

# Roftzmon Journal

BY S. B. ROW.

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### OLD FRIENDS TOGETHER.

Oh, this is sweet, when roses meet,  
And Spring's sweet breath around them;  
And sweet the song when hearts are lost,  
If those we love have found them!  
And sweet the mind that still can find,  
A star in darkest weather!  
But night can be so sweet to see,  
As old friends meeting!

Those days of old, when youth was born,  
And time stole wings from pleasures here—  
Aed youth ne'er knew how fast time flew—  
Or knowing, did not heed it!  
Tho' gray each brow that meets us now—  
For age brings wintry weather—  
Yet night is still so sweet to see,  
As thus old friends together!

The few long known, that years have shown,  
With hearts that friendship blesses;  
A hand to cheer—perchance, a tear  
To soothe a friend's distresses!

That helped and tried—still side by side—  
A friend to face hard weather—  
Oh, thus we met to see,  
And meet old friends together!

### BURKS UNDER THE SADDLE.

A REVOLUTIONARY SKETCH.

During the month of March, 1778, the British army being at Philadelphia, and the American forces at Valley Forge, the American commander-in-chief was desirous of having some information concerning the state of affairs in that city, and desired Captain Allen McLane to pick him out a few trusty men for the purpose. McLane selected five of his own men, with Sergeant John Marks for leader, and sent the latter to head-quarters to receive instructions.

Marks was a very young man to be entrusted with important services, being only twenty two years of age; but McLane had frequently marked his conduct in campaigns, and had made himself well acquainted with his character, and knew that he could be thoroughly relied on. Marks was a lank, bony fellow, with high cheek bones, square jaw, and rather large mouth; but he had a fine, expressive eye, his features were exceedingly noble, and his countenance entirely under his control. With this he possessed great powers of mimicry, which he used to show off frequently for the amusement of his comrades, and had a reputation for shrewdness. His muscular system had not received its full development; but his habits had made him almost as active as a panther. He was fully instructed by General Washington as to the information desired, and left camp at dark, arriving in a short time at Port Kennedy, on the Schuylkill. At that point he struck across the country, and by means of light observations with McPherson, patting and admiring the various horses, one by one. Marks kept a close watch upon her, and noticed that she passed something under the saddle-cloth of each horse; but she did not lay her hands on the two horses of the Lieutenants. Priscilla returned presently, and with a significant glance at the captives, entered the house, and engaged Lieut. Draper in conversation.

McPherson, in the meanwhile, had noticed that some manœuvring was being made, and came on the porch to inspect the fastenings of the prisoners. As he did so, Gail, who was a powerful man, struck him between the two eyes with his full force, and the Scotchman fell backward from the porch, striking his head against a stone so severely, as to take away his senses for the time. Before the alarm could be given, Marks and Gail were mounted on the Officer's horses, and galloping furiously up the road. Draper rushed out, and hurried pistol shots being ineffectual, ordered a pursuit. But the party had not proceeded a dozen yards, before they were again arrested, and at length utterly unmanageable. All attempts to control them were in vain, and the horses growing more furious, unseated trooper after trooper. The single exception was in Mark's own horse, which Draper had mounted. He was quiet enough; but Draper happening to dismount, in order to examine into the cause of the trouble, the steed galloped off after his master, whom he ultimately overtook and abandoned.

After considerable time thus lost, it occurred to the Lieutenants that there was some trick in the matter. The horses were stripped, and it was found that the sharp bars of the burdock had been placed under every saddle, and had fretted and galled the animals almost to madness. By this time, the fugitives had too much advanced to permit a retreat. About four miles further on, Marks and Gail fell in with three troopers of the enemy. The Americans were without sabres, but there were pistols in the holsters, and with these they settled two of their opponents. The third put spurs to his horse, and turning down a cross road, escaped. Marks and his friend were in too much of a hurry to pursue him, and rode on towards the camp, where they arrived that afternoon. The information that Marks brought, was of essential service. The British arrived during the night, but found such formidable preparations made to receive the attacking columns, that they quietly retreated by the road they came.

Lieutenant Draper suspected Priscilla, who denied having a hand in the matter, and wondered very much where the burdock had been obtained at that season of the year. The truth is that the girl had got them from some uncombed wool, which lay in an upper chamber, the sheep of the farm having gathered them in their rambles. Thus two kinds of non-combatants had played important parts in the matter; but the Lieutenants never found that out. He never ceased to lament the loss of his pistols, which were a handsome silver mounted pair, nor his showy cloak, which had been strapped behind his saddle, both proving of great service to Marks.

Marks and Gail were promoted. The latter was made a sergeant, and was killed afterwards in an skirmish at Van Dam's Mill. Marks served through the war, became ultimately a captain, and distinguished himself in several actions. After the war he returned to Chester County, and Priscilla became his wife. The latter was formally "disowned" by her sect, for "marrying out of meeting," and for having aggravated her offence, by being married by a "hired priest." The expulsion did not seem to effect her spirits much, for she became a jolly, contented matron, and lived to a good old age, surviving her husband two years. The descendants of the couple still live in Chester and Montgomery Counties, with the exception of a grand-son, George Marks, who is, or was recently, a thriving farmer in Vinton County, Ohio.

Whatever you may choose to give away be always sure to keep your temper.

Marks with his companion passed a sleepless night; it was not alone the prospect of an ignominious death which troubled him; but he had learned enough in the city to know that a surprise movement, similar to that attempted on the previous 4th of December, against the American forces, was set down for the following day, and was aware that it was entirely unexpected. He revolved various plans of escape in his mind, none of which appeared to be practicable, and finally concluded to dismiss any premeditation on the matter, and be merely prepared to take advantage of unexpected circumstances for which he took matters like a philosopher, and snored away all night in happy unconsciousness of his situation.

At daylight, the prisoners were brought down and placed upon the porch, while Lieut. Draper and the men under his command took breakfast in the house. The horses of the troopers, with those of Mark's and Gail's also, were all saddled and hitched to the fences, under charge of a little Scotchman, named McPherson. Priscilla, accompanied by Lieut. Draper, came out, the former bearing some dishes, knives and forks upon a bench on the porch, and listened with apparent interest to the questions put by the lieutenant. The latter, by way of encouragement, assured the two Americans that if they gave true statements their lives would be spared—otherwise they would certainly be hanged. He then left them for a short time, to digest the information, Priscilla remaining behind. The Quaker girl, still appearing not to recognize Marks, said to him, loud enough to be heard by the soldiers who were passing to and fro:

"I would advise thee, friend, to tell all thee knows. Friend Draper will keep his word with thee, I am sure." She then added, in a low voice, "Keep still, John, and I will save thee. Answer what I say, but pay no heed to what I do."

Marks caught her intent in a moment, and replied aloud:

"I won't turn scoundrel, Miss, for fear of death, even if I had any surety the captain there would keep his word." Other conversation followed, and Priscilla, who had concealed a sharp case knife in her sleeve, managed to cut the prisoner's bonds, without observation; cautioning them at the same time not to move too soon. She told them that the lieutenant's horses, one of which was ridden by his servant, and both standing nearest the gate, were the swiftest of the breed, and that she would make some light observations with McPherson, patting and admiring the various horses, one by one. Marks kept a close watch upon her, and noticed that she passed something under the saddle-cloth of each horse; but she did not lay her hands on the two horses of the Lieutenants.

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### HISTORY OF THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

From the National Intelligencer.

Amid the general exultations with which the completion of a telegraphic communication between Europe and America is hailed, the gratitude of all is naturally turned towards those who have been pre-eminent in initiating the measures which have conducted to this grand result. The history of the corporation under whose auspices and by whose indomitable energy the magnificent enterprise has been brought to a consummation justly fills a large space in the eye of those called to contemplate the agencies to which we are primarily indebted for the Trans-Atlantic Telegraph. Especially is great praise awarded, to that renowned citizen of New York, Cyrus W. Field, Esq., to whom, more than to any other, is ascribed the honor of planning and concerting an organized effort to test the practicability of this stupendous undertaking. Submarine cables, it is true, had been already laid between many points of the earth's surface from the time when we first saw the telegraph in its connexion was instituted between Dover and Calais, a distance of twenty-four miles. But the wide interval which parted the two continents of Europe and America, the unknown character of the "dark unfathomed caverns" at the bottom of the Atlantic, combined with the difficulty at first encountered in the transmission of the electric force through submarine or underground coils of great length, were supposed for a time to present almost insurmountable barriers to the speedy accomplishment of this titanic task. Meanwhile, as before, science was assiduously at work in her cloisters, and the latter difficulty, if not wholly overcome, was at least believed to be sufficiently obviated to justify an attempt to substitute telegraphic lines for proving the feasibility of a transatlantic telegraph.

It was at this stage of the preparations preliminary to a trial of the grand experiment that the "New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company" was formed, mainly through the tact, business capacity, and rare intelligence of its Vice President, Mr. Field. The first step taken was to secure a charter for the corporation. This was obtained in April, 1857, from the Colonial Government of Newfoundland, and the purposes of the company were further seconded by the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and finally by the promised aid and co-operation of Great Britain and the United States in laying the cable and contributing to a support of the work if ever brought into actual operation.

Great Britain granted an annual subsidy of £21,000 sterling, and the net profits of the company were to be divided, one-third to the whole capital of £250,000 sterling, the grant then to be reduced to £10,000 sterling per annum for a period of twenty-five years. The United States grant an annual subsidy of \$70,000 until the net profits yield six per cent. per annum, then to be reduced to \$50,000 per annum for a period of twenty-five years, subject to the termination of contract by either party after ten years, on giving one year's notice. Both nations also agreed to furnish vessels to lay the cable.

Professor Morse was appointed electrician of the company, which proceeded to connect St. John's, Newfoundland, with the lines already in operation in the British North American Provinces and in the United States, by immersing thirteen miles of cable across the Straits of Northumberland, and eighty-five miles in the waters of the St. Lawrence.

The "New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company" having next procured decisive scientific assurances from Messrs. Wildman Whitehouse and Charles Bright, both able electricians, of the possibility of their enterprise, departed their Vice President, Mr. Cyrus W. Field, to visit England in the summer of 1856 for the purpose of effecting such arrangements as might seem expedient to promote the success of the undertaking. Mainly thro' his agency the existing Atlantic Telegraph Company was called into being, not only as a chartered, but also as a moneyed corporation, comprising the holders of three hundred and fifty shares of one thousand pounds each. The charter of the original company, conferring upon it the exclusive right to lay telegraphic cables on the shores of Newfoundland and other parts of North America, and for twenty-five years to do the same thing on the shores of Nova Scotia, was then made over to the new association, together with all concessions bearing upon the undertaking which might be heretofore obtained, and all the rights of Messrs. Whitehouse and Bright which in any way concerned the working of instruments in marine circuits of great length.

In regard to the route by which the proposed telegraph should run, it will be obvious to the reader that, besides the advantages in point of diminished distance, furnished by that lying between Ireland and Newfoundland, this selection was also determined by other indispensable considerations, the result of explorations made by Lieut. Berryman, of the United States Navy, who, armed with the ingenious apparatus invented by Lieut. John M. Brooke for the taking of deep-sea soundings, demonstrated the existence of a vast submarine plain, (already commonly known as the Telegraphic Plateau,) which at its greatest depth is scarcely twelve thousand feet below the level of the sea, and extends in a continuous ledge from Cape Race, in Newfoundland, to Cape Clear, in Ireland. This plain is generally level, and deep enough to be below disturbing causes. Its bed is composed of particles of shells so minutely triturated as to render their character undiscoverable save by the aid of a microscope. In this bed it was believed that the cable could repose in perfect security.

The route being finally decided, the mechanical construction of the cable was next to be considered. The contrary conditions of the problem afforded by no means an easy solution of the question raised under this head. It was apparent that the cable must not be too light, or it would refuse to sink. It must not be too heavy, or the loop between the two living vessels would break of its own weight. Besides, if too light, it would be at the mercy of the currents while descending, and run great risk of fracture while being laid. If too heavy, how could 2,500 miles of it be shipped, handled, and safely deposited? After repeated estimates and experiments it was found that the cable should not weigh more than one ton per mile. In the next place, it must be of great tenacity consistent with this standard of weight, and flexible enough to adapt itself to the apparatus for paying out, as well as to admit of its being readily distributed into coils in the work-yards and on board the vessels. In order to give some idea of the pains

which were taken with this branch of the investigation, it will suffice to say that sixty-two different kinds of rope were subjected to close experiment before the exact form and character of the cable to be employed were determined. The cable finally adopted is thus described:

"The central conducting wire is a strand made up of seven wires of the purest copper, of the gauge known in the trade as No. 22. The strand itself is about the sixteenth of an inch in diameter, and is formed of one straight drawn wire, with six others twisted round it; this is accomplished by the central wire being dragged from a drum, through a hole in a horizontal table, while the table itself revolves rapidly under the impulse of steam, carrying near its circumference six reels or drums, each armed with copper wire. Every drum revolves upon its own horizontal axis, and so delivers its wires as it turns. This twisted form of conducting wire was first adopted for the rope laid across the St. Lawrence in 1856, and was employed with a view to the reduction to the lowest possible amount of the chance of continuity being destroyed in the circuit. It is improbable in the highest degree that a fracture could be accidentally produced at precisely the same spot in more than one of the wires of this twisted strand. All the seven wires might be broken at different parts of the strand even some hundreds of times, and yet its capacity for the transmission of the electric current be not destroyed or reduced in any inconspicuous degree. The copper used in the formation of these wires is assayed from time to time during the manufacture, to insure absolute homogeneity and purity. The strand itself when subjected to strain, will stretch twenty per cent. of its length without giving way, and indeed, without having its electric-conducting power much modified or impaired."

Such is a brief review of the agencies which have been immediately brought into combination for the purpose of effecting this mighty undertaking. In the gradual procession of the causes and means by which it has marched to a triumphant accomplishment, art and skill have only advanced side by side with the slowly elaborated results of science in plucking from the very heart of Nature the secret of her laws and movements. And hence in awarding our just meed of praise to the intelligent faith which planned and the untiring perseverance which, appalled by no disasters, has brought this great work to its desired consummation, let us not forget our obligations to the equally patient, if less conspicuous, labors of the philosophical student poring in his cabinet over the mysteries of nature until he reads in characters of light the secret cipher of her being. The world without knows but little of these anxious and laborious endeavors of the *scientia*, striving to pass that often narrow but always most difficult isthmus which parts the unknown from the known. The honors and emoluments which society awards to the successful *inventor* are too often paid to a man who has done no more than the scientific *discoverer*, to whom the former is indebted for a knowledge of the principles which he has reduced into mechanical proportions and made subservient to human uses. If we are indebted to a Morse for the electric telegraph, it is because a Franklin and a Galvani, a Volta and an Ersted, a Faraday and a Henry, have contributed by their profound investigations to a discovery of the hidden principles which underlie the structure of that wonderful work of mechanical art. In the pantheon of this latter-day glory there is room for all—for the man of high thought pursuing the acquisition of knowledge for its own sake, and finding in the discovery of truth its own exceeding great reward, as also for the man of practical achievement who reduces that knowledge to the utilitarian ends of our daily life. Let us so appropriate our honors to the latter as not to forget the measure of our obligations to the former.

### Col. Fremont's Mariposa Property.

There is now a prospect that Col. Fremont will be left in the undisturbed possession of his gold mining lands in California. His lands, amounting to forty thousand acres, and containing inexhaustible mines of auriferous quartz, are situated, it will be remembered, in Mariposa county, and he has already established a mill, which is producing gold to the amount of \$2,600 per week. With increased means new mills will be established, when the yield of gold will be indefinitely increased. It is now the property of Col. Fremont, who held by him under a patent from the United States, this fact did not deter trespassers from attempts to take possession of such choice portions as they thought likely to prove productive. More than a year ago an association, calling itself the Merced Mining Company, seized upon a part of the "Pine Tree Vein," a rich gold mine in Bear Valley, where Col. Fremont and his family are at present residing. An action was commenced, and Fremont recovered judgment in the justice's court. The company then appealed to the county court, where the case was again decided in his favor. An appeal to the Supreme Court was then made, and on the 8th of July last that court made an order dismissing the appeal, for the reason that there was no assignment of error. From these decisions it appeared that Fremont was entitled to the possession of even the "Josephine Vein," which the Merced Mining Company have been working to great profit for the last year. But certain members of this company have recently attempted further aggressions, which were manfully withstood by Fremont until the Governor of the State threw his powerful arm into the scale in his behalf, whereupon the Merced fillibusters abandoned their designs.

A TELEGRAPH TO INDIA.—A London letter says that the construction of a line of telegraph to India, by the Red Sea route, has at length been agreed upon. The Government are to guarantee four and a half per cent. on the requisite capital for fifty years, and the shares of the company by whom the work is to be carried out, have, accordingly, already been dealt in at a premium equal to about five per cent. The cable from Suez to Aden is first to be laid. This will be about half the entire distance, and the cost is estimated at £500,000. Messrs. Newall, the manufacturers of the Atlantic cable, have offered to construct it and lay it down at their own risk for that sum.

AN IRISH IDEA.—A "naturalized" "Dinnicret" in Hantsburg, thinks that when the Atlantic Telegraph is in operation we shall not have to wait so long for our election returns:—"For," said he, "we can hear from our old Ireland as soon as from their towns."

### MR. STUTTS AND HIS WIFE.

Stutts got taken in at one of those fashionable "perditionaries" called watering places. You see, Stutts wasn't worth more than ten cents on a dollar. He smoked immoderately, and had waited patiently for an old aunt to die for five years, because he expected to become heir at the end of that time. But unfortunately for him, she "scares up" a husband; worse than that, she "scares up" a baby. Alas, poor Stutts! But he rallied; raised a goat; imperial snout and moustache; practiced singing; wore a rose in his button-hole; and determined to go in and win a wife from among the rich up-country crabs. With this view, he bent his steps to Newport. Stutts looked over the entrance hall, saw the name of Miss Arimethea Fitz Goggle and servant, and that's the talk!" said he, "she's rich; and beautiful; may be; go in, Stutts, for your living! Go in like a man!" He got an introduction, and danced attendance on her nine days and a quarter; had just five dollars left; concluded something must be done farmed quick; went down on his narrow bones to her, kissed her finger rings; told her he had a pistol all loaded; if she said no, he meant to put the whole charge right into her gizzard; would love her till death, and after that too, if he could; so Arimethea Fitz Goggle bent down her head and whispered "Yes." Oh, Lord! Stutts felt like an unbroken colt that night. He drank champagne and burnt cigars till morning, determined to pay for them after he was "chase of her home. Well, both were in a hurry, and soon the twain were made one flesh, as far as the ceremony was concerned.

Stutts went to bed first; men often do that, although it is not customary. He lay there watching his idol disrobe, with all the fond, blissful feelings of a young husband on a wedding night. He had a wife, a real live lady, with lots of means! The gas was left burning, so he had a good view of what he had never beheld before, namely a wife coming to bed. Mrs. Stutts glanced at her lord, who pretended to more softly, in order that he might not terrify her. Poor thing! as if a woman who frequents watering places don't get used to everything. Well, she went to the dressing bureau and proceeded to take off two masses of ringlets, leaving a very small amount of that very important article of female beauty. Mr. Stutts' heart gave a terrific bound, and then stood still. He opened his eyes to see what would come next. When she put both her hands into her mouth and undid her upper jaw, which dropped instantly; she wiped it carefully and laid it before the hair. Stutts gasped plainly, and thrusting his feet against the footboard, ejaculated a "dam!" with nation behind it, and, "her!" out to think of his sins. By and by she undid her form, and off came a pair of funny looking whalebone things, leaving her anything but an attractive amfult. Oh, mercy! Stutts bit his tongue, and his eyes were nearly starting from his head; he spelt mad-log backwards half a dozen times, and—kept on looking. Then she put her finger to her left eye, and, "horror!" out it came. Stutts flopped right over and groaned in agony, biting the bed clothes, and jerking his feet up and down like a madman. Mrs. S. asked him if he was sick? "No," roared Stutts, "I am just recovering." Presently the Newport beauty raised her skeleton and undid her leg, and before Stutts could fly out of bed, off came the leg, with a beautiful silk stocking and satin gaiter on it. Stutts raised out of bed and seized his pants. Mrs. S. seized him. She hung on, and he pulled distractedly.

"Let go of me, you—you female monster!" roared Stutts; "how dare you deceive me in this way? Let go, I say, or I will alarm the inmates of the hotel, and expose you!" "Do," said Mrs. S., "and inform them what kind of a wife you succeeded in getting, after coming here expressly for the purpose. I have got you, and don't intend to give you up; so go to work my dear, like a young man should, and support me." "Support you?" shrieked Stutts. "Great heaven! you don't mean to tell me that you are poor—that you haven't got money—plenty of means, you know?" And Stutts hat, goat, imperial and moustache bristled up in agony. "Got no money? no, no, no, no, none more than yourself. You owe for that leg of mine, and you've got to pay for it! I came here to get a husband—I have got one; you came to get a wife—we are both deceived—you are worth nothing and I am worth the same amount. Now, what are you going to do about it?" "This!" said Stutts, calmly drawing on his trousers. "I am going to leave, and this is how I will pay you!" And seizing her leg, he threw it out of the window. Mrs. S. screamed—Mr. S. drew down stairs out of the door—away—lad low all the next day; got on a craft bound for New York, and in course of time arrived. He has never seen Mrs. S. since, but he heard she had gone to California.

MARRIAGE MADE EASY.—An old Dutch farmer just arrived at the dignity of Justice of the Peace, had his first marriage case. He did it up in this way. He first said to the man:—"Vell, you want to be marrit, to you? Vell, you lovest dis voman so good as any voman you have ever seen?"—"Yes," answered the man. Then to the woman:—"Vell, do you love dis man so better as any man you have ever seen?" She hesitated a little and he repeated:—"Vell, vell, do you like him so vell as he his life?"—"Yes, yes," she answered. "Vell, that is all any reasonable man can expect. So you are marrit; I pronounce you man and wife." The man asked the justice what was to pay. "Noting at all, nothing at all; you are welcome to it if it will do you any good."

BETWEEN TWO FIRES.—Senator Douglas is denounced by the Buchanan men as a Black Republican, while the Republicans of Illinois insist that he is an unmitigated enemy of their party; and the funniest part of the matter is that Buchanan Locofocos in Illinois are about to vote with the Republicans to defeat Douglas. The Douglas men claim to be the Democracy, and the Buchanan men, though but a small faction, insist that they are the Simon pure Democrats. Things have got into such a mess in the "Prairie State," that it will be necessary, at the next session of Congress, to get "an enabling act" passed, in order to let Locofocos know what party they belong to.

DEAD-HEADING EXTRAORDINARY.—The Western Railway Company, of France, received 43,000 letters asking for free passes on the railway to go to Cherbourg, and they admitted 10,000 of the applicants. This eclipses, by far, the dead-head system in this country.

Webster had an anecdote of old Father Searl, the minister of his boyhood, which is too good to be lost. It was customary then to wear buckskin breeches in cool weather. One Sunday morning in the autumn, Father Searl brought his down from the garret; but the wasps had taken possession during the summer, and were having a nice time of it in them. By dint of effort he got out the intruders, and dressed for meeting. But while reading the Scriptures to the congregation, he felt a dagger from one of the enraged small waisted fellows, and jumped around the pulpit, and danced his thighs. But the more he slapped and danced the more they stung. The people thought him crazy, and were in commotion as to what to do; but he explained the matter by saying: "Brethren, don't be alarmed; the Word of the Lord is in my mouth, and the Devil is in my breeches!" Webster always told it with great glee to the ministers.

A NEW FEATURE.—The Syracuse, N. York, Journal, in describing Tuesday's jollification, says:—"A new feature was introduced—and such a feature! All of a sudden, ard all at once, fourteen locomotives sent up a shriek from their steam whistles which shook the firmest buildings to the centre, deafened every ear, and penetrated, as we verily believe, west to Lake Erie and east to the water. There is no description, in poetry or prose, which can convey an just idea of the noise (that is the only word) that was thus created. It was positively awful. Such an unearthly sound—such a strange, mysterious and overwhelming sound—such a terrible, tremendous and monstrous sound—never was heard before. It reminded us of the seven thunders of the Revelation; of a legion of Niagara; of the horn of Gabriel, (we speak reverently,) and Day of Judgment. Men grew pale, women fainted, and children went into convulsions as they heard it."

NATURAL CURIOSITIES.—In the Baltimore coal mines, near Wilkesbarre, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, the superintendent has recently discovered the remains of a forest of trees, which had been imbedded in the slate rock above the large vein, fragments of which, by a fall, had been detached, and now lie in confusion—stumps, roots, limbs, and impressions of bark—in the mine. Among the curiosities are two huge stumps, as perfect as if just drawn from the earth by a stump machine, the roots cut off where they had entered the ground, and the surface looking as if the bark had been taken off while the sap was running. In the rock above can be traced the ends of the stumps from which the stumps have fallen, and in one place the body of the tree protrudes, the surface presenting the impression of the bark.

A PROBLEM.—Whoever originated the following, deserves to have his name handed down to posterity: If a despatch from England to America gains on the sun so as to reach here 42 hours by the clock, before it left England, at what time would it arrive at the point of departure, were a cable carried entirely around the world? Would it not arrive the day before it left, less only the time exhausted in making the circuit? If so, then, with a continuous telegraph line around the world, until it reached back to Adam, and let him know what his children are about these "latere days."

SERVED HIM RIGHT.—A Wisconsin paper states that one Hamilton, who lives by the side of Willow River, had shamefully and cruelly abused his sister, who is partially insane, and in the evening threatened to whip his wife, with whom he had an altercation. At this juncture of affairs, a party of Chippewa Indians made their appearance, four of whom were stationed at the door, and the others made a noise, which caused Hamilton speedily to appear minus his outer habiliments, whereupon the Chippewas seized him, treated him to a ride on a rail, and then divested him of his hair and whiskers.

NEW RIFLE CANNON.—The Government have been trying the rifle cannon of Mr. Sawyer, of Fitchburg, Mass. It is said that, at one mile, the body of an ordinary sized tree would not be missed once in fifty times, so exact are its line shots. Mr. Sawyer superintends the firing in person, and, in seventeen shots, at a distance of one mile, the farthest was not over three feet from the centre. This is the closest shooting with cannon known. The cannon is grooved like a rifle. The ball is shaped like the Minnie rifle-ball, and is filled with powder, which explodes after striking and entering an object.

RIVALING THE TELEGRAPH.—Mr. Winans, of Baltimore, the locomotive builder, is said to be building a steamer in Baltimore upon plans entirely his own, which is to cross the Atlantic in six days. A man who can knock six days out of twelve in the period required to cross the Atlantic, may take rank next to Morse in annihilating time. We will see, directly, whether Mr. Winans' scheme succeeds. So much has been accomplished recently by science and skill, that it would be hazardous to predict any untried experiment as impossible.

FREDERICK H. SOUTHWICK, an American at Rio Janeiro, is said to have discovered an article of illuminating clay, from which he is able to manufacture gas, cheaply and abundantly. The article is of the color of clay, and looks like coal in its pure state. It will burn like wax when held to the flame of a match. It is found in large deposits on the banks of navigable rivers, and will be used by all gas companies in Brazil, and become an article of exportation.

A colored firm in Newark, N. J., having suffered some pecuniary embarrassment, recently closed business, and the senior member gave the following "notice" to the public:—"The dissolution of co-partnership heretofore existing twixt me and Moses Jones, in the barber profession, am heretofore resolved. Persons who owe must pay the incrisber.—Dem what the firm owe must call on Jones, as the firm is insolvent. LOUIS JOHNSON."

TAKING IT PHILOSOPHICALLY.—A love-smiten gentleman, after conversing a while with a lady on the interesting topic of matrimony, concluded at last with the emphatic question:—"Will you have me?" "I am very sorry to disappoint you," replied the lady, "and hope the refusal will not give you pain; but I must answer, No." "Well, well, that will do me good," said her philosophical lover, "and now suppose we change the subject?"