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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1868.

THE WEEKLY GAZETTE, *issued on Wednesdays and Saturdays, is the best and cheapest family newspaper in Pennsylvania. It presents each week forty-eight columns of solid reading matter. It gives the fullest as well as the most reliable market reports of any paper in the State. Its files are used exclusively by the Civil Courts of Allegheny county for reference in important issues to determine the ruling prices in the markets at the time of the business transaction in dispute. Terms: Single copy, one year, $1.50; in clubs of five, $1,25; in clubs of ten, $1,15, and one free to the getter up of the club. Specimen copies sent free to any address.*

WE PRINT *on the inside pages of this morning's* GAZETTE—*Second page: Poetry, "The Christmas Day," Burning Candles at Both Ends. Third and Sixth Pages: Commercial, Financial, Markets, Imports and River News. Seventh page: Interesting Miscellany, Amusement Directory.*

GOLD closed in New York yesterday at 134⅜@134¾.

THE Fayette county *Standard* and the Monongahela *Republican* endorse the name of Gen. J. K. MOORHEAD for U. S. Senator. The Republican Committee of Beaver county adopt resolutions in favor of Hon. JOHN ALLISON for the same office.

THE Philadelphia *Morning Post*, a penny paper, and Republican in politics, will appear on New Year's Day in new type, and an enlarged form, and become a two-cent paper. It is gratifying to know that the proprietors find their enterprise a success.

THE Treasury commenced on Saturday the disbursement of gold for the January interest on the public debt, unlocking large sums in the principal cities. In the meantime, there is much uneasiness in New York commercial circles, with one or two large failures which, it is feared, may not be the last.

GEN. SHERMAN has advices from the Indian territory, which indicate that the vigor of our military movements has caused terror among the hostile tribes, large numbers of whom have come into the forts and stations for peace and protection. Those who remain on the war-path are known, and are to be pursued to the end.

IT APPEARS that altho' Chief Justice, then Secretary, CHASE was opposed to the Legal Tender bill on its first introduction, he changed his opinion while the bill was still pending, becoming convinced of the need for its passage, and so advised Mr. SPAULDING, in a letter read by that gentleman, during the debates in the House.

THE latest outgivings from the State Department are that the points of difference with the English government, as to the Alabama claims, have been so determined as to insure a prompt ratification of the treaty by the United States Senate, to which body the Administration expects to submit the matter some time in the coming month. We will see!

GEN. HANCOCK satisfactorily repels the imputations of Indian Agent WYNKOOP, who charged him with the wanton destruction of a Cheyenne village in '67. The General shows that the tribe were at the moment engaged in hostilities against us, and that, too, after fair notice from him of the consequences to follow their outrages, if persisted in.

THE grain trade of Chicago has grown from the first shipment of seventy-eight bushels of wheat in 1838, to more than twenty millions of bushels in the year just closed. Added to this, were 25,000,000 bushels of corn, 13,000,000 bushels of oats, and 3,000,000 bushels of rye and barley. Nearly 2,000,000 head of hogs and cattle were also received in Chicago last year, and one-half of these were slaughtered in the city.

WE ARE to have another veto. Congress, before the late recess, repealed the law of a previous session prohibiting the organization of the militia by Mr. JOHNSON's provisional governments. The power is now to be restored to the reconstructed States. Our Executive Aristotle vetoes the repealing Act on the ground that Congress had no right to pass the original bill. The logic by which his veto is to be sustained already awakens the curiosity of the age.

THE CONVENTION of loyal but disfranchised citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania continued its deliberations in this city yesterday, and, as on the day previous, the proceedings were dignified, harmonious and temperate—altogether characteristic of men deeply impressed with the grave importance of the occasion and the great object in view. In sending forth greeting to their colored fellow citizens throughout the country, telling them that the loyal disfranchised of the Keystone State are not asleep to the rights and interests of their race, the Convention presents the issue of suffrage in a way which assures for it the consideration of all who are inclined to share with those deserving, the full privileges and rights of a free Government. The ballot is withheld from the blacks, while they are entitled to it as much as other classes of citizens, and such auspicious movements as that now being made in our city will tend to break down the prejudices and weak "party expediencies" which now deprive great masses of citizens from enjoying the rights of electors. We hail the present movement started by the oppressed people themselves as a sign of progression, and, in their behalf, ask that the importance of the Convention be not under-estimated. Its voice must be heard and heeded, for the men now calmly engaged in the deliberations looking to the rights of the negro, are conspicuous for learning, wisdom and talent; and are really in earnest in all they say and do. They temperately demand from the National Assembly enfranchisement, and hope that the spirit of Justice will prevail in the disposition of their dignified memorial for citizenship.

THERE are obstacles in the way of the proposed European Conference on the Greco-Turkish question. Turkey refuses to agree that the Cretan question shall be considered, and thereby practically vetoes the whole proposition, that question being at the bottom of the difficulty. It is said that England supports the Sultan in this refusal, by the active influence of her Ambassador at Constantinople. This is the more probable, since leading London journals openly assail the idea that a Conference would accomplish any decisive good. On the other hand, Greece, supported by Russia, and confident of securing the influence of Prussia and the German States, assents to the Conference, because she knows it would give her nothing to fear. Should Turkey remain obstinate, the inevitable drift of the situation would be more and more away from a peaceful termination of the quarrel.

CIU BONO?

A very respectable cotemporary objects to the continuance of the Tenure-of-Office Law, that it would result in the retention of office by a large class of incumbents who,—owing their positions to the nomination of Mr. JOHNSON and confirmation by a Republican Senate,—must, necessarily, "have got their places by double-dealing and political trickery, by making pledges of an exactly opposite political nature, and who naturally end by cheating both parties, and consulting only their personal profit." Certainly, an indictment that sounds quite formidably!

But, granted that officials are generally of this double-dealing and unworthy type, how is the repeal of the present law to help matters? The new nominations of the incoming President will none the less require to be confirmed—and by the same Senate which, as our contemporary insinuates, has already corruptly committed itself to the present incumbents. Such a Senate will equally deny its approval of any changes, whether the law stands or is repealed. That repeal, to be sure, will enable President GRANT to effect absolutely those removals which at present would be conditioned upon the Senatorial concurrence, but, even then, the obstinate refusal of that body to ratify the sweeping programme which some of his injudicious friends are trying to foist upon the new President, would practically accomplish its defeat, since the Executive would decline so to discharge its responsibilities as to vacate all the leading offices in the public service, even if a corrupt Senate were to be held responsible for that condition of things.

Before saying more, let us enter our protest against such unworthy imputations upon the Senate. Doubtless, this body is not immaculately pure. If there were not some corrupt, bad men on either side of the Chamber, it would be a miracle among legislative bodies. But, taken as a whole, we feel our strongest confidence justified in the personal purity, official honesty and political fidelity of the great body of the Republican members. They will heartily support a Republican President in the great business of reforming the public service. Nor, as a body, have these Senators engaged in any corrupt compacts with Mr. JOHNSON or with his appointees. They have ratified his nominations in most cases reluctantly, and in all cases from a conviction that the public interest would admit of no delay, or could hope for no better servants. They have taken the best they could get, and should not be censured because they took any at all.

Here is the real rub. The law, as it stands, is the bulwark of an upright and cautious Executive, against the mighty rush of a vast army of place-hunters who propose to storm the White House in March. The firmness of the new President is gratefully known to his countrymen. It is none the less dreaded by the great army of expectants who, for the next ninety days, are to live, move and have all their being in the sole ambition of acquiring office. The manipulation of Gen. GRANT to their purposes will be quite as much of a contract as these gentlemen desire to undertake, and not a few of them despair of succeeding in that,—as well they may. When, behind those personal qualities of GRANT himself, they see rising up also the formidable barrier of this Official Tenure Law, they naturally feel hopeless of gaining what they desire. So the law must be repealed, that GRANT may be left naked to the worst of his enemies, the office-seeking mob who are the scandal of all political parties.

Who doubts for a moment that the removals to be made by the new President—let them be as sweeping as they may—will be made for sufficient cause, and that, too, to the satisfaction of the Senate, if this body should think fit to demand the Executive reasons for such removals? And who doubts, moreover, that the reasons to be thus assigned by ULYSSES S. GRANT would be accepted as ample by the country? And who doubts, again, that if any issue were made thereupon between President and Senate—an event of which there is not even the remotest possibility—the popular voice, the consenting opinion of the Republican masses, would be arrayed on GRANT's side. The people who have elected him will also sustain him. They made no mistake in their man, and, to the last hour of his administration, he will justify their unhesitating confidence.

During the sessions of the Senate, the power of removal is unlimited so long as that body concurs, and this concurrence may safely be anticipated in all cases, unless with the rarest exceptions. During the recess, the power is limited only by the demand for "evidence satisfactory to the President," that the officer is unworthy, incapable or legally disqualified, and by the further duty of reporting his reasons to the Senate at its next session. How much these limitations upon Gen. GRANT's power will amount to is better considered when we reflect that by the time he shall have purged the public service from all the rascals whom ANDREW JOHNSON has admitted to the public crib, there will remain but a small handful of honest and capable men to stand in the way of the aspirants for place. Is it worth while to repeal the law for the purpose of reaching only these?

We should have great respect for the personal wishes of General GRANT himself. When he shall, with the explicit frankness which is not the least of his honorable characteristics, recommend the repeal of the law, the suggestion will deserve the most careful consideration. Until then, we shall give no credence to the irresponsible rumors which set forth his opposition to its continuance among the statutes.

Appointments made by the President of the people, and the corresponding removals, when sustained, as they will be, with the approval of his Constitutional advisers, under the law precisely as it stands now, will for the first time in forty years' history of the Republic, excepting the four years of Mr. LINCOLN, be upon their face a guarantee to the people that the old requisites of Honesty and Capacity, with the new qualification of a hearty acceptance of the Republican spirit of the present constitutional order of things, are once more re-established in the official service of the government. To our mind, any conditions are desirable which fairly conduce to this radical reform in the management of this business of filling the offices. We are far from believing that an end, of so much solid consequence to the highest national interests, will be promoted by the repeal of the law in question. On the contrary, it is plain to us that such repeal will be so long a step, toward the reinauguration of the infamous doctrine that the public offices, if not themselves public plunder, are only sought as facilities therefor, as to threaten President GRANT with the severest penalties for official greatness. We do not propose that he shall be saved from tests for an official integrity which, thank Heaven, is as impregnable to a corrupt friend as to an open foe, but we do wish to see his Administration relieved from the burthen which proved fatal to HARRISON and TAYLOR. If we had possessed an Office-Tenure law, extant among our statutes since 1841, the country would have been spared the disgrace of a TYLER and the absurd inefficiency of a FILLMORE, and the long and not yet ended train of consequences which have been entailed upon us by their treacheries to the party which first gave them office. General GRANT has fortunately a robust physical vitality, and he will need it all if the White House is to be again beleaguered as it was in '41 and '49. And while our COLFAX is neither a TYLER, FILLMORE nor JOHNSON, we prefer to keep him in sound condition ready for the Republican track in 1872.

SPECIE RESUMPTION.

MR. DAVID WILDER, of Boston, Mass., recently addressed a letter to Mr. F. E. SPINNER, Treasurer of the United States, making a number of suggestions in reference to a return to specie payments. One of these was that the difference, or something akin thereto, between specie and paper currency should be deducted from the face of all outstanding obligations, whether of the Government or individuals, upon payment in coin. Mr. SPINNER objects to this plan, that it would involve partial repudiation; and it must be confessed that the objection is well taken. But, will the Treasurer inform the public in what particular the retrospective action of the Legal Tender Law was different or better? By that action, persons who had contracted debts on the specie basis were allowed to pay them off in currency at par, when that currency was at 280. That was indirect repudiation with a vengeance, especially so far as related to creditors whose demands rested in notes, judgments and mortgages having considerable time to run. All these were actually robbed of one-half of their just demands, because they stood in the relation of creditors.

One serious objection to Mr. WILDER's scheme is, that it would plunder the creditor classes again, by depriving them of that compensation, in part, at least, for former losses, which nature, through the operation of its invincible laws, is bringing about.

The vice of Mr. WILDER's letter is that he conceives it to be possible to so lengthen the descent from the highest inflation down to the solid basis of coin, that every body can get down without loss; nay, without knowing they have descended at all. The idea that men can go on selling on a falling market without encountering loss, is a simple absurdity, no matter from how eminent a financial authority it may emanate.

ANOTHER RAILWAY COMBINATION.

The New York Central Railway Company has formed close relations with the Michigan Southern, Michigan Central, Lake Shore, Cleveland and Toledo, Toledo and Wabash, and the Chicago and North-western roads. The chief feature of this arrangement is that all freights shall be carried at uniform rates per ton per mile. Nothing can be more equitable in point of principle. Apart from the rivalries which railway companies experience in common with parties engaged in all other pursuits, no reason exists why business men so located as to have a choice of routes should pay less for freights than other men. The service they require is the same, and the remuneration, but for the rivalry alluded to, should and would be the same.

If the Trunk lines would come to an agreement in respect to freights, charging all alike in proportion to bulk or weight and distance, and make these rates such as to yield them liberal compensation, and no more, they would deal justly, and give a larger measure of satisfaction to more customers than they do now. Business men at Chicago, St. Louis, New York and other places similarly circumstanced, would doubtless think competition better for them, because it would give them less rates than men in such places as Pittsburgh would have. But the great majority would be far more content than they now are.

Men like competition when it makes in their favor; not otherwise. Workmen in different trades combine in order to deliver themselves from competition. Manufacturers combine to get labor low, and to sell the product thereof high. So is it all round. Every one wants competition in whatever he has to buy, but does not want it in what he has to sell.

Washington Gossip.

The President's amnesty proclamation and its effect on the Jefferson Davis case is still a topic of discussion. There is a rumor circulating that some time last summer, about the time the other proclamation was issued, the Chief Justice was approached on the question of the President's power to pardon while the trial was progressing as in the case of the ex-Confederate President. It is asserted that Judge Chase expressed views that favored the President's power to pardon such persons through the general amnesty dodge.

The advocates of women suffrage will hold a national convention here, January 19, in which it is expected that Mrs. Stanton, Lucy Stone, and other leading advocates will participate. It is said that one of the first things to draw the fire of Congress will be Pomeroy's amendment guaranteeing womanhood suffrage. It is to be pressed in earnest, and the Kansas Senator is now cramming up on the reports of speeches made by eminent members of the disfranchised class. He announces that he means to leave no stone unturned to press the subject to a vote.

Things in New York.

NEW YORK, December 27.—There were reports last evening of the failure of several large dry goods houses, two of them connected with the Lowell mills and Boston firms. Serious trouble is predicted this week among the jobbing houses, many of which have been paying exorbitant rates of interest, lately, and carrying immense stocks which they could not dispose of.

A very wealthy old Hollander died here about one hundred and twenty-five years ago, without making a will, as it was supposed, and his property was disposed of according to law. Recently, his will has been discovered, and his heirs have employed able counsel to get possession of the immense fortune of which they have been deprived. Some of the most valuable lots on Broadway and Fourteenth streets, valued now at thirty or forty millions, and much other property, are in question. The suit will rival in importance the famous Gaines case, and must impoverish persons at present very wealthy.

Ohio Finances.

The forthcoming report of the Ohio State Auditor, shows the following statement of the state of finances to the close of the fiscal year: Receipts of the fiscal year of 1868, including the balance on hand November 15, 1867: General revenue fund, $1,060,756 38; canal funds $41,530 54; national road fund, $21,002 22; sinking fund, $1,824,659 74; common school fund, $1,467,496 73; soldiers' claims fund, $3,825 78; soldiers' allotment fund, $3,469 90; bank redemption fund, $2,733 31. Total, $5,025,475 61. Disbursements—General revenue fund, $1,518,210 35; canal fund, $14,939 39; national road fund, $18,829 36; sinking fund, $1,472,226 33; common school fund, $1,426,868 80; soldiers' claims fund, $3,781,68; soldiers' allotment fund, $482; bank redemption fund, $1,695. Total, $4,445,358,86. Balance in Treasury, November 15, 1868, $570,120 75.

A GENTLEMAN who spent several hours recently at General Grant's residence, with several others, gives me some interesting gossip about the interview. The person referred to was a former friend of the Grant family, and knew the General when a West Point cadet at home on a visit. Like others I have seen, he did not believe the cadet had any elements of power and greatness in his character, and told how vehemently he controverted Gen. Hamer's (the Congressman by whom Grant was nominated to West Point, and who afterwards fell in Mexico,) declaration that Lieutenant Grant would make his mark, for that there was a good deal in him.

My informant was delighted with the easy geniality of the General, and described with gusto his manner and conversation. Many stories were told of campaigns and movements. The regard for Sherman, so well known to the country, was shown quite plainly by several allusions to him, and especially in the narration of incidents connected with the surrender of Johnston.

Senator Wilson, who was present, remarked jocularly that he had noticed that the General had been closeted with McClellan. Grant responded affirmatively, and further said that McClellan was an able man and soldier.

The only point on which he expressed himself during the conversation that bore upon public affairs, was in relation to Gen. Sheridan, and his removal from the command of Louisiana. It was an easy and fair deduction from his remarks to believe that among the first, if not the very first, act of his administration as "Commander-in-Chief" would be the signing of an order placing Little Phil. in command of Louisiana and Texas, probably also of all the Trans-Mississippi region.

GENERAL SHERMAN's instructions are to strike all hostile Indians, and cluster those that are friendly, about Fort Cobb, under General Hazen. By the state of war now existing and commenced by the Indians, the treaty made at Medicine Lodge creek is not considered binding, and no Indians are permitted to hunt on grounds outside the reservation where they were entitled to roam by the treaty. Their rights in this respect are declared forfeited. Information has been received of the death of Roman Nose, a bad Indian, who refused to come in at Medicine Lodge creek. He was a principal chief of the Dog Soldiers, and was killed by the troops under General E. A. Carr, near the headwaters of the Republican, some six weeks ago.

THE New York *Herald* is moved by the recent scrip dividend of the New York Central Railroad to tell how the stock of the Western Union Telegraph Company has been "watered." Beginning with a capital of $360,000 fifteen years ago, that corporation now has a nominal capital of $41,008,800; nearly five times what it should be if the capital had been increased in a legitimate manner to cover the expense of construction and the absorption of other lines. Four times the stock has been doubled without any pretense of value to show for it; and 85½ the price this stock is now selling for, really represents more than the actual cost value to original holders.

Relations by Marriage.

A great many complex relationships come about by marriage. We have heard of the mother and daughter who married brothers, and who therefore addressed each other as sisters; and also of the young man who, on being asked by the judge whether he had a father and mother, said he wasn't quite certain whether he had or not; first, his father died and then his mother married again, and then his mother died and his father married again, and now he didn't know exactly whether they were his father and mother or not. But Dan Bryant, at the minstrels, tells of the most complex family ever known, something in this wise: "I married a young widow, who lived with her step-daughter. My wife was therefore the mother-in-law and daughter-in-law of my father. I am the step-father of my mother-in-law, and my wife's step-daughter is my step-mother. Well, my step-mother—that is to say, my father's wife and my wife's daughter—had a son. He is my step-brother, of course, but being the son of my wife's step-daughter, my wife is, of course, his grandmother, and I am his grandfather as well as his step-brother. My wife also had a boy. My step-mother is consequently the step-sister of my boy and also his grandmother, because he is the child of her step-son, and my father is the brother-in-law of my son, who is the son of my step-mother. I am my mother's brother-in-law, my wife is the aunt of her own son, my son is the grandson of my father, and I am my own grandfather."

THE GOLD FIELDS IN AFRICA.—By reports transmitted to the Government of the Cape of Good Hope, from the geologist sent out to explore the gold fields in South Africa, it appears that the prospects of profitable returns are very unfavorable. Traces were discovered of old excavations carried to the depth of thirty-five feet, but now filled up by the lapse of time. The most encouraging specimens were discovered about thirteen inches below the surface, but at a greater depth the gold was distributed in extremely fine particles through the quartz rock and the friable detritus of a green talcose slate. The dip of the strata is seventy-five degrees, and the search for gold requires the sinking of almost perpendicular shafts. The amount of gold as yet procured is so small that the miners prefer "prospecting" to continuing their present laborious work. This alleged discovery of gold will, therefore, add very little to the product of the precious metals.

THE first bill now laying on the Speaker's table in the House, is one granting an additional subsidy to the Union Pacific Railway, eastern division. It passed last session, and involves about a million dollars and about a million acres of public lands. The parties interested tried hard to get the bill up, before the recess, and were only provented by keeping something else before the House. Many members voted to waste a day or two on the tariff bill, so as to delay action on this railway measure. Price, of Iowa, is expected to take charge of it when it comes up, and the effort will probably be made to put it through under the operation of the previous question. Its opponents will insist on the yea and nay vote, so that the country may have a chance to see how members stand.

IN constructing a new local railway between Manchester and Didsbury, in Great Britain, a guage of 3½ feet is proposed, as answering all the requirements of the line as well as the usual 4 feet 8½ inches width; and costing, with the rolling stock, one-third less. Railways of this gauge, it is said, have been adopted in Queensland, Ceylon, Belgium and Norway, with satisfactory results. The locomotives to be used will weigh fifteen tons, and their speed be limited to twenty-five miles per hour. The carriages will be like our street cars, 20 feet long, 6 feet wide, and 6½ feet high inside, and will accommodate twelve passengers on each side, giving over 30 cubic feet of space to each.

THE SUN.—The announcement has just been made to the Royal Astronomical Society of England of the discovery, by means of the spectroscope, of a hitherto unknown envelope of gaseous matter surrounding that body, of a thickness of seven or eight thousand miles. Its precise composition has not yet been determined, but will, probably, before long, be ascertained. At the same time, Mr. Huggins, who has made so many important discoveries in reference to the composition of the heavenly bodies, by means of the spectroscope, presented a communication stating that at least one comet contains carbon in a state of ignition.

GEN. PRIM, by his delay in summoning the Spanish Cortes, has given rise to the suspicion that he intends to make himself Dictator. To refute this charge, Prim has recently written a letter, in which he says: "I have no thought of being the master, emperor or dictator of my country. If I had any such wretched designs, I could not do better than follow the advice of those who think themselves more liberal than I, and I should then urge Spain to become a republic. In that case she would certainly offer me supreme power in one form or another."

THE Rochester *Chronicle* tells this apocryphal story: "During Robert Lincoln's recent journey from Chicago to Boston, he got out of his car, and while walking along the railroad track slipped and fell before an advancing engine. A gentleman passing at the time saved his life by dragging him from the track, and getting up and looking for his preserver, he recognized Edwin Booth. No words were spoken, Mr. Booth walking rapidly away. We give the story as it is told to us."

THE production of coal in Great Britain in 1867 amounted to 104,500,380 tons, valued at about $130,000,000. The value of all minerals, as ore, salt, clay, &c., during the year, was nearly $220,000,000. The iron product was valued at about $60,000,000. In 1857, the amount of coal mined was only about 65,000,000 tons. It is estimated that the yield of coal in the United States in 1867 was about 25,000,000 tons.

THE New York *Times* says: The death by suicide of the reputed widow of Mr. Augustus Dickens, brother of Charles Dickens, at Chicago, is reported by telegraph. We believe that the wife of Mr. Augustus Dickens is still living in England, and has been supported by Charles Dickens ever since her husband came to this country in company with the lady whose decease is now announced.

JNO. G. WHITTIER, in a letter to the New England Society at Washington, on Amnesty and Suffrage, expresses his belief that a majority of the Northern people would heartily agree with him in supporting the motion just made by a New England Senator, to remove the disabilities of those at present disfranchised in the revolted States, and make amnesty and suffrage universal.

THE Italian institution of the *vendetta* has at last been inaugurated, under the auspices of Laura Reno, in this country. Swearing a tremendous oath of sanguinary revenge, Laura will now set to work and individually exterminate the amateur hangmen who anticipated justice on the persons of the Reno gang.

A Marriage Ceremony.

Nothing, we calculate, could be more edifying to our dusky-hued friends than the remarks made by a sable parson at a negro wedding which took place recently near Montgomery, Alabama. Thus spake he:

"Here is a couple who have walked out to-night, wishing to be jined in, and thro' love, and wishing all dem dat hav any ting twixt dem come forward and speak now; if not, let dem hold dar peace now and for evermore. I wants every ear to hear and every heart to enjoy.

"Mr. Jim Thompson, whomsoever stands fastly by your side, do you take her for your beloved wife, to wait upon her through sickness and through health, safe and be safe, holy and be holy, loving and be loving; do you love her mother, do you love her father, do you love her sisters, do you love her master, do you love her mistress, but do you love God de best?"

Answer: "I do."

"Miss Mary Thompson, whomsoever stands fastly by your right side, do you take to be your dear beloved husband, to wait on him through health and through confliction, safe and be safe, holy and be holy; do you love his mother, do you love his father, do you love his brothers, do you love his sisters, do you love God de best?"

Answer: "I will."

"I shall pronounce Mr. Jim to hold Miss Mary fastly by the right hand, and shall pronounce you both to be man and wife, by the commandments of God. We shall hope, and trusting though God, that you may live right, that you may die right, now and for evermore. Now, Mr. Jim, *slew* your bride. Let us sing a hime:

"'Plunged in a gulf of dark dispair,'" etc.

DRAWER, *Harper's Magazine.*

SCIENTIFIC men, by a blundering experiment with coal tar and fragments of slate, which were both for a long time a nuisance, have discovered that when the Vermont slate slate is ground to a fine powder and mingled with coal tar, in definite proportions, the plastic material will reconstruct in a short porion of time and form a slate, which is susceptible of as fine a polish as a schoolboy's slate. The Legislature of the State of New York instituted a thorough investigation of this subject, last winter, touching the adaptation of this plastic for covering the roofs of public buildings and decks of everv kind of boats, and that body were so thoroughly satisfied of its excellence as a durable roofing material— and more than as cheap again as the best of tin—that an act was passed legalizing the use of what was termed "plastic slate," for roofing purposes, in all the cities and villages of the State, even "within the limits of the fire districts," where the municipal or corporation authorities had passed an ordinance to allow no building to be covered with a combustible material. Strange as it may appear, after the coal tar, which is highly inflammable, has united with the slate flour, a fire may be kindled directly on the roof of a building, and the roofing will not burn any sooner than the Vermont slate.

THE Morgan (O.) *Herald* says: A funeral procession passed through McConnelsville last Monday, and upon inquiring we ascertained that it was that of a young man named Vanfossen, who had come to a sudden and terrible death by falling astride a circular saw in full motion, ripping him almost through. We have not been able to learn all the particulars but understand that he was sawing logs at the time and accidentally lost his balance and dropped upon the saw, which resulted, as above related, in his almost instant death.

A PACIFIC RAILWAY OFFICIAL recently stated at St. Louis that the Pacific Railroad would be opened to San Francisco June 4; that rails were now being laid at the rate of seven miles per day; that forty-five sleeping cars and eighteen dining room cars had already been ordered for the accommodation of the grand opening excursion party.

COUGHS, COUGHS, COLDS, COLDS,

When a person takes cold the lungs become charged with phlegm, which oppressing the constitution a natural effort is made for a relief. This effort is a cough. The only safe and prudent remedies to be adopted are those which assist nature in its work, by loosening the phlegm and exciting a freedom of expectoration until the evil is removed. DR. SARGENT'S COUGH SYRUP is admirably adapted to promote expectoration, ease the breathing, loosen the phlegm, abate the fever, and allay the tickling which occasions the cough, without tightening the chest, or in any way injuring the system, and for all temporary and local affections, such as irritation of the throat, hoarseness of the voice, influenza, &c., it is of incalculable value. Especially at this inclement season of the year it would be well for every family to have this valuable remedy at hand. Prepared by GEO. A. KELLY, Wholesale Druggist, corner Wood street and Second avenue, Pittsburgh, and for sale by all druggists and dealers in medicine. 50 cents per bottle.

THE GREAT PICTORIAL ANNUAL.

Hostetter's United States Almanac for 1869, for distribution *gratis*, throughout the United States and all civilized countries of the Western Hemisphere, will be published about the first of January, and all who wish to understand the true philosophy of health should read and ponder the valuable suggestions it contains. In addition to an admirable medical treatise on the causes, prevention and cure of a great variety of diseases, it embraces a large amount of information interesting to the merchant, the mechanic, the miner, the farmer, the planter, and professional man; and the calculations have been made for such meridians and latitudes as are most suitable for a correct and comprehensive NATIONAL CALENDAR.

The nature, uses, and extraordinary sanitary effects of HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS, the staple tonic and alterative of more than half the Christian world, are fully set forth in its pages, which are also interspersed with pictorial illustrations, valuable receipts for the household and farm, humorous anecdotes, and other instructive and amusing reading matter, original and selected. Among the Annuals to appear with the opening of the year, this will be one of the most useful, and *may be had for the asking.* Send for copies to the Central Manufactory, at Pittsburgh, Pa., or to the nearest dealer in HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS. The BITTERS are sold in every city, town and village, and are extensively used throughout the entire civilized world.

THE GREATEST OF ALL COUGH MEDICINES.

At this time of the year, when the streets and pavements are covered with snow and slush, it is no wonder that the natural pores and conducts of the body become obstructed, and whole communities become affected with coughs and pulmonary and throat ailments. One of the very best cures for all these diseases will be found in DR. KEYSER'S PECTORAL SYRUP, which, at once sets free the imprisoned matter, removes the obstruction, and allays the irritability of the nervous system in such a way as to do no injury to health, or interfere with one's usual avocations. What a blessing it must be to have so potent a remedy in the house as DR. KEYSER'S PECTORAL SYRUP, which, for over twenty years, has gained on the affections and restored the health of thousands of our people. To get the best of what is going is a good rule in anything; but it is especially true with regard to medicine, and there is no cough medicine, that we know of, of equal potency, both as a cure and preventive than DR. KEYSER'S PECTORAL SYRUP.

Sold at the great Medicine Store, No. 140 Wood street. WILL REMOVE AFTER JANUARY 1st to 167 LIBERTY STREET, two doors below Saint Clair.

DR. KEYSER'S RESIDENT OFFICE for LUNG EXAMINATIONS AND THE TREATMENT OF OBSTINATE CHRONIC DISEASES, 140 FENN STREET, PITTSBURGH, PA., Office hours from 9 A. M. UNTIL 2 P. M.

December 19, 1868.