

H. B. MASSER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE, MARKET STREET, OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE.

A Family Newspaper—Devoted to Politics, Literature, Morality, Foreign and Domestic News, Science and the Arts, Agriculture, Markets, Amusements, &c

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SUNBURY, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1852.

OLD SERIES VOL. 13, NO. 4.

TERMS OF THE AMERICAN.

THE AMERICAN is published every Saturday at TWO DOLLARS per annum in advance. No paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid.

SELECT POETRY.

TO MY SPIRIT LOVE.

I love you—'tis the simplest way The thing I feel to tell; Yet if I told it all the day You'd never guess how well.

A Sketch.

THE GOOD ANGELS.

'Come Ady and Jane, it's time you were in bed,' said Mrs. Freeman to her two daughters about nine o'clock one evening.

A DUEL IN THE DARK.

The following sketch is certainly very marvellous, and not a little improbable. We do not vouch for its truthfulness, but give it as we find it in the New York Sunday Dispatch—to which it was furnished by a correspondent.

Accounts of duels at the West and in California terminating in tragedies—notwithstanding the humanizing influences daily developing themselves—appear to be rapidly on the increase. There appears to be a fascination in the code duello that impels the weaker minds of the community to revive, with all its historic barbarity, a custom as venal as cowardly, and which even our ancestors, rude as they were in those contumacious, which form the true gentleman, looked upon with disgust.

'The same,' 'It is possible?' 'A little group now formed round the man, and a good deal was said about Freeman and his fall from sobriety. One who had several times seen Ady and Jane come in and lead him home as they had just done, spoke of them with much feeling, and urged that it was a most touching scene.

'You can think what you please about it, gentlemen,' spoke up the landlord, 'but I can tell you my opinion upon the subject. I wouldn't give much for the mother who would let two little things like them go wandering about the street alone at this time of night.'

'I was at Lewis's Refectory last night,' 'Well?' 'And I saw something there that touched my heart. If I slept at all last night, it was only to dream of it. I am a father, sir; I have two little girls, and I love them tenderly. Oh, sir! the thought of their coming out in the cold winter night in search of me in such a polluted place, makes the blood feel cold in my veins.'

'My dear sir,' pursued the stranger, 'you have fallen at the hand of the monster intemperance, and I feel that you are in great peril. You have not, however, fallen hopelessly. You may yet rise, if you will. Let me, in the name of the sweet babes who have shown in so wonderful a manner their love for you, conjure you to rise up superior to this deadly foe. Reward those dear children with the highest blessing their hearts can desire. Come with me and sign the pledge of freedom.'

'The children then lifted their eyes quickly to his face, but half understanding what he meant. 'I will never go there again,' he added; 'I will always stay at home with you.'

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THE EXCAVATIONS AT NINEVEH.

Letters received in Paris from M. Place, Consul at Mosul, report further excavations and successes among the mounds of Nineveh. Among the recent gains from this rich mine of antiquities, besides a large addition of statues, bas-reliefs in marble, pottery, and articles of jewelry, which throw light on the habits and customs of the inhabitants of the ancient city, the French explorers have been able to examine the whole of the palace of Khorsabad and its dependencies. In so doing, they are said to have elucidated some doubtful points, and obtained proof that the Assyrians were not ignorant of any of the resources of architecture. M. Place has discovered a large gate, twelve feet high, which appears to have been one of the entrances to the city—two rows of columns, apparently extending a considerable distance—the cellar of the palace, still containing regular rows of jars, which had probably been filled with wine—fat, at the bottom of these jars there is still a deposit of a violet color. The operations have not been confined to the immediate vicinity of Khorsabad. M. Place has caused excavations to be made in the hills Bakhira, Karamless, Ten Leubou Mattai, Karakock, Digan, &c., on the left bank of the Tigris, within ten leagues from Khorsabad. In them he has found monuments, tombs, jewelry, and some articles in gold and other metal and in stone.

THE LIGHTNING—A FEW HINTS.

It may be well to encourage timid people who are religiously or constitutionally alarmed at lightning, to state the doctrine of chance. As a general thing, the lightning does not strike within the space of a square mile more than once a year. If the person is a rod distant, he is seldom, if ever, killed.

MY THABAH ANN.

When I closed my Thabah Ann, My heart thrilled wildly in my breast, And oh! let her bewitch them!

THE VILLAGE OF HERMANN, IN MISSOURI.

The village of Hermann, in Missouri, is the centre of a vine-growing district, originally settled, some fourteen years ago, by a company of Germans. The soil of the country was poor, and did not yield good crops of grain or tobacco, and many of the first settlers left. In 1845 the experiment of grape culture on the hills—which are from 300 to 600 feet high, with a southern exposure—was tried, and successfully. The vine now 137 acres devoted to the grape, and the manufacture of wine is carried on to a considerable extent. The village contains about 1,200 inhabitants.

EXTENSIVE COAL BED.

The railroad from Cincinnati to Zanesville, through Circleville, Lancaster, &c., will pass a bed of coal now in Perry county, Ohio, which has been announced by Professor Mather and other distinguished geologists, to be the most extensive in the United States, the depth of deposit ranging from sixty to one hundred and twelve feet.

THE COVER.

Professor Sechi, Rome, August 26, 34 A. M., while searching for Biela's comet, discovered a small nebulous comet in the constellation of the Twins. He does not know whether this is a new comet, or a portion of Biela's, which was divided in the beginning of 1846. Dr. Peterson, of Alton, considers the new comet to be undoubtedly Biela's.

DEATH OF A HOUSE FROM FIGHT.

On Saturday morning, as a train of cars was coming in, a horse of Mr. Collins, butcher, which was hitched to a wagon near the railroad track, became quite restive. He was seized and held by the bridle. As the cars came nearer he reared and plunged, then trembled violently, sunk down, and died in his tracks. Was a like case ever before known.—Frankfort (Ky.) Commonwealth.

REDUCTION OF FARE.

The fare to Boston by the Fall River line of steamers, has been reduced to \$3 for cabin and \$2 deck passage.

H. B. MASSER, ATTORNEY AT LAW. SUNBURY, PA. Business attended to in the Counties of Northumberland, Union, Lycoming and Columbia.

H. J. WOLVERTON, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Office in Market street, Sunbury, adjoining the Office of the "American" and opposite the Post Office.

M. L. SHINDEL, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Office in Market street, Sunbury, opposite Weaver's Hotel.

HENRY DONNEL, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Office opposite the Court House, Sunbury, Northumberland County, Pa. Prompt attention to business in adjoining Counties.

WOOD'S Cane Seat Chair Manufactory. No. 131 North Sixth Street, above Race Street.

J. H. & W. B. HART, WHOLESALE GROCERS. No. 229 North 3d St., above Callicott's, PHILADELPHIA.

HARRISBURG STEAM WOOD TURNING AND SCROLL SAWING SHOP.—Wood turning in all its branches, in city and out of city. Every variety of Cabinet and Carpenter work either on hand or turned to order.

JAMES BEARD Proth'y. Sunbury, Sept. 25, 1852.

WM. McCARTY, PRINTER. Market Street, SUNBURY, PA.

JUST received and for sale, a fresh supply of EVANGELICAL MUSIC for Singing Schools. He is also opening at this time, a large assortment of Books, in every branch of Literature, consisting of Poetry, History, Novels, Romances, Scientific Works, Law, Medicine, School and Children's Books, Bibles; School, Pocket and Family, both with and without Engravings,—and every variety of Binding, Prayer Books, of all kinds.

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