

A NAME.

BY JOHN WARREN.
Make for thyself a name.
But not upon the sea;
The sailing vessel strand.
Off deluged the land.
I love the mounded form;
Made of the plant clay.
Altho' the night of mellow down
Where fairy moonbeams play.

Interesting Narrative. A SCENE IN REAL LIFE.

The editor of the Chicago Times, having been on the north side of that city to see a friend, was recently prevented from reaching his office, in consequence of a steam-tug having passed up the river with a small fleet of vessels in tow, one of which had been cast off and hauled in just west of the bridge, leaving the "draw" still open. While waiting, he witnessed the following scene:

where strangers wishing employment could find work. She had on foot traveled many miles, until she reached Milwaukee, and thence, by the kindness of a poor sailor, who had seen her day after day on the dock, watching the steamers depart, had inquired and ascertained that she wished to come hither, but had not the money. He brought her to Chicago on his own vessel, and had told her that by crossing the bridge she would find one of those places where situations were given to worthy applicants.

Shark Fishing on the Jersey Coast. During the warm months, three species of sharks, namely: the blue, dog, and hammer-head, visit the waters of southern New Jersey in large numbers, and of late years many of them are taken for the sake of the oil afforded by their livers. The fisherman "make fast" to the sharks, with either hooks or harpoons—both of which implements are of an exceedingly strong description, and expressly manufactured for the purpose—and the coup de grace is given with the lance.

most successful catch that we have ever known was effected with the harpoon; for it happened some twelve months since, that a couple of our acquaintances harpooned and secured a round dozen of sharks during one tide; which exploit is unmatched in the entire annals of our shark-fishing. With one or two exceptions, the fish thus taken were of the species known as the hammer-head. This branch is the most repulsive of all the shark family, as its members are characterized by exceedingly wide, flat heads, huge goggle eyes, and mouths measuring a yard or more across, the interior of which is furnished with no less than six rows of long, wedge-shaped teeth.

Communications. Is Party Spirit Beneficial? The interrogator evidently refers to political parties. Religious differences are more properly termed sects. We shall consider the question not in the narrow light of a faction, or as exemplified in the career of certain designing, unprincipled demagogues; but rather as a principle of free governments. That the laws adopted by any nation, form the basis of its peculiar development, is an axiom too clear for dispute.

But thank heaven, there are many more men of sound principles and virtue; men of conspicuous talents, unalloyed reputation, in short, endowed with every qualification of mind, education and character likely to redound to their own or their country's glory. All these elements may be found in our political parties. What then? There are corrupt and wicked men in every branch of human enterprise. The church has its hypocrites, the stage its traitors and intriguers, commerce and trade, its bankrupts, farmers, cheat and lawyers (sic). Nevertheless, the good in each vastly overbalances the evil, and all these are generally beneficial. On account of the competition that has crept in, some have so far despaired as to sigh again for the monarchy. As well abandon all trade, because one occasionally commits fraud, and purposely fails, that he may cheat his creditors. Do away with law because some of its votaries are now and then rogues; or banish our ministers, tear down our churches and burn our bibles, because some are hypocrites. Upon this principle you would destroy all institutions, and all society. Corruption in parties as well as in the church is best remedied by reform. I cannot believe, it sacrilege to find fault with existing institutions, principles or men. Reforms were never brought about by acquiescence, submission or indifference. The destruction of a dangerous error which has widely extended its domain is a splendid victory. Attempts of this nature may have tended to multiply the number of parties. The present parties are so much divided, dismembered and changed, that a college of Anatomists would be puzzled to resolve them into their primary elements, yet the desired end may thus be obtained. One of the abuses of this necessary good, is that men occasionally "give up to party what was meant for mankind." Another, and perhaps greater abuse, too frequently occurs, in the election of President.

A True Man. If I shall describe a living man, a man that hath that life that distinguishes him from a fowl or a bird, that which gives him a capacity next to angels; we shall find that even a good man lives not long, because it is long before he is born to this life, and longer yet before he hath a mans growth. He that can look upon death, and see its face with the same countenance with which he hears its story; that can endure all the labors of his life with his soul supporting his body; that can equally resist riches when he hath them, and when he hath them not; that it is not sadder if they lie in his neighbor's trunk, nor more brag if they shine round about his own walls; he that is never moved with good fortune coming to him, nor going from him; that can look upon another man's lands, evenly and pleasantly as if they were his own, and yet look upon his own and use them, too, just as if they were another man's; that neither spends his goods prodigally, and like a fool, nor yet keeps them avariciously and like a wretch; that weighs not benefits by weight and number, but by the mind and circumstances of him that gives them; that never thinks his charity expensive if a worthy person be the receiver; he that does nothing for opinion's sake, but everything for conscience, being as curious of his actions in markets and theatres, and is as much in awe of himself as of a whole assembly he that knows God looks on, and contrives his secret affairs as in the presence of God and his holy angels; that eats and drinks because he needs it, not that he may serve a lust or load his stomach; he that is bountiful and cheerful to his friends, and charitable and apt to forgive his enemies; that loves his country and obeys his prince and desires and endeavors nothing more than to do honor to God; this person may reckon his life to be the life of a man, and compute his months, not by the course of the sun, but by the zodiac and circle of his virtues; because these are such things which fools and children, and birds, and beasts, cannot have. These are therefore the actions of life, because they are the seeds of immortality. That day in which we have done some excellent thing, we may as truly reckon to be added to our life, as were the fifteen years to the days of Hezekiah.—Bishop Taylor.

Patent Alarm Beds. Those who have visited the Fair at the Crystal Palace must have noticed the patent alarm bed—a Down East invention. The purpose of these beds is to prevent a person from oversleeping himself, or if he does not wake at the time the alarm is sounded the machinery operates in such a manner as to chuck him out upon the floor, much to his astonishment. For instance, when a person wishes to retire to bed, he winds up an alarm clock attached to the bed, and sets it at the hour he wishes to get up. At the appointed hour the alarm sounds, and if the sleeper is awakened, he may arise; but if he does not awake, the machinery of the clock, operating on a lever, upsets the bed frame, and the occupant is tilted out upon the floor. The bed is worthy the inspection of heads of families, who have the care of sluggards and sleepy heads. We have a good story to tell in connection with one of these beds. A friend of ours recently got married to a lovely and interesting young woman. In the house of the bride's father, where the wedding took place one of the "alarm beds" had just previously been introduced. The wedding party was very large, fashionable, and everything went off with the utmost merriment, the entertainment being of the most generous kind. At length, the teasing over, and the hour of midnight past the guests began to retire, and the lights to grow dim in the house. The old folks hinted gently about sleep, and the bride and her lord grew weary and impatient. It was easily seen that they wished to be alone, and the lady was accordingly escorted to her chamber, to which blissful haven the blushing bridegroom soon followed her. We will not attempt to draw a picture of what ensued, but suffice it to say that while the interesting pair were in the midst of one of their most interesting *te de lates*, click-click was heard, and the astonished couple, the next instant, found themselves launched upon the floor in the middle of the room, fast locked in each other's arms, holding on like good fellows, in momentary expectation of an earthquake. They survived the shock, however. The fact of it was, the "alarm bed" had been assigned them for their nuptial couch, and the bride's youngest brother, the mischievous devil, Tom, had taken the liberty to set the alarm at what he said he thought would be "the auspicious hour." He got his ears boxed the next morning, and our friend W. D. S., has been suspicious of "alarm beds" ever since.

Parson Jones The old negro preacher of Zanesville, thus exhorted on one occasion. "My dear friends and brethren," said he, "the soul ob de brack man is as dear in de sight ob de Lord as de soul ob de white man. Now you all see Judge—a sittin dah jainin' on his golden-headed cane; you all know the judge, niggas, and a berry fine man he is too. Well, now, I se gwine to make a little comparison: Suppose de judge, some fine mornin', puts his basket on his arm and goes to make to buy a piece of meat. He soon finds a nice, fat piece of mutton an' goes off with it.—Do you s'pose de judge would stop to 'quire wedder dat mutton was ob a white sheep or ob a brack' sheep? No, nuffin' do de kind; if de mutton was nice an' fat, it would be all de same to de judge; he would not stop to ask wedder de sheep had white wool or de brack wool. Well, jis' so it is, my friends, wid ob Hebenly Master. He does not stop to ask wedder a soul longes to a white man or a brack man—wedder his head was kivered wid straight hair or kivered wid wool; the only question he ax would be: 'Is dis a good soul?' an' 'is so, de massa will say: 'Enter into de joy ob de Lord,' an' 'sit down on de same bench wid de white man'; y'es all our a perfect quality!"

Good Humor. Keep in good humor. It is not great calamities that embitter existence, it is the petty vexations and jealousies, the little disappointments, and the "minor miseries," that make the heart heavy and the temper sour. Don't let them. Anger is pure waste of vitality. It helps nobody, it hinders everybody. It is always foolish, and always disgraceful, except in some rare cases when it is kindled by seeing wrong done to another; and even that noble rage seldom mends the matter. Keep in good humor. No man does his best except when he is cheerful. A light heart makes nimble hands and keeps the mind free and alert. No misfortune is so great as one that sours the temper. Till cheerfulness is lost, nothing is lost. Keep in good humor. The company of a good humored man is a perpetual feast. He is welcome everywhere. Eyes glisten at his approach, and difficulties vanish in his cheerful presence. Franklin's indomitable good humor did as much for his country in the old Congress as Adam's fire or Jefferson's wisdom. He clothed wisdom with smiles and softened contentious minds into acquiescence. Keep in good humor. A good conscience, a sound stomach, and a clear skin are the elements of good humor. Get them, keep them, in good humor. PRINTING IN THE WOODS.—We are doing what perhaps has never been done in the United States before—we are printing the Wisconsin Mirror in the woods!—not a dwelling, except our own, within half a mile of us, and only one within a mile! The forest oaks hang over our office and dwelling, the deer and rabbits shy around us, and the partridges and quails seek our acquaintance by venturing nearer and nearer our doors. The noble Wisconsin is bearing onward its immense burdens of ice, majestically and silently, within sight of our windows; and the snow capped hills, covered with scattering oaks and pines, peer up in the distance. There is romance and reality in all this, and we feel almost willing to publish a paper in such a location just for the excitement of the thing. But most of the romance is soon to be spoiled. Already several dwellings are in progress near us, and before many weeks they are to be occupied by enterprising neighbors; and, when Spring and Summer shall come, we expect such a clatter of axes and spades, and trowels and saws and hammers, that we shall hardly be able to write our editorials without introducing more or less of the confusion. The fact is, we expect a large village—yes, a city—to grow up rapidly around us; and that is why we are here—printing in the woods!—Wisconsin Mirror, Jan. 1.

PROGRESS OF THE AGR.—A schoolboy, about ten years of age, approaches the master with a bold front and self-confident air, and the following dialogue ensued: Boy—May I be dismissed, sir? Mr. Birch, scowling—What reason have you for making the request, Thomas? Boy—I want to take my woman out sleighing sir. Mr. Birch—Take your seat! An amateur gardener sent to a seeds man in town the other day for some seeds of the "pin-plant," which he had advertised—requesting precisely six parcels of custard pie seeds, and two of mince pie.—The seedsman promptly sent half a dozen goose eggs, and two blind puppies. The humorous gentleman admitted that the joke was rather against him.

The N. Y. Dutchman says that 'who ever wishes to get along in this world has only to take a few lessons of a hen chasing a grasshopper. With a long neck and sharp eye, take a few hurried steps, stop short, peep over, peep under, now to the left, now to the right, one flutter and a rush and then you have him. That's the way its done.

THUNDER AND LIGHTNING.—In Arago's Meteorological Essays, lately published, many latitudes are given where the phenomena of thunder and lightning are unknown; those among the inhabitants of Lima in Peru for instance, who have never travelled, can form from their experience no idea of thunder, and they are equally unacquainted with lightning, for even noiseless and sheet lightnings never appear in the atmosphere of lower Peru; often, and never showing true clouds. Arago insists on his inquiry, by saying that the most brilliant and extensive flashes of lightning, which appear to embrace the whole extent of the visible horizon, have not a duration equal to the thousandth part of a second of time!—Horticulturalist.