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VOLUME XXVII. GETTYSBURG, PA., FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 9, 1857 NUMBER 44.

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Gettysburg, Dec. 19, 1856.

PARASOLS, Umbrellas, Fans—stacks of them—at SCHICK'S.

SONG OF THE SNOW-BIRD.

The ground was all covered with snow one day,
And two little sisters were busy at play,
When a snow-bird was sitting close by on a tree,
And merrily singing his chik-a-de-de.

He had not been singing that tune very long,
Ere Emily heard him, so loud was his song;
"O, sister! look out of the window," said she,
"Here's a dear little bird singing chick-a-de-de.

"Poor fellow! he walks in the snow and the sleet,
And has neither stockings nor shoes on his feet.
I pity him so—how cold he must be!
And yet he keeps singing his chick-a-de-de.

If I were a bare-footed snow-bird I know
I would not stay out in the cold and the snow;
I wonder what makes him so full of his glee,
He's all the time singing that chick-a-de-de.

"O mother! do get him some stockings and shoes,
And a nice little frock, and a hat if he chooses;
I wish he'd come into the parlor and see
How warm we would make him, poor chick-a-de-de."

The bird had flown down for some pieces of bread,
And heard every word little Emily said;
"What a figure I'd make in the dress," tho't he,
And he laughed as he warbled his chick-a-de-de.

"I am grateful," said he, "for the wish you express,
But I have no occasion for such a fine dress;
I had rather remain with my limbs all free,
Than be hobbled about, singing chick-a-de-de.

"There is one, my dear child, though I cannot tell who,
Has clothed me already, and warm enough too;
Good morning! O, who are so happy as we!"
And away he went singing his chick-a-de-de.

A MOTHER'S INFLUENCE.

In a speech delivered by Col, Benton (Old Bullion,) at the Anniversary Dinner of the New England Society, at the Astor House, New York, on Monday evening last, the Orator, in addressing the lady portion of the audience, referred in eloquent terms to his excellent mother, whose influence over him is worthy of note.—Speaking of Tobacco, the Col. said:

"My mother asked me never to use the weed, and I have never touched it from that time to the present day. She asked me not to game, and I have never gamed; and I cannot tell this day who is winning and who losing in any game that can be played. She admonished me, too, against hard drink; and whatever capacity for endurance I may have at present, and whatever usefulness I may attain in life, I attribute to having complied with her pious and earnest wishes. When seven years of age, she asked me not to drink, and I made then a resolution of total abstinence long before societies for that purpose were formed. I was an abstinent society at a time when I was the sole constituent member of my own body; and that I have adhered to it through all time, I owe to my mother,"

—There is a moral in this that mothers should take to heart. A mother's influence in forming the character is undoubtedly more potent than any other that can be exerted in regard to establishing those fixed principles that follow a man through life. Almost every great man the world has ever produced, owed his position to the principles inculcated in his breast in childhood by her who gave him birth.

IMMORTALITY.—How beautiful the following gem from the pen of Prentice, and how happy the heart that can see these beauties as he portrays them:—

"Why is it that the rainbow and the cloud come over us with a beauty that is not of earth and then pass away, and leave us to muse on their faded loveliness? Why is it that the stars, which hold their festival around the midnight throne, are placed above the reach of our limited faculties, forever mocking us with their unapproachable glory? And why is it that bright forms of human beauty are presented to our view, and then taken from us, leaving the thousand streams of affection to flow back in Alpine torrents upon our heart? We are born for a higer destiny than that of earth. There is a realm where the rainbow never fades, where the stars will be set out before us like islands that slumber on the ocean, and where the beautiful being that passes before us like a meteor, will stay in our presence forever."

A NEW TOY.—A Paris correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune speaks of a new toy which is making the fortune of its inventor, and is thus described:

"His invention consist in a balloon which appears to be made of a bladder, coloren red, and inflated with hydrogen gas, but I am assured they are made of gutta percha or India rubber. The public gardens present a singular appearence with hundred of these balloons in the hands of children, floating with swanlike grace a yard above their heads. At a little distance the string becomes invisible, and they seem to follow the children by a sort of magnetic attraction. Now and then a negligent child lets the string slip out of his hand, the balloon rises majestically, despite the tears of the child, the screams and leaps of the nurse, and the 'agitation' of the crowd, until it is lost to the sight."

☞"Pat you have dated your letter a week ahead. It is not so late in the month by one week, you spallpeen." "Troth, boy, indade, and it's jist meself what is wanting sweet Kathleen to get it in advance of the mail. Sure I'll not care if she gets it three days afore it is written, me darlint.

☞Fearlessly do that which is right.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES,

Of Various Farm Products and other things in various Countries.

In England and America grain is generally rated by the bushel, though it is not the same measure; for here we use the Winchester bushel, which contains 2.150 inches. There, since 1826 the legal measure is called the imperial bushel, which contains 2.218 inches; so that thirty-two of their bushels are about equal to thirty-three of ours.

The following are the commercial weights of a bushel of different articles, viz: wheat, beans, potatoes, and clover-seed, sixty pounds. Corn, rye, flaxseed, and onions, fifty-six pounds. Corn on the cob weight seventy pounds. Buckwheat, fifty-two; barley, forty-eight; Hempseed, forty-four; timothy seed, forty-five; castor beans, forty-six; oats, thirty-five; bran, twenty; blue grass seed, fourteen; salt, fifty; according to one account, but, Onondaga salt is fifty-six, (the real weight of coarse salt is eighty-five pounds to the bushel;) dried apples, twenty-four; dried peaches, thirty-three, according to a table lately published in numerous papers, but according to our experience both are wrong. We have seen thousands of bushels sold at twenty-two pounds to the bushel, which will measure about three pecks.

HEAPING MEASURES.—Potatoes, turnips, and esculent roots, apples and other fruits, meal and bran, and in some States, oats are sold by heaping measure, which contains 2.815 cubic inches. The size of the Winchester bushel measure, is a circular ring with straight sides eight inches high and eighteen and a half in diameter. A box twelve inches square, with sides 7.-71-32 inches high, will hold half a bushel.

COMPARATIVE GRAIN MEASURES.—Besides the difference between the Winchester and imperial and heaped bushel, before stated, there are a dozen or more local bushels. For instance, at Abington, Eng., nine gallons; at Penrith, sixteen; at Carlisle, twenty-four; at Chester, thirty-two; &c. In France, the *setier* is as 4,427 to 1,000 compared with the imperial bushel; that is, 4427-1,000 bushels. In Holland, the *mudde* is as 3.157. In Prussia, the *sheffel* 1,479. In Poland, the *korsee*, 1,451. In Spain, the *fanega*, 1,599; that is, 99-1000 over a bushel and a half.

BARREL MEASURES.—Rice, six hundred pounds; flour, one hundred and ninety-five pounds; powder, twenty-five pounds; [illegible] corn, five bushels, shelled. By this latter measure crops are estimated, and corn bought and sold throughout most of the Southern and Western States. At New Orleans, a barrel of corn is a flour barrel full of ears. In some parts of the West it is common to count one hundred ears for a bushel.

TON WEIGHT AND TON MEASURE.—A ton of hay or any coarse, bulky article usually sold by that measure, is twenty gross hundred; that is, 2,240 pounds; though in many places that ridiculous old fashion is being done away, and 2,000 pounds only counted to a ton.

A FIRKIN of Butter is fifty six pounds; a tub, eighty-four.

A SCOTCH PINT contains one hundred and five cubic inches, and is equal to four English pints.

A FARLOT of wheat is 21¼ Scotch pints.

TROY WEIGHT AND AVOIRDUPOIS WEIGHT.—One hundred and forty-four pounds avoirdupois are equal to one hundred and seventy-five pounds Troy—one hundred and seventy-five ounces Troy are equal to one hundred and ninety-two ounces avoirdupois. All precious metals are bought and sold by Troy weight.

The KILOGRAMME of France is 1,000 grammes, and equal to two pounds, two ounces, four grains avoirdupois.

A CHALDRON of coal is 58⅓ cubic feet, generally estimated at thirty-six bushels. A bushel of anthracite coal weighs eighty pounds, which makes the weight of a chaldron 2,880.

WEIGHTS OF A CUBIC FOOT.—Of sand, or loose earth, ninety-five pounds; compact soil, one hundred and twenty-four; a strong or clayey soil, one hundred and twenty-seven; pure clay, one hundred and thirty-five; mixture of stones and clay, one hundred and sixty; masonry of stone, two hundred and five, brick, one hundred and twenty five; cast iron, four hundred and fifty; steel, four hundred and eighty-nine; copper, four hundred and eighty-six, lead, seven hundred and nine; silver, six-hundred and fifty four; gold, one thousand two hundred and three; platina, one thousand, two hundred and eighteen; glass, one hundred and eighty; water, sixty-two; tallow, fifty-nine; cork, fifteen; oak timber, seventy-three; mahogany, sixty-six, air, 0.0758. In the above, fractions are discarded.

A QUARTER of corn is the fourth of a ton, or eight imperial bushels. This is an English measure, not in use in this country, though very necessary to be known, so as to understand agricultural reports. So of several of the following weights and measures.

A BALE of hay is three hundred pounds.

A CORD of wood is one hundred and twenty eight solid feet, usually put up eight feet long, four feet wide and four high. In France, a cord of wood is 576 feet.

A PERCH of stone is twenty-five cubic feet, piled, or twenty-two in the wall.

TO MEASURE A TON OF HAY.—One hundred cubic feet of hay, in a solid mow or stack, will weigh a ton.

HOW TO MEASURE CATTLE BY COMPUTE WEIGHT.—Ascertain the girth back of the shoulders, and the length along the back, from the square of the buttock, to a point even with the point of the shoulder blade; say the girth is six feet four inches, and the length five feet three inches, which, multiplied together, gives thirty-one feet. Multiply this by twenty-three, the number of pounds allowed to the foot, between five and seven feet girth, and the result is seven hundred and thirteen pounds, for the number of pounds of beef in the four quarters; girths, from seven to nine feet, allow thirty-one pounds to the foot. Cattle must be fat and square built to hold out weight.

TO MEASURE GAIN IN BINS.—Multiply the length and width together, and that product by the height in cubic inches, and divide by 2,150 and you have the number of bushels.

TO MEASURE CORN IN THE EAR.—Find the cubic inches as above, and divide by 2,815, the cubic inches in a heaped bushel, and take two-thirds of the quotient for the number of bushels of shelled corn.—This is upon the rule of giving three heaping half bushels of ears to make a bushel of grain. Some falls short and some overruns this measure.

BOARD MEASURE.—Boards are sold by face measure. Multiply the width in inches of any number of pieces of equal length, by the inches of the length. Divide by 144, and the quotient is the number of feet, for any thickness under an inch. Every fourth inch increase of thickness adds a fourth to the number of feet in the face measure.

LAND MEASURE.—Every farmer should have a rod measure, a light stiff pole, just 16½ feet long, for measuring land. By a little practice he can learn to step just a rod at five steps, which will answer very well for ordinary farm work. Ascertain the number of rods in width and length of any lot you wish to measure, and multiply into the other, divide by one hundred and sixty, and you have the number of acres, as 160 square rods make a square acre. If you wish to lay off one square acre, measure thirteen rods upon each side. This lacks one rod of being full measure.

GOVERNMENT LAND MEASURE.—A township is six miles square, and contains thirty-six sections, 23,040 acres. A section, one square mile, six hundred and forty acres. A quarter section, half a mile square, one hundred and sixty acres. As this is one hundred and sixty-six rods square, a strip one rod wide, or every rod in width, is an acre. A half-quarter section is half a mile long, north and south, almost universally, and a fourth of a mile wide, eighty acres. A quarter-quater section is one-fourth of a mile square, forty acres, and is the smallest size tract, except fractions, ever sold by the Government. The price is $1,25 an acre.

An English geographical mile is equal to 2,050 yards.

Ancient Scottish mile one mile English and 224 yards.

[illegible] mile English and 480 yards.

German short mile, three miles English and 1,679 yards?

German long mile, three miles English, and 1,326 yards.

Hanoverian mile, six miles English and 999 yards.

Russian mile, five miles English and 1,197 yards.

HOW TO PREVENT COLDS.

Dr. William A. Alcott, author of "House I Live in," and well known as a lecturer on the laws of health, has in press a work on Hygiene, which will probably be of great practical value. From a chapter on colds we take the following advice, which is now quite seasonable.

Those who would avoid colds must not muffle themselves, especially their face and throats, every time they go into the open air. I do not say that none of the vast number already diseased should be allowed to break the force of a stream of air lowered in temperature to zero, or fifteen or twenty degrees below it, either by a respirator or muffler. I am writing for those who as yet deem themselves healthy. After brisk walking, or other exercises, during which we have worn more than a needful amount of clothing, we must beware of throwing off a part of it, and sitting down in a temperature which is very low, or in air which is damp, especially if we have been in a free perspiration. Better to keep on our clothing till we see how matters are going with us. It would be safer to add clothing in such circumstances than to diminish it.

Those who would be perfect in this matter should avoid sitting with wet feet after exercise, or sleeping in damp clothing. While a person is exercising in the open air, if not over-heated or over-fatigued, it may be safe for him to have wet feet. Indeed some will go with their feet wet all the forenoon without injury, if they keep in motion; but the philosopher Locke, who recommended that children should have holes in their shoes, would hardly have justified the practice of sitting with wet feet. Those who are accustomed to warm clothing should not exchange it for that which is extremely thin, when they are about to go abroad in the cold air, unless they are to walk. Thousands of young people, especially females, might trace the consumption, neuralgia, or fever, which destroyed them, to some act of recklessness, like that which is implied by the foregoing. In general, we are quite too much afraid of the sun and rain to enjoy that hardihood which is indispensable in a climate as much exposed to colds and consumption as that of the United States. The late Gen. Dearborn, of Massachusetts, would have no such thing as an umbrella in his family, if he could help it. He thought it safer, on the whole, to be occasionally wet, than to exclude ourselves from every drop of rain—nineteen times in twenty, with the almost entire certainty of being some time caught without one, and of sufferine severely as the consequence.

BRIGADIER GENERAL.—The nomination of Col. Persifer F. Smith (a brevet Brigadier General for gallant service in the mexican war) was confirmed by the Senate on Tuesday, as Brigadier General, to fill the place created two years ago by Congress, when some additional regiments were added to the army.

The Southern Methodists are attempting to found a University at Greensborough, Alabama.

TEAZING.

This is no trivial subject. It is a science as regularly taught and learned as any other. This is a specimen of it, with some suggestions which we subjoin:

"Mother, mother, mother, may I, mayn't I, won't you, shan't she, shan't he, I won't, I must, do now, mother, mother," &c., &c., &c., &c.—Why if five thousand women had to hear the whole of it, it would drive them crazy! And then, how can a woman work to any purpose, whose thoughts are put in confusion every minute by such onsets? And then for family government, and family enjoyment, and family affection, it makes sad work with these, and with everything which is lovely and valuable.

Children are taught to teaze, very much as they are taught to cry. With all his little wants, real or imaginary, the child runs to his mother. They are matters of importance to him. He wants a definite and decisive answer, one which will settle the question; and his mind will be on the rack till he has it. It is not in the nature of the child to feel otherwise. He will have no peace himself, and will therefore give his mother no peace, till he understands and knows that the point is settled. If you give no answer till he has spoken ten times; and then, if he has any reason to suspect that speaking twenty times more will obtain an answer more favorable to his wishes, he will speak twenty times more. And this will soon grow into a habit. But give him an answer the first time he speaks, and he will not be obliged to speak the second time to obtain one; and never alter your decision for his teazing, and he will soon give it up, as of no use. Your answer may be almost anything. It may be, "Wait ten minutes, and then I will tell you;" or "Wait till I have done this piece of work,"—But it must be something definite, something that the child can understand, and which he knows will not be altered. If you have leisure, and the occasion seems a proper one, you may let him argue the case before you decide it, but not afterwards. Indeed, if he has learned by experience, that your decisions are final, he will seldom, if ever, attempt it. He will consider an answer as an answer. His mind will be at rest on that point, and soon find something else with which to amuse itself.

Now, mothers, do not say that you have not time to answer the requests of your children as soon as they are made. If your time is so occupied, that you find it difficult, now can you afford to neglect it, and thus teach them to teaze, and thus bring upon yourself an inconceivably greater hindrance?

A "MILKY WAY" AT SEA.—A lady, on her voyage to Calcutta, writes the following, which we are permitted to print:

"When in the Gulf of Aden, we saw a very remarkable sight. It was a rough and blowy evening that we were called on deck to see the 'Milky Water,' which is only seen just in this region. It is still undecided whether the effect is produced by electricity, by atmospheric causes, or by animalculæ. Instead of water, it seemed as if the vessel were plunging through great drifts of snow. The appearance extended even to the horizon, and if the air had been colder, and if I could have caught the sound of sleigh-bells, I should have lost all idea of the sea, and imagined myself enjoying a magnificient sleigh-ride. It was a splendid sight; and it is very remarkable that no chemical analysis can detect any peculiarity in the composition of the water; and as soon as day light or moonlight come, it vanishes. The milky water lasted for three nights and then suddenly stopped; and every evening afterwards the water was as usual."—*N. Y. Observer.*

DEATH OF THE OLDEST INHABITANT.—The venerable "oldest inhabitant" so often quoted as authority in matters of news and gossip, has at length departed this life. There is no doubt about the fact this time. A Mexican journal says that a lady has lately yielded up the ghost at Actopan, at the age of 139 years. During that long period of mortal sojourn she has seen no less than seventy-five changes of the government of that country. Of these, twenty eight were caused by the removal of the viceroys of Spain, and the remainder resulted from that peculiarly Mexican institution—the revolutionary "pronunciamento." If this aged individual possessed sufficient intelligence to comprehend passing events, a revolution must have appeared but little more important than a thunder storm.

☞Not long since a certain quack was addressed by one of his patients as follows:—

"Doctor, how is it, that when we eat and drink the meat is separated from the drink?"

"Why, I'll tell you," replied the quack, "in the neck there are two pipes; one of them is to receive meat and the other drink. At the top of these pipes is a lid or clapper, and when we eat this clapper shuts up the drink pipe, and when we drink it turns back on the meat pipe."

But doctor," said the patient, "*it seems to me that clapper must play sharp when we eat pudding and milk.*"

☞In the forests of California there is no undergrowth, scarcely anywhere a rock; the surfaces are as beautifully turned as if shaped by a landscape gardener, and dotted all over by myrinds of flowers, more delicate, if not more various than any garden ever grew.

"I say, mister, wasn't you born in the middle of the week?" said an impudent urchin to a man with a severe pair of cross eyes?

"No, you little Scamp, why?"

"Case, I see you're allers lookin' both ways for sunday."

DAMAGED MEAT.—A beef-steak that four apprentice boys have been at.

Amusing Incident.—A Bucks county farmer in passing up-town Second street market, Philadelphia, was caught unceremoniously by the collar by one of those impudent venders of clothing, and forced into a store without one word from him. The vender said he knew he wanted a new overcoat, and without further ado his old coat was taken off, and a new one on in its place before he could say Jack Robison.—He was questioned as to how it fit; "you are the judge," was the answer. "That will do." Thereupon he picked up his old coat and marched out of the store. The seller opened his mouth and wanted the pay. "I guess, darned the cent do you get for this coat; you put it on me," and leisurely passed out, when the cry of "police, police," soon brought the farmer to a stand still.—He was taken before Alderman Coats, who heard the evidence and dismissed the case. Thence the farmer and his friends went to the hotel of our friend, Mr. George Dull, the coat vender following up, crying out every once and a while, "give me mine kote." The farmer finally compromised by forcing the seller of "mine kote" to treat the party and the crowd that followed, which caused considerable merriment, as he declared no countryman should "sheet him out of another coat."—*Phila. Sun.*

One of the Wonders of the World.—There was a good deal said about the "Victoria Bridge" at the late Canada celebration, and a story is afloat that her nice little Majesty will come over the seas to celebrate its completion. This structure across the St. Lawrence, a short way above Montreal, the Canada papers tells us, will be one of the greatest wonders of the world. It was commenced in July, 1854, and is under contract to be completed in 1860. The total estimated cost was originally about $7,000,000; but recently the plans have been amended so as to reduce it to a little over $6,000,000. The extreme length of the bridge, including the abutment at each side, will be 7,000 feet, or rather more than a mile and a quarter. There will be 26 piers of solid masonry supporting the iron superstructure of the bridge. The centre will span 330 feet, and the other spans each 243 feet wide. The height of the centre of the bridge is 60 feet above the water level. The weight of iron in the tubes will be 8,000 tons, and contents of the masonry 30,000,000 cubic feet, when the whole structure is finished. The famous Britannia Tubular Suspension Bridge, crossing the Menai Straits, and now one of the curiosities of the world, will scarcely be a circumstance to it. Including the embankments at each side, the total length of the bridge, from river bank to river bank, will be 10,284 feet, or very nearly two miles. Nine piers of the bridge are now completed, but are, as yet, unconnected by any roadway. They present a plain surface on the two sides and lower end; the side facing the current being of wedge shape, in order to break and turn aside the blocks of ice, to provide against whose destructive powers has been the great engineering difficulty of the enterprise.—*Boston Post.*

Grand Sham Fight at Trenton, N. J.—The anniversary of the battle of Trenton was celebrated on Friday week, by a sham battle on an extensive scale. The Gazette says:

From ten to twenty thousand persons assembled in the main street of Trenton, at an early hour, to witness the battle, which was between the Princeton Blues, Sarsfield Guards, Liberty Rifles, Trenton Volunteers, and Horton Artillery, numbering 160 men, representing Hessians. The Hessians were commanded by Major Allen, of the Princeton Blues. The American forces were comprised of the Monroe Guards, Minute Men of '76, of Philadelphia, Camden Light Artillery, National Guard, of Easton, the Washington Continentals, of Trenton, and the Trenton Rifles, the whole commanded by Major Napton, who represented General Washington. General Sullivan was represented by Capt. Stonebeck, of Easton.—The battle took place at ten o'clock, in the streets of Trenton. The firing, charges, retreating, &c., gave great delight to the spectators, and the Americans were, of course, victorious.

A Lad Assailed In Bed by a Rat.—We are informed that a lad, aged about eight years, was severely bitten by a rat a few nights since in this city. The little fellow was put to bed by his father, who left home to transact some business. Returning about two hours after, he found the pillow under his child's head covered with blood. He wakened him and found that he had been attacked by a rat, which jumped from the bed and inflicted a wound on the nose of the boy. Driven away it returned and inflicted another wound on the left ear of the lad.—Again he drove it away, after which the rat returned a third time to renew the attack but could not, the lad having closely covered himself with the bed clothing. The wounds received, it was thought by the medical attendant, might prove serious; the lad, however, has recovered from them.—*Sav. Geor.*

Good as Whaling—An old woman in Louisville, Ky, pays $50 rent for a portion of the ground over which Bear Grass Creek flows, merely to have the privilege of collecting the grease floating on the surface of the creek from the hog slaughtering houses on the stream. She has been engaged in that traffic for a number of years, says the Courier, and realized the first season the handsome sum of $400. At that time, however, she had the gleanings or skimmings all to herself, but since then a good deal of rivalry has sprung up in the trade.

A Heavy Share.—It is testified to in the trial of Huntington, by a bookkeeper of a firm who was in the practice of accommodating him with loans for the purpose of shaving notes, that to one of these firms he paid sometimes, for sums of five to ten thousand dollars, *one per cent. a day*, saying that it was half what he made. It is no wonder that so many failures occur in New York. Men who borrow at such rates certainly never intend to pay their debts.