The Pittsburgh Gazette.

THE SWISS MINER'S SONG.

O Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Thou, God, dost fix the miner's post;
Thy word hath made the boundle-s store
Of rock and earth, and precious ore.

Good metal we receive from Thee,
Help us to use it honestly,
For God and country as 'tis fit,
Nor let us blindly worship it.

Thy word and everlasting love
Better than shining ore a small prove
Christ is a mine of wealth untold,
Richer than silver, gems and gold.

Who sees God in the precious stone
Works best and worships him alone;
He follows Christ with all his heart,
And acts the Christian miner's part.

Down in the miner's profoundest night
Our lamps shine on and guide aright,
So, Lord, still may thy word divine,
Through life's dark path before us shine.

GENERAL NEWS.

A BUFFALO hunting party leave Cincinnati this week for Sheridan, Kansas.

NINETY TWO burial permits were issued by the Cincinnati Board of Health last week.

TEN thousand copies of Byron's works were sold at the trade sale in New York last month.

CLEVELAND has had the Nicolson pavement for four years, and the wood as yet shows no indications of decay.

ITALIAN residents of Cincinnati celebrate, on Tuesday night, by a ball, the discovery of America by Columbus.

ANDREW PAUL, tobacconist, of Cleveland, is under arrest charged with setting his place on fire to get $250 insurance.

CINCINNATI expended $25 per day on each of the sixteen Councilmen from Philadelphia who visited that city last week.

THE total receipts for the St. Louis Fair Association during the past week, were $66,100, over $10,000 in excess of last year.

APPLES are dull at ten cents per bushel in Crawford county, Ind., and peaches go slow at twelve cents per bushel in the same county.

THE Red Stockings, of Cincinnati, up to September 10th, had played 45 games, and made 1,777 runs to their opponents' 509, an average of 39 to 11.

JACOB SNILBAKER and son were brought to Cleveland last week, charged with circulating bogus five cent pieces, and committed to await the action of the United States Court.

A RUMOR was prevalent on Friday last that the much talked of duel between Col. Mosby and Col. Boyd, military Sheriff of Fauquier county, Va., took place and that both were slightly wounded.

THE night that Mr. Touhey, of the St. Louis *Journal of Commerce* was drowned in Lake St. Clair, the foreman of the office and the foreman's wife simultaneously dreamed that they saw him floating in the water, dead.

CINCINNATI has one "waiting woman" outside of a concert saloon. She is to be seen daily in the middle of the street at the intersection of Plum and Longworth streets, waiting and watching for one who will never return.

MRS. ELIZA DEASU died very suddenly in Cincinnati, a few days ago, of hemorrhage of the lungs. The notable circumstance about the case is that no warning symptoms of weakness of the lungs had been experienced by the deceased.

THE Chicago *Post* denies that the frost has materially injured the corn in Illinois, and it thinks that there is now no room to doubt that the corn crop of the year is by odds the most bountiful ever produced in this country, and that the quality of the grain is unusually good.

AT Oakley Station, on the Marietta Railroad, last week, J. B. McClymon, a lawyer of Cincinnati, was cowhided by a Mr. Ebersole. The cause of the castigation was a statement said to have been made by McClymon that Ebersole's father had cheated the county in a real estate transaction.

LUCY STONE said at the Woman's Convention in Chicago: "Some mean cowards say if women vote they should fight. Now, she would ask, who perils her life when the soldier is born? The mother is his quartermaster until he is capable of finding his own rations."

SAID a male advocate of woman's right's: "When I am in a crowded car, and when a lady comes in, I think it is the duty of some other man to get up and give her his seat. I look around the car to see if any man in the crowd looks like making a move in that direction, and when I see them all keep their seats I hide my face behind a newspaper and blush for my sex."

A WORM which has heretofore been unknown in that vicinity, has made its appearance among some of the corn fields in Kentucky. It enters the stock either at the top or bottom and bores its course through, killing the tassel and perforating the blades. The outside rows of many fields have scarcely a stalk left. The worm, about half an inch in length, with striped body, is a new one, and unless an effective remedy is promptly found it will do immense damage.

ON Saturday last the workmen who are digging at the Battery, New York, for the new Government pier, found, at the depth of about ten feet below the surface, an old kettle almost destroyed by rust. It contained a collection of old Dutch coins, a knife and fork, much damaged by rust, one or two broken tiles, and some crockery. It doubtless belonged to some of the old Knickerbockers, and had probably been buried about the time of the first occupancy of the island.

A LOUISVILLE liquor firm are charged with altering the date upon their barrel stamps to make their liquor appear older than it is, thus increasing its demand. The penalty for altering stamps is $200 for every package upon which a changed stamp is found, and in this case ninety-nine barrels were discovered with the date changed, on which the penalty, is $19,800, and under the law the parties are also liable to indictment, and, if found guilty, to fine and imprisonment. Delano has directed proceedings to be instituted against the offending firm.

AT the festival of the employes of Brewster & Co., carriage manufacturers, at Lyon Park, New York, last week, one of the firm proposed a plan whereby the workmen will participate in the profits of the concern. Beside giving the highest wages Messrs. Brewster & Co. will divide a share of the profits, the amount to be determined upon consultation with a committee appointed by the men. It will cost the firm about $8,000. If a man is discharged during the year and his wages amount to $100, his interest shall not be forfeited, but be credited to the sick fund; and if a man leaves voluntarily his interest will go toward a fund for the sick and aged, and the firm will give at once $1,000 to this fund.

ASHLAND, Ohio, having been over-run with thieves, confidence men and incendiaries for some time past, has taken effectual means to rid herself of these pests of society. On Thursday night of last week a large meeting of citizens was held, vigilance committees appointed and resolutions passed, and endorsed by three hundred of the leading citizens, to stand by the committees in ridding the community of this class of rogues. Hagdbills have been struck and posted, giving the names of objectionable parties, and warning them to leave town or fare badly. Under this stimulus there has been quite an exodus of the lazy gentry.

A COLORED deck hand gave an exhibition of his strength the other day in Detroit. Several men were putting forth their united efforts to lift on end a hogshead of sugar in the Michigan Central freight depot, when he bade them get out of the way, and with no great apparent effort grasped the chines and turned up the huge weight. Something being said in regard to his strength, he then took a keg of nails and held it out at arms' length, grasping the chines at either end. With one hand he seized and moved a dray several feet, and with both hands carried it completely around. A box of tin, about as much as an ordinary man could carry, he held out at full length above his head, and shouldered a barrel of flour as easily as a boy could shoulder a small piece of wood.

PERSONAL.

CHICAGO has mounted letter carriers.

EX-SECRETARY STANTON has returned to Washington, with his health much improved.

THE earnings of the Central Pacific railroad for September were $597,590, mostly coin.

MISS CRAIG, whose heart Sprague smashed all to pieces, has got $10,000 of her verdict money.

WM. LONSTIN, one of the oldest printers in the United States, died on the 4th inst. at Lebanon, Ohio.

A LARGE force of workmen have been put upon the California and Oregon road, both at Marysville and Portland.

AFFAIRS on the Virginia and Truckee railroad have been amicably settled. The Chinamen have commenced work again.

SENATOR POMEROY has been elected president of the Woman's Suffrage Association of the District of Columbia. All the rest of the officers are ladies.

A CITIZEN of Limington, Me., lost a gold chain in 1837, and supposed it was stolen from him. A few weeks since he found it while ploughing a piece of land.

THE largest yield we have heard of this season is 144 bushels of oats raised on an acre of land by Thomas Frauley of the town of Somerset, St. Croix county, Wis.

THE news that Father Father Hyacinth has embarked for the United States is creating a great sensation among people who are especially concerned in religious controversy.

A TEMPERANCE lecturer has started from Kansas with the declared intention of walking to Augusta, Me., delivering a lecture on temperance every evening while on his way.

MRS. ANGELINA PODESTRY, a lady who has entered upon her second century, led the grand march at a ball given in Cincinnati on Monday evening by the Italian Catholic Benevolent Society.

MRS. VICK, 108 years old, drew her pension in Nashville on Friday. She is a sprightly old girl, and thinks she will be able to make her regular calls on the Pension Agent for twenty or thirty years yet.

RECONSTRUCTION has not destroyed the Southern appetite for fashion. A lady fainted on the streets of Mobile the other day, and investigation proved that her malady was produced from tight lacing.

THE husband of Agatha States, prima donna, followed her to the Academy of Music, New York, the other day, pistol in hand, and ordered her not to sing. An injunction silenced him and she went on with her song.

WHEN Gough first started as a lecturer, it is stated, he used to drown the audience with tears by telling how his father died with "snaix," though the old gent was even then looking down appreciatively from the gallery.

THERE is a disease called inland yellow fever, or "Addson fever," prevailing in the vicinity of Columbus, Miss., that is quite fatal. It has all, or nearly all, the characteristics of the Gulf yellow fever, terminating with black vomit.

THE editor of the Union City (Mich.) *Register* recently conversed with Mrs. Phebe Myers, aged 103 years. She is exceedingly active for one so old, is the mother of thirteen children, is able to walk alone, and knits her own stockings.

FOURTEEN months ago, it is reported, Dr. Livingstone was seen at Lake Tanganyika, by an Arab. The report is doubtless a hoax, for Arabs weren't in fashion fourteen months ago! Makers of Livingstone items will do well to pay more attention to the probabilities.

A PARTY under Lieut. Wheeler, sent to explore the great desert county of Colorado and south of White Pines, reports its arrival, after severe trouble, at Muddy river, fifty miles south of the mouth of the Rio Virgin. The party will return by the most westerly line and reach White Pine the 1st of November.

COL. FRANK L. RHOADES, of Shawneetown, Ill., has presented to the State Geological Department a tooth of some huge animal, probably a mastodon. The tooth is eight inches long by four wide. A card attached to it reads as follows: "This tooth, with two others, and some portions of a skull and jawbone, was found on the edge of the Ohio river, in a quagmire, near Shawneetown, Ill., at extreme low water, in the month of September, 1867. Weight when found, 6 lbs. 2 oz.; weight now, 5 lbs. 12 oz. Presented to the Geological Museum of Illinois by Col. F. L. Rhoades."

A SACRILIGIOUS thief entered the church of the Holy Trinity, at New Orleans, last week, under pretext of worshipping, and when alone in the building he lost no time in breaking open the sacristy and helping himself to the sacred vessels. He succeeded in carrying off three chalices, valued respectively at $100, $70 and $40, a large silver dish valued at 100, and three altar cloths. The thief was apparently so deeply engaged in prayer, when seen in the church immediately before the robbery, that he concealed both face and head in his hands, rendering it a difficult matter to identify him.

ON Sunday night last, as the schooner L. M. Chase, of Chatham, Mass., was off Minot's Ledge, a loud noise was heard by the fishermen on board, resembling the bellowing of a bull, which startled the men; but in a few moments their fright was increased on seeing their vessel, of eighty tuns burthen, suddenly lifted up in the water some six feet, and as quickly let fall again. The bellowing noise first heard was continued, when it subsided. The vessel, however, was found to have sustained no damage, and after further consideration it was ascertained that the strange commotion was caused by a finback whale. Some of these whales have recently been seen in the bay.

Fashion and Trade.

It is curious to notice upon what apparent trifles great commercial interests may turn. When hair powder went out of fashion half a century or more ago, there were not a few bankruptcies in consequence. If the ladies were to take it into their heads to discard the present arrangement of wires which support their skirts, a great deal of machinery, contrived for the manufacture of the flat-wire, and for other contrivances necessary to the process of giving bell shapes to our belles, would be thrown out of gear. What would be done with the skirts on hand it is hard to say. We have seen vines trained to run over them; but there would be an over-supply, even of such ornamental gardening.

The British Court, when court fetes were in fashion, more than once relieved depressed trade in certain branches, by balls or fetes, at which the articles suffering from want of demand were directed to be worn. The ribbon trade went sadly down when the small hats for ladies first came in, as there was no place for puffs of ribbon on the new hats. Now ribbons are at a premium again, for some that we see worn for belts and sashes, look as wide as silks for dresses. But the most marked incident in manufactures has been caused by the passion of young men and old for coarse woolens, "Cheviots," and American imitations. They certainly make up into very sensible business suits.

In consequence of the demand, low grade American wools, of the second and even third class, have crept up into competition in price with the superfine. The late war introduced woolen fabrics into much wider use than they ever were before. It will be a pity if wool does not keep its place. It is said to be more healthy than cotton or linen, and at any rate should never have been so much disused as it was down to 1860.

But fashions change constantly. Fine cloths, they say, are coming up again. There will be one advantage in this. The "million" will be more cheaply clad, when fashion takes its tax from the low grades. But we do hope our business men will, at least in business hours, still retain the serviceable suits which look as if "they meant business." Let the fitness of things be consulted.

The Origin of Rattlesnakes.

The attachment of the Red Indian aborigines to this famous reptile is proverbial; among nearly all the tribes, even at this present day, it is seldom disturbed, but is designated by the endearing name of grandfather. It is recorded, however, by the early historians, that when one tribe desired to challenge another to combat, they were in the habit of sending into the midst of their enemy the skin of a rattlesnake, whereby it would appear to have been employed as an emblem of revenge. And as for the origin of the rattlesnake, the old men among the Cherokees relate a legend to the following effect:

A very beautiful young man, with a white face wrapped in a white robe, once made his appearance in their nation, and commanded them to abandon all their old customs and festivals and to adopt a new religion. He made use of the softest language, and everything he did proved him to be a good man. It so hapened, however, that he could make no friends among them, and the medicine men of the nation conspired to take his life. In many ways did they try to do this—by lashing him witk serpents, and by giving him poison, but were always unsuccessful. But in process of time the deed was accomplished, and in the following manner: It was known that the good stranger was in the habit of daily visiting a certain spring for the purpose of quenching his thirst and bathing his body. In view of this fact, the magicians made a very beautiful war chest, inlaid with mud shells, and decorated with rattles, and this chest they offered to the Great Spirit, with the prayer that he would teach them how to destroy the stranger. In answer to the prayer, a venomous snake was created and carefully hidden under a leaf by the side of the spring. The stranger, as usual, came there to drink, was bitten by the snake, and perished. The Cherokee nation then fell in love with the snake, and having asked the Great Spirit to distinguish it by some peculiar mark from all the other snakes in the world, he complied by transferring to its body the rattles which had made the chest of sacrigoe so musical to the ear and so beautiful to the eye.

Oscillations of Railway Trains.

Sir Charles Fox states his opinion that the oscillation of railway trains, more especially at high velocities, producing what is ordinarily called "gauge concussion," is caused in very great measure by the use of wheels, the tires of which are portions of cones instead of cylinders. It is well known to engineers that the tires of railway wheels are generally coned to an inclination of one in twenty. It is considered that these were first introduced by Mr. George Stephenson, in the expectation of facilitating the passage of vehicles round curves by their adapting themselves through their various diameters to the different lengths of the two rails on which they were running. This however, is not the case in practice. No advantage is found to arise in the use of conical wheels in passing round curves, and as much evil results therefrom on straight lines. Sir Charles has constructed upwards of 250 miles of railway abroad, in the rolling stock of which he has departed from the usual form of wheel, and has used only cylindrical ones, and he has been gratified with the satisfactory reports of the steadiness of trains supplied with them.

THE prize money fund due to the sailors on Farragut's fleet who participated in the capture of New Orleans, it is announced, has been referred to a Commissioner to take testimony, and make a report to the Board of Claims. The Commissioner, it is believed, will file his report in about three months.