TERMS OF THE "AMERICAN." HENRY B. MASSER, PUBLISHERS AND JOSEPH EISELY. PROPRIETORS.

H. B. MASSER, Editor.

[OFFICE IN MARKET STREET, NEAR DEER.]

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That Lovely Girl in Blue. BY EPHRAIM GRATE, ESQ. I saw a girl on Market street, A sweet young thing in blue; In her the victues seemed to meet,

With her the graces grew. Her brow was finely formed and fair, The rose was on her check; Her pouting lips still seemed to dare, And yet they seemed to seek.

Her eyes were of that melting blue, That many a heart might wreck; Her ringlets, of a golden bue, Adorned her snewy neck.

Her's was a step, might win a heart, Of light, clastic kind; A form, surpassing all that art Or fancy has divined,

Indeed she was most heavenly fair, Her charms were most divine; Oh! would that I could bow me there, And worship at her shrme!

From her soft breath such draughts of love And joy my bosom drew; That oh! I could not look unmoved. At that sweet girl in blue !

That Drunken Man in Rags. A parody on "That Lovely Girl in Blue." I saw a man on Market street, A dirty thing in rags; In him the passions seemed to meet—

He was the sport of wags. His brow was knit with rage and spleen, And bloated was his cheek; His teeth were clenched his lips between; To shun him all did seek.

His eyes were of that crimson bue Peculiar to the sot a His ringlets o'er his forebead blew-

His friends they knew him not! His was a step from which the soul Would shrink; aye with disclain. His form, alas? was like the bowl

Frem which 'twas hard to abstain Indeed, he was a wretched man-His virtues all had fled; His days are dwindled to a span; His life was but a thread.

From his pestiferous breath the fumes Of liquor were exhaled; On him I could not look unmoved, Bet pitied and bewailed. L. W. Z.

From the Southern Literary Messenger, NEW LIGHTS.

The quickstep march of modern mind Is leaving common sense behing And all the Gods from Pan to Mars. Now make their trips in rail-road cars. The Muses-nay, the very Graces Have paid their fare-for early places; And sooth to say, their votaries seem To travel now-a-days by steam, And strain-although the boilers burst, To be a Bubbleton, the first, No matter who deserves to win. The sure of foot and sound of timb Must not, of course, compete with him! So rapid is "improvement" now, It goes ahead, (no matter how.) With such a fifty savan-power, You get to heaven in half an hour, By merely locomotive preaching-On the high pressure plan of teaching : And by the same in shorter space May reach God wet, the other place. Who now would think for once of earning, By labor's toil, the wealth of learning ? Or who proposes to go to school Not even the baby Prince of Wales 1s soft enough to kill the whales, To light him to his pap-when gas Is grown in every meadow-grass, And when was candles of the best Are from the castor bean-pod prest ! Lay of the last Tom Toddie.

A LESSON FOR SCOLDING WIVES .-"And I dare say you have scolded your Old Newman looked down, and the wife took up the reply. "Never to signify and if he has, I deserved it." "And I dare say, if the truth were told, you have scolded him quite as often." "Nay," said the old woman, with a beauty of kindness which all the poetry in the world cannot excel, "how can a wife scold her good man, who has been working for her and her little ones all the day! It may be for a man to be peevish, for it is he who bears the crosses of the world : but who should make . him forget them but his own wife? And she had best for her own sake-for nobody can scold much when the scolding is all on one side."-[Bulwer's Student.

No Accounting for Taste. - An anecdote is told in the New Monthly Magazine of an ininsbitant of Spitzbergen, who, when condoled with by the captain of a whaleman, on the severity of the climate, and the privations he endured, replied "I have always had a fish bone through my nose, and plenty of train oil to drink ; what more could I possibly desire."

look very stout-you must be a tremendous strong fellow."

'Yes,' replied the ether, 'I'm as strong as brandy, an quite as spirited.

"I don't doubt it-but you're not so much be. Joved !

SUNBURY AMERICAN.

AND SHAMOKIN JOURNAL.

Absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority, the vital principle of Republics, from which there is no appeal but to force, the vital principle and immediate parent of despotism, - Japaneses.

By Masser & Elsely.

Sunbury, Northumberland Co. Pa. Saturday, May 28, 1842.

Vol. II--No. XXXV.

THE MURDERER. BY MRS, LYDIA JANE PIERSON,

Well, Davis will get his due after all; I was a little apprehensive about it, but old judge Baily had passed scutence of death upon

'And you are rejoiced at it, Harding?'

'Certainly I am, Mr. Goodwin; ought not every good citizen to rejoice in the punishment of crime, and in ridding society of such pests, and the land of blood guiltiness! Surely you would not subvert the laws of God and man, and suffer the murderer to run at large, and prey upon his fellows."

Indeed I would not. He who has proved himself so desperately fool hardy, as to stain his soul with human blood, should be prevented from finding an opportunity to repeat the offence. But I do pity poor Davis; not so much because he is to die-for life cannot be desirable now, and death, but for the gallows, I am sure would be welcome; yet, I pity the burning agony that has goaded him to this, and the remorse and shame that now torture him."

'Worse and worse, Goodwin? you pity the crime more than its punishment. Such a crime as his, too; an outrage on the most sacred ties of life, on the holiest barriers of society-the murder of a good confiding wife, for the sake of a wanton-eyed creature, who ought to be hanged with him."

'Yes, you are right; it would be mercy to hang her up beside him. Death, now, would be nothing to one day of the anguish and despair, and broken-heartedness, that she must endure, in this blind, cold, contemptuous world; and that after all she must die.'

*Well, I am astonished. If you were not a preacher of the gospel, and a man of irreproachable character, I might fancy that you knew how to sympathize with there. Do not be offended, I know that you could not be guilty of

such a crime,' 'Do you imagine, sir, that I will rest quietly under such an insinuation! you have known me seventeen years; have you seen aught amiss in my conduct, or has there been even an ill report of me, in all that time ?'

'Certainly not, sir; your walk and conversation have been irreproachable, above the reach of malevolence, and so bright that envy could never aim a shaft to touch them. I humbly beg your pardon, for my basty words."

"I am satisfied. Now my friend, sit. and I will tell you flow I have learned to pite the murderer. Ten years since, at the time of the great revival, amongst the young ladies that united themselves to the church, was one who attracted my particular attention. She was fair in form, of an intelligent countenance, of great mental ability, and eminent piety. I regarded her as an exceedingly amiable young woman, and loved her purely as a sister in the Lord. But the excitement, fatigue and watching attended on my station at such a season, exhausted my strength, and a long and severe spell of nervous fever, was the consequence, My wife, as you know, is a plain woman, of quiet manners and few words. I ever esteemed her highly, but for her Inever felt the arder of sentimental love. She paid me the most dutiful attention during my sickness, but her calm manner, seemed to me stoical anathy. The young lady of whom I speak, came often to visit her pastor in his affliction, and the warm interest she displayed in my welfare, her-quick and intense feelings, and tender sympathy, won intensibly upon my heart. She was a sweet singer, and I am passionately fond of music; she was a correct and feeling reader, and read wife very often, Newman," said I, once. to me frequently; my wife could never sing, and being an indifferent reader, seldom reads aloud. I felt the contrast between them. One was the artificial rose, precise, stiff and scentless. The other was the fresh young flower, in all its balos, and velvet beauty. As I recovered, and my sister as she termed herself. began to come seldom to see me, an unaccountable melancholy took possession of any mind. Every object were a gloomy aspect; I could weep smid the most beautiful scenes; I longed for solitude, and rambled musingly amid the bright garlands of spring, signing for, I know not for what; but I felt a want of somethieg.

> autumn advanced, my melancholy deepened he, had a pocket-knife which he valued far highly sentimental. I worsnipped her purity. fearfully. I can never express to you the deso- beyond all his other playthings. The other I would not have seen her contaminated for lation of soul with which I gazed upon the sere day, being in the saw-mill, he amused himself the world. It was all madness, sheer mad-

ly doorned to agony and despair.

shrunk from the touch of her hand, as from the infection of pestilence, and yet I thought that to increase my torment.

'At length rumor informed me that sister L. was receiving the addresses of an all-accomplished, excellent and wealthy young gentleman. No lauguage can express my bitter agony of spirit at this intelligence : I felt that I could not exist if she became the wife of another. And then the thought came, if I were free, might I not win her? What think you came next! We read in the sacred Book, 'He who bateth his brother, is a murderer.' I hated my wife, and murder was in my heart. Now came a conflict dreadful to dwell upon. I feared the wrath of God-1 dreaded lest I should be deemed a murderer by my fellow man; but came not before my mind's eye. From my new." own experience, I know that a dread of death by the halter, never deterred a man from shedding human blood. If any passion can overcome the fear of Jehovah's vengeance, and the world's scorn and curse, think you it will quail at the thought of death ! Believe me, never. 1 thought of eternal punishment, 'where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched; I thought of feaving a name to be detested throughall generations; I thought of the tortures of conscience during life, of the agony and disgrace of a trial for murder, when all the world would be arrayed against me, and my nearest friends appear as witnesses to convict me; but of the pang of a felon's death, I felt no dread; if ever its shadow crossed my mind, I bailed it as the end of all my sorrows-as the and awaken pity to weep over my guilt, and my sere temptations. I arose and burned the exclusion of hope. I had heard of the effect I committed greater sins. I hattled with the produced by the nux vomica, and thought that its operation would be readily mistaken for her constitutional malady. I had the article by me I could easily administer it, and then heaven would be open before me-the heaven of love, -I longed then for no higher heaven. I fixed on several times for the accomplishment of my purpose, but still as the hour arrived. I shrank from the spectres of agony and death; I could not administer the poison. Then I would reproach myself with cowardice, and the thought would arise, that had I persevered, it would now

save been all over; I might have been free! L. I had resigned my ministerial office, on a of it with his own hands, and I swallowed it, inplea of ill health-and truly, I was ill, but it wardly wishing it was arsenic. He made me was conscience that withheld me; and I kept aloof from L, that my attachment for her direction, until he should come again. I passhould not become apparent, and be a means of raising suspicion against me. But she it. In a few days I began to feel relieved. came one day to visit me, having heard that When my friend came, I thanked him from my I was becoming extremely iil, and feeling for heart, and be was overjoyed at the wonderful me the affectionate reverence which young change in my appearance. Six weeks had christians ever experience towards the minis- hardly passed, before I was wholly recovered ter under whose teaching they found the way of life. She expressed an earnest solicitude had returned; I telt as if a mountain were raise for my recovery, and displayed so much ten- sed from my heart, and a cloud of impenetraderness in her words and manner, that the ble darkness passed from my mental atmospassion in my soul blazed more fiercely than phere. I could now rationally look upon all ever, and I resolved that before another sun things. You will wonder, when I tell you should set, the drug should be administered that the intense love which had seemed to me that would make me a widower. I. left me the very life of my soul, which led me to bein the evening, and that night was spent in one wild vision of bliss too rich for earth. The next day I prepared the poison; and nothing murder and suicide, had all melted away, learemained but to mingle it privately with some brown sugar, which my wife used in her cof- that now I could truly rejoice in her matrimofee, no other member of the family using it.

'My wife had complained to sister 1, of feeling unusually ill; I thought, therefore, that I would not confess to mycelf that I was suffer- she would have no suspicion, for I would rather ing from an illicit passion, yet, whenever I met that all the world would deem me guilty than saster L., I felt how dear she was to me. On she. Well, I carefully burned all traces of the Lord's day, as I stood in the sacred desk, if the drug, except what I had prepared, and with my eye fell on her, I felt an impulse to stretch that wrapped in paper in my pocket, I went out my arms as if to embrace her, my heart to the dining-room, in which was the cupboard was no longer with my God, although I still containing the table furniture; I took the lid mocked him with prayers, and went mechan- from the sugar bowl-I heard a step in the hall ically through the service of the sanctuary. I -I replaced it hastily, and sat down. A did not seek her society; I strove to keep her neighbor entered. Oh, I feared at he would out of my thoughts, yet my life became a bur- remain until dinner, and so my poor wife es- strange feelings that tortured me independent trusting it with his own condition. then, I could no longer feel gratitude to my cape another day. In the course of conversa- of that mad passion, I feel that my intellect "Tom,' said an acquaintance to another, 'you merciful father; I felt rather that I was cruel- tion my neighbor related the following anec- was deranged. Then the mature of my feel- allow me to ask you one question!"

and frost-blackened herbage; or the shudder by whittling, still praising the knife, until by ness.

From the Philadelphia Saturday Courier. 1 with which I marked the faded leaves whirl | accident, he pierced his hand through with the on the fitful wind. My spirit sickens at the re- blade, in a manner which I fear will deprive collection of that fearful season. My excellent him of the use of it, and in his fright and agony and been detected, as I most certainly should wife became an object of strong aversion to dropped and utterly lost his knile amid the rubme; I hated the sound of her voice, and I bish under the mill. The poor child cried our death, merely because I had been afflicted night and day, and we were much alarmed a- with a nervous disease. I believe that very bout him. Yesterday, he called me aside, and her fondness for me was greater than ever, just | said to me, 'oh, papa, I must tell you something or I shall die., I suppose you will whip me, and that will be right. Last spring, when I saw the jack knives in Mr. Bower's store, I did ed, and grove into an issue love or hatred, want one very much, but you said I would only | wrecking its victim utterly. cut my fingers with it. I thought I must have one, so I took some money from the drawer, humility. While I am unutterably grateful when you did not see me, and when I found to the Merciful Being who providentially preyou did not miss it, I went and bought the knife and then I told you that I found it. But papa, the knife never did me any good; it would always cut my fingers, and I knew that it was because I got it wickedly. And now I have my mental response is-But for God's special spoiled my hand with it, and it is lost for ever. Dear papa, when I stole and lied for the knife, I did not think that God would punish me with you may believe me, the spectre of the gallows the knife, and make me lose it while it was judge but Him who is Omniscient! Hence-

I can never describe the agony which I felt during this simple recital. My afflicted neighbor asked my advice as to how he should proceed with his son, but as I essayed to speak, I fainted quite away-this was attributed to my weakness, and I was conveyed to bed. As soon as I recovered, I entreated to be left alone. perchance was agonized with pity, while, The words of the child-the knife never did we any good, because 1 got it wickedly, and 1 wife. did not think that God would punish me with the knife, and then take it from me while it was new,' lay like fire upon my soul, and I felt, death does deter from crime.' that if I should obtain the object of my desires wickedly, the Almighty God was able to make my sin its own punishment, and to wrest her from see by death in a moment. I poured out a wild prayer in the agony of spirit beseeching satisfaction which would atone for my fault. Him to restrain me from sin, and help me in its punishment. Yet I could not bear to see deadly preparation, which a short time before, my wife dying by my hand. She so loved and had seemed to me the way to the highest fetrusted me, how could I kill her! Oh! if she licity. For a few days I felt something like could die anatural death. Often did I, on my peace, but a rumour came that L, was soon to knees, beseech God to remove her, that I might be married, and madness came with it. Then not dip my hand in her blood, and the Holy One on the tumult of my thoughts, rode the demon suffered her to live on. She was subject to suicide-I would die-my soul was in hell albilious cholic, and some of her paroxysms were ready-my sins were so hemous, that I could so severe, as to threaten her life, almost to the not hope for pardon-it was best to die before growing weaker. I began to devise how I ter them liberally with beef or porl natural. And now I began to weep freely for the weeds while it nourishes the aspa-

physicians, which with an obstinacy foreign to ous member or my church, brought me a package of medicine, which he had obtained from New York, with considerable expense and trouble; he urged me so kindly to make trial of it, During this struggle, I had not seen sister that I at last consented. He prepared a dose promise to oblige him by using it according to -Yes sir I had recovered! My cheerfulness lieve that I could not exist without its object, which had filled my mind with thoughts of ving only a pure feeling of christian regard, so nial prospects: And my wife-oh the willing tenderness that gushes up at the rememberance of her meek and untiring attention upon him, who was planning how he might take her life with impunity."

My friendshad long urged me to apply to

"Indeed," graped Mr. Hardy, "you were dreadfully tempted."

"Yes, you may call it temptation, but the whole was the effect of disease of the brain and nerves. It commenced in pervous fevers, and a catholicon that restored the equilibrium of the system cured the mania also. Yes, sir, I was a monomanic. When I remember the ings for sister L., were not such as are gener-Thus passed a spring and summer, and as . . My little Charley now five years old, said ally ascribed to illicit passion. They were

"Now you see that if I had been suffered to consummate my fearful design upon my wife, have been, I should have suffered an agnominifew same people ever committed murder or suicide. The mind man mexplicable mystery; none of us can define it, or explain how it is acted upon. A causual idea may become roct-

'My experience has taught me charity and vested me from becoming practically the murdererthat I was at heart, I feel for every creature's guilt, and especially for the shedder of blood. To every recital of suicide or murder, mercy, I had been altogether such a one."

'Well,' my dear sir, 'if such is the experience of the best man I ever knew, who shall forth I will use my best endeavor for the suppression of capital punishment, that every man slaver may have leisure in his solitary cell to return to right reason, and to God. My feelings toward poor Davis are entirely changed. Oh God! forgive me, that I was athirst for his blood. Perhaps I did desire his death; he goaded by strong passion, he murdered his

'Yes sir, you are right. He is an object of pity. But I was of opinion that the fear of

That is a very general opinion, but ask of all murderers whether a fear of death on the gallows withheld them for one moment from the commission of the fatal deed. Every one will answer no! Will the passion which has triumphed over the fear of God, and the dread of infumy shrink from the terrors of a death which hope always tells them may be evaded? I assure you, never It becomes legislators to suppress crime, and to protect their fellow creatures, lives and property, by incapacitating the vicious for the commission of crienc,-But man should seek only to prevent crime, and reform the criminal. Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord, and I will repay.'

Horticulturists say that the best way could die so that my death might be deemed brine, or any salt brine. The salt kills hours, and it seemed as if the tears I had shed ragus, which is a maratime plant, and grows the better for having salt.

> SELECTING CABBAGE PLANTS .- A COTmer, advises those, who on a rainy day, take from a bed of cabbage plants, some for transplanting, to select the blue short legged ones -because the long legged ones are mostly scullions, and wont have any heads.

MIRACULOUS PRESERVATION OF LIFE. -A woman named Greene was hansed my word, and felt bound to live and keen ged, having been condemned for felony, as related by Dr. Plott. The body was delivered over for an anatomical lecture to a doctor of physic; he bled her, put her to bed to a warm woman, and with spirits and other means restored ber to life. He was induced to make this experiment as the time of her suspension was only about half an hour. What was most remarkable, and distinguished the hand of Providence in her recovery, was that subsequently she was aroved to be innocent of the crime for which she suffered. Some young scholars joined in subscription for her portion, and married her to a man by whom she had several children. Her life was thus extended for fifteen years.

> Too Tave.-The Rochester Republican tells of a man who came to market to dispose of his cattle, which naturally led to conversation on the very common theme of hard times." "Yes," said the cattle seller, with an air of pecvishness, "times are hard, and this is a hard worldand, in my opinion, very few will get out of it

Two peighbors met, one of them was exceedingly rick, and the other in moderate circumstances. The latter began to congratulate the former on his great possessions, and the happaness which he must enjoy, and ended in con- er, was courtin' our Sal!'

"My friend," said the rich man, "will you

"Certainly, sir"

"Would you be willing to take my property and take the whole care of it for your boarding and clothing !"

"Well that's all I get."

PRICES OF ADVERTISING.

square 1 insertion. Every subsequent insertion, . Yearly Advertisements, (with the privilege of alteration) one column \$25; helf column, \$18, three squares, \$12; two squares, \$9; one square, \$5. Without the privilege of alteration a fiberal

discount will be made. Advertisements left without directions as to the length of time they are to be published, will be continued until ordered out, and charged accord-

Consisteen lines make a square.

An Incident.

By the late Thomas Haynes Bayley, Esq.

In the midst of a dark and gloomy thicket I ie day came suddenly upon three coarse looking men, who eyed me suspiciously, and them asked me the nearest way to Southampton. I believe I trembled from head to foot, while I gave a civil but almost incoherent reply. They allowed me to pass, and then, though they had previously appeared on the most friendly and confidential terms, they spoke loudly and with vehement gestures, and one of them, to my horror, quitted his companions, and coming to my side thus most courteously addressed

'I am quite sure that I am addressing a gen-

I made no reply, but I thought that my last hour was approaching.

'I am certain,' he continued, that one who is evidently accustomed to the usages of the best society, will not suffer me to want a friend on the most important occasion of my life."

'A friend, Sir !' said L.

'Yes, a friend: Friendship, in its general acceptation, is not to be kindled in an hour but in the sense in which I now use the word Friend, you can, and I feel quite sure you will; assist me; nay Sir, you must.

I took a long breath, and thought I should have fainted.

'Excuse me for my vehemence,' he added. for I am a desperate man, and it is in your power to prevent the commission of murder."

'Yes, Murder; for to fight doels without econds, is decided murder."

'Yes,-to be brief-That gentleman you see there in the sailor's jacket and trousers."

"Gentleman ?"

'Yes, Sir, Gentleman! Do you presume to suppose, Sir, that had he been any thing else I should have done him the bonor and pleasure of accepting his challenge !- Are you not aware Sir, that the Lords and gentlemen of the Yacht Cirib wear that costume !" 'I beg your pardon,' I murmured.

'Pardon, Sir !-never : that is, never unless you accede to my proposal."

'Anything !-name it !' 'That gentleman has brought his second

with him, mine has disappointed me, you must take his place !' 'I take his place 'Yes-I have already said that you must de

so, and I hear of no refusal. Are you well asquamted with this part of the forest !

'Y-y-cs.' I stammered.

"Are we near any road at present?" 'Not very far'

'Then lead us to an unfrequented spot, where even the report of pustols would be unheard. my nature, I had refused to do. Now a gener- respondent of the New Genessee Far- Do you refuse ! cried my new friend furious-

> Oh dear no, I answered; and more down than alive I led the way. He gave a signal to his apponent, who with his second followed us. I silently led them to a very remote sequest real spot and intimated that I had obeyed orders, merely by standing stock still.

'Are you cortain that we are not likely to be interunted here! 'Quite.' 1 replied.'

Then here we will remain until the others

They soon came up, and then the Geatleman in the blue jacket, whose face and manners were even rougher than his dress, said-Well, you Sir, are you cock-sure nobedy will come upon us?"

Certain, Sir,' I replied.

'This is a very out of the way place, is it !" said his second. 'Uncommonly so,' I answered.

"They can't even hear the pop of a pissol, hey, from the road !" inquired my Friend. "Impossible," I responded.

"Then," continued he, "you chicken-hearted son of a Tom Tit, give us your watch and your money, or we'll blow your brainsout."

They all vociferously surrounded me taking from me every farthing 1 possessed, my watch and seals, and a valuable guard chain, (what a misnomer!) a diamond ring, a torquoise pin my cost and waiscoat, and my hat. They then wished me a good morning; my Friend, the moment my back was turned, gave me a violent kick, and as I ran as fast as my legs could carry me through the forest, I heard their loud laughter wafted on the breeze.

'Marm !- Marm!'

"What Thomas?"

'Didn't you say to Father that Bill, the butch-

.Why child how you talk. He's only paying his attention to her." ·Wal, you'd better stop it then-kos they're

in the parlor now, and Bill just bit Sal right on the mouth-he did, kor I seed him," 'Thomas, here's a cent-run down to the ba

ker's and buy a horse cake ; and then you may go and play a spell. La! me what eyes these children have gis.'- Rich. Star.