General Miscellaneous Matters.

THE STEER.

BY JOHN G. WHITTIER.

I hear the far-off voyager's horn,
I see the Yankee's trail;
His foot on every mountain pass
On every stream his sail.

His whistling round St. Mary's Falls,
Upon his loaded train
He's leaving on the Pictured Rocks
His fresh tobacco stain

I hear the matlock in the mines,
The axe-stroke in the dell,
The clamor from the Indian lodge,
The Jesuit's chapel-bell

I see the swarthy trappers come
From Mississippi's springs,
And war-chiefs with their painted bow,
And crests of eagle wings

Behind the squaw's buckon canoe,
The steamer smokes and raves
And city lots are staked for sale
Above old Indian graves

By forest, lake, and waterfall
I see the pedlar's show
The mighty, mingling with the meek
The lofty, with the low

I hear the tread of pioneers
Of nations yet to be
The first low wash of waves where soon
Shall roll a human sea

The rudiments of empire here
Are plastic yet, and warm
The shape of a mighty world
Is rounding into form

Each rude and jostling fragment seek
Its fitting place shall find—
The raw materials of a State,
Its muscles and its mind

And, westering still, the star which leads
The new world in its train,
Has tipped with fire the icy spears
Of many a mountain chain

The snowy cones of Oregon
Are kindled on its way,
And California's golden sands
Gleam brighter in its ray!

Russian Serfdom.

A Russian of the lower class is as often beaten as saluted. The lifting of the rod in Russia this is a large split cane, and the lifting of the hat are means employed in about equal measure, in the social education of this people Beating in Russia can only be applied to certain classes. Here ill-treatment is regulated like the tariff of the custom house. it reminds us of the code of Ivan. The dignity of caste is admitted, but no one dreams of the dignity of man The reader will recollect what I have already said of the politeness of the Russians of all ranks, and of its real value; I will now confine myself to relating one or two of the illustrative scenes that pass daily before my eyes

I have seen in the same street two drivers of droshkis ceremoniously lift their hats in passing each other:—this is a common custom; if acquainted they lift their hand to their mouth with an amicable smile, and kiss it, making at the same time a little expressive and intelligent sign with the eyes So much for politeness

A little further on, I have seen a courier, a field jagger, or some other government servant descend from his vehicle and, running to one of these well-bred coachmen, strike him brutally and unmercifully with whip or stick or fist, in the breast, the face, or on the head, which punishment the unlucky wight who had not made his way in sufficient haste, received without the least complaint or resistance, out of respect to the uniform and caste of his tormentor, whose anger, however is not always in such cases promptly disarmed by the submission of the delinquent:

I have seen one of these carriers of despatches the courier of some minister, or the *valet-de-chambre* of some aid-de-camp of the Emperor, drag from his seat a young coachman, and never cease striking him until he had covered his face with blood The victim submitted to the torture like a real lamb, without the least resistance, and in the same manner as one would yield to some inevitable commotion of nature The passers by were in no degree moved or excited by the cruelty; and one of the comrades of the sufferer, who was watering his horses a few steps off, obedient to the sign of the enraged field jagger, approached to hold his horses bridle during the time that he was pleased to prolong the punishment. In what other country could a man of the lower orders be found who would assist in the infliction of an arbitrary punishment upon one of his companions?

The scene in question took place in the finest part of the city, and at the busiest hour When the unfortunate man was released, he wiped away the blood which streamed down his cheeks, remounted his seat, and re-commenced his bows and salutations as usual.

It should be recollected that this abomination was enacted in the midst of a silent crowd

A Sad and Curious Spectacle.

The Boston *Courier* gives the following account of a remarkable case now occupying the attention of the Supreme Court:

The Supreme Court room has been thronged for a day or two past, by men and women, "Spiritualists" mainly, who are either interested directly or seeking pleasure in the mournful details of a trial for divorce at present pending before that high tribunal The parties are Kidder vs Kidder The husband is defended by the Hon. Rufus Choate, the wife by the Hon Charles G. Loring, and Mr Justice Bigelow, is on the bench. The woman is accused of being a Spiritualist, a believer in free-love, which the law calls adultery The man is accused of the same The woman has the sympathies of female friends to cheer her in her distress, and prominent among them is a lady of Watertown of distinguished accomplishments These ladies watch the proceedings with anxiety and apparent earnestness One witness, a woman, testified that Mrs. Kidder had, on several occasions, attempted to convert her to the free-love faith, which means, "when you find your affinities you can live in perfect happiness with them; and the children of such affinities born would be pure and holy The witness named a man, a common looking customer enough, whom Mrs Kidder had described as her "affinity," because "from his earliest infancy he had made woman his theme"

This infant prodigy was in court, and one would suppose that this pug-nose alone would be sufficient to affright any woman of spirit, but free-love, like other love, is probably in need of spectacles According to this coarse theory of free love, a married woman who has discovered her "affinity"—even though it be secreted in a deformity with brief legs and a long body and a physiognomy compressed—it is all right to leave her husband, embroidery, three rings and other emblems of love in his cravat, and go off with him! Such a union, without the first semblance of marriage ceremony, is sanctified in heaven—so the Spiritualists say This is curious stuff, and yet it is called "religion," and "morals" too It does not follow, however, from the mere statement of a witness in court, that Mrs Kidder believes in any such loose doctrine. Other evidence was put in with a view of showing that the lady had been unfaithful to her husband, and that her spiritual notions had an immoral smack in them. The case of Mr. Kidder will come on as soon as that of his wife is disposed of.

☞ A colored boy was looking through a graveyard fence, upon the tombstone of a villager who in life had been known as a rather close-fisted citizen, whose principal care had been "the greatest good to the greatest number," the "greatest number" with him having been "number one." After a pompous inscription, the following passage of Scripture was recorded: "He that giveth to the poor, lendeth to the Lord." "Dat may be so," soliliquised Sambo, "but w'en dat man died de Lord did'nt owe 'im a red cent!—Fyah! o'yah!"

Whiskey and Newspapers.

A glass of whiskey is manufactured from perhaps a dozen grains of mashed corn, the value of which is too small to be estimated. A pint of this mixture sells at retail for one shilling, and if of a good brand, it is considered by its consumers well worth the money It is drank off in a minute or two—it fires the brain—rouses the passions—sharpenes the appetite—derangos and weakens the physical system: it is gone—and swollen eyes, parched lips, and an aching head are its followers On the same sideboard upon which this is served, lies a newspaper, the new white paper of which cost three-fourths of a cent —the composition for the whole edition costing from ten to fifteen dollars per day. It is covered with half a million of types, it brings intelligence from the four quarters of the globe—it has in its early pointed columns all that is new or strange as home—it tells you the state of the market—gives an account of the last elopement, the execution of the last murderer—and the latest steamboat explosion or railroad news—and yet for all this, the newspaper costs less than the glass of grog—the juice of a few grains of corn. It is no less strange than true, that there is a large portion of the community who think the corn juice cheap and the newspaper dear, and the printer has hard work to collect his *dimes*, when the liquor dealers are paid cheerfully

How is this Is the body a better paymaster than the head, and are things of the moment more prized than things of eternity? Is the transient tickling of the stomach of more consequence than the improvement of the soul, and the information that is essential to a rational being? If this had its real value, would not the newspaper be worth many pints of whiskey?—*Forest City*

"WOODMAN SPARE THAT TREE."—An incident occurred recently in one of the Southern States, illustrative of the power of poetry and music, which is too pleasant and good to be lost

A gentlemen possessing a large estate, died, leaving a widow, several daughters, and a son The care and control of the estate devolved up on the son, who forthwith commenced what he regarded as improvements

Theold mansion was surrounded with beautiful trees, which added greatly to the attractions of the charming place. The son, in the course of his improvements, determined to cut down and remove them His mother prayed him to spare the good old trees which for many years had embellished and shaded their dwelling, but in vain. The sisters besought him with tears in their eyes, but he was inexplorable. The spirit of Uhtarianism possessed him entirely

Soon after, a party of ladies and gentlemen were on a visit to the family, and among them was a young lady whose extraordinary beauty was equalled only by her talent for singing She was asked for a song, and commenced immediately the beautiful and celebrated ballad written by General Morris The company were entertained, and the son, especially, listened with breathless attention, a tear was seen to glisten in the corner of his eye No sooner had the song ceased than he leaped from his chair, and approaching one of his sisters, who had been particularly importunate, exclaimed:—"Sister, you have conquered; the woodman *shall* spare those trees

LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM CHINA.—Advices from China say that the city of Canton was beseiged by the insurgents, who were so increased in number and violence that the town was only protected by strength of the city walls, and the fact of the rebels being destitute of artillery. They were, however, casting cannon Their number is stated at 30,000 The Governor General had withdrawn all his troops into the city, but made occasional sallies, and also fired upon the besiegers with heavy cannon from the city walls On the 3d of August, the rebels made an ineffectual effort to take the place by storm, but were repulsed with much loss Orders had been given to clear away all the houses near the walls which could give shelter to the besieging party Many barbarities were committed consequently, in the vicinity of the city, but whether by the rebels or imperialists, was not known A steamer which had arrived at Hong Kong, from Shanghae, reports that after leaving the latter port, a furious bombarding about the city walls was heard, and a terrible explosion, from which it was feared that the place had been recaptured by the imperialists It was said that five mines had been sprung up under various parts of the wall. The French frigate Jean D'Arc, and the British ship Winchester had left Hong Kong to search for the Russian squadron

HAD A "WINNING WAY" WITH HER.—A wayward son of the Emerald Isle cleft the bed and board" which he and margaret had occupied for a long while, and spent his time around rum shops, where he was always on hand to count himself "in," whenever anybody should "stand treat" Margaret was dissatisfied with this state of things, and endeavored to get her husband home again We shall see how she succeeded.

"Now, Patrick, my honey, will ye come back?"

"No, Margaret, I won't come back"

"An' won't ye come back for the love of the children?"

"Not for the love of the children. Margaret."

"Will ye come back for the love of meself?"

"Niver, at all 'Way wid ye"

"An' Patrick, won't the love of the church bring ye back?"

"The church to the divil, and then I won't come back"

Margaret thought she would try one more inducement Taking a pint bottle of whiskey from her pocket, and holding it up to her truant husband she said: "Will ye come for the drap of whiskey?"

"Ah, me darlint," answered patrick unable to withstand such a temptation, "It's yersilt that'll always bring me home again—*ye has such a winning way wid ye* I'll come home Margaret"

Margaret declares that Patrick was "reclaimed by moral suasion"

WHAT ARE YOU TO DO.—A diminutive specimen of humanity appealed to our compassion a day or two ago to relieve him by purchasing a copy of a weekly paper with which he had been, to use a term of the trade, "stuck." His blue eyes and rosy cheeks attracted attention, and in, reply to enquiries he stated that he and his only brother supported his mother, and his mother supported his father. In reply to a question whether he did not sometimes swear, the little chap with an embarrassed air said, "not often, but when a big boy steals your papers, and you can't lick him, what are you to do?"—*N. Y. Courier and Enquirer*

Books and Stationary, Very Cheap,
AT NO. 9 BROWN'S BLOCK.

WE have just received our Fall Stock of Books, Stationary, Blank Books, Writing Fluid, Pens, Inkstands, and the thousand other articles belonging to our trade, all of which we are anxious to sell, and for the Cash they can be bought very cheap. Those in want will do well to call. Don't forget the place, No. 9 Borwn's Block.
Erie, Oct. 14, 1854. DURLIN & SLOAN

Erie City Bank.

THE Annual Election for Directors will be held at the Banking House on Monday the 20th day of November next between the hours of 11 o'clock A. M. and 3 o'clock P. M., and on Tuesday the 7th day of November next a general meeting of Stockholders will be held at the Banking House at 3 o'clock P. M., agreeable to the Charter. J. P. SHERWIN, Cashier.
Erie, Oct. 14, 1854. 4t22

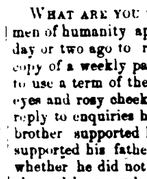
Watchman, What'st he Clock!

STRANGER, why trouble your friends for the time, since you can go to Stockton and Fuller, and buy a good clock, for just about nothing'

They are now receiving *Thirty-five Cases*, of assorted many of them beautiful, all of them good. Park Row, Erie.
May 6, 1854. 51.

CROW Bars, Dirt Picks, Mauock, Shovels, &c., at REED'S
Oct 7.

PAPER HANGINGS!



JUST received by Express, a part of the largest, cheapest, and best stocks of
Wall and Window Paper,
ever brought to this market Also Bordering to match! We do not pretend to sell at cost, but as this paper was purchased from one of the largest
Manufacturing Establishments
in the country, and as a bargain, we can and will sell as cheap as those who pretend to sell at cost, and a much better article at that. For proof, call and see DURLIN & SLOAN,
Erie April 18, 1854—tf6 No 9, Brown's Block.

The Erie Observer.

IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY
BY DURLIN & SLOAN,
TO WHOM ALL LETTERS RELATING TO BUSINESS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED

OFFICE—NO. 9, BROWN'S BLOCK, ERIE, PA.
Printing Office, corner of State and 5th sts

B F SLOAN, EDITOR

TERMS If paid in advance, or within 3 months $1 50; if not paid as above $2 will be charged

☞ Any subscriber failing to pay within the year, the paper will be discontinued and the account left with a proper officer for collection

TERMS OF ADVERTISING

Sixteen lines or less make a square.

One Square, one week,	$ 75	One square 3 months	$3 00
One " 2	1 00	One " 6 "	5 00
One " 3	1 25	One " 1 year	8 00

☞ One square a year, changeable at pleasure for

☞ Card is inserted in the Business Directory at $2 per annum Six lines, or less, for a Card, over six and under eight, $5

Two squares—3 months $6 00 6 months $8 00 1 year $11 50, 1 year $14.

One column, or 10 squares, 1 year $50 6 months $30, 3 months, $18

Obituary and Marriage notices at usual rates.

Exhibitions, concerts, &c., will be charged double the above rates

Special and Editorial notices, 10 cents per line.

Religious, Public Meetings and all notices of Societies, the above rates

☞ Merchants and others replenishing frequently, and in their advertisements will be allowed the squares, paper, and card, for $12. For a half square, the charge will be 75 dollars, and the advertisements must be strictly confined to the legitimate business of the advertiser. Payment for transient advertisements required in advance Bills for yearly advertisements payable in half-yearly A reduction of 10 per cent will be made all except temporary advertisements, when paid in advance

AYER'S PILLS

A NEW and singularly successful remedy for the cure of all Bilious diseases Costiveness, Indigestion, Jaundice, Dropsy, Rheumatism, Fevers, Gout, Humors Nervousness, Irritability Inflammations, Headache, Pain in the Breast, Side Back, and Limbs, Female Complaints &c. Indeed very few are the diseases in which a Purgative Medicine is not more or less required, and when such a one can be safely relied upon to prevent, as it rarely fails to cure the various ailments to which the human family is subject, how important that we should have such a remedy. Hitherto no such could be had, because no purgative could be made sufficiently free from drastic properties, which might have been worse than the disease, to warrant its use. So perfect is the skill with which the ingredients of these Pills are combined, that while they prevail against the most obstinate forms of disease, they are so mild as not to put the patient to any inconvenience, and may be taken by any one without fear. Even children may take them with safety. Perfect immunity from sickness may be had by the use of these Pills, for they will keep the system in perfect health when taken moderately for a few days. Those who have been long afflicted with chronic complaints may be assured that this is the only remedy that has ever been discovered which will cure them. Such a remedy has been sought for by the afflicted in vain, and is now offered to the public in the confident belief that it will do all that it has ever been represented to do, and all that the most skeptical can require. Prepared by J. C. AYER, Practical and Analytical Chemist, Lowell, Mass.

Price 25 cents per Box Five Boxes for $1. Sold by A. B. & Sinclair Erie; Jas. A. White Girard; H. Spaulding Springfield and by all dealers in medicine everywhere.
July 29, 1854 ly

NEW-YORK ADVERTISEMENTS.
From Visscher & Schell's General Advertising House (upper ten s Building 346 and 348 Broadway

AMERICAN ARTISTS' UNION!

THE AMERICAN ARTISTS UNION announce to the citizens of the United States of America, that for the purpose of introducing a system of Art throughout the country, and with the view of placing in every family to become possessed of a gallery of the first artists of the age, they have determined to make an extensive sale for their Engravings, and thereby give employment to a large number of artists, and thus inspire among our countrymen a taste for Art. A present to the purchasers of their engravings will be given, to be sold.

$50,000 Gifts, of the actual cost of $250,000

Each purchaser of one dollar ticket will receive not only an Engraving richly worthy of the name, but a ticket which entitles him to one of the following gifts:

For five Dollars, a highly finished Engraving, beautifully painted in oil, and handsomely framed, worth $10.

For each dollar ticket, a beautiful Engraving, worth $2.

A copy of the Catalogue, containing a full description of the Engravings can be seen at the office of this paper.

For each dollar sent, a ticket will be returned by mail, and a full ticket will be returned for every six dollars.

The Committee to whom is entrusted the distribution of the National undertaking, are gentlemen of the highest character and enterprise, of this city, and the business will be conducted in the most honorable manner.

Any person wishing to become an Agent, by sending five dollars, will receive in return Engravings, according to the terms of subscribing, a "Gift Ticket," a Prospectus, a Catalogue and all the necessary information.

On the final completion of the sale, the Gifts will be given in the hands of a Committee of the purchasers, of which due notice of which will be given through the Tribune and the Canadian.

LIST OF GIFTS.

100	Marble busts of Washington,	$100 each $10,000
100	" " Clay,	10 1,000
100	" " Webster	100 10,000
100	" " Calhoun,	10 1,000
50	elegant Oil Paintings, in splendid gilt frames, size 24x30 inches each,	100 5,000
100	elegant Oil Painting, 22x30 each	50 5,000
200	steel plate Engravings, beautifully executed, each	10 2,000
5,000	" " " " "	1 5,000
10,000	elegant steel plate Engravings, from the celebrated Oil Painting of the Washington Monument, Mayo in each,	4 40,000
127,000	steel plate Engravings, from 10 different plates, now in possession of and owned by the Artists Union, of the market value from 50 cts to $10 each	11,000
1	first-class Dwelling, in 31st st N Y	12,000
22	building lots in 100 and 102d sts N Y City, each 25x100 ft. deep, at	10 to 22,000
100	Villa Sites, containing each 10,000 sq ft in the suburbs of New York City, and commanding a magnificent view of the Hudson River and Long Island Sound, at	300 30,000
20	perpetual loans of each, without interest or security, of $250 each	5 00
50	" " "	100 "
100	" " "	50 "
200	" " "	20 "
5,000	" " "	5 "

Reference in regard to the Real Estate, E. J. Viscscher & Co. Real Estate Brokers, New York Any communications, with money enclosed, to be addressed,

A. HOLBROOK & Co. Secty, 463 Broadway, N. Y.

☞ The Engravings in the catalogue are now ready for delivery.
Aug 12, 1854. 6mo13

THE DELAWARE MUTUAL SAFETY
INSURANCE COMPANY
Of Philadelphia.

ARE now doing business on the Mutual plan, and have reduced a participation in the profits of their business, to a liability beyond the premium paid

Risks upon the Lakes and Canals, and all descriptions of insurable terms Losses will be liberally and promptly adjusted.

Fire risks on merchandize, building and other descriptions of property, for a limited term permanent

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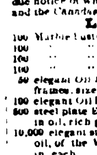
☞ Application can be made to

Erie, Feb. 10, 1854

Philadelphia Hats.



HAVING made arrangement for a regular supply of the celebrated HATS of Charles Oakford, of Philadelphia, on favorable terms, those wishing to purchase will please call and examine for themselves. They are beautiful, good and cheap. I shall open a splendid stock of Summer Hats of every variety
Erie, April 8, 1854—tf7. H SMITH

FRANKLIN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF PHILADELPHIA
Charter Perpetual
Capital $1,500,000.

NEW YORK CITY INSURANCE CO.,
109 BROADWAY, NEW YORK
Capital $500,000.

THE undersigned having received the appointment or agency of the above reliable Companies, having also fully complied with the Insurance laws of this State, is now prepared to take *Fire and Marine risks* at the lowest rates. Losses in either Company adjusted and promptly paid at this agency.

J. J. LINTS, Agent.
Erie, April 9 1853 & Office in J. B. Gunnison's Bookstore

THE ÆTNA INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF HARTFORD CONNECTICUT
Capital $300,000—All paid in.

THE subscriber is now prepared to effect insurance in the above well known responsible company. The *Ætna* has been in operation over 20 years and its capital is sound and unimpaired.

Having promptly adjusted and paid their losses incurred at the late fire in this City, they hope for a continuation of favor from the business community. They will ever find them prompt and honorable in the adjusment of losses Office in Wright's Block with J. D. Dunlap, Esq.

I received this day the amount I had insured in Ætna Insurance Company, which was lost at the late fire on French street.
GEORGE KELLOGG

O. H IRISH, General Insurance Agent.
Erie, March 26 1853. 46

AN extensive assortment of flavoring extracts the best in market, extracts for the handkerchief of every kind, Cologne, hair oil s, pomades, amandine a certain cure for chapped hand lip salve, shaving soaps and creams of first quality, bay rum, hair dye, hair restorative, depilatory powder, in short we constantly keep on hand a complete assortment of every kind of Perfumery fancy article and Yankee notions of almost ever description

Persons wishing to buy are respectfully invited to call and satisfy themselves before getting what they want at the lowest prices at the city drug store next to

Erie Dec. 4 20 P. HALL

WAKED UP AT LAST.

THE old firm of Vincent, Himrod & Co., having been dissolved on the first of March last, a new Partnership has been entered into between the subscribers under the same name, to take effect from that date, they therefore notify the public and the rest of mankind, that henceforth our motto shall be "quick sales and prompt payment At our store may be found a large and well selected stock of Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Crockery, and Tin ware, and at our Foundry almost every description of Machine castings from a Steam Engine to a sleigh shoe Mr Himrod having proverbially a superior As for Hon Sam the is an unequalled as a salesman, and Lyon are favorably known and our new Parlor Heater for the kitchen and Lady Franklin and Revere for parlor throw all others in the shade Remember Cash prices and small profits

H. R. VINCENT,
WILLIAM HIMROD
DAVID HIMROD
JOHN R. VINCENT
DAVID SHIRK.

Erie, Oct 21st 1853—21

N. B. Those indebted to the old Firm are notified to call and settle soon

The Insurance for Town and Country

THE Lake Counties Mutual Insurance Company continue to make Insurance on every description of property in the above counties, at low rates as are consistent with security. Risks are divided into two classes, viz: the Farmers, class and the Dwelling, 40 feet or over exposure and the Commercial, in which all descriptions of property are insured The funds in either department are liable for losses in the other

☞ Cash Insurance made in either Department at usual stock rates

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OFFICE IN

M. TIBBALS, Pres't. JOHN SPARROW, Sec'y.
Office over Sherrill and Gray's, Cheapside
Erie, June 11, 1852

Nails and Iron.

AT THE MANUFACTURER'S PRICE

THE undersigned from the latter has taken a store in town they intend keeping a full supply of all the different kinds of nails which they make, and also a complete assortment of Nails to any who have used the Nails made by this Co. do not hesitate to call that we can use better are made at the east or the west
Erie, Sept 6 —1

The Greatest Medical Discovery of Age.

DR. KENNEDY, of Roxbury, has discovered from one of our common Forest Weeds a remedy that cures every kind of humor, from the worst Scrofula down to a common Pimple. He has tried it in over seven hundred cases, and in all except Two Cases, both thunder humor, He has in his possession over two hundred certificates of its value within the last twelve months, all of which are voluntary, and the most of them from persons entirely cured of Boston

Two, three bottles will clear the system of boils, Blotches and Pimples, one bottle is sufficient to cure the worst case of Scald Head or Ringworm in the most obstinate cases, from two to three bottles are warranted to cure. Running ears and the worst case of Sore Eyes, two bottles are warranted to cure. Scrofula in the worst form, from which so many suffer, and which has baffled the skill of the most eminent physicians of the age, three bottles are warranted to cure. Erysipelas, Salt Rheum, Blotches on the face, Pimples, Flesh Worms, Tetter, Ringworm, Coppery Colored Spots, Sore Eyes, Scald Head, Sore Lips, Scurvy, Itch, Mercurial Diseases, Chronic Rheumatism, Fever Sores, Scrofulous Humors, Erysipelas, Pain in the Bones, Blotches on the Face, Pimples