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Daniel Ripley Wing

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The Eastern Mail.

WATERVILLE, JULY 28, 1853.

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C. C. WHEELER, Chairman. J. B. TOZER, W. Waterville. JAMES DOW, Benton. E. S. PAGE, Kendall's Mills. D. H. BILLINGS, Clinton. E. FORSTER, N. Vassalboro'. R. AYER, Winslow.

TRAVELING AGENTS.

REV. HOBART RICHMOND. A. T. BOWMAN.

Special Notice to Delinquents.

Subscribers who are much in arrears will receive public notice to quit, unless they pay up immediately. We are determined to shorten our term of credit and drop all who do not pay promptly. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

The Question.

The State Temperance Convention, held at Portland on the 6th and 7th inst. instructed the State Central Committee to "interrogate the several candidates for governor, in regard to their opinions and position in relation to the Maine Law." They have done so, and two of the candidates have replied, as below. The Watchman says that no reply has yet come from Mr. Pillsbury, and as some of the papers which support him have advised him to remain silent on the subject involved, probably he decides to do so.

BELFAST, July 14, 1853.

GENTLEMEN:—I am in receipt of your note of the 12th inst., propounding the following interrogatories:

"1. Ought the 'Maine Liquor Law,' in your judgment, to be repealed? 2. If not, should the law be modified in any respects, and if so, what provisions should be changed, and in what respects?"

Believing that the object of the law referred to is of the highest importance to the moral, social and political welfare of the people, and that its provisions are adequate to the accomplishment of that object, I ought not, in my judgment, to be repealed. I have no modifications to propose or recommend, and am not aware of any which should be made.

In my reply to a similar communication from a committee of the State Temperance convention held prior to the last gubernatorial canvass, I expressed my approbation of the leading and material provisions of the law as it then was. The additional Act passed at the last session of the Legislature divested it of those features which were regarded objectionable as being in conflict with the constitution. After so recent and thorough a revision, it is in my judgment, the wiser course to legislate no further on the subject until the law in its present form shall have had a fair trial and time and experience made apparent whatever of imperfection, if any, there may be in its provisions.

Very respectfully yours,

WM. G. CROSBY.

Messrs. B. D. Peck and others, Committee.

WINTHROP, July 14, 1853.

MESSRS. B. D. PECK and others, of Committee, &c.—GENTLEMEN: Your note of the 12th inst. was received last evening. In obedience to a vote of the late Temperance Convention you interrogate me "in regard to my opinions and position in relation to the Maine Law."

You will undoubtedly recollect that I was, a year ago, requested by the State Central Temperance Committee, to give my "views" on the then existing "Maine Law," and that I gave them in somewhat extended detail. When I assure you, gentlemen, that the observations and experience of another year in regard to this subject, have confirmed me still more strongly in the belief, not only of the utility, but the necessity of such a law, I trust you will excuse me from reiterating the ideas then expressed.

You ask me, "1st, Ought the Maine Law, in your judgment, to be repealed? 2d, If not, should the law be modified in any respects?" and if so, request me to "state to you what provisions should be changed, and in what respects?"

In answer to your first query, permit me to say, that in my judgment, the Legislature of Maine could not do a deed more fatal to her moral interests—more disastrous to her growing prosperity—and, by consequence, more derogatory to her honor, her reputation, than to repeal the act commonly called the "Maine Law."

My answer to your second query must be somewhat more general. The law in question has its defects. Several modifications might be suggested that would strengthen its prohibitory character and increase its stringency—such, for instance, as repealing or striking out the clause in the 7th section relating to the sale of beer—also, adding section, authorizing detention of persons found intoxicated until they disclose where they obtained the liquor that made them drunk, forbidding the collection of rent by landlords, who, knowingly, allow their tenements to be used for "liquor shops," &c.

I, however, would not advise any change in the law at present. I believe it to be a prudent course to let time and use test, by practical action, the power and extent of the merits and demerits, the strong points and weak points of all our new laws, before we begin to modify and change them; and I see no good reason why this particular statute should be an exception to such a rule.

With sentiments of cordial regard, I remain, gentlemen,

Your Obedt Servt,

E. HOLMES.

THOMASTON ACADEMY.—By a catalogue of this institution, just issued from this office, we learn that it is in a flourishing state—the number of pupils during the academical year which has just closed, being 389. The following is the board of instruction:—Henry Paine, A. M. (formerly Principal of Waterville Academy) and Wm. H. Hobbie, A. M., Principals; Miss Anna B. Randall, Teacher of Music and French; Miss Eveline M. Paine, Assistant in the Primary department.

NEW POTATOES.—Mr. Frederick Paine of Winslow, has been supplying this market with choice new potatoes for near a fortnight past. They are of good size, and excellent flavor;

and, like all the rarities from Mr. Paine's fields, are sold at moderate prices.

Theatrical.

Mr. J. P. Addams has engaged Appleton Hall for a series of entertainments during Commencement week. His last engagement was at St. Johns, N. B. where his troupe were highly complimented, and a Benefit to Mrs. Addams drew a crammed house.

MR. PRINTER—

When I write that letter to Cousin Jacob I hadn't no idea of making a fuss or hurting nobody's feelings; and if some meddling critter hadn't sent it to you to print there wouldn't be no trouble. Now there's no telling where 'twill end. Somebody has writ a long piece about it, that sounds like a whole pile of dictionaries. When I begun to read it, I thought 'twas a declaration of independence, or some such great thing; and may be I should think so now if I could understand it. But when he says I ain't nobody, and calls me a disagreeable quadruped, and tells about hunting me down, I reckon he's a little mistaken. He will always find me to home without hunting much, and whether I'm a lady or not needn't be no excuse for his letting me alone, that I can tell him! If he wants a flea in his ear, let him call. When I know I'm right I shan't be scared by a few big words, if I can't spell so well as some folks.

As for my drawing a blank, isn't no such thing—unless the piece I've drawn out of him is a blank; and I reckon it comes about as near it as anything. He thinks the gist of the matter lays in a nut-shell, and I guess so too, for I can't find none of it in his piece. May be if I give him a crack he will get the gist of it; so that while his religion don't teach him to sneer at his friends, as he says, it won't teach him to get so mighty mad neither.

Now, Mr. Printer, for that fellow to go there, among good respectable folks, and act as he do—he did, and then make his brags that he meant to be as ridiculous as possible, its a downright shame. And then to say I ain't no lady! I wonder what tis that makes him a gentleman? I thought good behavior had something to do with it. I should like to know where he was, to see so much ruder and upstart as he tells of?—and torn dresses, and broken china, and mixing up of ice-creams and coffee and lemonade? There wasn't no such thing there, and he ought not to put it in print. Everybody said we had a first rate time if it hadn't been for the grab game, and the gambler's cake, and the ointment box. I can't say but somebody that wanted something soft to stand on might took his hat for a foot-stool, as he says; but they must thought his head was in it, I guess. But if I ain't no lady, I reckon his fling at them two old maids makes it a little doubtful about somebody's being quite so much of a gentleman as he thinks he is. I shouldn't wonder if some motherly old lady did shove him towards the milk-pail; and may be that's what set him to bleating about our teaparty, in such a "milky-way."

But, Mr. Printer, I didn't intend to say much more about it, only to let him know that I ain't gone away out of town. I want you to tell him to hold his tongue about the teaparty, as I haven't time to attend to him; and, to my idea, he is a kind of ragged dicky, that won't pay for the starch necessary to make him stand up.

So no more at present,

COUSIN SALLY.

P. S.—When I write to Jake agin I guess he'll know it.

MR. EDITOR—

Will you give information that can be relied on as to the subjects embraced in the following questions:

Has there been any contract for the lease of the A. & St. L. Railroad to any responsible corporation or company, at a rate of six per cent. per annum on the whole cost of the road, actually made and entered into; and have the writings necessary to make such contract obligatory upon the respective parties been duly executed and delivered by them? If so, who are the lessees, and what evidence is there of their responsibility, in the event that the net earnings of the road shall not be sufficient to pay the stipulated rent?

Is the lease of said road, as reported in the newspapers recently, a bona fide and substantial transaction, or only a stock jobbing pretence or humbug, resorted to for the purpose of raising the stock and insured scrip of that Corporation to par, for the benefit of brokers and speculators and to the eventual loss and perhaps ruin of uninformed purchasers?

Did not the report of the Directors of the A. & K. Railroad Company, at their last annual meeting, show a regular increase in the earnings of the road, from the opening of the same? and that the net earnings of the last year were more than sufficient to pay six per cent. per annum, on all the indebtedness of the Corporation, including bonds issued on time and the floating debt? If so, what reason is there for putting the bonds or stock of this Corporation on which is a guaranty of six per cent. per annum, payable semi-annually, fully sustained by the reported net earnings of the road, in to the market at a discount of fifteen per cent. or more, when in the same market the mortgage security of a pretended lease to nobody knows who—of the A. & St. L. Railroad at a supposed rate of six per cent, at once raises the stock and insured bonds of this Corporation to and above par?

A CHANGE.—Our friend J. C. Bartlett, after a successful jaunt in California, is at his old business again—having bought of Pray and Goodwin, Main-st., their stock of Clothing and Furnishing Goods. Doubtless he would like to greet his old friends, who, in turn, will find it to their profit to greet him.

Recent showers and sprinklings have revived the hopes of the farmers, and given a brightening of green to corn and potatoes.

(For the Eastern Mail.)

Spirit Manifestations and the "Jerks."

It has been said that every dog has his day. Such a day has the "spirit" and "tipped tables." They have "rapp'd" and "tipped tables," pulled hair, and told lies, and been detected, and evidently shown themselves as rather bad spirits. The purity of their performances is enough to stamp them as unworthy of candid consideration. A man must have a high estimate of the dignity of his own "spirit" who could suppose it capable, in a disembodied state, of engaging in such childish manifestations of itself, even were it possible. But a certain class of minds must be deluded; nor are men of much learning free from self-deception. Prof. A., and Rev. Dr. B., and Dr. C., attended the spiritual performances and could not see through them, hence the masses exclaimed that it was well begotten wonder. But any juggler can perform feats that Prof. Z. cannot explain, and yet they shall be mere tricks. Still we are told that there may be something in it. But what is gained for science or the domain of common sense by this intimation? It is an easy way of disposing of matters that appear to be beyond ordinary reach.

This northern humbug, a singular epidemic, is succeeded by another not less remarkable—the "jerks" now drive the goose-quill, and instead of giving circular responses from the dead who yet dwell in flesh, execute autographs and give responses in accordance with the wishes of the operator. The spirit writers, who are numerous and fast increasing, profess to be able to communicate with the spirits of the departed and even with God, Himself! and multitudes are duped by this monstrous imposition. Under the influence of a species of hysteria their hands execute movements which their wills seem hardly to dictate, and words which are in their minds are written apparently without a voluntary effort; the thing seems to them miraculous! they are confounded! reason and common sense are surrendered.

We have many analogies for the phenomena, one is furnished us in the singular epidemic called the "Jerks," which accompanied the intense religious excitement that prevailed in Kentucky and Tennessee about the beginning of the present century; and as that vagary seems to throw much light upon the main under consideration of this strange perversion of the nervous system. The first occurrence of the "Jerks" was at a sacramental meeting in East Tennessee, "when several hundreds of both sexes were seized with strange and involuntary convulsions." From the universal testimony of those who have described these spasms they appear to have been wholly involuntary. "Thus they have been represented by McNemar in the passage just cited. This remark is applicable also to all their bodily exercises; what demonstrates satisfactorily their involuntary nature is, not only that as above stated, the twitches prevailed in spite of resistance, and even the more for attempts to suppress them; but that wicked men would be seized with them while sedulously guarding against an attack, and during every jerk when seized. Travellers on their journey and laborers at their daily work were liable to them."

Instances have been given of men concealing whips on their persons with the intention of using them upon the subjects or advocates of these convulsions, who have themselves, to their great surprise and horror, been suddenly seized in a similar manner, and their whips have been violently jerked out of their hands to a distance. "A young man, the son of an elder, feigned sickness one Sabbath morning to avoid accompanying the family to a camp-meeting. He was left alone in bed with none others in the house but a few black children; he lay some time triumphing in the success of his stratagem, but afraid to rise too soon lest some one might be accidental lying and detect him. As he lay quiet with his head covered his thoughts were naturally directed to the camp-meeting, and fancy painted the assembled multitude, the public worship, and individuals falling into the usual spasmodic convulsions. All at once he found himself violently jerked out of bed and dashed round the room and against the walls in a manner altogether beyond his control. Recollecting that praying was said to be a good sedative on such occasions, he resorted to the experiment, and to his great satisfaction found it successful. He returned to bed quite relieved, but only to be again affected in the same way and to be again quiet by the act of praying; he then dressed himself, and to occupy his mind, went to the tanyard, and drawing a skin from the vat prepared to unhair it. He rolled up his sleeves and grasping the knife, was about to commence the operation when, instantaneously the knife was flung out of his hand and he himself jerked backward over logs and against the fences as before. Gaining relief by resorting to the former remedy he ventured to assume his occupation, and again was interrupted. But finding his tailman losing its efficacy he began now to be really alarmed, and quitting the yard, he returned to his chamber, and betook himself to prayer in good earnest. In this condition he was found by the family on their return."

There appears to be a striking analogy between the condition of the nervous system which leads to these writings and that which existed in the persons who were afflicted with the jerks, and some further facts will render this still more apparent. Thus, while this singular affection was not confined to any class or sex, but men and women, black and white, were its subjects, it was observed that women were more apt to fall into it than men; and it was also remarked that those who had once been seized were particularly liable to a second attack, and jerking or swooning readily became a habit. Many instances of this acquired habit of the nervous system are recorded by the writers of that period. Thus, Dr. Cleland, a pious clergyman, relates that a female of his acquaintance who had some time previously been affected with the jerks, it occurred to him to try whether they might not be renewed simply by starting a particular train of ideas in her mind. The conversation just before had been of an indifferent character; he changed it abruptly to devout subjects, and after he had for two minutes had elapsed her body began to be violently agitated. There were those who struggled long and earnestly against the disposition to fall but were forced to yield at last. One fell, after bitterly opposing what was esteemed a "divine work," and another exclaimed that it was "an unfortunate result of a great mortification." "One dropped as if shot, just after expressing his fears that the work was not right!" A father threatened his swooning daughters that the "world bent them if they came to such a place again; and fell with the words in his mouth. A man fell at Lexington who had told an acquaintance if he fell he might put his foot on his neck and keep him down."

Not only were these involuntary motions the result of sympathy, but in many of the subjects there were also the unconsciousness and insensibility presented by the mesmerist state: while some in this state were both conscious and capable of conversing, others were speechless. The energetic stimulants made no impression upon the sensitive nerves. A phial of hartshorn was applied by a clergyman to the nose of a stout young man who was lying flat on his back, and by accident some got into his nostrils, but he took not the slightest notice of it. On one occasion Lorenzo Dow, while preaching in the court-house at Knoxville, Tenn., the governor of the State being present, saw one hundred and fifty persons exercised by the jerks. At another meeting three thousand persons were reported to have fallen. The influence by which these strange manifestations were induced was held by the multitude to be supernatural. It was esteemed a divine work, which it was hazardous and sinful to oppose. The subjects were in an ecstatic state and had visions and revelations. "Two women have fallen into trances and one has passed a golden bridge to heaven; the other has been in heaven."

No doubt there were sensible and discreet men, probably physicians and authors, who believed that these people were in communication with the spiritual world. No one believes so now! and yet the spiritual writers, may be added to bring out anything more marvelous than the phenomena afforded by the jerks. These things that are not fraud and deception, belong to the same category and have their origin in a peculiar, excited state of the brain. It is a state easily induced in some individuals, while others are capable of resisting it. The subjects of mesmerism are found to be apt spiritual writers, as the believers in clairvoyance are those who yield the readiest obedience to its being the work of spirits. But were I able I would not deem it worth while to write against the thing. It will have its day. The people will be carried away with visions who will lose their

senses, and commit crimes or get into mad-houses and then after a time

"all this derision will seem a dream, and fruitless vision." Waterville, July 21, '53. MEDICUS.

Among the late consular appointments we notice that of F. B. Wells, Esq., of New York, formerly of Waterville, to Elsinour, a Danish port.

Of the merit of the following invention mill-men and machinists are the best judges. The author of it, an ingenious mechanic, is a native of Waterville.

SAWS WITHOUT A SAW SASH.—An improvement in the mode of hanging saws without a saw sash, and by which any amount of strain may be given them, has been constructed and the requisite steps taken to secure a patent. This improvement is the invention of Charles Burleigh, of Fitchburg, Mass. The manner in which he accomplishes this object is by attaching to the upper saw head two straps or chains, passing over straining and stationary pulleys attached to the upper part of the bed frame. These straps or chains also pass under stationary pulleys beneath the saw, and are attached to the lower saw head or block. Levers may be substituted for the pulleys, and the cords or chains attached to the top of the upper, and bottom of the lower saw head, and to the ends of the levers; by this arrangement of the inventor the saw may be perfectly strained, and the weight and friction attending the working of the ordinary saw sash or frame avoided. [Scientific American.]

THE CATASTROPHE AT NIAGARA FALLS.—The appalling catastrophe at Niagara Falls, by which two men were swept over the Falls, and the third died a thousand deaths during the thirty or forty hours that he clung to a log of wood, on the brink of the precipice, has, as it well might, produced a deep effect upon the community. What the thoughts or feelings of the doomed man were, as he faced an inexorable fate, cannot be known. The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser gives the following particulars of the last sad scene:

"Up to six o'clock last evening, the public were kept in a state of excitement by despatches received at intervals from the Falls, bringing information of the situation of poor Avery, each report fluctuating between hope and fear,—now expressing confidence in his eventual safety, and now almost despairing of his rescue. A large number of persons left this city for the scene of excitement by the trains, and swelled the thousands already gathered around the spot. We have been furnished with an account of the proceedings since one o'clock yesterday, by an eye witness.

Our informant tells us that the man was in a part of the rapids where the rocks rise nearly to the surface of the water. A log of wood apparently wedged tightly between the rocks, and crossed by another, still higher out of the water, was his resting place. Here he remained, half clinging to and half perching upon the log, from which he would occasionally slip down and walk a little on the rocks, which were only a short distance under water. A few feet in advance was a small fall of about four or five feet, and here and on each side of the fall, the waters rushed wildly on at a speed of about forty miles an hour. Since our report yesterday was made up, about 2-1/2 o'clock in the afternoon, a raft was constructed formed of crossed timbers, strongly fastened in a square form, a headboard being placed in the center. The raft was strongly secured with ropes on each side, and was floated down to the rocks upon which Avery was stationed. As it approached the spot where he stood, the rope got fast in the rocks, and the raft became immovable. Avery then appeared to muster courage and descending from the log, walked over the rocks to the place where the rope had caught, and labored long and hard to disengage it from the rocks. After some time he succeeded, and then with renewed energy, inspired by the hope of rescue, he pulled manfully at the rope until he succeeded in bringing the raft from the current towards his fearful resting place.

Avery now got on to the raft, making himself fast thereto by means of ropes which had been placed there for that purpose, and those on the land commenced drawing it towards the shore. One had approached within thirty feet of the small islands, towards which its course was directed, when suddenly it became stationary in the midst of the rapids, the ropes having again caught in the rocks. All endeavors to remove it were found to be in vain, and much fear was entertained that the strain upon the ropes might break them and occasion the poor fellow's loss. Various suggestions were now volunteered, and several attempts were made to reach him. One man went out in a boat as far as he dared to venture, and asked him if he would fasten a rope round his body and trust to being drawn in by that. The poor fellow, however, shook his head dependently, as though he felt that he had not strength enough remaining to make himself secure to a rope.

At length a boat was got ready—a life boat which had arrived from Buffalo—and was launched. Seeing the preparations, Avery unloosed his fastenings, with the intention of being ready to spring into the boat. Borne on by the rushing waters, and amid the breathless suspense of the spectators, the boat approached the raft. A thrill ran through the crowd as the boat lifted in the angry waves—it struck the raft—a shout of joy rang forth from the shores, for it was believed that he was saved; when suddenly the hope that he had been rescued was again destroyed—a moment's confusion followed the collision, and in the next the victim was seen in the midst of the waters, separated from his frail support and struggling for life. For a minute or two the poor fellow striking out boldly swam strongly towards the island, and the cry echoed from shore to shore that he would yet be saved. But soon the fact became certain that he receded from the shore—his strength was evidently failing.

Gradually he was borne back into the fiercest part of the current—slowly at first, and then more rapidly. Swiftly and more swiftly he approached the brink of the fatal precipice—the waters had him at last, their undisputed victim, and madly they whirled him on to death, as though enraged at his persevering efforts to escape their fury. A sickening feeling came over the spectators when, just on the brink of the precipice, the doomed man sprung up from the waters—clear from their surface, raising himself upright as a statue, with his arms flung wildly aloft, and with a piercing shriek that rang loudly above the mocking roar of the cataract, fell back again into the foaming waves, and was hurled over the brow of the fatal precipice!

We have no heart for comment upon the melancholy and awful event. The fate of poor Avery will add another to the many fearful local incidents already related by the guides at the Falls, and for years his critical situation, his hard struggles, his fearful death, will be the theme of many a harrowing tale. And visitors

to the mighty cataract will seek the scene of the terrible catastrophe with a shuddering curiosity, and the timid and imaginative will fancy, in the dusk of the evening, that they still hear above the water's roar, the fearful shriek that preceded the fatal plunge."

The Papists in Montreal.

We are permitted, says the Presbyterian, to make the following extract from a letter from a Protestant gentleman, residing in Montreal, Lower Canada, to a friend in Philadelphia. It presents a true picture of the state of society in that city, and foreshadows the condition to which any of our cities will be reduced should the Popish element gain the ascendancy. The great argument of Papists is brute force, and they rejoice in the opportunity of employing it. Let our politicians who court Roman Catholic votes, and let our Protestant population generally ponder it; there is danger and all should be prepared for it before it is fully matured.

"With regard to the Gavazzi riot of the 9th inst., you must not suppose that it was caused by us English. We have the Roman plague-spot of Ireland largely developed here. Roman Catholicism overshadows the whole of Lower Canada. The Irish Papists establish themselves here; and they display themselves here whenever an opportunity presents itself, in the genuine Tipperary style. Upon any occasion a riot can be got up, with the aid of these fellows. An aggravation of the evil is that they are strong enough in the cities to control the elections, and hence the authorities, belonging to their party, wink at their enormities. They have hitherto enjoyed immunity, however outrageous their conduct. The Government controls them, and the municipal authorities are controlled by them. They know their power. Their church is dominant here, as three-fourths of the population are Romanists. So you may readily understand the risk Gavazzi encountered. I do not believe he could have lectured here at all, had there not been a strong military force disposable to maintain order. It is a most shocking state of things certainly, but you must not reproach us with our misfortune, as if they were misdeeds. We cannot help ourselves. Were it not for the presence of part of the army, I think the Protestant part of the population would be forced to emigrate, or have a civil war. The priests could prevent it if they chose, but that forms no part of their tactics. The Protestants will have to organize for self protection, just as they had to do in Ireland. If your population were three-fourths Roman Catholic, I dare say you will find difficulty in believing that people in this country are deterred from expressing themselves as they feel, from fear of assassination; yet I do assure you that such is the fact with great numbers. To give testimony to convict a Roman Catholic renders one a marked man, and certain localities are dangerous to him ever afterwards. The two Gavazzi riots are proof of the audacity of the Papist Irish, and I am positive his reappearance will be marked by even greater disturbances than have occurred. The wretches are conscious of their ascendancy politically, ecclesiastically, and numerically, and they delight in making the superior minority feel their domination."

Obituary.

The Maine Liquor Law, was adopted by a popular vote in Michigan, on the 20th. Whereupon the Detroit Tribune publishes the following:

DIED.—On the 20th inst., Pure C. Brandy, Esq., of dropsy. This event is not altogether unexpected, as the departed had been afflicted with the disease which caused his death for a long time. Of late the quantity of water accumulating in his system was immense, and he had been tapped by his physicians several times, but without effect. He had a large number of doctors, and some are mean enough to say that that hastened his decease. His loss will be sensibly felt by his many friends who were accustomed to see him daily in our streets.

Also, on the same day, R. G. Brandy, Esq., familiarly known by the soubriquet of 'Rot G', and brother of P. C. whose death we chronicle above. He took a large quantity of poison (by mistake, it is supposed) several years ago. No bad effects were realized at first but for a few years past it has been spreading thro' his system, and has finally caused his death. It is to be hoped that his death will be a warning to those who have been in the habit of taking poison for a medicine.

Also, on the same day, H. Gin, Esq., The deceased was a member of the Brandy family, and a relative by marriage. He was a native of Holland, and fled to the United States several years ago, in consequence of having been actively engaged in one of the revolutions that characterized that country. He was pursued by the police, but secreted himself in a cask and landed safely in New York. Since then many of his family have made their escape in the same manner. He left a large family of children, most of whom were born in this country, but we are sorry to say, are not characterized by any of the traits of their distinguished father.

Also, on the same day, Rye Whiskey, Esq., Mr. W. was one of the first settlers of Michigan. In early life he was an industrious, hard-working man. He has done much to build up our railroads and public works, and could always be found in the harvest fields early and late. Some few of our farmers thought they could not harvest their wheat unless Mr. W. was with them to cheer up their hands. How they manage since his death we are unable to say. It may lead to disastrous results, and it is feared by some that our farmers may cease to grow wheat, which would inevitably raise the price of flour.

Of late years, however, Mr. W. had grown shiftless, noisy and quarrelsome, and any neighborhood that he visited was sure to be the scene of disturbance of every nature. The too frequent occurrence of street fights got up by Mr. W. was the ultimate cause of his death. He was killed by a blow on the head with a ballot box, in open daylight. The perpetrators of the deed are not fully known, but suspicion rests upon two men whose names, we believe, are Mr. Law, and Mr. Order. Several men from the Free Press office are on the watch, and ere this no doubt they have apprehended them.

It is seldom that we have to announce the death of an entire family, thus swept away at one fell swoop. They were all men well known in our State, and have acted in many public capacities, some one of them has been a member of every Legislature since our organization as a State. In primary meetings and caucuses, they have succeeded in nominating their own friends to office, and afterwards in electing them. There is hardly an officer in the State but what owes to them his election. At the request of the friends of the deceased, their remains will not be interred till December next. Those who wish to take a last fond look at him can do so at most of the groceries and saloons in town.

THE EFFECTS OF WAR IN EUROPE.—The following "speculations" of the London Times

upon the consequences of a war, if a collision should ensue, are not uninteresting:

"Russia would consult her interests as little as her honor by pressing onwards in the face of a people as military and as fanatic as herself, and in the face of the public opinion of Europe. Russia cannot, indeed, be 'crumpled up,' by an angry threat or an idle brag; but, on the other hand, she can do but little beyond her own soil, except in co-operation with other Powers.

We are not unaware that some rather arduous speculations have been permitted to attach themselves to this sufficiently disagreeable subject. Should things come to that pass that England and France, having backed up Turkey so far, were bound to prove their honor by arms; in a word, should there be a general war between Russia and we know not what Powers on one side, and England, France, Turkey, and we know not what Powers on the other side, then, it is confidently anticipated that Poland and Hungary, true to their nature and traditions, would throw themselves into the melee, and England would find herself in alliance offensive and defensive with the Turk, Louis Napoleon, and—must we add?—Louis Kossuth, against our old allies, the Absolutist Powers.

All this is intelligible, and by no means improbable, if we once rushed into war with that love for the sport which seems to animate some bosoms. The whole sequence of events is plain, even plainer than one is likely to read in the perplexed and sophisticated page of history. We should have to pay enormous and repeated subsidies to the Turk, the Magyar, and the Pole. A British war steamer—the Styx, the Cerberus, or the Pluto—would take the Hungarian Governor, fresh from a visit to Windsor Castle, to some port or other, if there is one, within a thousand miles of his country. Whether a party of marines would escort him into the interior, or whether the Magyar Chief would make the attempt with that force, we will not venture to anticipate. Doubtless, with such materials to work upon, and with the British Treasury and Mr. Gladstone's financial hobgoblin to assist, the work would be hot and the example very catching. Italy would once more form the carcass that the Russian, the Austrian, and the French Eagle contend for, with the British Lion to stand by. Happily for the cause of humanity there are nations that would keep out of the scrape and derive no small advantage from it—e.g., the United States. But there is not a State of the Old World that would not answer for in the neighborhood of such a conflagration as would then be raised. If the war be necessary for safety or for honor, we do not shrink from the awful prospect. Why else our vast standing armaments? But if our interest is so doubtful, that posterity, especially a suffering posterity, might deny it altogether, we do recoil from these terrible consequences, and ask from our own countrymen some of that calm consideration which we have been preaching to others."

Small vs. Large Horses.

The following on the comparative value of large and small horses, is from the New England Farmer:

"The arguments may be in favor of great size, but the facts are all the other way. Large horses are more liable to stumble, and to be lame, than those of middle size. They are clumsy, and cannot fill themselves so quick.

Overgrown animals, of all descriptions, are less useful in most kinds of business, and less hardy than those of a smaller size. If theory is to be resorted to in order to determine such questions, we suggest to the lovers of overgrown animals, the following: 'The largest of any class is an unnatural growth. They have risen above the usual mark, and it costs more to keep them in that position, than it would were they more on a level with their species. "Follow nature," is a rule not to be forgotten by farmers. Large cows are not the best for business. Large oxen are not the best for milk. Large oxen are not the best for traveling. Large hogs are not the best that fatten best; and large hens are not the best to lay eggs."

Extremes are to be avoided. We want well formed animals, rather than such as have heavy, large bones. Odd as it may seem to the theorist, short-legged animals invariably prove to be better travellers than any. Short-legged soldiers are better on a march, and officers say they endure hardships longer than those of longer limbs.

On choosing a horse, take care by all means that his hind legs are short. If they are long, and split apart like a pair of dividers, never inquire the price of the horse—dealer, run for your life, and make no offer till you be taken up. All horses that are not built on a good plan, are sure to be a disappointment to their owners.

Horses that are snug built are not always fast travellers. It is no easy matter to select a horse that is perfect in all points. Snug and tough horses are not fast on the road. The fastest trotters are not always made for very hard service. Some ten years ago there resided in this State, a gentleman, his wife and two interesting daughters, who were as much respected as any family in it. Blessed with a competency of earthly goods, and surrounded by hosts of friends, their happiness seemed as near perfect as human beings could expect to enjoy. Six years since, this family left here for the South, where the husband and father took to drink, and in a few years after became a bankrupt and a sot. Next, the wife and mother became a drunkard, and now we understand the two girls are inmates of a low brothel in a city on the Mississippi river. What a commentary on the free use of ardent spirits! In six years a whole family of respectable people reduced from affluence to the deepest depths of degradation. And yet how many cases of a similar nature are to be met with every day. [Richmond Mail.]

A LITTLE INCIDENT.—A bachelor friend of ours was riding a day or two ago thro' Athol, in this State, when he overtook a little girl and boy apparently on their way to school. The little girl appeared to be five or six years old, and was as beautiful as a fairy. Her eyes were lit up with a

