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

H. B. MASSER, Editor.

[OFFICE IN MARKET STREET, NEAR DEER.]

THE "AMERICAN" is published every Saturday at TWO DOLLARS per annum to be paid half yearly in advance. No paper discontin-

ued till all arrearages are paid.
No subscriptions received for a less period than SIX MONTHS. All communications or letters on business relating to the office, to insure attention, must be POST PAID.



From Tait's Magazine.

Crush the Afghaunt Crush the Afghaun! Why does he dare To claim man's birth-right and be free ? Go slay him in his mountain lair, To teach him magnanimity. Tell him shout your gentle creed.
Good will and Peace to wildest horde; And preach it while his heart shall bleed, Revenge the grace that plunged your sword,

What is he, the bold Moslem thief, Rude Gheber, Bhuddist, blind Hindu ! All but your orthodox belief He dares to have :- wants freedom too! Lifts he his sword 'gainst British wrong ? Plucks he the lion by the mane ! The Rebel! Is not Britain strong Sweep forth his race from hill and plain:

Go, crush the Afghaun! Ask him why He, dog, prefers his will to yours! Fell many a slave 'neath ev'ry sky, Your mighty Helotry endures; Toils to fill your cheating coffers, Your bondage feels, nor dares to sigh : Who are Afghauns! Crush the scoffers, They dare refuse!—Then let them die.

Pomp of empire, blood cemented Witness ye orphans', widows' tears; Strife by treachery fomented, Proud conquests of a thousand years; Can the mountain jackalls tarnish All your glorious long array ? Chistian Love is glazing varnish, Shout out Revenge !- like Christians slay.

Kind,-you wished to ease the burden Which Freedom's independence gave; He, for bonds of steel and burden, Took all the promises you gave, Stiff necked! not to trust you better, Freedom,-a free man loves to be, He broke your pious Christian fetter, And you denounced for tyranny.

Se, crush the Afghaun! now be bruited Throughout your realm,-with noble port. Magnanimously spurred and booted, Ride down his children-spoil their sport. Strew bones to bleach, and skulls to whiten, In every gorge round Afghaun's throne; And, your triumphal march to beighten, Be careful that they're not your own.

NEWSPAPERS .- A newspaper taken in a family seems to shed a gleam of intelligence around. It gives the children a taste for reading it; it communicates all the important events in the business world; it is a never-failing source of amusement, and turnishes a fund of instruction which will never be exhausted. Every family, however poor, if they wish to hold a place in the rank of intelligent beings, should take at least one newspaper. And the man who, possessed of property sufficient to make himself knowledge, is instigated by the vile spirit of cupidity, and neglects to subscribe to a newpaper, is deficient in the duties of a parent or a his intelligent neighbors.

I positively never knew a man in the country who was too poor to take a newspaper. Yet two or three even respectable people read no newspapers but what they borrow. As I speak generally, I hope I offend none. If I do, the greater conveniently to take a weekly newspaper; the cost is four cents a week. How many who think themselves too poor to take a paper, pay as much daily for drink. Miserable man, thou art poor indeed .- Dr. Franklin.

INCIDENT AT NAHANT .- Mermaids .- As two gentlemen of the press, named Tom and Frank, were sauntering among the rocks, they discovered two beautiful mermaids sporting in the water, close to the beach. Delighted and astonished at such a discovery, for a moment they Seneca. Plato, the Athenian, attained to were at a loss what to do. Rocovering, however, from their first surprise, they retired behind | but yet a lover of ease, in his notions sublime, a rock, where they could see, and not be seen and of a fancy, neat and delicate in his life, by these divinities of the ocean, Said Tom, rather calm than merry, and one that carried a "Now Frank, out with your note book, and kind of mnjesty in his countenance. write what I dictate; my organs of preception are larger than yours. Are you ready ?" "All ready," whispered Frank. "Write then-'Two which we shall find, as it were, a calendar of mermaids up to their waists in water.' Have you got that down!" 'Yes,' replied Frank. 'Add then, 'long hair of auburn hue, slightly and truest informer touching the ages of men;) tinged with ocean green towards the ends; fa- and in that part of Italy, which lieth between ces round as a full moon, and white as-and white as-" 'and white as what ?' demanded Frank, impatiently. "Why, white as a moonbeam; eyes bright as lightning; mouth, cheeks, nose, &c., beyond the reach of Johnson, Walker & Co.; bosoms &c., oh Lord !" Here they were interrupted by a stout elderly gentleman, armed with a tall hickory stick, who seized Tom by the shoulder, and demanded, in a rough | thirty, four more; of a hundred and forty, three voice, what he was about. 'O, dear sir,' repli- men. Besides these, Parma, in particular ated Tom, imploringly, 'don't make a noise-you forded five, whereof three fulfilled a hundred will frighten the mermaids. 'Mermaids-devils,' roared the old gentleman; they are my ty. Brussels afforded one of a hundred and daughters, and if you don't vanish in a twink- twenty-five years old. Placentia one, aged one ling, I will make this tall hickory ring about hundred thirty-and-one. Faventia one woman We pitied the fellow some, your ears.' 'Nuf'sed,' growled Tom and Frank, aged one hundred thirty-and-two. A certain and were among the missing quick as thought. town, then called Velleratium, situate in the

## 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.—Jerrenson.

Sunbury, Northumberland Co. Pa. Saturday, August 20, 1812.

By Masser & Elsely.

Long Life. From Lord Bacon's history of Life and Death.

The long lives of men mentioned in heathen authors have no great certainty in them ; both for the intermixture of fables, whereunto those kinds of relations were very prone, and for their false calculation of years. Certainly of the Egyptians we find nothing of moment in those works that are extant, as touching long life ; for their kings which reigned longest did not exceed fifty, or five-and-fifty years; which is no great matter, seeing many at this day attain to those years. But the Arcadian kings are little subject in the manners and fortunes of fabulously reported to have lived very long. flocks of sheep, and brought forth most wholetheir god, we may conceive that all things a- wise not well disposed for it. bout them were panic and vain, and subject to fables.

Solon of Athens, the lawgiver, and one of the seven wise men lived above eighty years, a man of high courage, but popular, and affected to his country; also learned, given to pleasures. and a soft knd of life. Epimendes, the Cretian is reported to have lived a hundred and fiftyseven years ; the matter is mixed with a prodigions relation, for fifty-seven of those years he is said to have slept in a cave. Half an age after, Xenophon, the Colophonian, lived a hundred and two years, or rather more ; for at the age of twenty-five years he left his country, seventy-seven complete years he travelled, and after that returned; but how long he lived after his return appears not; a man no less wandering in mind than in body; for his name was changed for the madness of his opinions, from Xenophanes; to Xenomanes; a man no doubt of vast conceit, and that minded nothing but

Anaereon, the poet, lived eighty years, and somewhat better, a man lascivious, voluptuous, and given to drink. Pindarus, the Theban, lived to eighty years; a poet of high fancy, singular in his conceits, and a great adorer of the gods. Sophocles, the Athenian, attained to the same age; a lofty tragic poet, given over entirely to writing, and neglectful of his

Georgias, the Sicilian, was a hundred and

eight years old; a rhetorician, and a great

boaster of his faculty, one that taught youth for profit. He had seen many countries, and a little before his death, said that he had done nothing worthy of blame since he was an old of age. This man was likewise a rhetorician, but professed not so much to teach the liberal arts, as the art of governing commonwealths easy for life, surrounded by children eager for and states; notwithstanding he was a great wanderer in the world, no less than Georgias. Isocrates, the Athenian, lived ninety-eight years; he was a rhetorician also, but an exgood citizen, and is deserving of censure of ceeding modest man, one that shunned the publie light, and oponed his school only in his own house. Democritus, of Abders, reached to a hundred and nine years; he was a great philosopher, and, if ever any man amongst the Grecians, a true naturalist, a surveyor of many countries, but much more of nature ; also a the necessity to speak out. Every man is able dilligent searcher into experiments, and (as Aristotle objected against him) one that followed similitudes more than the love of arguments. Diogenes, the Sinopean, lived ninety years; a men that used liberty over others, but tyranized over himself, a coarse diet, and of much patience. Zeno, of Citium, lacked about two years of a hundred; a man of high mind, and a contemner of other men's opinions; also of a great acuteness, but yet not troublesome, choosing rather to take men's minds than to enforce them. The like whereof afterwards was in eighty-one years; a man of a good courage,

> The year of our Lord seventy-six, falling into the time of Vespasian, is memorable; in long-lived men; for that year there was a taxing: (now a taxing is the most authentical the Appenine mountains and the river Po, there were found a hundred and four and-twenty persons that either equalled or exceeded a hundred years of age; namely, of a hundred years, just fitty-four persons; of a hundred and ten, fiftyseven persons; of a hundred and five-and-twenty, two only; of a bundred and thirty, four men; of a hundred and five-and-thirty, or seventy-and and twenty years, and two a hundred and thir-Boston Post. | Inlis about Placentia, afforded ten, whereof six | man chasing his hat in a gale of wind.

fulfiled a hundred and ten years of age, four a hundred and twenty. Lastly, Rimini, one of a hundred and fifty years, whose name was Mar- ties (for divers good reasons thereunto moving)

much in length we have thought fit, as well a severe penalty, should stir abroad after sunset in those whom we have rehearsed, as in those whom we shall rehearse, to offer none under eighty years of age. Now we have affixed to every one a true and short character or eulogy; but of that sort whereunto, in our judgement, length length of life (which is not a men) hath some relation, and that in a two-Surely that country was mountainous, full of fold respect; either that such kind of men are for the most part long livers, or that such men some food, notwithstanding, seeing Pan was may sometimes be of long life, though other-

## Semiramis.

Secure on the throne, Semiramis thought only of eclipsing the glory of her husband, and her first act was to build the city of Babylon. he same, we are told, of which the ruins still excite the astonishment of travellers, and the magnificence of which, according to the acount preserved from Ctesias, is calculated to excite doubt even more than amazement. Nor were her splendid works confined to the metropolis. The banks of the Euphrates and Tigris were embellished with towns; and the commerce of her empire was improved by vatious judicious measures, as were its agricultural resources by the canals which she caused to be formed. Having completed her operations in Mesopotamia, Semiramis assembled a vast army, and marching into Media, left there also magnificent monuments of her power and taste, and where, during the completion of these works, according to some authors, she abandoned herself to a life of the most profligate vice and luxury. But, arousing from this disgraceful sloth, she visited the whole of her Asiatio dominions, and, passing thence through Egypt added the greater part of Lidya to her wide territories. From thence she marched to reduce Ethiopa, and, having settled affairs in that quarter, she again entered Asia, and reposed for a while at Bactra. But tranquility had no charms for this restless conqueror. The wealth and prosperity of distant India excited her ambition; she longed to view its wonders, to possess its riches, and, therefore, she resolved to invade it. To an immense army were added 2000 vessels for navigating the Indus, carried to the banks of the river on camels, together with the hides of 300,000 black oxen, made into artifical elephants, formed for the purpose of familiarizing her cavalry with the sight of these animals, as well as to terrify the Indians and encourage her own troops by a show of the

counterfeit quadrupeds. The preparation made by Strabrobates, the overeign of India, for repelling this alarming invasion were such as became a powerful prince jealous of his independence, and indignant at an unprovoked aggression. It was asserted that he gathered together a far greater army than Semiramis commanded, and, adding contumely to defiance, upbraided his enemy with her infamous course of life, and threatened hould his arms be successful, to put her to a cruel death. She smiled at his threats, and advanced to the Indus. 'He does not know me vet,' said she; 'he will soon have an opportunity of judging me by my actions and deportment.' But the height of her fortune and the limit of her empire had now been reached. A temporary success rendered her bold; and, decoved across the river, over which she constructed a bridge of boats, she came to a decisive action with the Indian King.

Her artificial elephants could not withstand he shock of the true ones, and, being wounded in a combat hand to hand with Strabrobates, she was forced to recross the stream, with a third part of her army. This was the last of her enterprises. Her own son, desirous to anticipate the prediction of an oracle, which declared that she should, at a certain period disappear from the eyes of men, sent a cunuch to assassinate her. She forgave him the attempt surrendered hesfelf into his hands, and was translated from earth, as was asserted, in the form of a dove, a flock of which birds had settled at the moment upon her palace. Such after a glorious and successful reign of forty-two years, and a life of sixty-two, was the end of the celebrated Semiramis,-Edinburg Cabinet

IN A BAD FIX .- The Picavune says :- We aw a man going down Royal street yesterday as uncomfortably off as any poor devil we have seen lately. He had a bundle under and a laof gloves in his mouth, and a little dog belonging probably to one of the ladies, was trotting along after, and every now and then jumping up and trying to catch the skirts of his coat.

The most beautiful thing in nature is a fat

Glorious Uncertainty of the Law.

In a certain town in Normandy, the authorithought proper to issue a proclamation to the That our catalogue might not be extended too effect that none of the worthy inhabitants, under without a lantern. Well, it chanced on the ve- be had so effectually performed on the former ry same evening, a man was seized and taken occasion. Of course the lawyers lost no time incontinently before the dispenser of justice, to be dealt with according to the new law.

> 'I am excedingly sorry,' said the chiefofficer, recognizing the individual, that a citizen of your respectability and station should be the first to infringe the new regulations.'

> 'I would not willingly do so,' said the man, coolly!

'Have you not read it !'

'Certainly,' replied the captured party-but many have unfortunately misunderstood it. Will Monsieur oblige me by reading it, that I may learn of what I am guilty !"

The officer graciously complied-and, after glibingly running over the verbose statement. came to the point "that no inhabitant shall stir abroad after sunset without a lantern,' which he certainly delivered with peculiar emphasis, to the admiration of the fellow who had taken the man into cuetody, who was twirling his fingers, impatient to receive his moiety of the

'I have a lantern, Monsieur,' firmly contend ed the man, holding it up to view.

'Yes, but there is no candle in it,' replied the officer, with a smile,

'The proclamation does not mention a can dle, I believe, Monsieur,' replied the cunning fellow, respectfully.

'A candle ! but of course-' began the informer, trembling lest he should lose the fish h had hooked.

'It does not mention a candle-and I contend Monsieur, I have not infringed then the law, persisted the quibbler. 'The words are 'without a lantern," and here it is,"

'Hem!' cried the officer, endeavoring to conceal the confusion occasioned by his defeat, by boring over the copy of the proclamation. must confess there is an omission, and I am happy to give you the benefit of it. The case is

The informer was not only defeated, but rather alarmed, when the prisoner called to mind certain action which rendered him, the aforesaid informant, liable to heavy damages for talse imprisonment, &c., and the poor fellow the law by disturbing a certain sum in hard cash to the accused.

But lo! on the next evening he again encountered his 'dear arquaintance,' and to his infinite delight, he beheld the same unilluminated lantern in his hand; for an amended proclamation had been issued that morning, with the words, that no inhabitant should stir arboad without a lantern and a candle therein.'

The informer chuckled at the ignorance the man who had so coolly victimised him on the preceding night, and with a heart beating with the desire of revenge, and a certain propect of the restitution of the mulct which he had suffered, he with a sneering politeness requested the honor of his company to the justice

Really it is impossible to resist the amiable importunity of a gentleman who pays such delicate compliments-such good coin!' replied the man; and away he walked chatting good humoredly and joking with his delighted cap-

'What, again ! cried the officer.

I hope Monsieur will do me the honor remember that my former appearance here was only against my inclination, but even against the law,' said the prisoner.

'Really these proceedings are very vexations

'Have you read the proclamation !' interrupted the officer.

'Monsieur did me the favor to read it only last night, and-

'I will read it again for your edification,' replied the officer; and he looked furtively at the informer, who could scarcely contain himself for very joy.

The amended proclamation was read. The accused stood placidly smiling at the rigmarole verbiage; but when the officer read the the concluding words, that no inhabitant should stir abroad without a lantern and a candle,' he

'Ha!' cried the informer, unable longer to restrain his teclings.

'How very, very unfortunate,' cried the delinquent, and quickly opening his lantern, condy upon each arm, a parasol in each hand, a pair tinued, -'Lo ! here is a candle. How fortu-

> 'But it is not lighted,' exclaimed the informer, with an uncontrollable agitation. It is not lighted, nor has it been, as the wick itself

'Lantern and candle! a lantern and a candle !

lighted candle in any part of that respected doc-

Vol. II--No. XLVII.

This was a clincher! The parties were completely outwitted, while, to abate the fever of the informer's extraordinary excitement the man charitably repeated the 'bleeding,' which in 'amending'the amended proclamation, and inserted lighted before the word 'candle.'

THE GREGORIAN OR NEW STYLE .- Pope Gregory the XII, made a reformation of the Calendar, or old style, which had, before that said time, been in general use all over Europe. The year according to the Julian calendar, consisted of 365 days and 6 hours; which 6 hours being one fourth part of a day, the common year consisted of 365 days, and every fourth year one day was added to the month ! of February, which made each of those years 366 days; they are usually called leap years.

This computation, the' near the truth, is more than the solar year by 11 minutes, which in 131 years amount to a whole day. By which the vernal equinox was anticipated 10 days, from the time of the general council of Nice, held in the year 325 of the Christian era. to the time of Pope Gregory; who, therefore, caused 10 days to be taken out of the month of October, in 1582, to make the equinox fall on the 21st of March, as it did at the time of that council. And to prevent the like vari- they not bound "to take up the cross," and live ation in future, he ordered that 3 days should be abated in every 403 years, by reducing the leap years at the close of each century, for 3 successive centuries, to common years and retaining the leap years at the close of each fourth century only.

This was at that time esteemed as exactly conformable to the true solar year, but Dr. Halley makes the solar year to be 365 days, 5 hours and 48 minutes, 54 seconds, 41 thirds, 24 fourths, and 31 fifths; according to which in 409 years, the Julian year of 366 3 d. 1 h. and 55 min. which is near two hours, so that in 50 centhries it will amount to a day.

Although the Gregorian calender or new style had long been used throughout the greatest part of Europe, it did not take place in Great Britain and America, until the 1st of January, 1752; and in September following, the 11 days were adjusted by calling the 3d day of that month the 14th and continuing the rest in this

nature which we saw in Charleston, was a small worm called the trinket worm, characterized by this peculiarity, which gave rise to its name. On the leaves of a wild vine, called the trinket vine, is found in a small worm, which looks at first like a small piece of thread, and is almost motionless. It the leaf be taken off and placed under a glass case in a room, this little thread will, in the short space of twenty-four hours, grow into a good sized caterpiller, beautifully colored, and studded with goldon spots. When matured it will climb up the glass, fasten one of its extremities to the glass roof, and leaving the other depending in the air, will curl itself into a great variety of forms, presenting exqusite patterns for good trinkets, such as earrings, broaches, clasps, &c., and varying these from time to time in great diversity, - from whence its name.

Bucking ham.

Good HINT .- The celebrated Dr. Abernethy

"I tell you, honestly, what I think is the whole cause of the complicated maladies of the human frame; it is their gormandizing, and stuffing, and stimulating the digestive organs to excess, thereby creating irritation. The state of their minds is another grand causethe fidgeting and discontenting themselves about that which cannot be helped---passions of all kinds-malignant passions and worldly cares pressing upon the mind, disturb the central action, and do a great deal of

These are excellent hints for the present un

MILLER, the millenium man, who proposes to burn up the world some time during the next year-the same world which is at this time living merely upon sufferance, he having postponed its conflagration a year or two since -appears to be going on prosperously and gaining proselytes in any number at the eastward. The winding up of the world is actually to take place in 1843, however, and his followers lately erected a splendid tent at Concord, N. H., in order to live in it so as to be "in at the death." A storm having prostrated their marques, they have removed their quarters into a valley where there is less wind, and where they will not be so liable to interruption.

The human heart, in its weakness and noble Monsieur that there was not such a word as of the sweetest melody with many discordsPRICES OF ADVERTISING.

do 2 do 3 Every subsequent insertion, . Yearly Advertisements, (with the privilege of alteration) one column \$25; half column, \$18, three squares, \$12; two squares, \$9; one square, \$5. Without the privilege of alteration a liberal 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-

CJ Sixteen lines make a square,

Married in Spite of their Teeth.

A CHOICE ASSEDOTE .- Old Governor Saltonstall, of Connecticut, who flourished some forty years since, was a man of some humor, as well as perseverance, in affecting the ends he desired. Among other anecdotes told of him by the New London people, the place where he resided, is the following:

Of the various sects which have flourished for their day, and then ceased to exist, was one known as the Rogerites : so called from their founder, a John, or Tom, or some other Rogers, who settled not far from the goodly town afore-

The distinguished tenet of the sect was their denial of the propriety and scripturality of the form of marriage. It is not good for man to be alone.' This they believed, and also that one wife only should cleave to her husband,' but then this should be a matter of agreement merely, and the couple should come together as a man and wife, dispensing with all forms of the marriage covenant. The old Governor used frequently to call upon Rogers, and talk the matter over with him, and endeavor to convince him of the impropriety of living with Sarah as he did. But neither John nor Sarah would give up to the argument.

It was a matter of conscience with themthey were very happy together as they wereof what use then could a mere form be ! Suppose they would thereby escape scandal; were according to the rules of the religion they professed! The Governor's logic was pow-

He was in the neighborhood of John one day, and meeting with him, accepted an invitation to dine with him. The conversation as usual turned upon the old subject.

'Now, John,' says the Governor, after a long discussion of the point, why will you not marry Sarah ! Have you not taken her to be your lawful wife !

'Nes, certainly, 'replied John, 'but my conscience will not permit me to marry her in the form of the world's people."

'Very well. But you love her ?' 'Yes.'

'And respect her !'

'And cherish her, as bone of your bone and flesh of your flesh !"

'Yes, certainly I do.' 'And you love Him, and obey Him, and res-

pect Him, and cherish Him !" 'Certainly, I do.' 'Then,' cried the Governor, rising, 'in the

name of the laws of God, and of the Commonwealth of Connecticut, I pronounce you to be The rayings and rage of John and Sarah

were no avail-the knot was tied by the highest authority of the State .- Boston Mail.

Governor Carlin, of Illinois, is said to have made a requisition upon Gov, Reynolds, of Missouri, for the delivery of the person of Gen. Bennett, charged by Jo Smith with high treason against the State of Illinois. This will delay proceedings against Jo Smith until after the elec-

THE MOUSE IS LIQUOR .- Mr. Smith, the reformed drunkard from London, apologised for much of the folly of a drunkard, by the following story of the Cat and the Mouse.

A mouse raging about a brewery happening to fall into one of the vats, he was in imminent danger of drowning and appealed to a cat to help him out. The cat replied, it is a foolish request, for as soon as I get you I shall eat you. The mouse piteously replied, that the fate would be better than to be drowned in beer. The Cat lifted him out, but the fumes of the beer causing pussey to sneeze, the mouse took refuge in his hole. The cat called upon mousey to come out-'You rascal, did you not promise that I should eat you !'- 'Ah !' replied mousey, 'but you know I was in liquor at the time.'

A RICH SCENE.-The following rich scene recently occurred in our courts of justice between the Judge and a Dutch witness all the way from Rotterdam:

Judge,-'What's your native language ?' Witness .- 'I be no native : I's a Dootchman,' Judge .- 'What is your mother tongue.'

Witness .- 'O, fader say she be all tongue.' Judge, (in an irritable tone.)-What langunge did you first learn ! what language did

you speak in the cradle !" Witness .- 'I tid not speak no language in te cradle at all ? I only cried in Dootch.'

Then there was a general laugh, in which the judge, jury, and audience joined. The witness was interrogated no further about his native language .- Picayune.

The celebrated Dr. Madden, seeing a boy breaking out his neighbor's windows, asked him, what's that for ! All for the good of trade, said the boy-I'm a glazier. The Doctor, raisympathies, resembles a broken harp, which sing his cane and breaking the fellow's head, repeated the man, 'I appeal to the justice of never plays a perfect tune, but mingles strains exclaimed, that's for the good of trade, I'm a surgeon .- New Haven Herald,