

Amusements and Meetings.

BARNUM'S ROMAN HIPPODROME.—Exhibition at 230 and 241 S. Baiton Avenue. NIBLO'S THEATRE.—"Faustus." PARK THEATRE.—"The Mortimer Brothers." THE COLISEUM.—"London by Day," from 10 a. m. to 8 p. m.

CENTRAL PARK GARDEN.—Theodore Thomas's Summer Night's Concert. LEAVITT ART GALLERY.—The Art Exhibition.

Index to Advertisements.

AGREEMENTS.—Ninth Page.—6th column. BANKING AND FINANCIAL.—Seventh Page.—6th column. BOARD AND ROOMS.—Ninth Page.—31 and 4th columns. BUSINESS NOTICES.—Fourth Page.—1st column. CHARITABLE AND SOCIETY.—Ninth Page.—21 column. COOPERATIVE NOTICES.—Sixth Page.—6th column. DIVIDEND NOTICES.—Eighth Page.—5th and 6th columns. EUROPEAN ADVERTISEMENTS.—Ninth Page.—3d column. EXCURSIONS.—Ninth Page.—21 and 31 columns. FINANCIAL.—Eighth Page.—21 and 31 columns. FUNDS.—Ninth Page.—31 column. HOUSES, CARLISLE, HANNESS, &c.—Eighth Page.—25th column. INSTRUCTIONS.—Sixth Page.—6th column. LEGAL NOTICES.—Sixth Page.—6th column. MARBLE AND SLATE MANTLES.—Ninth Page.—31 column. MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.—Fifth Page.—6th column. MISCELLANEOUS.—Ninth Page.—21 column. 7th column. MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.—Ninth Page.—6th column. NEW PUBLICATIONS.—Ninth Page.—21 column. NEW JERSEY.—Ninth Page.—1st column; BROOKLYN.—Ninth Page.—1st column; COUNTRY.—Ninth Page.—21 column; TO EXCHANGE.—Ninth Page.—21 column. SAVINGS BANKS.—Eighth Page.—4th and 5th columns. SALES BY AUCTION.—Ninth Page.—21 column. SITUATIONS WANTED, MALES.—Ninth Page.—4th and 5th columns. FEMALE.—Ninth Page.—3d and 6th columns. SPECIAL NOTICES.—Fifth Page.—6th column. STEAMBOATS AND RAILROADS.—Eighth Page.—5th and 6th columns. STEAMERS.—Ocean.—Ninth Page.—21 column. STEAMERS.—Ninth Page.—21 column. TEACHERS.—Ninth Page.—6th column. THE TILTON.—Ninth Page.—6th column. TO LET.—PROPERTY.—Ninth Page.—21 column; COUNTRY.—Ninth Page.—21 column.

Business Notices.

SENSIBLE AND SOUND.—The Low Rate Cash Plan in Life Insurance of the TRAVELERS.

TERMS OF THE TRIBUNE.

DAILY TRIBUNE. Mail Subscribers, \$10 per annum. WEEKLY TRIBUNE. Mail Subscribers, \$2 per annum. ALL PERIODS LEAVING TOWN, AND TRAVELERS DURING THE SUMMER, CAN HAVE THE DAILY TRIBUNE MAILED TO THEM FOR \$1, INCLUDING POSTAGE, FOR \$1.50 PER MONTH. THE ADDRESS OF THE PAPER BEING CHANGED AS OFTEN AS IS WISHER. THE SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE WILL BE SENT TO ANY ADDRESS FOR THREE MONTHS FOR \$1. POSTAGE PAID; AND FOR \$1.50 EXCLUSIVE OF POSTAGE. TRAVELERS DURING THE SUMMER CAN HAVE ANY OF THE EDITIONS OF THE TRIBUNE MAILED TO THEM BY BANKERS FOR THE FOLLOWING PERIODS: DAILY FOR ONE MONTH, SEMI-WEEKLY THREE MONTHS, WEEKLY SIX MONTHS.

Advertisements received at 107-north Broadway, 54 W. 23d-st., or 505 W. 23d-st.; at the Harlem Office, 225 1/2 North-5th-st., between 12th and 13th-sts.; and at the Brooklyn Branch Office, 333 Washington-st., next door to the Post-office, till 3 p. m., at regular rates.

New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

TUESDAY, JULY 14, 1874.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

An attempt was made to assassinate Prince Bismarck; he was slightly wounded in the hand. The assassin, when arrested, was found to have a poem on his person laudatory of the Pope. In the British House of Commons Mr. Disraeli opposed a resolution of Mr. Gladstone's in regard to the regulation of public worship. In Spain the Republicans have been successful in an engagement with the Carlists near Bilbao. The American, Dockray, has been sentenced to death by the Spanish authorities in Cuba. A reservoir on Middlefield Brook, in Hampshire County, Mass., burst Tuesday afternoon, sweeping away another reservoir, twelve bridges, four manufactories and several houses; no lives are reported lost. Gen. Pope has written a letter showing that the Kansas frontier is lined with troops for the protection of the settlers from the Indians. The counsel for the convicted Police Commissioners attempted in vain to have directions given to the Grand Jury not to indict their clients. It was said that charges would be brought against Commissioner Davenport for arbitrary arrests two years ago. The Orangemen had a quiet excursion to Iona Island. The investigation in regard to the mental condition of Kate Stoddard was begun. Gold, 109 1/2, 109 1/2, 109 1/2; Zinc, 80, 80, 75.

THE TRIBUNE REGATTA EXTRA published this morning will contain the programme for the week of College Races at Saratoga; a series of letters giving a full description of each crew while in practice; a map of the course; the programme for the University Race; the laws of the race as recently amended; a complete tabular statement of the age, weight, and height of the individual members of the crew, with measurements of the biceps and forearm; and much other matter serviceable in forming an estimate of the comparative merits of the crews, as well as of general interest in connection with the College Races.

Another step in the Geneva Award case has been taken in the official announcement by the Secretary of State to the Attorney-General of the appointment of Messrs. Wells of Mich., Porter of Penn., Baldwin of Iowa, and Kaynor of N. C., as the Commission under the act passed near the close of the last session to adjust the actual undisputed losses by the Alabama and other Rebel cruisers.

The offense for which an attempt is now to be made to punish Commissioner John I. Davenport was committed nearly two years ago. It was a gross offense against the liberty of person, and was denounced at the time as an outrage. We do not know what additional evidence may blacken the deed into a crime which demands punishment, but we are not sorry that an effort is making to bring the offender to trial.

A juvenile eye or hand more or less is of little consequence to the Assistant Aldermen compared to the privilege of celebrating the National Birthday after the fashion prevailing with youth. A resolution looking to the abolition of the nuisance was yesterday laid over until the next Fourth of July, when a few score accidents may possibly induce more sensible legislators to take up and pass it.

The first case of lunacy tried under the new Lunacy law of this State, yesterday, resulted in the consent to the asylum of the woman who lately killed her child in Brooklyn. The evidence submitted in the case of Kate Stoddard, the murderer of Charles Goodrich, points to a similar disposal of her to-day. There seems to be no doubt of this woman's guilt, but the legal proof is probably not obtainable, and the District-Attorney wisely disposes of the case in this manner.

It is announced that Tom Bowling will run at Saratoga. It was suspected on the first mention of his hurt that the story was a gambler's fiction to make the horse sell low in the pools. When he appears on the Saratoga course it will doubtless be found that he

has sustained no injury whatever. False starts have driven some of the best horses from Momouth Park; the originating of false rumors ought to result in expelling some of the worst turfmen from the Saratoga course.

Few of our citizens whose business has not called them to that neighborhood are aware of the extent of the work that has been carried on for more than a year past under the name of the Fourth Avenue Improvement, being the sinking of the tracks of the Harlem and Hudson River Railways, from Forty-second-st. to and above Harlem, below the grade of the city streets. The amount of labor and of money that has been expended in this improvement surpasses the ordinary conception of what this work was intended to be, and has been the daily wonder of passengers over all the roads going out of the city in that direction. The full description of the work given elsewhere will be read with interest.

That seems to have been a very practicable proposition on the part of the Philadelphia capitalists who sat down in front of the problem how to revive American commerce when they said, parodying a well-known and well-worn phrase, "The way to revive our commerce is to revive it." The manner in which the sturdy Philadelphians put their plan in practical operation and set afloat, without fuss or flurry, a fleet of sea-going steamers, is well told in the letter of our Philadelphia correspondent. There is, for those who can see and read and profit by it, a short, sharp lesson for the capitalists of other cities in this little story. Has New-York anything to learn from it?

Mr. Tilton publishes another letter. Without approaching the merits of the controversy which Mr. Tilton seems by some strange fatuity to rejoice in, we may say that this gentleman is as much too public and conspicuous as Mr. Beecher has by some been thought too reticent and self-contained in all this matter. Mr. Beecher once illustrated a political situation by a story which became classic, concerning a "Dog Noble." It was a reflection upon the tribe which seems never to have been forgiven. Perhaps it was right he should be worried. And yet—and yet—isn't barking under his window a small revenge? Mr. Tilton is too vocal. He disturbs the public and furnishes no facts.

One of the causes which have led to the recent Indian outbreaks is said to be not far different from that which sets on foot most of the more civilized murders which take place in the streets and tenement-houses of the metropolis, to wit, drugged liquor sold to savages. The only difference is that in most cases in the metropolis they forget to lift the scalps. But the cause and provocation and all the other elements are pretty much the same. The border settlers we observe are making a disturbance about it, and they go so far as to say that the sale of liquor ought to be stopped. We have had tentative steps in that direction here. But then, mercy on us, there are more of us here and we can better afford to lose once in a while one.

Brooklyn still hesitates to sign bonds for the completion of the East River Bridge until New-York gives some guarantee that it will assume at least one-third the cost. New-York must help to build the bridge; and the bill passed at Albany is probably the best compromise we shall get, for it rids the enterprise of the men who have almost wrecked it. But while Brooklyn is insisting on guarantees, New-York should demand that none of the former active managers of the Bridge Ring in Brooklyn should be renominated to represent the city. Unfortunately, Mayor Hunter is largely influenced personally by the interests which favor these reappointments, and some of his best friends fear that this influence may be exercised to the disadvantage of the two cities and the detriment of the enterprise. Mr. Vance and Mr. Green, who have this matter virtually in charge, need to be very careful that the old Ring does not capture the work in spite of them.

Hard upon the heels of the terrible Mill River disaster comes intelligence of the breaking away of another dam in Massachusetts, on the line of the Boston and Albany Railroad, thirty miles north-west of Springfield. This time there was provisionally no loss of life, the hero of the hour having given the threatened inhabitants ample warning of the coming flood; but property was destroyed to the value of about half a million dollars. Four manufactories, twelve bridges, and two or three houses have been destroyed, and the country over which the flood poured has been stripped of vegetation in much the same manner as Mill River Valley was devastated a few weeks ago. The reservoirs which gave way seem to have been constructed in a most simple and primitive fashion, with no attempt at engineering or anything but a mere boy's play of throwing down dirt to block up the water. The excuse for it is that it was done 35 or 40 years ago, when people knew little of hydraulics and supposed water was as innocent in reservoirs as in rain-drops. It would seem as though enough had been learned of the danger of these mud and clay structures to forbid the owners of such reservoirs from risking their lives and property on the strength of mere mud walls, but it appears they trusted that what had stood so long would last forever, and they have paid the penalty in a portion of the loss which has fallen upon the community.

THAT EGG.

Just before the adjournment of Congress Messrs. Dawes and Garfield put forth a sort of subdued claim to economy in behalf of the party in power. What they said is not of much consequence. Still, as the elections are coming on, it is important that the people should know in what direction the expenses of the Government are tending. We have not been able to discover any signs of economy in the public expenditures, but we proceed to give our readers the facts and they may search for themselves. Where there are thousands of leaks it is no great matter if two or three of them are stopped, especially if half a dozen new ones are started, or half a dozen old ones grow bigger. We, in the first place, invite the reader's attention to the actual expenditures of the last four fiscal years. The amounts are exclusive of the interest on the Public Debt and premiums on bonds purchased, and include only the deficiency in the Postmaster-General's Department:

Table with 2 columns: Year ended June 30, 1871; Year ended June 30, 1872; Year ended June 30, 1873; Year ended June 30, 1874. Values range from \$157,543,927.54 to \$200,000,000.00.

by the Secretary of the Treasury in his annual report next December. The comparison we have, then, is between \$310,000,000 for the two years ended June 30, 1873, and \$390,000,000 for the two years ended June 30, 1874. The increase is \$80,000,000, or sixteen per cent. This surpasses the growth of wealth and population, and is even somewhat ahead of the increase in the quantity of paper money. At this rate the expenditures would double every ten years, and by the year 1900 would exceed a thousand million dollars a year. The most loyal mind would hesitate for at least another century before calling this sort of progress economy.

But Messrs. Dawes and Garfield and Speaker Blaine do not exactly claim the merit of economy. They say that this XLIII Congress at its first session has laid an egg, which, if not added at the second session of this self-same XLIII Congress, will hatch out the chicken, Economy. They "point with pride" to this egg. Looking back a few years we see the shells of several such eggs, out of which no such fledgling as economy has ever proceeded, but only a sulphurous smell. A very fine looking egg was that left in the straw by the XLIII Congress, first session. That Congress at that session appropriated nearly ten million dollars less than did the Congress which has just adjourned, and two or three millions less than its predecessor, the XLII Congress, at its second session. Yet the embryo Economy perished long before the shell was cracked, and the expenses of the fiscal year over which this bird of an extinct species was to have hovered like a guardian angel, ran twenty-seven million dollars ahead of the year preceding! Two years ago, Mr. Dawes, Mr. Garfield, Speaker Blaine, and nearly every one else who was running for office on the same ticket with President Grant, saw a bird of most lustrous plumage inside of that snowy egg, marked "Economy," which the XLIII Congress had left in the manger. But what really came out of it? The sickening Salary Grab, whose sulphurous stench still fills the land, having outlasted the gunpowder fumes of two celebrations of the National anniversary. And yet the old birds are again cackling!

We may as well recognize the fact that one of the serious misfortunes in our political system is that we always have one irresponsible session of Congress. Next December half the present members will be within three months of their final retirement; the other half will be sure of two years more beyond the 4th of March. Either circumstance tends to make the average Congressman reckless; but those who have already suffered defeat, either in the Conventions or at the polls, are especially tempted to the most profligate prodigality. The last session of every Congress is full of danger to the country, and not less to the party that is responsible for it.

A FIRE-PROOF CHANCELLOR.

Prince Bismarck seems to be receiving a quite unnecessary baptism of fire. He saw the burning of a good deal of gunpowder in his youth as a soldier, had his share of duels, took part in two great wars, which after preparing in the Cabinet he saw through in the field, and yet all these experiences have not exhausted his inability to "pay with his per-son," as the French say, for his devotion to his political ideas. It seems to be a common phase of fanatical exaltation in Germany and elsewhere to take a shot at people in authority, and no one in the world offers just now so shining a mark as the Prince of Bismarck-Schoenhausen. Even when young Blind came up from South Germany to put an end to the existence which he thought menaced the independence of his country, Bismarck was a far less conspicuous personality than at present, since he has united Germany, conquered France, and is now engaged in the most gigantic of all his enterprises, the attempt to secularize religion in the German Empire. If it were not for this last enterprise his popularity would be simply unbounded. The success which has attended his colossal schemes for the unification and aggrandizement of his country has been such as to dazzle and strike dumb even the most critical and audacious of the Liberals. A few strains of the *Wacht am Rhein* will turn the head of the most serious of German scholars or thinkers, and set him to shouting with more loyalty than logic his *Heil Dir!* to the Emperor who typifies German glory. Although Bismarck has sedulously encouraged this worship of the Kaiser, there is enough also of the popular enthusiasm to make him a universal favorite, if it were not that his attitude of opposition to the Catholic hierarchy has gained him the savage enmity of a large portion of the population. It is undoubtedly this motive which inspired the attempt at assassination yesterday at Kissingen; as our dispatches state that Kullmann was a devout Catholic, and earnestly interested in the clerical cause.

But the great Chancellor seems to be reserved for work which requires his presence in this world. The attack of Blind was made with singular and persistent fury. He approached Bismarck in his walk, and when almost touching him, he emptied his revolver with rapidly repeated shots, and although he perforated his clothing he did not scratch his person. So remarkable was the Count's escape that it was reported that he wore a coat of mail, and a French paper wittily styled him a *Blindé* statesman. This time it appears that only a single shot was fired, and that one with much better aim than any of Blind's, as it struck the hand with which the Chancellor was acknowledging the greeting of the crowd. It is a singular instance of his cool address that he continued his drive, and then visited the assassin in jail, doubtless to see what political profit could be made from the abortive crime.

Of course it would be unjust and foolish to accuse a great community of complicity with the crime of a single fanatic. But history is full of such instances of folly and injustice, and it is scarcely possible that the cause of the Catholic hierarchy, now engaged in a desperate struggle with the Cabinet of the Emperor, should not suffer more or less by this pistol shot. The contest has already reached a point where public opinion is of the utmost value to either side. The action of the Government is now directed to inducing the Catholic laity to consider for themselves the matters at issue. In cases where pulpits are vacant through the passive obedience of the priests, the people are taught that the churches belong to them and that they ought not to be deprived of religious instruction on account of the factious opposition of the clergy to rightful authority. On the other hand, of course, the clergy maintain that they are only doing their duty to God and the Church in refusing to obey unholily and unparalyzing laws. It will be fatal, not only to the hierarchical supremacy of the Church but also to the clerical influence among the people, if the Government party can succeed in impress-

ing the Catholic masses with the view of their rights which we have mentioned. At such a time every incident which tells upon public opinion has its importance, and this affair can hardly fail to be used with some effect.

Meanwhile, the great world, which takes no violent partisan share in the bitter ecclesiastical warfare now raging in Germany, will be heartily glad that chance or passion so deranged the aim of the assassin yesterday as to preserve a life in which the world has great interest. We need not sympathize with Prince Bismarck either in his beliefs or his schemes, to appreciate the attraction of his singular and powerful personality. His force, his courage, his practical and far-seeing vision, even those contradictions of character which are seen in his brusque temper and his devoted loyalty, his frankness and his guile, his profound convictions and his cynical humor, his enormous pride and his popular ways, his enormous physical strength and his grave bodily infirmities which often make the existence of the Cabinet depend upon the state of his digestion—all these things have gained for the German Warwick the personal interest and regard of mankind. The hand raised against him at Kissingen was doubtless inspired by the same spirit which nerved the murderous arms of Ravillac and Clément. In saying we are glad it had not the same success, we would not think of comparing Bismarck with so common a King as Henry III.; and with all the admiration which the gallant Bérarais has excited in the minds of posterity, we should hesitate to say that even the death of Henry of Navarre was a matter of such moment to Christendom as the murder of Bismarck would be.

UNDERMINING THE BANKS.

The business of banking has never been carried on in the United States in such a manner as to give our own people much lasting satisfaction, or the rest of mankind anything they deemed worthy of imitation. But bad as our former systems have been, our present one, as modified by the recent law, is likely to turn out worse. We think this opinion will be sustained by a brief sketch of the legal provisions relating to reserves, considered in connection with the leading facts of the financial situation.

1. By the present law, as interpreted by the Controller of the Currency, all the National banks in the United States, outside the cities of New-York, Boston, Albany, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Washington, New-Orleans, Louisville, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Milwaukee, Leavenworth and Saint Louis, are relieved practically from any obligation to keep a reserve. Some reserve they must have, or they cannot do business, just as a retail storekeeper must have some cash in his till. But the present lawful requirement does not exceed, in the case of any country bank, the amount of cash which the bank will require to do its ordinary day's work. A reserve, however, is something laid by for extraordinary emergencies, and in this sense of the word no reserve is now required to be kept by any country bank. Five per cent in greenbacks is required to be kept in the United States Treasury for the redemption of the circulation, but this is wholly inaccessible for reserve purposes, and it is absurd to call it by that name.

2. We have seen that no reserve is required by law to be kept by the country banks. Since those banks are nearly two thousand in number, and are increasing, and already hold deposits to the amount of nearly three hundred million dollars, the question is an important one: will the country banks hold a safe reserve? Public opinion, it is true, is more effective than law as a regulator of the banking business. But public opinion, to be worth anything for this purpose, must first have been well disciplined in the school of experience. From all the comments we read on the new currency act we judge that public opinion on the question of bank reserves is in a very unenlightened state. Congress has virtually told the banks to "release their reserves." The people, at all events in the South and West, confidently expect the reserves to be released. We conclude that public opinion will not be effective in compelling the country banks to maintain a safe reserve.

3. Will self-interest be effective in compelling the banks to afford adequate protection to their depositors? It is evident that the more money a bank lends the greater are its profits, and the more money it keeps idle in the shape of a reserve, the less its profits. The natural disposition of men is to be buoyant and hopeful, rather than cautious and distrustful. The history of banking in the United States is sufficient of itself to prove the truth of this observation. The tendency will be for banks to become less strict and to run closer to what the managers may consider the line of safety. Then, too, it must not be forgotten that this is the land of broken promises. The public have gradually acquired a disposition to deal kindly with men who cannot keep their engagements. For all the banks in the country to suspend their payments occasionally is regarded as a little awkward and inconvenient, but still as an event which, in the ordinary course of things, must be expected to happen. People are told that it is impossible for a bank to pay out at once all the money it owes. We are, in fact, approaching a condition of things in which all obligations to pay money are in reality made subject to the unexpressed proviso—"if convenient." The United States Treasury has set this fashion, and it has become vastly popular. We conclude that a resolute purpose on the part of bank managers to sustain their credit at all times and under all circumstances, cannot be counted on to give the security which is no longer required by law; for in the first place such a spirit never did distinguish the majority of banks in this country, and in the second place, the whole tendency of things since the war has been to discourage the growth of such a sentiment.

We do not, of course, in the present temperate frame of the public mind, look for any bad consequences immediately. We simply wish to state that the facilities for originating and sustaining for a considerable period a new development of the speculative mania, whatever form it may take, are now complete. The banks have full liberty to contribute to their utmost power to the development of whatever madness may next seize hold of the people. Still, we desire expressly to disclaim and discourage the idea that there is to be any hurry about the business. We must wait until the spirit moves us. The memories of 1873 must first grow a little dim. When a grand display of fireworks is appointed to take place, tedious preparations must be made. The pieces must be set up with great care and everything elaborately arranged beforehand. Finally, the whole world, great and small, must wait until darkness comes on. So it is with the grand fizz-bang of the wheels, rockets, blue fire, volleys, &c., set up by Congress. Doubtless

most of us will live to see the show, enjoy it keenly too, and foot the bill.

MAYOR AND PRESIDENT.

The enormous obstinacy with which Mr. Havemeyer clings to his disgraced favorites has provoked such choruses of amazement and indignation from every political faction—Tammany and the Custom-house roaring in unison, and all the outside organizations striking up in tune—that one might be pardoned for believing the conduct of the Mayor to be absolutely without parallel or palliation. But in truth he has done no worse than his betters. Newspapers and political managers who are now most bitterly incensed at his "outrageous defiance of public sentiment" forget that it is only a few weeks since they applauded in another officer the very same behavior which they now condemn in the Mayor of New-York. Of course it would be absurd to think of Mr. Havemeyer learning anything at this period of his career; but if we could imagine him to be a teachable person it would occur to us at once that he had been taking lessons of the President of the United States. Several of the President's appointees—the Secretary of the Treasury, for instance, the Assistant Secretary, the Solicitor, the Governor of the District—were convicted of offenses that forfeited their titles to office. But Gen. Grant would not remove them, and when at last they were forced to retire by circumstances over which neither he nor they had any control, he instantly defied public sentiment by reappointing the worst of them. Mr. Richardson, removed one might say by force from the Secretaryship of the Treasury on account of gross incompetency, was honored with a seat on the bench of the Court of Claims. Mr. Shepherd, expelled in disgrace from the Governorship of the District, with a stigma upon his character, was immediately nominated chief of the commission created to administer the affairs of the District ad interim. These were bold affronts to the decent sense of mankind; but Gen. Grant had been led on to them by a long course of flattery and subservience from his political supporters. They had applauded appointments only a very little worse; they had praised the President's devotion to friends in misfortune; they had spoken of his generosity as if offices were his to give away at pleasure, just as kings distribute titles and decorations. They hardly ventured to criticize the scandalous advancement of Mr. Richardson, and even when they remonstrated against the reappointment of Shepherd, they spoke with bated breath and gestures of humble deprecation.

Mr. Havemeyer now imitates Gen. Grant. Why should not the Mayor have his personal favorites as well as the President? Why should not the Custom-house chief praise to his generosity also? Just as the President (thought Richardson was a great financier, and Sanborn a model collector, and Shepherd the prince of good fellows, so the Mayor doubtless persuades himself that Gardner and Charlick are the purest of politicians and ablest of administrators. Courts to the contrary notwithstanding, he does not think they have done any great wrong, and if they have, he means to forgive it. He told our reporter the other day that Gardner and Charlick were men of family, whose children "would have been disgraced by the conviction of their parents," and he "did not propose to have them suffer in that way." His action, he added, was prompted by "generosity," and he would act in the same way again if he ever had a chance. Well, if the President may be generous with what does not belong to him, we do not see why the Mayor should not follow his example. The appointing power is committed to Presidents and other functionaries for the benefit of the public, and when they use it to assuage the wounded feelings of individuals, or to patch up damaged reputations, or to reward their snapper table comrades and ancient gossips, they are guilty of a breach of trust which calls for the severest and plainest censure. But the faction which elected Mayor Havemeyer has never taught this lesson. On the contrary, it virtually compelled him to make his appointments upon false principles, and it has no reason to be angry that he should carry out his instructions to their legitimate consequence.

A CASE OF BEWITCHERY.

This foolish old world is very tenacious of its notions, and especially of its notions of the supernatural. A Tale of Wonder incredible as any of Monk Lewis's importations from Germany, is read with an attention and interest which true history seldom inspires. An event need be only out of the common course to insure its respectful consideration. We are all delighted as children trembling over a fairy tale or a goblin narrative, when anything unaccountable comes to us in our morning newspaper. The journalist knows this when he is of the sensational sort, as too often he is, and so he prints a great deal more than he is ready to vouch for, with the unanswerable comment that "there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our philosophy, Horatio."

The world, as a world, long ago contemptuously discarded witchcraft, consigning it, as useful sort of nonsense, to the poets and the tale-makers. Our contempt for the Salem people who hung old women and pressed Giles Corey to death is unbounded. Still, if one person credits the superstition now, why should it not have been credited by a whole community then? Nobody, however ignorant and credulous, nurses an isolated and absolutely peculiar faith. We mentioned the other day the lingering love of the superstitious and incredible among the colored people of the South. We may sneer at them, but they are no more contemptible than many a white man or woman, possibly intelligent and well educated, who believes that a bit of magnetized iron carried in the pocket will cure the rheumatism, or that a muttered charm will remove warts. Here is a case which comes to us from Michigan. It is that of an honest farmer living near Conner's Creek, who, for five long and miserable years, has fancied himself to be "bewitched"—to be under the dreadful influence of an old woman. So long ago she came to a house at which he was visiting to beg, and was addressed by him in a way which provoked her wrath. Then and there she cursed him, but he laughed her maledictions to scorn. He went home to his farm, thinking no more of so absurd a matter; but one day, while working in his field, he suddenly began to scream and to shout and to behave generally like a vociferous lunatic. The old hag had taken possession of him, and especially of his vocal organs. For five years he has continued thus to bellow and to shriek, only keeping silence when his exhausted voice failed him. It is easy to see that he must be an unpleasant inmate of the house. Now and then he is exceptionally silent, sulky and morose, but roaring is the rule. At the date of the last report he was

thought to be dying from sheer weariness. Then he was unable even to whisper, but still "his chest rose and fell like a pair of bellows." His friends, knowing the story of the old woman's curse, are as incredulous as he is, and have made several attempts to find her, and to beg or bribe her into removing the ban. But the troublesome old lady has, as we are told, fled into infinite space, and isn't to be found. It is like the plot of a novel. It reminds one of that frightful piece of poetry about a witch, which Charles Lamb printed in an annual, and which he facetiously tells us frightened so many mothers half to death. No witch was ever found when wanted, and very possibly the Michigan lunatic is in his coffin as we are writing this, and quiet enough at last.

The witches who do this coarse and vicious sort of work are always very old and very ugly—a fact which Sir Roger de Coverley long ago discovered. We might make mention of the mischief wrought by the young and the pretty ones, but as they generally do not mean it, we forbear to expose the dear creatures to censure. Most of us are bewitched in one way or another, at one period or another of the *carrioum* which we call life. It does not matter much, after all, whether it is by a pretty face or an ugly one, such as Denner painted, or whether the hand which is raised against us is white and plump or yellow and skinny, like that of the old lady who played the mischief with Wordsworth's Harry Gill. What is written is written. Every true life is only a perpetual struggle to be free from some delusion, to wake from our dreams, and to extricate ourselves from the meshes of self-deception. It is lucky for those who love quiet that so few of us are vocal in demonstrating our hallucinations. If every one who hugs a cheat to his own destruction made a Bashan bull of himself like the Michigan farmer, what a sonorous world this would be!

Crushed and miserable, bleeding as to heart and disturbed as to digestion, a young gentleman of England had sought damages from a daughter of the same noble land for breach of promise of marriage. After she had intimated that she would be his Own Ooo he visited her and her papa at her papa's house, and was struck by evidences of wealth and grandeur that he did not expect. Like Mr. George Sampson on the way to the bowers of luxury at Harmon's, he was overcome by a sense of his own unworthiness. "If this is Carry's style at home," he wrote, "then George must give up real love and retire from the field for want of gold dust." Then, like the magnanimous Lavinia Wilfer, his Carry answered her George, "No, my dearest and best, my new home does not make the smallest impression upon my mind as regards worldly matters," and so George's heart still more firmly clung to that gentle being. The gentle being, however, after a while grew tired of seeing her George and his letters, whereupon her dearest and best immediately found that it was "pain to eat," and got a medical man to confirm his opinion. Convinced that an application of gold dust would be good for his complaint, he brought suit against his Carry, and exhibited all the kind and flattering letters she had written him. She based her defense chiefly on the statement that her papa had at no time given his consent. But this did not save her; touched by the unselfish nobility of the man in producing her love letters, and burning with a fiendish desire to avenge the wrongs of their sex as represented in him, the jury instantly and triumphantly awarded him in damages the glittering sum of—one farthing.

We are sorry not to receive a better account of the operation of the Local Option law in San José, Cal., where, we have no doubt, some kind of temperance influence is greatly needed. The ladies, who have been active in supporting the law have not been quite unanimous among themselves, having had certain natural differences and misunderstandings and explosions. Then before the voting on the subject, there wasn't what you might call a harmonious state of feeling, and a great many animosities which promise to be permanent were engendered. Social relations were embittered; and there was a deal of bad spirit, malignant temper, and unchristian and uncharitable feeling. This is only a repetition somewhat intensified, of our old experiences. It seems almost impossible to manage this particular reform in a charitable and catholic way. The rum-sellers think that they are persecuted; the rum-drinkers deem their personal rights invaded; while the temperance people are so sure that the secret of social happiness is contained in their particular reform, that they are apt to grow impatient and unreasonable and sometimes illogical, when the utility of all their methods is, however mildly, in the least doubted. Total Abstinence, as its name implies, is altogether uncompromising, and Prohibition is nearly so. Every reformer thinks his special way infallible, which is one reason, no doubt, why reform makes so little real progress.

It may be encouraging to dogs reading the newspapers, if in these dark days of canine persecution they seek such consolation, to know that at the Dog Show at the Crystal Palace, London, 1,187 of their brethren and sisters were exhibited, admired, and honored with prizes. Notwithstanding the natural excitement of such an occasion, not one of the beautiful and faithful creatures went mad, nor was a single one of them subjected to the indignity of a muzzle. These, however, were the antecedents of the race, cared for tenderly, regularly fed, and washed and combed; yet here, even these pets and darlings might not have escaped the tank, the gas, and the death agony.

Geological processes have always been slow, and we do not see why "a noted geologist" should be in a hurry. A scientist of this sort in the employ of the Government, Mr. Edward E. Howell, arriving one day last week at Rochester on his way to join an exploring expedition in the West, jumped from the train to save himself a long walk, and came face down upon a beautiful pile of stones, of the various kinds dear to the geological heart. He saluted these relics of ancient eras so affectionately that his face was badly etched, and looked like a map of creation just after the flood. We like science; but close study of this sort hardly seems necessary, or desirable if the race of geologists is to be perpetuated.

The miserable selfishness of some fellows is enough to make a man ashamed of his sort. So much do they expect when they are selecting a wife! Food down in Florida, for instance! He advertises for a wife, and he lets the public know that she must be none of your "common doins." In primis, she must have a cow. Also a good feather bed, with comfortable lines. Likewise \$500 in good, genuine greenbacks. Must comprehend the whole art and mystery of tending children. Small-pox she must have had, and also measles. Sincerely we hope that this Florida donkey will be swindled.

We regret to say that the most recent and thrilling zoological story is tragical. A cat in Massachusetts bereaved of her young adopted a set of little muskrats. When their eyes were opened, and they saw what kind of mother fate had bestowed upon them, they so loudly complained that the benevolent cat became both hungry and indignant, and ate every one of them.

Mr. Henry Minstrel of Savannah is reported to have walked into a court-room with his pistol in his hand, and with the intention in his heart of shooting the whole dozen of jurymen. Unfortunately, twelve revolvers got ahead of the Minstrel, and his last lay was when they laid him in the cold and silent tomb.

Chilhowee, County, Miss., has been agitated by the marriage of a young white lady to the Hon. Hawkins Smith, colored Representative of the said county. The bride belongs to one of the most res-