

Pittsburgh Gazette.

WOMAN AND I.

—A woman and I.
—She is over the middle of life,
and the smile
is passing by.
—The shadows are ripe,
in the western sky.
—Losses and crosses, of course, we've had,
My old woman and I;
—And a very good reason why,
We're here, and it's not to mad
us were but to make us cry.
—Our chargeable road as we journeyed along,
The blade cut lives like a violin fly.
—My old woman and I,
For a while we striven to cheer,
What was to do we'd be done by.
—Which is the jolting day it is.

EPHEMERIS.

—Grant is in Philadelphia.
—Hungary has adopted the compulsory education system.
—California hopes to see Hans Christian Andersen in February.
—The supply of guano on the Chiricahua Islands is almost exhausted.
—A novel with Wilkes Booth as the hero has appeared from Arkansas.
—Gordon is at Rome, working at his new opera of *Franziska de Rifiati*.
—Rumor says Isabella is the author of some, as yet unpublished, memoirs.
—A heavy man in New Haven measures four feet four inches round the breast.
—Illinois is troubled with feline brutes. Feline brute is Illinois for wild cat.
—As a lecturer Mark Twain is so popular that he has many more orders than he can fill.
—New York City has already raised nearly \$30,000 for the American College in Rome.
—Idaho is said to be an excellent country for agriculture, of which it has but a limited supply.
—A Chinese merchant in San Francisco has gone into bankruptcy. His name is Long Kee.

—Eight orations were pronounced over Berry's grave, and to make it worse they were all in French.

—A lumber camp in New Brunswick took fire the other day, and all the inmates were burned up together.

—The first strawberrie of the season were in the New Orleans market last week, selling at \$8 per basket.

—In Spain the brigands have taken a lesson from their Italian prototypes, and now stop and rob railway trains.

—Southern girls are to be engaged, for Booth's new theater, to appear next fall and receive a most princely stipend.

—The Marquis of Bute is said to have purchased most of the Hastings property, and sold it back on low terms to the family.

—The practice of opium eating is said to have increased "sharply" in Maine since the passage of the celebrated liquor law.

—"My Enemy's Daughter," the new serial in "Harper's Magazine" is by Justin McCarthy late editor of the London *Scarlet*.

—Mr. Colfax is said to have shaken hands with five thousand people at his reception in Springfield, Mass., on Christmas Eve.

—Portugal is alarmed at the idea of a Spanish Republic, that she is greatly increasing the strength of her armament on the border of the two countries.

—How many proposals were made and accepted or rejected last night will probably never be known, but it was the last night of Leap Year, and four years must now elapse before another chance occurs.

—Verdi is writing an opera on the old subject, *Romeo and Juliette*. It is for the St. Petersburg stage, and is to be first produced in the coming winter of '69 and '70, with Patti-Caux as Juliette.

—The Captain of a vessel just arrived in England reports that in 34 to 57 degrees south latitude he saw more than two hundred icebergs, some of which were three hundred to six hundred feet high and five to six miles long.

—Hackett is playing in Boston, and by way of a surprise, to the denizens of that village, has decided to play Falstaff, a Shakespearean character in which Hackett is said to do very well, when he can be induced to play it.

—Mosenthal's new drama of *Pietra*, produced in London with Miss Bateman in the title role, receives the unqualified praise of the press, and Miss Bateman in the title role is said to be even grander than as Leah.

—A Massachusetts physician and disciple of Parson says that tobacco injures the voice, and that no fine singers use the weed. Carl Formes and Hermann can hardly be called fine singers, and are therefore not exceptions.

—An indication of the tightness of the times is given in the fact that fewer goods were sold in this city on the day before Christmas than on any corresponding day within the memory of the oldest Chicago merchant.—Chicago Times.

—A young lady of Indianapolis recently tried corsets to subdue a hair erector, wishing to remove a slight moustache from her upper lip. The experiment was evidently successful, resulting in the entire removal of the moustache and of the lip as well.

—A boy of seventeen and a girl of fourteen made a runaway match at Marine City, Michigan, recently, but on the way home after the ceremony, the bride's father met them, lifted the young husband out of the sleigh by the collar and drove his daughter off to a convent.

—A school teacher, near Chattanooga, Tenn., was assaulted, some days ago, for having whipped one of his pupils, and in the affray that ensued four persons, including the school teacher, were killed, the only person in the party who escaped unharmed being the school-boy who originated the trouble.

—The New York *Advertiser* says Wendell Phillips, when young, desired to become a chemist, but his mother interceded and that lady must be considered responsible for the

disastrous result, unless her maternal heart had misgivings that he was too explosive to be safely trusted in a laboratory.

—Sharp Illinois farmers are already working hard for high prices for their peaches next season. They now say that the cold injured the peach buds severely. Why don't they tell us that 1864 was an unusually cold year, and that therefore they will charge a dollar or two more per bushel for next year's peaches. There is nothing, in cases of this kind, like getting ahead of your competitors and taking time by the forelock.

—The Hidden Hand seems to be one of the best-illustrated stories in modern literature. Editors seem to be more unanimous in their appreciation of it than in anything else. Almost every newspaper we pick up seems to have at least the few opening chapters of the romance. Strange to say, most of them preface the novel with a poem, and with singular coincidence, have chosen the same poem,—Scandal Lane. What can such unanimity mean? Can the million be at hand?

—Calling and receiving will be the chief occupation of young people in Pittsburgh to-day. Innumerable gallons of coffee, decoctions of sherry, tons of fruit cake and cords of chicken salad will be consumed.

For once, whisky will take a secondary position, filling many a flask in the pockets of carriages. Tons of card board will be used and oceans of broadcloth, in the shape of low vests and steel-pen coats, will perambulate cities and suburbs. We hope we will all enjoy these things, but have our doubts.

—Parepa Rosa was to sing in Erie on Friday evening and everybody was going to hear her, all the tickets were sold and the songstress arrived. She went to one of the chiefest hotels, very hungry and wanted some dinner, but was told that dinner was done, the dining room closed and nothing eatable to be had until supper time. This disgusted the prima donna, who ordered her troupe and her baggage back to the depot, ate at a restaurant and departed in the next train, refusing to sing in a town where the hotels were so provincial.

—Street cars in Columbus and in Cleveland have been heated by small stoves this winter, with great success; an increase of thirty-three per cent. in the travel on street cars having been noticed in Columbus. In Philadelphia several of the companies are using Gibson's patent steam heater successfully. In this plan the furnace is located under the seat, and the heat is transmitted through the car by means of pipes. The cost of this apparatus for each car is \$40, and the patented charges as a royalty, one fare for each time the car passes over the road, with the heater in use.

—The Library of Congress, according to the report of the Librarian just made, has been increased during the year by 8,000 volumes of books and about 2,500 pamphlets. The whole number of volumes in the library is 173,995, exclusive of unbound pamphlets, periodicals, maps and manuscripts.

The receipts during the year under the operation of the copyright law were about 1,700 books and 3,400 pamphlets.

—Periodicals, maps, engravings, &c. The Librarian complains that many publishers are very slow in obeying the requirements of the copyright law to the library. About three-fourths of all copyright publications made since the 1st of February, 1867, were made in effect, have been secured to the library.

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