

coals upon a shovel, and preparing to march with them to an adjoining room. It was late in the afternoon, and by some clerical instinct he thought the old woman was about to prepare his supper.—“He couldn't stand that. ‘Stop, sister, stop,’ he said; ‘I shall not remain to supper, and you need not trouble yourself to prepare any for me.’ ‘I ain't a going to,’ said the old lady in reply; ‘thar's a woman here got the colic, and we're just a bilin' some yarbs for her!’ I wasn't there just at that time, but I could discover no difficulty in believing that all the starch was very speedily taken out of that sermon.”

GOOD STORIES AND TOUGH ONES.

We like a good story, if it is not too tough. Our esophagus (as the Doctors say,) is pretty large, but we have tried the following, and find that it is “no go.” The Catochin (Ind.) Whig, says:

“At this office may be seen for a few days a rare curiosity, in the shape of a cane, which was used for many years by John McNeal, Esq., and which he stuck in the ground on his farm, 3 miles N. E. of Middleton, (now the property of Jacob Michael, Esq.,) about 45 years ago—the cane commenced growing, and in a short time a thick coat of bark was formed around it, and having been carefully trimmed as it grew up and increased in dimensions to the height of ninety feet—the tree after withstanding the wintry blasts of 45 years, yielded up its vitality, and was cut down by Mr. Michael a few weeks ago. In splitting up the first cut, the identical cane as first planted dropped from the centre of the log just the same as it was when planted 45 years ago.”

This tale can only be matched by one from the Jewish Talmud, which is prolific of large stories. In that voracious chronicle a bird is mentioned which was so large that when it spread its wings it blotted out the sun.

On one occasion an egg fell from out its nest, and the white thereof broke and glued about three hundred cedar trees, and overflowed a village. One of the birds standing in the water, was seen by some mariners, and as the water only reached to the lower joint of the leg of the bird, the mariners were about to bathe, when a voice from heaven said, “Step not in here, for seven years ago there a carpenter dropped his axe, and it hath not yet reached bottom!”

We have not a doubt that the above mentioned axe was the very one used in cutting down the aforesaid tree!

Not to abuse our readers' credulity, we will now give them a story which is good enough to be true. It shows what kind of stuff there is in the Turkish army.

TURKISH GALLANTRY.—When crossing at Hirschova, a single Turk exhibited a degree of bravery which would parallel anything of the kind performed in our Mexican war. He was a private of the Bachi Bayouk, and being separated from his regiment while retreating, was set upon by four Russians. As the foremost trooper struck at him, the Turk seizing the horse's bridle and throwing him on his haunches, at one blow cleft the rider's skull; then springing to the empty saddle, he turned to face the other three, (one of whom was an officer,) and for some minutes maintained the unequal conflict, until a second Russian bit the dust. By a desperate effort, the Moslem now seized the officer, although a much larger man, and hurled him to the ground; then, with a trenchant blow he overthrew the remaining soldier, and securing the horses, made good his retreat to the Turkish camp, where his gallantry was rewarded by his being made captain on the spot.—*Portland Transcript.*

Letter from a Sailor Boy.

The following letter is from a youth of 18, one of the many volunteers who joined the fleet on the commencement of the war:—“H. M. S. Magicienne, off Copenhagen, April 7, 1854.—Dear Parents.—I well know the joy that will arise at the receipt of this. I am quite well and in good cheer, anxiously looking forward for next Thursday. On that day, 'tis said, the fleet will endeavour to take some Islands. We joined the Baltic fleet after suffering from the cold and some squalls. But, father, even a coward's heart would gain courage by beholding the many large and beautiful ships anchored here—Duke of Wellington, Neptune, Royal George, Jean D'Acre, La Hogue, &c., &c., upwards of 15, all splendid ones. To quote what Sir Charles said the other day:—“War boys, war is proclaimed by England; and if Russia does not come out, we must only go in and drag them out!” “Splice the main brace;” that is, double the allowance of grog—three cheers. * * * I hope my mother is not uneasy, for I am as happy here as pelting snowballs in the H. F. H. Yard. * * * This is no place for me, as the snow and

the blazing forth of our guns will warm the air. I have now a rifle and bayonet, and cutlass. I am in the second division of boarders, and also belong to a storming party, so if anything is doing I shall have my share of it. We expect the fine weather shortly—the sooner it comes the sooner comes the struggle. Everything is prepared, everything to defeat the many plans of ‘Jack Roosh,’ as he is styled by the tars. It is said they are sinking rocks, but we have buoys to place there to show all who come after us where they are. A nice job to place them under the fire of the batteries. But we all won't be killed—some will escape, and perhaps I shall be one, and if not, why father, you may safely say I died endeavouring to do my duty; I am quite reconciled myself on either side, to gain or die. It is my first trial, but I shall put forth all my courage and calmness, and when I am leaping 'mid heaps of pointed pikes and sharpened cutlasses, may God's blessing and yours protect me. * * * When I join my hands in prayer often do I imagine that you are also at that moment praying for me. May God hear our prayers.”—*Glasgow Sat. Post.*

SCIENTIFIC FACTS.—Count Rumford, by boring a cannon within water, so heated it by the friction that he made it boil, and actually boiled a piece of beef in it.

One gallon of water in steam will raise six gallons from 56 to 211.

Four lbs. of beef loses 1 lb. by boiling, 1 lb. 5 oz. by roasting, and 1 lb. 3 oz. by baking. Four lbs. of mutton loses 14 oz. in boiling, 1 lb. 6 oz. by roasting, and 1 lb. 4 oz. by baking.

Lamps were used by the ancients, and candles were an invention of the middle ages. At first, wicks were made of hemp, papyrus, and the pith of rushes. Ox and sheep tallow are now preferred.

One pound of hydrogen consumes or fixes seven and a half pounds of oxygen, which melts 320 pounds of ice. One pound of wax, oil or tallow consumes or fixes two pounds of oxygen, which melts 184 pounds of ice.

The invisible radiations from heated bodies may be acted upon by refraction of light, but they do not pass through transparent bodies.

A volume of ice is melted by as much heat as will raise an equal bulk of water 140 degrees.

DIVORCE EXTRAORDINARY.—A woman applied to one of our attorneys not long since to take steps towards procuring a divorce on account of habitual drunkenness and ill treatment in her liege lord.—The attorney who is a strong temperance man, was much impressed with the story of her wrongs and engaged to commence necessary proceedings at once. A few days ago, the fair plaintiff called again to consult about the case, and at the close of the interview inquired how long it would be before the matter was finally consummated. The attorney replied that he sincerely commiserated her situation, and would do all he could to relieve her from it in the shortest possible time. He thought he would be able to do so against the 1st of September, at farthest. ‘Oh!’ said she, her voice betraying the deepest emotions; “can't it be done sooner, for I'm engaged to marry another feller in July?” The attorney cauliflowered.—*Lafayette (La.) Journal.*

CANINE SAGACITY.

After reading the following incident, which took place recently in this village, the reader perhaps will agree with us that it is quite time that the satirical expression “eat and dog life,” was rubbed out:—A grimalkin venturing into the street, was observed by a mastiff, and as he was about to pounce upon pussy, the latter was seized by a great bulldog, who carried her to a place of safety and then returned and gave the mastiff a shaking he will not soon forget. The friendship existing between the dog and the cat, is probably owing to the fact that they are both harbored in the same store, one to watch the two-legged and the other the four-legged night intruders.

MORAL.—Do not lightly prize even the good will of a dog.—*Sandwich Observer.*

The Provincial papers of Wednesday are brim full of patriotism and loyalty, shouting “God save the Queen” and “The Queen, God bless her,” in the largest capitals. In the present warlike condition of England, it is well for Her Majesty that there is such entire unanimity in the good feeling toward her, throughout all her territories. We of the States, even, in view of her present emergencies, are almost tempted to exclaim with them, “God save the Queen.”—*The State of Maine.*

GEM.—Sir the nite eye stopt with u i left a travel bag with a bookin it and a dirty shirtinit. I will be much obliged to you if you will tak the directions out and sent it to the staze house in

An inquest was held in York, England, not long since, on a young lady, whose death resulted from tight laced stays. The deceased was seventeen years of age, and was removing some candlesticks from the chimney place to the table when she fell down in a state of insensibility. A surgeon and the girl's father were sent for, but before either of them arrived she expired. It appears that the girl had been wearing a pair of stays which were very strong and tightly laced. The surgeon said the deceased had died of apoplexy, caused by the pressure of the stays, they being too tightly laced. A verdict in accordance with this opinion was returned by the jury.

ADVANTAGES OF PAYING FOR A NEWSPAPER IN ADVANCE.—One of the facts put in evidence at the trial in the Supreme Court, to sustain the will of the late William Russell, was, that only a few days before he made the will, he called at the office of the *Democrat* and paid for his paper a year in advance, thereby saving fifty cents. This fact was dwelt upon at length by counsel, and commented upon by the judge in his charge, as one of great importance. The verdict of the jury would seem to sustain the position, that a man who has mind and memory enough to pay for his newspaper in advance, is competent to make his will.—*Franklin Democrat.*

In Albany one evening last week, a happy bridegroom was so happy on the arrival of the night that had been assigned for his wedding, that before the interesting ceremony he stepped out with a few friends and got “jolly tight,” was arrested and taken off to the watch-house, where he was locked up for the night, the expectant bride being left a prey to the most horrid fancies in the meantime. He got two walking tickets the next morning—one from the Police Magistrate, and the other from the bride elect.—*Argus.*

A plain spoken woman recently visited a married woman, and said to her, “how do you contrive to amuse yourself?”

“Amuse,” said the other staring; “do you not know that I have my house work to do?”

“Yes,” said the other, “I see you have it to do, but as it is never done, I conclude you must have some other way of passing your time.”

The *Louisville Democrat* publishes at the head of its columns each day the names of the jury who tried Matt Ward in Hardin county, Ky. One of them has written to the editor requesting that he will attach to his name—“storekeeper at the Cross Roads, where all descriptions of goods may be obtained cheap for cash or in exchange for country produce.” That man may be a great scamp, but he possesses considerable shrewdness. He fully recognizes the value of advertising.

A MATCH FOR WILLIAM TELL.—The great match by Mr. Travis of New Orleans, to shoot an apple from the head of a gentleman, has been decided, Mr. Travis winning the money (\$1000) upon the first shot. An orange, five inches in circumference, was substituted for the apple, and the distance was thirty-six feet. Half the bullet went through the orange. Both gentlemen displayed great nerve upon the exciting occasion.

SOUTHERN OPINION ON THE ANNEXATION OF CUBA.—The *Louisville Journal*, in commenting on the designs of the Administration, says:—“We do solemnly believe, that if Cuba were to be annexed to the United States by what the North should regard as an unjust war, its annexation would prove an infinitely greater course to this country than its loss would to Spain.”

The *Louisville Democrat* says that one of the jurors in the Ward trial took his plow to a blacksmith of Stephensburg, and offered him the money to do the work needed on them, but the latter refused to work for him at all. One of the merchants of that town refused to sell one of the jurors goods for cash.

PRESTO CHANGE.—A young and very pretty lady, riding in the cars, was observed to have a piece of “court plaster” on her lip. When the cars had emerged from one of the long covered bridges, into the light, it was observed to have disappeared; but the eye instantly detected it clinging to the lip of the young man who sat on the seat with her! They looked as innocent as if they “hadn't been doing nothing.”

ACROSTIC.

No pity moves him, and no laws affright
In the brute exercise of brutal might;
Cold as the snow-drift of his barbarous lands,
His heart relents not when his pride commands,
O'er cringing slaves, who hear but to obey,
Lashes and knout proclaim his genial sway,
A free soul's curse is on him, and his name
Sinks to an immortality of shame.

Pluffer, having advertised for a wife, receives a reply appointing a certain time and place where he may meet a fair candidate for his affections. He is to be recognized by a rose carried in his left hand. His horror and astonishment may be imagined on encountering his maiden aunt, who has always intimated her intentions of living single, and leaving Pluffer her money.

ONIONS.—It is perhaps unknown to many of our readers that the onion is one of the most nutritious of roots, containing, when dried, from twenty-five to thirty per cent. of gluten. It is a great staple of life in Spain and Portugal. Onions are not a relish merely, to the Spaniard, for they help materially to sustain his strength, and add beyond what their bulk would suggest, to the amount of nourishment which his simple meal supplies.

A Frenchman at one of the hotels in this city, speaking of the depot, sounded the t. A friend standing by remarked that the t was silent; that the word was pronounced depo. ‘Eh, sair,’ said the puzzled Frenchman, ‘and ze beautiful silvaire urn, sair—him you call teapo?’ ‘Oh no, sir; that we call a teapot.’ ‘Mon dieu!’ said he, scratching his head, ‘Je ne comprenez vous.’

Just before going to bed, eat two pigs feet and a cold apple pie. In less than an hour will see a snake larger than a hawser, devouring eight blue haired children, which have just escaped from a monster with sorrel eyes and a red hot overcoat.

“The Moon,” said a total abstainer, the other day, “is not quite a tee-totaler; but she lets her moderation be known to all men, for she only fills her horn once a month.” “Then she fills it with something very strong,” observed a bystander, “for I've seen her half gone.”

One of the best illustrations of avarice we ever heard of is that contained in an old caricature, which represents Old Nick carrying an old miser down to his regions, and while on the way the gripus is making propositions to his majesty to supply him with coals.

At an evening tea party, the other day, a proposal was made for a rubber at whist. After several deals, an elegant and handsome young lady thus addressed a gentleman who sat near her:—“What will you take for your hand?” The young gentleman modestly replied, his eye at the same time brightly beaming, “Yours in return.”

A certain land speculator having a piece of ground to let, had a placard stuck up, which read, as follows: “This good and desirable land to be let on a lease one hundred and twenty-five yards long.”

Early on a very cold morning, a travelling daguerreotypist called at the house of a wag, and inquired if he wanted a picture taken. ‘Yes was the reply, ‘I want yours taken from my door.’

A friend of ours, just returned from New York, says that the last species of *foul* play perpetrated upon the unsophisticated portion of Gotham is, that of glueing feathers upon the legs of the common fowl, and selling them for shanghais.

“See there!” exclaimed a returned Irish soldier to a gaping crowd, as he exhibited, with some pride his tall hat with a bullet hole in it. ‘Look at that hole, will ye! If it had been a low-crowned hat, by the piper o'Moses I should have been killed outright.’

A barber desired a groggy customer of his, on Sunday morning, whose breath smelled strong of alcohol, to keep his mouth shut, or the establishment might get indicted for keeping a rum-hole open on Sunday.

A poor cornet having got his skull fractured, was told by the Dpctor that the brain was visible, on which he remarked, “Do write to tell father, for he always swore I had none.”

“How neat!” was the characteristic exclamation of a Quaker lady, on first beholding the roaring and tumbling cataract of Niagara.

“Does the floor you have been scouring look nice, Bridget?”

“Indade, an' it does, ma'am—jist as nice as if I hadn't a touched it—I didn't hurt it at all, at all!”

A woman has sued for a divorce in Indiana, on the ground that her husband's feet were so cold i distressed her. A case of clear incompatibility o temperament and of sole.

A town meeting in Wareham recently took action upon the dog question, and according to the town records, it was voted, “That all persons within the town, owning dogs, should be muzzled.”

‘My dear,’ said an Irish gentleman to his wife ‘I would rather the children were kept in the nursery when I am at home, although I show-