about the union upon the Slavery question. They had seen at Philadelphia that, until that question was settled, there was no avail in attempting a union of the country upon any other questions; that, however clearly they all, both North and South, held their views upon American principles, they held their views upon Slavery and its extension still dearer and higher; and that until the questions arising out of their differences here were disposed of, nothing could be effectually done for other evils. With this spirit and purpose they separated.

The recent triumph of the Republican party in Ohio with the gallant Ford as its second representative, shows how faithfully he and his associates have fulfilled their pledges in this respect. So the union in Vermont and Maine testifies for their delegates at Philadelphia. The movements going on in Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin prove that their leading delegates also abide by the faith with which they parted with their northern associates on this occasion. The great Republican party of the Free States has received its chief impetus from the action of these men at Philadelphia, followed up by the redemption of their then pledged faith at home.

Gov. Gardner and his colleagues went home to fulfill the same noble work. They met opposition from a portion of their party, who, having power at home, desired to keep it without regard to a union of the country, in the Republican party, against the slave-power. Besides, some of them had no sympathy with the anti Slavery sentiment, and desired to keep the American ideas predominant, and indulge in only anti-Slavery enough to catch votes, the same as the Whig party had done before them. After some ineffectual and misdirected efforts to republicanize the American party, as agreed by the delegates at Philadelphia, Gov. Gardner and some of his colleagues associated themselves with those who opposed the "fusion," as it was called. They agreed to favor it if it would nominate Gov. Gardner, and at the same time "spit" upon its purpose and idea. The result was that through his attempt to ride two horses going different ways, Gov. Gardner failed of the Republican nomination, though making every effort but the right one to secure it. Now, he and his partisans turn openly round and oppose the Republican party which they helped to form, reorganize the shattered remains of the American organization, and run him for governor against the Republican nomination.

This creates division between the delegates from the State at Philadelphia, for, while Gov. Gardner and his peculiar friends have thus turned their backs upon the position he was encouraged to take at Philadelphia and subsequently at home, others of the delegation remain true to the faith there exchanged with their associates from other States. The mischief of this is that it is dividing the Free-State sentiment and vote in Massachusetts and other States. Many honest opponents of the slave power, and friends even of a union upon the basis of the Republican movement, are deceived by such representations as I have quoted in the beginning of this communication—believe Gov. Gardner to be an abused man, or the American party to be the true Anti-Slavery party of the North—and are thus lending their influence and their votes to the strengthening of the great obstacle to a united North, and to the rewarding of gross political treachery. They deceive themselves in thinking the case to be otherwise. They deceive themselves in doubting that it is the purpose of Gov. Gardner and his associates to reunite the national Know-Nothing organization, and hold fellowship once more with the Barkers and Levins of New-York and Pennsylvania. There are indications of such a purpose among all the American doughfaces of the North and West. Gov. Gardner himself heads a call for a convention of Know-Nothings at Cincinnati in November, which is portentous with mischief of this sort. It originated in Pennsylvania in action avowedly having for its object the control of the national council in the nomination of candidates for President and Vice-president. *The American Organ*, the central press, at Washington, of pro-Slavery Know-Nothingism, hails Gov. Gardner's new position as a sign that "he is coming to his senses," rejoices over him as having repudiated Republican doctrines, and says "he is scrambling back, 'wet and shivering, to the platform of the law,' which, I infer, means, in its vocabulary, the platform of the National council. One of Gov. Gardner's orators in the present campaign in Massachusetts told an acquaintance of mine, the other day, that "after "election they meant to go back into the national organization,—that this anti-Slavery talk was only, put on to answer the purposes of this election. The information converted the receiving party from a Gardner to a Rockwell man; and I leave with the editor of THE TRIBUNE the names of both parties, in order that any person who chooses can authenticate the statement. Indeed, it is "manifest destiny" that the Know-Nothings who refuse to go into the Republican movement, but remain separate and fight it, should resume their communion with the national council. They will return to their vomit, like the dog; but pray do not let honest Anti Slavery men be deceived into going with them.

This chapter has been written in no spirit of personal unkindness to Mr. Gardner. It has been done reluctantly, to vindicate truth, to expose treachery, to protect the cause of Freedom, wounded in the house of its friends. Gov. Gardner knows who writes it, and the motives which induce it. He knows, too, that the stories which some of his partisans are circulating about the correspondent of THE TRIBUNE, in this connection, are altogether and entirely false. He knows that the correspondent was the tool of no man at Philadelphia—no more of Henry Wilson than of Henry J. Gardner; but that he was there an independent private citizen, neither a member of the convention nor of the order; granted by an extensive acquaintance and peculiar position and intimate knowledge of what was going on, and using that knowledge for the benefit of the rest of mankind, and the advancement of the cause of Freedom.

I place with you the names of some dozen delegates to the Philadelphia convention, which you are at liberty to publish as references for the truth of what I have written. They are not from Massachusetts, and of course are not mixed up with any of the local differences or personal quarrels of politics and politicians in that State. I could add indefinitely, almost, to the list; but these names are enough to authenticate my history.

Not unlikely the publication of this letter will call out replies, perhaps certificates from some of Gov. Gardner's friends among the delegates; but I am sure no one of those who took the lead in the northern movement, and who participated in the prolonged and excited caucusings at the Girard house, will take issue with any of the material facts here given. Others, who were ready to sell out the North for the sake of the party, and would have done so had they dared, and the opportunity been allowed to offer itself, may be induced by a fellow feeling to come to the support of Gov. Gardner; but none of the men to whose efforts the country is mainly indebted for the proud position of the North on that occasion will say anything but a substantial *yea* to my history. Two of the Massachusetts delegates—Messrs. Carey and Rugg—are undoubtedly ignorant of much of what is here written. They were not at the hotel where most of the history of which it is the record transpired, and could fairly testify only to what transpired in the convention itself.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
THE TRIBUNE'S CORRESPONDENT AT THE
Oct 27, 1855. PHILADELPHIA COUNCIL.

MONUMENT TO GEN. PUTNAM.

A correspondent has furnished us with the following account of a meeting of the descendants of that old Revolutionary hero, Gen. Putnam, held in Putnam, Conn., on the 25th ult., to devise measures for erecting to his memory a suitable monument:

Last Thursday was the day fixed for the meeting of the descendants of Gen. Israel Putnam, the object of which was to raise funds to cover the resting place of the old hero with a monument suited to his worth and the services rendered to his country.

Notwithstanding the severe storm which prevailed on Wednesday the descendants began to arrive, and were taken care of by the various members of the family in Putnam and Pomfret, the oldest of whom, Lemuel Putnam Grosvenor, is a grandson of the general. About 8 o'clock on Thursday the military from the neighboring town of Danielsonville arrived by railroad, and, in connection with a fine brass band, contributed greatly to the enjoyment of all concerned. At 11 o'clock a procession was formed from the hotel, consisting of the military, the orator of the day, the Rev. Lemuel Grosvenor, a great grandson, the president of the meeting, ex-Governor Cleveland, the descendants of Putnam, and all those who were desirous of honoring his memory.

The procession then moved to the church. After a few introductory remarks by the president of the day, prayer was offered up by the Rev. Chas. Grosvenor, and the address was delivered. The orator alluded briefly to the history of the General, and mentioned many facts and anecdotes which have not appeared in the accounts previously given to the world. He established, satisfactorily, the fact that Putnam was not only present at the battle of Bunker hill, but actually commanded the American forces in person. He commented with just severity on the conduct of those historians who have appeared to take pleasure in injuring his reputation, by denying he was present on that trying day. He stated that Putnam always felt sensibly his want of early culture, and strenuously urged his children to take advantage of every means in their power to gain a good education. In conclusion he pressed upon his hearers and the descendants of the General the object of the meeting, and urged them to contribute liberally toward erecting the monument and surrounding it with a railing so high as to render it unapproachable to sacrilegious travelers and the *eternal* whittling of too-curious Yankees.

The procession again formed, and after marching through the town, entered the large public hall where dinner was prepared for several hundred guests.

After dinner a number of appropriate toasts were offered by Daniel P. Tyler, esq., a grandson of the General, and responses made thereto by the various members of the family. A paper was then handed round, on which a number of liberal subscriptions were entered. As soon as $3,000 has been contributed the State of Connecticut promises to give as much more, which will enable the committee to build a splendid monument. Among those present we noticed Douglass Putnam, of Marietta, Ohio; Waldo Putnam, of Belpre, Ohio; W. W. Putnam, of Mississippi; Judge Dana, of Danville, Vt.; Miss Ware, of Pomfret, Vt; Mrs. Chase; L. G. Downs, of Calais, Me.; and E. A. Le Roy, jr., of your city.

A FARMER AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

Believing that the agricultural tendencies of the American Institute fair might be turned to better advantage if more generally brought into notice, I propose to detail the results of two days' careful investigation of the agricultural implements there displayed. Probably the exposition of corn and other samples of crops is worthy of attention, but my time was too much occupied by the implements to allow of their examination. There are on exhibition eleven different kinds of reapers and mowers, some of which deserve particular notice. Ketchum's is pretty well known, but it may not be amiss to name some of the more important claims of his patent; first, the cutting-bar is on a line with the center of the wheel, which renders the attachment of the power more direct than on most of the mowers, and gives it a decided advantage in passing through dead furrows, inasmuch as the wheel and the knife enter and leave the hollow at the same time, cutting more evenly and adapting itself more perfectly to the sinuosities of the surface. Another claim is in the situation of the *frame*, this being raised above the cutting-bar, and consequently above the fallen grass, so as to avoid the piling up of the same as it advances. The perforation of the knives, it is said, prevent the fingers from clogging. This machine weighs seven hundred pounds, and is undoubtedly hard on horses, but withal is perhaps the best machine for all uses and (from its strength and simplicity) better adapted than most of the others to the wants of non-mechanical farmers. Ketchum's combined mower and reaper is of less draft than the mower, and works more slowly, but it is difficult to decide on its merits without seeing its work; it looks feasible.

The Poughkeepsie machine (Gale's) is a mower, with several new features. The driver walks behind the machine instead of riding on it, and regulates its work (avoiding stones, &c.) by a lever with which he can raise or lower its cutting-bar to any point within fifteen inches of the ground. This arrangement compensates in part for the fact that its cutter is in advance of the driving-wheel, as it may be dropped into a dead furrow at the pleasure of the operator. It is easily thrown out of gear, (as Ketchum's, Allen's, and most others are) is exceedingly simple in its construction, and is supported at the end of the cutter by a wheel of the same size as the driver, which renders it light in its draft. It is the only mower in the palace which is operated by "spur-wheels," and therein has an obvious advantage over those driven by the bevel-gear. One more argument in its favor is that it cuts against the *lower* side of the knives, so that in stout grass these are drawn still closer to the fingers and cut with more certainty. Allen's and Manny's machines have the same features. It is a simple machine, and, if strong enough, it will doubtless win favor. One hundred and fifteen dollars looks like too high a price. Allen's mower is (so far as may be judged by examination) more complicated than the preceding one, though its friends contend that it is a complication of simple items, and that its equal balance (in weight) makes it much easier for the team. On smooth ground it will doubtless work well; but I doubt its fitting an uneven surface as well as Ketchum's.

A new machine (Waterman's) has a movement of the knives which is novel, and appears at first sight advantageous. It is worthy of investigation. Manny's mowers and several others have good points of merit; but unless they prove their superiority in public trials better than they have done in the ones I have witnessed, they will not supercede those described. Manny's has a dead-point of over a foot, which runs over the fallen grass to a greater or less extent, and I have seen it badly clogged from this cause, though at La Trappe it worked well.

When Mechi saw the "digger" at work he said that the plow was doomed. Judging from the fair, it is at least doomed to stand still; for there is not one in the place which presents a new feature or deserves a passing notice. Since the Eagle, seventy-seven, was removed for Fall work, there is not one left that will turn a furrow over nine or ten inches deep, or even that for any considerable time. In fact, the dealers lack enterprise; they do less than their share in introducing new improvements. For instance: R. L. Allen has a large and beautiful display of agricultural and horticultural implements, all well made and good of their kind; but among the whole one must look long for a new improvement worthy the looking. In his warehouse he has Mapes's subsoil plow, which is admirably adapted to its work, and is strong and cheap; but he keeps that back and sends to the palace an antiquated tool *called* a subsoiler. It is the same old tool which has kept up the war between "practical farmers" and "book-farmers," simply because it is totally inadequate to its purpose, requiring too much team and doing too little work to meet with the approbation of ordinary farmers. On the other hand, the "Mapes plow" would help to draw together the two classes, for it is really easy to work, striking in its effects, and indispensable on every farm. Let us at least see something which looks ahead instead of backward, and let not the extent of the sale of any article decide its right to be exhibited. A FARMER.

METEOROLOGICAL PHENOMENON.—On last Saturday evening, a short time after the departure of the steamship Charles Morgan from her anchorage at Powder horn wharf, about two miles from the beach, in the direction of Matagorda, was observed one of those beautiful meteorological phenomenon known as water-spouts. It certainly was the most sublime spectacle we ever beheld; it rose perpendicularly from the bay, appearing at the base like a huge column, and ascending in a vertical position to a great hight, gradually diminishing in size to its apex, at which point it came in contact with a projection from a massive cloud that overhung the bay at the time. It lasted about twenty minutes after we observed it; and disappeared by breaking near the center of the column and gradually diminishing both ways, one portion ascending into the clouds, and the other descending into the bay. Indianola, (Texas) Bulletin, Oct. 5.

DISCOVERY OF YET TWO MORE ASTEROIDS.—We received this morning intelligence of the discovery of two asteroids, or small planets, between Mars and Jupiter, on the same day, Oct. 5—one by Luther in Bilk, in Prussia, situated at 9 p. m. of that day in R. A. 29° 25', and north declination 58°; and the other by Goldsmidt of Paris, whose R. A. at 8 p. m. was 345° 20', and south declination 7° 48'. Both planets were also again observed on the 7th at Altona or Paris, and their retrograde motion on the two days was found to be about fourteen and fifteen minutes daily. The number of the discovered asteroids has of late years so rapidly increased, that we are doubtful how many are now known, but believe these two last will be about the thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth. [Boston Trav

Gideon Bentley, a Revolutionary soldier, was born in the State of Rhode Island, and was in the naval and land service of the Revolutionary war. He was born on the 12th day of August, 1750, and was one hundred and five years old the 12th day of August last. He has had two wives, both of whom are now dead, and by his two wives he had thirteen children, all of whom are now living—the oldest seventy-four and the youngest forty—all hale and hearty. He now resides in Constantia, Oswego county, New-York, and was, at his last birth-day, in good health, with very good use of his limbs; could walk and go about very actively with the aid of one staff. He is but very little bowed down, and converses well on most subjects. [Albany Eve. Journal.

HOW TO WASH WINDOWS.—The nicest article for washing windows is a deer-skin, as no particles come off to adhere to the glass and make it look as if washed with feathers. There is no need of anything larger than a hand-basin for washing windows. The great splashing some people make in the exercise of their art is entirely useless, and is, moreover, deleterious. When the water is permitted to run in great quantities over the glass it dissolves the putty and soon loosens the panes from their setting, and also stains the glass. Two pieces of wash-leather and a bowl of suds are all that are necessary. Wipe the glass first with the wet cloth or leather, and after it becomes dry with the clean cloth, and then it will look clear, and far more so than if rinsed in a dozen pails of water.

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE OF A FEMALE—AN AFFECTING SCENE.—We never heard of a more melancholy occurrence than that which took place in the town of Camden, N. Y., on Saturday last. Mrs. Wm Allen, who resides with her mother about two miles from the village of Camden, committed suicide by cutting her throat with a razor. In September last, Mrs. A lost her husband, who was carried off by consumption; a few days thereafter she gave birth to a child; the child lived until one week from the day of its father's death, when it died. Mrs. A. continued in a rather feeble state of health until the time of the mournful event mentioned above, which was exactly five weeks from the death of her husband. She exhibited, however, no signs of aberration of mind, though she mourned deeply over her afflictions and the loss she had sustained. The night previous to the suicide, she slept, as for weeks previous, with her mother; the mother arose in the morning, as usual, leaving Mrs. A. in the bed, who manifested no change in her demeanor. Soon after the mother, on going into the room, beheld one of the most frightful spectacles ever presented. There in the bed was the daughter with her throat cut, weltering in her blood. There was a deep gash in the throat which Mrs. A. had inflicted with a razor, taken by her from the mantlepiece in the room. When the mother entered the door the dying woman stretched out her feeble hands toward her maternal parent, embraced her, and imprinted many fond kisses upon her cheeks, but did not utter a word. She seemed to be conscious of what she had done, and of her approaching dissolution, but neither expressed nor intimated a desire to live; on the contrary, she repelled all assistance which was kindly tendered her, and tore from the gaping and bleeding wound a bandage which the kind and affectionate mother had placed there. Every assistance in the power of human agency was rendered to restore Mrs. A. to life, but all efforts were unavailing. Mrs. Allen was a sister of John Lamcie, esq., of Camden. She was married a little over a year ago, and was a very kind and affectionate wife, and a dutiful daughter. Her death came with a crushing force upon the relatives, for she was beloved by all who knew her. [Rome Sentinel, Oct 20.

ALLEGED RAPE BY A MARRIED MAN UPON A MARRIED LADY.—The keeper of the California house on Mill street, John T. Page, was arrested yesterday on a warrant issued by Police Justice Moore, charging him with a rape on Martha Elstone. The complainant in this case testified before the magistrate to the following particulars: Some three months since Mrs. Elstone came to this city with her husband and two little children from England, en route for Canada. They had through tickets by cars and steamboats, and but little money. Their baggage did not reach the city as soon as they did, and they were compelled to remain here over night to await its arrival. They went to the California house near the depot, and stated that they had no money. The keeper of the house gave Mrs. Elstone and her two children—one an infant at the breast—a bedroom, but refused to allow her husband lodgings. He therefore remained in the barroom. Mrs. Elstone swears that after she had retired Page came to her room and by great violence outraged her person. On the following morning she told her husband what had transpired, but the cars were just ready to leave and the family were hurried on board. Mr Elstone, having no money and not being familiar with the laws of the country, did not deem it advisable to remain and prosecute. After he reached his destination in Canada he was advised to return to Rochester and complain of the outrage. He did so some weeks since, and after taking advice concluded to defer action until the grand jury should meet. He came to the city again yesterday with his wife, who testifies to what is here stated. Page was committed by the magistrate to await the action of the grand jury, and Mrs Elstone has been summoned to appear before that body. The accused is a married man. The complainants in this case appear to be honest English people, and state the case in such a way as to carry conviction to the hearer. [Rochester Union, Oct. 17.

HORRIBLE STABBING CASE.—Yesterday morning, about 10½ o'clock, one of the most horrid attempts at murder and suicide transpired in East Boston that has ever occurred in our city. It seems that a man named David Merrill, who has lately returned from California, had conceived a violent jealousy of his wife Catharine, and for some days past has been quite harsh in his treatment of her in consequence. Yesterday morning, however, he flew into a violent rage with her, and after a torrent of abusive language, he drew a dirk knife with a blade of some five inches in length, and with great rapidity stabbed her in *thirteen* places, chiefly in the breast. Some of the stabs were of the full length of the steel, and others of less force. The woman is frightfully cut up and now lies at home in a most critical state. The doctors are of the opinion that she cannot recover. After thus wreaking his vengeance on his wife, Merrill then deliberately plunged the knife into his own person four times, each time taking a frightful gash. By this time the alarm had been given and some police officers were on the spot, but the wretched man, declaring he would not be taken alive, stabbed himself twice again in the stomach. Then coolly calling for a drink of water he gave up the knife and was arrested. He has been taken to the hospital, and, notwithstanding his hurts, it is said he will recover. The scene of this horrid tragedy was at the building known as the "Barricoon," near the Catholic church in East Boston. [Boston Chronicle, Oct. 22.

FATHER SHOT BY HIS SON.—We are informed that a serious shooting affray took place at Clark's Mills, in the town of Westmoreland, on Wednesday night. A man named Henry, who resided with his son, had been in the habit for some time past of staying away from home until an unseasonable hour of the night and disturbing the family after they had retired. There being no reasonable cause for the absence of the father, he had frequently been importuned by his son, and at length threatened with expulsion if he did not change his habits. On Wednesday night he returned about 10 o'clock, when an altercation took place between them, resulting in the father receiving a severe and perhaps dangerous wound from a pistol ball fired by his son. We are not informed of all the particulars. The young man was taken into custody. Both father and son are represented as being industrious mechanics and were employed in the machine shop of Clark's Mills. They formerly resided in Saratoga county. [Utica Gazette.

A DARING SLAVE REFUGEE.—A slave named Jacob Green ran away last August, from Mr. Parsons of Romney, Va., into Pennsylvania. A few weeks after he returned under cover of night, stole a horse, and carried off five of Mr. Parsons's slaves. Two weeks ago he again returned, and carried off five slaves from the same place belonging to Mr. Stump. This induced Stump, Parsons, and a nephew of Mr. Parsons, to start in pursuit of them. In Bedford county, Pa., two of Stump's slaves were overtaken and sent back. Green discovered Parsons in the cars, and jumped out, and Parsons followed and secured him, though he was heavily armed. Col Piper, Gen. Potts, and other Abolitionists interfered, and forced Parsons away. The release of the fugitive effected, Potts went before a magistrate, and made oath against Parsons for attempting to kidnap. Parsons procured bail. The slave Green, it is thought, is in Canada by this time.

CARGOES FROM SOUTH AMERICA.—Twenty thousand bullock shank-bones are imported monthly into Southampton, Eng., from South America. The best of them are picked out for cutlers' purposes, and the rest are ground for manure. Large cargoes of bullocks' bones are continually arriving from South America at Southampton, to be ground down for manure in that town. The shank bones are conveyed to this country at so much per gross; the other bones are brought over at so much per ton. A firm engaged in Southampton as manufacturers of manure have an establishment at Buenos Ayres, where thousands of head of black cattle are slaughtered, skinned, and then boiled down whole for the purpose of extracting the fat and separating the bones from the flesh.

A PRAIRIE SHIP.—Mr. Thompson of Kansas has just completed, so it is stated, a prairie ship or wagon, to be propelled by wind, in which he proposes to make a voyage to the Rocky Mountains. Thirty passengers will embark in June next on the voyage. Several years ago, a gentleman who then represented the State of Illinois in the Senate of the United States, invented a ship of the same kind, and indulged the belief that the experiment of navigating the prairies of the West by canvas and wind would prove successful. If we remember correctly, the wheels of the concern did move with a stiff breeze, but the realization of the gentleman's hopes was never reached. [St. Louis Republican.

A BRAVE BRAKEMAN.—On the express train over the Galena road yesterday, a sad accident occurred at Oak Ridge. A lady, while stepping from one car to another, slipped and fell between the cars. The cars were moving slowly at the time, and the wheels passed over both her legs, between the knees and ankles, severing them from the body. The brakeman of the train immediately jumped from the cars, and springing under the moving train, pulled the woman under the brake rod, and sustained her until the train stopped, and thus saved her life. [Chicago Journal.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE.—KANSAS AND NEBRASKA.—The surveyor general of Kansas and Nebraska, in a letter to the commissioner of the general land office, states that he has made contracts for the subdivision into townships of the eastern portions of the Kickapoo lands, and the lands of the Sacs and Foxes ceded to the United States, to be sold for their benefit. The surveys are to be completed by the 1st of December next.

MILITARY PAPERS BURNT.—*The Austin Times* of the 13th instant mentions the destruction by fire of the office of the Adjutant-general of Texas, including the army rolls and every important paper in relation to the military affairs of Texas. There is no means, it says, to procure duplicates, and the burning of no other archives could have been a greater loss to Texas, as it will open the door to the defrauding of many persons.

NATIVE IRON IN LIBERIA.

Investigations have been in progress for some time past, relative to what are supposed to be the purest and most valuable iron beds in the world, found in Liberia. From a communication from the pen of the Rev. J. Tracy, whose accuracy in all investigations is proverbial, we gather some facts which will be read with interest. It is understood that orders have gone out to Liberia for considerable quantities of iron.

Mr. Tracy, by way of reconciling the conflicting testimony concerning the process of obtaining the ore, states that after repeated and careful questionings of the natives on the subject, it has been ascertained that it is obtained by placing "stone" on a big pile of wood and burning it. The Rev. John Seys, however, says that they find "iron ore" so pure, that when heated it becomes malleable "without smelting." The Rev. C. P Davis says it is obtained sometimes by digging, and sometimes by breaking the rock which contains it.

Strictly speaking, Mr. Tracy remarks, an "ore" is a rock composed of or containing a metal in chemical combination with some other substance. "Smelting" is the reduction of the metal in an ore by the application of heat to its metallic form. A fire like that described above could never produce a heat intense enough to "smelt" any ore of iron; and besides, the result of smelting iron ore is always *cast* iron, and not malleable. But if in "breaking the rocks" the rocks should not readily yield to blows, it would a very natural device to place it on a very hot fire. The result would be that the rock would crack into pieces and the iron would be released; and being heavier than the decrepitated stone, it might, especially if stirred a little, fall together and become welded into one mass. This, beyond all question, is the usual process in the mountainous regions south of St. Johns river.

Dr. Hayes, assayer to the State of Massachusetts, who has examined a specimen of the ore, says:

"The native iron presents only minute crystalline grains, which have not been broken or blended. Their color is lighter gray than that of any hammered iron. They are without much luster, resembling iron which has been aggregated by electrical deposition. The mass is tough, and when a fragment is broken, repeated bending and doubling is required, and the fracture is hackly. The texture is not uniform. Some parts are less compact than other portions rendering the specific gravity of the mass less than that of other iron. This is due, in part, to the presence in the mass of crystalline quartz, magnetic oxide of iron, and a zeolite mineral, having a soda basis in part, conclusively proving that the iron has never been melted artificially.

Its chemical composition is—pure iron.....98.40
Quartz grains, magnetic oxyd iron crystals, and zeolite..... 1.60

Total..... 99.99

"There are no other metals present—a fact which prevents us from placing this iron in the class of meteorolites. And the absence of carbon in any form completely removes all doubt in regard to its being possibly of artificial formation.

"Every form of iron which has been the subject of manufacture contains carbon; and it is an interesting observation in this connection, that in the large numbers of samples of ancient irons and those produced by semi civilized people, which I have analyzed, not only has carbon been present, but the proportion has always been larger than exists in the iron of commercial people. It appears that the rude workmen, in producing this useful metal, stop at that point where the half refined iron is sufficiently ductile to take, under the hammer, the required form; while the purer irons are produced later in history, when the more highly prized qualities became known."

MR. BEECHER'S LECTURING TOUR.—Many articles having appeared in the western papers severely condemning the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher for lecturing at an exorbitant price, under the management of a speculator, his lectures have not been well attended, and he has deemed it advisable to address the following letter:

To the Editors of the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Allow me to state the substance of the truth in relation to my lectures in the West, in opposition to the ingenious reports circulated in the Cleveland papers.

Mr Wells is a merchant of Chicago, the president of the Metropolitan Literary union. He came to me with letters of recommendation which were satisfactory. He made engagements with me for lectures in just the same way that such engagements have been always made with literary societies. He only wished my services in Chicago; but I desired to make a tour through several States in the pleasant month of October, and insisted that he should assume the arrangements and responsibilities of a course of twelve lectures, inasmuch as I was a stranger to the route in the West, and could not make such arrangements conveniently as could be met upon successive days.

With the exception of Chicago, I knew nothing of the terms charged for the lectures in the several places where they were delivered until I was more than half through the engagement. I regretted that the charge was so high. I have always thought that the true policy of lecturers was to fill large halls and charge low prices; and I think not only that fifty cents (except for lectures devoted to some charitable end in the community and where the fee may be regarded as a contribution to some public end) is too much, but that it would be better to charge less than twenty-five cents. It would answer the ends of popular education better were lectures to be afforded for a shilling, and this could be done with profit to the managers, if halls were large enough.

The Buffalo lectures, for which twenty-five cents only are charged, were not included in the arrangement with Mr. Wells. I lecture there before the Young Men's Christian association, and the price is regulated by them.

The statement of one of the city papers that I had agreed to lecture for the Young Men's association at fifty dollars, and then in succession risen in demands to one hundred, to one hundred and twenty five, to one hundred and thirty-five dollars and expenses, I need not say, is wholly untrue. I have never engaged to come at all, and never negotiated for any price whatever.

In conclusion, let me say that nothing has been done, in my engagements with Mr. Wells, that differs in any material respect from other engagements which I have been wont to make with young men's literary associations, and the stories circulated are entire misrepresentations. HENRY WARD BEECHER.

POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY IN MINNESOTA—KANSAS OUTRAGES RE-ENACTED—*The St. Paul Daily Times* of the 18th comes to us with an extraordinary account of the manner in which the friends of Henry M. Rice, the Nebraska candidate for delegate to Congress from that Territory cooked up an illegal vote for him in certain portions of the district. It appears to be beyond controversy that the new wilderness counties of Doty and Superior on St. Louis river and on the north side of Lake Superior in Minnesota never did and do not now contain over fifty legal voters. But notwithstanding this, the Rice faction polled in these counties nearly *five hundred votes*—all for Rice, and beside this, nearly all the people of the town of Superior, in Wisconsin, went over to the Minnesota side and voted for Rice. Three new and illegal polls were opened, citizens of Wisconsin were put in as judges of the election, and a host of Chippewa Indians were brought up to the polls, and every one of them made to vote for Rice. One fact shows the atrocity of the fraud. At the census taken in June there were scarcely three hundred people, men, women, and children in the whole north shore, and now there are nearly double that number of voters. These frauds are certainly sufficient to render the election of Mr. Rice a nullity, and the people of the Territory owe it to themselves to see that such outrages are properly punished. [Buffalo Express.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT.—*New Post-offices.*—The following new Post offices have been established, and the following-named gentlemen appointed postmasters:

Mount Mills, Montgomery county, Maryland; J. R. Mase, postmaster. Mount Pleasant, Salt Lake county, Utah Territory; Lyman Wight, postmaster. Central Point, Goodhue county, Minnesota; Perry D. Martin, postmaster. Sturgeon Bay, Door county, Wisconsin; Robert Graham, postmaster. Shiocton, Outagamie county, Wisconsin; Mathew G. Bradt, postmaster. Bangor, La Crosse county, Wisconsin; Richard Wheldon, postmaster. Looneyville, Houston county, Minnesota; Daniel Wilson, postmaster. Manton, Houston county, Minnesota; William Gillett, postmaster. Fillmore, Fillmore county, Minnesota; Robert Rea, postmaster. Peterson, Fillmore county, Minnesota; Knud Peterson, postmaster. Sarstops, Portage county, Wisconsin; John Ensign, postmaster. Summer, Trempeleau county, Wisconsin; George S. McCormick, postmaster.

Change of Name.—The name of the Post-office at Cantwell's bridge, New-castle county, Delaware, has been changed to Odessa.

A NEW STATE OUT OF TEXAS.—A writer from Western Texas says the German, French, Swiss, Hungarian, and other European settlers in North western Texas are to a man in favor of forming a new state out of the western portion of that State; and to a man they are opposed to Slavery. There are many settlers from the Northern States among them, too, and together he thinks they can command ten thousand votes already. The letter is written by Mr. Wilcox, a member of Congress from Mississippi, who has lately returned from a visit to Texas. By the act annexing Texas it is provided that it may be divided into two or more States, and it is quite probable that such a division will ere long be demanded.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MIRTH.

BY THE REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER.

The introductive lecture to the course to be delivered under the auspices of the Brooklyn Athenæum was delivered last evening, at the Athenæum building, Atlantic-street, by HENRY WARD BEECHER, before a very large and intelligent audience. The subject of the lecture was Mirthfulness. The lecturer adverted first to the ignorance of mankind of mind. Faculties were laid aside like old garments. One age was characterized by the prevalence of one faculty, and another by another. In an age of asceticism, mirthfulness was a sin, men were never afraid of using those faculties which were in vogue to excess, but others they are afraid they would not banish entirely. Men fortified the side which was strong, and left the weak side exposed. It was politic in America to discourage enterprise, but not on mirthfulness. The lecturer believed that mirthfulness would improve morals, and give the community a healthy tone. But Mirth was compelled to be a vagabond, and never be found on the bench, in the observatory, the counting room, or the pulpit. It was considered orthodox to sleep in church, but sinful to laugh. By mirthfulness he meant the fire beneath, which produced the sparks of wit. It exhibited itself altogether through the other faculties. It never looked out on the world itself but when the perceptive faculties looked out; if mirthfulness slid in glass before them, the effect was observed in the appearance of the object. Mirthfulness entered a great deal into combination with all the faculties except the passions. The speaker analyzed the different manifestations of mirthfulness in its combination with form, color, secretiveness, caution, ideality, imitation, benevolence, &c. Veneration was profited by the flavor of mirth. Was it not more lustrous when in its atmosphere? Conscience was improved by mirthfulness. Mirthfulness was not only one note in the mind, but it entered into harmonic combination with all other notes. If concerted with the higher feelings it was elevating. Buoyancy, good nature and cheerfulness were atmospheres in which the mind could not abide save all the faculties were normally exercised. Mirthfulness belonged to that class of feelings which could be called joy-breeders. Its function was to produce pleasurable emotions in all the faculties. The lecturer believed that man's faculties were designed to be fruitful of joy. But the faculties were not to one another respective of joy. The most wretched thing on earth was man. It was a violation of divine law to be unhappy. Mirthfulness was not to be estimated by its flashes, but from its steady flow, which was far transcendent in its benefits. Anger was often subdued by mirth. More could be done with an angry man by jest than by grace. Men oftentimes found more grace in wit than in conscience. Wit brought a man in better sympathy with those who heard him. It worked more for conscience than conscience could work for itself. Care was a low browed demon, having neither faith, hope nor trust. It deadened all the vitality of the faculties. Sorrow might have slain its thousands, but care had slain its tens of thousands; therefore cursed be care, and let all the people say amen; and blessed be that bright winged exciser which could destroy it. Mirthfulness was an effective ally of earnestness, as there was a liability to excess in earnestness, in which case it was followed by reaction. It was supposed that mirthfulness was an evil because it was heard at midnight revels and in the ways of folly. But did not sunlight shine upon the evil as well as the good; and because of that was sunlight bad? It was said that mirthfulness was inconsistent with sobriety. But conventional moral sobriety had no countenance with the word of God. The sobriety which the Scripture contemplated was a Maine Law sobriety. He thought that the better way was to put man in the right position and then draw out the exercise of all the faculties. It was true that by locking a horse in a stable he would not run away; but the true education was to teach him not to run away while he had his liberty. By putting a padlock on all the feelings they would not do evil; but a better plan would be to bury the man at once. [Applause.] Historical influences had brought Puritanism in antagonistical relations with mirth. Mirth associated with vice in the court of Charles II could have no other effect than to bring mirth into disrepute with conscientious men. But we could not fail to admire the motives which induced the wrong more than admire the right thus associated. The lecturer then spoke of the teachings of a more enlarged mirthfulness upon the people of this country. All our troubles we had three times—first in anticipation, second in realization, and third in retrospection. In business a smiling face was of value, but was ever unpopular. Curbs were not chisels and saws; even if they were to oil them occasionally it would make them work better. Mirthfulness was essential in the family and with a literary man. Corruption had no sustaining power of itself, and if mirthfulness and ideality could give an earthly immortality to the works of Sterne, Swift, Fielding, Byron, Moore, and others, what could they not do when allied to purity and virtue? There were great defects in our religious manners and mirthfulness would do much to improve them. No feeling could ever be brought to light until we could trust it. It was wrong to suppose that we could have a natural gratification of mirthfulness so long as we feared its manifestations. It was as wrong to suppose that a given note in the scale was irreverent, as to suppose a given faculty was irreverent. What the pulpit wanted was not solemnity nor intensity, but breadth and naturalness, and it was here in the pulpit, in which men regarded laughter as blasphemy, that the lecturer would assert the dignity of mirth, when it twined itself about the stable pillars of conscience and faith, and laid its blossoms upon the blushing flowers of love, and mingled its offerings to God with the fragrance of the whole soul. And God would accept it [Loud applause].

GOVERNORS OF THE ALMS HOUSE.

The regular weekly meeting of the Board of Ten Governors was held yesterday afternoon, at their rooms in the rotunda; present, Governors Townsend, Draper, Smith, Tiemann, Taylor, West, Dugro, Herrick, and Henry.

Number of persons remaining in the institutions under the charge of the governors for the week ending October 27:

Bellevue Hospital	591	Randall's Island hospital	285
Lunatic Asylum	570	City prison	414
Alms house	1,298	Colored Home	243
Penitentiary	818	Colored Orphan asylum	189
Work house	661	Children at nurse	165
Small pox hospital	2		
Randall's island	614	Total	5,992
Decrease		48	
Remaining Oct. 20		5,950	
Admitted		1,112	
Total			6,962
Died		31	
Discharged		993	
Sent to Penitentiary		128	
Sent to State prison		8	1,160
Remaining			5,802

GOV. WEST offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the president and secretary be authorized to apply, as provided for by the charter, for the sum of seventy five thousand dollars, to cover the additional expense to which the department will be subjected during the present year.

GOV. WEST said, in connection with the above resolution, that the department have now only about ten thousand dollars of the appropriation for the expenses of the present year, and an additional sum of seventy-five thousand dollars would be necessary to pay the expenses of the year.

Resolved, That the citizens and all police and other officers be and they are hereby notified that on and after the 1st of November next all lost children shall be taken to and may be inquired for at the new department for lost children at No. 114 Leonard street, near 13th street.

CITY ITEMS.

FAIR OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE.—The fair of the American institute is now at its hight and the Palace is very well filled, the attendance being much larger than before during the exhibition. Its financial success is determined. The great crowds congregate about the wonderful bedstead that turns out lazy people, Grant's calcium light