

**Our Pittsburgh Gazette**

A NUMBER of ladies and gentlemen were recently much annoyed in Paris by the receipt of anonymous letters filled with every conceivable scurrilous and obscene. They were accused by the writer of committing every crime of being the vilest of the vile. Three or four of these thus abused entered into compact to discover the writer, who, after much research, was found to be an old maid of great wealth and noble family, and who had always borne the reputation of being morbidly virtuous and entirely pious. The revenge taken by the party was very singular. They published all the letters, with all the horrors, leaving out the names of those to whom they were addressed, but giving that of the writer.

**MARRIAGE BY WHOLESALE**

It is related of Du Chailly, the African explorer and savant, that at an African village, on his travels, he observed the gray beards in frequent and earnest conversation. He watched them with some anxiety, as he feared they meant to rob him. At last, one fine afternoon, he saw a large body of people approaching. He took out his spy glass and saw that they were women. There were between six and seven hundred of them, headed by the old patriarch of the village. They came up and made a circle around him. They began to plaver. "Venerable man and brother! He is our orator of the day. His costume showed an entire ignorance of the origin of the fallow's trade, a total disbelief in the doctrine of the most important, scholastic and practical, on anything else or less. The women wore about a yard and a half of green cloth each, and their appearance suggested the idea of an approaching rehearsal of the Black Cat.

**THE WOMAN WHO WAS TOO MUCH OF A FRENCHMAN**

And then was pointed out a speech, the speaker of which was that the lady had made up their mind to adopt this, and had brought all the young women of their tribe before him in order that he might select a wife. The woman, by her exclamations, showed a perfect willingness to become the bosom friend of the English, who made beads and looking-glasses, and had flaming red caps among his treasures. Du Chailly was too much of a Frenchman to reject the offer of this too generous proposition. He rose and replied that he feared he must decline the lady's proposal, because he was afraid that the man would do it because he came as messenger of good news, and make people happy—and if all these charming creatures were willing that he should select one of them as a wife, and he would not make the others unhappy, do you not do it for me? He could not do that.

**THE GRAY BEARDS RETIRED**

And after a short but lively debate, came the resolution which was adopted, that the gray beards retired, and the lady was still followed by the young men. "We have seen it, Chailly," said the venerable orator, "on an occasion that was true. If you take one, the rest would be unhappy. The man who is too much of a Frenchman." Du Chailly was too much of a Frenchman to reject the offer of this too generous proposition. He rose and replied that he feared he must decline the lady's proposal, because he was afraid that the man would do it because he came as messenger of good news, and make people happy—and if all these charming creatures were willing that he should select one of them as a wife, and he would not make the others unhappy, do you not do it for me? He could not do that.

**DEATH OF STONE BUILDINGS IN CITIES**

It has frequently been observed that the surfaces of various kinds of stones, especially the limestones, when used for building purposes in cities, in a short time become dimmed and discolored, and at no distant period show unmistakable signs of decay. This is more especially the case where coal is used in the largest quantities, and a careful examination has shown that it is due mainly to the large quantity of sulphuric acid liberated by the combustion of this substance, amounting to seventy pounds or more for every ton of coal burned. This acid forms sulphates, and it is an magnesium limestone, or dolomite, that the effects are most marked, the resulting sulphate of magnesium being evident in the scum on the surface. The carbonated portions of the stone, and these which are held in contact with the iron, the sulphate of iron being the result. The resulting disintegration of the stone is also facilitated by the crystallization of the sulphate within its pores.

**A CASE OF CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE**

A careful consideration of the criminal process involved has led to the use of certain substances for the purpose of preventing the combustion of iron, and this would seem, with much success. An aqueous solution of a phosphate of soda, when applied to the surface of the cleaned stone, either by brushing or immersion, and produced an insoluble exterior. The cost of this method is negligible, and the result is a surface of limestone, which has been found to stand nearly fifty per cent. to the strength; at least, this was the case with the cubes of stone on which the experiment was conducted.

**A BULL OF MARIE ANTOINETTE**

An antique cow, described as a Bull of Marie Antoinette, now in possession of the French Veterinary Office at Buffalo, is attracting much attention. The dress is of superb brocade silk, elaborately embroidered, with tassels and ribbons of various rich materials. The dress was recently purchased of the late Mr. E. B. Roberts of Madison, New York, administrator of the estate of the late Roy Shearer Williams, the reputed son of Marie Antoinette.

**THE WAGON OBTAINED BY AN ATTACK**

The wagon obtained by an attack on the American Embassy at Paris, for Mr. Edward Clarke, of Northampton, and on the return of the latter to the country in 1851, was presented to Mr. Williams, who being fifty years of age, was the son of the unfortunate Marie. Efforts are being made to induce James McCarrall, editor of the *Vindicator*, to permit the dress to be exhibited in public. The authenticity of this historical relic is beyond question.

**THE NEW STATE OF OHIO**

The new state of Ohio is the use of the foot in the population of sewing machines on the part of females; has rendered some other motor desirable. This is readily to be seen where a number of machines are employed in the same building, or where steam or water power can readily be had. In a private family, a sewing machine, which, of course, is a great practical inconvenience. A French mechanic, M. Cazal, has recently completed an electro-magnetic attachment to the sewing machine, which, at an expense, sufficient to purchase a propeller, and it is probable that before long the apparatus in question on one of similar character, will come generally into use. We recommend the attention of the proprietors of our American sewing machine establishments to this discovery.

**THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL**

The National Association of School Teachers will hold its annual convention at Nashville, Tenn., August 17th; the American Normal School Association, August 18th, and the National Teachers' Association, August 19, 20 and 21st. The programs of the several Associations are of an interesting and important nature.

**640 MILES**

The new and improved Union Pacific Railroad, which has been laid out, and the track along the whole line between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, is being pushed forward more rapidly than ever before. More than twenty thousand men are employed, and it is not impossible that the entire track from Omaha to Sacramento, will be completed in 1880 instead of 1870. The means provided are ample, and all that is required is money to do to secure the completion of this

**GREAT NATIONAL WORK**

At the earliest possible day, will be done. The UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY received the following grants of right of way: I.—A GOVERNMENT GRANT of the right of way, for the construction of a line of railroad, to be located along the line of its operations.

**THE WHEAT GROWERS**

THE WHEAT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION, of the Allegheny Fertilizer Co., has issued a circular, in which it is stated that the company has received a grant of right of way, for the construction of a line of railroad, to be located along the line of its operations.

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