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No right to be Ugly.

Men or women, whatever their physical deformities may be, cannot be utterly ugly, except from moral and intellectual causes, and neither man or woman has any right to be ugly, and that if either be so, it is his or her fault, misdemeanor or crime; and that being ugly, they cannot expect the love of their fellow-creatures. No man can love an ugly woman, no woman can love an ugly man; and if fathers and mothers can love an ugly child, it is a very sore struggle, and may be duty after all, and not love.

To have lost one's nose or eye, to squint or to have a hunch-back, are certainly misfortunes, deteriorations of the beauty of the human form and impairments of its high ideal; but if all the calamities were centered in one unhappy person, they would not make him positively ugly, if he were wise, witty, amiable, benevolent, just and generous, and passed his life in deeds of kindness and charity.

Milton was not endowed with his sublime frown with the horns, dragon's tail, and other vulgar uglinesses of popular superstition. He was too great a poet and philosopher to fall into such an error. The physical beauty of his Satan was originally as great as that of the Angels who had not fallen, in all outward attributes; but the hideousness was in the mind, and the mind moulded the body to its own character; and Satan, though he was as Sidney Smith said, "a fine fellow" in one sense, was terribly ugly in another; sublimely horrible, and infinitely more fearful to think of than the grotesque compound of Satan and Dragon whom we owe to the exuberant fancy and bad taste of the monks of the middle ages.

A truly ugly person may have a well developed nose and regular features; he may be six feet high, and shapely as the Apollo Belvedere, but the evil spirit that is in him has set the indescribable but palpable seal of a bad mind upon all his physical lineaments. He bears the brand of criminality upon his forehead as Cain did, and carries a mark of the Divine displeasure stamped upon his face, shaded in his aspect, toned in his voice, telegraphed in his looks and gestures. By these means he is pointed out to his fellow-creatures as one who has sinned against the moral government of the universe, so that all who see him may know him and take warning by his punishment. All that is morally good is physically ugly; ergo, every man and woman may be beautiful if they like, and no man or woman has a right to be ugly.—Q. E. D.

Take the case of my excellent friend, Mr. Towers. Look at his nose, and his nose only—at that nose rubicund and Barbedolpian, out of all proportion with any ordinary face; a nose pimpled and freckled, bearing blossoms like a tree, and of the color of the penny, and judge him by that only and you shall, at a casual glance, pronounce him ugly. But Mr. Towers is not ugly. The physical deformity, no doubt, obvious enough, and suggests ugliness to the passerby. But hear him talk. Listen to his wit. Let him unlock in your presence the abundant stores of his learning. See him take a brick of wisdom here and another there. See him ransack all the brick-kilns of the ancients and the moderns, and watch the house of Fancy or of Learning that he will build with them. Go with him into private life and see what a joyous companion he is, what a good friend he is, what a good husband he is, what a kind father he is, what a pure minded citizen he is, and in the light of his moral and intellectual excellence, you will look at his ugly nose and admit that the face is beautiful, ugly, that the nose itself is more beautiful than many a nose that Philias or Praxiteles delighted to model, but which belonged to a countenance which was not impregnated with and moulded by these noble qualities.

Take Trimmles, another man I know, and look at him as he walks along the street—small, spare, and with a hunch-back; and at the first glance you shall call him ugly. But you will be in error if you do. Physically he may seem to be ugly, but his mind is a melody and a harmony. He is a logician who could argue with Euclid. He sees daylight in the darkest corners of dispute with a mental eye, over which there is no film or darkness. He talks with elegant tongue, and neither woman or man can resist the fascination of his company. How can such a person be called ugly? In spite of his small stature and his hunch, Trimmles is handsomer than silly Captain Fitz Mortimer of the Rifles, who has a straight back, a Roman nose, and a beard that Methuselah might envy.

Then take the case of Theodosia Perkins—fresh, fair, twenty-three and passably rich. She has a face and a form that a sculptor might love to imitate. But she is per—she is—she has a bad opinion of her own sex and of the other—she has no education of the heart or of the mind—she has no taste for color, for tone, for propriety; she is "fast"—she is "loud"—she is eaten up with vanity and conceit, and thinks herself the very cream and quintessence of the world. In one word, she is ugly in spite of her face and form. To look at her is sufficient to know that she will find no one to marry her except for her money; and to prophesy that after she is married her husband will desert her.

Take also the case of young master Wigram. He was a pretty child, and might have grown up to be a beautiful boy; but he is intensely ugly. He has been humored and fondled without reason one day and punished without reason the next; he has been indulged in all his caprices in the morning, and denied his just and equal requirements in the evening. He has been coaxed and petted, coerced and punished, equally without justification; and the result is that he is the plague of every one who comes near him. He is built up of evil passion. There is not a good thing about him. He is a slave one minute, and a tyrant the next; niggardly and extravagant, element and cruel. Though but fifteen years of age, he is ugly in the extreme, because he has not a single moral or intellectual quality to keep his physical qualities in good countenance.

It comes to this—that whatever physical nature may have done, or may have neglected to do for us, the power of being beautiful remains with ourselves. There are moral appliances that are better than physical robes and pomades to make man or woman lovely and lovable. It is mind that creates face; and that makes little David, strong in the Lord's grace, handsomer than great Goliath, who is only strong in the devil's favor.

And the superiority of this kind of beauty over all others is this, that the older we grow the more beautiful we may become. There is one beauty of the stars, and another of the moon. There is one beauty of youth, another of maturity, and another of old age. Excellent are they all; but from its completeness, as well as from its rarity, the beauty of old age is the Divinity of the three—the crown and completion of all the rest. Youth is beautiful for its physical, maturity for its physical and moral, but old age is the happy union of the physical, the moral, and the intellectual qualities, that generally command love, respect and homage. I know an old woman of seventy-three years of age, of a beauty as much superior to that of seventeen as that of ninety

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VOL. XIV.

WATERVILLE, MAINE.... THURSDAY, FEB. 14, 1861.

NO. 32.

Mount Blanc to verdant Primrose Hill.—Lovely are the snow white locks, neatly parted over her serene forehead; lovely are the accents of her sweet voice, that speaks loving-kindness to all the world; lovely is the smile that starts from her eye, courses to her lips, and lights up all her countenance, when she fondles a child, or gives counsel of wisdom to a young man or maid; lovely is she even in her mild reproach of a wrong doer; so mild and gentle—so more than half divine—that he or she who relapses afterwards into wickedness, is reckless and hardened indeed.

I dislike ugly people. I said so at first. I say so now. No one has a right to be ugly; and if men and women choose to be ugly, it is their own fault, and they must pay the penalty.

A SOUTHERN VIEW.—Those who take anything more than a merely superficial view of party politics are aware that the present agitation at the South is but a struggle to recover lost political power, either in the Union or out. With but brief intervals, the South has swayed the government of this country and controlled its destinies. Of late years the political leaders of that section have accomplished this through the instrumentality of the Democratic party of the North. When this party was divided by the exorbitant demands of the Southern leaders, and became no longer reliable—when political power had slipped from their hands—the Southern leaders put in execution the threats which for many years past they have held as a rod over the North.

We have recently met with the following extract from the New Orleans Picayune, of a date anterior to the election, which shows how fully the government has been under Southern influence from its formation, and how much the Union has done for the South and its interests, including that of slavery. The facts, coming as they do from a Southern source, will not be gainsaid, and indeed are susceptible of demonstration:

"From the adoption of the Constitution to the election of Martin Van Buren—from 1789 to 1841—a period of sixty-two years, a Southern man occupied the honored post of Chief Executive of the nation, with the exception of the single term of each of the two Adamses from Massachusetts.

During this period, that of nearly two generations, two-thirds of the foreign missions and the more important of domestic offices were enjoyed by Southern men.

From 1841 to 1860, but two Presidents—Harrison and Fillmore—who were not emphatically the choice of the North, and really nominated and elected by the South.

Of the six Presidents since 1841, three were Southern men.

It was the boast of a Southern statesman, as late as ten years ago, that the South had dictated the domestic policy of the nation. The purchase of Louisiana territory was at the instigation of the South.

The annexation of Texas was conceived by Southern minds and achieved by Southern votes. The war of 1812, from which the country emerged with so much glory, was voted for and sustained by the South.

The war with Mexico, which added an empire in extent to the territory of the republic, is due to the policy of the men of the South; thus extending our southern boundaries from the western limits of Texas to the Pacific ocean. Of all this has the South reason to complain?

Our position is scarcely less improved, in these three years, in regard to the question of slavery. If, under the operation of the laws of climate and production, slavery has been extinguished in that little patch of States denominated New England, in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, the purchase of the territory of Louisiana has given us Louisiana, Arkansas and Missouri as slave States—a region of country much larger than from which State sovereignty has eradicated human bondage.

The annexation of Texas in 1845 devoted to slavery a territory equal to all New England, New York, and New Jersey, and the acquisition of New Mexico by conquest, in which slavery has been established by territorial law, carries the institution two degrees above the line of the Missouri compromise. Can we complain that the territorial limits of slavery have been circumscribed, or go back to this history of its extension to strengthen the catalogue of our grievances?

But it is said the perpetual agitation of the question in and out of Congress has driven the South to unjust concessions, every one of which should have been made the cause of resistance to the Federal Government; and that each, as it followed the other in the order of succession, increased the intolerance and aggression of the free North.

The Missouri compromise was the first. If it was wrong, the South has only to blame itself; for it came from a representative of a slave State, and was supported by the almost unanimous voice of Southern delegations in both houses of Congress. It was ratified again by the popular vote of the slave States, until it came to be regarded to have almost as binding a character as the Constitution itself.

The great struggle on the question of slavery resulted in the compromise bill of 1850. Here again the South gave birth to the act, and it was sustained not only by the Southern vote in Congress, but was ratified by the people themselves. Georgia and Mississippi and South Carolina made the issue of resistance against it, and the people, with minorities unprejudiced in any political contest, sustained the work of the noble patriots of that gloomy day.

The South is then precluded by its own action from reopening the issues then settled, and making them living questions at this time. Right or wrong, they belong to the dead past. A golden era of peace and general accord followed, until the elements of sectional strife were again let loose from their seared cavern by the repeal of the Missouri compromise and the Kansas and Nebraska bill.

Y., to furnish arms for the traitors. The establishment is largely engaged in the manufacture of guns and pistols. They refuse to fill any orders, whether to regular customers or others, when they suspect the arms are to go directly or indirectly into the seceding States for the use of the rebels. They have in several cases returned drafts sent in advance for guns and pistols ordered.

ITEMS OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIENCE.—No. 1.—1. All soils are benefited by under-draining, unless the subsoil is gravelly or porous enough to form a good drainage of itself. But the benefit of drainage is most apparent when applied to soils of a clayey nature, or having a subsoil retentive of moisture.

2. After drainage, subsoiling and thorough pulverization are the chief means to be employed to secure good crops on clay lands.

3. There is no soil so poor and sterile, but some means may be found to ameliorate it, and recuperate its wasted fertility.

4. Blowing sands may be made productive by spreading a thick coat of straw over the soil to remain a year or two till decayed, and then seeding clover on the straw without plowing, and afterward pasturing sheep on the clover.

5. Lime is not beneficial as a manure when applied to strong clays.

6. Seeding land to clover, and feeding off the clover by stock on the ground (sheep especially), is the cheapest and easiest mode of enriching the soil. According to Von Thaer, it adds 20 per cent. to its fertility each year.

7. Green crops plowed under are powerful auxiliaries in rendering a light soil fertile. But if this is done too often successively, it eventually renders the soil too carbonaceous—i. e., too full of vegetable matter.

8. The productiveness of the land depends greatly on the nature of the subsoil. If that is cold, wet and poor, all efforts to improve the soil will be labor in vain unless recourse is first had to underdraining.

9. Lands naturally fertile soon lose their fertility by growing successive grain crops on them, unless the organic elements abstracted by the crops are again restored to the soil in the shape of manures.

10. Deep plowing is beneficial on all soils that are not wet, and is the most so when done in the fall.

11. Two successive grain crops on the same ground leave the land in a foul state.

12. Summer fallowing, although apparently a waste of land and labor, is the most efficient means we have of preparing clayey soils for wheat. It ameliorates the soil, enables the seeds of all weeds to sprout and be destroyed, and by constantly turning and exposing the soil to the sun and air, renders the inorganic elements contained in it more readily available to the roots of the wheat plant.

13. Barn yard manure is best to be composted before it is applied to the land. It has then a greater value, weight for weight, than when in the long or unfermented state.

14. All concentrated manures, as guano, bone dust, sulphate of ammonia, etc., should be used sparingly at a time, and with a cautious judgment, and are best applied on or near the surface.—[Corr. Genesee Farmer.

FLAX COTTON.—The subject of discussion before the Legislative Agricultural Society Monday evening was the culture of flax and its preparation for spinning.

We have watched with much interest the movement for the introduction of the flax fibre as a substitute for cotton. There is reason to believe, incredible as it may seem, that another generation passes away, will take the place of cotton in so large a degree as not only to drive "King Cotton" from his throne and reduce him to the ranks, but to relieve the world from dependence on him altogether—enable it in fact to have plenty of shirts, if need be, without being helplessly dependent upon him and his workmen.

Somewhat less than seventy years ago the cultivation of cotton in the Southern States was an experiment; forty years ago the value of the crop was over \$20,000,000; at the present time that must be multiplied by ten. With all this the Southern planter had little to do; left to himself and his own genius and invention alone, there would have been no quarrel on the tapis to day about negro slavery, because nobody would have thought of Cotton as King. The vast impetus given to its cultivation grew out of the inventive genius of others. Whitney, Yankee, taught the planters how to clean it at a comparatively nominal expense; while Arkwright and others furnished the machinery by which the cost of spinning and weaving was reduced so low as to make the cloth incomparably the cheapest textile fabric the world had ever seen.

But genius is not dead nor invention exhausted. They have done with cotton, however, and are bestowing their attention elsewhere. For several years they have been performing experiments upon flax and hemp, with the hope of obtaining from one or both a substitute for cotton that would be cheaper than cotton itself, with the manifest advantage to the world, that its production would hardly be bounded by climate.

Several machines have already been produced which perform the work, but until very recently no one that could do it cheap enough. That point has now been reached, it is said, but whether it is or not, the principle has been discovered, and Yankee ingenuity will not let it alone till the machine is made which will take the flax as brought from the field, without any other preparation than drying, and turn out the fibre ready for spinning at a price not exceeding ten cents a pound. No invention could be more opportune, or so important to the free States. In less than thirty years from the first introduction of cotton seed into this country, the value of the crop exceeded twenty millions of dollars. So in less than that time, with the aid of this new invention, will the flax crop of New England alone be worth more than that sum, at the same time making us independent of the South; and of all other countries for our clothing.

In the adjoining city of Roxbury a manufactory is now established which imports rough flax from Iowa, converts it into various conditions suitable for mixing with cotton, wool or silk, or to be made into cloth by itself, and we understand that it is doing a profitable business. And we do not see why it should not, if a substance equal in value to middling cot-

ton can be produced—as we are assured that it can be—at ten cents a pound, and leave an ample profit. We believe the grand secret has been discovered which will convert "King Cotton" into a very useful and unpretending servant, and that as the process goes on, new machinery, or new inventions, will be brought in to facilitate the movement and make it a regular, important and permanent business.—[Boston Journal.

THE COMPROMISE PROPOSITIONS.—There are five distinct propositions of compromise in relation to the territorial question, now before Congress and the country, into some one of which all others may be substantially reduced:

I. Mr. Crittenden's which, by a constitutional provision, prohibits slavery north of lat. 36° 30'; and in all territory south of that line, now held or hereafter acquired, recognizes slavery as existing and to be protected by all the departments of the territorial government.

II. Mr. Douglas's which, by a similar provision, prohibits all interference by Congress with slavery in the territories, and remits the whole question to the action of the people of each separate territory.

III. The border State proposition, which also, by constitutional amendment, prohibits slavery north of 36° 30', and any interference with it south of that latitude, either by Congress or the territorial legislatures.

IV. That of Mr. K. Logg, of Illinois, which by like amendment, prohibits slavery north of 36° 30', and provides that, in territory south, it shall not be prohibited by congressional or territorial legislation.

V. That of Mr. Adams, substantially agreeing with that of the committee of thirty-three, and that of Mr. Rice, which provides for the immediate admission of New Mexico as a State.

In relation to the famous Crittenden compromise, it is idle to suppose that the Republican party will listen to it a moment. They might as well have allowed Mr. Breckinridge's election to have taken place. This doctrine was repudiated as strongly in the Presidential election by the Northern and Western Democrats as by the Republicans. The New York Times, in a well considered article, reminds the politicians of this, and says:

It must be remembered that the Democrats of the North braved the disruption of their own party rather than assent to the principle that Congress should protect slavery in any territory of the United States. The Southern majority report, submitted at the Charleston Convention, went no farther than to declare—

1. That Congress has no power to abolish slavery in the Territories.

2. That the Territorial Legislature has no power to abolish slavery in the Territories, nor to prohibit the introduction of slaves therein, nor any power to destroy or impair the right of property in slaves by any legislation whatever.

Yet against this, which stops far short of the Crittenden amendment, the Democrats of the Northern States offered a stern and unflinching resistance. And they finally rejected the doctrine which it embodied in the most distinct and emphatic manner—165 Democrats voted against it, while there were but 138—only 30 of whom were from Free States—who voted for it. And they even rejected a resolution declaring that the Democratic Party would abide by the decisions of the Supreme Court on this subject. It was this action which led to the secession of the Southern delegates from the Convention, to the disruption of the Democratic Party, the election of Mr. Lincoln, and the menacing dissolution of the American Union; and yet the Democrats of the North deliberately faced all these dangers, rather than assent to the principle, that the Constitution recognizes slavery in the Territories, and that Congress owes it protection.

With what possible claim to consistency, then, with what pretext of principle, can they now demand that the Republicans shall espouse a doctrine which they discarded, and to which, even to this day, they have never given their assent?

It is preposterous, under such circumstances, to expect that the Crittenden compromise, as it is called, can ever command the assent of the Republican party, or of the people of the Northern States.

SAWDUST AS A FIXER OF AMMONIA.—Sawdust is one of the very best absorbents for liquid manures. Mixed with dilute sulphuric acid, it is one of the best materials for fixing the ammonia which is given off in stables. The following experiments have been put on record: A shallow basin, in which sawdust moistened with dilute sulphuric acid was spread was hung up in a stable, and in the course of three weeks all the acid in the sawdust was completely neutralized by the ammonia in the air of the stable, and a considerable quantity of sulphate of ammonia was formed in the manure. For this reason, sawdust mixed with sulphuric acid is recommended as a means of keeping stables sweet and wholesome. The acid should be diluted with forty five times its bulk of water, before it is applied to the sawdust. Just enough should be applied to make the sawdust feel damp. On account of its porosity, sawdust retains the acid very perfectly, and presents a large surface for the absorption of the ammonia.

[Penn. Farmer and Gardener.

HOW AND WHAT TO READ.—Read much, but not many works. For what purpose, with what intent, do we read? We read not for the sake of reading, but we read to the end that we may think. Reading is valuable only as it may supply the materials which the mind itself elaborates. As it is not the largest quantity of any kind of food taken into the stomach that conduces to health, but such a quantity of such a kind as can be best digested; so it is not the greatest complement of any kind of information that improves the mind, but such a quantity of such a kind as determines the intellect to most vigorous energy. The only profitable kind of reading is that in which we are compelled to think, and think intensely; whereas that reading which serves only to dissipate and divert our thoughts, which is either positively harmful, or useful only as an occasional relaxation from severe exertion. But the amount of vigorous thinking is usually in the inverse ratio of multifarious reading. Multifarious reading is agreeable, but as a habit it is, in its way, as destructive to the mental, as draught-drinking to the bodily health. Our age, says Herder, is the reading age.

and he adds, "It would have been better, in my opinion, for the world and for science, if, instead of the multitude of books which now overlay us, we possessed but a few works, good and sterling, and which, as few, would be therefore more diligently and profoundly studied."—[Hamilton.

JUMPING FRENCHMEN OF MADAWASKA.—The Arcostook Pioneer contains an article on "Jumping Frenchmen," from the pen of Rev. M. R. Keep, who says that this singular phenomenon pervades probably a third or fourth part of all the men among the Madawaska French, who are known as "jumpers," or "jumping Frenchmen," terms that are quite familiar with all who have any acquaintance in the settlement, or with the men who come from there.

However this phenomenon may be explained, the certain fact is, that during the system, they have no personal control of their actions, nor do they set out anything before thought of as in the case of taking either exhilarating game. In social parties of either men or mixed sexes, it often serves as the means of much merriment. Sometimes when a man has hold and is ready for a large lift, a jumping start will "put him through" a good job.

Those who understand the matter and practice on their victims can tell them what to do at the same instant of giving them the sudden start, and they will do it, no matter what it is. At Fish River Mills they have been jumped out of a boat in the middle of the river. Some one on shore would, on a sudden, tell them to throw their paddle, and then jump out of the boat or canoe, and they would do both, where the water was ten feet deep and ice running.

The meaning of it is that they are victims of sudden starts or frights and involuntary uncontrollable spasmodic jumping accompanied by an involuntary unwhimsical scream, all of which to strangers not accustomed to the phenomenon is mysterious and frightful. It is hard calculating the length of time that the spasm continues, it is but little more than momentary though it seems, long sometimes on account of the painful sensations endured by the victim and bystanders.

If we are not mistaken the proportion of jumpers and their aptitude for the business has very much increased since our American lumbermen have had the opportunity to practice them, though they are much in the habit of practicing each other, and the more they are jumped by design and sudden starts the easier it becomes to make them jump. The involuntary action is violent and often such a tax upon their strength that they feel it for some time afterwards. In many cases it is seriously hurtful. The victims dread it, and will often, when they know what is coming and see the persons that have such intentions, their dread of the spasm, and their efforts to avoid it seem to increase their liability.

There is a general sameness in the movement with different victims, with only a difference in the degrees of intensity and violence. If the victim is standing and no one near him, the jump is directly up, with both hands stretched upward. If any person is within reach, they are apt to seize them by the throat with a dangerous grip, no matter who it is, the best friend or the most reverend priest. If they happen to have anything in hand they throw it, (and it often happens to be an ax, or other dangerous tool) into the face and eyes of a bystander. At Portage Lake, Mr. Blake once had two Frenchmen at work for him, the one jumping the other got a blow with an ax in the face and eyes, and was laid up a fortnight or so. He had been jumping his fellow Frenchmen all winter, and said he only intended to jump him that once more and then stop.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT COERCION.—Does it not look like coercion when ten thousand to twenty thousand men are in the field, armed, equipped, and avowing their hostility to the Union? If the insurgent States are not practicing coercion, we are ignorant of the meaning of the term. But then the federal government must not compel force by force. Oh, no! It must oppose to coercion of the worst character, bland smiles and honied words. The robber must be shown the keys; then treated to the best and told to go on his way rejoicing. Otherwise, there might be trouble in the house!

But we are pointed to the impossibility of coercing the people of fifteen States, and advised to learn from the example of the revolution. As if there was the slightest similarity between that heroic struggle for liberty and these wild, mobocratic demonstrations in behalf of slavery. As if there was a shadow of resemblance between the cool heads and honest hearts of that era, and the mad caps or precursors of this. There is abundance of contrast, but no similarity.

We deny simply that a majority of the people are committed to, or sympathize with this anti national policy. We deny that such a feeling exists in any State outside of South Carolina; and by the time her grand army have sat two months before Sebastopol, she will have come to a sounder mind on the subject. The ordinance of secession has in no case been submitted to a popular vote for ratification, and until that be done, the secessionists can be regarded in no light other than that of a mob in possession of the thoroughfares. As regards all such bodies, the only point about coercion requiring debate is when, where and how to begin. We are quite willing, as we said yesterday, to do anything that can honorably be done in the way of coercion, but we maintain equally that it is the duty of the federal government to employ all its force to repel and prevent such outrages upon federal property and federal rights as have been committed by the people of the rebel States.—[New York Com. Adv.

IMPORTANCE OF THE APPLE TO AID DIGESTION.—A raw mellow apple (says Hall's Journal of Health) is digested in an hour and a half, while boiled cabbage requires five hours. The white boiled dessert which can be placed on the table is a baked apple. It is taken freely at breakfast, with coarse bread and butter, without meat or fish of any kind, it has an admirable effect on the general system, often removing constipation, correcting acidities, and cooling off febrile conditions more effectually than the most approved medicines.

WHITENESS.—Whiteness adds so greatly to the picturesque in the cottage and the farm-

house, and is such an absorbent of impure odors, that it should be freely used, at least in the spring. Take half a bushel of fresh burned white lime, and slake it either with hot or cold water, in a tub or barrel. When thoroughly slaked, dissolve in the water required to thin the lime, two quarts of common salt, stir it thoroughly, add one quart of sweet milk, and it is ready for use, to be put on with a brush frequently stirring it up. Glues and gums cause it to scale off in hot weather.

[Hall's Journal of Health.

[From the Genesee Farmer.

Fancy Trotting Horses and Female Equestrianism.

'Are the interests of agriculture truly promoted by bestowing their highest premiums upon fancy trotting horses and female equestrianism?'

Our country is indebted for the race course, I believe, to England, it being early introduced into some of the Southern States, particularly into Virginia, where it exists at the present day as a sort of an institution, adapted in many respects to the wants and tastes of a portion of her people. For wealthy planters and their sons, luxurious in their habits, and living a life of independent ease, the excitement of the foot hunt and the race course seems to them almost a thing of necessity; and although horse racing there has usually been accompanied by betting, it finds apologists up to the present time. Gradually it has found its way into the Northern States, and in this era of wonderful improvements we find it inaugurated at nearly all our agricultural fairs, where it monopolizes not only nearly all the large premiums, but much of the time and attention of visitors also.

These societies are instituted for the improvement of agriculture, by the award of premiums for such articles as possess superior merit over those of the class to which they belong; and the classes, all will allow, should be arranged according to their relative importance to the farmer, and premiums should be awarded accordingly.

Almost the only real benefit claimed for the race or trotting course is, that it improves the breed of horses, the reverse of which we think is true. The history of the English race course proves it to be so. The veterinary surgeon to the Queen, in 1847, said: "Good horses were never so scarce in England as at the present time, and within the last twenty years they have degenerated so much as not to serve the useful purposes they were accustomed to; and even our carriage horses are conspicuous for their long necks, slab sides, and spindle legs;" the very counterpart of which is often seen at our agricultural fairs. Look at Virginia and we can see the exact measure of improvement the trotting course has had during a whole century! She is today dependent, in a great degree, upon other States for her supply of valuable horses. Look at one of the most famous horses now England has ever produced; although having the best blood in his veins and almost world-renowned for his speed, his stock, we are informed, are remarkable for unsoundness, and some at least are not of much credit to their illustrious sire.

Another objection to the exhibition of fast or fancy horses at our fairs is, they crowd out a more valuable class, those adapted to general use, among which are found those possessing many of the qualities of the Justin Morgan—docility, strength, style, action, with fair speed, and what is really worth more to the farmer than a great speed, a fast walk.

Still another objection is, they draw off the attention of people, particularly our young men, from more useful objects. Many a farmer has already found, to his disappointment and regret, that the attractions and excitement of the trotting match have given his sons a distaste to the common duties of the farm, and to own or drive the fastest horse and to get the highest premium at the State or County fair is the highest object of their ambition. Exhibitors also complain that their valuable articles and improvements, although highly commended by committees, command but little attention, and do not receive premiums that pay the cost of exhibiting them.

Yet another objection to the trotting course is, its cruelty. For weeks before and after the "grand trotting match" we see boys and fast young men, some of them with rickety, raw boned nags, "putting them over the course" or through the streets, and the cruel lash is applied by merciless drivers, with the flourish of getting the aching bones of half-starved animals up to a 240 speed! It is no less cruel to whip and spur the noble horse to the utmost speed in the trot or in the race, than it is to overload or otherwise abuse him.

One more objection to their exhibition is, a very large class of our most respectable citizens question the morality of the race course, and will, perhaps, silently but surely, withhold their patronage and attendance from our fairs if connected with it. This fact alone should induce the managers of these societies to hesitate in bestowing their largest premiums in this way. Very much to the credit of the agricultural press, some of its ablest and best conductors forbear to report the doings and results of this department of our horse-trotting agricultural fairs.

Our last objection is, our farmers do not own them, and in fancy horses have no personal interest whatever. A mowing machine, an effective ditching machine or potato digger is of more practical importance to them than all the fast horses upon the continent. Having, plundering Arabs have them; chivalrous sons of the South and fast young men of the North will have them; fugitives from justice and wild Indians would like them; but a vast majority of the farmers of the country never have had and never will have a particle more of interest in them than in raising grey hounds or rein deer, and therefore should not be obliged to pay their money at the gates of our fairs to encourage or support them.

Fancy horses will have their owners and admirers; and fairs expressly for their exhibition are, in every respect, the places for them; but at our agricultural fairs to present them should be offered or awarded to them. The presence of ladies and their contributions add much to the attractions and influence of our fairs and no one should wish to withhold either commendations or premiums for anything really meritorious or useful they may offer; and the question should be well considered, whether premiums might not well be given them for essays upon things which give beauty and comfort to our homes.

Female equestrianism, at proper times and proper places, can not be too boldly commended. A more healthful and invigorating exercise can hardly be found. But, young ladies ambitious for public applause would do well to remember that along with the huzzas of the crowd are heard also the low jests of the vulgar and that laurels won in the midst of a gaudy multitude are not more unfading than those which may be obtained in the quietude of their own homes, and that it would be better for them that their equestrianism, should not command a premium than that delicacy of character should be at a discount.

WISDOM FOR WINTER.—Never go to bed with cold or damp feet. In going into colder air, keep the mouth resolutely closed, that by compelling the air to pass circuitously through the nose and head, it may become warmed before it reaches the

lungs, and thus prevent those shocks and sudden chills which frequently end in pleurisy, pneumonia, and other serious forms of disease.

Never stand still a moment out of doors, especially at street corners after having walked even a short distance.

Never ride near the open window of a vehicle for a single minute, especially if it has been preceded by a walk; valuable lives have thus been lost, or good health permanently destroyed.

Never wear India-rubber boots in cold, dry weather.

Those who are easily chilled on going out of doors should have some cotton-bating attached to the vest or outer garment, so as to protect the space between the shoulder-blades behind, the lungs being attached to the body at that point; a little there is worth five times the amount over the chest in front.

Never begin a journey until breakfast is eaten.

After speaking, singing, or preaching, in a warm room in winter, do not leave it for at least ten minutes, and even then close the mouth, put on the gloves, wrap up the neck, and put on a cloak or overcoat before passing out of the door; the neglect of these has laid many a good and useful man in a premature grave.

Never speak under a hoarseness, especially if it requires an effort, or gives a hurting or painful feeling, for it often results in a permanent loss of voice, or a long life of invalidism.

[Hall's Journal of Health.]

The Eastern Mail.
EPH. MAXHAM, & DANIEL WING,
EDITORS.

WATERVILLE . . . FEB. 14, 1861.

AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.
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ALL LETTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS.
Relating either to the business or editorial department of this paper, should be addressed to "MAXHAM & WING," or "EASTERN MAIL OFFICE."

FAST HORSES.—We call attention to the article on our first page, from the Genesee Farmer, on the subject of trotting horses and female equestrianism at agricultural fairs.

We give it a place as the best summary we have seen of the arguments against these two features of our exhibitions. Let them be looked at carefully. Some of them are fallacious, while some of the evils mentioned are more than equalled in other departments. In regard to cruelty, for instance, let the trial of speed of horses be compared with the trial of strength of oxen. Witness the goading and straining and fretting of the naturally patient ox; and for what does not add a dollar to his value.

Indeed, we believe these trials a serious injury to oxen. They show their qualities only by impairing them. Everybody knows the effect of loading a horse or ox beyond his strength; it weakens his courage and gives him a lesson of disobedience. Oxen are valuable for what they weigh, and for good training, and not for hauling a few pounds more or less; and we all know that these trials are no test at all. Their qualities could be proved in a better way. In the speed of the horse seconds are dollars, and whether public sentiment is right or wrong, a 2.40 horse is worth a 2.40 price. To increase this speed is to increase the net profit to the owner—which is the corner stone of our agricultural societies. As to the word "fancy," one man fancies a strong horse and another a fast one, one a tall and another a short one; but the horse that brings the highest price is the one that "tickles fancy" in the tenderest place. Horses and oxen are raised for market, and those are best which in the open field of commerce give the best profit. As for the relative morality of whipping and trotting a horse and of goading and "hauling" an ox, nobody but a bigot can see any difference.

The article alluded to is right so far as it aims at the single point of proportioning the premiums on trotting to the other premiums. This should be done if it can be, and not deprive the owners of horses of the benefit which belongs to them; and if it cannot, then the trustees should be judges—moralists and dollars both being properly considered—whether the fast horses shall be excluded from the fair grounds.

But we did not propose to meet the arguments of the Genesee Farmer, but rather to commend them to the careful attention of our former readers, and leave them to judge for themselves.

THE WEATHER.—Our January thaw seems to have succeeded into the middle of February. It rained liberally through the day on Tuesday, and the snow drifts are very much reduced in size. Spring is close at hand, and though deeply buried in snow, promises well enough to spread her wings over the earth in due season. Let's enjoy the merry winter while we may, for a few days will bring the green grass and fragrant flowers. Then the skates and little sleds, the warm furs and good fires, and the cooing of comfort and playthings that have made winter so cheerful and happy, will be put aside for the occupations and pleasures, the sweat and toil of summer. Enjoy the winter, then, one and all, while you have it, for in a few days the music of its merry bells will cease.

STATE AGENT.—At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Maine Temperance Association, Dr. Benjamin Colby, of Portland, was unanimously appointed an agent of the Association. We doubt not the appointment will be universally satisfactory to the friends of Temperance throughout the State.

New York has surrendered those muskets, belonging to Georgia, recently seized on board the steamer Monticello, and the New York vessels of which possession had been taken at Savannah, by order of Gov. Brown, have been consequently given up.

OUR TABLE.

LADIES' REPOSITORY.—The embellishments in the February number, just received are "Keweenaw River, Cape of Good Hope," and a Portrait of Charlotte Brontë, both very fine pictures. The contents are excellent, as usual. Published by Poe & Hitchcock, Cincinnati, at \$2 a year.

THE LADY'S BOOK.—Godey's Lady's Book for March has a fine steel plate—"Christ Blessing Little Children," a beautifully colored double fashion plate, a whole sheet of Spring Dresses and Spring Bonnets, and numerous other embellishments. "Drawing Lessons," Model Cottages, "Department for Children," and original Health articles, are four specialties, found in no other magazine, which give the work a value to the public possessed by none of its rivals. Published by L. A. Godey, Philadelphia, at \$3 a year.

[For the Eastern Mail.]

A VALENTINE.

BY J. T. OWEN.

DEAR ONE—To thee, with trembling hands,
An offering I bring;
Not rich with gold or silver,
Nor fair with flowers of Spring;
Not flashing with the golden light
The setting sun flings o'er the sea,
Nor with the pale radiance bright
Of moonlight on the dewy lea;
No diamond from Golconda's caves,
No pearl from Ocean's dashing waves.

'Tis laden full with priceless gems—
The wealth of hope and love,
(Richer than royal diadems.)
Man's boon from Heaven above—
With the garnered love of many days,
With memories warm and bright,
With the treasure of radiant rays
Of affection's holy light—
With the wealth of a heart, warm, true and free,
'Tis rich with purest love for thee.

How oft it is that round the heart
The insistent notes of a song will linger,
And tears from our eyes at the tones will start,
Though years ago we've forgotten the singer;
And in years to come perchance some note
Of my humble song may memories awaken,
Like the misty fancies that round us float,
On the borders of dreamland, 'twixt sleep and waking—
While the memory of the singer's face,
Like the changing forms in a Shylo's mirror,
Shall have gone from thy mind and left no trace,
But into oblivion passed forever.

But if only a smile my song should bring,
Or its earnestness ridicule awaken,
Know—I sing because I love to sing,
And remember 'tis easy to be mistaken;
For if too much of love appear in my lines,
Believe that I'm writing a VALENTINE.

IS ALCOHOL FOOD?—In some issue of the Westminster Review, during the year 1855, the Liebigian doctrine of the alimentary nature of alcohol was put forth and strongly enforced in an able article, from which the enemies of temperance, and especially the moderate drinkers, drew much aid and comfort.

Since the date of that article, science has been busy, and new facts have come to light, and "faithful to the revelations of science, rather than mindful of consistency," says the editor, manfully and frankly, "we hasten to lay before our readers the last results of a long and laborious series of experiments bearing on the subject in question." These details, as they are somewhat lengthy, and to the general reader a little abstruse, we will leave the curious to learn from the pages of the Review, but the conclusions arrived at we give below—

commending them to the attention of all, and particularly to those who "take a little for the stomach's sake and their often infirmities," under the impression that they thereby strengthen and invigorate the system.

From these experiments our authors think themselves justified in drawing the conclusion, that alcohol undergoes no combusive action in the living body, but that the whole of what is ingested is excreted unchanged; so that this substance has no claim whatever to rank among articles of food, but must be placed in the category of those medicinal or toxic agents, whose presence in the living body exerts an important influence on its functions, though they do not themselves enter into combination with any of its components.

Whether alcohol be taken into the stomach, or the vapour of chloroform or ether be inhaled through the lungs, no sooner has it been received into the circulating current, than it is treated as a substance altogether foreign to the body, which is to be removed by the excretory organs as rapidly as possible. Those organs continue to eliminate it, until the blood has been entirely freed from it; and then, but not till then, its perverting influence upon the nervous functions ceases to be manifested.

There is no more evidence of alcohol being in any way utilized in the body, than there is in regard to ether or chloroform. If alcohol is to be still designated as food, we must extend the meaning of that term so as to make it comprehend not only ether and chloroform, but all medicines and poisons, in fact everything which can be swallowed and absorbed, however foreign it may be to the normal constitution of the body, and however injurious to its functions.

On the other hand, from no definition that can be framed of a poison, which should include those more powerful anaesthetic agents, whose poisonous character has been unfortunately too clearly manifested in a great number of instances, can alcohol be fairly shut out.

MAINE LEGISLATURE.—On Friday last, the Executive and Legislative bodies visited Portland by invitation of the city authorities, where they were hospitably entertained and shown all the notable sights, including the rooms at the new city building specially designed for the use of the State. On Saturday nothing was done in either branch, as a quorum could not be had.

On Monday, in the Senate, a bill providing for the organizing of a force of 1000 volunteers, after a warm discussion was passed to be engrossed. In the House, bill to incorporate the Maine Board of Trustees for Temperance, passed to be engrossed. Among petitions presented and referred were the following:—

Of W. Getchell and others of Waterville, for improvement of the navigation of Kennebec River; of J. F. Noyes and others, for establishment of an Institution for the Blind.

FIRE.—The match factory of Mr. Winslow Marston, near Crommett's mills, in this village, was destroyed by fire on Monday afternoon. The alarm called out both fire companies, but the building being of brick and without windows or other access to the fire, they could do but little. Nothing was saved but the walls. No insurance—the amount of loss we do not learn. This is the third time this concern has been destroyed within a few years.

The Richmond Enquirer (Wise's organ) asserts most emphatically that ex-Governor Wise does not, and never has, contemplated, engaged in, advised, or attempted any arming or organization for the purpose, or with the intent, of

making any assault or military demonstration whatsoever against the city of Washington; but concludes as follows:—

"But we tell the people of Washington, at the same time, that their lives and property are placed in manifest jeopardy by the intrigues of Scott, Seward & Co. The city of Washington, unoccupied by military forces, would offer a refuge of safety. But as soon as the State of Virginia shall take active measures of resistance to Black Republican rule, her authorities cannot and will not brook the presence of a Federal army of coercion at Washington. If the army shall remain there, it must be driven out and the city captured, even if an assailing force of one hundred thousand men shall be required, and if successful assault shall first require a cannonade which will level every roof with the pavements of the streets."

Massachusetts Correspondence.

NEW BEDFORD, 2d mo., 6th, 1861.

Messrs. Editors:—I notice in your paper of last week, a statement that you had now enough to last until June, if the thermometer does not interfere with it, and I see from many papers from the States of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, that those States are covered with snow to a greater depth than has been the case for a number of years; also that the weather has been very severe.

Now I can tell a different story, with regard to this section of the country. If I say we have had at one time four inches of snow upon the ground this Winter, I think I should stretch the truth; or if I say that there have been three days of goods leighing in this city in the past three months, I shall magnify the statement.

Why, gentlemen, you cannot imagine, unless you have lived here, the eagerness of the multitude to catch a sleigh ride; even though the runners of the horse-sled (for I cannot say that many of the so-called sleighs look much like those Marston or Brown manufacture) drag upon the bottom. If there comes two inches of snow, such a tinkering of old coats, such a splicing and repairing of buckle and strap, may not be seen in any other part of this land of genius and Yankee contrivance, in mid-winter.

The average temperature of the weather has been about 25 above zero; some days it has been warm enough to remind us that one coat was sufficient for comfort, the thermometer indicating 50 above.

Well, this may all appear very pleasant, and many who in Maine may hear of the state of the weather here, may say, "I wish I were out of this cold country, so cold that it is next to an impossibility for the sun to rise, and situated in the south eastern part of Massachusetts, where they get clear of snow-drifts, and cold fingers." But before you put your wishes into action, let me say a word to you.

I have lived in both places; and give me old Maine yet for all of your half-way, sleek and rainy, windy, and everything but agreeable weather. Give me the place, where amid the dullness that always characterizes our Northern States in Winter, the jingling sleigh bell makes merry music; where old and young mingle in the healthful exercise of coasting, and partake of that air which animates and invigorates the system. Where the people can't move about and drag themselves along like the coward going into battle; but where each and all are made to step as though marching to the tune of "Hail Columbia" or "Yankee Doodle."

Yes, though you think you suffer, you enjoy Winter much better than those who look upon the earth and see nothing but a barren waste, while the chilling winds sweep over you and all nature seems intent on giving you the blues.

I mentioned the Petroleum oil in my last letter. Since that time I have investigated somewhat the reasons why this oil is taking the place of Kerosene, and I may say that the difference in the two kinds is hardly perceptible. The petroleum, as probably you know, is extracted from coal by nature, and only requires a simple process to prepare for burning; while, (as I am informed) the kerosene is manufactured from an extract from the same kind of coal from which petroleum comes, and the reason why it (petroleum) is gaining the ascendancy in the market, is merely because it is prepared for market at a much less expense of labor than the other.

Yours, very truly, W. G. S.

FARM CLUB!—Mr. Geo. E. Shores invites the Farmers' Club to try it once more, and promises that his latch string shall be out on Tuesday evening next. It is in an old saying that "the good farmer conquers the moon;"—shall the Waterville Farmers club conquer the weather?

STARVING KANSAS!—We are requested to call a meeting of all who sympathize in the sufferings of the people of Kansas, at Town Hall, on Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Let men and women, old and young, whether they can help or not, come and learn to feel for their starving countrymen. Much is to be done, and everywhere else the good work is in progress.

CHILD SCALDED.—A fine little boy, child of Joseph and Flora Talouse, was badly scalded on Saturday by falling backwards into a pail of hot water. He was alive yesterday, but with little hope of his recovery. It is the old case—a pail of water to wash the floor, and the mother stepped aside but for a moment. It has happened ten thousand times, and will happen ten thousand more. (Since dead.)

OUR MIND, EXACTLY.—A Boston traveler, on his return from a trip through Maine, speaks of that excellent house, the U. S. Hotel, Portland, as follows:—

"They may talk of new hotels in that and other cities, but for comfort as well as order and good living, nothing can go ahead of this magnificent and extensive establishment. It is kept in first rate manner by Solomon Myrick, the proprietor, who is entitled to the traveler's warmest approval, and not a little of it too, should fall to the share of his able assistant, Mr. Baker."

THE HEROINE OF FORT PICKENS.—Mrs. Slemmer, who threatened to manage one of the guns herself at Fort Pickens, is only twenty years of age. She is the daughter of Rev. John Reynolds of New Jersey. A writer says:—

"Her education has been very complete. Her intellectual faculties are of the highest order. Her mind is quick, strong and courageous, making her speech to the rebels exactly what one might have expected from such a heroine. In face and features she is extremely prepossessing, with very captivating manners. She is worthy to be the wife of the hero of Fort Pickens."

LIBERIA.—President Benson, in his recent annual message to the Legislature, complains much about the treatment of Liberia by our Government and makes the following suggestion:—

"It is for you to determine at this session if, after its close, it can be regarded any longer as politic or even just to this Government to accord such commercial privileges to citizens of the United States as are accorded to citizens of the most favored nations with which we have treaties of friendship and commerce, based upon principles of reciprocity, when the United States government refuses to accord to us similar privileges."

REMEMBER!—This evening, Thursday, Mr. Saxe will give his popular poem entitled "Love," at Town Hall. It is the first literary entertainment that has come to our citizens from abroad this winter, and will probably be the last; and the price of tickets has been arranged to bring it within the reach of all.—Single tickets 15 cts.; gentleman and lady 25 cts.

REINFORCING FORT SUMTER.—On Friday the President sent a message to Congress, enclosing the correspondence between himself and Col. Hayne of South Carolina. In reply to Col. Hayne, Mr. Secretary Holt, under date of the 6th, says:—

"The question of reinforcing Fort Sumter was fully disposed of in my letter of the 22d ult. to Senator S. Mall, a copy of which accompanies this, that its discussion would not be renewed.—I said at the present moment it is not deemed necessary to reinforce Major Anderson because he makes no such request; should his safety, however, require reinforcement every effort will be made to supply them. I can add nothing to the explicitness of this language, which still applies to the existing status."

AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—The great Brooklyn meteorologist, (not theologian) Mr. Merriam, publishes the following paragraph in the Journal of Commerce;—

"The atmospheric wave that produced such a frantic state in the human mind in Syria has passed slowly Westward in the path of the sun, and its influences are seen in the same parallel on this Continent. Syria is between 31 and 37 North latitude.

REPORT ON COMMON SCHOOLS.—The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, for 1860, is an able and interesting document. Mr. Weston shows himself to be the right man for the place, and his remarks and suggestions upon our school system are deserving of special attention. We copy the following facts, promising to make further extracts at a future time:—

The number of teachers reported this year is 7408, of whom 4632 were females and 2776 males, an increase of 1419 in ten years. The increase in the number of female teachers is greater than in the number of males. The average wages of male teachers, per month, exclusive of board, were \$21.81, being an increase in ten years of \$4.66 per month; the average wages of females were \$20.93 per month, exclusive of board, being an increase of \$0.67 per month. The cost of 121 school houses built during the year ending April 1st, 1860, was \$59,135. The whole number of school houses in the State is 3,946, of which only 1,889 are reported to be in good condition. Number of school districts, 4,146, and 387 parts of districts. Average length of winter schools 10, 410 weeks—summer schools 10, 610 weeks. Average number of scholars attending winter schools, 118,399; whole number registered in winter schools, 141,747—average number attending summer schools, 102,950—whole number registered, 134,624.—Whole number of children between the ages of 4 and 21 years, 243,376.

THE REVOLUTION.—Next in order of events for February will be the following:—

13. Tennessee, election for convention.
18. Virginia, convention meets.
18. Arkansas, election for convention.
18. Missouri, election for convention.
25. Tennessee, convention meets.
28. North Carolina, convention meets.
28. Missouri, convention meets.

PARSON BROWNLOW FIRM TO THE END.—In the last issue of the Knoxville Whig, Parson Brownlow says:—

"We are informed that Mr. . . . of the Ninth Civil District of Knox, has proposed to join a company at any time, to come to Knoxville and hang the editor of this paper. We propose next Monday as a suitable day, and we invite our Union friends to attend and witness the execution! We propose to make a speech under the gallows, and relate our political experience. There will be a mass meeting of the party here on that day, and the hanging of the 'notorious Brownlow' will greatly add to the interest of the occasion!"

COLD!—The cold weather last week was the most severe, in many parts of New England, to be found on record. Cases of freezing to death have been numerous; but the frost-bitten noses and ears, fingers and toes, were beyond all example. Mr. Reuben Emery, the hardy and wide-awake driver of the Norridgewock stage from this place, came so near freezing to death that he had to be carried into the house on reaching Fairfield. All about us we see little dusky spots on the noses, cheeks and ears of our neighbors, telling that the frost lumps have nipped them unawares. The thermometer ranged between 30 and 40, at various places; but the cold wind that everywhere prevailed, gave the weather a degree of severity almost unequalled.

TENNESSEE.—Good news comes from this State, which has gone for the Union by 50,000 majority. There will be no Convention. One county (Matham) is a unit for the Union. E. N. Banks, Republican, was elected Mayor of Bladeford on Monday last.

Hon. William A. Graham of North Carolina writes that he has not been tendered a seat in Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet, and if he had been he should have declined. At the same time he does not believe his election sufficient cause for the abandonment of our government, or its overthrow by violence. He adds:—

"The real grievances of which the South has a right to complain—and as to which none are more earnest in desiring redress than myself—are not the result of Presidential usurpations; they spring from a disregard of the obligations of the Constitution, among a large portion of the people of the non-slaveholding States, favored in many instances by the action of their State governments. The remedies for them, if the present Congress fail to agree upon them, should, in my opinion, be sought by a calm appeal to the people—through a convention of all the States. Such a body has never been assembled since the adoption of the federal constitution. It would probably be free from the asperities which have characterized the deliberations of Congress, and if upon a candid confession of opinions our differences should be found to be irreconcilable, it could provide for that peaceable separation so much to be desired, if it must come, and which is hardly possible in any other mode."

The Raleigh (N. C.) Standard predicts that if the difficulties between the North and South should not be settled within the next six months, war will be the result, three or four confederacies will be formed, and the consequences to slavery will be fatal. The Standard says:—

"If war once breaks out, it will rage in the interior, on our seacoasts, on the high seas, and on our frontiers. One section will let loose the Indians on another section. Twenty millions of Northern people will at once become our enemies. They will war upon us along a line of three thousand miles from the Atlantic to the Pacific. One section will call in foreign troops against another section. One confederacy will humble itself before the powers of Europe to get better commercial terms than the other confederacies. Meanwhile war will rage. Negro property will cease to be valuable, because the products of slave labor and of all other labor will be in a great degree cut off from the markets in the world. The negroes will know, too, that the war is waged on their account. They will become restless and turbulent."

Heavy taxes will result from these wars. These taxes must be paid mainly out of slave labor. Strong government will be established, and will bear heavily on the masses. The masses will at length rise up and destroy everything in their way. State bonds will be repudiated. Banks will break. Widows and orphans will be reduced to beggary. The sword will wave everywhere paramount to all law. The whole world outside the slaveholding States, with slight exceptions, is opposed to slavery; and the whole world, with slave labor thus rendered insecure and comparatively valueless, will take sides with the North against us. The end will be—Abolition!"

We find the subjoined statement relative to Fort Sumter, in a New York paper:—

Letters of the 4th inst., from Charleston state that Gov. Pickens has yielded to the point to allow Major Anderson to make his own contract for provisions, consisting chiefly of fresh meat. It was very difficult to find parties who would venture to make a contract, fearing they would be lynched, but a man was at last found, and the supply is being made twice each week, but only for immediate use, so that the State authorities can stop the supplies at any time.

The stories about mutiny and insubordination among Maj. Anderson's men can find no better refutation than in the fact that many of the men have served their time out and are entitled to leave, but refuse to re-enlist, and declare they will never desert their post while Maj. Anderson remains, or the flag waves over them, unless ordered away by their government.

The Cumming's Point Battery, which is the nearest to Fort Sumter, only three-fourths of a mile distant, is directed against what is supposed to be the weakest part of the fortress, the walls of which are three and a half feet thick, and two hundred feet long. The guns in the battery are three columbiads and some mortars.

The floating batteries being erected up in the cove near Mount Pleasant for besieging Fort Sumter are of little account, and an army officer writes that they will only convey those who take passage upon them to watery graves. It will be three weeks before the floating batteries are completed.

THE PEACE CONGRESS.—The New York Herald's correspondent says of Saturday's proceedings:—

"After filling up the committee who are engaged upon some mode of adjustment, with a member from New York, Tennessee, Missouri and Massachusetts—the Commissioners from these States having arrived—the Convention adjourned."

The committee, however, are assiduously engaged at their work, and expect to be able to report to the Convention early next week.

Nearly every member has a proposition which he thinks will save the country. The plan submitted by Reverdy Johnson of Maryland is well received. It will probably be the basis of the settlement which this Convention will adopt. It is substantially as follows:—

1. That Congress shall not have the power to legislate in reference to the subject of servitude anywhere, except to aid in the execution of the provision of the Constitution in reference to the return of fugitives from service, and to suppress the foreign slave trade.

2. No Territorial Legislature shall have power to establish or protect slavery in any Territory north of the southern line of Kansas and the northern line of New Mexico, or to impair, hinder or prevent any person from carrying into and holding any person held to service south of said line.

Mr. Guthrie has submitted a proposition, which is before the committee, embodying substantially the Crittenden plan.

There is but one State where Commissioners have been sent that is unrepresented. He is expected to be present on Monday. There will then be twenty-one States represented.

The appointment of Major General Wool as one of the Commissioners gives no encouragement in Southern military circles that terms acceptable to the South will be proposed by the Peace Conference. General Wool was on the floor of the House to-day receiving congratulations.

A NEW DODGE.—The pick-pockets in Boston have adopted a new dodge. Disguising themselves as hackmen, they will visit the depots and assist ladies and gentlemen into carriages, and while so doing pick their pockets.

THE NEW POSTAL BILL.—The postal measure which passed the House of Representatives by a large vote on Wednesday, authorizes the Postmaster General to discontinue the mail routes, "when in his opinion the postal services cannot be safely continued, or the post office revenues collected, or the postal laws maintained, by reason of any insurrection or resistance to the laws of the United States, and until he deems it safe to re-establish such routes."

Of course, whenever the Postmaster General finds it necessary to act upon the authority here given, some inconvenience will be felt without as well as within the "infected district." If the bill becomes a law, however, the seceded States will probably take measures to establish postal communication on their own account.

The Chicago Tribune furnishes the following intelligence from Tennessee:—

"An intelligent gentleman recently for some weeks a sojourner in Tennessee, assures us that the people of the North have no idea of the extent to which military preparations are being carried on in the South, and instances the results of his own observations in Tennessee. The entire white adult population seem to have given themselves up to bearing arms and practicing with the same, to the abandonment of their ordinary pursuits."

Companies of cavalry are being widely organized and thoroughly drilled. In one place he visited, he was a witness at the field day of a corps of forty young men, each armed with the Maynard rifle, and giving proof of excellent marksmanship in their riddled target. One sentiment and note of at least preparation pervades the entire community over every thing else. These are the observations freshly recorded of a citizen of Illinois just returned from the vicinity of Memphis. Coming back to our own community, he pronounces the contrast offered striking and almost incredible."

The Patterson (N. J.) Guardian narrates a horrible case of Southern fanaticism and brutality. Two young working men, the ones named Ackerman and the other Bartolf, went South in the autumn to work at their trades. They found work in the vicinity of Charleston, South Carolina, but on the outbreak of the secession frenzy lost their employment. All business was stopped, and they concluded to come home. But having to wait several days in order to get the money due them, they were denounced in the interval as abolitionists and spies, the mob seized them, and they were tried and hung within an hour.

"The first intimation," says the Patterson paper, "that was received concerning their fate, came from the man for whom they had worked in the vicinity of Charleston, who, finding out what had been done and where Bartolf's father lived, wrote a statement of the circumstances, regretting the affair, and saying that had he been informed or time allowed the suspected persons, their innocence might have been established and their lives saved. An agent has been dispatched by the friends of the deceased, and it is supposed the remains of the unfortunate young men will be brought on for interment. Both were clever and industrious mechanics, and were unmarried men. Concerning another young man who was with them and formed one of the party, nothing is known, and it is believed he too was in some way or other disposed of by the traitors who hold high revel now in the city of Charleston."

FROM WASHINGTON. We take the following from the N. W. York Tribune's dispatch:—

Winter Davis fully answered public expectation in his brave, able and effective speech to-day. It was up to the occasion and exuberant in every respect, and produced much impression. He throttled Secession, and boldly proclaimed that wherever the authority of Government was impeded it should march on, disregarding all obstacles. The law must be enforced, and to stigmatize that duty with the name of coercion was monstrous. He sustained the propriety of Mr. Corwin's Committee, with great effect, and ridiculed Mr. Crittenden's proposition, showing up the inconsistency of those who first urged the repeal of the Missouri Compromise because it was a badge of dishonor and inequality, and now urged it as a measure of conciliation. Maryland would be true to the Union; but if, by any misfortune, a majority should be misled, the minority would still fight for their rights under the stars and stripes. The galleries were crowded, and he was frequently applauded at particular passages.

From the Courier and Enquirer's correspondence:—"There appears to be somewhat more of a disposition than heretofore to question the wisdom of the extreme measures proposed in the resolutions of Mr. Crittenden. Nineteen-twentieths of the prestige they seem to have enjoyed with the people, as evidenced in the petitions poured into Congress, has been derived from the untold circumstances of panic and terror into which the country has been thrown by Democratic and Southern reckless audacity, conjoined with the hope to overthrow the Republican party. I think those resolutions are weakening every day, and the proposition to introduce New Mexico as a State is increasing in strength. But the proposition of Kentucky, as presented through the President of the United States, for a National Convention, is much the best of all the plans proposed. Kentucky is much more reliable than Virginia."

THE SINKING OF WAR.—A gentleman recently from Washington was informed by a high official there that Floyd, the defaulting ex-Secretary of War, had actually transferred to the disunionists, in various ways, \$50,000, and this is what they are now working upon. Another leakage in the War Department, connected with the Utah contracts, has just been discovered. It amounts to \$120,000. Defaulters, speculators, traitors, are the words which history will write against the name of the modern Benedict Arnold.

About one o'clock on Wednesday morning, the 6th inst., fire was discovered in the mill carried on by Wm. Perkins and Benj. Shaw, on the Cobboscontee stream, below the paper mill, in Gardiner. The mill, machinery, raw and manufactured stock were entirely consumed. Loss, above the insurance, \$2500. Messrs. Perkins & Shaw were hard working, prudent and good citizens

