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THE PINE-TREE.

BY B. P. SHOFFORD.

Before your atoms came together
I was full grown, a tower of strength,
Seen by the sailors out at sea,
With great storms measuring all my length,
Making my mighty minstrelsy,
Companion of the ancient weather.

Yours! Just as much as the stars that shiver
When the frost sparkles overhead!
Call yours as soon those viewless airs
That sing in the clear vault and tread
The clouds! Less yours than theirs—
Those fish-hawks swooping round the river!

In the primeval depths embowering
My broad boughs with my branching peers,
My gums I spilled in precious drops—
Ay, even in these elder years
The eagle building in my tops,
Along my boughs the panther cowering.

Beneath my shade the red man slipping,
Himself a shadow, stole away;
A paler shadow follows him!
Races may go, or races stay,
The cones upon my loftiest limb
The winds will many a year be stripping;

And there the hidden day be throwing
His fires, though dark the dead prime be,
Before the bird shake off the dew.
Ah! what songs have been sung to me!
What songs will yet be sung, when you
Are dust upon the four winds blowing!

THE SEA SHELL.

See what a lovely shell,
Small and pure as a pearl,
Lying close to my foot!
Frail but a work divine;
Made so fairly well,
With delicate spire and whorl;
How exquisitely minute
A miracle of design!

The tiny cell is forlorn,
Void of the little living will
That made it stir on the shore.
Did he stand at the diamond door
Of his house in a rainbow frill?
Did he push, when he was uncurled
A golden . . t or a fairy horn
Through . . s dim water-world?

Slight, to be crushed with a tap
Of my finger-nail on the sand;
Small, but a work divine;
Frail, but of force to withstand,
Year upon year, the shock
Of cataract seas that snap
The three-decker's oaken spine,
Athwart the ledges of rock,
Here on the Breton strand.

—Tennyson.

A GAME TWO CAN PLAY AT.

"Shades of the aborigines, what a name?" groaned my fastidious cousin Anderson Huggins.

"I never call her Pocahontas, only Poca. But 'what's in a name,' to any one as good and pretty as Poca Jones?"

'O, pretty, is she?" said Anderson, with a suddenly illuminated countenance. "Is she young?"

I resented that question, for Anderson was five years my junior, and I could never see the bright side of thirty again. Of course to him I was only a fossil, and any woman, mature as myself, would be totally ignored by the exquisite, as quite too ancient for his pretty compliments and killing glances. He was not the "flower" to "waste" his "sweetness on" such "desert air." So I deigned him no reply, but continued to read the letter in my hand. When I had finished the perusal, I put it in my pocket, and returned composedly to my dinner.

"I say, cousin Rhea, when is Miss Jones coming?" presently inquired Anderson.

"She isn't"—I began, then stopped suddenly, stricken dumb by a thought.

"Isn't coming?" he persisted. "You said she was."

"Wait until I get ready to finish my sentence, Anderson. She isn't coming until to-morrow."

"Is she a young lady, Rhea?" he asked. He put it that way to entrap me into telling how old she was. But "grizzling locks the brain doth clear' and I said "You can wait until to-morrow to learn that."

I glanced at the hand, shapely and white, which was raising a glass of water to his lips. On the little finger blazed a splendid solitaire diamond ring. "Anderson Huggins," I exclaimed in wrath, "have you broken with Mollie Fairchild?" An expression of intense self-costetplacency overspread his face, as setting down the tumbler he contemplated the ring.

"No, Rhea" stroking his mustache, "she threw me over."

"There's a true heart," I said, and sighed.

"Mine, cousin?" he asked in an insinuating voice.

"Anderson," I answered sadly and solemnly, "Mollie Fairchild will never be light-hearted again, never, never, and you have put the lead in her bosom. I grieved to see the pretty and loving little moth flying around the candle, but warning of mine would avail naught. I should have thought Sybil Green and Alice Hayes would have been warning enough."

"But Rhea," he persisted pettishly, "I tell you she threw me over."

"I know what that means," I said contemptuously. "When you were tired of her and wanted your diamond again you began a series of petty annoyances and impertinences which even mild Mollie Fairchild could not misunderstand or avoid resenting. O Anderson," I continued bitterly," what business for a man!"

His faced flushed angrily, and rising hastily from the table where we two were dining alone, he left the room without a word.

Mollie Fairchild was the third young lady to whom this irresistible young man had paid addresses during the short space of one year. He devoted himself assiduously to each in succession, gained her regard, pledged himself to her and sealed the compact with the diamond ring mentioned. That ceremony completed, he began to tantalize his victim by exhibitions of character entirely foreign to his nature,and the result of cool deliberation. Sometimes an insane jealousy seemed to take possession ot him and the object of his affection (?) was tormented with suspicion implicating every man she addressed. Again, his haughty exclusiveness forbade her nearly all her friends and associates, or an obtuseness of perception led him to wound her constantly in her most susceptible feelings, all the time professing the most ardent love and devotion. Wounded, angry at she hardly knew what,the crisis soon came, and Anderson found himself again at liberty and ready to play the same role with another. Can one imagine any conduct more heartless and contemptible?

Sybil Green was the first of the trio who wore the diamond ring, although I shrewdly suspect it has done duty in a neighboring city, where my cousin read law. Sybil was a bright, saucy brunette, whose numerous flirtations may have hardened her heart, for she showed no regret at the loss of the lover whose tactics she may have understood and very likely practised. But Alice Hayes was harder to win, more constant, and more womanly. When Anderson began to exhibit his unaimiable qualities of character,a sorrowful amazement settled upon her, and she bore his vagaries with a patience born only of love. At length a light seemed to dawn upon her. She scanned him closely, weighed him carefully and deliberately, and after an engagement of four months returned his diamond with the ironical information that "She had discovered that he was too good for her," and went South to teach the freedmen.

But Mollie, pretty Mollie, would be less philosophical. Her whole heart was Anderson's, and she lived, moved, and had her being in him. I had been confined at home for several weeks with Uncle James, who had been quite ill, and had not seen Mollie during the time. I asked Anderson twice to bring her over to see us after uncle was able to spend an evening in the sitting-room, but he put me off with some excuse. He was wounding, grieving,and harassing the poor little soul, and a wholesome dread of Cousin Rhea's sharp tongue induced him to keep out of the way. The news was not unexpected; in fact, I had calculated upon it, but I was no less angry on that account. How the girls could be so infatuated with Anderson passed my comprehension. True, he could sing; so could Jim Reeves—but the girls did not care for him. I did not think him handsome, with his auburn hair and beard, and eyes the same color, and quite too close together to suit my taste, True, he was a tall, well-grown fellow, but what of that? The biggest pumpkins are not always the best ones. But he had a way of looking at women which conveyed to each one the impression that in his opinion she was the only one worth looking at. I saw him bestow that killing glance upon these ladies successively, as we sauntered down town one afternoon, and each one blushed and simpered, all unconscious of the staleness of the compliment. I detested his duplicity and despised their weakness; but then I am past thirty, and young men never look at me in that way.

After Anderson went, I put my elbows on the table, my head in my hands, and pondered long and deeply, and the result of my cogitations will become apparent as the story progresses.

The next day my friend arrived shortly after dinner, prettier and brighter than ever' Fancy her roses, red and white, her beautiful, golden hair, her deep blue eyes. She was in mourning for her grandmother, who had died recently, and that formed an excuse for declining iuvitations while she was with us. I lost no time in describing Anderson, and soliciting her assistance in giving him a lesson I was persuaded he sorely needed. She resisted coaxing, threats and bribes; but when I described poor Mollie Fairchild, her winning ways, her adoration of Anderson, and her utter wretchedness, (for I had been to see her, and her woeful face haunted me,) it brought her over, and she determined to avenge Mollie's wrongs, even at the expense of some deceit on her part. Forgive her, she was naughty only at my instigation; and as for my deceit, I am quiet willing to shoulder it, holding, in this particular instance, to a doctrine of the most ancient Church, that "the end justifies the means."

At tea time Anderson was introduced to Miss Jones, and bestowed on her a mild and guarded edition of his irresistible glance, to which she responded with a delicate blush. I turned away to smile, but looked quickly at her, alarmed lest she had been guilty of the same folly. But no, her face was sweet and serious, and her gentle voice was admitting that the weather *was* very warm. I saw before the evening was over that Anderson was struck. I knew that he would be; he always was with new and pretty faces, whenever his diamond was in his own possession.

Poca could stay but two weeks, but much courting may be done in a little time if the gentleman is anxious to improve the time, the lady willing he should, and the friend of both parties eager to promote the mutual exercises. After breakfast each day I disappeared to attend Uncle James, look after my household affairs, for I was and am housemistress, and leave a fair field to Anderson, We occupied it fully, if I may believe the report of my ally, when we retired to my room at night to compare notes and lay plans for the following day. Poca sings divinely, and the mornings were usually devoted to the piano, duets of a sentimental character predominating. In the afternoon, to avoid arousing the suspicion of our victim, the duo became a trio, but instead of singing we rode, or walked, or played croquet, or sat in the parlor and read the "Idyls of the King," or Mrs. Browning's passionate Portuguese sonnets, or discussed in our deep metaphysical manner political and social topics.

Anderson is no fool, although in reference to women he acts like one, and he acquitted himself creditably in these discussions, taking Poca's side when we disagreed, but looking a little nettled at her frequent reference to "Charlie" as authority, when he discovered from some incidental remark of mine that he was her cousin, and a fine young man in my estimation.

The time hurried by, and the last day of Poca's visit arrived. "Poca," I said anxiously, "will he come round?"

You should have seen her look of disdain.

"Rhea, you don't think I'd have him dangling after me with all the privileges of an engaged lover for more than one half hour, do you? I might have had the ring three days ago, but I kept out of the net as long as possible. But to-night I'll get it, and as I leave at five o'clock in the morning, the engagement will be no more than a dream."

That evening Anderson was entirely devoted to Miss Jones. I intercepted several most killing glances from his brown eyes on the way to her blue ones, and felt myself *de trop* with a most delightful sense of triumph. Presently Anderson went out on the piazza and after a moment asked Poca to come out and smell the roses. She went, and on passing she shrugged her shoulders with a gesture more French than American, and said, loud enough for him to hear, "Come, Rhea."

"O, no," I answered, "I'll stay here and play that new music. If I wasn't so old, I would sing, 'Come into the garden, Maud.' But I'm afraid I have forgotten the expression."

A foolish speech, but I couldn't resist giving it air. But Anderson was so infatuated with his Indian princess that he took no notice. I played with one ear open to their movements, and soon had the satisfaction of hearing them descend to the garden. I played softly a little while, then went on the piazza and called "Poca?"

"Yes, Rhea."

"Shan't I bring you a shawl?"

"I'm coming in immediately;" and she hurried in with a "good night" to Anderson,and hastened me up to my room. She took a towel, dipped an end in water, and standing before the glass, carefully wiped her left cheek.

"There's nothing on it, is there?" she asked, turning it towards me for closer inspection.

"Nothing whatever," I replied promptly.

"I couldn't help it," she explained, ruefully; "no one ever kisses that side." The other "side" had the prettiest of dimples in it. She held up her left forefinger adorned with the ring. The next morning she left for home, Anderson escorting her to the depot, I made no allusion to his flirtation with her or the absence of his ring, pretending to be absorbed in anxiety about Uncle James, who continued in feeble health. In a few days I received a letter from her announcing her safe arrival, and excusing the brevity of the epistle by the information that her mother had decided, at the last moment, to accompany her father to Europe, and the whole family were in an unwonted bustle of excitement. All of which I read aloud to Anderson, being confident that it was all the news he would hear of the lovely Pocahontas until he went in pursuit of her. Two three,four weeks passed, and I perceived that he was becoming anxious. He scanned my letters closely, but asked no questions, and I maintained an imperturbable silence. Miss Jones might have been dead, buried and forgotten for all mention that was made of her.

At last Anderson came in hurriedly one day, and informed me that important business called him from home, and he might be absent several days.

"He's going to look after Poca and his 'portable property,'" I said to myself, and bade him an affectionate farewell.

His important business took him directly to the city, the street and the house where dwelt my lovely friend. He rang the bell; inquired if Miss Jones was at home, and receiving information that she was, handed his card to the servant, who showed him into the parlor. She was in the garden with one Mr. Charlie Jones, a far-away cousin of hers, inspecting the ripening of a choice kind of gooseberries, when the card was handed her.

"Anderson Huggins," he read over her shoulder. "Well, what are you going to do now?"

"Why, I'm going into the house to see him. We'll go up the back stairs and down the front, and into the parlor. Now you do just as I told you, Charlie, won't you?"

"Try me, my dear."

So they went up the back stairs and down the front, a view of which was commanded from the parlor door, by any one anxiously watching for the beloved one, and sauntered into the parlor. One of her hands was in his vest pocket, and one of his arms was around her waist, and they were chatting in the most innocent and confiding manner posssible. So absorbed were they with each other, that for a moment they were unaware of the presence of a third party, who stared at them in unfeigned astonishment. Great was their surprise on discovering him seated on the sofa.

Why, Mr. Huggins, when did you arrive?" exclaimed Poca, and scarcely waiting for a reply, she introduced Mr. Jones, and informed him that Mr. Huggins was a cousin of the friend she visited in the summer. Then she made voluble inquiries, and regretted the absence of her parents, with whom his cousin Rhea was a favorite, and who would have been so glad to have met him.

At this juncture Charlie rose hastily, and telling Poca that he must "see to that dog," excused himself and disappeared—into the back parlor. There was a moment's silence, and Anderson began:

"Miss Jones, is Mr. Jones your brother?"

Poca, volubly, "O, no, my brothers died in infancy. He's a relation, cousin Charlie. You must have heard me mention him." She looked down, confused, and began twisting the diamond ring.

"A relation," said Anderson severely; "a near relation, I should think; rather too near, considering your relation to me. A reasonable flirtation I am the last man to object to; but, really, this seems to be rather more serious." He was getting angry, to Poca's secret delight.

"Mr. Huggins," she said, with spirit, "I am beginning to understand you. I must be off with the old love before I am on with the new. Two at a time won't answer; but no matter how rapidly they succeed each other. You got well rid of Miss Fairchild before you began with me. Let me advise you to return to the true heart that is breaking for you, and above all, if you flirt with another strange lady, ascertain betimes if her cousin may not also be her husband, which, you will admit, is quite a near relation. I restore your ring with pleasure," handing it to him "and have the honor of wishing you a very good evening."

Anderson took the ring, bowed and retreated. He wrote home that he had an advantageous offer to go South, and should avail himself of it and spend the winter in Virginia.

Mollie Fairchild drooped and drooped, and I began to think that the earliest violets would bloom over her, when lo! in the dreary month of February she regained her roses, and by May, when Anderson came home, she was as blooming as ever.

He looked dirks and bowie-knives at me when he first came home, but when I found that Mollie was wearing the diamond again, I bestowed a chaste salute on the corner of his left mustache, (I am over thirty, you know,) and said, "It all right between us now, Anderson," and he replied, "Cousin Rhea, it took a pretty severe lesson to teach me that two can play at that game."

As a sedate old man entered a railroad car with his wife at Truro, Cal., a flask of whiskey fell from his pocket. A passenger picked it up and offered to return it. "O, it isn't my husband's," the woman said; "he never drinks or carries liquor." "No, it's not mine," the man added, uneasily. At the next station the couple left the train; but before it started the passengers were amused to see the old man come back to claim the flask.

THE MAINE OUTRAGE.

Senator Blaine's Letter to the Gardiner Meeting.

The following letter from Senator Blaine was read at the indignation meeting in Gardiner in that State:

AUGUSTA, Me., December 22,1879.
M. D. Haley, Esq., Gardiner, Me.

MY DEAR SIR—Thanks for your kind note. I would be very glad to attend the Gardiner meeting were it not that I think the chief value in all such demonstrations lies in the fact of their being the voluntary, irrepressible expression of the community that speaks. I have given my views in a meeting of my fellow-townsmen. and I shall say nothing elsewhere. If the people of every town do not feel that their duty calls them to protest against the outrage committed by Gov. Garcelon and his council, then it is idle to urge them by invitation, or to stimulate them by an appeal.

Town government is the bulwark of New England's strength, and it is the sanctity of town government that has been outraged, the rights of town governments that have been destroyed. Thirty-seven members of the legislature, fairly and indisputably elected, have been counted out, and in not one single instance did the governor and council offer a hearing to the people's elect, whom they had determined to sacrifice. The dark deed was appropriately done in secrecy and in stealth. Four or five who were threatened with disfranchisement did by urgent solicitation secure the privilege of appearing before the star-chamber council, but they felt and knew that they were talking to men who had prejudged their cause—men who had no ear for reason and no eye for light. Never before in the history of Maine was a party in interest refused a full hearing before the governor and council, and a full opportunity to examine the election returns. An accurate search into the records shows that in 59 years there have been just 16 cases in which the governor and council found the official returns so fatally defective in form as to deprive a candidate apparently elected of his certificate, averaging one case in a little less than every four years. Gov. Garcelon and his council find 37 fatally defective returns in a single year, and by one of those providential dispensations or happy accidents, which only come to bless the just and encourage the righteous, every one of those 37 fatally defective returns was declared by the Democratic council to exist in districts that had chosen Republican senators or representatives.

FAR BEYOND GEORGE III.

One of the gravest charges brought against George III. by our revolutionary ancestors was that he had refused them the right to choose representatives to their local legislature; but his majesty was informed in the immortal declaration that the legislative powers of a free people "are incapable of annihilation." If Gov. Garcelon and his council had, in imitation of George III., refused us the right to choose a legislature the outrage would not have been half so grievous as that which they are now attempting to inflict upon the people of Maine. They have gone far beyond George III., for they have refused to grant certificates of election to those who were chosen by the people, and not stopping even at that point, they declare that we must submit to and accept a legislature whose members they specifically and personally rejected. Mr. Jefferson's recital of all the grievances that led to the overthrow of the British power in the 13 colonies presented none that were so galling and intolerable as those which Gov. Garcelon and his council are now seeking to fasten on the people of Maine. Let it be specially remembered that Gov. Garcelon and his council do not even claim that they have knowledge of a single illegal vote in any one of the numerous towns whose returns they have rejected. They do not claim to show that any vote was cast without being counted, or counted without being cast, or that the people anywhere voted differently from the returns made.

They only claim that certain returns are defective on technical points, narrow and immaterial in themselves, and easily corrected under the laws of the State; and then they claim the right to set aside and disobey those laws. They hold towns accountable for not complying with the strictest letter and last exaction of one statute, and then defiantly proclaim their right to nullify other statutes in the same book on the same subjects. In other words, they claim that the statute regulating the duty of town officers shall be fulfilled to the uttermost and minutest points, while the statute prescibing the duty of the governor and council may be set aside by a sort of plenary power of dispensation extended to them alone

REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT IMPERILLED.

It has taken centuries to educate the Anglo Saxon race to submit to a majority of one, and the moment we refuse to submit and attempt to overthrow popular elections on any pretext whatever, republican government is imperilled if not lost. The nations of Latin origin have suffered the reproach of not being able to maintain the republic because the party beaten at the polls would resort to the sword; but terrible and calamitous as this resource is, it has in it an element of manly daring that places it high above the despicable measure of cheating the people by a false count made by the men who are solemnly sworn to perform that duty faithfully, impartially and honorably. Maine hitherto has been blessed with an honest government, no matter which political party was in power; and when the people decreed a change the State administration has always shown a ready and cheerful acquiesence in the popular will. The Adams men yielded to the Jackson men, the Democrats to the Whigs, the Whigs to the Democrats, the Democrats to the Republicans, and the Republicans to the present dynasty—not merely with readiness, but with a chivalric courtesy and good feeling that did much to remove the asperity of the preceeding contest.

For the first time in history the party defeated at the polls refuses to obey the popular decree, soils the record of the state with fraud, and invites the reign of anarchy. It is for the people whose will is defied to find their remedy and vindicate their sovereignty.

GOV. GARCELON'S LETTER.

At this very point, while the pen is in my hand and the ink is not dry on the last paragraph, the letter of Gov. Garcelon reaches me. I beg you to read it with care, and see with what emphasis the governor dwells ubon all the minute directions for the town officers, and how he entirely avoids stating that equally minute directions are prescribed by the same law making power for the governor and council. Had these directions been followed, the technical defects in every return would have been cured. But the governor and council chose to disobey them, and went so far as to usurp the functions of the judiciary in declaring them unconstitutional. In this letter to the public Gov. Garcelon remembers to forget all reference to this the controling fact in the whole case. I cannot withhold my admiration of the coolness and complaisance with which the governor refers rejected Republican members to a packed house and senate for a final adjudication of their rights. After impanelling the sworn 12 with the necessary prejudgment of the case, the merciful governor turns to the innocent man who is wrongfully and wickedly accused and harangues him upon the virtues of trial by jury.

It will be further observed that Gov. Gracelon deals only in generalities; he does not give reasons in the case of the 37 victims who are counted out. Democrats beyond the state are solicitous for the honor of their party, and have demanded of Gov. Gracelon reasons for his extraordinary conduct; and he seeks to justify himself in their eyes by quoting the statutes of Maine—statutes under which all returns have been counted in previous years. The question remains, how did Gov. Gracelon apply the statutes? Let him answer that, and when honorable Democrats outside the state ask him for bread let him not give them a stone.

Very respectfully, J. G. BLAINE.

Ex-Senator Morrill to Gov. Garcelon.

The following is the Hon. Lot M. Morrill's letter to Gov. Garcelon:

I cannot be mistaken in thinking that, in common with all good citizens your excellency must deplore the existing condition of public sentiment in this state to-day. Two great political parties, embracing in their ranks the entire population of the state, are brought into angry relations, producing bitter personal animosities and possibly leading to scenes of violence. What is the origin of this extraordinary condition of affairs seen for the first time in Maine? It is because, unhappily, for the first time, a great political party and all the members thereof feel dissatisfied with the mode in which the returns of the recent election have been counted and declared; possibly they may be in error, but the 68,000 citizens who voted against your excellency at the September election do not feel that the actual result of the election has been proclaimed. Even granting that all these men are in error, your excellency cannot but see that it is a very serious matter to leave a sense of wrong rankling in the minds of so many good citizens, who have at heart, as sincerely as your excellency can have, the peace, good order, and happiness of society. Your excellency cannot fail to perceive, moreover, that the counting out of 37 Republican members of the legislature elected on the face of the returns, is an event sure to provoke irritation, excitement and anger. The Republican party claim to have elected by the official returns 103 out of 182 members that compose the senate and house. The counting out of one-third of the entire number that the Republicans believe they have elected is certainly extraordinary, as your excellency will admit.

I am not now asserting that your excellency may not have good reasons for following this course, but I respectfully submit that you can do a most valuable and honorable service for the state and for yourself by adopting a measure that will satisfy every citizen of the state of the reasonableness and justice of your excellency's course. Your excellency is the only individual in the world that, singly and alone, can command the prompt opinion of the supreme judicial court. The constitution gives you power to require that opinion on "important questions of law" and upon "solemn occasions." There are surely important questions of law pending, and certainly this is a solemn occasion, so that if that great provision of the constitution were ever needful, it would seem to be at this moment of inestimable value. I beg also to remind your excellency that in questions of like import which have arisen in times past to perplex your predecessors in the executive chair, the habit has been uniform and general to appeal to the court for the true interpretation ot the law. At no time, I believe, has it ever been charged that on a question of this character, the court has rendered a decision tinged with a partisan feeling. The recent decision of Mr. Justice Virgin is a fresh illustration of how little the political bearing of a question can influence the decision of our supreme judicial tribunal. It is in the power of your excellency to restore peace, order, quiet, and good feeling to the state and its inhabitants by asking the opinion of the judges on each law point involved in the variation of the count from the face of the official returns. There are precedents for recalling the summons to a senator or representative elect where erroneously issued, and in the case of the five disfanchised cities no summons has yet been sent to any one. Even if there was a question as to the strict legal right to recall a certificate of election it is not doubted that the decision of the court would at once cause the member not entitled to the seat to retire, and the rightful member to be at once admitted.

The judgment of the court would thus settle by just umpirage, as it was designated to settle, the embarrassing and dangerous questions under consideration. I address your excellency not simply as an individual anxious for the peace and good order of the state, but as chairman of the committee of the Republican party, all of whom are desirous, above all things to avoid every possible disturbance of the public tranquility and to reconcile popular discontent.

Very respectfully yours,
LOT M. MORRILL,
Chairman, etc.

Gov. Garcelon's Reply.

Hon. Lot. M. Morrill, Chairman, etc.

Sir—Your communication of the 24th reached me here yesterday just as I was leaving Augusta, and I take this opportunity to reply. The excitement in the public mind is, in my judgment, wholly without excuse, and it is without question the result of a systematized attack of vituperation and slander upon the executive department not only without parallel but without cause. Be that as it may, it is the duty of every good citizen to use his best endeavors to allay public excitement however created, so far as he is able to resort to such measures as well as to allay civil strife; and at the same time secure the ends of justice. You intimate that it is in my power to restore peace, tranquility and good feeling to the state and all its inhabitants by asking the opinion of the supreme judges on each law point involved in the variations of the count from the returns. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than an authoritative opinion upon points involved in the present condition of affairs, and also upon such as might be likely to arise. Please to indicate the points that occur to you which have not already been adjudicated upon, and I doubt not that we may be able to secure a satisfactory solution of doubtful complications, or if not satisfactory, at least such as may be deemed authoritative. The fact to which you allude, that so large a number of Republican members elect fail to receive certificates, is due to the fact that so many municipal officers failed to comply with the constitutional requirements, and this by judicial decisions the governor and council have no authority to overlook. This condition of affairs is no fault of the governor and council.

Respectfully yours,
ALONZO GARCELON.

Wilkes Booth's Body.

Lieut S. B. Baker now in the Auditor General's office at Lansing gives through the *Republican* a long account of the pursuit and death of Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln, Lt. Baker having had charge of the party that captured Booth. As to the disposal of the body the narrator says: There has been much speculation as to what became of the body, and at one time there were rumors that Booth was still living, and had been seen on some distant island of the sea in company with young Surratt, who was afterward captured in Italy. The story of the disposal of the body is a short one. The evening after the identification of the body by hundreds of persons who intimately knew Booth, Secretary Stanton said to General Baker: "I want you to dispose of the body, and place it where it won't be disturbed until Gabriel blows his last trump." The General in company with Lieutenant Baker, proceeded to carry out the order. At dusk they took the body from the gunboat into a small row-boat, and dropped quietly down the river about three-quarters of a mile. An immense crowd thronged the river banks, but East branch on one side and marshy flats on the other, prevented them from following the boat. Darkness soon shut the occupants of the boat from the view of the curious multitude, and they returned to the arsenal near the east branch. The building had formerly been used as a penitentiary, and it was within its walls that Mrs Surratt and the other accomplices of Booth were hung. The stone floor of one of the cells had been taken up, a grave dug, the body placed in the hollow, and the stone returned to its place. There is little doubt that it was subsequently removed, but of this Lieutenant Baker has no personal knowledge.

Odd Hobbies.

A banker well known in the financial world died lately, in one of the Atlantic cities, at the age of 80, leaving a property valued at millions. After his death, a collection of toys was sold for over $100,000, which he had been accumulating for 20 years. Scarcely any valuable scientific or mechanical toy had been made in Europe of which he had not a specimen, but his assortment included, also, the most trivial of children's playthings. Another, a citizen of Philadelphia, one of the toremost jurists of his day, had a fancy for collecting fairy tales. His shelves contained thousands of these volumes in every language. Manias for China, old brasses, and rare editions are so common among scholarly men, that the incongruity of the pursuit does not strike us. The peculiarity of a hobby indeed is, that it is usually at odds with the general character of the person who exhibits it. It is a bit of childhood left by careless Nature among the sterner stuff of which mankind is made. James Fisk, the most hardened and dishonest of swindlers, had a passionate love for canaries, and was surrounded by them at home. Our genial poet, Oliver Wendell Holmes, delights in grave-yards, boasts that he knows every one within 40 miles of Boston, "and when the Spring opens," he says, smiling, "I go out to see how my dead men do." The Doctor also is fond of working with tools. The portable stereoscopic-glass is his invention. One of the most eminent surgeons in the country delights in writing poems, and very bad poems they are. There can be no doubt that an innocent hobby (and hobbies generally are innocent) is a safety-valve for the escape of nervous excitement in men who use their brains to an exceptional degree. For this reason they usually do much toward softening and humanizing the character. Whatever is to be a boy's trade or profession, encourage in him a taste for music, or art, fishing, gunning; some hobby, in short. Before you fill the boiler and build the fire provide the safety-valve. — *Youth's Companion.*

ABSENT MINDED.—Ex-Senator Goldthwaite, of Alabama, was noted for his extreme absent-mindedness, and he was occasionally seen running about the Senate trying to get out and not being able to find the door. He would have half the page-boys in the Senate looking for his h

LOWELL JOURNAL.
JAS. W. HINE, EDITOR.
Lowell, Michigan, January 7, 1889.

Editorial Comment.

To-day is the first Wednesday in January and to-day is the time appointed for the Maine legislature to assemble. What will the harvest be?

W. W. Emery, who four years ago shot and killed Susan B. Anthony's brother of Leavenworth, was himself shot and killed on New Year's day.

About three-fourths of the newspapers have been making a post mortem examination of 1889, deceased. Wasn't really necessary—it died a natural death.

Thomas Edison was once a poor boy. He is now worth his millions. He is one of the very few men in this world that was not born to die—metaphorically speaking.

"The year 1890 has opened very quiet, by thus far," observes the Evening News, "but there are in it the germs of events that will startle the world and be remembered for centuries."

Several greenback papers are making desperate efforts to revive their party. After a fish has been speared, scaled, dressed and cooked it is a waste of time to attempt to bring it back to life.

The Hastings Journal wants the preachers of Maine long for denouncing the villainies perpetrated by Gov. Garcelon and council. The Journal is apparently seeking notoriety of the Oliver Twist style. Very few of the leading opposition papers attempt to defend Governor Garcelon's action. The N. Y. World and other prominent Democratic papers condemn it in most vigorous language.

The Detroit Free Press says that Senator Hampton of South Carolina has been throwing some light on the reasons why the State was carried for him and against Tilden in 1876, and we venture to say that nine out of every ten honest men, after reading Senator Hampton's statement, wouldn't bet a cent against ten dollars that Senator Hampton isn't a champion liar. The "able Senator from South Carolina" has made statements before that didn't agree with the facts in the case and we don't know as it is at all strange for his whole life has been a lie from the beginning of his political career.

Judge Hoyt, of Grand Rapids circuit, in charging a jury in a libel case on last Tuesday, said:

"It is commendable in a newspaper to be as quick as possible in procuring the news of the day, and if, in the hurry of going to press, an article should appear which the publisher believed to be true, but afterward is proved to be untrue in certain particulars, and the publisher had not time to ascertain the truth of the same, although receiving his information from a reliable source, such should be taken into consideration in mitigation of damages in case the defendants did not fully justify the truth of the article reported."

The Detroit Free says that the death record of the great lake marine for the year 1879 is as follows: Accidents—such as drowning, falling from masts, etc., 167; murdered, 1. There were also 61 deaths from natural causes—though some of the victims in the latter list were owners, etc., other than sailors or officers. The material losses by the 800 disasters, great and small, reported footed up to $1,130,490. About 303,000 bushels of grain were lost or damaged, and the total wrecks included four side-wheel steamers, five propellers, six tugs, one steam-barge, nine scows, three barges, eight barges and forty-two sailing vessels. The tonnage that went out of existence was about 18,351 tons, worth $916,675, while the new tonnage of 13,918 is worth $791,500.

Garcelon's Goose.

Gov. Garcelon of Maine submitted a few questions to the Judges of the supreme court, to determine whether the "ins out" performances and the Judges were unanimous in their answers, which were full and to the point every time. The result is that Governor Garcelon and council get about the worst judicial rawhiding ever put on record. The Judges gave their opinions and decisions on the questions asked in a perfectly judicial and proper manner, at the same time drawing a most odious picture now and then which the Governor and Council could not help recognizing. We shall soon know what the harvest will be.

Patrons of Husbandry.

It is useless to deny that the grangers have through their organization accomplished much good to themselves. And in doing this they have done no injury to others; on the contrary they have benefitted the general public by benefitting themselves. It is not necessary to discuss all the primary objects of the order of the Patrons of Husbandry, it is enough to look at the results. Those results are most gratifying, if we but look at them with an unprejudiced eye. We find in the first place an intelligence among the farmers never fully developed until the grange was organized. It was there all the time but something or government of revenue on tobacco—finally disagreed. It is understood that eleven were for conviction and one for acquittal.

In the U. S. Circuit Court the suit of T. E. Egbert of White Pigeon against Turner and Harrington publishers of the Eagle for Libel, occupied seven days and resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff—$5,000 in real estate. This case grew out of the publication of a "roast" in the Eagle that Egbert had broken the pledge and was drunk when he officiated in position as pastor at White Pigeon. Two days after this the Eagle published a retraction not quite full and complete. Of course to find for the plaintiff the jury found the charge false and un-warranted, but not actual pecuniary damage was proved and the publication was made in good faith so no exemplary damages could be given. This was a second trial of the case, a former jury having disagreed. A libel suit now and then exerts a good influence in restraining the press and preventing abuses. The public want news and plenty of it, and mind sensational items or they would not be so abundantly supplied, but a libel suit will generally assert a man's character and reputation for by giving currency to a falsehood intimate it may cause much pain, suffering and pecuniary damage. Although freedom of the press is one of the strongest defenses of the liberty of the people, unbounded license would be one of the worst of evils.

In the suit of Gordon vs. Ingham for malicious prosecution, commenced in the Circuit Court, a motion that Gordon file security for costs was made and granted some time since, and afterwards the time to file such security was extended by stipulation of the attorneys. Such security has not as yet been filed. In the meantime the case rests. If security is filed by Gordon it will probably be tried; if not it will be dismissed.

The motion for a new trial in the case of Newcomer vs. VanDusen, known as the Deane Asylum case, was argued and submitted to Judge Shipman, sitting on the Kalamazoo Circuit, and by him a new trial was denied on January 3d. This leaves the case for the present with a verdict for the defendant VanDusen. Some time ago City Physician DePuy of Grand Rapids, caused the arrest of Dr. Johnson and some other prominent physicians that place for refusal or neglect to give notice to the Board of Health of cases of diphtheria which they were attending. The Statute provides that physicians shall report any case of small-pox "or any other disease dangerous to the public health," and for a failure to do so prescribes a fine of not less than fifty or more than one hundred dollars. The prosecution of Dr. Johnson was tried before Justice Saunders last week and submitted, he reserving his decision till Tuesday. The defense set up and attempted to be proved was that diphtheria is not "dangerous to the public health," is not contagious or infectious, and Dr. Johnson testified to that effect. If this is a fact the public have been very much mistaken in their idea of this disease, and it is not a little curious how the disease proved in localities after all original warning causes have been removed.

LOCAL JUSTICES COURT.

The case of the People vs. Cushman before Justice Humiston for failure to support his wife was dismissed on Friday last on motion of the defense, the defense claiming and the court holding the complaint fatally defective because it purported to be made by the wife of the defendant.

Washington Letter.

[From our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 3, 1889.

Our New Year opened up as bright and balmy as a May day. The sun shone brilliantly, and the beautiful weather was enjoyed to the fullest extent by our callers. Even our oldest inhabitants, who, in resistance to modern innovations, are as tenacious and unyielding as the Bourbons, generally succumbed to the seductive influences offered by the clerk of the weather and our handsome ladies, and joined in the throng of callers, whose carriages rolled through the streets from early morning till late in the evening. In ante bellum times there was no observance of New Year's day as a holiday wherever slavery obtained. The slave began his round of gaiety on Christmas eve and ended it New Year's morning, going then to work as usual, and so on other days of the year. The master himself conformed to the customs, and nowhere in the South was it observed as a day of rest and leisure. Hence the custom of devoting it to calling on friends, and thereby keeping alive old memories and friendships, came here since the war as an innovation which our native old fogies have resisted and condemned, though with annually lessened columns, until now a mere corporal's guard refuse to open their doors and usually hospitable boards to their acquaintance. These we will bury, with their prejudices, in another year or two, and then Washington may be regarded as wholly rejuvenated.

The White House is, of course, the first and main object of attention. Of the social etiquette requires the members of the United States Courts, as well as each subordinate official, from members of the Cabinet down, and soldier and sailor to pay their respects to the President on New Year's Day, and as the foreign legations are also included in this compulsion, the White House necessarily becomes the center of an immense throng of callers. The glitter of gold and decorations is seen on all sides, even from 1 to 2 o'clock, when the doors are opened to the common citizens, who pour into the mansion with a jam and crowd that is fearful to weak nerves and costly fabrics. The interior of the White House was never more tastefully decorated. The corridors bloomed with potted plants, whose fragrance filled the air. Flags were arranged in various forms in all the parlors, and their folds, as well as the chandeliers and mirrors, were festooned with flowers and evergreens. The Marine Band discoursed its sweetest strains. The President and Mrs. Hayes, with her assistants, "received" in the blue parlor. The tedium of these ladies as well as those of the lady's of the foreign legation, were very rich and beautiful, and the "reception" throughout may be taken as a decided success in number and splendor. The parlors of the Cabinet officers were also thronged. There were many gay scenes about the city, for half the world, the ladies, have open house, and the other half was strolling. The ladies who would receive, which our papers published, covered nearly all our elite and "smaller fry," and right well was the day employed. Our ladies generally discontinenanced the dispensing of liquors, and, as a consequence, less inebriation was seen than in the past.

The day, however, had with it some unpleasing aspects. A colored man opened the bloody ball by shooting another negro to death and dangerously wounded two others. These three men were in the murderer's drinking saloon, and, becoming boisterous, a quarrel ensued, out of which grew the deadly assault. About midday a young lady named Horton attempted to kill Senator Logan's son of Alabama's son, but failed, only a slight wound in his shoulder with her pistol. She was immediately arrested, but was perfectly cool through-out the whole affair and unashamed of police headquarters. Miss Horton comes here from Alabama last summer and entered suit against young Morgan for breach of promise and seduction. Her story of wrongs suffered at his hands is a fearful one, and, if true, it is no wonder she is inclined to take summary law into her own hands.

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Grover Cleveland's daughter Ruth, and no Saturday the 1st day of June, A. D. 1889 is the eldest of the children of the ex-President. Miss Ruth is a bright little girl of about seven years.

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When B. F. Wills visited England in the summer of 1879, he announced in his journal, the Corsair, that he had bought a regular corporation interest in Mr. Thackeray. When Mr. Thackeray's first letter appeared in the Corsair, the Southern Literary Messenger declared that it "could not see its sovereign rights" and added the wise remark that "Mr. Thackeray has much of the dandyism, affectation and puerility of Mr. Willis himself."

BETTER THAN GOLD.

The grand climax of success is at last achieved. The poor rejoice, the sick arise and walk, the rich look up to the golden sunshine of perfect health. The weary minister, the lame lawyer, the overworked merchant, the busy housewife, the man who has fifty or more than one hundred dollars. The prosecution of Dr. Johnson was tried before Justice Saunders last week and submitted, he reserving his decision till Tuesday. The defense set up and attempted to be proved was that diphtheria is not "dangerous to the public health," is not contagious or infectious, and Dr. Johnson testified to that effect. If this is a fact the public have been very much mistaken in their idea of this disease, and it is not a little curious how the disease proved in localities after all original warning causes have been removed.

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Gen. Frazer, an oily-tongued fellow who has been begging contributions through New York for southern Democrats, on the strength of bogus indorsements from Hornlio Seymour and other prominent men, has been overhauled at Poughkeepsie for stealing a horse from Riverman Freeman of Gouverneur.

An unpublished manuscript by Richelieu has been found in France. It is said to possess great interest and to be the earliest of his known writings. It dates from 1600. Judging from the title, "Maxims that I have Adopted for my Conduct at Court," one might conjecture that its interest would be quarried. The report further says that the manuscript will soon be published.

When B. F. Wills visited England in the summer of 1879, he announced in his journal, the Corsair, that he had bought a regular corporation interest in Mr. Thackeray. When Mr. Thackeray's first letter appeared in the Corsair, the Southern Literary Messenger declared that it "could not see its sovereign rights" and added the wise remark that "Mr. Thackeray has much of the dandyism, affectation and puerility of Mr. Willis himself."

BETTER THAN GOLD.

The grand climax of success is at last achieved. The poor rejoice, the sick arise and walk, the rich look up to the golden sunshine of perfect health. The weary minister, the lame lawyer, the overworked merchant, the busy housewife, the man who has fifty or more than one hundred dollars. The prosecution of Dr. Johnson was tried before Justice Saunders last week and submitted, he reserving his decision till Tuesday. The defense set up and attempted to be proved was that diphtheria is not "dangerous to the public health," is not contagious or infectious, and Dr. Johnson testified to that effect. If this is a fact the public have been very much mistaken in their idea of this disease, and it is not a little curious how the disease proved in localities after all original warning causes have been removed.

LOCAL JUSTICES COURT.

The case of the People vs. Cushman before Justice Humiston for failure to support his wife was dismissed on Friday last on motion of the defense, the defense claiming and the court holding the complaint fatally defective because it purported to be made by the wife of the defendant.

Washington Letter.

[From our Regular Correspondent.]

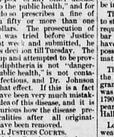
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 3, 1889.

Our New Year opened up as bright and balmy as a May day. The sun shone brilliantly, and the beautiful weather was enjoyed to the fullest extent by our callers. Even our oldest inhabitants, who, in resistance to modern innovations, are as tenacious and unyielding as the Bourbons, generally succumbed to the seductive influences offered by the clerk of the weather and our handsome ladies, and joined in the throng of callers, whose carriages rolled through the streets from early morning till late in the evening. In ante bellum times there was no observance of New Year's day as a holiday wherever slavery obtained. The slave began his round of gaiety on Christmas eve and ended it New Year's morning, going then to work as usual, and so on other days of the year. The master himself conformed to the customs, and nowhere in the South was it observed as a day of rest and leisure. Hence the custom of devoting it to calling on friends, and thereby keeping alive old memories and friendships, came here since the war as an innovation which our native old fogies have resisted and condemned, though with annually lessened columns, until now a mere corporal's guard refuse to open their doors and usually hospitable boards to their acquaintance. These we will bury, with their prejudices, in another year or two, and then Washington may be regarded as wholly rejuvenated.

The White House is, of course, the first and main object of attention. Of the social etiquette requires the members of the United States Courts, as well as each subordinate official, from members of the Cabinet down, and soldier and sailor to pay their respects to the President on New Year's Day, and as the foreign legations are also included in this compulsion, the White House necessarily becomes the center of an immense throng of callers. The glitter of gold and decorations is seen on all sides, even from 1 to 2 o'clock, when the doors are opened to the common citizens, who pour into the mansion with a jam and crowd that is fearful to weak nerves and costly fabrics. The interior of the White House was never more tastefully decorated. The corridors bloomed with potted plants, whose fragrance filled the air. Flags were arranged in various forms in all the parlors, and their folds, as well as the chandeliers and mirrors, were festooned with flowers and evergreens. The Marine Band discoursed its sweetest strains. The President and Mrs. Hayes, with her assistants, "received" in the blue parlor. The tedium of these ladies as well as those of the lady's of the foreign legation, were very rich and beautiful, and the "reception" throughout may be taken as a decided success in number and splendor. The parlors of the Cabinet officers were also thronged. There were many gay scenes about the city, for half the world, the ladies, have open house, and the other half was strolling. The ladies who would receive, which our papers published, covered nearly all our elite and "smaller fry," and right well was the day employed. Our ladies generally discontenanced the dispensing of liquors, and, as a consequence, less inebriation was seen than in the past.

The day, however, had with it some unpleasing aspects. A colored man opened the bloody ball by shooting another negro to death and dangerously wounded two others. These three men were in the murderer's drinking saloon, and, becoming boisterous, a quarrel ensued, out of which grew the deadly assault. About midday a young lady named Horton attempted to kill Senator Logan's son of Alabama's son, but failed, only a slight wound in his shoulder with her pistol. She was immediately arrested, but was perfectly cool through-out the whole affair and unashamed of police headquarters. Miss Horton comes here from Alabama last summer and entered suit against young Morgan for breach of promise and seduction. Her story of wrongs suffered at his hands is a fearful one, and, if true, it is no wonder she is inclined to take summary law into her own hands.

NEW FIRM.



WALLACE LANGS, formerly employed at John Kopf's as an Undertaker, would respectfully announce to the People of Lowell and Vicinity that he has entered into partnership with G. Kopf on the Bridge in the Undertaking Business where you will always find a large Assortment of

CASKETS, COFFINS & SHROUDS.

Also a splendid

HEARSE

For the accommodation of Our Patrons. Mr. Langs is too well known to town to recommend him as an Undertaker. You will also find a large assortment of

FURNITURE!

which will be sold at bottom prices. Hoping to get our share of public patronage, I am yours truly,

KOPF & LANGS.

PROBATE ORDER.—State of Michigan, County of Kent,—ss. At a session of the Probate Court for the County of Kent, holden at the Probate office, in the city of Grand Rapids, on Thursday, the seventh day of December, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight.

Present, Orrin K. Perkins, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the estate of Hannah Bevan, deceased.

On reading and filing the petition, duly verified this day of Thomas Bevan, praying that administration of said estate may be granted to himself or some other suitable person.

It is ordered, that Monday the 14th day of January next, at the o'clock in the forenoon, be assigned for the hearing of said petition, and the examination and allowance of said account, and that the heirs at law of said deceased, and all others interested in said estate, are required to appear at a session of said court, then to be holden at the Probate office in the city of Grand Rapids, in said county, and show cause, if any there be, why the prayer of the petitioner should not be granted: And it is further ordered, that said petitioner give notice to the persons interested in said estate, of the pendency of said petition, and the hearing thereof, by causing a copy of this order to be published for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing.

(A true copy.) ORRIN K. PERKINS, Judge of Probate.
CHARLES GARFIELD, Register. 3t23

MORTGAGE SALE.—Notice is hereby given that default having been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage, whereby the power of sale contained therein has become operative, said mortgage made and executed by Cornelius Fowlerson and Mary Ann Fowlerson, his wife, of the township of Vergennes, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, parties of the first part, to Thomas Bevan, of the township and County of Montcalm, State of Michigan, party of the second part, bearing date the 1st day of March, A. D. 1876, and recorded in the office of the register of deeds for the county of Kent, in the state of Michigan, on the 2d day of March, A. D. 1876, in liber 97 of mortgages on page 62, and mortgaged to the party of the second part, to secure the payment of the sum of Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Dollars, and interest thereon, and no suit or proceeding having been instituted at law or otherwise for the recovery of the moneys secured by said mortgage or any part thereof, and the whole amount of said mortgage now remaining unpaid, and also not so included the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars, and interest thereon at seven per cent. per annum, and in case any proceedings are taken to foreclose the same by suit commenced at law or in equity or not or proceeding at law or equity have been commenced to recover the debt now remaining secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof, notice is hereby given, that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, the said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the land and premises described in said mortgage, and therein described, at public vendue, at the front door of the court house in the city of Grand Rapids, in said county of Kent, on the 19th day of March, A. D. 1879, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, to pay the amount due on said mortgage, with interest and costs of foreclosure and sale, which amount is the sum of Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty Dollars, and interest thereon at seven per cent. per annum, and the sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars, and interest thereon at seven per cent. per annum, and the sum of Twenty-five dollars, attorney's fee provided for in said mortgage, and also the sum of Twenty-five dollars, solicitor's fee provided for in said mortgage, and also not so included the sum of Twenty-five dollars, attorney's fee provided for in said mortgage, and also not so included

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

MICHIGAN.

John Bruce of Burnside, Lapeer county, was instantly killed Friday while chopping by a limb breaking from a falling tree, which struck him on the head. He leaves a wife.

Saturday morning a man named Kingsley, brakeman on a through freight train of the Michigan Central, when on a refrigerator car, which is more than a foot higher than ordinary cars, was struck by a bridge two miles west of Niles, knocked off the car and under the wheels, by which he was dragged some distance and fearfully mangled. His parents reside at Spring Arbor.

Two boys of 7 and 12, sons of Mr. Millar, of Maple Grove, Barry county, were playing with a loaded gun on the 20th, when it was discharged, instantly killing the younger.

In the Bay circuit, Mrs. Ann E. Garrison has been given a $1,000 judgment against Wm. J Steele, a saloonist of South Bay City. Steele had been notified not to sell liquor to Garrison, but he paid no attention to it, and the man gradually fell into the condition of a sot. Mrs Garrison says that before her husband commenced drinking he was worth $15,000, and had an income of $5,000, but drink took it all away and rendered him unable to attend to business.

Levi King, late of St. Hurseville, Three Rivers, Canada, was killed by a falling tree in A. A. Maxim's camp, near Ludington, on Monday.

There being a general feeling throughout the State that the standard of qualifications required of teachers is far too low, the State board of education has ordered that an average of 70 per cent. shall be required for obtaining a certificate of the third grade, 80 for the second grade and 90 for the first grade, and that the spring examinations in 1880 shall be held on Saturday, the 27th day of March.

The cut of lumber at Ludington the past season was 129,000,000 feet, with 8,000,000 left on hand. Clare county expects to get out $50,000,000 feet of pine logs this winter.

The Muskegon booming company rafted and delivered in 1879 of logs, 432,665,446 feet. The amount of logs now in the river as shown by the books, is 94,290,149 feet.

Henry, Barker & Co. of Chicago recently purchased 1,720 acres of pine land on the north branch of White River, in Oceana county, from J. B. Gordon of New York. The timber, which is very choice white pine, is estimated at from twenty-eight to thirty million feet; and the price paid was $75,000.

The annual meeting of the Michigan State Teachers' Association began at Lansing Monday evening, when an address was delivered by President Brooks, of Kalamazoo College. Papers were read Tuesday by Superintendent Church, of Greenville, Superintendent Coehran, of Kalamazoo, and others. The attendance was unusually large.

A second trial of the suit of the Rev. Thomas E. Egbert, of White Pigeon, against A. B. Turner and E. F. Harrington, publishers of the Grand Rapids Daily Eagle, for libel, claiming damages at $25,000, resulted in a verdict of six cents damages Tuesday.

Lucy Karney, a colored woman, died in Lansing Tuesday morning, aged 117 years, 11 months and 27 days. She was born at Freehold, Monmouth county, N. J., January 2, 1762.

Charles Tobias, conductor of a freight train on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, who had a foot crushed at Otsego a few weeks ago, died Tuesday of lockjaw.

The Michigan State Insurance Company of Adrian, after a successful career of twenty years, went out of business Wednesday transferring its affairs to the Home of New York.

Michael Cinne was instantly killed at the Sleght Mill, Hemingway lake, Wednesday morning. As a carpenter mounted on a ladder he was adjusting the saw-dust elevator with a stick, when one end caught in the endless chain and the other struck him on the breast and pushed him back on the main belt.

The following is a statement of the receipts and disbursements at the State Treasurer's office for the month of December:

Balance on hand Nov. 29, 1879	$373,722 53
Receipts for the month	138,221 53
Total	511,944 06
Disbursements for month	106,218 39
Balance on hand Dec. 31, 1879	$405,725 67

The Quincy Mine Rock house was consumed by fire Wednesday afternoon. The adjoining buildings were saved. Loss $50,000; no insurance.

The 11,000 pensioners in Michigan receive $3,360,000 annually.

There were 54 new convicts received in the State Prison in December, 22 discharged, and 829 on hand January 1.

The State encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held in Grand Rapids January 15.

Judge Shipman, of the Kalamazoo Circuit, has denied the motion for a new trial in the Newcomer-Van Deusen case, the argument for which had occupied the court for several days.

An officer from Macomb county arrested the Rev. John Maywood, the Methodist minister at Port Austin, and left suddenly with him Friday morning. Mr. Maywood had caused the arrest of one Claggett of Richmond for libel and this is supposed to be an act of retaliation.

The State House of Correction at Ionia now has 457 inmates. It took in 180 in December.

The Jonesville cotton mill is manufacturing 4,000 yards of cotton a day. The mill is run by Shephard, Peabody & Co.

The fifth annual session of the Michigan Sportsmen's Association will be held at Bay City on Tuesday, February 3.

Mr. H. H. Thomas, the agent for Roberts's torpedoes, had 700 pounds of dynamite stored in a building in West Bay City, which was destroyed by fire, with the building, December 31. There was no explosion.

On Christmas day George Bronner of Mooreville, Washtenaw county, while engaged in moving a building was struck in the stomach by a lever, which caused his death in a few hours. His age was 58, and he leaves a wife and several children.

A 13-year old son of Daniel Collette, of Port Huron was instantly killed Thursday afternoon while playing where a derrick was being used in hoisting machinery. The strain was so great that the derrick gave way, striking the boy on the back of the neck and causing death instantly.

Gov. Croswell has appointed the following persons members of the Board of Control of the Michigan Reform School for Girls: Mrs. James F. Joy, Detroit; Mrs. Samuel L. Fuller, Grand Rapids; Mrs. Courtland B. Stebbins, Lansing; Miss Emma A. Hall, Flint; the Hon. Chas. T. Gorham, Marshall; the Hon. Wm. H. Waldby, Adrian. He has further appointed Col. Robert Berna of Kalamazoo as trustee of the Michigan Asylum for the Insane.

Mrs. Myers of Cambridge, Lenawee county, died very suddenly December 27. Supposed to be a case of an overdose of opiate.

The Flint and Pere Marquette have sold more farming lands in Mason county the past year than in the previous five years combined.

A boy of 13 named Ernest Dresser was drowned at Clarkston on the 3d. He was skating with two other boys on a sled and ran into a lake. His companions escaped.

Detroit in Brief.

The Rothchild conspiracy case for alleged defrauding of the government in the matter of paying revenue on tobacco, ended Tuesday in the disagreement of the jury. The case had occupied the United States court for several weeks and attracted great public interest. The secretary of the jury states that on the first ballot the jury stood nine for conviction and three for acquittal. The vote finally settled down to eleven for conviction and one for acquittal, and so remained till the final ballot. They were out nearly 23 hours.

Detroit merchants handled 12,269,406 bushels of wheat during 1879.

The January term of the Wayne circuit court began Monday with 465 cases on the docket, unusually large number. Of these 190 are jury cases, 212 are court cases and 63 are chancery cases.

During the year 1879 there were in this city 176 fires entailing an aggregate loss of $450,000.

The weather was pleasant New Year's day, business places were closed, and the day observed with the usual festivities,

There were 1,193 arraignments at the police court during 1877, and 2,296 were disposed of at the central station court.

Charles Stuart Parnell, the Irish agitator, is expected to visit Detroit about the last of January. A meeting of the various Irish societies will be held at the hall of Father Mathew No. 2, East Congress street, next Sunday evening, to arrange for an appropriate reception and welcome.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The United States steamer Nipsic, Commander C. M. Schoonmaker, at Norfolk, has been ordered without delay to Laguayra, Venezuela, to inquire into the circumstances attending the withdrawal or expulsion of Agent Eckert at that port from Barcelona, to which place he had been sent on public duty. The Nipsic will touch at St. Thomas to take on board Eckert, who is reported a refugee. On completing this duty the Nipsic will return to Hampton Roads.

The steamer Prairie City, plying on the Wabash between New Harmony and Wabash station, on the St. Louis and Southeastern railroad, blew up Saturday afternoon above Hedges' landing. The fireman, cabin boy and cook are missing. The body of Mrs. Capt. McIntyre was found on the shore with both arms off. Capt. Cox, who was at the wheel, was blown up with it, and fell in the wreck beneath the debris and had one arm broken, his ankle sprained, and was otherwise cut and bruised.

John M. Waite and M. B. Gould, of Chicago, both prominent and respected business men, Saturday afternoon, thinking to play a practical joke upon a colored janitor, disarranged the contents of Mr. Waite's room, and then, concealing themselves in a closet, waited until the janitor appeared. The latter becoming excited at the condition of the room, procured a revolver, and, hearing a noise in the closet, tried to pull the door open, and failing in that, fired through the door. The shot passed through Mr. Gould's head and he died shortly after.

Mrs. Clara Clavise, aged 103 years, burned to death at New Orleans, Saturday, by the explosion of a lamp.

A fire in Boston on Sunday destroyed property to the value of about one million dollars. Rand & Avery, printers, suffered almost a total loss of their stock; their insurance is $100,000, which will fully cover the loss. Rice, Kendall & Co., paper, loss about $200,000, insured. The cathedral building, corner of Devonshire and Franklin streets, in the rear of Rice & Kendall, was occupied by the North national bank, Claflin & Brown, paper; John Dillingham, paper; C. E. Perry, paper cutting machines. The upper portion of the building was occupied by S. D. Warren & Co., paper; W. F. Brown & Co., printers; the Heliotype printing company and Houghton, Osgood & Co., publishers Atlantic Monthly. The last-named firm carried about $200,000 stock, fully insured. Davis, Lake & Allen, clothing, loss about $200,000, and Spalding & Tewskbury, paper, suffered a total loss.

Yankton was shaken by an earthquake at 12 30 Sunday night. The shock lasted about a minute, and was accompanied by internal rumbling. Hundreds of sleeping people were awakened by the shock, which was lively while it lasted. Fort Sully reports a similar visitation.

Three men, John Gallager, George Hall and John Monahan, have been found frozen to death in the Green River country, beyond the point where the construction of the Northern Pacific is going on. The men lived in Minneapolis

Mrs. Henry A. Smith, living near the Hog River, in Parkville, Conn., got word Tuesday afternoon that her little boy, six years old, had broken through the ice. She rushed from the house and upon the ice, and both herself and child were drowned.

The residence of Ex-senator Stewart of Nevada at Washington took fire Tuesday evening from a defective flue and was completely gutted by the flames. The house at the time of its erection was considered a model of elegance and tasteful decoration. It was familiarly known as "Stewart's castle," and was pointed out as one of the attractions of the city. The loss is estimated at fifty thousand dollars.

The excitement in Maine over political matters increases. The Governor has ordered the arms removed from the State arsenal at Bangor to Augusta and is rumored to be organizing a military force to be in readiness on the meeting of the Legislature in the latter city.

On the 23d ult., at Calf creek, Searcy county, Ark., the boiler of Benjamin Taylor's sawmill exploded, killing instantly his son-in-law, Wade Campbell, Wade Griffin, Kennedy and Burt Woodward. Campbell was thrown about thirty feet through the top of an apple-tree and the walls of a lint room on the cotton. One of his hands was found 75 yards distant. Griffin was literally torn to pieces.

One hundred and seventeen colored emigrants from Goldsboro', N.C., arrived Tuesday morning en route for Indianapolis via Washington, the emigrants consisting of men, women and children, under the charge of the general passenger agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. Several hundred more are to follow.

On Wednesday Gen. Garcelon of Maine submitted to the Supreme Court of that State a list of twelve questions of law relative to the canvassing of election returns and issuing of certificates of election to members of the Legislature. They are not the same questions proposed by the Republicans.

The Kentucky Legislature met at Frankfort Wednesday. The house elected J. M. Bigger of Paducah speaker.

The total amount of additional bank circulation issued during the year ending December 31, 1879, was $26,597,870; amount retired, $7,612,761; net increase of bank circulation during the year, $18,985,109; total amount of national bank circulation outstanding December 31, $340,388,012, not including the circulation of national gold banks, which was $1,426,120.

Chairman Cameron of the National Republican Committee has issued a call for a national convention of the Republican party at Chicago Wednesday, the 2d day of June next, for the nomination of candidates to be supported for President and Vice-President at the next election.

At a cabinet meeting Friday afternoon there was some discussion in regard to the Ute difficulty, but in view of the obscurity of the recent dispatches on this subject it was concluded to postpone its further consideration to await the receipt of more definite information.

During December the Treasury Department paid $1,727,520 on account of arrears of pensions.

The receipts from internal revenue for the six months ending December 31, 1879, the first six months of the current fiscal year were $61,500,621, and from customs, $87,713,750.

The consolidated report of receipts from internal revenue for the five months ended November 30, 1879, shows an aggregate increase, compared with the same period last year, of $1,315,672.

A fire broke out at Baltimore Friday night in the four-story warehouse of Thurston & Harrison, at Buchanan's wharf, containing several thousand bales of cotton. The entire department was called out, but owing to the location of the warehouse on the wharf, between the docks and narrow streets, not more than four or five engines could work effectually upon the fire. At midnight the fire was still burning fiercely. The steam tug Convoy of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, was brought into the dock and turned effective streams on the fire. The damage will exceed $100,000.

A party of seven or eight men went to the house of Guy Frey, at Gallipolis, O., Thursday night, evidently for the purpose of robbery, he having received a payment the day before for property sold. Frey ordered them away and they refused. He then fired at them and they left. Next morning he found the body of a dead man lying in his yard. No one was able to identify him.

The following is a statement of the coinage executed at the United States Mint during December 1879:

	Pieces.	Value.
Gold	597,869	$6 487 000
Silver	2,384,260	2,358 932
Minor coinage	3,102,250	31,433
Total coinage	6,073,314	8,876,466

Frances Hovey, a much esteemed young lady, of Lyons, N. Y., entered her father's store Saturday and shot him dead. She then reloaded the pistol, went up stairs to her room, and killed herself.

The Supreme Court of Maine to which had been submitted certain questions by Governor Garcelon relative to canvassing election returns, gave a decision Saturday. The answers to the questions are quite exhaustive and generally adverse to the course taken by the Governor and council in rejecting irregular returns. The court holds that "a representative is not to be deprived of his rights because the municipal officers have neglected their duty," and that the Governor and council cannot reject returns without giving notice to all parties interested and taking evidence under the customary rules for the admission of evidence.

PERSONAL.

The Hon. John S. Scott, of Terre Haute, has been appointed to the vacancy on the supreme bench of Indiana, caused by the death of Chief Justice Perkins.

A Providence special on Tuesday says: Gov. Van Zandt has reconsidered his previous decision to accept the Russian mission, and has declined, principally on account of the inadequate salary. Gen. Burnside, who was also tendered the position, declined for the same reason.

Senor Ayala, president of the Spanish chamber of deputies, is dead.

Hon. George S. Houston United States senator from Alabama, died at his home at Athens, in that State, Wednesday morning. The capital offices were all closed in respect to his memory.

George, the Count Johannes, died Tuesday, age 69 years, and was buried from "The Little Church Around the Corner" at New York.

Gen. Hatch and party, from Los Pinos arrived at Indian Creek Wednesday.

President and Mrs. Hayes and the vice-President held a reception at the executive mansion New Year's day, according to the usual programme.

Gen. Grant held a reception at Savanah Friday and afterward went on an excursion to Port Jackson.

A St. Petersburg dispatch says that Gen. Count Paul Ignatieff, president of the ministerial committee, a member of the council of state, and father of Gen. Ignatieff, is dead.

A dispatch from Yankton Friday said the condition of the Hon. Wm. A. Howard was improved.

Morris Ketchum, a well-known banker, of New York died New Year's day, aged 84. Ketchum was very intimate with Secretary Chase, and it is stated that it was through his personal effort that the government loans were placed.

Bishop Gilbert Haven of the Methodist Episcopal church died at the residence of his mother in Malden, Mass., Saturday, after an illness of several weeks.

The probate of the will of Charles Morgan of New York city, who died leaving an estate valued at $12,000,000, was confirmed by the surrogate Saturday. The will leaves all the property, real and personal, to be distributed among the heirs as the laws of New York provide in a case of intestacy.

Galignani's Messenger states that Richard Wagner, the composer, is dying.

The empress of Russia will for the present remain at Cannes, her physician advising such a course.

FOREIGN

The London Economist of Saturday says: It seems as if another scare had set in in consequence of telegrams reporting Edison's completion of his electric light. All the gas companies suffered more or less, the heaviest decline being £8 per share, and the smallest £1.

One of the most terrible railroad disasters on record occurred in Scotland Sunday evening. The new iron bridge over the Firth of Tay went down in a hurricane, carrying with it a passenger train containing some two hundred passengers, all of whom were drowned. The bridge was only opened for traffic in May, 1878. It was considered a triumph of engineering skill. It was about two miles long and had 84 spans, the widest of which was 245 feet. At the highest point it was 140 feet above high water. The gap in the bridge is about one-half mile long, comprising 11 of the longest spans, each 245 feet in length, and one span 145 feet in length. The passengers were all locked in their several apartments, escape being impossible.

As the king and queen of Spain were driving through the gate of the royal palace at Madrid Tuesday evening, a young man dressed as a workman fired a shot from a revolver at the royal carriage, but his aim was bad and nobody was hurt. The ball has since been found and weighs one ounce. It passed closed to the head of the royal footman. King Alfonso was driving at the time. The would-be assassin was arrested and has confessed his crime. His name is Gonzales and his age is 19 years. He is a waiter by occupation and a native of Gallicia.

A dispatch dated Cabul, the 27th, says: Gen. Baker has gone to Kohistan with a force of 1,700 infantry, a regiment of cavalry and four guns, to punish the insurgents there. Mohammed Khan has taken Musa Khan with him to Wardah. The country about Cabul is rapidly becoming quiet.

The fund instituted by the duchess of Marlborough for the relief of the distress of Ireland amounts to £8,000. Dr. McEvilly, coadjutor, and the archbishop of Tuam, acknowledging the receipt of £1,000 from the churches of Cardinal Manning's diocese, England, say no amount of private charity can cope with the approaching famine in Ireland, and a system of remunerative public works can be effectual.

A dispatch from Constantinople reports that Minister Layard's note to the porte, in reference to the Mahommedan priest who is reported to be under sentence of death for circulating pamphlets subversive of Islamism, being still unanswered, Minister Layard has suspended official relations with the porte.

Gen. Roberts reports, December 30, that the force under the command of Gen. Baker which left Cabul on the 27th of December, is returning from Kohistan, having destroyed, unopposed, the fort of the rebel chief Mirbatcha, which was found abandoned. Several Kohistan and Lugar chiefes have tendered their submission. The enemy's losses in killed and wounded during the last fortnight are estimated at three thousand.

The United States consul at Mauritus reports that the cattle plague continues on the island, and about twenty thousand animals have, in addition to 243 deer, died.

Select Sayings.

It is fruition and not possession that renders us unhappy.—*Montaigne.*

There is an heroic innocence, as well as an heroic courage.—*St. Evremond.*

The best part of beauty is that which a picture cannot express.—*Bacon.*

Men more easily renounce their interests than their tastes.—*Rochefoucauld.*

Art must anchor in nature, or it is the sport of every breath of folly.—*Hazlitt.*

When a man is wrong and wont admit it, he always gets angry.—*T. C. Haliburton.*

It often seems more difficult to preserve a blessing than to obtain it.—*Domosthenes.*

Some one has said of a fine and honorable old age, that it was the childhood of immortality.—*Pindar.*

A little philosophy inclineth a man's mind to atheism, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to religion.—*Bacon.*

To be perfectly just is an attribute of the divine nature; to be so to the utmost of our abilities, is the glory of man.—*Addison.*

Convey thy love to thy friend as an arrow to the mark, to stick there; not as a ball against the wall, to rebound back to thee.—*Quarles.*

Temperance and labor are the two best physicians of man; labor sharpens the appetite, and temperance prevents him from indulging to excess.—*Rousseau.*

A ruler who appoints any man to an office, when there is in his dominions another man better qualified for it, sins against God and against the state.—*Koran.*

Frivolity, under whatever form it appears, takes from attention its strength, from thought its originality, from feeling its earnestness.—*Madam De Stael.*

They who live under a tyranny, and have learned to admire its powers as sacred and divine, are debauched as much in their religion, as in their morals.—*Shaftsbury.*

A library is not like a city of stones, yearly crumbling, and needing repair, but like a spiritual tree. There it stands, and yields its precious fruit from year to year and from age to age.—*Carlyle.*

Death in Dakota.

A despatch from Dakota says: The blizzard of last Saturday when it blew moderately hard, with the mercury from 21 to 40 degrees below zero, was the severest in human history. The particulars of the fate of the German family on Elm River were received to-night. They were moving from a shanty into a new house, and were anxious to get settled in better quarters before Thursday, and before the blizzard grew worse and the mother was confined. Two little boys were bundled up and placed in a dry-goods box. The father and mother were carrying things into their new house when the over-exertion caused her suddenly to give birth to a child in the new, cold house. The father stopped with her for some time and then went after another boy and girl that were making their way from the shanty to the house. He succeeded in bringing them to their mother. He then went after the two little boys in the box, who were wrapped up more securely than the larger boy and girl that he had piloted in first. The storm evidently blew harder and the man got numb and bewildered. When found he was by the box, and apparently had attempted to raise it on his back to carry it and the boys to the house. One little boy was found sitting upright and the other with his head dropping forward into his brother's lap, The former had bit his lips while his teeth continued to chatter. The boy and girl were badly frozen in the legs, arms and face, but not fatally. The father not returning to the house told the mother his fate, and she started for a neighbor, half a mile distant. She walked part of the way and rolled a part. How she got through is more than she knows. Neighbors went in search of the father and boys and found them as stated, stone dead. The newly born infant perished. Strange as it may appear, the mother escaped with only a few frost-marks.

THE FARM.

Ventilated Stables.

For the horse, especially, it is all important to see that the stable is comfortable; for under the excitement of work, the perspiration, and the occasional violent efforts of breathing, he is more than any other domestic animal subject to colds and chest diseases. A damp bed, or a draft of cold air acting on the heated and perspiring animal, will often lay the foundation of a maladay that utterly ruins his usefulness. Open windows and doors on opposite sides of the stable, or openings in the walls or floor should be carefully guarded against, especially when the horse has just come in from work But in securing comfortable warmth, we must avoid impure air, from confinement of the breath or emanations from dung or urine. Cleanliness and sufficient openings for the ingress and egress of air, on one side of the stable only, or above the level of the animals on both sides, will guard against cold, while securing purity of the atmosphere.

Blanketing when returned wet to the stable, and when stopped for some time out of doors, need only be suggested. When returned to the stable with wet, muddy heels, which cannot be rubbed dry at once, light, dry, woolen bandages may be applied to prevent chilling and chapping, and the mud may be brushed off later, when it has dried.—*Nat. Live-stock Journal.*

The Scab in Sheep.

A correspondent of the *Maine Farmer* gives his experience in treating this disease. He says: The first remedy that I used was dry sulphur put into the wool and rubbed on the skin on the affected parts; it would cure that place, but the disease would soon show itself somewhere else. I frequently gave them sulphur to eat mixed with oats or salt all through the winter. Still they kept on scratching. Many times I was told that it could never be cured. In March, I sold a part of my flock, but was determined to give the rest another thorough trial. In April they nearly all had lambs, and when the lambs were one week old they began to dig and scratch themselves. After I turned them to grass, I paid no attention to them till I sheared them; then every sheep and lamb had the disease though no worse than in the winter when the sulphur kept it in check. About the first of June, I made a strong decoction of tobacco, at about five pailfuls mixed with three gills of spirits of turpentine. I then gave every sheep and lamb a thorough washing all over the whole body. I then turned them to grass to watch the result. I found that two of them still showed signs of the disease. I caught them and put sulphur all over their backs and sides, and that is the last that I have seen of the scab in my flock, and it has been four months since I saw the last traces of the disease, and my sheep never came to the barn looking so healthy and fat as new, and they are perfectly free form ticks.

Cheap Harvesting.

Mr. Z. S. Ragan, of Missouri, writes to the *Journal of Agriculture* as follows: Cheap threshing being a matter that concerns the farmer I will give the manner of cutting and saving of wheat by several of my neighbors, who I know to have grown wheat on the same field for the past eight to twelve years. They thresh and burn the straw out of their way (whether this is economy or not I cannot say) yet they claim to get rid of their insect enemies and having the Missouri River valley lands that are inexhaustible, the straw is not needed in the way of manure. They break their ground immediately after harvest so as to have the land in readiness to sow at the proper season. But to return to the subject of threshing. I will commence a little further back and give the experience of one of my neighbors as related to me a few days since. He said he had one hundred and seventy acres in wheat and that it cost him twenty-seven cents per acre to cut and put in shock. Now for the *modus operandi*; he has a self-binder and a son of his (a little invalid at that) cut it all and a small boy on the machine bunched the sheaves by shoving off four sheaves at a place the first round and the second round four more and the third four more, which made twelve to the shock and he hired a man to shock it for fifteen cents per acre, so the actual cash outlay including repair, etc., was twenty-seven cents per acre. He threshed immediately after harvest with a steam thresher which put through eleven hundred bushels a day and sold his crop from the machine at ninety-two cents per bushel, about four thousand bushels. This is an improvement over the old custom. When I was young most of the wheat was cut with sickles and threshed with the flail by hand or trampled out by horses, so our friend Shultz' horse power of 300 bushels is a departure from that of half a century ago and that of my neighbor Arnold is still an improvement over his. So much for science in agriculture!

A National Society.

To the Editor of THE HOMESTEAD.

The movement for the formation of a National Agricultural Society has succeeded. A convention composed of earnest men from all sections of the country, was held in this city, December 10th, 11th and 13th, and after due deliberation, the "American Agricultural Association" was formed. A Constitution was adopted, and officers, consisting of a President, Senior Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, a Vice-President for each State and Territory, and a Board of Directors, were elected. Permanent quarters will be established immediately. A National Exhibition of farm products, the coming year, is already under consideration. A journal of the Association, embracing the best agricultural thought and experience, will be published, probably twice a year. The fee for annual membership is one dollar; the life-membership fee, fifty dollars. We have already a number of members in each class. Lectures and addresses were delivered during the session by Professors Brewer, of Yale College; A. R. Le Doux, of N. C.; C. V. Riley, X. A. Willard, Dr. Manly Miles, Dr. Geo. B. Loring, A. V. Dickenson, Esq., Hon. J. B. Grinnell, of Iowa, and others.

The following were elected officers of the association: John Merryman, N. S. Townshend, Ohio, Sen. Vice President; Joseph H. Reall, N. Y., Secretary; Lawson Valentine, N. Y., Treasurer.

Peter Murphy of Michigan is a member of the board of directors for one year. The executive committee consists of Gen. N. M. Curtis; Hon. Fredk Smyth; Col. N. T. Sprague; Dr. A. L. Kennedy; John Merryman; N. S. Townshend.

NEW YORK, Dec., 24. J. H. REALL, Secretary.

Manuring in Winter.

Several questions have been asked us on the subject of distributing manure in the winter season, to which we reply in general terms. The loss in spreading manure at any season is chiefly in the evaporation of ammonia, and this is always greater in a high temperature. Fermenting manure spread in the summer and suffered to remain exposed for a month, is almost worthless. If manure is spread at that season it should be plowed under as rapidly as possible. But in the frozen weather of the winter, the formation of ammonia is suspended in manure that is spread, so that no loss by evaporation results from its exposure. If it is spread on unfrozen ground and afterwards covered with snow, fermentation may go on slowly, but in that case the ammonia will be retained by the snow, which is a good absorbent; and when the thaw comes the ammonia enters the soil with the water.

The only loss to be apprehended in winter manuring is from the washing of heavy rains. If the fields are properly underdrained there will be but little loss from this cause, as the dissolved organic matter will be retained by the soil as the water leaches through it to the drains. In top-dressing meadow or other grass lands, winter is the proper time for the work. The snows and rains will settle the manure close to the ground, so that the growing grass will cover it early in the spring and thus protect it from loss by summer heat. Moreover, when the ground is frozen, the passing about over the fields is more pleasant than in the mud of the spring months; and when the work is done, it will do much to relieve the pressure and demand of the busy season of spring.—*Indiana Farmer.*

Hams and Shoulders.

Hams should be neatly trimmed and cut rounding, to imitate as closely as may be the city cut hams to be seen in most grocery stores. With such patterns before them there is surely no excuse for any farmer who cuts the hinderpart of a hog into a square, unsightly piece, and calls it a ham. Make a pickle, strong enough to just float an egg; stir in this sugar or molasses sufficient to give it a slight sweetish taste. Cover the hams with this pickle, and allow the packages to stand where the temperature is uniform and above freezing. For hams of twelve pounds four weeks will be sufficient; larger hams must remain in the brine longer. In general terms, from three to seven weeks embraces the extremes of time required for domestic curing of hams, varying as to size of the hams, temperature and time when it is anticipated they will be used. When it is designed to preserve them through the summer, caution must be observed not to remove them from the pickle too soon.

Hams may also be cured with dry salting. This is done by rubbing them often with salt and sugar, and bunching them up on platforms or tables covered with salt, and covering each ham with salt. When taken up to rub, which should be done half a dozen times, have a shallow box at hand in which to do the work.

Shoulders for family use require much the same treatment as hams, and both should be smoked with hickory wood. The preservative principle of smoke is creosote. Smoke made by burning corn-cobs is highly esteemed, but those engaged in curing meats on a large scale consider that the purest, sweetest smoke is obtained from dry hickory sapwood stripped of its bark. If the smoking process is hurried the creosote will not have time to penetrate the entire substance of the meat, but ten days' smoking is in all cases sufficient, unless the pieces are unusually large and very thick.

The farmers' smoked meat may, like the hams of commerce, be covered securely with canvas, and further protected by a wash, the recipe for which has been several times given in these columns, or packed well in bran or dry ashes.

The room in which any kind of cured meat is to be kept should be dry and cool, and the darker the better.—*Y. Y. World.*

DETROIT MARKETS.

FLOUR—City pastry brands.....6 25@6 75
State brands.....6 25@6 50
Patents.....6 50@8 50
Low grades.....3 25@3 75
Rye.....4 90@5 10
Buckwheat.....6 25@6 50
WHEAT—Extra white.....1 38@1 35
No. 1 white.....1 35@1 35
Amber.....1 30@1 30
BARLEY—@1 25@1 50 per 100 lbs.
CORN—44@47c per bush.
OATS—38@42c per bu.
RYE—60@65c per bush.
BUCKWHEAT—50@55c per bu.
SEEDS—Clover $4 80@5 25 per bu.
Timothy $2 85@2 90
BRANS—Unpicked 90c@ $1 15 per bush; Packed $1 45@1 50.
PEAS—Wisconsin Blue $1 70@1 85 per bu
Field, 70@80.
BUCKWHEAT—20 @ 25 per pound.
BUTTER—Prime quality, 18@22. Medium 14@16c
CHEESE—12@14c per lb.
CRANBERRIES—$7 50@8 50 per bbl.
HOPS—35@40 c per lb.
APPLES—$2 50@3 00 per bbl.
DRIED APPLES—9@8 etc. per lb.
DRIED PEACHES—15@23c per lb.
EGGS—Fresh 18@20c, pickled, 15@16, limed 16@17.
HAY—$13@14 50 per ton; baled $14@16
HIDES—Green, 6@7 per lb.; cured, 7@8c. Sheepskins 75@1 50.
HICKORY NUTS—Shellbark, $2 75@3 00 per bbl.
HONEY—17@20c per lb.
ONIONS—State $3 50@3 57 per bbl.
POTATOES—$1 20 @ 1 50 per bbl. From store 35@45 c per bu.
POULTRY—Live chickens, 35@45 c per pair; dressed 6 c per lb; turkey, dressed. 10@11c per lb.
FISH—Whitefish, $4 75@5 00 per half barrel; trout $3 50@3 75 per half bbl.
GAME—Venison saddles, 9@10c; carcasses, 5c; partridges, 65@70c; quail, $2 25@2 50; ducks, 60@65c for Mallard and 30@ 25c for common; rabbits, 8@10c; 5@7c; turkeys, 10@12c.
TALLOW—6 c per pound.
PROVISIONS—Pork Mess $13 25@$14 50, Lard, 7@8¼; Smoked Hams, 9@10¼; Shoulders, 6@6½c; Bacon, 8c; extra Mess Beef, $10 00@10.50 per bbl. Dried beef, 11@11 25 per cwt.
SALT—Saginaw, $1 38@1 40per bbl; Onondaga, fine. $1 45; coarse, 1 85.
WOOD—Hickory $5 25 @5 75 per cord; maple $5 25; beech and maple, $4 50@5 25; soft $4 00.

Detroit Stock Market.

The offerings at the Michigan Central yards last Saturday were: Cattle, 847; hogs, 9,973; sheep, 4,636. The market was active and all grades of stock sold rapidly at an advance of 12½c per cwt over the previous week's prices. Sales were as follows: 27 mixed butchering cattle, av 778 lbs, at $2 35 per cwt; 12 good steers av 1,055 lbs, at $3 35 per cwt; 16 mixed butchering head, av 762 lbs, at $2 25 per cwt; 6 mixed butchering head, av 835 lbs, at $2 25 per cwt; 3 good steers, av 1,017 lbs, at $3 40 per cwt; 14 mixed butchering head, av 778 lbs, at $2 40 per cwt; 1 bull, 1,630 lbs, at $3 per cwt; 1 cow, 1,400 lbs, at $3 40 per cwt; 2 good heifers, av 1,185 lbs, at $3 per cwt; 2 oxen, av 1,420 lbs, at $3 per cwt; 4 good oxen, av 1,198 lbs, at $3 50 per cwt; 1 bull, 1,620 lbs, at $3 50 per cwt; 2 good steers, av 1,030 lbs, at $3 60 per cwt; 4 butchering head, av 683 lbs, at $2 40 per cwt; 2 oxen, av 1 106 lbs, at $3 50 per cwt; 4 butchering head, av 845 lbs, at $2 50 per cwt.

The hog market was dull at the same general range of prices quoted the previous week. Hammond, Standish & Co. bought some of the stuff in the yards. Sales were as follows: 56, av 341, at $4 50 per cwt; 27, av 135 lbs, at $4 40 per cwt; 63, av 255 lbs, at $4 50 per cwt; 28, av 170 lbs, at $4 30 per cwt; 24 av 219 lbs, at $4 55 per cwt; 41, av 194 lbs, at $4 40 per cwt; 34, av 252 lbs, at $4 40 per cwt; 52, av 226 lbs, at $4 35 per cwt; 40 av 226 lbs, at $4 50 per cwt.

The sheep market was active, as it has been for several weeks past, and good stock sold readily at an advance of 15c per cwt over the previous week's quotations. Sales were as follows: 33, av 93 lbs, at $4 60 per cwt; 99, av 82 lbs, at $4 50 per cwt; 153, av 85 lbs, at $4 per cwt; 91, av 95 lbs, at $4 50 per cwt; 156, av 80 lbs, at $4 per cwt; 202, av 87 lbs, at $4 25 per cwt; 44, av 106 lbs, at $5

Topics.

A white deer was recently captured at King's Ferry in Florida.

The French sell the monopoly on friction matches in Paris to a company for 15,000,000 francs per annum, or $3,000,000.

It is predicted that in a few years steel will supersede iron in naval architecture, to as great an extent as iron has supplemented wood.

Wild tea grows in abundance in Arkansas County, Ark., and it is said that the people will discard the Chinese article.

It is interesting to note that in February next there will be five Sundays This occurs but three times in a century.

The first instance in history of a coroner's jury composed exclusively of women, lately occurred at Cheyenne, Wy. T., in the case of the death of Mrs. Theresa Gneck.

To add realistic effect to "Uncle Tom's Cabin," at Logansport, Ind., a live bloodhound was introduced, and the brute heightened the realism by breaking his chain and biting an actress seriously.

A Norwich, Conn., naturalist, has one of the largest butterflies known to entomologists. It measures nine and a half inches across the wings, and is five inches in breadth.

The 25 Aristook, Me., starch factories have closed up their fall business, having made nearly 10,000 tons of starch, or more than ever before in one year. Fully $500,000 has been paid to the farmers for potatoes.

The Prince of Wales' income will probably be diminished some $100,000 a year by the hard times, while they make no difference to his mother, whose $5,000 a day comes in quarterly in hard cash. This does not include large revenues from other sources.

The boring of the great aqueduct tunnel of the Baltimore permanent water supply, is just finished. The tunnel is perfectly straight, 36,500 feet long (a few feet less than seven miles), and is 12 feet in diameter. This is the third largest tunnel in the world, and took three years and eight months to build.

The populations of the chief cities of the United States in 1794 were: Philadelphia, 42,520; New York, 30,000; Charleston, 20,000; Boston, 18,000; Baltimore, 13,503; Newport, 6,000. At that time the entire population of the country was less than 4,000,000.

A large ferry-boat is about to be built for crossing the British Channel. The dimensions are: length, 650 feet; width 150 feet; draft of water, 8 feet. This boat will contain a whole railway station of 180 tracks, and will be propelled by a number of paddles and screws, and will form a connection with the railroads running from the coasts to London and Paris.

A Statistician (batchlor of course,) insists that courtships average three tons of coals each, and we would add, scores of bad coughs and colds; but then every prudent gallant is provided with a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. Price, 25 cents.

If other remedies have failed, try Piso's Cure for Consumption for your cough.

Buy of your druggists Reed's Gilt Edge Tonic. Do not let him palm off any of the numerous nostrums of the day.

The man who lets his wife or child suffer, from coughs or colds without getting "Sellers' Cough Syrup" is lost to common reason.

WOULD AN IRREDEEMABLE CURRENCY be as good as gold? While there is a very large class of intelligent citizens who believe it would, we regard it our duty to all alike to say that as a cure for old sores, cuts, bruises, jams and slashes, there is nothing like Carbolic Salve. Beware of counterfeits.

Consumption Cured.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure for Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and