The Erie Observer.

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1869.

All subscriptions must be settled annually. Bills will be sent at the close of each year to those who are in arrears.

Jobbing accounts are due as soon as the work is delivered. feb18-tf.

It is announced that the public debt statement for May will show a decrease of seven millions. "A new broom sweeps clean." We shall see what we shall see.

The presence of Ex-President Pierce in Baltimore last week was a source of gratification to the admirers of the distinguished statesman. The Ex-President has fully recovered his health, and exhibits all the vital force, suavity, and courtliness that have ever so much marked his character. While in Baltimore, he was constantly occupied in the reception of visitors.

The Coming Great Issue.

The attention of the people is becoming strongly directed to the tariff robbery to which they are subjected. A tax of $200,000,000 in gold upon $400,000,000 of imported goods will not long be submitted to. It is oppressive in the highest degree—oppressive not only in the amount but in the manner in which it is levied. A more shameful contrivance was never devised to place the burdens of the Government upon the laboring and hardworking classes.

The Way to Win.

Without numbers it is impossible for any party to succeed. In a great political, financial, and commercial crisis, such as is approaching, without success a party of correct principles can do nothing to relieve the country. To secure the co-operation of all these elements, the Democratic party must cease to be a close corporation. It must throw wide open its ample doors, and invite the support and co-operation, on equal terms, of all who agree with us on the living issues of the day. Let by-gones be by-gones. Let the dead past bury its dead. We must not say to able, eloquent, honest, patriotic and trusty Republicans, "You may vote for us, but none but life-long Democrats are entitled to our support." Any man who has capacity and integrity, who has shown his patriotism in the past, who is right now, and promises to be right for the future, is, in a crisis like this, a good enough Democrat for us.

We would do nothing to compromise the principles of the organization. In fact, it is to secure the triumph of the principles of the party that we advise a broad and liberal policy that shall ignore the past, and recognize all as Democrats, upon equal footing, who are willing to co-operate now to save the country from the grasp of its imperialist foes. Let us learn wisdom from our opponents. It is because they have not been a close corporation—because they openly and cordially welcomed all accessions to their ranks, frequently giving them the very highest seats in the synagogue—that they have been so successful. Nearly all the talent and brain in the Republican party came from the Democratic organization. The Radicals had the sense to use and not to repulse it. Upon the shoulders of these new accessions that party was elevated to the power which it has so vengefully and remorselessly exercised. But for the silly disposition which prevails among some Democrats to always fight over the battles of the past, the Radicals would never have succeeded, but have been always in the minority.

Poor Tennessee!

The Republicans of Tennessee held a State Convention last week, and broke up in a row. The friends of Gov. Senter and the friends of Col. Stokes wanted to nominate each their own man for Governor; and after having made the Convention a scene of indescribable noise and confusion for several hours, yelling, screeching, and defying the police, they separated without having accomplished anything beyond a riot. The fight centered on the election of temporary chairman of the convention. Each faction claimed that its man was elected, and a fierce struggle for the chair ensued. At this juncture a leading Radical approached another and slapped him in the face. Pistols were drawn when the police interfered and arrested the parties. The convention then adjourned, amid indescribable confusion, to meet the next day. When it reassembled, the same scenes were re-enacted, and after much turbulence, the delegates, agreeing to disagree, dispersed without settling a ticket. This is but the beginning of the end, and we shall not be surprised to hear of the loyal saints in Tennessee cutting each other's throats and hanging one another to the limbs of trees, in the most approved John Brown fashion. They have talked so long and so much about the imaginary Ku Klux, that they find it an absolute necessity to have a real institution of that sort, and have, therefore, concluded to start "Klans" of their own.

More Indian Fighting.

A Helena, Montana, dispatch reports a desperate seven-hours' fight between the men of the settlement of Muscle Shell and about two hundred Santee Sioux, who made an attack on the settlement, and the final repulse of the attacking party, with thirty killed, including a "renegade half-breed," and thirty scalped. We are afraid the dispatch is too one-sided. A desperate fight, of seven hours, in which one white man falls, while thirty Indians are killed and scalped, and the rest forced to swim a river to escape, is rather too much of a Munchausenism to believe. The Quaker agent cannot be too prompt in getting to the frontiers. We have already the portents of another Indian war, more frightful waste and expense, and another enormous deficiency bill next Winter to embarrass the financial situation.

A story which is told about Washington will show how little the President really knows whom he appoints or removes. It is said that Hon. J. B. Hawley, Radical member from the Fourth District of Ohio, waited on the President, to talk a little about the appointments in his District. The President said he was very willing to accede to the wishes of his friends, 'but,' said he: 'Mr. Hawley, there is one request you must not make. I will not remove Jack Grimshaw, Collector of your District. He is a good Republican and an honest man, and I will not have him disturbed.' Says Mr. Hawley, 'Well, Mr. President, I will not ask you to disturb Mr. Grimshaw, for the very good reason that you removed him from office ten days since, and appointed his successor, who has been confirmed by the Senate.'

The appointment of General Sickles as Minister to Spain is said to be wholly the personal work of President Grant. It is the most instructive commentary he has yet made upon the false notions of blind and credulous adulation with which his nomination to the Presidency was urged by the Radical leaders upon their party. It gives the most precise measure of his personal tastes, affinities, and preferences. This fact makes it a far more significant—and we must say, also, a far more melancholy—incident of our current history than it would otherwise be.

Indiana has lost the pre-eminence it once held as the easiest State in the Union to get a divorce in. Its laws have been so amended that discontented husbands and wives cannot commence proceedings in its courts for a release from their matrimonial bonds, unless they have previously been residents in good faith of the State for one year and of the county ninety days. Whether the change has been made in the interest of morality, or only in that of boarding-house and hotel keepers, does not appear.

Popular Superstitions.

The day of miracles is past. Witches and hobgoblins are but seldom heard of now, and the ghosts of the departed but seldom alarm us with their strange antics. Superstition has given way to enlightenment, and the causes which once led to wonderment are now reduced to plain philosophical laws. Only a few misguided beings are left who hold nightly meetings with "spirits" in dark rooms, amusing themselves with table-tipping and listening to the senseless prattle of some so-called "mediums." It is pleasurable, however, to turn a leaf backward in the world's history and rehearse some of the superstitions of the past century.

Nothing has so called forth the witch's power as the various ailments of the human body. For instance, if a person had the toothache, instead of running to the dentist, as our modern sufferers would do, they would simply sing, while sitting in solitude, these words:

"Peter was sitting on a stone,
And Jesus passed by;
Peter said, "My Lord, my God,
How my tooth doth ache!"
Jesus said, "Peter art whole!
And whosoever keeps these words for my sake,
Shall never have the toothache!"

It will plainly be seen that the efficacy of the charm lies neither in the rhyme nor measure of the verse; it all depends on the *faith* of the sufferer.

Warts, you know, are unhandy things, especially if they exist in large quantities. If you wish to get rid of them, wait till the moon is on the increase, and then, standing alone in its clear light, rub the wart and repeat the words:

"As the moon increases,
So let my wart decrease."

This do three times, and if the warts do not go away, it will be from some cause other than your neglect.

If you have the hiccups, repeat these words as slowly as possible, and if the verse is repeated without giving vent to the hiccup, the cure is certain:

"Hiccup, hiccup, go away,
Come again another day;
Hiccup, hiccup, when I bake,
I'll give to you a butter cake."

The charm consists most probably in the promise of the "butter cake," of which hiccup is said to be especially fond. How a drunken man could manage to repeat the verse, is hard to conjecture.

To get rid of the nose-bleed, approach a stone backward, and, raising it, suffer a few drops to fall under it. Return it to its place and go on your way rejoicing.

There is no being on the face of the globe who is not more or less addicted to wishing, and how often have we felt that if our wish was granted we would be perfectly contented. Here is a recipe which, if successfully compounded, will surely give you your desire:

"If you think not of a black dog's tail,
You will get your wish and never fail."

It is remarkable how the said "black tail" will thrust itself into the mind.

When you cut your fingers or toe nails, if you

Cut them on Monday, you cut them for health;
Cut them on Tuesday, you cut them for wealth;
Cut them on Wednesday, you cut them for news;
Cut them Thursday, a new pair of shoes;
Cut them on Friday, you cut them for sorrow;
Cut them on Saturday, see your true love tomorrow.
Cut them on Sunday, the devil will be with you all the week!

White spots on the finger nails are indicative of premature decay. Besides this, they have the following significance, according to the number of the finger on which they are found.

"A gift—a friend—a foe—
A journey to go."

Young gentlemen should be exceedingly cautious what manner of present they give to their lady love. For instance, if any one should give his girl a knife or pair of scissors, it would immediately cut their friendship. This sad calamity might be averted by the lady sending back these lines:

"If you love me as I love you,
No knife can cut our love in two."

Colors, also, have their significance. The omens attached to them are:

Blue is true,
Yellow is jealous,
Green is forsaken,
Red is brazen,
White is love, and
Black is death.

Various are the means by which an unmarried gentleman or lady may ascertain who is to be the future partner of their lives. One way is by approaching the bed backward, and then resting on the back during slumber. If you do not dream of horses, you will certainly see the future sharer of your joys. Another, is by throwing a ball of yarn out of the up-stairs window, retaining hold of one end. As you wind it up, inquire audibly:

"Husband, husband, come to me;
Tell me, tell me, who you see."

Or, if a gentleman wishes to try the charm, he can substitute for the first two words, "wifey, wifey." Presently the response will come from the thick darkness, and thus you will be enabled to unravel fate. If no response comes, it is not necessary to infer that you will never be married.

Many, very many, are the premonitions of death given in the household. To see a flock of geese go by the house in single file is nearly certain, but should they halt before your door, there is no longer any doubt. To hear the fall of a heavy body, or the striking of a clock in an unoccupied room, is a sure sign that *something* will occur.

It seems remarkable that a being of any enlightenment should attach any potency to such "charms" as we have mentioned; and yet, in past ages, the greatest faith was placed in these and numerous others we might mention. Even in this advanced era, there are some blind enough to credit the foolish statements of their ancestors with regard to them. I only wish to adduce one more example. It was handed me a few years ago, and recommended as an infallible cure for all diseases of the body; would not only cure, but ward off; would protect from harm; and, in fact, it was a perfect "Balm of Life." Here it is:

S A T O R
A R E T O
T E R E T
O T E R A
R O T A S

The peculiar arrangement of the words would naturally induce an ignorant and superstitious mind to think that there was something unnatural in it. In truth, it is nothing more than an ingenious combination of Latin words, which may read, "I cease from labor; the sower will wear away his wheels." This explanation will be sufficient to divest it of its marvellous character.

G. W.

Lewisburg, Pa.

After the election, and previous to the inauguration of General Grant, a beautiful white lap robe, made from the skins of Alaska seals, was presented to him by Gen. McCook, at present Consul to the Sandwich Islands, with a request that he would use it on that occasion. The robe was of course accepted, as the President has never been known to refuse anything of value, and used as requested. The return of this investment by General McCook has been his transfer from the far off Isle of the Sea to the more honorable and lucrative position of Governor of Colorado. The General cast his bread upon the waters, and it has returned to him—in a few days.

A proclamation has been issued from the State Department ordering that in all government establishments the pay for eight hour's labor shall be the same as heretofore allowed for ten hours. The administration found it of vital necessity to take this step. A certain party wrote the President, that unless some such order be made, the Administration would lose one hundred thousand votes in the fall election, and as Grant's highest aspirations are for the success of his party, policy—not a sense of justice—induced the order.

"The army will be reduced one-half," said the Republicans. "The recruiting service is hereby resumed," says the War Department.

EDITORIAL PARAGRAPHS.

Brownlow is now in Tennessee. He carries his own hell about with him, as a snail her house.

The New York Tribune found two honest Senators in the New York Legislature. Naturally enough they were both Democrats.

What a foolish notion that was to fasten the last rail of the Pacific Railroad, with gold spikes. If there are any Radical politicians in that neighborhood the spikes will soon disappear.

One of our exchanges heads an article: "Whither are we drifting?" As disinterested spectators, we can very easily see it, but for fear of shocking refined persons, we abstain from naming the place.

There seems to be a curious discrimination made in favor of citizens of Massachusetts in the appointments in the public service. It is said that no person appointed to office from that State has been disturbed.

The rumors prevalent of an alleged repugnance of the Haytian Government to the appointment of a colored Minister to that Island are authoritatively denied; on the contrary, the appointment is declared to be received by the Haytians as a high compliment to the colored race.

The fare from Omaha to San Francisco on the Pacific Railroad is fixed at $125, or over seven cents a mile. This is not so exhorbitant, considering the great expenses attending the running of the road, and the fact that there will be very little way traffic compared with that of Eastern roads.

We have not yet heard of the arrival in Cuba of those immense bodies of fighting men which, according to the New York papers of three weeks ago, were then sailing secretly from that port. They carried stupendous quantities of guns and war-material with them and ought to have conquered the whole island by this time.

Several men who wrote to the President in favor of the appointment of friends have been astonished at receiving unsolicited commissions themselves. The mystery was solved by the fact that they closed their letters by saying, "I have the honor to subscribe myself," ect., it being the rule to give all subscribers something.

The Republican Legislatures of New York and Pennsylvania are universally denounced for their rottenness and corruption. No such charge has been made against the Democratic General Assembly of Ohio, even by the most bitter of the Radical organs. Whatever faults it may have had, want of personal honesty among its members was not one of them.

In speaking of the interference of our Government in the affairs of Cuba, a member of Grant's Cabinet lately said to a gentleman—who hastened to put the remark in print—that "this Administration will have its hands full if it attended properly to the affairs of our own country." This is the most sensible observation that has reached us from Washington since Grant's inauguration.

The Russian Emperor Paul, who, like most oddities, had a habit of saying wise things at times, once proposed that instead of sending armies to make war, the Kings and Ministers of Europe should all come together and settle their quarrels with "small swords." It would be a good thing if the editors and politicians who want to excite war between this country and foreign powers, could decide the controversy in that way.

The New York Post (Radical) commenting upon the appointment of Dan. Sickles as Minister to Spain, says:

"This is an appointment which the country will not approve, and which the Senate, when it meets, ought not to confirm. It is a bad appointment, made in the face of light; for though, when the name of Mr. Sickles was first mentioned in connection with the Spanish mission, the administration might have been ignorant of his character and history, this cannot now be said."

There are 42,000 offices, great and small, in the gift of the government. For each of these offices, a Washington correspondent estimates there are ten applicants. This presents a noble army of 420,000 Radical office-beggars, or, counting out Dana and Greeley, 419,000. Throwing out the negroes who voted for Grant in such Southern States as were permitted to vote, and about one man in five of all who voted for him are now asking to be paid therefor from the public treasury.

Beecher has faith in the ultimate triumph of the Democracy. He says: "I believe the time will yet come when our offices will be filled with honest men; that men can go to the Legislature and not become corrupted; that a man can be a Judge and yet go to heaven." As none of these things are possible under Radical rule, it is evident the preacher is looking for the "good time coming," when Democrats shall fill the places referred to.

The Emperor of Austria has just congratulated his people on the fact that freedom of local elections established throughout the realm has resulted in giving the nation a new lease of union, power, and prosperity. The President of the United States, on the other hand, has just assured one "Major Moore, ex-Assistant Adjutant-General of Sheridan's Cavalry," that there "shall be no election held in Texas before November," because Major Moore "assured the President" (so the Times tells us) "that it would be folly to expect the Republican party to gain a victory in Texas if an election were ordered immediately."

STATE MATTERS.

There is a man named Grammar in the Legislature of Massachusetts. There is no evidence of his existence in the debates of our own.

A negro at Harrisburg gave the following toast: 'De gubernor ob de state—de illusterous Geary—He come in wid berry little opposition—he go out wid none at all.'

Uncle Jacob Ziegler says that the cry of "party" will re-elect a Radical member of the Legislature in the Butler district, if he had sold his vote in the Legislature fifty times a day and voted for two hundred pasters and folders. Ditto in Erie county.

The Philadelphia Press tells a falsehood when it says that the Democrats in the legislature "insisted upon an increase of salary to $1,500 a year." Two or three mean Democrats did join in the effort for an increase of salary, but the majority of the Democratic members were unequivocally opposed to it.

The Philadelphia Evening Telegraph, a leading Radical sheet, recently denounced Governor Geary as "ignorant, conceited, grasping, venal, the slave of the 'ring' and the creature of lobbyists and pardon brokers." The Harrisburg Patriot presumes, however, that the Telegraph will support Geary for re-election, should he become the nominee of his party. It will, doubtless, excuse its inconsistency on the ground that such a man as it depicts Geary to be makes the best sort of a Radical candidate.

John W. Geary will be renominated. He has enlisted all the more disreputable politicians of the State in his favor. The Legislative ring, the lobby and all the corrupt men of the party desire to see him re-elected. He has been a convenient tool in the past, and they are confident that he will prove to be fully as pliant in the future as he has been heretofore. Should the people of Pennsylvania be foolish enough to re-elect him we shall have the disgraceful scenes of last winter repeated.

Hester Vaughan, who was convicted of killing her illegitimate child, after months of confinement, has at last been released from a Philadelphia prison, and suffered to go in such peace as is henceforth possible. Without opening the old issue, we may point out that the conduct of Governor Geary in the case is scandalous. It is at least six months since all the facts were before him, and, if it is proper to pardon the girl at all, it was proper, to pardon her then. Yet he chose to pocket the papers and wait until the ephemeral excitement surrounding the case had passed away before taking action upon it.

The Pennsylvania State Sunday-School Convention will be held at Williamsport, beginning on Tuesday, June 1st, at ten o'clock. Arrangements have been made on a liberal scale to make this the best Sunday-School Convention yet held in Pennsylvania. Sunday-school teachers and superintendents, and clergymen interested in the work, are cordially invited to be present, from all parts of the State. Each Sunday-school is requested to send one or more delegates. The prominent Railroad Companies have agreed to make the customary reduction to delegates who pass over their roads.

Ex-Gov. Joseph Ritner is in the ninetieth year of his age. He resides with his son on a farm four miles from Carlisle. His mind is almost gone, and it is with difficulty he can be brought to converse on the affairs of his administration. A correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune, who visited him, revives the old story of one of his daughters, who asked, soon after Mr. Ritner's election as Governor: "Ma, will we all be Governors now?" "No, you fool," was the reply, "only daddy and me."

The growing extent of the vicious system of special legislation which curses every State, is shown by the fact that at the last session of the Pennsylvania Legislature 1590 bills were passed, only seventy-one of them being of a general nature. Of these 1459 were approved by the Governor, thirty-one were vetoed, seventy still remain in the hands of the Executive, and eight were recalled by the Legislature. Most of the special legislation was of a class that could have been better disposed of by the courts.

The Buckshot War.

Editor Observer:—In your paper of May 6th, you give a lengthy account of that disgraceful affair called the Buckshot War, of December, 1838. The writer was at that time and for several years a permanent resident of Harrisburg, and probably observed the facts as closely as any one, and will give a few attendant thereto.

The city and county of Philadelphia were separate in their elections. The city had a Whig majority for several years. The county was Democratic.

Francis G. Harper was elected in October, 1834, and re-elected in 1836, to Congress as a Democrat. He died March 18, before the expiration of his term. A special election was held to fill the vacancy. Chas. G. Ingersoll, an ambitious, but unpopular man, was the Democratic candidate, and was defeated by Charles Naylor (a nail maker by trade) by a large majority. Mr. Naylor made an excellent member of Congress. In 1838 he was a candidate for re-election by the Whig party. The Democratic party again placed Chas. G. Ingersoll on their ticket. The night of the election he found himself again defeated by Mr. Naylor, but the Democratic Senators all elected. He then discovered there had been illegal voting in two districts and those elections must and should be rejected. By doing so, he would be elected, but the balance of the Democratic ticket would be defeated. A majority of the return judges on Friday after election met, rejected those two districts and signed the returns electing Mr. Ingersoll and the Whig members of the State Legislature, and forwarded said returns to the Secretary of State according to law. The minority return judges two days afterwards made a return and forwarded it also, which the Secretary refused to place on record, it not having been forwarded at the proper time.

Very few, if any, doubted that the Democratic Senators and members of the House had a majority of the votes cast, and that Mr. Ingersoll had not, but that did not suit him. The Whig members of the Legislature, headed by Michael Day, of Kensington, did not legally consider themselves elected.

Your account of the organization of the House is strictly correct. The two Anti-Masonic members from Luzerne county, Chester Butler and E. R. Sturdivant, and Mr. Gutelius, of Union Co., got ashamed of the proceedings, went over to the Democratic side, and helped to organize the Hopkins branch of the House. A committee was then appointed on the contested election, the ballot boxes were brought and examined, and the Democratic members awarded their seats.

Thaddeus Stevens, then a member from Adams county, would not recognize the organization as a legal body, and refused to be sworn, or take his seat. A committee was appointed and requested him to confirm to the rules of the House or be expelled. He declined; was expelled, and an order issued for a special election in Adams county to fill the vacancy. He went home, and was re-elected by 900 majority, came to Harrisburg, was sworn in, took his seat, and was a useful member.

Charles G. Ingersoll, a Democrat, with Thomas H. Burrowes, Stevens & Co., intended to have a majority in the House that year to injure the incoming Administration of Governor Porter, but failed. The Buckshot cartridges, which the Philadelphia troops were furnished with, were distributed as mementoes of the ridiculous farce of 1838, and one of them is carefully preserved in Erie county to this time. Observer.

GENERAL NEWS.

Some newspaper gentlemen have arrived in New York, direct from San Francisco, having made the trip in eight days over the Union Pacific Railroad. They represent both of the roads in excellent condition, save about two hundred miles, which are a little rough, having been laid when the ground was frozen.

Mrs. Caroline Brown, mother of "Artemus Ward," having waited long, by the advice of friends, for the public to erect a monument over the grave of her son, and feeling mortified that there is nothing to mark his resting-place, has determined to put up a gravestone at her own expense.

The present circulation of Mr. Bonner's *New York Ledger* exceeds 300,000 copies. In Chicago alone one dealer sells 22,000, and another 2,200, besides those sent to mail subscribers.

At Peru, Ill., fortunes have been made in the ice business during the past winter. One firm alone has cleared over a hundred thousand dollars, and it is estimated that Peru will be the gainer to the amount of a quarter of a million dollars.

A murdered girl having been found in the water at Hoboken, and an account of the fact published, more than a dozen women called upon the authorities, in the course of a single week, to see if it was not a daughter which each one had recently missed.

The strongest Roman Catholic States are New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, California, and Louisiana. It stands first of all denominations in California, and second in Wisconsin.

A negro college has been opened at Berea, Madison county, Kentucky. Twelve thousand dollars have been subscribed North for its support.

The Methodist clergymen of Chicago, at a meeting in that city, passed resolutions solemnly protesting against the ceremony of decorating the graves of the soldiers of the Union on Sunday.

A negro having been appointed a member of the guard of the South Carolina penitentiary, the members of the guard, who were all white men, resigned their positions.

Several negro State conventions are advertised. The Virginia negroes meet at Richmond, May 27; the Maryland negroes at Baltimore, June 1; and the New York negroes at Syracuse on the same day. The distribution of the public patronage is the agitating motive with these dark politicians.

Rip Van Winkle is no longer a myth. There is a man in one of the Paris hospitals who has been enjoying a quiet nap for the past six months. The Paris doctors begrudge this happy individual his repose. They and the nurses, who should have turned his pillow once in a while and changed the bed clothes, have been engaged in sticking pins into the body of the happy man, and otherwise endeavoring to disturb his slumbers. He has thus far been callous to all annoyances of this kind, and continues to snore away as assiduously and loudly as ever.

A Chicago dispatch tells a long story about a hail-storm in Anna, Union county, Ill., on Thursday evening. It says that some of the hail-stones were as big as a man's fist; that the ground was covered in some places two feet deep; that fruit trees were badly damaged, and strawberries, just beginning to ripen, were destroyed.

The Methodists have boldly solved one of the great problems of the day by licensing women to preach. The Conference of the Ellenville District, New York, has given credentials for this purpose to a widow lady named Vann Cott.

On the 24th inst., Mr. E. Riell, of 78 Concord street, Brooklyn, was thrown from his wagon, and severely injured. He sank rapidly, and at about 7 o'clock on the evening of the 5th inst. seemingly died. Preparations were made for his funeral. He, meanwhile, lay in a trance, and was conscious of all that was passing about him, but was unable to make a sign of life. On Thursday afternoon, at about 4 o'clock, after the lapse of twenty hours, he revived, and astonished the friends, who were preparing for his burial. He has so far recovered as to be able to walk about.

At a meeting in Mansfield, Mass., on Saturday, Mr. Mengis made a speech advocating the suffrage of young men of 18 years of age. His speech was listened to with interest, and a vote of thanks was tendered to the speaker.

During a recent circus performance in Belgium, the regular lion tamer being ill, the circus director was so rash as to assume his duties, and having entered the cage, succeeded for a time in making the lions go through their preformances. Toward the close, when giving the animals raw meat, the director lost courage, and instead of keeping a firm eye on the beasts, as tamers are obliged to do, he trembled, and made for the door of the cage. This movement was fatal. A large lioness was the first to pounce upon him, and in a few minutes the unfortunate man was torn to pieces.

The Hillsboro, N. C., Recorder records two rapes in that section committed by negroes upon white girls, each only fourteen years old.

HOMEOPATHIC DOSES.

The Vigilance Committee of Bryan, Wyoming Territory, called upon a desperate character a short time since and gave him fifteen minutes to leave town. He mounted his mule and said: "Gentlemen, if this mule don't balk, I don t want but five."

A raptured writer inquires, "What is there under heaven more humanizing, or, if we may use the term, more angelizing, than a fine black eye in a lovely woman?" Two black eyes is the only answer thought of at present.

"Oh Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?
Thou lovest me not, or thou wouldst stay at ho-me-o;
The babe is squalling for his dad-e-o,
An endless nuisance to his mammy-o,
So, Romeo, cease thee now to roam-e-o,
And hie as a dove to ho-me-o.

A story is told of a German shoemaker, who, having made a pair of boots for a gentleman of whose financial integrity he had considerable doubt, made the following reply to him when he called: "Der boots ish nicht quite done, but there bill ish mate out."

Can any one tell how it is that a man who is too poor to pay three cents a week for a good weekly paper, is able to pay for tobacco and cigars, to say nothing of an occasional drink?

One of our artists has recently painted a picture of Patience—a shopkeeper waiting on ladies who don't know exactly what they want, but expect to before the season is over.

In reply to a young writer, who wishes to know "which magazine will give me the highest position quickest," the Petersburg Express advises a "powder magazine, if you contribute a fiery article."

"My dear," inquired a young bride of her husband, "have you seen the beautiful set of furniture which the Smiths have purchased?" "Item, no, my love, but I have seen the bill, and it quite satisfies me."

A junior student at the Cornell University, in rendering an account to his father of his last term's expenses, entered an item, "Charity, $30." The old man, who had been up there," wrote back, "I fear charity covers a multitude of sins."

An exchange asks: "What are all the young men in our country doing? There are none, anywhere, learning trades." They are all playing ball, or learning to ride velocipedes.

The New York Times urges a return to the "simple, silent and solemn funerals of the primitive ages, when fashion did not dictate either the cut of our sables or the decorations of our dead."

The right thing in the right place, money in your own pocket instead of somebody's else.

Astronomers estimate that the most remote fixed star is coming toward the earth at the rate of twenty-eight miles a second. Clear the track.

An exchange has this: A child was recently born in Indianola, Iowa, with perfectly developed wings. It lived three hours and then, a ready-made angel, was fit for the spheres.

"Papa," said Mr. Brown's youngest son, the other day, "can I go to the circus?" "No my boy," affectionately replied Mr. Brown; "if you are a good boy I will take you to see your grandmother's grave this evening."

The ridiculous fashion of exhibiting presents at weddings is rapidly becoming obsolete.

"Dar are," said a sable orator, "two roads through this world. De one am a broad and narrow road dat leads to perdition, and de other am a narrow and broad road dat leads to sure destruction." "If that am de case," said a sable hearer, "dis cullud individual takes to de woods."

Prentice says there are scores of political "rings" of every character, but that the greatest of all rings is *Grant's family circle.*

Any business is more respectable than what is termed loafing. A young man had better sell soft soap by the pailful than hang around public places, murdering time and his own reputation.

A man should never be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but saying, in other words, that he is wiser to-day than he was yesterday.

An exchange wickedly says, "It is singular how pious new clothes make people."

The following dialogue, which took place in a street car, is too good to be lost. One of a couple of Teutonic gentlemen, sitting in one end of the car, seeing a flashy dressed fellow come in and take his seat at the opposite end from where they were sitting, asked: "Who ish dat, Hans?" "Oh, dat ish a shport." "Vat you call shport, aye?" "You not know vat a shport ish, aye?" "No, vat ish he?" "Val, he ish one of der fellers vat shave all the hair of a pig, and cover him all over mit soap, and bet a green Dutchman five dollars he can't catch him."

PERSONAL ITEMS.

A Louisville milliner has sued the wife of a prominent merchant for slander, in speaking of her as "that fancy Mrs. Smith," and claims damages to the extent of $10,000.

Henry S. Foote, of Tennessee, notwithstanding he has been a life long personal enemy of Jefferson Davis and is an enemy still, has written a long letter denounoing Pollard's "Life of Jefferson Davis" as a tissue of misrepresentations.

The Hon. Andrew Johnson, late President of the United States, is currently reported to have saved seventy-five thousand dollars out of his pay as President.

Forney having been deadheaded over the Southern railroads, does the handsome thing in return by testifying to the loyalty of the managers of those routes of travel.

Another case of child suicide has occurred in Massachusetts. A boy named Frank F. Cheney shot himself because his father requested him to apologize to a school teacher for truancy.

The Kansas City Journal advocates the expulsion of Mr. Ross from the Senate for having requested General Grant to go to hell.

All the European Crown Princes, in accordance with an ancient custom, are taught a trade. The Prince of Austria is now learning that of a watchmaker.

Eight years ago, one of the names most familiar to the American people, was that of Robert Anderson, the hero of Fort Sumter. Now he is so poor that he has had to sell his library, and purposes living in Europe because he cannot support his family on his half pay.

Grant's Cabinet presents quite an array of Northern Lights—in fact it is a sort of *Hoary Borealis.*

The Mayor of Mobile recently married a colored couple. After the ceremony, the husband said, "Massa Caleb, you has forgotten something." "What is it, Aaron?" asked the Mayor. "Why, you ain't buss the bride."

Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined. Old Jesse, the truthful biographer of "Ulysses," tells us in one of his Ledger contributions that "Ulysses, when a small boy, was *very fond of money and presents.*"

A London paper prints in its announcement of births, the following: "Forbes—At 334 City Road, Islington, on March 16, the wife of Archibald Forbes, a daughter. Mr. Forbes requests the prayers of his friends and acquaintances in this sore affliction."

About seven years ago two sisters-in-law, in Detroit, got into a dispute over a baking they were engaged in, and vowed never to speak to each other again. Though they have both lived together in the same house since then, eating at the same table, and engaged at work side by side, they have never once addressed a remark to each other, or in any way recognized each other's presence.

Some of the hereditary legislators of Great Britain are very successful in begetting children. The Marquis of Anglesey is one of a family of eighteen brothers and sisters; the Marquis of Huntly, of fourteen; Earl Fitzwilliam is one of thirteen, and has thirteen of his own; Earl Grey is one of fifteen; the late Lord Denman left fifteen; the Duke of Argyll has twelve, and the Duke of Leinster is one of thirteen, and the father of the Duke of Buccleuch left eleven; the Earl of Minto left fourteen; the Earl of Bessborough has fourteen. There are other English noblemen with fourteen and fifteen children, and the list of families numbering eleven and twelve is very large.

A novel suit has been commenced in St. Joseph. A young man sues a young lady for obtaining goods under false pretences.—Said goods were presents he gave to her while they were engaged to be married.

"Wonders will never cease." So thinks old Mr. John Wonder, of Rutland, Vermont, who, although the father of eleven children, was on the 30th ult., presented with two small Wonders, and a boy Wonder that made old Mr. Wonder wonder what was coming next.

A man in Milwaukee, Wis., who was last week arrested for cruelly beating his wife, said it was the first time he was ever locked up, and he thanked God it was not for any mean, contemptible crime like getting drunk.

William B. Astor, in New York, returns an income for 1868, of $1,079,212, and A. T. Stewart of over three millions.

It is fortunate Grant has been married but once. Were a second wife's relations added to the present connections, the offices would be absorbed entirely.

Miss Jones, Postmaster at Winterset, Iowa, recently married Mr. Alfred Smith. Mrs. Smith is not known to the department as Postmaster, Miss Jones has no longer a legal existence, and things are generally very much mixed. Smith is anxious to know if he has married into the postoffice, or has married the postoffice out of the family.

New Publications.

The Nursery is the title of a lively little magazine, published in the interests of boys and girls. The June number is full of good things. It is published by John L. Shorey, 13 Washington street, Boston.

Packard's Monthly for June is spirited as ever. Mr. Oliver Dyer's contribution on the results of the "Wickedest Man" sensation is unusually interesting. Mr. Edmund Kirke gives an overdrawn account of Horace Greeley during the riots. The most spicy article is the description of the Boston Musical Peace Festival which takes place in June, 1869. Packard is steadily going up in circulation and public estimation.

The Atlantic Monthly for June contains "The Hamlets of the Stage," giving a historical account of the celebrated English actors who have played the part of Hamlet; an instructive article on earthquakes; a description of the oil wells of Pennsylvania, by J. T. Trowbridge; "The Pacific Railroad," by Samuel Bowles; and other interesting articles.

The Controversy between True and Pretended Christianity, is a tersely written essay, originally read before a Massachusetts Methodist convention, by Rev. L. T. Townsend. It will be sent by mail, postpaid, by Lee & Shepard, Publishers, Boston, on receipt of 50 cents for cloth, or 25 cents for paper covers.

"Woman as God Made Her; The True Woman," is the title of a good book, by Rev. J. D. Fulton, Pastor of Tremont Temple Church, Boston. He believes that woman's mission is different from that of man; that the position assigned to her by the Bible is the only one in which she can attain a symmetrical development, and meet all the obligations devolving upon her. The work is a neat, 16mo volume, and will be sent by mail, post-paid, by the publishers, Lee & Shepard, Boston, on receipt of 50 cents for the paper edition or $1 for the cloth.

New Advertisements.

Assignee in Bankruptcy.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT of the United States, for the Western District of Penn'a, in the matter of S. Todd Perley, bankrupt. The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as assignee of S. Todd Perley, of Erie, in the County of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, within said district, who has been adjudged a bankrupt upon his own petition, by the District Court of said district, dated at Erie, Pa., May 1, A. D., 1869.

my 13-3w. THOMAS EVANS, Assignee.

Notice to U. S. Tax Payers.

ALL PERSONS in Erie county, Pa., who are liable to tax by the annual assessment of 1869, including the income tax of 1868, under the "United States Internal Revenue" or "Excise Law," approved July 1, 1862, and the amendments thereto, are hereby notified that such taxes and duties have become due and payable, and that I will attend to receiving the same at my office, in the city of Erie, on the 2d, 3d and 4th days of June, 1869, and all persons who neglect to pay the duties and taxes as aforesaid, within the time specified, shall be liable to pay five per centum upon the amount thereof, with interest at one per cent. per month, collections to be made by distraint.

Payment of taxes may be made at my office at any time prior to the said dates.

The above notice applies to all assessments for Licenses, Billiard Tables, Carriages, Silver Ware and Incomes.

All payments must be made in U. S. funds.

H. C. ROGERS,
my29-2w. Collector 19th District, Pa.

To Whom it May Concern.

Erie, Pa., May 13, 1869.

I AM INSTRUCTED by the Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, ERIE, to collect the unpaid assessments on pews to Thursday, July 1, 1869, without delay. The several balances due are as follows:

Name of Owner.	No. of Pew	General Tax	Special Tax	Cost of Collect'n	Total Am't Due
Sarah B. Hunter	3	15.75	2.50	2.00	19.25
S. M. Lydle	15	22.75	3.50	2.00	30.25
S. Todd Perley	23		8.25	2.00	10.25
W. S. Lane	27	39.38	11.25	2.00	50.63
Geo. Boyce	31		12.00	2.00	14.00
L. Strong	33	15.05	10.50	2.00	27.55
John Hill	41	49.00	10.00	2.00	61.00
Thomas Bryan	57	3.50	5.00	2.00	10.35
S. H. Metcalf	63	23.20	4.50	2.00	31.70
A. J. Loucks	64	15.75	4.50	2.00	22.25
John S. Carter	66	5.55	15.00	2.00	22.55
Mrs. I. McKee	69	10.50	7.50	2.00	20.00
D. P. Ensign	70		15.00	2.00	19.00
Hoskinson & Moorhead	71	70.00	10.00	2.00	82.00
W. B. Hays	74		19.00	2.00	21.00
J. P. Vincent	78		43.00	2.00	15.00
J. B. Carver	83	9.97	14.25	2.00	26.22
Neffer & Hays	85		37.50	2.00	39.50
Charles Brandes	100		23.00	2.00	25.00
W. S. Lane	101	39.60	12.00	2.00	63.00
H. Mayo	111	1.58	4.50	2.00	8.08
E. Griffin	115	14.70	3.00	2.00	19.70
Emerson & Berryman	121	6.30	12.00	2.00	20.30
W. D. Nicholson	122		11.00	2.00	13.00
Alexander Nicholson	124		12.50