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REMODELING THE CONSTITUTION.

Conservatism consists in holding on to the past with feelings akin to reverence. Radicalism consists in going forth to meet the future, inspired by hope and armed with courage. This is clearly seen in this country by the sentiments with which these two classes regard the Constitution. The Conservatives, without regarding the temporary conditions of political and domestic society out of which it grew; the ephemeral prejudices to which it had to be accommodated; the passing needs to which it was required to minister; the local rivalries and personal ambitions it was designed to adjust; regard it as the acme and sublimation of accomplished statesmanship. Even those compromises with transient sentiments, with local peculiarities, with effervescent envies and jealousies, are confounded in nature and essence with those provisions designed to guard inherent and fundamental rights, concerning whose existence and importance there can, from the nature of the case, be no controversy, and whose recognition and security in the economy of the nation is as indispensable as the maintenance of the vital fluid in the human body. The Radicals, perceiving how the Constitution was adapted to the condition and wants of the generation in which originated; and how those adaptations came to be confounded, as to sacredness and permanence, in the other parts, designed to recognize and enforce what was abiding and universal. How the compromises, as they are termed, only aggravated the evils they were intended to cure, and produced others still more mischievous, feel it expedient to eliminate, to as great a degree as possible, all the elements pertaining exclusively to the age, and to leave only those which are stable because part and parcel of that grand system of political truth, embedded in the enlightened consciousness of all the race, and hence destined to abide forever. By this process, and by this only, can the Constitution be adapted, from age to age, to that ceaseless flow of human life, and experience, and vicissitude, which cannot be resisted, but must be accepted as an integral portion of the common lot of humanity. However the Conservatives may inveigh, and shake their heads, and sigh for the "good old days," long past, they cannot, by any contrivances of political legerdemain, restore them.

One of the most conservative of the religious denominations undertook to crystalize an existing formula of belief, a current type of speech, and a particular fashion of attire, so that they should endure for all time. So long as the modes adopted remained in vogue, this was easy enough; but in spite of expostulations, entreaties and rebukes, the world would change, and there was no help for it. The conservatism of the Quaker, like all other descriptions thereof, cannot resist the innovations which continually spring up; and each age will assert its right to amend or subvert what it inherits from its forerunner. The world is made so; and though Conservatives may bewail this fact with a sombre pleasure, or curse it with a malignant delight, they cannot abolish it.

The framers of the Constitution were not only cognizant of the existence of this principle, but were too wise to attempt to ignore or baffle it. The idea of change was recognized in the Constitution, by the provision made for its amendment. True, the right of revision and alteration would have existed with as full effect if it had not been admitted in the instrument, as by the most explicit statement and guarantee of it. In the very nature of things, back of all conventions and supreme over them, man is mightier than any or all his institutions, and not only can, but will, change them at his pleasure. The ancient Medes and Persians, in a spirit of the loftiest arrogance, carried conservatism to its highest pitch. With a self-confidence, never matched before or since, they decreed that their laws, when once made, should never change. What ecstacy must have overflowed the souls of those old Conservatives when, as they fancied, they had succeeded in transforming their mistakes, and prejudices, and hatreds, into enduring granite, destined to last until the fires of the last day should burn down creation. Alas! for them; we look and those institutions are not. Those constitutions and laws that were never to change, have all been swept away. What is left is only the tradition of their infatuation and folly; by which wise men are instructed, but from which dunces learn nothing.

The Conservatives of the United States devote themselves to bewailing the changes recently made in the Constitution. While contradicting all that was generous, elevating and noble in the spirit and conduct of the framers of that document, they cherish all that was bitter, debasing and ignoble in them. Such is conservatism always. If liberty has made a successful aggression anywhere, they seek to get back of that achievement to the elder despotism, and fall down before it in abject plight.

Certain compromises into which the men of our revolutionary era entered, and which steadily vexed the nation until they culminated in a most gigantic civil war, have been swept away. Instead of welcoming this fructifying tide as the Egyptians do the overflowing of the Nile, and with like reason, our Conservatives give themselves up to lamentations. The old land-marks are submerged, never to appear again, and they are dismayed and distressed equally with the old idolates, whose images of wood and stone were purloined and carried off. Henceforth these Conservatives cannot worship with the old pomp and ceremony the deposed and banished idols of hate and terror, and their hearts are bowed with grief. Like other people, when in affliction, they indulge a dim and shadowy hope that by some inexplicable dispensation the old condition of affairs may be restored; that the blacks may be forced back into their former condition of bondage; that the old masters and their successors may regain their former prestige, with superadded power; and through their ownership of blacks may dominate the nation as of yore. If this consummation could only be reached, they would be in an infinite strait whether to depart in peace or stay and enjoy the congenial darkness and horror.

Some timid Radicals, not accustomed to profound study upon the vast and surprising, and oftimes sudden changes that come over the institutions and destinies of nations, exhibit fears as to the extent to which the late movements have gone, and the consequences already evolved. Their sensitive and undisciplined nerves apprehend a sort of Angola disaster, in which the whole Union shall be thrown off the track, and State, piled upon State, in horrid disorder, shall be burned to ashes in the fires of unquenchable contention. These fail to see that the recognition and defence of rights, no matter how swift and complete, is never to be dreaded as subversive of order but always welcomed as indicative of genuine progress and amelioration. But, if the fact is otherwise; if the recovery and vindication of lost rights do entail evils even of serious magnitude; if fissures are wrought in political fabrics; if many estimable things are crushed and ruined; still, the tempests that shake society are on the whole desirable. No man prays that the atmosphere may no longer be agitated by winds, because tornadoes sometimes break from restraint and mow broad swarths along the ground; or that the ocean shall never again be lashed into fury because rich argosies are wrecked and lost in the violence of gales. These agitations are part of the indispensable economy of the world; promote its purity and serenity; and render it habitable. Conservatives may deplore such exhibitions of force; may essay to stop the elements when they muster their wings for the onset; and may imagine they could devise a better plan and conduct to more harmonious results; they may derive ample satisfaction from contemplating their own superior wisdom; but all their self-vaunting will not set aside the ordination of the Creator that agitation is the essential condition of growth, and growth indispensable to the perfection of nature.

DEMOCRACY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

The maxim that "Revolutions never go backwards," is frequently controverted, but never in the large or totality, but in the minute and special. It is conceded by all observers that the ebb and flow of the life of nations hold analogy, in some particulars, to the constant rise and fall of oceanic tides; or, rather, to the current of a mighty river, that now rushes down a precipitous incline, now disappears underneath the sand; new winds around the base of an acclivity, now makes a tortuous path through the soft alluvial of a broad valley, now falls into an eddy and seems to turn back upon itself, now sweeps majestically onwards for many a league in direct and full flow, and now divides, seeking the sea by many outlets. Whatever temporary or incidental appearances may indicate to the contrary, there is, on the whole, a constant though not uniform progress.

This idea may readily be verified and its accuracy demonstrated by a careful study of British history. To superficial cognition, it appears that what was gained during the protracted parliamentary struggle which resulted in the overthrow of the monarchy and the Protectorate of CROMWELL, was lost at the Restoration. But whoever searches beneath the surface finds indubitable evidence that, notwithstanding the seeming violence of the reaction, most of the essential ameliorations that had been accomplished actually remained. Not a branch that had been lopped from the tree of feudalism was ever so replaced as to be vitalized by the parent sap and start into renewed efflorescence. The austerity of Puritanism was, indeed, contemned, and the rein given to a wild and delirious license, but this touched no more than the rough rind, while the pith and substance remained secure. Since then, particular periods may be noted in which Prerogative seemed to gain upon Liberty, but these retrogressions were of short duration, and when the stream of events, escaping from incidental hindrances, resumed its normal flow, its velocity was so increased as to afford abundant compensation for its previous backwardness.

During the last hundred years the progress made towards the full enfranchisement of the masses has been steady and surprising. This progress has been felt in every department of activity—in politics, in religion, in education, in business, and even in pleasures. At first the nobility succeeded in wrenching the government out of the exclusive control of the CROWN; then the gentry disputed the authority of the nobility, and at length the larger share to themselves; and now the laboring classes are loudly demanding a recognition of their rights in the premises, and cannot for a considerable period be resisted.

So far has this movement been carried that the necessity for a thorough revision of the educational system is generally felt and will soon be carried. This revision, when it shall come, will recognize the right of each child to a good primary education at the expense of the whole. This is not a small matter; nor does it stand disconnected and apart as many foolishly imagine. The system of education adopted in each particular country must and will comport, in the long run, with the form of government prevailing therein. The Papal government will concern itself chiefly in the education of priests; and this because it is a theocracy, ruling in the name of God, not for the benefit of the people, but for its own. Russia is a military despotism, and its system of instruction is designed to furnish forth soldiers; a few to command, and the many to obey. So long as Great Britain was an oligarchical State, its instructional scheme was devised and directed to develop and equip an aristocracy. In these several instances the systems of education are logical; that is, they are suited to the nature of the case. It is apparent, therefore, that whenever a government takes the education of the masses in hand, with the intention of furnishing each for the duties of life at the cost of all, it has passed under the control of the democratic element. The men who direct it may not see this distinctly; may entertain the notion that by making concessions they are gaining time and power, to throttle the popular aspirations; and may even delude themselves till they are actually pushed from their stools; but the education of all implies that all are to participate, and on equal terms, in the management of national affairs.

The Trade Unions present another indication of the same tendency. Not that we justify or excuse all that these organizations have done. That they have adopted arson and murder as regular instrumentalities has been proved beyond the possibility of cavil or question. It absolutely makes the blood run cold to read the narration of the atrocities systematically resorted to by them to intimidate or punish such as refuse to submit to their exactions. Let it be hoped that this is only the frenzy of their newly acquired strength, and that experience will instruct them into wiser and humaner methods.

But, into whatever terrible excesses the Unions have run, they are certainly disciplining the laboring classes into many of the attributes of self-government. In these bodies they are learning to reflect, discuss, decide, upon their own wants, privileges and rights; to challenge, weigh and set aside prescriptive demands made on them. Herein are all the germs of civil freedom. The manifestation may be crude, imperfect, fitful, wild, or cruel; but vast and beneficial consequences have proceeded from causes still more unpromising at their inception.

How powerful these Unions have become is seen in the fact that though constantly resorting to most brutal crimes against innocent individuals, the government does not dare lay its interdict upon them. The Courts make some inquisitions. Parliamentary Commissions search into the very depth of the offences and spread the horrible evidence before the nation; but the authorities do not dare put forth their hands and break up the combinations. The Unions have become formidable to the government.

It has happened, from the beginning of the world, in almost all lands, that the civil administration has been in alliance with the ecclesiastical. As best they could, the powers of this world have entered into treaty with the powers of the world to come, for mutual profit. The known have wished the sanction of the unknown; and the spiritual have delighted to be armed with the carnal might of the physical. Even in exceptional cases, as in the United States, where this tendency is formally repudiated, it is not difficult for practical observers to detect traces of it, latent indeed, but ready upon inducement to spring into surprising activity. BYRON coarsely averred that most of the churches in England had shammed on this question, and all but the Church as by law established had made a "damned poor bargain of it." But scarcely was he laid in his grave when Lord GREY, speaking in Parliament, as Prime Minister, gave the prelates of that Church solemn warning to "set their house in order." He was not hostile; but looking from the hight of intelligence that he occupied he discerned the future.

That Great Britain is now agitated most profoundly is too obvious to be contradicted. Signs of unusual and portentous ferment are thrown up in all departments of society. Various elements, acting independently, are giving serious alarm to the governing classes. If these elements shall coalesce upon a common basis of action, they will become irresistible. Whatever may be the issue in this respect, it is apparent that the spirit of genuine democracy is rapidly gaining on caste and privilege, and that the day of complete political emancipation may suddenly arrive.

CHRONIC AND CRIMINAL INSANE.

Last winter a proposition was before the Legislature of this Commonwealth for the erection of an additional Hospital for the Custody and Treatment of the Insane. It failed, but will probably be renewed this year. When it was under consideration the suggestion was offered that the new house should be devoted mainly if not exclusively to the chronic insane. The argument was that the removal of the class of incurable patients from the present houses would afford ample room for the accommodation of fresh cases, and would afford larger facilities for treatment and cure. It was easy to see how removing a large number of inmates would make room for others, but it was not apparent, in view of the pretty rigid classification of patients in the different wards, uniformly pursued, how recent cases would be benefited by the separation.

The National Association of Superintendents of Hospitals for the Insane, at the meeting held in Washington in 1866, had this topic under consideration, and while a few of the members expressed themselves in favor of the separation, by a very decided vote, it was resolved—

"That insane persons considered curable, and those supposed incurable, should not be provided for in separate establishments."

Recent cases of insanity are always by far the most expensive to take care of. The additional attention required, because of greater inclination to injure or destroy clothing, furniture, &c., and the means necessarily employed to prevent this inclination, are the causes of much of the increased outlay. If no chronic patients are in a hospital, by whom the mischievous tendencies of recent patients are watched, double the number of attendants would have to be employed or the troublesome ones would have to be locked in their rooms the greater part of the time.

We made recently an incidental allusion to Dr. HOWE's proposition to adopt in Massachusetts what is known as the Gheel System, under which insane patients are scattered in villages and treated by peasants. All the witnesses do not coincide with the Doctor either in describing the treatment or in estimating the efficacy of it. Some of these report that the "unrestricted freedom" allowed, is enjoyed with chains dangling from the ancles. Often they are confined in uncomfortable quarters in the peasants' dwellings. Unless all experience elsewhere in the treatment of the insane has only resulted in misunderstanding the nature of the disease, and consequently the means for assuaging it, all this would be expected.

Besides, if we are correctly informed, the authorities have given up the distinctive principle of their treatment, by the erection, within the last few years, of what is called an Infirmary, to which all patients are taken and retained for a period, and in which all who prove excited or troublesome are permanently confined. If this is not an abandonment of the whole principle of "unrestricted freedom" we can hardly imagine what would be.

Under such circumstances it is most improbable that any departure will be made in Pennsylvania from the system now in operation; but that an additional Hospital, whenever it shall be erected, will be conducted substantially as those now in existence are. That another institution is required is well known to all persons who have taken pains to acquaint themselves with the facts of the case.

At the last session of the Legislature a very few of the members endorsed their ignorance or heartlessness by deriding all public provision for the insane. Their notion seemed to be that it was better that insane persons should be permitted to roam at large until it was demonstrated the safety of the public was imperilled by such freedom, and that then the responsibility of confining and attending upon them should devolve upon family friends, or, perhaps, that they should be driven out from among us as those were in early days who were reported to be possessed of devils. For the credit of the Commonwealth it is to be hoped that no members of the new Legislature will be found entertaining so crude and inhuman views on this important subject.

THE municipal election in Allegheny, held yesterday, resulted in the election of the Union Republican nominees for Mayor and Director of the Poor. Both branches of the City Council will be largely Republican.

OUR BOYS.

What becomes of the boys, the news-boys, the boot-blacks, the gamins of our streets? We see them daily at every corner, and perhaps become familiar with their quaint faces and shrill voices. Most of us get into the way of thinking of them as we would of a post or a cellar door, a thing that is necessarily there, but why it is so we never reflect. Try for once a little different course. It may amuse you. The next time one accosts you in the Postoffice, say something kind or polite to him, and see how the hard old face softens into that of a boy, how the sheer astonishment will serve to show you that this is a human being, and no mere thing. And what becomes of him? The boys we used to hear yelling out the news of a steamer's arrival during the Italian war of '59 are men now, and the boys who howl over the dreadful "'sp'osions" or "all about the murder" now-a-days must sooner or later outgrow their occupations. And what then? Some of the old boys have grown to be well-to-do citizens, have worked their way up to positions in the town. But these are the exceptions, the Napoleons of the class; others have no doubt learned trades, and are now earning their bread honestly and uprightly. But these are all the news-boys of the past, and we fear that the energy and vim of the present race may be turned in another and bad direction. A few weeks ago we saw a knot of them in a corner, all ears listening while one read the filthy details of a filthy crime, from a periodical, whose aim is to delineate the most disgusting scenes, and to make heroes of criminals and to call crime heroism; there were boys from eight years old up, all listening with relish to the story; all seemingly perfectly familiar with similar ones; all impatient for the conclusion. Again we see numbers of them every week on tip toe before the pictorial displays of news dealers, devouring the wood cuts and spelling out the legends beneath. These are their colleges and their text books; what can we hope will be their diplomas? What can we expect shall become of these boys? Can the few bright examples of prosperity and success, achieved by former members of their class, be sufficient to destroy the effects of the trash which forms their literature? We fear not. And yet we think something might be done for them; an antidote for this literary poison might be furnished. As their inquisitive minds thirst for knowledge, it might be furnished in another form. Why could there not be a street boys library here, as there is one for apprentices in Philadelphia, and another in Boston? A free library of good, stout books, not tracts, or tract-like books, for boys will not read them, but good, stout, *entertaining* books, such as Oliver Optic, Mayne Reid, or Miss Bowman know how to write, gain the attention of the reader and gradually instil morality or useful knowledge; not those which pound down a ton of morals with a straw of story. If there could be furnished we would have hopes that the poisonous weeklies might be counteracted, not otherwise; and we do not doubt that there are enough of such volumes lying idle among the toys of grown up children to work a great good if properly applied. Surely we think something can be done for these waifs, and surely the thing is worth a trial.

THE RESTORATION OF MR. STANTON to his position in the War Department threatens to entail serious consequences. The President, stubborn and determined, has resolved to hold no intercourse with him, and our advices state that a proclamation announcing this fact is forthcoming. We do not partake of any alarm from the situation. MR. STANTON can, and will, retain the office from which he was originally only suspended, the threatening movements of the President to the contrary notwithstanding. But while he holds his position it will virtually amount to little, as MR. JOHNSON can ignore the fact of occupation, and refusing to admit him into the Cabinet, can render his position anything but pleasant. Then, again, the President can transact all of his business as Commander-in-Chief of the Army through General GRANT and other officers without so much as consulting MR. STANTON, who will be left with occupation gone. Powerless to set aside the mandate of the Senate, embittered beyond expression towards the reinstated Secretary, and defeated in his efforts to keep the war portfolio out of the hands of his mortal enemy, it is hardly conceivable to what degree of desperation the President may drift. But he is checkmated, and his true friends will advise him to accept things as he now finds them, and to pass the low remaining months of his political life in peace and quiet.

GEN. W. W. IRWIN, of Beaver county, was yesterday elected by the Legislature as State Treasurer. The western delegates held together, and as a right due this end of the State demanded his election, and secured it. The new Treasurer will bring with him into the office an unblemished private character, a fair political and military record, and large business experience and financial abilities. He will prove a worthy successor to Mr. Kemble, the outgoing Treasurer, whose administration of affairs has been highly satisfactory to all parties, and whose abilities and personal qualities have rendered him not only an efficient and honest public officer, but likewise an especial favorite with all those with whom he has had business dealing.

INASMUCH as the Senate refused to concur in the action of the President, suspending Mr. Stanton from office, that gentleman yesterday took peaceable possession, General Grant very generously retiring and surrendering the portfolio to the rightful occupant. The noble, disinterested course of the soldier hero will commend itself to the thinking public. It is not probable that Mr. Stanton, after receiving endorsement from the Senate, will resign, nor is it likely that the President will continue the war urged on him, as he will be shrewd enough to discover that that course only serves to render the Secretary more popular in the estimation of the people.

THE Railroad Committee of the House at Harrisburg, has been announced, with Mr. George Wilson, of this city, as Chairman. As constituted it is strongly Free Railroad. Speaker Davis, in that respect, has fully redeemed his pledge on the subject, in making his appointments. There will be little or no opposition to the passage of a liberal Free Railroad law in the House, but it will be fought in the Senate by those in the interests of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

OUR able correspondent at Harrisburg clearly explains the motives which animated the House in refusing to hear or order the publication of the Governor's message. That document was extensively published previous to its presentation to the body refusing to hear it, and was regarded as "dead matter," and hence, without meaning any disrespect to Governor Geary, the members refused to hear it read.

HON. GEORGE V. LAWRENCE, Representative in Congress from the Twenty-fourth Pennsylvania District, has been seriously ill at Washington since December last, suffering from a bronchial affection. His many friends will be pleased to learn that he is now rapidly recovering his health.

EPHEMERIS.

—Famine is devastating Tunis.

—Small-pox is on the increase in Chicago.

—Basil Duke is not for Pendleton for President.

—There were 427 deaths in New York last week.

—A beastly exhibition—a menagerie.—*Exchange.*

—The walrus in the London Zoological gardens is dead.

—Mrs. Littlefield, aged 106 years, died in Maine last week.

—Philadelphia supports eight soup-houses for the feeding of the poor.

—Last year 413 brown stone front buildings were put up in Brooklyn.

—The old original Hutchison family is making a concertising tour in Iowa.

—A baby was born with two front teeth two weeks ago in Des Moines, Iowa.

—There are one hundred and thirty-five thousand volumes in the Astor library.

—There are more than two million dollars' worth of factories in Minneapolis.

—The heavy ice sunk a schooner laden with lumber in Baltimore on Friday.

—330,000 men and boys are constantly employed in the coal mines of Great Britain.

—Charles Dickens has already cleared sixty thousand dollars by his readings in this country.

—Last week five centenarians died in New Orleans; the youngest was 101, and the eldest 111 years old.

—Mrs. Senator Sprague again receives on Saturday afternoons; her receptions last year were a success.

—Since the purchase of Russian America Siberian Sables sell at half their former price in San Francisco.

—There is one thing among many in life to try men more than any other. It is a jury.—*Exchange.*

—Mrs. J. G. Bennett wore $100,000 worth of diamonds at Pike's Opera House on the opening night.

—The celebration of midnight mass on Christmas eve was prohibited in London. Cause, fear of the Fenians.

—A Nashville public school was closed on Friday for want of fuel. School directors down there must be penurious.

—Among the members of the Minnesota Legislature there is but one bachelor, and he is only in the Lower House.

—There were but 127 deaths in the city of Raleigh, N. C., during the year 1867. Seventy-three of these were negroes.

—Twenty-eight negroes stole $5,980 in gold out of a sugar hogshead in Alabama. The owner had put it there for safe keeping.

—Rich beds of iron ore and coal have recently been developed in Tennessee along the line of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad.

—To economise, is to draw in as much as possible. The ladies apply this art to their persons and the result is a very small waste.—*Exchange.*

—Seals have been seen in Newport bay during the last week. Since the purchase of Alaska we suppose they feel at home in this country.

—A tobacco box which once belonged to Ben. Franklin was presented, on New Year's day, to the editor of the Charlottsville (Va.) *Chronicle.*

—A wild bear made its appearance in the streets of Lancaster the other day, and several wild people immediately made their disappearance.

—Twenty-two thousand dollars have already been subscribed for the erection of a new building for the Young Man's Christian Association in Chicago.

—The ram Green Mountain, owned in Middleburg, Vt., and valued at $10,000, is dead. It was generally believed to be the best stock sheep in the world.

—On the 28th inst., a Convention of all the Presbyterian churches of Warren, Erie, Crawford, Venango and Mercer counties, will be held at Meadville.

—A negro in Selma, Alabama, shot another through the heart on Christmas day. It was another case of pointing a gun which was supposed to be unloaded.

—The druggist Stigel, in St. Louis, who was struck on the head with a hatchet on the night of the 2d instant, as he was going through a dark hall in his own house, died last week from the effects of the wound. His wife is suspected by some of being the murderess.

—The Pennsylvania State Temperance Association will meet at Harrisburg, on Tuesday, February 18th, at which time the reports of the various officers will be submitted. During the same week there will be held, at the same city, a general convention of all friends of Temperance.

—There are in Philadelphia 80,630 brick houses, 6,835 stone buildings, and 13,819 frame ones; there are also a few iron buildings, making the total number of houses of all materials 101,504. Among these are 385 churches, 208 public schools, 45 religious schools, 1,263 factories, and 60 public institutions.

—Some specimens of the new French coin have been brought to this country by Professor Ruggles; on one side is stamped, five dollars, twenty-five francs; on the other side is the head of Napoleon. This is the first step to a universal coin standard. If the English would make their sovereigns equal our five dollar pieces, all the other maratime nations would soon follow.

—Somebody says editors are poor, whereupon an exchange remarks: "Humbug. Here are we, editor of a country paper, fairly rolling in wealth. We have a good office, a double-barreled rifle, seven suits of clothes, three kittens, a Newfoundland pup, two gold watches, thirteen day and two night shirts, carpets on our floors, a pretty wife, own one corner lot, have ninety-three cents in cash; are out of debt, and have no rich relatives. If we are not wealthy it is a pity."

—At a recent meeting of prostitutes and others, held in New York, Rev. Mr. Muhlenburgh preached from the text "Go and Sin no more." The vast audience listened with almost breathless attention as the speaker portrayed the villainy of our respectable fornicators and the anguish of their victims. Even the most fallen at times shed tears of penitence. Society is wrong, Christian churches are not doing their duty. When Mr. Muhlenburgh had ceased speaking, Mr. Beecher said that he never felt more deeply than now the importance of this work of the Midnight Mission. The most brazen and loathsome were once as pure and innocent as a mother's babe, and were loved as dearly, and he felt that the same blood that was shed for us was shed for the poor street-walker.

—Rev. Henry Blanchard lectured in New York recently to the dry goods clerks. Alluding to various beneficial associations, he urged the clerks to form their own special societies, and expressed his belief that total abstinence should be one of the conditions of membership. Meetings were necessary, and discussions and lectures. He also recommended young men to co-operate in carrying on business for themselves, and urged that aid be given to those who desired to buy land. Never was a better opportunity than now to obtain good land in the Southern and Western States. Societies were needed to carry out the emigration plan, and he believed they might be formed all over the country with a head department in New York. In conclusion he appealed to the clerks for immediate action in the co-operation and emigration movement.

What the Inventor of Nitro-Glycerine Says.

Mr. A. Nobel, the inventor of nitro-glycerine, writes from Hamburg to the London *Times:*

"It is high time that the public should know that nitro-glycerine has won its battle over prejudice, and obtained far too firm a footing in several countries ever to be banished from use unless it be by something better. The want of that useful knowledge has been the real cause of the late accident, for no one surely would attempt to store an explosive substance in a city unless unreasonable fear threw an obstacle in the way of convoying it to and storing it in its proper place. My own printed precautions, lately produced at the trial, are the best proof how strongly I object to that unreasonable mode of storing; but the puerile refusal to receive it in a powder magazine may place an agent in a very embarrassed situation. Instead of adopting every measure to paralyze the circulation of a powerful and useful agent, it were far better to follow the example of Mr. Warrington Smythe in enlightening the public as to its use, thus making it a beneficial instrument for the development of our mineral wealth.

"It is not to be wondered at that the immense accidents of Aspinwall and San Francisco led to rigorous measures restricting the transportation of nitro-glycerine; but in Sweden and Norway that substance was already so favorably known, and had got into such constant use, that the excitement abroad had no influence on the liberal regulations there, and until this day it is freely carried by rail in both countries, nor has it led to a single accident.

"In Germany, also, before the prohibition took place, thousands of parcels containing nitro glycerine, were sent by rail, without causing the least damage.

"On the other hand, we find upon inquiry that accidents have only occurred when nitro-glycerine was transported under a wrong declaration. Such was the case at Aspinwall and San Francisco, and it is only too natural that such unwarrantable neglect should lead to calamities. It is the same with gunpowder. Whenever people convey an explosive material the first thing they ought to know is its nature.

"Looking over the list of those minor accidents of which the cause has been clearly ascertained, which unfortunately with explosives is but rarely the case, we are forced to admit that the substance has been strangely abused.

"In five cases congealed nitro-glycerine has been melted purposely over fire.

"In three cases a red-hot poker has been inserted into the oil in order to melt it.

"In one case a man kept a cartridge with a percussion cap and fuse affixed and lighted in his hand until it blew it off.

"In one instance a man stood watching the burning of a fuse inserted into nitro-glycerine until it went off and hurt him.

"In one case a captain set fire to a sailing vessel with a cargo of nitro-glycerine, and people went on board to extinguish the fire, but saved themselves, seeing what was the cargo, and the ship was eight hours on fire before it blew up, which could not possibly have been the case with gunpowder.

"In one instance two workmen, while filling cartridges with nitro-glycerine at the light of a tallow candle, set fire to some gunpowder strewed on the floor, but found time to save themselves and carry away considerable quantities of nitro-glycerine before the explosion took place.

"In one case two leaky canisters, full of nitro-glycerine, were soldered under continual reports produced by the heating of drops leaking out, but caused no accident.

"In one case a captain of artillery was hammering on a shell filled with nitro-glycerine until it exploded and killed him.

"In one case a man took to greasing the wheels of his wagon with nitro-glycerine, knowing what it was, and it went all right until it struck hard against something, and the wheel went to pieces.

"In one case it was burnt in a lamp as an improvement on petroleum.

"We ought to look leniently on such accidents, and give them the greatest possible publicity in order to make them serve as a warning against similar attempts. But it is taking a very narrow view of the matter to try to check improvement on the plea of accidents. There is, indeed, a very easy way of getting rid of them; we need only prohibit the use of steam, etc., poisonous substances, cutting tools, firearms explosives, &c., and return to those days when ignorance and safety went lovingly hand in hand. But unless civilization is to be stopped we cannot possibly confine the community to those articles only which it is impossible or even difficult to abuse. Something must be left to the understanding, and it is an excellent regulator. Thus, for instance, phosphorus, one of the most dangerous poisons and combustibles, is in every child's hand, and yet does but little harm."

The Great Monastery in Iowa.

We have already spoken of the new Cistercian monastery at New Melleray, Iowa. The Dubuque *Times* contains a full description:

"The site selected for the new buildings is about 100 feet south of the present monastery. The main buildings will be four in number, and will be erected in the form of a square, surrounding a court 108 feet long by the same in width. They will be of stone, each superstructure being 33 feet high, resting on bases 12 feet deep. The southern wing of the cloister will be the most imposing edifice, as it is to be the church. It will be, with the sacristy, 357 feet long, and within it will be five chapels, each named after a saint of the Cistercian order. At the end of it a tower will rise to the height of 200 feet. The church proper will be 180 feet long and 30 feet in width. Its chapel will be 50 by 30 feet. The main structure of the east side of the cloister will be 96 feet long. The building at the north of the square will be 214 feet long. The west building will be a handsome edifice, 128 feet long, with two stories 16 and 15 feet in height.

"This monastery, or cloister, will cover nearly three acres of ground. The details of its plan are copied from the order of architecture used by the Cistercians in the eleventh century, embracing much of the Gothic style. It will be a noble pile. As a monastery, it will be by far the largest of any order of monks in America. There are few in Catholic Europe which are of larger dimensions. Duplicates of the plans were sent to France to the General Chapter of the Cistercian Order last September for approval. They were adopted without any alteration, and the head of the order wrote to the Abbott of New Melleray that it would be the most perfect institution of the Cistercian Order in the world.

"Excavation for the foundation was commenced several weeks ago. Between three and four thousand perch of stone have been quarried and are already on the ground. The stone used will be broken ashlar, with cut stone dressings for all the openings, the string and belt courses, the water tubes, buttresses, corners, water tubes on chimneys, and the capstones. The window frames are to be of stone, and the sash of lead. Stained glass is to be used. It is hoped that every building will be ready for occupancy by the first of June, 1870. The cost of the cloister is estimated at over $200,000."

The Year 1868—Interesting Chronological Eras.

The year 1868, which comprises the latter part of the 92d and the beginning of the 93d year of the Independence of the United States of America; corresponds to the year 6381 of the Julian period; 7376-7 of the Byzantine era; 5628-9 of the Jewish era; 2621 since the foundation of Rome, according to Varro; 2615 since the beginning of the Era of Nabonassar, which has been assigned to Wednesday, the 26th of February, of the 3,967th year of the Julian period; corresponding, according to the chronologists, to the 747th, and according to the astronomers, to the 746th year before the birth of Christ; 2644 of the Olympiads, or the third year of the 661st Olympiad, commencing July, 1866, if we fix the era of the Olympiads at 775½ years before Christ, or near the beginning of July of the year 3938 of the Julian period; 2180 of the Grecian era or the era of the Seleucidæ; 1584 of the era of Diocletian; 1285 of the Mahommedan era, or the era of Hegira, which begins on the 20th of July, 1768; January 1, is the 2,403,334th day since the commencement of the Julian period.

PARAFFINE AS A LUBRICATOR FOR HEATED MACHINERY.—A suitable lubricator for hot-air engines and others, where portions of the apparatus are raised to a high temperature, has been a great desideratum, the ordinary oils under the circumstances becoming clogs, rather than aids to the motion of the machinery. A French Engineer now recommends Paraffine very positively as answering all the purposes required. The article need not be very pure; a mixture with other fatty substances answering a very good purpose.

WASHINGTON.

[From Our Special Correspondent.]

The Johnson-Stanton Imbroglio—The Worth of Current Rumors—How Sensations are Started—Grant and the President—Our Members—The Health of Mr. Williams—The Land Office, &c. &c.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 15, 1868.

When I arrived in this city yesterday, I found Senators, Representatives, and politicians generally, excited intensely over the issue of the Johnson-Stanton case in the Senate. The telegraph has already informed you that the Senate, by a vote of 35 to 6, has vindicated Mr. Stanton, and that he is now discharging the duties pertaining to the office of Secretary of War. In the midst of many congratulations in the War Office this morning, a gentleman remarked, facetiously, "The Secretary of War was not dead; he only slept."

Mr. Stanton's private office was thronged during yesterday and to-day by crowds of Senators, Representatives, officers high in rank in the army, and private citizens, who repaired thither to pay their respects and welcome the Secretary on his return to his former position. All of these gentlemen expressed their highest satisfaction with the action of the Senate. Indeed, I have not heard of or seen any Republican who has expressed dissatisfaction at the result.

ABOUT RUMORS.

We frequently find great fault with newspaper correspondents, located at Washington, for the contradictory dispatches which they send to their respective journals—for telegraphing one thing to-day and a quite different thing to-morrow. The experience, however, of a short residence in the "city of magnificent distances" teaches us to be somewhat sparing in our criticisms. About nine or ten o'clock at night the janitors and clerks of the different departments begin to circulate among the hotels and public places of the city. Each one gives a report of what has transpired in the department with which he is connected during the day. But different lines of policy, in relation to the same subject, may have been indicated in the same department at different hours of the same day, and if the same individual is not cognizant of them all, of course different reports will emanate from the same office. At the late hour of the night, at which these reports are received, and even if they were received earlier, it would be impossible so to sift them as to get the real state of matters.

This was the case yesterday. Speaking hyperbolically, I could have telegraphed a thousand rumors to you last night, as regards what the President is going to do, and Mr. Stanton is going to do; but, so far as I can learn, neither of them has determined yet what he will do. There may have been some foundation for the report which, in all probability, was telegraphed to some of the eastern and western papers, that the Secretary of War was going to send in his resignation, to take effect when "a successor shall have been appointed and confirmed." This may even have been written, but I am positive that up till noon to-day it was not sent to the President, and, for reasons which I will not state here, it is not likely it will for some time. I think Mr. Stanton will be guided altogether in the course he will pursue by the advice of the Republicans in Congress.

WHAT THE PRESIDENT WILL DO.

Again, as to the reports in circulation in regard to what President Johnson will do, nobody, I think, knows anything outside the immediate circle of his counsellors. Perhaps no definite policy has as yet been fixed upon. There are some who say, "the crisis is at hand, and the President is about to perpetrate some terrible political crime." It is to be hoped, however, that this is all imagination. Notwithstanding it is reported that he gives vent to his denunciations of Congress, especially since Monday, in language that would not be considered worthy of a place in the moral vocabulary, I have some hope that he will allow himself to be influenced by wiser counsel than that under which he may have acted hitherto. It would be a great blessing to the country if there were harmony between the Legislative and Executive departments of the Government. But I need not conceal the fact that there are many here who do not think it possible that harmony can ever be restored there.

The proclamation of the President, which was reported yesterday as about to be issued, enforcing all the business pertaining to the War Department to be transacted through the General of the Army, has not, up to this writing, been promulgated.

GRANT AND THE PRESIDENT.

The report that General Grant is to be court martialed for surrendering the office to Mr. Stanton, is simply ridiculous. By whom shall he be tried and for what? Is the Secretaryship of the War Office a civil or military office?

General Grant, by his graceful surrender of the keys and papers immediately on the action of the Senate in the matter, has done more to define his position than if he had made a five hour's speech. All the odium that attaches to his acceptance of the Secretaryship *ad interim*, has now been removed, and he now stands, as a member of the House expressed it this morning, twenty-five per cent. higher in the estimation of Republicans than he did two days ago. I think there can be no doubt that his desire is to carry out the will of the law-making power.

OUR MEMBERS.

I have met General Moorhead, General Cameron, Hon. Thomas Williams, and "Honest John," (who is almost the same person, I have forgotten whom, with a sharp stick in the form of a searching investigation,) from Westmoreland. All these gentlemen seem to be attentive to their duties and courteous to their constituents and visitors. After so much buttonholing, hand shaking, importuning and boring as I have seen them endure, I could not help coming to the conclusion that if either Phillips, Negley, Howard, or "any other man," should be sent here as the successor of our present able representative, General Moorhead, he will not find it either a pleasant or an easy position.

I am sorry to see that Hon. Thomas Williams is not in the enjoyment of robust health. He is a man of gigantic intellect, and, I think, has no superior in the present House. He is accompanied by one of his daughters, an amiable, accomplished and genial young lady as we have met.

General Moorhead is enjoying a visit from his eldest daughter and one of his daughters-in-law. When I saw Miss Moorhead in this region last she was performing eminent service to our sick and wounded soldiers in connection with the Sanitary Commission. Her deeds of kindness then shown are no doubt remembered by many brave soldiers yet.

THE LAND OFFICE.

I visited the Land Office on business, and cannot speak in terms too strong of the kindness and attention which I received from Hon. Joseph S. Wilson, the Commissioner. It is really a pleasure to visit him. He does what is asked at once and in such a way as to show that it is not disagreeable to him to oblige. He is now preparing a map to accompany his annual report, the like of which has never been published in any country. It is to be hoped that a large number of them will be struck off. The map will be a bird's eye view of the United States and the world.

NOMINATIONS BY THE PRESIDENT.

The President to-day sent the following nominations to the Senate: Bion Bradbury, Collector of Customs at Portland and Falmouth, Me., vice Israel Washburne, Jr., whose commission expires on the 19th inst.; John G. Clarke, Iowa, receiver of public moneys at Des Moines, Iowa, vice Thomas Seely, resigned; Joseph M. Nibbling, Postmaster, Findley, Ohio, to fill vacancy.

WASHINGTON, January 16, 1868.

OUTRAGE IN TENNESSEE—REVENUE COLLECTOR SHOT.

Letters have been received at the office of Interal Revenue, dated Tullahoma, Tennessee, January 6th and 11th, from T. O. Crofford, Revenue Inspector, and James Ramsey Collector for the Third District of that State, giving information in regard to the danger experienced by them in attending to business regarding the illicit distillation, and with particular allusion to a case which has but recently occured in that District, where a party, who was in arrears to the Government for taxes due to the amount of one thousand dollars, had resisted the Collector making a distrain upon him for the indebtedness. It appears that after the distrain had been accomplished, and the Collector and Inspector had left the premises, they were followed and attacked by the party who had been distrained, accompanied by others, and that the Inspector was shot and wounded. Other outrages were perpetrated. It does not appear from the correspondence that the offending parties have yet been molested, either by military or civil process.

A letter from the Inspector, of the 11th inst., reports that since his being wounded several illicit distilleries were in operation in the Third District of the State. Information has also reached the Department of the resistance made to the revenue officers in the discharge of their duty in suppressing illicit distilleries in the neighborhood of Knoxville, Tennessee. Vigorous measures have been instituted by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the arrest and punishment of the parties committing the outrages.

CONCERNING MANUFACTURES.

The House Committee on Manufactures has authorized its chairman to report a resolution instructing the Committee on Commerce to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the periodical publication of the relative values of imports on foreign and domestic accounts, and what proportion of capital invested in such importing business and the profits therefrom pays taxes to this Government—distinguishing between raw materials and manufactured, and specifying the relative values of such imports warehoused on foreign and home account.

REFORM IN CIVIL SERVICE.

The Committee on Retrenchment has in preparation an important bill, which will be reported in a few days. It makes a number of reforms in the civil service of the Government, both at home and abroad, and will accomplish the purpose sought to be attained by the bill now before the Senate, proposing reforms in the Consular service.

THE AUSTRIAN MISSION.

It is ascertained beyond doubt that Sun Set Cox will be rejected in the Committee on Foreign Relations as Minister to Austria. Only one Republican member will vote for him, Patterson, of New Hampshire. Senator Sherman denies that he intends to vote for Cox's confirmation.

ORDNANCE REPORT.

At a meeting of the Ordnance Committee to-day, it was decided to prepare a report of the labors of the Committee up to this time, for presentation to Congress. Generals Logan and Butler will write the report, which will probably be ready next week. In the meantime, no further testimony will be taken by the Committee. It is expected that a bill will be introduced with the report making some important reforms in the administration of the Ordnance Bureau.

STANTON PETITIONED NOT TO RESIGN.

Republican members of the Senate and House, this afternoon, are circulating and signing a paper requesting Mr. Stanton to remain in the War Office and not tender his resignation at this time. The impression now is that President Johnson will not recognize Mr. Stanton in any official capacity, but transact all business pertaining to the War Department through the headquarters of the armies and the officer in command, and in no event will any order issued by Mr. Stanton be recognized as official. It does not appear that Gen. Grant had any consultation with the President relative to what action should be taken in case the Senate should refuse to sustain Mr. Stanton's suspension.

MUNICIPAL THANKS FOR STANTON'S RESTORATION.

In the Common Council to-day a resolution of thanks to the Senate for the reinstatement of Secretary Stanton occasioned a long discussion and bitter denunciation of the latter by the Democrats, which was terminated by the hour of adjournment.

THE NEW RECONSTRUCTION BILL.

Mr. Bingham intends to call the previous question on the reconstruction bill to-morrow, and if possible cut off all amendments.

PROTECTION TO AMERICAN CITIZENS ABROAD.

The House Foreign Committee to-day discussed a bill providing for some protection for American citizens abroad, without reaching a conclusion.

TAXING NATIONAL BANKS.

The House Committee on Currency had a long session to-day on Mr. Blaine's bill allowing the taxation of shares of national Banks by States.

RE-ISSUE OF U. S. NOTES URGED.

A delegation of Western bankers is here urging the re-issue of United States notes that have been withdrawn in the contraction of currency.

MR. STANTON WILL REMAIN WAR SECRETARY.

Mr. Stanton intends to remain in office at all hazards, and the President, it is said, on the authority of those about him, will not resort to any extreme measures.

NOMINATIONS PASSED UPON.

The Senate confirmed Edward B. McPherson as Receiver of Public Moneys at Booneville, Mo., and rejected Samuel P. Daniels, do., at Indianapolis.

STANTON'S ORDERS HONORED.

The Treasury Department to-day duly honored two of Secretary Stanton's requisitions upon it for public purposes.

ANNEXATION OF ST. THOMAS.

By cable from Santiago de Cuba the Secretary of State is informed the people of St. Thomas and St. Johns have voted enthusiastically for annexation to the United States, only twenty voting in the negative.

GRANT IN THE HOUSE.

General Grant was on the floor of the House to-day for some time, and was the centre of attraction among the members.

Dramatic Pictures.

Bacchus and Minerva sit enthroned together in what is denominated the "Green Room" of George F. Browne, in the Fourth avenue. Upon the votaries of the vinous god, who quaff and puff within the precincts of this temple, the forms and features of those whose story makes up the charm of histrionic legend, look down from the gilded niches in monitory silence, and recall the enchantments which in days gone by their genius yielded. Among them are the sharp, [illegible] dark eyes and towering brow of the living Booth; the chaste and classic outline of the departed Kean; the droll physiognomy of Davidge; the gifted and versatile Brougham; the indomitable Laura Keene; the lamented Edmund Taylor; the last, but not forgotten, Collins; the immortal Garrick; the eccentric Elder Booth; Dibden, Macready, John Drew, the ponderous Forrest, Hackett, Brooke, Davenport, Farren, Smith, Mowatt, Dean, Cushman, and nearly eleven hundred others are all here on exhibition for the lovers of the drama, and the thousands of others who share in their admiration of the talents of those men, dead or living, who have held in so many ways the "mirror up to Nature," and represented before the footlights of two continents the follies and foibles, the wit and wisdom, the shams and glory of our common humanity. New York has long needed a complete dramatic picture gallery, and the public are certainly indebted to Mr. Browne for the successful effort he has made to supply this want.

Dramatic Ghosts.

Some fifteen years ago the production of the melodrama of the "Corsican Brothers" re-awakened the public interest in the ghosts of the theatre, and the spectre that rose from the stage as from a cellar, and crossing it gained his full stature gradually as he went along, was for some time a great popular favorite, though burlesque dogged his course, and a certain ridicule always attended his exertions. The fidgetty musical accompaniment known as "the Ghost Melody" acquired great popularity, and moreover the intricate stage machinery involved in the production of the shade of Louis del Franchi gave additional interest to his appearance.

Of later years the modern drama has scarcely any addition to our stock of stage ghosts. The ingenious invention known as the Spectral Illusion of Messrs. Dircks and Pepper obtained great favor at one time, and awakened some interest upon the subject of theatrical phantoms. But it soon became clear that the public cared for the illusion and not for the spectre. They were concerned about the mechanism of the contrivance, not awed by the supernatural appearance it brought before them. When once you begin to inquire by what process a ghost is produced, it is clear you are not moved by its character as a spectre merely. Puppets lose their power to please the wires by which they are made to move.—*Cassell's Magazine.*

—Don't be afraid of a little fun at home. Don't shut up your houses lest the sun should fade your carpets; and your hearts, lest a hearty laugh should shake down some of the musty cobwebs there! If you want to ruin your sons, let them think that all mirth and social enjoyment must be left on the threshold when they come home at night. Young people must have fun and relaxation somewhere. If they do not have it at their own hearthstones, it will be sought in other and less profitable places. Therefore, let the fire burn brightly at night, and make the home ever delightful with all those little arts that parents so perfectly understand. Don't repress the buoyant spirits of your children; half an hour of merriment round the lamp and fire light of home blots out the remembrance of many a care and annoyance during the day, and the best safeguard they can take with them into the world is the unseen influence of a bright little domestic sanctum.

HONEST INDIANS.—The Walla Walla paper has the following:

The body of a man was found a short time ago, about the middle of November, as near as we can learn, between the mouth of the Methaw river and Lake Chehalan, on the Columbia river. The man, we are informed, was of dark complexion; and had about his person, when found by the Indians, about fourteen thousand dollars in gold, in purses and in a belt. The money is now in possession of the Indians referred to, and will probably be held by them until it falls into proper hands. The man was not identified by those who saw the body.

—A youth living at Cork, Ireland, near an old ruined abbey, recently planned one of those murders we read about in romances. His object was the taking off of a servant girl who had caught him in certain pecuniary irregularities. He dug a grave in the ruin, where he enticed the girl at night time, and telling her to look in the excavation, while she was stooping over proceeded to brain her with a hatchet. He did not succeed in his melodramatic undertaking.

—A correspondent asked a boatman on the Thames, at London, whether there were many Irish in that part of the town? "Irish! they are doing three-quarters of the work in all the docks along the river," said he. "They get five shillings a day, and have it all their own way, and I don't see what more they want."

GENERAL NEWS.

—Goodrich, the Pittsfield, Mass., bank robber, has defaulted and left his father to pay his bail.

—E. Leighton, an old and well known pork packer of Cincinnati, died very suddenly yesterday of apoplexy.

—In Springfield, Massachusetts, a landlord, it is reported, has voluntarily reduced by 20 per cent. the rents of a block of stores he owns.

—The Sheriff and his deputy, at Marshall, Texas, have been arrested and turned over to the civil authorities for instigating disturbances.

—Official advices from Crete state that the Cretans reject all the overtures of Turkey and insist on the expulsion of the invaders from the Island.

—In Cincinnati during 1867 there were 3,685 deaths; the losses by fire were $1,600,000, $500,000 more than the insurance, and the city expenses were $2,883,421 71.

—Prussia, it is stated, has persuaded the North German Confederation to abolish the annoying passport system which has prevailed in the petty principalities heretofore.

—Maine was once a great ship building State, but the Portland newspapers say that the aggregate tonnage of new vessels built at that port the past year is only about half as large as the year previous.

—We have reports of a number of large failures among the merchants and business men of the city of Columbus, Georgia. Many of the parties who are reported as having failed are among the heaviest capitalists and ablest financial men in Georgia.

—Gen. Humphreys, the "confidence man," who operated at Pittsfield, Mass., and ran away to Cincinnati last summer with Miss Kenyon, has pleaded guilty to two indictments at Springfield, Mass., for obtaining money under false representations.

—The new volcano, about 124 miles east of Leon, Nicaragua, has been in violently grand eruption; throwing fire and cinders from two craters, and lately had sent out heavy showers of fine black sand, which had reached Leon, covering the streets to the depth of half an inch.

—Experiments are being made in other parts of the world besides America in reference to the use of petroleum as fuel for steam boilers. One of the latest reported is that of Barff, on the steam yacht Olea, (ten horse power,) in London. The result was considered quite successful. The consumption amounted to three gallons per hour.

—The Republican members of the Ohio delegation have signed a petition addressed to the Senate, asking it to reject the nomination of Sunset Cox as Minister to Austria, stating as a principal reason that he always opposed the Republican party, and that during the last campaign he went to Ohio and used his influence to defeat Hon. B. F. Wade for the Senate.

—Several families were recently poisoned in Platte City, by eating cakes made from the flour of buckwheat, mingled with the seeds of the jimson or Jamestown weeds. The injuries were not serious, though it is said the parties have henceforth forsworn buckwheat cakes. A whole family was dangerously poisoned some six weeks ago, in Ralls county, in a similar manner.

—The New York *World* continues to give statistics of the number of Workingmen out of employment. It recently stated that 50,000 wanted work in New York City, and 10,000 in Brooklyn, and now says that the depression in New England throws out of work at least 160,000 people—10,000 in Maine, 20,000 in New Hampshire, 30,000 in Connecticut and Rhode Island, and 100,000 in Massachusetts.

—Paris modistes tell us that the newest winter bonnets are all exceedingly small, but they do not look as though they were flattened to the top of the head, which effect the summer and autumn bonnets gave. The newest forms are certainly more raised from the forehead, by means of high bandeaux, or wide ruches, or wreaths of flowers, and they are more becoming than when the front of the bonnet rested on the forehead.

—The Louisiana Republican Nominating Convention have nominated H. C. Warmouth for Governor; Alderman J. Davis, (colored,) of New Orleans, for Lieutenant Governor; George Boei, for Secretary of State; Thos. W. Conway for Superintendent of Public Education; G. M. Bolden, for Attorney General; G. M. Wickliffe, for Auditor; Antoine Duvallet, (colored,) for Treasurer. A resolution endorsing Chase for President was voted down.

—Glass has always been supposed to resist completely chemical action by all acids but fluoric. It is found, however, that some bottlemakers in Europe are in the habit of increasing the amount of alkali, and thus saving in the fuel required to fuse the ingredients. Wine placed in bottles thus made acts upon the glass and makes it opaque, and thus adds to the wine a salt which is neither pleasant nor wholesome. Of course [illegible] deteriorates in value.

—On the 28th ult., a Mr. [illegible] Frazer, and infant child, residing in Randolph county, Mo., after having visited a relative, were on their return home in a buggy. On approaching a steep hill, Mrs. F. got out to walk, carrying the child in her arms. Directly after, Mr. F. was startled by the cries of the child, and looking around saw his wife lying in the road. He called to her, but receiving no answer, hurried back and found her dead! It is supposed a neuralgic pain, to which she was subject at times, had attacked the brain with fatal result.

—Fenian alarms continue to trouble England. Great numbers of special constables have been sworn in for public protection in London, and a circular has been sent from the Home Department to the Mayors of about fifty towns in England and Ireland, requesting that special constables may be sworn in for the preservation of property and the suppression of riotous proceedings. "Her Majesty's Government," says the circular, "have received information which renders it in their judgment desirable that the local authorities should be prepared to meet any disturbances that may arise during the winter." The fear of Fenian outbreaks is more widely extended at present than during any previous period of English history.

—There is a singular boiling cauldron, or lake, near Humphrey's Station, in Monitor Valley, Reese River, Oregon, which is said to be well worthy of a visit. In the center of a low, round hill, composed of sedimentary matter, there is a natural bowl about seventy-five feet in diameter, and apparently sixty or seventy feet in depth. At the bottom there is a large volume of scalding hot water constantly in active ebullition. The water is so remarkably pure that a stone thrown into it is seen descending with a slow spiral motion to a great depth, being gradually drawn towards the point where the spring seems to burst from the rocks beneath. The lake has no outlet, and the water stands about twenty feet below its banks.

—A monster in Cuba at different times enticed three young girls of tender years, whom he met in the streets, to his apartments, where he first ravished and then murdered them, subsequently throwing the bodies into a deep well. He was arrested by a citizen, whose suspicions had been aroused, and at the time of his capture, was locked in his room in the company of another young girl, who, but for timely interference, would have shared the fate of the others. When the mutilated bodies were drawn from the well the populace became infuriated and demanded that the culprit be given over to them for punishment. They surrounded the jail for the purpose of executing their intention, but the authorities finally managed to disperse them.

—A history of the London Tailor's strike, is given, or at least the financial part, in a paper read just before Christmas, before the London Operative Tailor's Association. It appears that during the strike from April to the end of October, the money raised for the benefit of the tailors amounted to $85,500. Of the amount received, $78,405 had been paid to the men on strike, while the remainder, with the exception of $40 in hand and $750 advanced to the defence fund, was expended in delegations, public meetings, committees, printing, advertising and the other necessary incidents connected with a protracted strike. Two thousand men were on strike for six months, and they were paid at the rate of a little over six shillings per head per week. $5,000 were expended in defending the President and others tried a few months ago for conspiring against the employing tailors.

—If we remember rightly, the Chinese have not until very recently coined any gold or silver. The small change of the country has been the "copper cash," worth one-tenth of our cent or thereabouts; while the only silver coin in circulation was the Mexican dollar, which in time became to some extent the standard of value. Silver was generally made into what is called "Sycee silver," the metal being swedged or pounded into the shape of a clumsy shoe, the pieces fitting one into another like so many saucers, and being dealt out by weight, as our bankers buy and sell bullion. Gold was little used, and not coined at all. Of late, however, the Chinese are coining gold, and samples are exhibited here as curiosities. These coins are in the main like the copper cash with which every Californian is familiar, having a square hole in the middle, a polished rim around the edge without milling, and raised characters between the raised disc and centre. The gold appears to be entirely pure, or alloyed differently from ours, being of a bright yellow hue, and lacking wholly the red tinge observable in our coin, and the weight is equal to about $3.40 of our coinage. The exact value of the coin we do not know. It is not equal to our coin in finish, but is nevertheless quite a handsome coin.

POETICAL.

ORIGIN OF THE DIMPLE.

One day, as Love's Queen on a couch was reclining,
Light Morpheus spread softly his opiate dew
Over her love beaming eyes, and a garland entwining,
Wreathed with it her hair, and as softly withdrew.

Not long ere she dreamed that Adonis, her lover,
Impressed on her cheek his soul conquering kiss—
She dreamed that she saw his dark ringlets light hover
Around his face, blushing beauty and bliss.

Soon Cupid espied her, so calmly reposing,
Why slumber thus, mother—'tis Cupid—oh, speak,
Bright day it is not, and night's curtains are closing,
Awake—and his finger imprinted her cheek.

Beats it a goddess, so fair and enchanting,
On earth's lowly couch, among mortals to rest?
The moon curbs his steed, for thy star is yet wanting,
And Vesper awaits thee to shine in the West.

Soft—soft, e'en as peach down, it sunk to the finger,
Kept, too, like fruit, the fond impress awhile,
Till forced to depart, though still striving to linger,
It fled with her frown—but returned with her smile.

And hence, it is said, a sweet dimple enhances
The cheeks of our lassies, so soft and so fair!
Adds charms to their smiles, and fresh fire to their glances,
And shows the young god has been roving there.

IRISH LOVE MAKING.

A FRAGMENT BY SAMUEL LOVER.

Och hone! don't provoke me to do it;
For there's girls by the score
That loves me—and more;
And you'd look very quare if some morning you'd meet
My wedding all marching in pride down the street;
Troth you'd open your eyes,
And you'd die with surprise,
To think it wasn't you was come to it!
And faith! Katty Naile,
And her cow, I go bail,
Would jump if I'd say,
"Katty Naile name the day."
And though you're fair and fresh as a morning in May,
While she's short and dark like a cold Winter's day,
Yet if you don't repent
Before Easter, when Lent
Is over I'll marry for spite—
Och hone! weirasthru!
And when I die for you,
My ghost will haunt you every night.

The Tress of Brown Hair to the Poet.

BY RICHARD HENRY STODDARD.

Here I lie! a tress of hair,
Kissed by every wandering air,
Wishing you would kiss me too;
Why don't you, oftener than you do?
Through my ringlets ran her fingers,
Whom you love so fond and true:
And their sweetness lingers, lingers
To the ringlets still, for you.
Only kiss them once, and see
What love lies embalmed in me!
Kiss me now! and it shall seem
As if you kissed her, in a dream.
Nay! it shall not seem, but be:
You shall kiss her, sir, and she—
She shall stand before you there, pale and fair:
By only kissing me, a little tress of hair!

Love.

BY ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING.

Unless you can muse in a crowd all day
On the absent face that fixed you;
Unless you can love, as the angels may,
With the breath of Heaven betwixt you;
Unless you can dream that his faith is fast,
Through behooving and unbehooving;
Unless you can die when the dream is past—
O, never call it loving!

FACETIÆ.

—A name for a female ball-club—Feminine.

—A young woman's conundrum—Who is our favorite Roman hero? Marius.

—When can a road be said to be emotional? When it has a positive inclination.

—Why should congress manufacturers be considered adepts in the art of self-defence? Because they are used to boxing matches.

—A couple were recently married in Great Barrington whose united ages were one hundred and thirty-two years. They were old enough to know better—or perhaps there is no better.

—There is a talk of constructing a railway through part of King Theodore's dominions for the use of our invading army. If a railway guide be issued, it will, of course, be an A B C-nian one.—*Judy.*

—A loon, you must know, is, in Saxon, a fool. Then, how is it that all the writers for a certain London paper, besides being fools, are only worth a pair of breeches among them? Why, because they're *Banter*-loons, stupid!

—"Well, neighbor, what is the Christian news this morning?" said a gentleman to his friend. "I have just sent a barrel of flour to a poor woman." "Just like you. Who is it that you have made happy by your charity this time?" "My wife."

—Patrick was in charge of a ferry boat. A lady passenger being frightened by the waves, asked him "if people were ever lost by these boats?" He gave the encouraging reply: "Not often, ma'am; we generally find them afterward by dragging the river."

—A dead negro was found recently in the woods near Aberdeen, Miss., with a load of buckshot in his body, and near by lay the body of a hog. On the negro the following inscription was pinned: "The nigger killed the hog, and the hog killed the nigger. Selah!"

—"Who's there?" [illegible] cold winter night, disturbed in his repose by some one knocking at the street door. "A friend," was the answer. "What do you want?" "Want to stay all night." "Queer taste, ain't it? But stay there, by all means," was the very benevolent reply.

—On meeting a lady whom you know, it is of the highest importance that good breeding should be manifested in the interview, whether it occur in the street or elsewhere. You are not, therefore, to ejaculate "Hi," or "Hollo!" at a distance, but wait until she has arrived at your side, and then you are permitted to inquire how she does. The state of the weather may be allowed to form the topic of a brief conversation; but it is perfectly unnecessary to observe that it will be a remarkably fine day, if it don't rain. On meeting a lady with whom you are not acquainted, it is advisable to step gracefully aside, and allow her to pass. Should the lady be out shopping, and retire into a linen draper's to make some purchases, it is not considered etiquette to follow her and ask her what she gave a yard for her stout dimity. On being asked to take wine, the best thing you can do is to take it, and be glad you have had the opportunity.

An Anecdote of Louis Blanc.

The following story was lately told in a London newspaper:

"A touching anecdote was related to me of Louis Blanc the other day, which proves him not only to be endowed with genius, but with a good heart. One day—this was a few days after the Revolution of '48—he met the celebrated Chaudesaignes staring vacantly at some caricatures in a shop window. 'What are you about?' inquired of him the author of the 'Histoire de dix ans,' striking him familiarly on the shoulder. Chaudesaignes turned round and looked at him. His cheeks were emaciated, his eyes sunk with suffering and sickness. 'I am learning how to die of hunger,' replied Chaudesaignes. Louis Blanc, deeply moved, took him home, opened his secretary, which contained a sum of three hundred francs, and putting two hundred francs into the hand of his unfortunate friend, said: 'It is only an advance on the money I shall owe you for work I am anxious you should undertake for me.' Another anecdote worth relating: Having heard that the son of General —— was ill and unable to leave his bed, and without anyone to take care of him, M. Louis Blanc instantly went to his lodgings, and acted as his nurse. He spent the night with his young friend. Day had scarcely dawned when a ring of the bell was heard. Louis Blanc went to open the door. A man rushed in frantically with a bill, demanding in the most violent language, for instant payment. Louis Blanc returning to his friend's bedside, told him that he (Louis Blanc) was obliged to quit him for a few hours as he had been sent for. He then left the house with the creditor, took him, and paid the bill, which amounted to 400f. The young invalid only knew two years later that Louis Blanc had thus saved him from being arrested for debt."

A Gallant Deed.

The Lawrence (Mass.) *American* says: "On Friday last a number of boys were engaged in sliding upon their sleds from Meadow street, near Spring, down the bank and across the ice, on the Spicket river. The sport had proceeded a short time when there was a crash, and a son of Mr. Patrick Flynn, aged about nine years, disappeared under the ice. A little fellow eleven years of age, who was standing on the bank, pulled off his jacket, and running to the hole, plunged in. The boy Flynn had been carried down by the current, but the brave lad followed under the ice and succeeded in seizing him—with admirable presence of mind broke the ice over them with his fists and emerged into the air, he sustaining the drowning lad by 'treading water,' a science known to good swimmers, of which the little Hero was one. A man in the neighborhood got a plank, but called upon him to let go his burden, as it was impossible to save the two, and both would be drowned. This he stoutly refused to do, and clung to his load, skilfully holding him in such a manner as to avoid being dragged down, of which at one time he was in great danger. Finally, by great exertions both were safely landed. The name of the boy who accomplished this perilous and humane feat was Peter McRoble, a son of Mr. James McRoble, a resident of the neighborhood. There is the material for a Phil. Sheridan in him."

BEATING OF THE HEART REGISTERED.—M. Ozanam has made an apparatus by which the beatings of the heart are registered and photographed. They are made to act on the surface of a bent tube, containing mercury, the fluctuations of which are noted in the same manner as those of the thermometer and barometer are photographed.