

Franklin Repository.

LOCAL ITEMS.

GOSPEL WITH OUR FRIENDS.—It is pleasant to be getting well, at least so well that you can compare yourself to a chair, that is perfectly sound with the exception of one cracked leg, which if allowed to stand in a safe corner, no one permitted to sit upon it, or move it, will answer all the purposes of a chair to the eye. In the words of the great Reformer, "here I lie—I cannot do otherwise." I am propped like grandfather Smallwood, my only exercise consisting of hurling pillows at the brimstone, etc., or as "the Antiquary" would say "womankind."

An ingenious Frenchman wrote a most interesting book, philosophical, erudite and captivating, entitled, if my memory serves me right, "A Journey round my room." If a forefinger could fill a book, with such a subject, surely an irrepressible American might fill a column, even though his room is small; and yet I have forgotten the greatest advantage the Frenchman had, in being alone when he wrote and in using his own hands. My room is full large, when there are not too many in it, and from my window I command fully five square feet (not five feet square) of blue sky on a clear day, and of clouds when the weather is murky. In common with all invalids I am prepared to give a minute description of the pattern of the paper upon the wall—here let me advise my dear friends and gossip always to select a chamber paper with reference to sickness. No one untried can know the misery of trying to count the number of stars within a given space, for, count them ever so often and truly, the tale is sure to vary, and then often the lost and careful enumeration of all—presto, they shoot in all directions, like their electrical prototypes in the heavens. The pattern of a bedsheet is no small matter, neither is the slamming of a door, nor the creaking of a chair; and the climax of non-vanities is readily capped by the use of a little judicious cold-blooded whispering. It is wonderful how familiar a room becomes to one who does not leave it for a month, and the uncaged mind causes the slightest things to become suggestive, and offers an opportunity for flight. A friend sends a few grapes which carry us straightaway from Champagne to Oporto, then to Lisbon, thence across to Maderia, and back again to the south of France, sunny Italy and the isles of Greece" (original); a package of figs carries one on the wings of the telegraph, along the shores of the Levant—a basket of pears may well make the recipient wonder what the American culture will do next, to cut oranges and lemon citrus and all that; a donation of apples will transport one as it were upon the magic carpet of the "Arabian Knight" into the garden of Eden; even a dozen roasted oysters eaten late in the evening facilitate a Mazzepa-like excursion upon one of those blooded mares that never travel by day. I have discovered two ways of improving myself under present circumstances, the one to think over, digest and apply previously acquired knowledge, the other to make the best of the conversational material at hand. With regard to the latter method, I have had visits from no less than six preachers, the oldest of whom, with head as white as asliver, counseled "patience" and the cultivation of a disposition to make the best of everything; adding that it reminded him of a story he once had read of a French peasant who accidentally upset his wagonfuls into a brook, in crossing. As the nutritious vegetables went bobbing down the stream, the rustic philosopher exclaimed: "Just a little salt would make excellent broth!" Another gentleman in black thought my comparison of last week, as the appearance of my legs "elegant," whereas my fair amanuensis had pronounced it "too bad." In addition I have devoured, myself, by the use of "Webster's Undecided," to translating a language heretofore unknown to me. For example (excuse spelling): "Red braid" "on black alpaca, black braid on white linen." Nonsook answers the double purpose of rafting a pillow-case or a man's temper. I almost know now what tassel is, and think I would ask for "Coated" cotton if I were about to invest in that material; gig-topped bonnets are fashionable; turbans are still worn, hoop hold their own (and so they ought), gold-headed canes are carried by fast young ladies, no doubt out of respect to that handsome millinery martyr, Miss Harris. You would be surprised to know how familiar I have become with water-proof cloaks, mohairs, English Chinzees and bombazines. "I don't think I could be caught anything more with regard to balmors, and Alexander and Jovin's gloves I have at my finger ends."

Science is a queer thing. To be greatly troubled in mind to decide whether Louis Napoleon wrote Julius Caesar's life, or Caesar his—see a mouth without the rest of the face, then a nose, then a mouth and nose, features and no head, head and no features, a man of greater width than height, and then one raveling a corn stalk in stoutness—"perchance to dream" of being trampled under a squadron of horses; blown up a steamboat; run over by a train of cars; made into sausage meat, stuffed into skins and lying, an integral part of festoon, on the counter of a lager beer saloon, nervously awaiting interment in the stomach of a hungry Teuton. It is mortifying, too, to repeat the alphabet and stick at L. To essay the multiplication table and find yourself uncertain whether two times twelve are twenty-four or forty-two, all these trials appertaining to fever. I have had a high and involuntary complaint paid me by one of the female critics ("Ministering angel, thou"—Scott), hovering about my bed—"You gossip about nobody but yourself." "To sleep the better, my dear!" I trust you will excuse my ramblings, for situated as I am, this is the only kind I dare indulge in, and perhaps the fever is not quite broken. I received a cheerful message from a relative, to the effect "if my leg had to come off, I could congratulate myself upon being their one *calf less* in the family," and that I "could turn my attention to politics and become a stump speaker." I have almost concluded to knif.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.—The following causes were tried during the second week of our Course:

Com. vs. Wm. H. Boyd, Wm. H. Boyd, Jr., John Weasner, Michael Houser and William H. Wananaker. Charge of taking sand from the public road so as to injure the road in divers ways. Samuel Keeler, prosecutor. Defendants pleaded guilty, a fine of five dollars and costs.

E. V. Houghton & Co. vs. Wunderlich & Neud. An action of Replevin involving the ownership of ten cases of chinaware of the value of \$750. Verdict for plaintiffs \$900, with six cents damages.

J. S. Ely vs. Franklin Funk. Assumpsit on book account to recover for meat sold and delivered. The cause has been on the docket since 1860, has been tried several times in the Common Pleas, taken up to the Supreme Court, sent back and again tried at this term. Verdict for plaintiff, \$1240.

Ezra Jane Trindle and Samuel B. Doyle vs. Mary A. Clark and Charles Evans, Guardians of Mary E. Clark. Ejectment for the undivided two-sixths of a tract of land in Hamilton township. Verdict for plaintiffs for the claim.

Wm. Rodger vs. Wm. Keyser. Trover and Conversion. Verdict for plaintiff, \$226.25, debt, interest and damages.

John Beaver's Adm'r vs. the London Louang Fund. Action to recover the amount of certain deposits made in that institution. This cause was returned from the Supreme Court with a verdict for the plaintiff for the amount of \$260.

S. D. Kell, convicted at the April sessions of perjury, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary and to pay the costs of prosecution.

On the report of examining committee K. Shannon Taylor, J. Porter Brown and Jacob S. Eby were sworn as Attorneys and admitted to the practice of Law in the several Courts of the county. We understand that the examinations of these gentlemen were highly creditable, to them, indicating a thorough study of their profession.

CONTESTED ELECTION.—Colonel D. Watson filed his petition in the Court of Quarter Sessions last week as a preliminary step to contest the right of W. S. Stenger, Esq., to hold the office of District Attorney for this county. The following is a copy of the petition:

The Petition of the People of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace in and for Franklin County,

That at an election held on the 11th day of October, ultimo, for the election of a District Attorney of said county, and that by the return of the judges of said election, made on the 25th day of October, ultimo, it appears that Wm. S. Stenger, Esq., was elected by a majority of five hundred and forty-eight votes, and D. Watson three thousand five hundred and forty-five votes, and that the said Wm. S. Stenger, Esq., has a certificate of election to the said Wm. S. Stenger.

And your petitioners with full power represent that the said election was held under the rules of the election for said office, and in pursuance of law by persons in the military service of the United States in the State of Pennsylvania to wit: the 77th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, and that the said Wm. S. Stenger, Esq., was elected by a majority of five hundred and forty-eight votes, and D. Watson three thousand five hundred and forty-five votes, and that the said Wm. S. Stenger, Esq., has a certificate of election to the said Wm. S. Stenger.

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