New Orleans Daily Crescent.

Telegraphed to the New Orleans Crescent.

Domestic Intelligence.

BOSTON, Jan. 8.—The overland California mail of the 24th ult. arrived yesterday, it being the first arrival for some time.

The city was gay at inaugurating the best of Gen. Scott's birthdays of to-day with an imposing display of the military and large delegations of the Masonic Order from all parts of the city and vicinity turned out, and it was a very long procession and a fine display.

Hawing delivered the oration on the occasion, the weather is very cold.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—Houses—Reports were received in the House from the Secretary of the Treasury and from the Postmaster General, respecting the claims of Cornock and Barnay, for damages sustained by the abrogation of their contract for carrying the mails between Vera Cruz and Acapulco, and the mails between Panama and Francisco.

The subject was discussed at some length without action, when the House adjourned.

Bills were reported favorably upon the bill for the relief of the officers and crew of the Armstrong.

Resolutions on Territories reported in favor of the admission of Minnesota and Dacotah, and against the recommendations of the Minnesota Territorial Legislature respecting Cuba, Mexico and Central America, in merely the vapornigs of Napoleonism.

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The House was occupied during most of the session to-day in the consideration of private bills. No business of importance was disposed of.

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LOUISVILLE, Jan. 8.—The Democratic State Convention met at Frankfort to-day, and nominated B. Magoffin for Governor, and Lieut. Boyd for Lieutenant Governor.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 8.—The Santa Fe mail of the 20th has arrived at Independence.

The Navajo Indians appear to be willing to make any terms to secure peace.

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The navigation of the upper streams is suspended.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 8.—The Ohio river here is falling, with six feet three inches of water on the falls, and nine feet three inches in the canal.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 8.—The steamer Monongahela arrived here from New Orleans on the 5th, and the Lackland left here for New Orleans on the same day. The Gladiator arrived here yesterday, and the St. Nicholas left here for New Orleans.

Printing House for the Blind.

This is a noble enterprise, which appears to be progressing successfully, and we trust will be munificently patronized by the citizens and Government of Louisiana. An auxiliary Board should be organized in this State without delay, and will be, as we were pleased to learn from Mr. D. Sherrod last Saturday evening. We are quite confident the Legislature will not be behind that of Mississippi in liberality and munificence, if the subject is properly brought before them.

The following from the New Orleans True Witness explains the matter so satisfactorily that we take pleasure in copying it:

We take pleasure in calling attention to this institution, which proposes to prepare reading matter for our unfortunate class throughout the South, and, as far as possible, place in a suitable library in reach of every such person. A Publishing Board has been organized at Louisville, Ky., with auxiliary Boards at Nashville, Tenn., and at Jackson, Miss.; and it is desired that such auxiliary Boards may be organized in each of the Southern States. Steps are now being taken to organize this Board in Louisiana, all of which we hope will be successful.

The Legislature of the State of Mississippi, at its late session, appropriated $2,000 to this noble object; and also passed a general law, giving $10 yearly in behalf of the cause for each blind white person in that State. Individual subscriptions already amount to nearly $20,000 for this good work.

We sincerely hope that this effort will be entirely successful in Louisiana, and in all of the Southern States.

Mr. D. Sherrod, the general agent, expects to visit the Legislature of Louisiana the present winter. We commend him and his cause to public confidence.

HAYNE'S WORSTED SCORE.—The ladies will please to remember that this is the greatest place in town for worsted goods and material. There also will be found a splendid lot of comforters and other articles suitable for holiday presents, see advertisement.

CORDELLS, BRANDIES, WINES.—At the store of Messrs. Jas. S. Kilgour, 30 St. Louis street, may be found the wines which they advertise—fine brandies, wines, cordials, pressed fruits, and sardines. We refer to their advertisement.

WALL PAPER.—Messrs. Heath & Miller, 75 Camp street, offer fine, medium and low priced wall paper, besides an assortment of cabinet hardware, upholstery trimmings, painting brushes, paints, oils and brushes, and are agents for W. H. Wilson & Stephen's celebrated copal varnish. We ask attention to their advertisement and bespeak for them a share of custom.

STEAM BAKERY.—J. J. Daniels & Son are proprietors of the famous Steam Bakery, corner of City and Franklin streets, which turns out bread, for the million by the million loaves. Their depot is at 5 Paydras street, where the steam bread, which is of acknowledged excellence, may be always had, together with various fancy flour delicacies, to which the reader is referred in advertisement.

WEED'S PATENT SEWING MACHINE.—Public appreciation awards to the machines of Weed's patent a high place for strength and durability and for an ornamental finish, which gives them value as articles of furniture. They do their work with rapidity, neatness and strength, and are so generally in use that Messrs. Whitney & Lyon, the proprietors in New-Orleans, have an overwhelming business. The agent for their sale in New Orleans is Mr. M. S. Hedrick, 38 Camp street.

ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS.—Messrs. Mohan & Desgarlais will open to-day at their elegant establishment, 105 Royal street, a varied and beautiful assortment of artificial flowers, including those arranged in a new style of headdress for balls and evening parties, wreaths for brides and bouquets for bankers and parlor ornaments. If ladies do not wish to purchase the more ready made, they can obtain all the materials, including the proposed papers, for making them themselves, and receive full instructions in the beautiful art from Madame Desgarlais, to whom we acknowledge misnomer. We ask attention to the advertisement of Messrs. M. & D.

NEW BOOKS.—Mr. Thomas L. White, 105 Canal street, has received supplies of the latest publications, among them Vol. 3 of Prescott's Philip II., and the speeches of Webster and Hayne in reply to Mr. Foote's resolution—new edition. Everything which may be inquired for in a bookstore can be had at Mr. White's; his stock of fancy stationery is very full, and that of standard literature is always up with the publishing season. We refer to advertisement.

MR. JOHN TODD, of the popular shopping emporium, 18 and 14 Charlestreet, announces his annual clearing out sale of rich silks and dress goods, which will be ranked off at prices of last Saturday, regardless of importation. He guesses this will be the last sale he will make in order that he may have no on hand to be carried over next season, and that he may make room for the fall stock of spring styles which will soon be received. He better opportunity of securing costly dress goods, millinery and embroideries, will offer than in this, and we refer our fully readers to Mr. T.'s advertisement.

FOR MEMPHIS.—The U. S. mail passenger packet Wolverine, Capt. A. R. Irwin, leaves this evening at 5 o'clock, connecting at Memphis with the Memphis and Charleston Railroad for all Eastern cities; also, with fast class packets for Louisville, Cincinnati and St. Louis. For through tickets to the above routes, apply to J. H. Fralligh, agent, under the Gt. Charlo. Hotel.

The Louisiana, which left here for Galway, on Saturday last, sailed to-day for Galveston.

The steamship Fulton sailed to-day for Southampton, taking out $89,000.

The receipts of Cotton to-day were 2,500 bales. The market closed firm at previous quotations.

Sugar and Molasses closed buoyant; sales to-day of 100 hds. at prices ranging from $4 80 to $5 50 for the lowest grade. Western Canal $4 30 to $4 75.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 8.—The Flour market closed firm; sales to-day of 3000 bbls. at $4 75 to $5 00. Whisky—sales of 1200 bbls. at 23c. Western Mess Pork, $17 00. Lard closed buoyant at full prices; sales to-day of 150 tcs. at 6½ to 7c.

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A Curious Story of Superstition.

Thirteen at table! these three words are "the Mene Mene Tekel" of our incredulous people of the nineteenth century. Nothing more common than this superstition. We often meet people who do not dare to sit at table where there are seats for thirteen. We could pardon this superstition in religious people. Then it is like those little valueless gold rings they carry on their fingers, in order not to lose a ring of inestimable value. But the superstition of the incredulous is a big copper ring, badly gilt, carried by a philosopher, who scorns gold rings and precious stones.

I heard, not many days ago, a Colonel, who fought bravely in the Crimea, say:

"I felt no emotion at the taking of the Malakoff yet I tremble at the bare thought of thirteen at table."

What would he have said had he heard the following story?

Last Tuesday I was riding with the Count de P——. We were to have been fifteen, but one of the guests had gone to Baden, and another was sick. Consequently ten places were removed.

We had arrived at the second course without noticing this fact, when one of the guests, M. d'A——, auditor of the Council of State, cried out,

"It is singular that not one of us is afraid of being thirteen at table."

"Thirteen at table!" exclaimed a man of sixty years of age, seated beside me, and who grew very pale.

He counted the guests, and then said to the host,

"My dear P——, you told me that we were to have fifteen."

"True," replied De P——, with regret. "I had, in fact fifteen guests; but M—— is at Baden, and D—— is sick. I was foolish enough not to make this simple calculation, that two from fifteen leaves thirteen. Believe me, my dear Albert, that I am sorry. I'll ask the landlord's son to sit with us at the table."

"O, it is useless," answered the one they had called Albert. "*Alea jacta est!* I shall not live after this week."

No one of us feared the number thirteen, but the resigned apprehension of Albert saddened us. De P——, especially, was much affected.

Last evening I met De P—— in the Champs Elysees.

"What is the matter?" I asked. "You look strangely."

"I have just come from the house of that poor Albert Ourtel."

"Well, is he calmer?"

"He is dead."

I was as if thunderstruck.

"Come," said De P——, "I will tell you his history and you shall see why that man of mind and wit feared the number thirteen."

It was in 1812. The Duke de ——, a man of influence, and intimate adviser of Louis XVIII, was living at his hotel in Rue Grenelle-St-Germain. He had with him his daughter, aged 21, his two sons, aged 19 and 18, and his sister, an old girl, romantic, and more proud of her nobility than the Duke himself. The preceptor of the two young men, an old abbe, had just died, and they were awaiting his successor, a young man of twenty-five or six, who was a Breton, and had been strongly recommended by M. de Chateaubriand.

One day the Duke had some guests to dinner, and especially M. de Serres and two ministers. The young preceptor arrived two hours before this dinner. He made a conquest of the whole family. The young people saw in him a companion, the father was drawn towards him by his character. He was the son of a Vendeean who had shed his blood for the legitimists, and consequently was a strong legitimist himself. He was naturally silent and melancholy; he wrote well, could paint, was an excellent musician.

Well, he took a seat at the table at this dinner, and charmed every one by his intelligent and unaffected conversation. The Duke's daughter seemed to listen to him with great pleasure, but all at once she trembled, turned red, then pale, then refrained entirely from eating. After dinner one of the sons took this latter, whose name was Albert, and presented him to his sister.

"Ah, sir," said Louise, "you will bring me misfortune. We were thirteen at the table."

From that day the number thirteen seemed to weigh on both Albert and Louise. It became an involuntary tie between them. They loved, and one day the Duke perceived that his daughter had committed a fault, the consequence of which it was necessary to hide. The Duke asked his daughter the name of her betrayer. Knowing his violent character, she neither allowed his threats nor promises to make her answer.

She was in the habit of sitting every evening on a balcony which overlooked her garden. One night it suddenly gave way, throwing her to the ground, and killing her instantly.

Singular rumors were circulated. Justice inquired into the cause of the accident. It was whispered that Louise was *enceinte*, and that this means had been taken to destroy her. But these reports gradually died away. The Duke being powerful, the justice of that day tacitly allowed him the right to be *the judge of his own honor*.

The Duke and his sons suspected Albert, and his grief changed their suspicions into certainty. They would have been avenged on him, but the next day he quitted the hotel, and was not seen for many years. He went to Spain, where he rendered some brilliant services, for which he obtained a mission to Mexico.

When the revolution of 1830 broke out, he was French Consul in a Northern State. He gave in his resignation, and went to establish himself at Riga. The Duke died in 1834, bequeathing to his elder son all his hatred against Albert. The younger became a priest, and the world attributed that action to remorse.

In 1840 Albert returned to France. The day after his arrival he was attacked, in the evening, on the Quai d'Orsay, by four armed ruffians. He only owed his safety to the unexpected arrival of some soldiers, who put his assailants to flight. The next day the young Duke of —— died of a malady to which he had been a prey for ten years. It was said that he clung to life till the day when he thought he could avenge himself, and that he died when his plot failed.

Since then Albert lived, alone and retired, in a small room in the Rue de Grenelle, whence he could see the place where Louise was killed. "He only went out of his retreat once or twice a year, and then to see me," said M. de P——, in concluding.

"I was a distant relative of the Duke's. During my visit to the house I learned to become intimate with Albert. When she died, I knew of her intrigue with Albert, and I myself concealed him until his departure for Spain.

"I never formerly believed in the influence of the number thirteen, but on the day when Albert said, 'I shall not live after this week,' I was convinced that he would die."

BUSINESS COATS.—The business coat branch of the clothing business is that to which Messrs. Pierson, Harrison & Co., corner of Magazine and Canal streets, have devoted so much attention as to make it quite a specialty with them. Their stock is one of the best collections in the country of the neat and durable styles of business coats, garments which have been so much in vogue of late years. Persons of every trade or profession may find the article which is adapted to their occupation at Messrs. P., H. & Co.'s, whose advertisement is elsewhere published.

PLANTERS are referred to the very convincing testimony of the excellence of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines, which is published in this morning's Crescent. They will remark that this machine is the patent used by Hebrard & Co., of the plantation goods factory in New Orleans, the work turned out by which is of the most durable character, and by other parties of consequence whose names are given. The Grover & Baker machine is extensively used throughout the country, and has qualities of simplicity and strength that commend it, and which will be understood by a perusal of the advertisement, which is so full that we need say nothing additional.

THE SMOKE CONSUMING OIL LAMP.—The lamp described as "Ufford's Patent" is one of the noted inventions of the day. It gives a fine light, consuming the poorest qualities of oil, grease, lard or fat, without smoke or odor. Hence it is as cheap in use as in first cost, qualities which commend it as the lamp for the people. It is ornamented in appearance, and its convenient shape and weight which render it easily handled especially adapt it for household use. Mr. M. O'Connor, 157 Paydras street, is the sole and only authorized agent for its sale in Louisiana, and to his advertisement we refer.

SHIRTS.—This simple monosyllable finds an echo of interest as universal as civilization; indeed, a civilized people may be described as a shirt-wearing people. Men and females, this article of dress is now become identified with politics, to a degree, for all know how indissolubly connected it is with the stirring incidents of the Douglass campaign, a fray into which the little giant went clad *cap-a-pied* and come out shirtless—a fact attested by the status. This world never have occurred if there had been among the sons of Illinois, native or adopted, a man with the unsurpassed fit of S. W. Moody, the grand Mogul of the Southern Shirt trade, who would have supplied the great little Senator with "half-a-dozen fine" for half-a-dozen dollars. We ask attention to his advertisement.

PLANTERS AND CITIZENS GENERALLY are referred to the advertisement of Messrs. Beckingham, Lewis & Co., 116 Canal street, who have always on hand one of the most extensive assortments of plantation, household and fancy dry goods to be found in the South. Such are the arrangements that they have for purchasing and keeping their stock up that they are always enabled to offer the most favorable terms to purchasers, and to furnish them with every article required in the dry goods line. Their stock of fabrics for men's wear, dress goods, linen goods, articles of ladies' outside wear, in unusually large and varied, as is also the assortment of trimmings and ribbons. We ask attention to advertisement.

PORTER, ALE AND CIDER.—The consumers of these light and healthful beverages are referred to the advertisement of Mr. N. Marache, 19 and 21 Bienville street, and have our assurance that they cannot hope to get a better stock of malt liquors and apple juice than may be furnished by the advertiser. They have for sale the most celebrated brands, and also some brands which are not so celebrated, but lack only the celebrity, being equally good and lower priced. He particularly recommends his home brewed, in bottles, as equal if not superior to much of the over-estimated imported stuff which has such fictitious valuation in the market.

BALL DRESSES, ETC.—Messrs. C. A. Bartlett & Bro. 130 Canal street, announce this morning the late receipt per ships from France, of a beautiful assortment of ball and evening dresses, which have a fresh zest in time to meet the demands of the season. They also advertise that they have opened a lot of elegant embroidered mantles and English barages of every style, and to these advertisements we solicit attention.

A Gourmand.

The following is a tale of gormandizing which is related by Mr. Dumas in connexion with a desperate onslaught made by his pet cat, Mysouf, on the aviary. Mysouf, owing to the contemporary escape of three monkeys, and to the time spent in their recapture, had been glutting herself with finches, canary birds, and other pet songsters, with all the indifference of a hardened criminal. She had, in fact, like a certain Viscount V., made a dinner of five hundred francs. How this happened we must leave Mr. Dumas to relate his own word:

Viscount V., broker to Count Horace de V., one of the most consummate gourmets of France—not only of France, but of Europe—but only of Europe, but all the world—ventured one day, at a meeting consisting partly of artists and partly of men of fashion, the following proposition:

"One man shall eat by himself a dinner that shall cost five hundred francs," ($100.)

The thing was denied.

"Impossible!" exclaimed two or three voices.

"It must be understood," replied the Viscount, "that in the word 'eat' the word 'drink' is also comprehended."

"Certainly."

"Well, then, I say one man—when I say a man, I do not mean a carter or a coal-heaver, I mean a gourmet—can eat a dinner of five hundred francs."

"Yourself, for example?"

"Yes, myself for example."

"Will you bet?"

"I will bet."

"I have the five hundred francs," said one of those present.

"And I will eat them," said the Viscount.

"Done, show us how it can be done."

"It is very simple. I dine at the Cafe de Paris. I make my selection according to my fancy, and I eat five hundred francs worth at my dinner."

The wager was accordingly made, and he began to arrange his dinner for the next day.

The maitre d'hotel was summoned. It was winter time; the Viscount wanted certain forced vegetables and fruits; he wanted game, also, and the shooting season was over.

The maitre d'hotel asked for a delay of eight days. The dinner was accordingly delayed for that amount of time.

The umpires were to dine with the Viscount to the right and left of the table.

The Viscount was allowed two hours for his dinner, from seven to nine. He could either converse or not, just as it pleased him.

At the hour appointed, the viscount made his appearance, bowed to the company, and sat down to the table.

The bill of fare was a mystery to the adversaries. They were to have the pleasure of a surprise.

The Viscount sat down. Twelve dozen of Ostend oysters were placed before him, with a half-bottle of Johannisberg.

The Viscount was in good condition; he asked for twelve dozen more, and another half bottle of the same wine.

This was followed by a soup of swallows' nests, which the Viscount turned into a bowl and drank up like a basin of hot milk.

"Really, gentlemen," he then observed, "my appetite is excellent to-day, and I feel inclined to indulge in a fancy."

"As you like! you are your own master."

"I dote upon beefsteaks and potatoes. Garcon, an bifteik aux pommes!"

The garcon, astonished, looked at the Viscount.

"Well," he said, "don't you understand?"

"Oh, yes, but I thought that the Viscount had ordered his dinner."

"True; but this is an extra. I will pay for it as such."

The umpires looked at one another. A bifteik aux pommes was brought, and the Viscount devoured the whole.

"There. Now for the fish."

The fish was brought.

"Gentlemen," said the Viscount, "it is a trout from the lake of Geneva—a kind that is only found there, but which still can be eat here. It was shown to me this morning whilst I was at breakfast, alive. It was brought from Geneva to Paris in the water of the lake. I can recommend this fish to you; it is delicious eating."

Five minutes more, and there was nothing but the bones on the plate.

"Garcon, the pheasant!" shouted the Viscount.

A pheasant with truffles was laid before him.

"A second bottle of Bordeaux, same vintage."

A second bottle was brought.

The pheasant was discussed in ten minutes.

"Sir," observed the garcon, "I think you made a mistake in asking for the pheasant before the salmis d'ortolans."

"Ah true! Well, luckily, it was not agreed in what order the ortolans should be eaten, or I had lost. Now for the salmis d'ortolans, garcon."

The salmis d'ortolans were brought.

There were ten of these delicious little birds; the Viscount disposed of them in as many mouthfuls.

"Gentlemen," said the Viscount, "the rest of my bill of fare is very simple; asparagus, green peas, a pineapple, and some strawberries. Of wine; half a bottle of Constantia, half a bottle of sherry, that has been to India. The coffee and liquors; that is understood."

Each thing came in its turn; the vegetables and fruit were conscientiously devoured, the wines and liquors were imbibed to the last drop.

The Viscount had been one hour and fourteen minutes at his dinner.

"Gentlemen," he said, "has all been loyally executed?"

The umpires expressed their admiration.

"Garcon, incarte?"

The Viscount cast his eyes at the sum total, amounting to 506 francs, and handed over the bill to the umpires.

The account was examined and found to be correct.

The bill was conveyed to the Viscount's adversary, who was dining in a cabinet.

In less than five minutes' time he made his appearance, bowed to the Viscount, and, drawing forth six notes of a thousand francs each from his pocket book, he presented him with them. That was the amount of the bet.

"Oh! sir," exclaimed the Viscount, "there was no hurry; besides, perhaps you might have wished for your revenge?"

"Would you be disposed to give it to me, sir?"

"Most assuredly so."

"When?"

"Why," replied the Viscount, with a simplicity that partook of the sublime, "at once, sir, if you like."

The loser reflected for a second or two, and then he said—

"I had rather not. After what I have seen, I think you would do anything."

IMPROVED DENTISTRY.—Dr. B. F. Smith, who is at present located at the St. Louis Hotel, elsewhere gives notice that his system of manufacturing and affixing artificial teeth has some very marked points of superiority over the more ordinary methods. Also, that he has succeeded in a plan for the painless extraction of teeth which has been eminently satisfactory to those who have had to submit to this usually excruciating operation.

WE DIRECT ATTENTION to the sale this day by N. Viginie, at the City Hotel, Common street, comprising property well situated, and worthy of the attention of capitalists.

For account and risk of former purchasers:

1. Two lots of ground corner of Magazine and Poeyfarre streets.
2. One lot of ground corner of Tivoli Circle and Nayades street.
3. Dwelling house on Canal street, near Clairborne street.
4. Two-story brick dwelling house on Washington Avenue.
5. Dwelling house on Dryades street, near the Poydras Market.

To effect a partition among 60 proprietors:

6. A three-story brick store, corner of Camp and Canal streets, leased up to 1849, at $11,500 per annum, and now occupied by Messrs. Gregor & Wilson.

For further particulars see advertisement.

CALIFORNIA DIAMONDS.—Mr. J. L. Jacobs, 42 St. Charles street, advertises that he has just received a splendid assortment of California Diamonds, cut in eighteen carat gold, that he has on hand a fine lot of Jacobs' bangles and necklaces, and that he is ready to teach any one to operate on either musical implement in twelve lessons.

THE TREATMENT OF CANCERS.—Profs. Barton and Reisach, 38 St. Charles street, are operating with great success, it is said, in the curing of cancers without the use of the knife. They also treat hospital consumption and chronic diseases by the Indian system of medicines, and are ready to give the most convincing references and certificates of remarkable cures effected by them. We refer to advertisement.

THE OXYGENATED BITTERS.—This admirable specific for dyspepsia, indigestion, general debility and kindred disorders, is for sale wholesale and retail by J. Wright & Co., 21 and 151 Chartres street. Everything else in the drug, medicine and chemical way, may likewise be obtained of those extensive dealers.

GREAT BARGAINS are offered by Mr. Theodore Danziger, at 228 and 230 Royal street, and at his branch store 125 Bumpart street, for he is now selling off all his stock of woolens, silks, velvets, etc., at reduced prices to make room for spring goods coming in. He has just received and offers cheap a lot of ball and evening dresses, tarlatans, ribbons, flowers and genuine Jouvin gloves. We would recommend the ladies to look in on Mr. Danziger without delay.

MESSRS. J. A. BEARD & CO. will sell this day, the 10th inst., at 10½ o'clock, at No. 166 Circus street, between Poydras and Hevia, the contents of a second hand furniture store. See advertisement.

HULL AND MACHINERY OF STEAMBOAT VIRGINIA, AT AUCTION.—The Sheriff will sell to-day, at 12 o'clock, M., at the City Hotel, Common street, the hull and machinery of the steamboat Virginia. For particulars and terms see advertisement.

A BOOKBINDER is wanted immediately at 46 Camp street, and advertised for elsewhere.

SIX CARPENTERS are wanted to work at Bell's Crevasse, and are advertised for in another column.

Prospective Debate in the House of Representatives.

(FURNISHED BY A CLAIRVOYANT REPORTER.)

We find the following in the Columbus Enquirer, a paper which always gives honest credits, or else we should suspect that it was a sly "Punch" from some sarcastic observer across the Atlantic:

JULY 5, 1862.—Mr. D. Farcer, (Dem., Ky.) brought forward a motion for the suppression of oral discussion in the Legislature. The honorable member proposed, as a substitute, that all questions at issue should be settled by single combat, bowie knife or pistol. Honorable members were, up to the present period, in the habit of sticking at nothing, and he, Mr. Farcer, thought that this proposal would certainly obviate such a state of things, by giving them something to stick at.

Mr. Barker (Dem., Va.) seconded the motion, and also he would be happy to second any of the combatants in want of his assistance. He believed that his qualifications in this respect were well known to the Honorable House; and if any member was ignorant of them, he would take the liberty of recapitulating. The Hon. Member was here proceeding to give the details of several sanguinary "difficulties," when he was interrupted by

Mr. Whittle (Whig, Tenn.) What does the honorable member mean by thrusting the details of his duels on the House? Good wine needs no bush, and a successful duelist needs no practice. There was no danger of the honorable member's deeds not being trumpeted forth to the world because everybody knows that "murder will out."

Mr. Barker—You are a liar and a thief! (No sensation whatever.)

Mr. Whittle—The Hon. rascal opposite has called me liar and a thief. I believe that the House will support me when I turn him a forger and assassin (Less sensation than before.)

Mr. Barker—Who robbed the man on board of the steamboat? A-h-h!

Mr. Whittle—Who ran away from the Revere House without paying his bill? B-b-h!

Mr. Barker (shaking his fist)—Silver spoons!

Mr. Whittle—I did'nt insure my house for double its value and then set fire to it.

Mr. Barker—If the Honorable member ain't a coward he'll have it out with me now.

Mr. Whittle, jumping on the table)—Come on, you ruffian.

The Speaker—Fair play, gentlemen! Recollect, if you please, that our proceedings will be reported.

The Honorable members then had a set to, in which both displayed considerable science, and a great deal of animosity. Bets ran high as to who would win, and we understand that the Speaker speculated heavily. After five rounds, however, Whittle gave in, and Barker was chaired home by his triumphant friends. We believe that a meeting between the gentlemen is arranged to come off to-morrow. This incident agreeably relieved the monotony of the week's debates, which were growing excessingly tedious.

Gustavus Vasa.

The father of Gustavus Vasa and many of his friends and kinsmen had fallen in a massacre. His mother and several of the most illustrious ladies were carried prisoners to Copenhagen, and treated with every indignity. On his own head a high price was set, and he was safe nowhere. He fled into Dalicurlia, a wild region of mines and mountains, inhabited by the most daring and independent race of Sweden. He hoped to rouse them to the rescue of their country; but that great bloody deed, and Christian's spies everywhere, had thoroughly unmanned even these hardy men. On his journey, his servant made off with his clothes and effects, and Gustavus pursued him till his horse fell under him—but in vain. Once more disguised as a peasant, he went on through sterile mountains, unpeopled heaths and forests, till he reached Fahlun, with its blazing fires, rolling smoke and sooty copper works. Here he labored for some time in the mines; but his uneasy mind drove him on again. He engaged as a thresher at a farm; but there the fineness of his linen and his manners did not escape a sharp eyed maid.

The master, informed of this, soon recognized Gustavus, a fellow-student at Upsala, and filled with terror, entreated him to plunge deeper into the mountains, and leave him and his family in safety. He next betook himself to the castle of a nobleman, who received him most affectionately, making himself most sure of the offered reward. He recounted and rode off to the next military station, and was soon on his back again with twenty troopers. But the bird was flown, through a hint from the more noble wife, who furnished him with a horse and sledge for his escape. He sought refuge at the door of a monastery, founded by his ancestors, but the monks shut the door in his face. His next asylum was with a wealthy citizen of Lyncopin; but here the Philistines were upon him again, for the Danish soldiery were hunting everywhere. He was again rescued by the presence of mind of the lady who, on the entrance of the troopers into the house, where Gustavus was sitting with the other farm men, she gave him a cuff on the ear, and sent him off on pretense of some neglected errand.

His host then concealed him under a load of straw, and drove him towards a place of security; but the soldiers met them on the way, examined the load of straw, ran their swords through it in different directions, and at one pass pierced the leg of Gustavus. He bore the wound without stirring, and was saved; but the blood soon running through the cart, and leaving a track on the snow, his ingenious host saw a wound in his horse's foot, and when the bloody track was remarked, showed that as the cause. Through such dangers and discouragements Gustavus escaped, finally roused the men of Dalicurlia, expelled the Danes, and was unanimously elected King. He became one of the noblest Kings that ever reigned; completed the Reformation in Sweden, and remains one of the world's great names.

[Westminster Review.

A HAPPY HOME.—The first year of married life is a most important era in the history of husband and wife. Generally, as it is spent, so is almost the subsequent existence. The wife and husband then assimilate their views and their desires, or else conjure up their dislikes, and so add fuel to their prejudices and animosities forever afterward.

"Come, let us somewhere read," says Rev. Dr. Wise in his "Bridal Greetings," of a bridegroom who gloried in his eccentricities. He requested his bride to accompany him into the garden a day or two after the wedding. He then threw a line over the roof of their cottage. Giving his wife one end of it, he retreated to the other side and exclaimed:

"Pull the line!"

"I can't," she replied.

"Pull with all your might!" shouted the whimsical husband.

But in vain were all the efforts of the bride to pull over the line, so long as the husband held on the opposite side. But when he came round, and both pulled at one end, it came over with great ease.

"There," said he, as the line fell from the roof, "you see how hard and ineffectual was our labor when we pulled in opposition to each other, but how easy and pleasant it is when we both pull together. It will be so, my dear, through life. If we act together it will be pleasant to live. Let us, therefore, always pull together."

In this illustration, homely as it may be, there is sound philosophy. Husband and wife must mutually bear and concede, if they wish to make home a retreat of joy and bliss. One alone cannot make home happy. There must be union of action, sweetness of spirit, and great forbearance and love in both husband and wife, to secure the great end of happiness in the domestic circle.

A FAULT.—A young man once picked up a severe rebuke lying in the road. Ever afterward as he walked along, he kept his eyes steadfastly fixed on the ground, in hopes of finding another. And in the course of a long life he did pick up at different times a good amount of gold and silver. But all these days as he was looking for them he saw not that heaven was bright above him, and nature beautiful around. He never once allowed his eyes to look up from the mud and filth in which he sought the treasure; and when he died, a rich old man, he only knew this fair earth of ours as a dirty road to pick up money as you walk along.

MEDITATION.

"There is a time
For those whom wisdom and whom nature charm,
To steal themselves from the degenerate crowd
And soar above this little scene of things,
To thread low-thoughted vice beneath their feet,
To soothe the throbbing passions into peace,
And woo lone quiet in her silent walks."

THE EAGLE MACHINE WORKS.—These Southern machine works are located in Richmond, Virginia, and are noted for the excellence and finish of the machinery which they manufac