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Four lines or less constitute half a square. Ten lines or more than ten, constitute a square.

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JUST RECEIVED AT SCHEFFER'S BOOKSTORE, ADAMANTINE SLATES OF VARIOUS SIZES AND PRICES.

REMEMBER THE PLACE, SCHEFFER'S BOOKSTORE, NO. 13 MARKET STREET.

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Will supply his old friends and customers with the following books at auction price:—

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A LARGE AND SPLENDID ASSORTMENT OF RICHLY GILT AND ORNAMENTAL WINDOW CURTAINS, PAPER BLINDS,

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Just received our Spring Stock of WALL PAPER, BORDER, FIRE SCREENS, &c., &c.

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A general assortment of LAW BOOKS, all the State Reports and Standard Elementary Works, with many of the old English Reports, scarce and rare, together with a large assortment of second-hand LAW BOOKS, at very low prices, at the old price bookstores of

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APPROPRIATE TO THE SEASON! FISH! FISH! FISH!!

SMOKED HERRING, (extra Digby.) SCOTCH HERRING.

WALKING CANES! Which we will sell as cheap as the cheapest!

FAMILY BIBLES, from \$5 to \$10, strong and handsomely bound, printed on good paper, with elegant clear new type, sold at

GRANBERIES!!!—A SLENDID LOT

FOR a superior and cheap TABLE or SALAD OIL go to

THE Fruit Growers' Handbook—by W. W. WEBER, wholesale and retail at

SPERM CANDLES.—A large supply

Harrisburg, Pa., Monday, December 10, 1860.

Livery Stables.

CITY LIVERY STABLES, BLACKBERRY ALLEY.

THE undersigned has re-commenced the LIVERY BUSINESS in his NEW AND SPACIOUS STABLES, located as above, with a large and varied stock of HORSES, CARRIAGES AND OMNIBUSES.

FRANK A. MURRAY

LIVERY & EXCHANGE STABLE, THIRD STREET BELOW MARKET.

HAVING purchased the interest of J. Q. Adams in the establishment, and made large additions to the stock, the undersigned is prepared to accommodate the public with SUPERIOR HORSES for Saddle or Carriage purposes, and with every variety of VEHICLES of the latest and most approved styles, on reasonable terms.

BRANCH STABLE, Exchange and Stable in the buildings lately occupied by A. W. Barr, in Fourth street, opposite the Hotel, where he is prepared to accommodate the public with Horses and Vehicles, at all times, on reasonable terms.

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Coal.

JOHN TILL'S COAL YARD,

SOUTH SECOND STREET, BELOW PRATT'S ROLLING MILL,

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Where he has constantly on hand LYKENS VALLEY BROKEN, EGG, STOVE AND NUT COAL.

WILKESBARRE STEAMBOAT, BROKEN, STOVE AND NUT COAL,

ALL OF THE BEST QUALITY.

CONSUMERS GIVE ME A CALL FOR YOUR SUPPLY.

Orders left at my house, in Walnut street, near Fifth; or at Brubaker's, North street; J. L. Speel's, Market Square; Wm. Bostick's, corner of Second and South streets; and John Lingle's, Second and Mulberry streets, will receive prompt attention.

COAL! COAL!! ONLY YARD IN TOWN THAT DELIVERS) PATENT WEIGH CARTS!

NOW IS THE TIME

For every family to get in their supply of Coal for the winter—weighed at their door by the Patent Weigh Cart.

I have a large supply of Coal on hand, consisting of S. M. CO.'S LYKENS VALLEY COAL all sizes, LYKENS VALLEY do. " WILKESBARRE do. " BITUMINOUS BROAD TOP do. " All Coal of the best quality mined, and delivered free from all impurities, at the lowest rates, by the boat or car load, single, half or third of tons, and by the bushel.

COAL! COAL!! COAL!!!

TO GET CLEAN COAL!

FREE FROM SLATE, AND CAREFULLY SCREENED, AS LOW AS

FIGURE AS FAIR DEALING WILL AFFORD!

Also, HICKORY, OAK AND PINE WOOD always on hand.

PATENT WEIGH CARTS.

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The Patriot & Union.

MONDAY MORNING, DEC. 10, 1860.

"HIS WIFE'S SISTER"—A STORY OF A SACRIFICE.

An elegant and philosophical writer says: "Man's life is only a journey from one food woman's breast to another. It was probably the object of the author to refer particularly to the mother and wife. As the number of stopping places is not limited, however, I choose to accept the most catholic interpretation. I believe that the world usually calls 'incongruity' is only the effort of nature to progress toward perfect affinity. If man, in his journey of life stops at a good many ports, it stands to reason that he will acquire a much better knowledge of the world, and will eventually 'lay up' in the best haven. Let me give you a modified illustration of my idea. I have a friend who has been subjective to a theory of purely physical progression. His first and earliest affection was for Curly. He became acquainted at the age of ten years with a set of twelve, if I may so term it, was not lasting. A Voice, belonging to another and otherwise plain young woman, next occupied the reverberating chambers of his heart. It was not a fine voice, but it was a positive one, and his was a negative. Now, you see, Curly had a negative voice, and of course two negatives hadn't an attraction. Hence his defection. Then a Bust attracted his undivided attention. It was followed by Eyes and Mouth, which by an unusual phenomenon occurred in the same individual; they were both positives and my friend's own eyes and mouth were negatives, proposing to them, but was provisionally saved. Hence his new variation. He came very near to the interposition of an Ankle. He flirted with it for some time, but an ankle not being a regular feature, of course it wasn't lasting. Need I inform the reader that had he met the positive and negative peculiarities combined in one person, he would have fallen in love at once and recognized his affinity. That's what he was looking for. Hence his hesitation, and what the world foolishly call his "inconstancy."

I merely instance this "physical" illustration as being the most forcible and common. Mental and moral peculiarities are met in the same way, and are much more difficult to compare. Of course there are some exceptions to the above theory. Indistinctive people are an exception. You may take a stick of wood and saw it into a number of small pieces, and you shall find no difficulty in fitting any of the pieces together. But take another stick, and break it several times, and you must find the particular adjunct if you wish to join two in one. Now indistinctive people are the sawn blocks; they come naturally together. The broken pieces are men and women of strongly opposite characters, with negative and positive dispositions, fitting each other and showing that in the normal state they were one distinct creation. Not unfrequently there is some unnatural matching. A worthy friend of mine, with a smooth, indistinctive surface, married one of the broken pieces; the consequence was obvious; attraction has worn off her salient features, and she has become like him. But when two broken surfaces meet, that don't fit—there's trouble and business for the lawyers!

I would like to give you an illustration of another exception, just for its moral. Every story should have a moral or develop some peculiar idea—but how often do we accept the moral. When our surgical friend strips the walls of this once living temple, and lays bare its wonderful internal structure; however irrelevant the act, we pardon it for the good that shall accrue to man thereby. But when the novelist, with his little scalpel, cuts into the character of his opposite neighbor, or his dear friend, and exhibits their internal organs, or shows up the so-called idiosyncrasies, we never recognize ourselves therein. That's quite another affair, of course.

When my friend Dick was about thirty years of age, he had amassed a little fortune. He had flirted a good deal in his time, and was rather a wild young fellow. But under his superficial qualities and manly exterior, there was a large, honest boy's heart. Whether it had ever been trampled upon or had the impression of some woman's small foot sunk in it, is of little consequence. But I do not think that he held the belief of by-gone days in its cold fossiliferous stratum. Dick had never had an "affair de coeur"; he had forgotten it. He was what we term *blanc*; we—who know nothing about it. Dick did not object to the epithet—he rather liked it, as we all do—and I think he cultivated an *emmyer* air. If he had any previous erratic experience, it was in the progressive stages I told you of.

At his boarding-house he chanced occasionally to meet a young girl, who seemed to possess many of the attributes he had admired consecutively in others. She was simple and unsophisticated, and supported herself by giving music lessons. With his wholesome admiration of the so-called *blanc*, he had never had her after a fashion. She did not object to his attentions. Miss Mary was flattered and pleased with Dick. And Dick did not exactly love her, for he had doubted the existence of the passion. But he felt it was time to get married. He was getting old. Here was a good chance for him to test his skeptical theory in regard to love. If he really believed there was no such thing he might as well marry her as any one. She would undoubtedly make him a good wife. And she was poor, and that was a strong lever that stirred the romantic foundation of Dick's heart. He could give her a position. "She must love him—she could give her happiness!" He could, in short, make a *blanc*—yes, that was it, a *sacrifice*!

They were married quietly. There were some friends of Dick's present, but the bride was an orphan, and her only relative, a younger sister, lived in a distant State. He took her to a rich and luxurious home. He felt that he had done the correct and gentlemanly thing in every respect, and when he had fastened into the softly carpeted parlor of his fashionable bower, it was with a feeling of plain self-congratulation. The foolish simple bride threw her arms about her husband's neck, and said to him: "How can I thank you?" "Oh, Dick! how can I thank you?" "Dick was touched and felt an imaginary halo suspend itself over his Olympian brow? There were no transports with Dick. The honeymoon passed quietly and evenly. He had not expected to be extravagantly blissful—his dream, if one had ever fashioned and shaped his inner man, was deceitful, and he knew it. His wife was all to him that he had sought, it seemed—but yet the possession of her love did not seem fraught with the strange fascination that he had often conceived in his earlier days. Let her know it, oh no, it would spoil his perfect sacrifice. But perhaps it was this consciousness that placed a deeper chasm betwixt his wife's affections and his own. He felt he had another's happiness in his keeping, and he resolved to guard it as preciously as his own. This state of affairs, as you may readily imagine,

though very romantic, put him upon a forced and unnatural behavior, which added another million of miles to that awful chasm. And Dick sometimes found himself sitting opposite to her, in their comfortable parlor, and wondering if that strange woman was his wife. There was the contour of the face, that had haunted his boyish visions; there was the same soft voice and winning accent—and yet why wasn't he happier? Why wasn't he grateful? What was the meaning of that awful barrier that lay between them? Why was he doing the Spartan business and all that sort of thing? He would get up at such times and go over to the next womanly figure, and gaze into her eyes and kiss her red lips, and say, "Are you happy, my dear?" and then she would look back at an answer, and would say, "Are you not Dick?" Dick would say emphatically, "Certainly, my dear!" with a great deal of unnecessary decision.

A time came when Dick's wife was not able to visit much, and kept her room a great deal; he would visit her, and that for certain reasons, the visit would be very opportune; and it was with that strange flutter which the consciousness of a coming event occasions in the breast of the expectant parent, that Dick was sitting by himself in the little library before the fire. Her chair—for she was wont to bring her work in and sit with her husband while he read—was standing opposite, and her work basket was still upon the table. He was trying to analyze the strange sensations that were throbbing upon him, a looking forward to a happier state of being, when it occurred to him that he might assist his reflections by smoking. He drew out his cigar case, bit off the end, a fragrant Havana, and looked around for a bit of paper to light it. His eye fell on his wife's basket. There was a white paper sticking out of a chaotic seraglio of various colored fragments. He took it up. It seemed to be a letter. He was about replacing it when his eye caught a passage containing his own name.

"I have told you that Dick was the son of honor. If he had known that his wife did not want him to read that letter, he wouldn't have read it. If he had imagined for a moment that it contained anything he shouldn't read, or any secret of his wife, he wouldn't have set and blinked at it all day, or perhaps have walked up stairs with it and handed it to her saying: 'My dear, you have left a letter below, and I don't know what it is, or who it's from,' and would have departed dramatically. But not knowing what it was, you see, he coolly read on, commencing at the paragraph containing his name, as I do:

"I am sorry to hear that Dick is not all that you fondly imagined. Don't ask me, dear, for advice; it is better you should leave all to time and your own tact and judgment. I think that no one is capable of mediating between a wife's affections and her husband's—even a sister. I can't say that you ought to have weighed all this before you would yourself have set and blinked at it all day, or perhaps have walked up stairs with it and handed it to her saying: 'My dear, you have left a letter below, and I don't know what it is, or who it's from,' and would have departed dramatically. But not knowing what it was, you see, he coolly read on, commencing at the paragraph containing his name, as I do:

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