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OUR SONS.

Probably in every age, since the time of poor Adam and Eve's trouble with their willson, the world has been supposed to be near its end on account of the naughtiness of boys. We confess, that for ourselves, in moments of wrath at the impish perversity, or of sorrow at the precocious wickedness of noted specimens of American boyhood, we have sometimes been tempted to that supposition, and certainly we could not much wonder if Young America furnished more food for the Prophet's avenging bears than Young Israel supplied. Yet the world has continued to be, and generation after generation has risen from petticoats to jackets and trousers, and from jackets and trousers to coats and pantaloons, without any utter extinction of the line of masculine succession. The succession will probably be kept up in this hemisphere, and here, as of old, the folly of youth will in due time be subdued by the wisdom of age. All the more earnestly, because of our good hope for the ultimate welfare of our country, we are disposed to look carefully and seriously at the tendencies of our sons, desirous, at once of discovering their peculiar temptations and advantages. Some time ago we wrote upon the welfare of our daughters, not without response from many parents and friends, and this present article aims at the same practical purpose in the education of the family.

Our daughters are constitutionally more marked by sensibility and our sons are more marked by willfulness. The consequence is that we are more anxious what will happen to our daughters, and what will happen from our sons—the daughter's sensitiveness exposing her to receive harm, and the son's willfulness exposing him to do harm. We are not wise to quarrel with Nature; and we must expect that boys will be more noisy and mischievous than girls; nay, we may count it a good sign of a lad's force of character if there is a good share of aggressive, fun-loving pluck in his composition. Well managed, his animal spirits will give him all the more manly loyalty, and, when true to the right cause, he will be all the more true because so much living sap has gone up into the fruit of his obedience. Yet what is more and than force or will perverted to base use, and the strength of manhood sunk into the service of base lusts or foolish passions?—What is more sad than the sight presented every day in our streets—the scores of precocious maudlin with the worst vices of men written over features almost infantile in form—boys who are hardly old enough to be beyond their mothers' watch, now swaggering with all the airs of experienced blood, and polluting the air of God's heaven with the vocabulary of hell? Where such monstrous excesses are not found, how frequent is the utter repudiation of the proper reverence to age and authority! How many a stripling among us seems to think it the very first proof of manly spirit to break the Divine law which gives the home its blessedness and the state its security, and to be proud to show that he is above all such obsolete notions as giving honor to father or mother.

We shall be sorry to believe that American boys are worse than others; yet it is very clear that to us they are exposed to some temptations peculiar to themselves, and that the natural willfulness of boyhood is here much exaggerated by our social habits and institutions. The American boy partakes by nature, of course, of the temper of his English cousins, whose blood, in the main, he has in his veins; yet how different are the habits of the two parties! The English boy is encouraged—nay, compelled—to remain a boy; and his place at home, at school, at play, and at church, is such as to foster a proper spirit of boyhood. He is made constantly to feel that he is under discipline; and when apparently most free from constraint and let out to play upon the playground he is still bound by the laws of the game, and there is something in the rough sport that at once gives vent to his exuberant spirit and subdues his dogged individuality into something like loyal allegiance. The American boy on the other hand, is accustomed to hear all authority challenged, not only by reproachful outlaws but by radical theorists; and very often, before the training of the nursery is complete or the lessons of the school are half mastered, he is either in fancy or in fact put upon some form of money-getting that tempts him, if it does not force him, to be his own master. He is not encouraged to be a boy either in play or in earnest. At school every trait of morbid precocity is hailed too often as proof of genius, and the wholesome mirth of the playground is proscribed as childish and useless. The more manly sports have been in many quarters neglected for exciting books and shows, and in some cases the novel and the theatre have carried the day over the good old cricket and foot-ball. The restless will, that ought to be claimed and consolidated into manly force by brave exercise, is allowed to wear and fret itself into a petulant willfulness; and thus the natural delicacy of the American constitution is exaggerated by a perverse training. The normal check of nervous sensitiveness is muscular exercise, and by an hour's stout motion in the open air the nerves calm their fever, and the beautiful balance of life is restored. Our school-boys are too often strangers to this grand secret of nature, and many of those most overtasked with study try to balance the weariness of the desk by in-door excitements quite as exhausting. It would delight us to see a serious and determined movement sweep through the country in favor of the revival of the old-fashioned manly sports, and we anticipate more good from them than any efforts in behalf of balls and theatres, with their suffocating atmosphere, glaring lights, and wasting excitement. We have sometimes been led into very grave apprehensions for the moral purity as well as the physical health of our boys, on account of the neglect of the robust sports that at once occupy the time and vent the animal spirits. The moment the constitution becomes nervous and excitable—a morbid sensitiveness taking the place of a wholesome muscular activity—there is a fearful exposure to prurient excitements, and monstrous abuses are we fear, the frequent and fatal consequences. We are confident that early rising, cold water, and the brave old playground are quite as much needed as more faithful schools and churches, to better the future of our sons. For our part we like far better the natural rudeness of boyhood than an unnatural delicacy, and it offends us far less to see a youth a little rough in his manners, with a slight tendency to use his fists too freely, than to see him over sedentary, with a paleness and excitability that may indicate overstudy and may tempt morbid indulgences. The best cure for boyish rudeness is to give play to boyish strength, and the out-door cure, under heaven's own air and sunshine, is more likely to rid the exuberant plant of its rank juices than any foot-house training. Our schools and colleges are ruled too much upon the hot-bed principle, and the pale faces at the desks and recitation-rooms are, to a shrewd observer, signs of destroyers of health far less noble than the classic page or the midnight lamp. Few persons, we believe, study too much, but most scholars study unwisely; and with more of the right sort of play there would be more of the

right sort of work, and far less of the vices that haunt languid muscles and overwrought nerves.

This tendency among our youth is much exaggerated by their too frequent habits of diet, especially by the use of tobacco. Personally we abominate the use of that weed in any shape, and it seems to us the filthiest of all habits for men to stuff their mouths, and stain their teeth and swell their expectorations to the nausea of beholders with this yellow narcotic; and although a little of the aroma of a good cigar may not be offensive even to delicate nostrils, the whole atmosphere of a regular smoker is a nuisance, and his clothes are steeped in a fetid exhalation that, to sensitive olfactory, dismally announces his arrival before he enters the room. But for boy smokers and chubbers we have no vestige of patience or toleration; and the sight beyond all others most ridiculous, were it not so painful, is that of a little juvenile, hardly old enough to go out with his mother, puffing huge volumes of smoke from a monstrous cigar, and in his pale face and affected swagger, presenting in himself these two fearful and frequent traits of our America—the union of puny health with bragging insolence. We had a strong specimen of this union at an academic assembly in this city not long since, where the exercises were often rudely interrupted by a score or two of precocious striplings, who solaced themselves in the intervals of their stampered by stimulating their courage with plugs of tobacco, in the absence of other stimulus. The worthy President rebuked them; and a sound flogging would have been no more than their due.

The first crisis in the career of our sons is probably at school, where they must run the gauntlet between two ranks of tempters—the pattern good boys, who slave themselves, mind and body, to the reigning spirit of emulation; and on the other hand, the great company of idlers, whose trifling and mischief-making sometimes have a chivalrous fascination to young blood beyond the attractions of the more demure book-worms. He may consider himself a favored father whose son escapes the ordeal with health unbroken and principles intact and who bids adieu to his school-days with scholarship not purchased by feebleness of limb, and a good constitution, indebted for its robustness to better sport than robbing hen-roosts or giving bloody noses.

We need not enter into the private history of college life, or say what hosts of trials and temptations every collegian must conquer or subdue, for comparatively a small class of our youth enter college; and moreover, it is the lot of the great multitude of our sons who are in stores and counting rooms to be exposed to many of the same dangers as beset these students, so that it is best to say a word especially of those who are in training for business. The life of clerks and young salesmen in our cities is a curious and unwritten chapter of our American life, and few volumes would be more instructive than a catalogue of the hundred thousand youth in this city who are under some form of business training, and looking forward to a time of independence and competence. It would be sometimes repulsively interesting to know how much compensation these young men receive for their labor or attendance, and how money they spend yearly, and for what purpose. The account would vary from touching instances of self-sacrificing frugality to monstrous cases of prodigality, fraud, and dissipation. How poor boys live, and how rich boys live, it would be well for us to know—well for us also to see that poor boys, or so regarded, mysteriously spend sometimes more money than the sons of our merchant princes. It would be important to ascertain whether it is true that, as a general rule, the young men of our cities are very exacting in their expenses, and if the cost of keeping a dashing youth in dress, amusement, etc., would not be amply sufficient to maintain an old family in comfortable frugality. We have been told, on good authority, that our merchants object to taking the sons of their own associates in gentility into their counting-rooms on account of their self-indulgence and prodigality; and that something of the same preference for foreign service is appearing in merchandise which is already an established fact in our housekeeping. Some leading firms give the preference decidedly to English, French, or German assistants in their counting-house, and are weary of trying to teach dainty young gentlemen the importance of learning how to take care of themselves, as a more important accomplishment than to drive a fast horse or parade the newest fashions of a coat or hat. The whole field of dissipation here opens upon us, and grave questions arise as to the obvious disposition to provide pleasures beyond the domestic circle, especially to separate young men from their fitting feminine associates and gather them by themselves in clubs, where man only rules, or else drive them to dens of infamy, where woman is seen only in her degradation. The whole subject of club life, in its various forms, needs to be studied seriously, and we shall probably be startled at the vastness of the arrangements for keeping young men by themselves, too often to their disadvantage. Not only the establishments known as clubs, and some of which are wholly reputable, but many establishments not thus known and bearing very innocent names, would swell the list. The engine-houses sometimes far worse fires than those which their brave champions extinguish; and we have heard of little coteries of youth in cities and villages hiring rooms (each coterie for its own uses) in order to have free access to the games and liquors that parental rule and feminine delicacy do not allow under the household roof. The examination of such errors would bring new blessings upon the Mercantile Library, and other like associations, that band young men together for their good, and call them from their homes for a season, only to send them back better sons, brothers, and lovers. We are in advance of our subject, we are aware, in these remarks, since we have been dealing more with the schooling and apprenticeship of our sons than with their direct business career.

At school, however, and often long before the youth enters his teens, the second crisis of his career casts its ominous shadow before, and the American boy is called to think, perhaps to decide, upon the business that he shall pursue. Here is a great and fearful question, and one that, in some respects, is becoming more embarrassing in the changes of fortune and the revolutions in social ideas. The old idea was that a boy should, if there was no reason for the contrary course, follow his father's calling, and be a farmer, mechanic, merchant, lawyer, or what not, according to

the paternal precedent. But now the tendency is quite otherwise, and it is the general disposition of our young people to press upward (as they consider it) into the occupations that demand the least manual labor, and seem to offer the greatest prestige of what is called gentility. The consequence is, that farming and mechanic arts have lost much of their old attractiveness to the sons of farmers and mechanics, and the ranks of trade and the professions are overstocked with aspirants. The number of youth in our cities who are seeking some kind of employment that allows them a delicate hand, and to wear kid gloves and polished boots, is enormous, and furnishes a fearful number of recruits to the army of vice and crime. What the cause of this disinclination to the manual arts is, it is not always easy to say; and certainly, in the nature of things, there is far more demand for intellect, and far more exercise of manly power, in tilling the soil or building houses and ships than in selling silks or calicoes behind the counter. It would be a great gain if ten thousand clerks could at once go into the fields and work-shops, where they are wanted, and leave their places to ten thousand young women who have nothing to do but to make their poor fingers the hopeless rivals of the sewing-machine, and to anticipate the uncertain time when some young man, not yet able to pay for his own board and clothes, shall venture upon taking a wife less thrifty than himself. It is partly from false feminine notions of gentility that much of the rising aversion of manual labor springs, and much harm comes from the frequent preference of the dainty swain of the counter over the far abler worker at the plow or plane by sentimental maidens, who have studied out their ideas of the gentleman from trashy novels and not from the good old Bible and its noble standard of the gentle hero.

It would be very interesting and instructive if we could have a census of the boys who annually leave the public schools, with a full statement of their purposes for the future. It would be found, we think, far more illustrative of vain ambition than of republican industry and simplicity. It might appear that, with all our theoretic assertion of the dignity of labor, no where on earth are the sons of the laboring classes so desirous of escaping their father's as here, and nowhere are there so many aspirants for dainty gentility as here. Undoubtedly the changes that have lately taken place in the position of labor has had much to do with the tendency to overworked trade and the professions. Hosts of foreigners now through our work-shops, and underpaid natives in prices, and often scandalized them by prodigality. But the same inundation threatens many forms of trade. In many towns and cities the retail business is fast falling into the hands of foreigners, and the number of Irish and German grocers is becoming enormous, while many branches of dry-goods traffic are in the hands of Jews. We believe that any practical man who will compare the promise of trade now with its promise thirty or forty years ago, can give a picture as startling as true of the present trials of all young aspirants to fortune as compared with the trials of the old times. There is always, of course, an opening for sagacity and energy, but with the increase of facilities the difficulties of success have also increased; and the young American who starts in the race of fortune with the fond dream of a golden goal, finds himself between two sets of rivals, one of whom snatch after small prizes and the other after the high prizes. He finds the retail business crowded with a host of foreigners, who can live on next to nothing and undersell fair competitors; and on the other hand, the strong holds of wholesale traffic are held by mighty monopolists, who are as formidable from their marble or iron warehouses, to aspirants without friend or fortune, as the Malakoff, with its guns and soldiery, would be to a squad of assassins without guns or intrenchments to back them in their advance.

With the increase in the difficulties of doing a successful business there is no corresponding diminution in the demand of living—surely no corresponding increase in the social alleviations of ill success. Society is constantly becoming more exacting, and he is a bold man who dares to begin a moderate business with the habits of household simplicity that were thought fifty years ago not unworthy the family of a prosperous merchant and a distinguished lawyer. Here comes a potent element in the welfare of our sons—the present condition of household life, and the standard of expectation among those who are to be their wives, if any wives they are to have. It is a very serious question whom our sons are to marry, and it is a serious question to him even if he never marries at all; for, as our nature is constituted, a young man thinks much of pleasing his female friends, and his standard of manly conduct and independent position is largely decided by the reigning feminine code of expectation. Now there are certainly very grave difficulties in reconciling the average promise of moderate business with the average standard of household expenditure; and the question which Mr. Punch jocularly discusses, 'Can a man marry on three hundred pounds a year?' is with many of our young men far from a joking matter. Many families, indeed, do live on less than three hundred pounds a year in America, and many must live on three hundred dollars a year, if they live at all. But the cases of frugal living most frequently adduced among people of comfortable homes are from country life, where many articles that cost high in the city are regarded as costing no more than air or water, being treated almost as much like gifts of nature. Let a fair money price be set to the potatoes, corn, milk, eggs, fruit, pork, &c., consumed by the plain farmer, and his outlay thus estimated rises into figures somewhat formidable. But take the most moderate standard of city gentility as our guide, and Mr. Punch's three hundred pounds sink into insignificance. No man ought to pay more than one quarter of his income for rent; and what kind of a house will one quarter of fifteen hundred dollars procure in a city like ours? Nay, how hard it is to procure for three hundred dollars a house with what are called the modern conveniences! Then there is the matter of servants; and the most moderate standard of gentility in our towns insist upon having at least one servant, while our city habits prescribe from two to five or six servants, the standard number being three in well-to-do families. We are willing to astonish the more luxurious portion of our readers by confessing at once that we write more for the common lot than for the favored few, and that the boys for whose future we

are most solicitous are those who are in our public schools, and who represent the average condition of the American people. Of our millions of school-boys, thousands are destined to fame or fortune; but such is not the general lot, and not only the largest but the most important class cannot be expected to rise above the necessity of frugal living, while in the outset the greater proportion of the few who rise to wealth are obliged to practice great frugality. We may consider it, then, the almost universal condition of their sons that they ought to begin life in a very modest way, and if they marry as early as the best wisdom and morality dictate they must at once put down their foot against the prevalent social ostentation. The first years of married life do much to decide the whole future of the family; and if a man finds himself committed to a style of expenditure beyond his means, he is embarrassed and enfeebled, and dispirited at the very time when he ought to be gaining courage, health, and means for the sober years that are coming. Here, surely, is a most vital point in the welfare of our sons—the need of such an adjustment of our household habits as to bring a reasonably early marriage within the mark of moderate expenditure. The boarding-house, and the hotel are the two ready resorts in this need; but while their frugality to the purse is need; but while their waste of heart and more than doubtful, their waste of heart and mind is often wounded to the vitals by the consequent breaking down of domestic quietude, privacy, and industry. The true antidote must be found in simpler and more republican methods of housekeeping, that shall secure due comfort and refinement without wreck of health and competence. Nest homes for small families are the very first want in our towns and cities; and with their rise we need the growth, especially on the part of our young women, of more reasonable notions of social respectability. As society now is, our young women form their standard of expectation upon exceptional cases; and even if they do not expect to look like rich husbands, they are not content to look forward to the moderate income that most kinds of regular industry bring. A little plain figure of might, perhaps, be of great use to the thousands of taper-fingered, narrow-chested, cheek-checked girls who have selected their husbands from the pages of trashy novels, and resigned—at least in their dreams—their maiden liberty to some dashing Alphonse for a villa, a carriage, and all the attendant elegances. Perhaps those who are themselves penniless are sometimes most exacting of fortune, and least disposed to prolong the hard livelihood which they by experience know too well.

Plain figures from the tropes of romance, more suggestive than the average yield of industrious labor and enterprise would astonish many of our ambitious republican maidens, and their often more ambitious mammas, more than the trumpet of judgment, and it would be seen that the standard of dependence is generally passed upon exceptional luck, and not upon regular industry. Begin with the return of common labor, which gives the unit of common calculation should start. A hard-working man, not master of a regular trade, is highly favored, either in city or country, if he earns, on an average of working days, a dollar a day, three hundred dollars a year; while an accomplished mechanic, not master of a shop, is favored if he gains half a dollar a day more, or four hundred and fifty dollars a year, throughout all times and all weather. A capable clerk cannot expect during his first years of service much more; and probably an offer of five hundred dollars salary would bring at this time more candidates for a tolerable clerkship, demanding considerable gifts of address and penmanship, than the advertiser could examine in a week. The smaller kinds of retail business yield very scanty incomes—and these, too, are very precarious, especially in the dry-goods trade; so that while they tempt showy tastes they impose very close limitations of expense. The professions that require scholastic education offer a few pecuniary prizes, but present a very low average reward. A good teacher is highly favored who is sure of Mr. Punch's three hundred pounds a year, and in the country towns half that sum is often eagerly welcomed. Lawyers and doctors do not generally at first earn their bread and rent, and must turn to some collateral resources from parents or wives, or teaching or writing, to keep soul and body together. Our clergy in the country towns do not average more than six hundred dollars a year; and the few who, in cities, have salaries of four, five, or even six thousand dollars, are burdened by a rate of conventional expenditure that keeps them often without a dollar of surplus. Leaving out of account a very few lawyers, and still fewer physicians; the only class of men who can expect large incomes from their business are successful merchants, and it is to them that we may justly ascribe the origin of the prevalent standard of social ostentation. Our successful merchants are our millionaires, or else those who expend the income of millions of dollars without any corresponding capital. The latter, probably, have done more than any other class to corrupt our republican principles, and our most frequent and dangerous prodigality may be ascribed to the great number of merchants who are doing a large business mainly on credit, and who regulate their expenses upon the standard of their most lucrative years. They do not mean to be extravagant or dishonest—for we regard our merchants as generally quite honorable in their purposes—but they are too often under a fatal hallucination by mistaking the exception for the rule, and learning their sad error in the fatal years of revolution and shipwreck; the great majority of businesses can claim but very moderate gains in the average balances of a twenty years' operation; and he may be set down as a very fortunate man, in any business, who for twenty years supports his family modestly, educates his children well, pays his debts, and lays up a thousand dollars yearly. Such a moderate accumulation may, to many, seem contemptible, but there are thousands who have called it contemptible now if they could pay their debts and call a single thousand dollars their own.

The sober truth is that we are wrong in our whole standard of social expectation, and that we ought to open our eyes to the simple facts, and train our sons to adjust their methods by the rule and not by the exception. We are well aware that young blood does not relish restraint, and that it is far harder to stop a fast youth from running the wrong way than it is to push him forward in the right way. It

is precisely for this very reason that we hope for a better day for our young America, whether it walks in petticoats or pantaloons. We do not believe much in mere negations, and young people are not much bettered by being scolded and kept down. The way to improve them is to carry the warmth of the enemy's country, and enlist the warmth of young blood in the bold and aggressive affirmation of the true republican principles in their sober sense, honest frugality, stout industry, and manly independence. We hope to see the true Young America rising from our schools, homes, and churches, and supplanting the ludicrous caricatures that now so often pass for the real likeness. We hope to see hosts of young men among us who are more proud of frugal habits sustained by honest and intelligent labor, than of prodigality pampered by gambling, adventure, or enslaving debt. We hope to see hosts of young women who are more eager to be wives of worthy young fellows who can love and help on in the world by good economy and womanly affectionateness than to sell themselves to churlishness or decrepitude, and sacrifice heart and soul to luxury and pretension. The education that shall train such young men and young women will be quite startling to our regiments of street and parlor gentry who pride themselves on their elegance and uselessness; but it will be found in the end that the best refinement, as well as the best sense, is with the new movement, and true taste will rise as vulgar ostentation and laziness fall. We look anxiously for the coming of this better time—and its coming will inaugurate a new day for our sons, by giving them the true motive for their work and the true companionship for their household. Our America has many questions to settle, but none is more important than this: When shall our sons seek the true honor in the best usefulness, and when shall the power of woman help them in the seeking? We might choose many samples of American skill and enterprise to prove our progress in civilization, but the best proof must be the best specimen of our standard American life. The fastest ship, the best reaping-machine, the most perfect photograph, the most deadly revolver, or the most valuable Congressman, would be poor trifles to send to some Great World's Fair compared with the modest republican home in which a worthy youth and maiden from our public schools have mated hearts and hands, and found all the substantial blessings of life, with Heaven's smile, in the reward of patient and honorable industry, whether more or less than three hundred pounds a year.

Arabian Women.

The editorial letters from the old world to the Utica, N. Y. Morning Herald, contain much interesting matter, and freshness is not the least of its attractions. From the last letter, we take the following, which dims, a little, the fine rose-color, with which the poets have, sometimes, clothed Arabian Maidens.

The Arab woman, as seen in the street, is the incarnation of ugliness. If she is young, her face is sensual and brutish; if she is old, she is inflexibly, indelibly hideous. With a skin like tanned leather; with face, hands and feet, tattooed of a brown-blue color; with horrid brass pendants hanging like chains from the ear, and sometimes a ring, half as large as a tea-cup, hanging from the nose; with hands and feet and legs and bosom bare; huddling amid a mass of rags scarce sufficient to conceal the loins; conceive if you can a more bag-like spectacle. There she squats like a toad in the dust, beside her mud-built hut, dandling a blue-eyed baby on her knees, her ogre-like face half hid behind a snout-like veil, swaying her body backwards and forwards, and mumbling some sing-song jargon to herself in a tone half way between a wail and a howl. As you approach, the snout-like brutish eye glowers upon you from behind the mass of rags, a dirty hand is stretched imploringly forth, and the cry of 'Backsheesh, Howadje! assails your ear. You drop a few pence into the extended palm, and shudderingly she stands upon the grim presence. Again: a huge jar balanced upon the top of her head, a ragged blanket drawn diagonally over the lower half of her face, the feet and legs bare, the soulless face lit up with a stupid leer—a brute standing on its hind legs.

Poor wretch! She has a sad enough time of it. From the cradle to the grave her life is one great degradation. There is no gleam of sunny hope or dreamy fancy to light up the stern prose of her being. She has no social status, no rights, no destiny, but to do and to obey. Her lord looks upon her as he does upon his ox and his ass. She is bought with the rest of the furniture—bargained and disposed of like any common chattel. Her husband scorns to consider her as his companion. He never permits her to eat at the same table with him, to accompany him on any excursion of pleasure, to share his confidence, to direct or compel him in any manner. If he is rich, he pampers her as a toy; if he is poor, he makes her his slave and his drudge. As long as she pleases him, he honors her with the shelter of his home; the moment he tires of her, he sends her adrift and fills her place by a younger and perhaps fairer spouse. He never inquires of his neighbor for the health of his wife; and if her name is ever whispered, it is as the 'guarded lady' or the 'concealed jewel.' Having no respect for her, he has no confidence in her affections or her virtue. He guards her as the tiger guards his prey. If she offends against chastity, he coolly resorts to the dagger—or the Nile. He makes no fuss over the affair. No blazing announcements of 'stardling developments' appear in the morning papers; no gossiping wisecracks discuss the scandal; no action for damages relieves the dullness of the 'Long Terms'—the frail beauty disappears and no questions are asked.

Grand parties are not known in Egypt. There are no Mrs. Potiphar, and Lady Bambergas; no match-making mammas, no languishing belles hovering about watering places. There are no 'female novelists' and strong-minded women—no noisy discussions about the 'womans of woman'—no flippant champions of petticoat rule—in this benighted land. The softer sex is tabooed—ignored—vetoed—and voted by general consent to be of no consequence. Even the Koran does not recognize the right of the poor wretch to creep into heaven.

Perhaps I have been slandering the women

of Egypt. One sees only the poorer classes in the streets. The light of the harem is never permitted to shed its soft rays upon the heart of the stranger. Into the dim recesses of the Oblique no vulgar eye shall wander—no vulgar foot shall tread. At its portals stand grim eunuchs, guarding the jewel with unsleeping eye. Within, Beauty dreams its empty life away, the world unseen—by the world unseen. Its pleasures are wholly sensual—its inspirations of the earth, earthy. Reposing on soft cushions, dressed in the rich, airy robes of the East, lulled by the music of low fountains—it enjoys a species of brute happiness, which poets for the lack of loftier themes, delight to magnify.

The Paraguay Difficulty.

Everybody knows we have a difficulty with Paraguay. But very few know what it is or what is the cause of it. The history of the case, from the documents recently published, appears to be this.

Twelve years ago the Paraguayan Government issued a decree encouraging and inviting foreigners to settle there and engage in trade—by offering them lands, monopolies, &c. This was done for the purpose of developing the resources and increasing the commerce of the country. 'The Yankees' are always on the look out for such openings, and the invitation was responded to by the formation of an Emigrant Company in Rhode Island. The legislature incorporated it with a capital of \$300,000. The Company bought and took to Paraguay steam-engines, vessels, saw-mills, cotton-gins, planing-machines, sugar-mills, brick-machines, rice-mills, agricultural implements, &c., &c., enough for a large colony. A large number of mechanics, farmers and others, embarked in the enterprise, and the Colony was formally planted in 1853. The Government received them, bestowed the promised privileges upon them and encouraged them to enter upon a large business.

Paraguay is one of the finest timbered countries in the world, and has some of the best tobacco land in America. The Company soon found that their saw-mill (the first ever built south of the Amazon and east of the Andes) was a most lucrative property, and their Cigar Factory was about equally profitable. It happened that President Lopez found it out also.

Though nominally a Republic, Paraguay is in fact a despotism, and the President is an absolute Dictator. With him, to covet the property and thriving business of 'los Yankees' was as natural, as to seize it was practicable. He formulated three decrees revoking their title to their lands, repudiating his contracts with them, and confiscating their privileges for his own benefit. He seized their mills, vessels and machinery, and would not even let them leave the country alive, unless they would formally relinquish everything to him. It happened that an American man-of-war, the Water Witch, Com. Page, came along just then, took the Americans on board in defiance of the President and brought them home. They now demand reparation, Lopez, in reply, declares that the Water Witch committed a 'scandalous hostility,' in taking them off, and sets up, in justification of his conduct, the plea that they had practiced fraud in obtaining title to their lands. A little prompt and firm action on the part of our government would bring President Lopez to terms quite easy.

ARE THEY PEOPLE MOST LIABLE TO APOPLEXY.—Persons below the middle height, robust, with large hands and short thick necks, says the Scientific American, are generally recognized as apoplectic subjects; but a foreign medical author asserts that it is confined to no particular conformation of the body, all persons being alike liable to be attacked by it. The predisposing causes are the habitual indulgence of the appetite in rich and gross food, or stimulating drinks, coupled with luxurious and indolent habits; sedentary employment especially an undue length; the habit of sleeping, and lying on a recumbent posture, after a full meal; and lying too long in bed. Persons, however, who are predisposed to this disease, should not fail to profit by the warning of its approach, such as giddiness, drowsiness, loss of memory, twitching of the muscles, interfering of the speech, &c. Their diet should be light and nutritious, all luxurious habits should be abandoned, and moderate exercise should be taken. Above all, they should avoid giving way to their passions, as it is well known that many persons have been struck with death in the midst of a fit of anger.

CHILDREN.—The Editor of the Temperance Journal, in some comments on school discipline says:

We confess we do not belong to that class who think their babies a little more perfect than any other person's babies. We do not and never did think ours were any more perfect than our neighbor's children. We have always been as strongly inclined to think, if any mischief was done, ours were just as liable to be in it as any body's else babies.

So far as our observation has gone in an experience of nearly thirty years as a Committee man, we think teachers more frequently err on the side of extreme laxity and timidity, instead of extreme rigidity and severity. And we are free to say, if we must have one extreme or the other, we prefer a little excess in rigidity to a great degree of laxity.

We hold, that the first lesson for boys and girls to learn, both at home and in school, is to obey—submit to authority. And it is one of the most important lessons of life—important to the individual's own happiness and to his usefulness as a citizen. Insubordination in childhood is the parent of almost all the social and public crime that infests human society.

Tristan D'Acuña, is the name of a small island about equally distant from Africa and South America, being 1500 miles from either. It is fifteen miles in circumference, of volcanic origin. On one side there is a sheer precipice of a thousand feet rising abrupt from the sea. Above this there a plain or table land which can be cultivated. This plain is not more than four miles in length and half a mile wide. From this plain there rises a volcanic peak said to be more than 8000 feet high. A few seamen obtained wives in St. Helena and settled on the island. They are of American, British and Dutch origin, and now number 75. Their means of living are very insecure, and famine often threatens them. So much pity have they excited in the minds of those who have visited the island, that Dr. Gray, the English Bishop of Cape Town, has made arrangements for their removal to Cape Town. They are probably now on their way to their new residence. Who wants to play Robinson Crusoe on the deserted island? It would support a small family very comfortably.

DISINFECTING LAMP.—Take one of any of the various kinds of glass lamps—for burning camphene, for example—and fill it with chloric ether, and light the wick. In a few minutes the object will be accomplished. In dissecting rooms; in the damp, deep vaults, where vegetables are sometimes stored, or where drains allow the escape of offensive gases, in out-buildings, and, in short, in any spot where it is desirable to purify the atmosphere, burn one of these lamps. One tube charged with a wick is quite sufficient. This suggestion is really worthy remembering for the comfort of a sick room, because it is easily accomplished, agreeable, and more economical for purifying than any process now known.

The Eastern Mail.

EPH. MAXHAM, [DANIEL R. WING,
EDITORS.

WATERVILLE, JULY 1, 1858.

AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.

S. M. PITTSBURGH & Co., Newspaper Agents, No. 10 State street, Boston, and 110 Nassau street, New York, are Agents for the Eastern Mail, and are authorized to receive Advertisements and Subscriptions at the same rates as required at this office.

S. R. NILES (successor to V. B. Palmer), Newspaper Advertising Agent, No. 1 Scollay's Building, Court street, Boston, is authorized to receive Advertisements at the same rates as required by us.

J. TURBILL & CO., No. 36 Kilby street, Boston, are authorized to receive advertisements for the Mail, on the same terms as the above named agents.

Advertisers abroad are referred to the agents named above.

BILLS.—We commence this week the work of enclosing bills to all subscribers included for one year or more. We do this because we are in great need of the amount due; earnestly asking each one, individually, to give the matter prompt attention—and enclose the amount due by mail, or forward otherwise.

FOURTH OF JULY.—As usual when this anniversary falls on Sunday, the work of celebration is this year set to Monday. Notwithstanding the scarcity of money, patriotism seems to be abundant; and the result is a general diffusion of the celebrating element, from hamlet to city. Portland takes the lead in Maine; having made arrangements for a glorious time, mostly at the expense of the city treasury. Waterville is only a village, and of course lacks the means of buying powder and other things to burn up; and yet we have no saddening prospect of a lonesome day—certainly none to run away from. The Fantasies will shake their absurdities through the several streets, and make a personal display of their rags, up to the usual dinner hour; when they are to be suddenly metamorphosed into a respectable dinner party at the Waterville House. Of course their afternoon programme is somewhat enveloped in fog, though they hope to be expected at Kendall's Mills.

At W. Waterville the Sons of Temperance have arranged for an attractive celebration, a prominent feature of which is an address by Hon. Neal Dow. Richardson's Cornet Band is engaged for the services of the day, and will give a concert at Liberty Hall in the evening. Those who attend this celebration will have a good time.

At Kendall's Mills the firemen lead the festivities. Victor Company, of that place, have invited Waterville No. 3 to spend the day with them; and if anybody doubts the ability of these two companies to celebrate the Fourth of July in pretty good shape, they had better go and look on. This is the convincing process to which we have consecrated the day—rain or shine.

EUREKA!—With an "if," it would seem as though we had at last an efficient preventive for the ravages of the curculio. If this insect does not make its way into the tree by flying, but climbs the trunk, then we think he can be "headed" (not beheaded) and that by a very simple device. It is only to chalk the trunk of your tree. "Ha! ha! ha!" laughs an unbeliever; "that's a likely story! Here's a bugger that has made his way over cotton batting and waded through tar, after being drenched with powerful acids and deadly poisons, and now you propose to stop him with a chalk line! Poh! poh! tell that to the marines." But stop one moment, my dear sir, and examine the philosophy of the thing; the chalk stops him, not by being offensive, but simply because he cannot obtain foothold on it. Every time he puts out a leg, it "comes home," in nautical parlance; or, as a lawyer would say, he "takes nothing by his motion." But "the proof of the pudding is in eating"—the bug, the old ladies used to say, though we never could see the sense of going beyond its contents; just try the experiment and see if you can make a curculio "walk chalk." This remedy was suggested by a gentleman of our village, who had seen it recommended to prevent the ascent of ants; and this reminds us that we smiled audibly, while chalking a tree the other day, as we saw a pert little ant, who came up the trunk at railroad speed till he struck the chalk mark, suddenly "drap" to the ground. If he had been heavy enough, and had fallen far enough, he must inevitably have broken his neck.

Chalk is cheap, notwithstanding the briskness of the milk trade; it can be readily applied, and if it is washed off, it can easily be renewed. So put on the chalk, even where the plane of ascent is some ways from the perpendicular; the curculio cannot climb on it.

As two errors occurred in our notice of Commencement exercises, last week, we republish it below, corrected.

WATERVILLE COLLEGE.—The Commencement Exercises at this Institution will be as follows:

Sabbath evening, Aug. 8th.—Sermon before the Boardman Missionary Society, by Rev. I. G. Warren, D. D. of Boston.

Tuesday, Aug. 10th, at 4 1/2 P. M.—Inaugural Address by President Champlin.

Tuesday evening Aug. 10th.—Oration before the Literary Societies, by Geo. W. Curtis, Esq., of N. Y., and Poem by Wm. S. Heath, Esq., of Montreal.

Wednesday, Aug. 11th.—Class Exercises and Commencement Dinner.

FATHER HILLS.—We hear of our venerable friend at Mechanic Falls, who he is lecturing to men, women and children upon the laws of their being and the uses and abuses of social life. We bid him Godspeed in his good work.

BANGOR DAILY EVENING NEWS.—A very neat and handsome sheet, with this title, comes to us from the Queen City of the East. It claims to be honest and independent in politics, makes fair professions of liberality and courtesy, and will probably be the organ of the Douglas wing of the democracy. It is published by William Thompson, formerly of the Democrat, at \$4 a year.

OUR TABLE.

MRS. HALE'S RECEIPTS FOR THE MILLION.—Containing Four Thousand Five Hundred and Forty-Five Receipts, Facts, Directions, Knowledge, etc., in the Useful, Ornamental and Domestic Arts, and in the Conduct of Life—being a complete Family Directory and Household Guide for the Million. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Brothers.

This is probably the most complete and reliable work of the kind ever published, being an Encyclopedia or storehouse of useful knowledge, full of information needed every day in all departments of life. It is a large and handsome volume of nearly eight hundred pages, and is sold for \$1.50. It ought to be in every family in the land, while at the same time, so wide is the range of topics upon which it treats, that the business man, farmer, horticulturist and mechanic, may study it with profit, and the accomplished, young lady and gentleman acquire from its pages additional polish.

FUTURE PUNISHMENT.—From Crosby, Nichols & Co., Boston, we received a pamphlet containing two discourses recently delivered in Hollis Street Church by Rev. Thomas Starr King, entitled 'The Doctrine of Endless Punishment for the Sins of this Life, Unchristian and Unreasonable.' They were drawn forth, we believe, by a sermon of Dr. Nehemiah Adams, preached from the same pulpit by invitation of Mr. King; and being the production of one of the ablest and most eloquent advocates of the doctrine of Universal Salvation, cannot fail to command the attention of friends and opponents. For sale at Matthews's.

BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.—The June number contains the following articles:—The Poorhouse Mutiny; The Punjab—No. 4. What will he do with it? By P. Sistratus Caxton—part 13. Blood. Religious Memories. The First Bengal European Fusiliers after the Fall of Delhi. The Cost of Whig Government, May Day. The Defeat of the Factions.

The four great British Quarterly Reviews and Blackwood's Monthly, are promptly issued by L. Scott & Co., 24 Golden Square, New York. Terms of subscription:—For any one of the four Reviews \$3 per annum; any two Reviews \$5; any three Reviews \$7; all four Reviews \$8; Blackwood's Magazine \$3. Blackwood and three Reviews \$9; Blackwood and the four Reviews \$10.10—large discount to clubs. In all the principal cities and towns, these works will be delivered free of postage. When sent by mail, the postage to any of the U. S. States will be but 2 cents a year for 'Blackwood,' and but 14 cents a year for each of the Reviews.

FRANK LESLIE'S NEW FAMILY MAGAZINE.—The July number of this popular monthly, which begins a volume, is truly an interesting one, attractive in all its various departments. As the newspaper advertisements say, the articles are too numerous to mention, and the illustrations ditto. That portion of the magazine devoted especially to the service of the ladies, is magnificent, as usual, and includes a splendidly colored fashion plate and numerous devices and designs for various articles of 'woman's gear.' Published by Frank Leslie, New York, at \$3 a year.

THE LADIES' REPOSITORY.—The reading matter of this magazine is uniformly excellent, and at this time calls for no laborious commendation from us. The engravings in the July number, just received, are a portrait of Mrs. Eliza Garrett, founder of the Garrett Biblical Institute, and The Farmer's Home, a charming picture of English rural life. The Repository is published by Swormsted & Fox, Cincinnati, at \$2 a year.

Pacific Correspondence.

TOO LATE! friend Page, to tell us not to publish your letters over your name. We let the cat out with your first letter, as you have probably seen, ere this. Send on your letters, which go all the better for the knowledge that a Kennebec boy writes them.

TRERKALET, Washington Territory, May 21, '58.
The weather here is fine at present; warm in the day and cool at night. The latitude would indicate colder weather here in the winter than down east, but such is not the case. The climate is mild compared with yours, tho' last winter we had over one foot of snow; but the "oldest inhabitant" never knew the like before.

Puget Sound contains a better variety of fish than any other locality on the Pacific coast. Notwithstanding they are so very plenty, but very few are engaged in fishing. We have salmon, halibut, codfish, white perch; of shell fish we have oysters, clams, crabs, but no lobsters. I have seen ten lbs. of white perch taken from a small creek, by two men in one afternoon. The tide had run out and left them without water.

The Indians subsist on fish, venison, and berries (which last are very plenty in summer) consisting of various kinds; the olallies, salmon, cranberries, no strawberries or raspberries, but any amount of whorleberries. The Indians are called Flatheads. A piece of board is fastened to the back and one to the front of the head, when the child is quite small, and remains so until the head resembles the roof of a cottage house; and then they are all right. They live in small shanties on the beach, and are continually moving from one place to another; generally taking their whole household, consisting of dogs, muskets, dried salmon, &c. They invariably travel in canoes, some of which are very large and most beautifully modelled; being made of cedar, are exceedingly light and buoyant. The women perform all the drudgery, as is the case with all the savages. The old bucks taking the world easily, with nothing to trouble them except a swelled head after a big drunk on "Minnie rifle whiskey," which by the way, is celebrated on this coast. Some of the women look quite respectable compared with the California squaws; though I have never seen any that might be called "beautiful." Their virtue, if they ever had any, has long since departed, and the consequence is, that a large amount of half-breeds are long will reside in this country. An old shell back who runs away from a ship, makes a raise of a few gallons of "Minnie rifle" and takes another rib in the shape of a squaw, is considered to be on equal footing with the balance of the people, and is looked upon by men, calling themselves white, as being an ornament to society.

You and myself, of course, will not agree with them. Good men live in this Territory; but the floating population are the most miserable and degraded of any I have ever yet seen, and the gold mines on Frazer's river will bring more of the same sort. The white people here speak the "Chinook jargon," it being the only means of communicating with the Indians. Some few speak the Indian language, but white men are scarce who understand it. Each tribe has a different language, and a great many tribes reside in the vicinity of Puget Sound.

The Tyees* have some big names, such as the Duke of York, Duke of Wellington, Napoleon Bonaparte, Gen. Scott, Gen. Taylor, and many other similar names. The women have names much the same, such as Jenny Lind, Queen Victoria, Princess, &c. They are great for ornaments of different kinds, such as beads, and large brass buttons; and paint their faces almost daily either with red or black paint. They are small, inferior looking beings, but have a little more intelligence than the California Indians. I am speaking now of the Indians residing in the vicinity of the Sound. There are Indians in this Territory that are quite intelligent, comparatively speaking, but those residing near the Sound are miserable in the extreme. They are very superstitious; but believe in a Supreme Being, although they, (that is some) worship images.

It is hard to describe an Indian funeral, but I will try in a few words. When one dies, which is generally from the effects of Minnie rifle whiskey or another disease which is more revolting, he is immediately put into a mat, bound up and put into his canoe, if he has one, and taken to the usual place of burial, which is generally in hailing distance of their villages; together with all the property belonging to the deceased, consisting of blankets, wearing apparel, if he is possessed of any;—in fact every article belonging to him; and there remains until the last trump shall sound.

Respectfully yours, T. B. PAGE.
*Tyee Chinook and means Chief or a smart intelligent Indian.

The Liquor Question.

We are glad that so many have tried this question of the liquor agent and hope you are all satisfied with your "lick" at it. The "Mail" has said that you do not all agree; but never mind,—we didn't expect you would. I hope two or three of you at least are agreed as touching this matter; and the rest are invited to look and learn if they will—instruct if they can.

OPERATION.—It is evident that the agent has had in his possession during the year both what liquors the town entrusted to him, and also what he himself has bought: viz. \$59.50 and \$282.85 equal to \$342.35. This sum is the cost of all the liquors the agent has had during the year. But he did not sell all of his liquors by \$81.00. Hence, whatever was gained or lost, was not gained or lost on \$342.35, but on \$342.35 minus \$81.00; that is on \$261.35. This last sum is the cost of all the liquors the agent sold throughout the year. But he received for all the liquors he sold throughout the year \$293.55. The difference therefore is the gain, viz.: \$293.55 minus \$261.35 equal to \$32.20. This is the amount the town has gained on the sale of liquors thro' the agent.

This gain of the town's being in the hands of the agent, he must be held responsible for it; also for \$59.50 in liquors and for the \$8.00 in cash—in all \$149.70. This is the whole liability of the agent to the town. At the end of the year however, the agent returns \$81.00 worth of liquors; his liabilities then are \$81.00 less, viz.: \$149.70 minus \$81.00 equal to \$68.70. This sum is the amount of money which the agent has at the end of the year, belonging to the town. But the town is to pay \$69.00 for his services; so that the agent must still be paid by the town (69 dollars minus \$68.70 equal to 30 cts.) 30 cts. which will make "all right."

We have seen that the whole gain of the town on the liquors is 32 dollars, 20 cts., and that they pay the agent 69 dollars. The loss to the town is therefore greater than the gain; viz.: 69 dollars minus 32 dollars, 20 cts., equal to 36 dollars, 80 cts. This is the loss of the town. Hence the

ANSWER. The town has to pay the agent 30 cts. The town has lost by the transaction 36 dollars, 80 cts. **CALCULUS.**

MEAN AND COWARDLY.—With all the care we exercise over our marriage record, we are occasionally made the unwitting instruments of wrong; and, and much to our regret, help to carry out the wicked designs of some cowardly miscreant who aims to strike a blow in the dark. This was the case two weeks ago, when one of our marriages published in our paper, which came to us through the mail, with the name of the reverend gentleman attached, had no foundation in fact, but was the witless invention of some graceless scamp and his conjuditors, whose brains, for a little while, surely, must have served "Auld Clotie" for a workshop; let them look to it that the occasional occupant become not the permanent possessor. A trick of this kind injures no one but the guilty perpetrator, and those who are as "cat's paws" in his hands: having furnished a subject for a "nine day's talk," it subsidizes and gives place to some new topic. In this case, as we know, the equality of the persons misrepresented, has not been at all disturbed, and it is by no means at their solicitation that we make the correction, or allude to the affair at all. Much was doubtless designed, though little has been accomplished: baffled wickedness finds its soul soiled for nothing; and such stains are not easily effaced, but will eat like a canker. As the old adage has it "Murder will out," and suspicion in this case points only in one direction: the parties aggrieved, satisfied that they know from whence the blow comes, are as little at a loss to identify the principal as they are to select his aids.

HORSE TRAINING.—The wonders wrought by Rarey in England promise soon to become common in this country. Whether the process there is the same as here, rests only on the assertion of such as have seen both; though we have no doubt it is.

Mr. Williston has been practising this art upon several animals in this place, for a few days past, leaves little doubt that the process is of great value in subduing the horse. The subject in one case which we witnessed was a 2yr-old colt that had more than the usual propensity to kick and bite when her hind legs were handled. Indeed, the least approach of the hand below the hip was sure to bring a sample of both. In the course of half an hour's training she was made to lie down at command, and in this position submit with the utmost quietness to have her feet

and legs handled in the most familiar manner—her master even venturing an embrace of his neck between what had seemed a pair of the smartest "kickers" we ever saw. Other cases were equally conclusive, giving a satisfaction that there is none of the popular article called humbug in this process of subduing horses.

We have only time to speak of this matter briefly, though we regard it worthy of particular attention from all who admire or love the horse. Next week we shall allude to it more in detail.

SAD ACCIDENT.—A bright little boy about three years old, son of Mr. Nelson Messer, of West Waterville, was drowned in the mill pond at that place, on the afternoon of Saturday last. His body was found under the gate of the grist mill, but a few minutes, as is supposed, after he fell into the water. Thrice, as we are informed has Death entered this same family thus suddenly; three children, who went forth full of life and happiness have been borne in to that afflicted mother, dead—the love-light in their eyes quenched and their innocent prattle stilled forever. May God strengthen her.

FOREIGN NEWS.—The steamer Arabia arrived at New York on Monday afternoon, but the news she brings is of little importance. A recent debate in Parliament on the Spanish slave trade, settles the point that Great Britain will by no means insist on the right of search or visit in time of peace.

The London Times of the 19th, in a leader, congratulates the government on having taken the advice of the Law Officers of the Crown, whose decided opinion it is, that by international law we have no right of search—no right of visitation whatever in time of peace. Upon that opinion Lord Derby and his colleagues are prepared to act by the law of nations. No English cruiser has the smallest right to interfere with any ship bearing the flag of the United States, save in so far as that right has been conferred by treaty. They will, therefore, withdraw the blockading squadron from the Cuban waters, and there is an end of our differences with the States on this disagreeable subject.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.—By the arrival of the Moses Taylor at New York, on Sunday morning last, we get the following items of news:

Greenleaf Plummer and Albert Glasson from Maine, were drowned on the 22nd of May in Tuolumne County.

The San Francisco markets were generally dull. Financial matters are satisfactory and money easier.

There is nothing important from the Isthmus. The excitement in California concerning the Frazer river gold mines continues. 3000 persons have already left San Francisco for that region. The California mines were yielding largely, and accounts from every section were highly favorable.

The agricultural prospects of the State were never brighter, and a full harvest is confidently anticipated.

A fire at Nevada, on the 23d of May, destroyed nearly all the business portion of the city. Loss \$130,000. Ten buildings were burned on Jackson street, in San Francisco, May 31st. Loss \$40,000. The papers contain more than the usual amount of murders, assassinations, casualties, &c.

Advices from Oregon, May 24th, announce a general Indian outbreak there. Col. Stephen's command on Snake river was attacked on the 16th of May, and forced to retreat with a loss of fifty privates, 3 officers, 2 howitzers, baggage wagons and nearly all his animals.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.—Hon. Lot M. Morrill, the present incumbent, was unanimously nominated for re-election as Governor of Maine, at the Convention last Wednesday, in Augusta. Several distinguished gentlemen were present and addressed the convention, among whom were Hon. Sam'l P. Benson, late Congressional representative from the Kennebec district, and Hon. Wm. P. Fessenden, our able and popular senator. The harmony and enthusiasm manifested, promises well for the success of the Republicans this Fall.

The Fourth will be appropriately celebrated in Portland on Monday next. There will be salutes at sunrise, noon and sunset; the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Maine will lay the Corner Stone of the New City Building; a collation will be served on Munjoy Hill; and a brilliant display of fireworks in the evening will close the programme.

Many deaths from sun-stroke have recently occurred in New York city.

THE WEATHER AND CROPS.—The glorious shower of rain with which we were favored on Thursday last week has given an impetus to vegetation delightful to behold. Corn and potatoes are looking unusually vigorous, but grass, from a lack of moisture, is reported thin though of excellent quality. Thursday's shower, as will be seen by reports in another column, did considerable damage in various quarters, and in the West part of our town was quite severe. Two buildings and several trees were struck by lightning at the West village.

The war of words still continues between our two belligerent brethren of the press down the river. The editor of the Rural seems to tacitly acknowledge that the "skrimmage" is not very creditable to the parties engaged in it, but insists, boy like, that "Holmes began it." To show that the temper of the combatants has not materially improved, we copy Brother Drew's rejoinder to Pike, of the Age, who had been poking fun at the old gentleman.

Unhappy Ho!(Jmes).—The Age is mistaken in saying the Rural has been shipwrecked in Holmes's Hole. We never heard of any vessel of draft being wrecked in that shallow Mud Puddle. It was too dirty and soft for any occupant but fresh-water cannibals—such as pouts and perhaps occasionally an Aged Pike. It was never the design or expectation of the Rural to improve such an unseemly Hole or to make its Ho!(Jmes Happy. This would be impossible.

R. R. MEETING.—At the annual meeting of the A. & K. Railroad Co., holden at this place, the old board of Directors were unanimously re-elected.

UTAH.—The correspondence of the New York Tribune from the camp of the army, which we know to be intelligent and independent, says of the feeling which prevails there of dissatisfaction with Gov. Cumming's course and of distrust of Brigham Young:—

"It is not a desire for a fight" which pervades the army. I have lived amid it now for upward of six months, and I can declare with authority that the sentiment which pervades it toward the Mormons is anything but blood-thirsty. Its leaders desire no forcible collision. They are anxious only that the purpose for which it was originally dispatched to the territory—to serve as a posse comitatus to the civil authorities in case of need, to establish three military posts, and by its presence to convince the people of this territory that the federal government is equal to the rule of all its provinces, however remote and rebellious their population—shall not be frustrated by politicians."

As evidence of Young's dishonesty this correspondence mentions that on the afternoon of the day on which Gov. Cumming addressed the Mormons in Salt Lake City, he (Young)—Cumming being then absent—re-addressed his followers, and said: 'You heard what Cumming said to you this morning. I thought then that he was a liar. I tell you now that he is a damned liar.' Of the two trains of refugee Mormons numbering 180 persons who had come to the fort from Salt Lake City under the protection of Governor Cumming, the correspondence says:—

'Most of them are desirous to reach the states and forsake Mormonism forever, but a more destitute crowd I have seldom seen descend from an Irish emigrant ship at New York or Boston. Many belonging to the first train were half naked. It is a fact creditable to the army that private soldiers, by the score, shared their abridged rations and their scanty stock of clothing with the poor wretches, and in less than a day after their arrival they were provided with decent clothes. What to do with them is now the question. Humanity forbids us to leave them to starve, and yet there is no available provisions of food for them, and the majority possess no means of transportation to the States, having come here from the Valley on foot. The officers of the army and the civil officials have contributed from their own private means all they could afford for their support. Some, I know, have emptied the last dollar from their pockets. But this charity is ineffectual in a country where all articles of food command prices more than a thousand per cent. higher than in the states; and yet these people will not listen to any proposition by which they shall be returned to the control of Brigham Young.'

ENGLAND AND FRANCE.—There seems to be a fast gathering distrust in England of their ally, the Emperor of France. The London Illustrated News says:—

'France is strengthening herself by sea and land, and it is not England that can take the advice in Scott's fine verse—

Sit thou still when kings are arming.

The Emperor acts the part of no true friend or any when he arms without consultation with this country. We owe him nothing, but he owes us much. And we owe this much to ourselves—to be prepared for all emergencies. Were he ever so thoroughly and unmistakably our fast friend and ally, his seat on the throne is insecure, and the condition of all Europe is rotten, unnatural and precarious. Great Britain and Russia are the only two countries within its whole boundaries that offer any symptoms of stability. Any war, for whatever purpose, instigated or commenced by France, will inevitably stir up all Europe to its very foundations; and sooner or later in such a struggle England, Russia, and the nations or governments that shall range themselves on their side, will be the arbiters of the destinies of the continent. But to be in the position befitting our past history and present responsibility, the fleets of Great Britain must be immediately and thoroughly manned. Our neighbor's house is on fire, and we must sleep no longer.'

THE EXECUTION.—James Magee was executed in the jail yard in Boston on Friday, for the murder of Deputy Warden Walker, of the Charlestown prison. He was a hardened man, and we judge from the accounts in the Boston papers, that his bravado held out to the end of his life. He refused spiritual consolation almost entirely. At a quarter to ten on Friday morning, he was brought out to die. He ascended the scaffold with firmness, followed by the Sheriff and his deputies, and also by his spiritual adviser, Rev. Mr. Stickey, of the Church of the Advent, who read such selections from the Scriptures as are provided for like occasions by the Episcopal Church. After reaching the platform, a prayer was offered, at the conclusion of which, the chaplain held a short conversation with Magee, exhorting him to rely upon the consolations of the Gospel, and adjuring him to penitence for his errors ere it was too late. The Sheriff then read the warrant for execution, and precisely at ten o'clock, at a given signal, Sheriff Clark set his foot upon the springs attached to the machine of the drop, and the prisoner hung quivering in the air. He evidently died quickly. The body remained suspended thirty minutes. His death was caused by the separation of the spinal cord.

During the whole proceedings, the prisoner maintained a dogged indifference to everything which was passing, and even while the rope was being put round his neck, he moved his head one way and the other, to accommodate those who were adjusting the noose.

About 500 persons were admitted by card, to witness the tragedy. [Portland Adv.]

HEATHEN AT HOME.—One of the witnesses in a recent murder trial at New York, named Young—a gambler by profession—testified that he was 35 years old, that he was born in Albany, could not read writing, had never read the Lord's Prayer, though he could read a little, and did not know what the Lord's Prayer was; that he had never read a chapter in the Bible, though he had once held the sacred volume in his hand. How many boys here are in our large cities, who are growing up in the same ignorance. We often heard the hope expressed during the recent religious interest, that it would result in so vitalizing the churches and other religious organizations of our land that they would inaugurate and vigorously prosecute some method for christianizing these heathen in our midst. We are not aware that any such measures have been set on foot in our own city, where there is abundant need of them. The churches on the first Sabbath in July will receive large accessions of members as the fruits of the revival. It certainly is to be hoped that their aggressive power will be proportionably increased.

STATISTICS OF ILLEGITIMACY IN EUROPE. A report of the Registrar General recently published, throws a good deal of light upon this important question. Summing up the result, the return says:—'As this is the first opportunity which has occurred of ascertaining with anything like accuracy the statistics of this important social point, it may be interesting, as well as instructive, to compare our condition in this respect with some of the nations around us. It appears that in Sweden only about 6.5 per cent. of the births are illegitimate; in Norway, 6.6 per cent.; in England, 6.7 per cent.; in Belgium, 6.7 per cent.; in France, 7.1 per cent.; in Prussia, 7.1 per cent.; in Scotland, 9.0 per cent.; in Denmark, 9.3 per cent.; in Hanover, 9.8 per cent.; while in Austria 11.3 per cent. of the births are illegitimate.' No authentic statistics on this point, we believe, have yet been collected for Ireland, at least the report in question is silent upon the subject!—and the extra prevalence of this vice in Scotland is clearly traced to the system of large farms, where great numbers of single men and women are employed at out-door labor without any strict surveillance. This is well shown by the fact that in some of the purely agricultural Counties, where nearly the whole of the land is in large farms and the population consequently sparse, the proportion of illegitimate to legitimate births is as high as 17.5 per cent., while in the more densely peopled manufacturing Counties it ranges from 6 to 8 per cent. The popular ideas therefore about 'rural innocence,' so far as this vice is concerned, are exceedingly fallacious.

Two large barns in West Gardiner, belonging to Mr. Robert Newell, were entirely blown away by the storm Thursday evening. Some of the boards were blown to a piece of woods, quite a distance off. One of barns was built 2 years since.

ACCIDENTAL DROWNING.—We learn from a correspondent at East Sangerville that a young man 20 years of age, named Thomas Kenny, was drowned in the Centre Pond, so called, 21st inst.

The Baptist State Convention of Connecticut, in session a day or two at Southington, discussed the Episcopal form of worship as used in the army and navy. It appears that a majority of our naval chaplains are Episcopalians, and that chaplains of other denominations are required to read the church services in the performance of their religious duties. The Connecticut Baptists consider this usage a grievance, and have appointed a committee headed by the Rev. Dr. Hodge, of Bridgeport, to memorialize Congress on the subject.

The American Tract Society has resolved to do nothing that may, by any possibility, give offence to Slaveholders. This is 'for peace.' The Tract Society is not the first body that has tried that experiment. The Whig party tried it. Shortly after, the Whig party ceased to exist. The Democratic party tried it. The Democratic party is tumbling to ruin. Methodist Conference tried it. It split them in two. Presbyterian Assemblies tried it. It rent them to pieces. Tried by Mr. Fillmore's Administration, it dug his political grave. Tried by Gen. Pierce's Administration, it ousted them from office. A number of Northern Members in 1850, signed a pledge to try it in Congress. Their constituents never gave them a chance. Various associations, religious, literary and political, have tried it since. But which of them has achieved by it 'peace' or profit. [Albany Eve. Journal.]

HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO MOTHERS.—Mrs. Winslow, an experienced nurse and female physician, has a Soothing Syrup for children teething, which facilitates the process of teething, by softening the gums, reducing all inflammation—will allay all pain, and is sure to regulate the bowels. Depend upon it, mothers, it will give rest to yourselves and relief and health to your infants. Perfectly safe in all cases.

COMPOSTED MUCK AND ASHES.—Ashes are well known to be a valuable fertilizer for all dry soils; and muck is generally found beneficial to soil deficient in vegetable matter. The latter is always so, unless imperfectly decomposed, or saturated with acids unfavorable to vegetation. Both articles are cheap and easily obtained—ashes being worth in Western New York about 10c per bushel; while muck can be had at most farms for the mere trouble of digging. The two combined, form a fertilizer of high value, as we shall proceed to show.

One of the best practical writers on this subject, says:—'Next to a compost of muck and barn manures, a mixture of muck and ashes is the most common, and by experienced persons is considered the most profitable. It is certainly one of the most convenient mixtures, as the ashes may be transported over a considerable distance without incurring unprofitable expense. The farmer, when ashes are applied, finds his plants vigorous, of a fine healthy color, growing permanently throughout the season, and producing highly perfected and abundant crops; so that their value to be used with muck, is often estimated as high as 50 cents a bushel in an unleached state.'

Another writer says:—'To bring out the ammonia, the muck must be fermented—which may be effected by the use of alkalies or fresh stable manures. From fifteen to twenty bushels of ashes, or ninety pounds of potash are required to a ton of peat.' Prof. Flint, of Massachusetts, relates of a farmer in Waterville, Massachusetts, that he sells the dung of his cattle, and uses instead, leached ashes, and muck—one part to three of the latter—thus keeping his farm in a high state of fertility. He digs his muck in the fall, and mixes the ashes with it in the spring, shovelling it over three or four times.

We have not the least doubt that composted muck and ashes is as valuable, load for load, as the generally of barn-yard manure, and do not hesitate to apply it for the production of any crop. Prof. Dana says that 'the power of producing alkaline action on the insoluble gaine, is alone wanting to make peat as good as cow dung.' Any alkaline will do this, and ashes answer well this purpose. Half dried muck heaped with ashes for several weeks, will decompose the same pretty thoroughly; a single turning will complete the work unless the muck be of the coarsest character.

We have not spoken of other forms of muck compost, our present purpose being to urge the use of muck and ashes as manure.

[Rural New Yorker.]

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.—The guest idea some people have of the sacredness of the marriage relation is well illustrated by the following from the Christianian Enquirer:—'A lady came to this city a day or two ago, and made application to a lawyer for divorce, saying she was from the State of New York, and had come here for the purpose of effecting a separation, expecting to do so in about twenty-four hours. She appeared much disappointed when told she must be a resident in the State for a year before she could obtain her wish, and said that if she had to wait so long that she would return to her husband again, as the cause of their quarrel was only about a bonnet, which she wished to throw away, and he had urged her to wear it another month. Brutal and monstrous as that circumstance had shown him, she thought she might endure his presence a little while longer.'

