

A WICKED WIFE.—The Court of Assizes of Norwich was last week occupied in trying five persons for murder. The principal of them was a pretty young woman named Aschmayr. She had, it appeared, though only married six months, conceived a violent aversion to her husband. She at first thought of getting a divorce from him but found it too expensive. Then, in concert with her parents, she resolved to get rid of him by violent means. Her father knew two men of bad character, who were ready to do any infamous act; and he sent them to her. She went with them into a wood near her residence, and bargained with them to murder her husband for 20 florins. In execution of the contract, one of the bandits laid wait for the husband as he was returning from a village fete, and fired at him, without, however, hitting him. They then promised to attempt it again the next day, and proposed to fire at him as he was plowing in his field; but she would not allow them to do so, lest they should hurt the horses. The following day, however, they fired at him and wounded him in the abdomen, and then they beat him with the butt-ends of their guns. He resisted violently, and having broken from them took to flight toward his own house, crying for help; but they pursued and beat him to death. The woman and her mother witnessed the whole of this horrible scene from the house. The next day, the woman's father being in a state of intoxication, began talking about the crime in a public house. Cleverly questioned by a *gendarme*, who happened to be present, he detailed all the frightful circumstances of the case. He was immediately arrested, and his wife and daughter and the two bandits were also taken.

After hearing these facts related, the jury, without hesitation, declared all the five accused guilty and the Court condemned them to death.

EXPECTED VISIT FROM A RUSSIAN AGENT.—*New York, July 25.* The Paris correspondent of the Tribune, under date of 10th inst, states that a special Russian agent had arrived in that city, and would leave for Washington in the screw steamer Indiana, from Havre, on the 14th inst, fully empowered by the Czar to negotiate the cession to the United States of Sitaka, and other Russian American possessions, for a money consideration.

The editors of the Times vouch for the truthfulness of their correspondent's statements, which in substance were derived from the agent in question who it is also understood, is charged with various important propositions for the promotion and extension of the commercial relations between the two countries. This agent has had extraordinary opportunities as counsellor and confidant of the Court, and as a member of the staff of the Grand Duke Constantine, to become acquainted with the views and interests of the Emperor in the present contest.

The letter which is lengthy and highly interesting, discusses various subjects connected with the war now going on in Europe, and may be regarded as a semi-official representation of the views and feelings of the Czar as he is willing to have them regarded and estimated in this country.

PRIZE BABIES.—Stand back, all you old fashioned, steady advocates of agricultural interests.—Make way for the Stark County Agricultural Society, of Ohio. With a fearlessness that deserves all praise, when it is considered that they are to decide which is the prettiest baby, the trustees have presented the following list of premiums for the prettiest and fattest babies offered at their Cattle Show and Fair, next autumn:—

For prettiest Baby, \$5, and dip. to mother.
For 2d prettiest Baby, \$3, and dip. to mother.
For 3d prettiest Baby, \$2, and dip. to mother.
For largest and heaviest child under 12 months old, age to be considered, \$3, and dip. to mother.

For 2d largest and heaviest child under 12 months old, age to be considered, \$3, and dip. to mother.

For 3d largest and heaviest child under 12 months old, age to be considered, \$2, and dip. to mother.

We should feel a decided disinclination to stand on the committee to award the first three premiums. A lady committee, we should think, would do best.

'Well, Jennie, have you consented yet to be the wife of Mr. White?' 'No, Sally, I didn't quite consent.' 'Why not? I think he loves you.' 'Yes, but he didn't pile up the agony high enough. When I give my hand to a wooer, I want him to go on the gods to witness his deep devotion to me. I want him to kneel at my feet, take one of my hands between both of his, and with a look that whelm an adamant rock to pity, to beg me to relieve him of his sufferings; and then I want him to certify to blow his brains out on the compassionate his miseries.

ANECDOTE OF PETER CARTWRIGHT.—While he was preaching, years ago, General Jackson entered the church, when a pastor, seated in the pulpit, gave brother Cartwright a nudge, and whispered that the old hero had just come in—as much as to advise, 'Now, be particular what you say.' But Peter, to the astonishment of every one, louder than ever exclaimed—

'Who cares for General Jackson? He'll go to hell as soon as anybody, if he doesn't repent!'

When the sermon—a home-made one—was ended, a friend asked the General what he thought of that rough old fellow, and received for an answer—

'Sir, give me twenty thousand such men, and I will whip the world, including the devil himself!'

A RICH SCENE.—The following rich scene recently occurred in one of our courts of justice between the Judge and a Dutch witness all the way from Rotterdam:

Judge.—What's your native language?

Witness.—I pe no native; I's a Dootchman.

J.—What's your mother-tongue?

W.—O, fader says she pe all tongue.

J.—(in an irritable tone.) What language did you first learn? What language did you speak at the cradle?

W.—I tid not speak no language in the cradle at all; I only cried in Dootch.

Then there was a general laugh, in which the judge, jury and audience joined. The witness was interrogated no further about his native language.

DECIDEDLY RICH.—The following incident, which occurred in a neighboring city, is too good to be lost:—

As Judge W—was walking the street, a woman hurried out from her house, and mistaking him for her husband, expected from California accosted him eagerly:

"Oh, Joseph, Joseph."

The Judge solemnly presenting to her the palms of his open hands, gravely enunciated:

"Stop, madam, stop; I am no Joseph."

The woman seeing her mistake, quietly replied:

"Excuse me, sir, my husband's name is Joseph but not Potiphar,"—and turning, she left the Judge to cogitate who was ahead.

A waiter was examined the other day, before one of our courts. We annex his testimony:

"Your name is Flunkey, I believe?"

"Yes, sir, Robert Flunkey."

"Well, Mr. Flunkey, you say the defendant is no gentleman. What makes you think so?"

"Cause, sir, he always says, 'Thank you,' when I hands him a mutton chop or even a bit of bread. Now a real gentleman never does this, but hollers out,—'Here, Bill, get me a mutton chop, or I'll throw this pepper-box at your head.' You can't deceive me with a gentleman, your worship. 'Cause why? I have associated with too many of them at the race-course."

DONE BROWN.—The editor of a newspaper in one of our Western States, while recently travelling, had his wallet abstracted from his pocket by an adroit pickpocket, while indulging in a short nap. The thief was so disgusted with the result of his exploit, that he returned the plunder by express to the address written inside the wallet, with the following note:

'You miserabil skunk, hears your pocket book.—I don't keep no such. Fur a man dressed as well as you was to go round with a wallet with nuthin in it but a lot of newspaper scraps, a ivory tooth-comb, two noospaper stamps, and a pass from a ralerode director, is a contertable impursion on the public. As I hear your a editor, I return your trash. I never robs any only gentlemen.'

A young lady, closely veiled, took a seat in one of our trains of cars. On approaching Baltimore she desired the conductor to let her alight a square or two this side of the depot. She was told that it was unusual to stop the train at a point so close in. The fair one remonstrated, and the conductor consented to have the speed slackened and assist her off. It was done. Subsequently it was ascertained that the lady's parents desired her to marry a young gentleman of this place whom she did not fully approve of. She therefore wrote to a more successful lover in Baltimore, who met her at the place referred to. The happy couple proceeded to the house of a minister, were married, and continued en route for New York.—*Washington Sentinel*

In Cineinnati, a few days since, a live scorpion was found in a piece of logwood which came up on the steamer Tweed. It was in a partially torpid state, but when warmed before the furnace door, it would strike wickedly at any object which was presented.

MAGNIFICENT ENTERPRISE. It is reported on authority, says the *New York Sun*, that a distinguished man of science intends building in city an iron tower 600 feet in height. It is to be in some central place, is to have rail cars filled by steam to its top, is to be furnished with attractions inside of great value, is to serve as a lighthouse—giving out, by a peculiar scientific arrangement, a light which may be seen a hundred miles at sea, &c. Several men of celebrity in this city have been consulted as to the feasibility of the enterprise, and after hearing all the arguments pro and con, unanimously pronounced favor of the enterprise.

AT HOME.—'Is Mr. Bluster within?' 'No, he at of town,' said the servant. 'When can I see him?' 'I don't know; have you any special business with Mr. Bluster?' 'Yes, there is a small which I have to settle.' 'Well,' said the servant, 'I don't know whether he will return this or not.' 'But I wish to pay the bill, as I am leave town immediately.' 'Oh! you wish to pay some money? he is up stairs, I'm think; I will call him. Please to walk into the dining room; take a chair, sir; your hat, if you please; Mr. Bluster will be with you in a moment.'

A LITTLE IN BED.—The *New York Observer* records the death of Susan Pierson, of Binghampton, Long Island, at the age of 72. The last fifty-two years of her life she had been confined to her bed—having never once set her foot upon the floor. During this long, weary term of ill-health she received the untiring attention of a sister, who survives but the age of 80.

RANDOM GEMS.

Be slow to close a friend, and slower to change him; courteous to all. Scorn no man for his poverty; honor no man for his wealth.

A firm faith is the best divinity; a good life the best philosophy; a clear conscience the best law; honesty the best policy.

ENOUGH.—A goose, belonging to Mr. James Rooke, of Chester Co., Pa, died the other day at an advanced age. It came into possession of Mr. Rooke on his wedding day, thirty-eight years ago, being the property of his wife. It was probably near forty years old at the time of its death.

A HUSBAND AWARDED.—Among the rewards at the late celebration of the Jacksonville (Ill.) Female Seminary was the following: "To Miss Hattie J. Hine, for meekness of disposition, kindness of heart and affection, a husband—Mr. Austin Rockwell." If such prizes are annually awarded, that school will become very popular.

The Boston Post says that five women will spread out their clothes so as to take up the entire side of an omnibus occupying the room designed for eight, and then if another woman presents herself at the door, they will cry out:—'You can't come in here. There ain't any room; but if a man wants to get in, they can make room easy enough, right down between them.'

LOOKING AHEAD.—"Ma," said an urchin of six years, climbing up into his mother's lap, "I wish I was old enough to be married."

"Good gracious, what does the child mean?" ejaculated the astonished parent.

"Why, I'd have some wedding-cake, then as much as I could eat. O crackey, wouldn't it be tip top?"

"Little boy, how many kinds of fire are there?"

"Four, ma'am."

"What are they called?"

"Wood-fire, coal-fire, cam-fire, and fire-and-fall-back."

"That'll do—you may go to the head."

'I meant to have told you of that hole,' said a man to his friend, who had stumbled into a pit full of water, a few days since. 'No matter, now—no matter now,' said the other, blowing the mud and water out of his mouth; 'I've found it out.'

A darkey, having been to California, thus speaks of his introduction to San Francisco:—"As soon as dey landed in de river, dar mouns begin to water to be on land,—and as soon as dey waded to de shore, dey didn't see any goold, but dey found such a big supply of nuffin' to eat, dat dar gums cracked like baked clay in a brickyard."

PROOF POSITIVE.—The young woman who ate a dozen peaches, half a dozen apples, the same number of pears, three raw tomatoes, and a pint of plums, within half a day, says she knows 'fruit ain't wholesome!'

"A dreadful little for a shilling," said a penurious fellow to a physician, who dealt out an emetic; 'can't you give more?'

'I say, Bill, I seed a Know Nothin.' 'What did he look like?' 'Why, he looked like a man.' 'Well, neow, don't be a fool—tell me how you found out that he was a Know Nothing?' 'Well, he said so.' 'I axed him whether he wouldn't give me a sixpence? and he said 'No—nothing.'

'A little more animation, my dear,' whispered Lady B— to the gentle Susan, who was waltzing through the quadrille. 'Do leave me to manage my own business, ma, replied the provided nymph; 'I shall not dance my ringlets out of curl for a married man.' 'Of course not, my love, but I was not aware who your partner was.'

The best of men are sometimes short. A Venerable clergyman who isn't above three feet, and a deacon who never yet had a sixpence about him.

Like the colored bottles in a chemist's window is rouge on the cheeks of a maiden; it attracts the passers by, but all know the drug they advertise.

A gentleman asked a little boy in London 'What occupation does your father follow for a living?' He replied with great simplicity, 'He is a dead accident-maker for the morning papers.'

Nothing sets so wide a mark between a vulgar and a noble soul, as the respect and reverent love of womankind. A man who is always sneering at woman is generally a coarse profligate or coarse bigot.

Love one human being purely and warmly, and you will love all. The heart in this heaven, like the wandering Jew, sees nothing, from the dew drop to the ocean, but a mirror which warms and fills.

The Irishman in New York, who replied to the questions of the excise commissioners, "Alas, shure it isn't much moral character, a man need to sell rum," told a volume of truth.

A gentleman in St. Louis went on the house top one night last week, to sleep; soon afterward he rolled off and dashed his brains out.

A man in Wheeling, Va., lately rendered himself a cripple for life by taking a cold bath while sweating. Paralysis immediately shrivelled his left side, from shoulder to foot, a deadness creeping over it which no medical aid can probably remove.

Sam—Julius, whar did you get that coat?

Julius—Down here to Push's.

Sam—Whar's dat?

Julius—Little ways down Brattle street whar it says, 'Push' on de door—I pushed and went in. It said, 'Pull' on de odder side—I pulled dis coat and ran out.

Dr. Jaynes, of Nashville, Tenn., blew himself and house up on Wednesday night, by putting a keg of powder under it. Four buildings were burnt in consequence, and the loss is considerable. He was supposed to be insane.

So you say your mother is very poor?

Beggar boy—She is that! She used to keep a pea-nut stand once, but she took a bad one dollar bill and failed.

The Cholera is making fearful ravages at Niagara. It broke out among the laborers on the Canal and on the Suspension Bridge. About 400 had fled, while others lay dying and dead. Work was entirely suspended.

Colonel Hogarth, commanding the 28th regiment of British Infantry at Quebec, died there of Cholera on the 24th ult.

Miss Fillmore, daughter of Ex-President Fillmore died near Baltimore on the 26th ult, of Cholera—she was 22 years of age.

In Fayetteville, Tenn., out of a population of 1200 persons, there are not more than 60 or 70 left. All have fled on account of the Cholera. The families remaining are detained only by the sickness of some of their members.

A remarkable fact is recorded in a late Paris paper, to the effect that out of upwards of 16,000 persons subscribers to the public baths of Paris, Bordeaux and Marseilles, and who were in the daily habit of bathing, only two cases of cholera had occurred.

EPIGRAM.

Of all Job lost his history tells us plain
God gave him double portions back again;
God did not take his plaguy wife, 'tis true,
What could the patient man have done with two?

A LIVING SUPERIORITY.—Women has this great advantage over man—she proves her will in her lifetime, whilst man is allowed to wait till he is dead.—*Punch*.

A horse is now being exhibited in England which is 'twenty-one hands high, and weighs twenty-five hundred weight.'