I should have pronounced them lovers instead of sober married people. All through the day I noticed the same delicate attention and deference in their deportment to each other.

There was nothing of which the most fastidious guest could complain; yet, while showing me the most cordial attention, they did not seem to ignore each other's existence, as married people so often do.

I had never visited the doctor before, and was very much pleased with his tasteful home. I said so, after dinner, when we strolled out into the woods.

"Yes," he said, I think it pleasant; and," he added, "I believe I am a contented man; so far I am not disappointed in life."

"How long have you been married, doctor?" I asked.

"Ten years."

"Well," I pursued, "can you tell me whence the bright atmosphere that surrounds your home. Tell me how you and Mrs. Stearns manage to retain the depth and freshness of your early love, as you seem to do? I should think the wear and tear of life would tell upon it." "Come with me," he said, and he led the way to a house where my ideal of domestic happiness was realized before. It is what I once dreamed of."

The doctor smiled, and, pointing to a thrifty grape vine climbing over a neat lattice, and loaded with purple fruit, he said:

"That vine needs careful attention, and, if pruned and properly cared for, it is what you see it; but if neglected, how soon would it become a worthless thing. So the love which is to all, at some period, the most precious thing in life, and which needs so much care to keep it unimpaired, is generally neglected. Ah! my friend, it is little acts—trifles—that so often estrange loving hearts. I have always made it a point to treat my wife with the same courtesy that characterized my deportment in the days of courtship; and, while I am careful not to offend her tastes and little prejudices, I am sure that mine will be equally respected."

That night as I rode homeward, pondering the doctor's words and reviewing the years of our married life, I was surprised at my own blindness, and I determined to recall the early dream, if possible.

The next morning, at breakfast, I astonished Alice by a careful toilet, chatted over the dinner, and, after tea, invited her to ride. When she came down in my favorite blue organdie, with her hair in shining curls, I thought she had never looked lovelier.

I exerted myself, as of old, to entertain her and was surprised to find how quickly and pleasantly the evening passed.

I resolved to test the doctor's theory perfectly, and the result exceeded my most sanguine expectations.

For all the little nameless attentions so gratifying to a woman's heart, and so universally accorded by the lover and neglected by the husband, I find myself repaid a thousand-fold; and I would advise all who are sighing over the non-fulfilment of early dreams, to go and do likewise, remembering that, that which is worth winning, is worth keeping.

HAZARDOUS ADVENTURE IN THE TOMB OF DAVID.

The following sketch, furnished by Miss Barclay, daughter of James T. Barclay, author of "The City of the Great King," gives an interesting account of her perilous adventure in gaining access to the *Tomb of David:*

"Early one morning, during the great Mohammedan feast of Rhamadan, I was called to the 'parley' room, to see my friend Moosa. This little fellow having become rather a frequent visitor, I was at first inclined to excuse myself, but remembering he had lately hinted at the possibility of my gaining an entrance into the Tomb of David, and in consideration, too, of the fact of being their fasting season, the everlasting finjan of coffee and douceur of sweetmeats—those otherwise indispensable marks of Turkish civility—might now be dispensed with, I concluded to make my appearance. On entering the room, my pleasing suspicions were confirmed by seeing him close the door and mysteriously place his finger on his lips, in token of profound secrecy. He laid his ponderous turban on the divan, beside him, doffed his slippers, crossed his legs, and disclosed the nature of his errand. In short, I was informed that his sister was ready for an adventure; and as I was too, we were not long in reaching Turfendah, (his sister,) who immediately commenced operations. My hair was taken down, and braided in scores of little plaits. A red cloth cap, with a blue silk tassel, was placed on my head, and around it a gauze turban, with gold tassels and embroidery. My robe and trowsers were of the finest Damascus silk, my girdle of cashmere, and tunic of light blue stuff, embroidered in silver flowers. My hands were already dyed with 'henna,' having undergone this process on the occasion of a former adventure in the Mosque of Omar, and still retained the deep yellow hue; my skin was pretty deeply tanned, too, from a residence of several years under a burning Syrian sun, which was quite an addition to my Turkish appearance. The sheet, veil, and slippers, came in due order; and having secreted my pencil and sketch-book in the folds of my girdle, we sallied forth, accompanied by Turfendah's favorite slave.

"The reputed Tomb of David is just outside of Zion Gate, hard by the Cœnaculum and American Cemetery. It is surrounded by an irregular pile of buildings and surmounted by a dome and minaret. In the interior are some of the most grotesque architectural embellishments imaginable, on the capitals of some remains of the Crusaders' architecture. Just think of the frightful owl occupying the place of the classic lotus! We passed the several halls and corridors, evidently of the style of the Quixotic era of the Crusaders' domination, before reaching the consecrated apartment, whose entrance is guarded by double iron doors. We found here an old dervish prostrate in prayer, on the cold stone floor. Not being privileged, as we, to enter the sacred precincts, he was content with gazing at the tomb through the iron bars; for it is a rare thing for even a Mussulman ecclesiastic to gain admittance—my companion and her family only enjoying this privilege, because they are very near relatives of the curator. Our slave was despatched for the key, which she had no difficulty in obtaining, on the plea that her mistress wished to pray on the holy spot. What was my consternation on seeing another slave returning with her! I confess that I trembled, and was thinking I had best leave my awkward slippers behind, in case of retreat, as they would greatly impede my progress, and might thereby cause me to lose my head. She peered under my veil, asked who I was, and seemed satisfied with the careless reply of Turfendah, that I was merely a friend of hers from Stamboul. She invited us up stairs to see the old keeper's harem; and Dahudeah (Moosa's little wife), who is always glad to exchange the purgatory of a residence with her lord and master for a visit of a few days here; for I can testify that the young effendi lords it over her in true oriental style. Turfendah regretted she could not accept her kind invitation, and, as she was so much exhausted from fasting, she would prefer deferring it to another time. The slave then left, to our mutual relief, and, having dismissed the old dervish, the doors were closed and doubly locked.

"The room is insignificant in its dimensions, but it is furnished very gorgeously. The tomb is apparently an immense sarcophagus of rough stone, and is covered by green satin tapestry, richly embroidered with gold. To this piece of black velvet is attached, with a few inscriptions from the Koran, embroidered also in gold. A satin canopy of red, blue, green and yellow stripes, hangs over the tomb; and another piece of black velvet tapestry, embroidered in silver, covers a door in one end of the room, which they said, leads to a cave underneath. Two tall silver candlesticks stand before this door, and a lamp hangs in a window near it, which is kept constantly burning, and whose wick, though saturated with oil—and I dare say a most nauseous dose—my devotional companion eagerly swallowed, muttering to herself a prayer with many a genuflexion. She then, in addition to their usual forms of prayer, prostrated herself before the tomb, raised the covering, pressed her forehead to the stone and kissed it many times. The ceiling of the room is vaulted and the walls covered with blue porcelain, in floral figures. Having remained here an hour or more, and completed my sketch, we left; and great was my rejoicing when I found myself once more at home, out of danger, and still better, out of my awkward costume."

SLEDDING.

There is nothing in the tropics that can console a man doomed to dwell there, for the loss of northern winters. Monkeys and humming birds, gorgeous flowers and gigantic vegetation, insects, reptiles, and luscious fruits, which you cannot eat without a cholera, sweltering nights and roasting days! Deliver us from the intolerable delights of a tropical luxury!

2. But a northern winter is full of bracing joys. In-doors all is ruddy and social, and out of doors all is energy and manly joy! A man who has blood and vital spirits glories in the cold of winter. But of all sports, what one can claim superiority over *coasting;* or, as in our boyhood days it was called, sliding down hill?

3. Long before we attained the age of a sled, two barrel-staves, fastened together by the knowing workman, served an excellent purpose, and required no mean skill in sitting and steering. A slight mistake in balancing, and the boy and staves changed places, the boy under and the sliding-machine a-top—and then gradually rolling into a promiscuous heap, out of which came some ripping remarks, not made by the sled.

4. Next came the glory of full and real *sledship*—a sled with runners, and iron or steel shod; a sled painted and lettered! With that we defied the thermometer, and set our faces before the north wind! And how long the hill, a full half-mile, is sought, not all of a gentle slope, nor yet too steep, but properly made up, as all hills should be, with a fine gradual beginning, then a pitch quite steep, then another long middle-slope, a jounce here, a rullock there, a sweep yonder around a point, and a fetching-up place right along the river! On such a hill-top, with a glorious sled, well muffled and mittened, the boy seats himself on his sled, prouder than ever sat a king upon his throne.

5. Away he goes with nimble feet reaching out before him (for a sled carries its rudder at the bow) and whose heels with skillful touch steer the flying machine. See him make a leap over the rullock, lifted clear into the air, and coming down with a jounce that made everything crack! Boys have springs inside of them, under every muscle, on all sides of each bone, and come down with a springy sound that cars and carriages may envy, but cannot hope to attain!

6. None of your belly-flounders! This lying down on a sled, like a buckwheat-cake on a griddle, or that sideway sitting, on the hind end of it, with one leg cork-screwed out behind, for steering, are not the thing. They are not orthodox. They savor of a compliance with weakness and timidity. A real boy should sit upon his sled fair and square, with his face to his work, and ready to meet all difficulties with his breast to them!

7. Nor let any one decry the long tramp up hill that follows this fierce flight downward. What if it is long, the sled hanging behind, the way slippery, and withal some perils of those avalanches of other boys that come roaring and whirling down? The going up is still an indispensable part of the epic. It is the *dark* that gives power to the high light. The *up* makes, by contrast, the very glory of the *down.*

8. We never see the snow on the ground, old as we are, that we do not feel the very spirit of the sled again! And now, an old man, we would, if we could, mount and plunge down the hill again. Though a man's hair is as white as the snow under his feet, he need not be ashamed of a voyage on a sled!

9. One winter, not long ago, when in New Bedford, we found a long street refused to horse vehicles, and set apart to sleds. The selectmen, or whatever their names were, at the public expense, carted on snow where the track was worn; iced it by water thrown on over night; stationed a band of music there; had torches lit and placed along the sides; and the generous people, catching the spirit, illumined their houses, and this preparation was thrown open to men, women and children. That city is civilized. That part of the millenium which consists in sliding down hill, we believe will begin first in New Bedford!

STATE TAXATION.

Report of the Commissioners appointed by the Governor to prepare a Revised Revenue Code, under a Joint Resolution of the Legislature, approved April 11, 1862.

The Commissioners appointed by the Governor, in pursuance of the authority of the joint resolution of the Legislature, passed the 11th day of April, 1862, "relative to revising the revenue laws of the Commonwealth," respectfully submit their report.

It is presumed that the Legislature, by the resolution authorizing the commission, contemplated such action on the part of the commissioners as would lead to a new system for levying and collecting taxes, and at the same time establish a more equitable distribution of the burthens of taxation. The laws now existing relating to the raising of revenue are confused, ambiguous and, in their operation, unjust. The commissioners, by the accompanying bill which they submit as part of their report, have endeavored to systematize the mode of assessing property, and to equalize the burthens of taxation.

The commissioners have labored under great difficulty in not being able to get the essential facts necessary in making a just and fair revenue system. It is not improper to note that amongst all the reports and in all the records of the several offices of the State Government, there is nothing to show the productive resources of the Commonwealth. The archives of the State are deficient in facts relating to the wealth, commerce and industry of the people.

The proposed mode of assessing property is analogous to the system adopted in several of the other States, and experience has demonstrated its utility and its popularity. It is, perhaps, the only mode which will secure a complete assessment of all property upon which taxes should be levied.

The commissioners have endeavored to reach every species of property, in order to secure from every man, according to his means, equal contribution towards the maintenance of the State Government. They have labored to lessen the weight of taxation, and in no way to increase it. To this end all the changes that appear in the proposed system are directed.

The mode of collecting taxes, as proposed by the commissioners, is now in operation in many of the counties of the State. Its tendency, wherever tried, has been to ensure more prompt payment of taxes, and at the same time a very great saving to the tax payers.

But the most important feature of the proposed system is that which leads to the emancipation of real estate from taxation for State purposes. In the performance of their duties, the commissioners were compelled to review all the purposes for which revenue must be provided. Revenue is required to maintain the State Government, and, as incident thereto, revenue must be provided for counties and townships. Taxation for local purposes (counties and townships) falls almost entirely upon real estate. This embraces the making of roads and the building of bridges, the maintenance of schools and the support of the poor. Taxation for these purposes, in many localities, amounts to three per cent. *upon the value* of all the taxable property within the township. Thus the indisputable fact is presented, that investments in real estate have to bear much more than a just proportion of the burthens of taxation. To relieve real estate from this unjust discrimination was one of the objects of the commissioners.

A large portion—perhaps the largest portion of the actual wealth of the State, is beyond the reach of local taxation. The capital employed in all the leading branches of trade, involving commerce and manufactures, banks and railroads, is drawn from the mass of the people and put under the control of a few individuals. This property should bear its equal share of the burthens of taxation, and since it cannot be reached for local purposes, it should be taxed in greater proportion for State purposes.

In the accompanying bill, the commissioners propose reducing the revenue arising from real and personal property from $1,422,624 to $569,049, which would be a reduction of $853,574. To make up the deficiency thus produced, they propose to increase the tax upon corporations. Corporations in this State are very numerous and very powerful. They have not only drawn within their control an immense amount of capital, but they have drawn within their power the entire commerce of the State. Almost everything is now made to contribute to the revenues of these corporations. Yet, owing to their intangible character, it is very difficult to adopt a general system of taxation applicable thereto. The franchises of corporations are property, and the legitimate subject of taxation; in fixing a tax upon corporations these extraordinary privileges, their franchises, constitute the first grounds of the Commonwealth's claims to contribution, and in that consists her right to discriminate in favor of the public.

The property of corporations is within the reach of the authority of the State. Now, in order to do justice to the agricultural interests and the owners of real estate, the Commonwealth should look to this kind of property for a large portion of the revenue requisite for State purposes.

The commissioners do not propose to increase the tax upon banks, believing that they now pay their proportion of the necessary revenue. But they propose to tax railroad companies equally with banks. Owing to the fact that most of the railroad corporations have no stock basis, some other mode than that applied to banks must be devised. A railroad company may have a capital of a million of dollars, and the capital stock all held by shareholders. In such a case the dividends could be taxed as bank stocks and bank dividends are taxed. But another company, in every respect equal, may go into operation, and instead of issuing stock to shareholders it may issue bonds for a million of dollars, and instead of paying dividends it would pay interest; instead of stock it would have nothing but indebtedness. Yet there is no reason why these institutions should not pay equally the same tax upon the same amount of business.

The commissioners, after mature deliberation, have adopted the plan of taxing the gross receipts of all railroad companies, and they have fixed the tax at two cents upon each and every dollar of their earnings. From this tax the State would derive a revenue amounting at least to $600,000.

They also propose a very light tax upon the tonnage carried over the different improvements of the State. This tax, as fixed in the bill, would yield a revenue amounting at least to $350,000. If, after a year's experience, it would be shown that the revenue from these sources, would be greater than the above estimates, then real estate should be entirely relieved from taxation for State purposes.

It is also proposed, by the accompanying bill, to abolish the board of revenue commissioners.

If real estate should be relieved from taxes for State purposes, the cause which gave rise to the board would no longer exist. Independent, however, of the question, whether real estate should be taxed for State purposes or not, the commissioners are of the opinion that the board is of no practical utility. Property should be taxed at its true value, and the people themselves are the best judges of the value of their own property. They choose their own assessors, who are first authorized to fix the value upon the property within their jurisdiction. This valuation is subject to the revision of the county board. These officers must determine the value of property for county purposes; now why not for State purposes? The Commonwealth confides in the returns made by the officers of private corporations, also in the reports and returns of municipal officers. A board of revision is equally entitled to credit. Where the State establishes a local tribunal for the purpose of valuing the property taxable by law, in that tribunal it should confide. No foreign agency can be as safe, certain or reliable. Therefore, as a matter of justice to the people, of economy and consistency, the board of revenue commissioners, should be abolished.

There are other features in the proposed revenue system that might be noticed, but an examination of the bill itself will give a better idea of their character than any reference here. The commissioners have endeavored to systematize a mode for the raising of revenue, and in that system they have endeavored to reach every person and every interest, in order that no injustice should be done.

WM. M'CLELLAND,
M. RUSSELL THAYER,
R. B. M'COMB.

December 1, 1862.

DEMOCRATIC PROTEST

Against the Bill to Indemnify the President and Others for suspending the privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus.

In the House of Representatives, at Washington, Monday,