

A SINGULAR accident befell an aged man of 90 years, near Glasgow, Scotland, lately. When walking in the park of his house he fell, and in the fall he had broken the pair of spectacles he had on, the glass of which had cut a deep wound in the left eye, and caused death by hemorrhage.

An association of amateur fishermen has been organized in Kentucky, called the Kentucky Fishing Society, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars. Its object is to preserve the fish of Kentucky rivers from entire extermination, with which they have been seriously threatened during the past few years.

BRIGANDAGE in Italy is becoming much reduced. Only 292 brigands now remain in the Southern provinces, and of these 150 are cooped up in the province of Terra di Lavoro, awaiting on pontifical territory. Of the seven provinces in the South, six are quite free from brigandage, and in three the brigandage are but three in number.

A MAN and woman named Brandon have lately been charged before the Tribunal of Correctional Police in Paris with annoying a neighbor named Fumouze, by having trained a parrot to repeat the words, "Fumouze is a thief, a miser, a pig," &c. They were fined sixteen francs each, and ordered to pay between them fifty francs damages.

THE Galveston News is glad the negroes are petitioning Congress for their rights, and it hopes that each particular negro in the South, man, woman and child, will petition that body for something. They all need something, and should appeal to Congress for it, and keep that body out of mischief by confining it to the reception of their petitions.

A FEW weeks ago a Mr. Leonard Dufour, residing in London, gave a party on the occasion of the marriage of his daughter, and about nine o'clock Mrs. Dufour was walking with the bridegroom, when she was observed to laugh in a hysterical manner and make for an ante-room, the entrance to which she had just gained when she fell lifeless into the arms of her daughter. Her death is attributed to disease of the heart.

THE Chicago (Ill.) Post says that, notwithstanding the apprehensions of financial difficulties and the consequent depression of business which would follow it, there was never more gaiety and luxury in that city than at the present time. The expense and gorgeousness of attire has reached the height which was formerly considered fabulous. The sound of mirth and the burst of revelry are heard at almost every corner.

THERE are some unpardonable unscrupulous rebels in the South yet, as may be inferred from the following reply of Mr. T. Yancy, of Desoto Co., Miss., to Gen. Fisk, respecting a colored girl that had been sold away from her parents: "As for restoring the right of freedmen to their children, I can say that not a single man nor woman in the whole South recognizes the negro as a freedman, but as stolen property forced on the hands of the detestable United States Government."

GEN. SHELLES has issued an order, at Charleston, S. C., requiring uniformity of the laws for all classes and colors, and the privilege for all of following any lawful business or occupation they please, without being liable to taxes or licenses which make distinctions on account of color. Old negroes and children are to be provided with dwellings on the lands where they have lived as slaves, and the vagrant laws of the State applicable to white persons will be the only laws applicable to the freedmen.

A YOUNG woman named Maggie Heron gave birth to a child last week at the Soldiers' Home boarding house, Cincinnati, where she was stopping alone. On being questioned, she acknowledged the child was illegitimate, and that her own brother-in-law was its father. Her antipathy and hatred for the child, from the first, was so strong that she asked the doctor to "put it out of the way." She subsequently gave a woman \$20 to carry the infant away, but the police, hearing of the case, recovered it, and sent the poor little babe to the Sisters of Mercy—fearing that if they returned it to the unnatural mother she would destroy it.

IMPOSITIONS OF NEW YORK CITY. Disgrace and Death.

In every large city there is always to be found a numerous class termed "sharpers," "humbugs," or "Jeremy Diddlers," who obtain a livelihood by imposing upon the credulous portion of the community. Among these may be classed the "Astrologues," "Sooth-sayers," "Teal mediums," and "Clairvoyants," who profess to read remarkable facts in a pack of cards, and hint mysterious things at the sight of a mole, or dimple; or trace the "path of destiny" by the lines in the hand; and out the "one, bright, particular star" which will guide the inquiring dupe into realms of perfect happiness and "work the planets;" "tell the very day you will marry," and, lastly, unfold a secret, the knowledge of which will secure to any individual "unlimited wealth," and all for a one-dollar greenback. The business is very profitable, little or no outlay being required. The stock in trade principally consists of a pack of cards, telescope, (through which to view the planets) looking-glass, globe, chart, and a pair of compasses,—the latter articles for appearance sake. Most of these institutions which profess to exclude gentlemen, but with whom they are in league, are patronized by simple-minded girls, and vain old women, whose credulity is easily worked upon by these swindlers. Although in the generality of cases no immediate or direct evil arises from the silly jargon relative to "forthcoming events," which may be poured into the ear of some unsophisticated girl, yet a great many instances are known in which the desire to peep behind the veil of futurity has resulted disastrously to the foolish seeker after such information. A case came directly under the notice of a SUN reporter a short time since, which is but one instance among many, illustrating the vast amount of mischief and suffering created in the community by these "planet ruling" humbugs. A young girl, only 17 years of age, named CAROLINE G., and residing in one of the central wards of this city, was the victim in this case. CAROLINE and her two sisters, MARGARET and ANNA, lived with their mother, a widow, all of whom obtained a precarious living at plain sewing. To CAROLINE a pretty girl of extremely delicate constitution, was allotted the duty of visiting the principal stores to solicit work for the family. Through frequent visits to a manufacturing house in Broadway, she became somewhat intimately acquainted with a clerk, whose line of business consisted in "giving out" the work. This man formed, or pretended to form an attachment for the young girl, which, however, was not reciprocated, but he gave her invitations to accompany him to balls, theatres and other places of amusement, which were sometimes refused, and occasionally accepted. But, notwithstanding all his attentions, his addresses were not entertained with the enthusiasm he desired; which state of affairs caused him great annoyance, and confirmed him in his evil designs. One afternoon the couple having met at the store, the clerk proposed that they should go that evening and have their fortunes told "for fun;" to which the unsuspecting girl assented, providing that MARGARET, her sister, should go with her. According to appointment the three met, and wended their way to a certain "Madame," designated by him, and who professed to be the "seventh daughter of the seventh daughter," with a remarkable gift for reading the "scroll of destiny," &c. Just before they arrived at the house, GROSSER (such was his name) remembered that the admittance of gentlemen was "strictly

prohibited," and he persuaded the sisters to enter alone, which they reluctantly did. Having arrived in the presence of the "Madame," who sat at a table surrounded by the usual paraphernalia, her face wearing an expression of mystery and wisdom, CAROLINE was questioned as to her age, hour of her birth, and a number of other silly formalities were gone through with, in order that the planets might be effectually worked. The destiny of the poor girl was finally "ascertained" and told, which included the following:—That she was to be married to a "certain young man," (who was accurately described in every particular, and which description exactly applied to the young man who accompanied her father), that he was of "noble disposition;" that she was to place every confidence in him; that fate had decreed him to be her partner, and that to pursue any other course would "blat her hopes for ever." These remarks were pronounced in a very dramatic and unnatural manner, and had the effect intended upon the susceptible mind of the girl, for it is hardly necessary to say that GROSSER had previously visited "Madame," planned the meeting, and induced her for a consideration to make the predictions above related. The plot was successful and CAROLINE really believed that GROSSER was her "destiny." Next comes the oft-repeated story of implicit confidence and wicked betrayal. Not only this but the poor deceived child subsequently discovered that GROSSER was a married man with two children. Her misery was complete. Despised by her friends, degraded in her own mind, reproached by her mother, she determined to put an end to an existence which had become hateful to her. Late one night she took a phial of laudanum, but, becoming alarmed, and perhaps regretting the rash act, she told her sister what she had done. Medical aid was summoned, antidotes were applied, but the fatal poison had done its work too well. An inquest was held, and a verdict of "death from an overdose of laudanum, taken during a temporary aberration of the mind," was rendered. The last words she ever uttered were: "Madame—will answer for this deed!" Every sensible person will imagine it to be ridiculous for any one to allow this "soothsaying" to interfere with the affairs of life; but watch the entrance to any one of these fortune-telling institutions, and see the pale-faced, haggard-looking individuals, male and female, who daily pass in and out, to be deceived, and pay well for the deception. No one in a healthy state of mind, who value their reputation, would enter these dens of necromancy, where the most wicked plots are concocted, to the awful results of which many can testify.

THE SEVENTH REGIMENT RECEPTION which takes place to-morrow evening at the Academy of Music is to be the most magnificent affair of the season.

A SHOCKING ACCIDENT ON BROADWAY—A WEALTHY GENTLEMAN CRUSHED TO DEATH.—At about half past eleven o'clock yesterday morning, Mr. John C. Dodge, formerly of Dodgeville, Mass., and brother of Mr. Dodge of the firm of Clark, Dodge & Co., was crushed to death between a dray and a fire cart. The deceased was endeavoring to cross Broadway at the corner of Dev street, when he was caught between the vehicles by the sliding of the dray, and fatally crushed. He was removed to the drug store of J. M. Han & Son, 133 Broadway, where he died in a few moments. Coroner Willey impelled a jury, and gave the friends permission to remove the body. The inquest was then adjourned until one o'clock to-day. Mr. Dodge was sixty-seven years of age, and lived at No. 59 State street, Brooklyn. He leaves a family of three sons and one daughter. The funeral service will be held at the church of Our Saviour, in Brooklyn, and the remains will be taken to Dodgeville, Mass., for interment.

A NEW VIEW OF STREET WIDENING.—A Dutchman yesterday remarked on hearing that the contemplated street widening projects would require several blocks to be cut through—"Datish goot: it make so many corners for pines."

SCHOOL TRUSTEE MEETING.—On Saturday evening, February 24, a Convention of the School Trustees throughout the city is to be held at Grammar School 4, Livingston street, near Rides, for the purpose of appointing a Committee to amend the present school laws, modifying the powers of the Board of Education, and it is alleged that serious charges will be brought against the Board.

CITY GOVERNMENT—BOARD OF ALDERMEN.—GAS—A NEW PLAN FOR PLEASURING THE CITY PROPOSED, ETC.—The Board met yesterday afternoon, John Brice, Esq., the President, in the chair. Alderman Ely offered the following:

Whereas, The contracts heretofore made between the City of New York and the various gas companies for lighting the public lamps have expired, excepting that with the Manhattan Light and Gas Company, placing the city substantially at the mercy, and subject to extortionate charges that have been or may hereafter be demanded by these companies, for gas consumed;

Resolved, That the Committee on Lamps and Gas be and are directed to inquire into and report at an early date to the Board the feasibility and expediency of the city manufacturing gas for the public lamp, and if favorably considered by the committee, they be requested to submit what steps shall be taken to purchase the same immediately in a practicable form.—Adopted.

A resolution was presented to increase the salary of the second assistant messenger in the Mayor's office to \$1,500 per annum. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Alderman Varnum offered the following resolution: Resolved, That the petition of the Queen's County Ferry Company, asking to be assigned a different terminus for the ferry across the East River to Astoria in place of the present terminus at the foot of 89th st., be taken from the files of the last Board, and referred to the Committee on Ferries when appointed.—Adopted.

Alderman Myers moved to take from the files the protest of Peter McKnight (late Alderman of the 3rd District), against Alderman William L. Ely, from taking his seat in this Board. Carried. And the same resolution was adopted by the Board, consisting of Alderman Myers, Gedney and Norton.

The Board laid over a communication from the Comptroller, making the following additional appropriations for the Crown Department: Sewers—repairs and cleaning—\$25,000; surveys—systems and surveys, \$1,000; contingencies—Crown Aqueduct Board, \$2,000.

The Board took up for action the ordinance regulating the granting of permission for the erection of fruit and newspaper stands on the sidewalks in the various streets of the city.

Mr. Ely moved to amend the ordinance by adding, that the Street Commissioner and City Inspector be authorized to grant the permission for the erection of fruit and newspaper stands on the sidewalks in the various streets of the city.

Section 6 was then amended by requiring all persons who desired to put up show cases, deliver goods on the sidewalks in front of their places, or erect signs, or put up any other signs, to pay \$1 per annum. The ordinance with the several amendments was then adopted.

A resolution was laid over authorizing the Coroners to advertise in three daily newspapers a full description of all unknown persons found during the last year.

A resolution was adopted appointing a Joint Special Committee on the celebration of Washington's Birthday, and appropriating \$— for this purpose.

The Board also paid the salaries of the Inspectors appointed by the Crown Board to supervise the construction of or repairs to street pavements, crosswalks or wells and pumps, to \$3 per day, was then adopted, and in all other cases parties were to pay \$1 per annum. The ordinance with the several amendments was then adopted.

A resolution was adopted requesting the Coroners of this County to advertise a description of all unknown persons, on whom they hold inquests.

A proposition to give publicity advertising in the TRAVELER, TIMES, CITIZEN, HERALD, ADVERTISER and DISPATCH, was referred to the Committee on Printing and Advertising.

The Finance Committee were instructed to inquire into the expediency of retaining the City Chamberlain to place the monies in his hands, belonging to the city, at interest, in order that the treasury may receive the benefit of it.

It having been represented that the city is taxed for the maintenance of certain residences which are unoccupied, and that certain gas companies, which enjoy peculiar privileges, are in the habit of collecting unauthorized charges from the city, the Committee on Lamps and Gas were instructed to investigate the affairs of the several gas companies, and authorized to take such steps as in their judgment are necessary to protect the rights of the city and consumers.

The resolution authorizing the Clerk of the Common Council to prepare the annual manual of the Corporation, and cause 10,000 copies to be published, and his compensation for his labor to be \$3,500, was received from the Board of Aldermen. Several amendments were offered and voted down, and the resolution was adopted. In one of the amendments it was stated that the work cost last year \$25,000, and that it was represented that responsible parties were willing to undertake the work at less than half that sum.

The ordinance to create the office of Inspector of City Railroads, with a salary of \$3,500 was adopted.

SCHUCHER.—Yesterday Coroner Willey held an inquest on the body of Wenzel Braker, a native of Bohemia, 45 years of age, who committed suicide at No. 29 Greenwich street, by hanging himself in an out-house. The cause of his death is a mystery, and a verdict of "death by suicide" was rendered.

THE COURTS.

THE CHIEF STAMP COUNTREIFTERS.—ATTEMPT TO PASS A COUNTERFEIT \$50 TREASURY NOTE, ETC.—Charles Mutchelberg was arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Osborn, yesterday, charged with selling counterfeit sugar stamps. The offense is the same as that which Franker was committed last week. The Commissioner, after receiving the facts, and applying the same points of law as in Franker's case, decided to hold the accused for trial. Wm. F. Fitzgerald was arrested and brought before the Commissioner, charged with attempting to pass a counterfeit \$50 United States Treasury note. The Commissioner required Fitzgerald to stand bail in

the sum of \$2,000 to appear for examination at two o'clock this afternoon. Henry Williams was partially examined on charges of having passed counterfeit \$50 legal tender notes upon Geo. Gregory, of 663 Eighth avenue, and other persons. Examination to be continued.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.—The Robbery of a Book Messenger in William street.—The examination of George Boyce, charged with having robbed a messenger of the Farmers' & Citizens' National Bank, of Williamsburgh, in William street, near Beekman, on the 19th inst., was continued yesterday, before Justice Handler, at Essex Market Police Court. Four witnesses were examined, who testified that on the morning of the robbery they saw Boyce at his home and in Sheriff street, between the hours of half past eight and half past nine o'clock, the time when the robbery was committed. The Court took the papers and reserved its decision in the case.

A Boy Charged with Arson.—William Parker, an Irish lad 17 years of age, an inmate of the Asylum St. Vincent street, between the hours of half past eight and half past nine o'clock, the time when the robbery was committed. The Court took the papers and reserved its decision in the case.

Arrest of Sunday Billiard Players.—On Sunday evening Capt. Davis, of the 10th Precinct, arrested twenty young men in the saloon of Henry W. Smith, 151 Bowers, while engaged in playing billiards. Yesterday morning Justice Mansfield required the proprietor to give bail in the sum of \$200 to answer the charge, and fined the others one dollar each.

Brooklyn.

PROSPECT PARK.—The Report of the Park Commissioners was presented to the Brooklyn Common Council, last night. It gives the locality according to the latest survey, and the plan of laying out as near as can be given, without the aid of drawings, which are not yet ready. The Park will have a large district of meadow land for play, a lake district where rowing in summer and skating in winter can be indulged in, and plenty of shady drives, walks and rambles, beside the beautiful sea view which it naturally has. It will be laid out on a scale to emulate the Central Park of New York. The work will be pushed forward rapidly.

THE HOMICIDE IN THE EIGHTH WARD.—The investigation into the circumstances attending the death of John McDonald, who died of injuries received on the afternoon of the 15th inst., near the corner of Fifth avenue and Eighth street, Gowanus, was concluded yesterday afternoon. The jury rendered the following verdict: "The jury came to the verdict that John McDonald came to his death from the effects of a kick which he received from John Sommerfeld; but it is the opinion of the jury that McDonald was knocked down by parties unknown to them." After the rendition of the verdict, Sommerfeld was arraigned, and said that he was 25 years of age; born in England, and pleaded not guilty to the charge against him. Sommerfeld was committed to await the action of the Grand Jury.

EXPLOSION AND FIRE.—About half-past 5 o'clock, last evening, an explosion took place in a still in the Diamond Light Oil Works of J. B. Miller & Company, situate in 2d street between North 19th and North 18th, E. D. A sheet of flame immediately spread to the wooden sheds adjoining the works, and they were quickly consumed. The main works, however, were saved. The loss will not exceed \$1,000; fully covered by insurance. Mr. Miller was standing in the door of his office at the time of the explosion, and before he realized the situation he and a whisker were singed by the flames. One of his workmen was also slightly burned about the face.

LECTURES.—The Hon. John Oakley lectures this evening in the North Dutch Church, 3d avenue, near 31st st., South Brooklyn. Subject—"What shall we do with the poor?" The proceeds of the lecture are for the benefit of the Building Fund of the Church.

MARINE NEWS.

Jan. 30. S. rises, 7 1/2; S. sets, 5 1/2; High Water, 08 00

CLEARED.

STEAMSHIPS.—North America, for Rio Janeiro, Nidrogen, Fernandina; Eastern City, Philadelphia. SHIPS.—A Gallatin, Liverpool; Kiema, Cadiz.

BRIGS.—Julia, Frontera; Fredonia, Charleston; H. F. Coulthurst, Manzanilla; Black Fish, Savannah.

SCHOONERS.—Mabel, Edenton; C. M. Nevius, Mobile; Geo. Grant, St. Augustine; J. Mettler, Virginia.

ARRIVED.

STEAMSHIPS.—Washington, Havre; South America, Rio Janeiro; Fort, Mobile; Faragoa, Norfolk; Clelio, N. Orleans; Admaria, Norfolk.

SHIPS.—Squando, Liverpool; Constitution, Liv'g; Antelope, Calcutta.

BARCS.—King Bird, Palermo; Rosa d'Italia, Genoa. BRIGS.—Lady of the Lake, Black River, Jamaica. SCHOONERS.—Empire, Boston; Enterprise, Londonderry; Viola, Edizahampton, N. J.; for Portsmouth; Joseph Story, Aguadilla, P. R.

Too Late for Classification.

SMITH.—On Monday, Jan. 29th, Edith L., daughter of Richard and Alice Smith, aged 2 years, 1 month and 5 days.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of her parents, 713 Sixth ave., this Wednesday afternoon, at 3 o'clock.

SPEYER.—In Jersey City, on Monday, 29th, Eliza D., widow of the late Edward W. Speyer, aged 55 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 31, at 9 o'clock, from her late residence, 272 South 4th st., Jersey City, without further invitation.

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WORLD'S FAIR.—THE GREAT PARIS EXPOSITION OF 1867.

TO THE MANUFACTURERS, MECHANICS, INVENTORS, ARCHITECTS, ARTISTS, SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES.

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY OF THE EXPOSITION, No. 3 Spruce St., Tribune Building, and No. 40 Park Row, Time Building, New York.

THE UNDERSIGNED, HAVING BEEN APPOINTED by the Secretary of State to the above-named and European Exposition, and being desirous of the co-operation of his countrymen in making as complete, interesting and creditable as possible the representation of our country at the Great Exhibition, adopts this method of conveying to them information and suggestions upon the subject.

The amount of space assigned to the United States in the Exhibition at Paris is about thirty thousand feet. The space to be assigned to them in the surrounding park for agricultural and other purposes has not yet been decided upon; and as it depends upon the nature of the application for space there, is very desirable that such application should be sent in as soon as possible.

As much promptness as may be consistent with due deliberation is earnestly recommended in all applications, as it is possible that those received at New York after the last of January, 1866, will be too late.

For further particulars, address J. C. DEBRY, Agent for the Exposition for the UNITED STATES, No. 5 Spruce street, and No. 40 Park Row, New York.

BEN BROWNE OR, THE DROWNED FISHERMAN

"Keep a good heart, we'll be back with our bouncing fish, before morning, anyhow; another, darling, if you see Stasia Byrne, here the neckerchief she promised to hem for me; be her not to forget her promise." The kisses Mr. Browne bestowed on her son were mingled with tears. She watched the boat until it had dwindled to a small speck on the horizon. As she turned to ascend the cliff, she saw the round laughing face of Stasia Byrne peer from behind a rock, and with draw itself instantly on being perceived. She called to her; and after a little time Stasia came blushing, and smiling, and lingering by the way, to pluck every sprig of sapphire, every root of sea-pink, that grew within her reach.

"I just came down to gather a few bits of herbs for the granny's cure, and a few shells to keep the child's eye," said Stasia—pulling her sea-pinks to pieces at the same time.

"And what does the granny cure with these?" inquired Mrs. Browne.

"Sorra a know I know," replied the girl, blushing still more deeply.

"Maybe," continued Mrs. Browne, gravely—"maybe, Stacy honey, there's a charm in them like the yarrow you put under your pillow last Ho-yev'night?"

"Ah, thin, Mistress Browne, ma'am, hem alone about the yarrow—sure it was only out of innocent mirth I did it, and no harm; and, any way, I've no belief in such things as all, at all."

"And why do you disbelieve them?" inquired the fisherman's wife. Stasia made no reply.

"Because though you neither speak nor laugh that blessed night, my poor girl, after you placed the yarrow under my pillow—still you did not dream of Ben, or Stasia, Stacy, I mind the time myself when, if a spell worked contrary, I'd disbelieve it directly—it's only human nature, darling."

Stasia Byrne flung her handful of sea-pinks upon the shingles, and passed the back of her hand across her eyes, for they were filled with tears.

"You have thrown away the granny's pink!" said Kate, pointing to the flowers that the sea-breeze was scattering far and wide.

"Ah, thin, let me alone, Mistress Browne, dear!" exclaimed the girl. "And good-bye, for the present, ma'am; I'm sure the child'll be woken before this, and mother is carding wool, so she'll want us now."

"Good-bye, Stasia—but stop, child; be gentle to hem this neckerchief for him; and tell your mother, jewel, that if she'll let you come down to my cabin to-night, when the grates are all in bed, I'd be forever obliged to her; Browne and the boy are out to sea, and there's something over me that I don't care to be quite alone this blessed night; come down, a lanan—and thin you can hem the neckerchief—before morning."

"I will, I will," said the maiden, with whom smiles had already taken the place of tears, for she loved Mrs. Browne's cottage almost better than her own; "I will, and I've learnt a new song; oh, I shall be as happy!" and she danced up the cliff with all the light-gaiety of fifteen.

The fishermen's wife sat her house in order, and then commenced mending her husband's net. It would have been evident to any other observer, that her mind was ill at ease, for instead of pursuing her occupation with her usual steadiness, she frequently suffered the hard needles to drop from her bony fingers, and the wooden needle to lie idle on her lap. She would rise and peer from her small window, or more frequently stroll from the open door, into the heaving sea, but never to cause for disquiet in their aspect;—the moon was in her full, calm glory; and the stars, bright, glittering and countless, seemed round her throne as handmaids silently attending upon their mistress. She could see the reflection of the moonbeams on the far-away waters—(but her ear, pre-occupied as it was, could hardly catch the murmur of the ocean, so profound was its repose; and yet Kate continued restless and feverish.)

Benjamin was her only surviving child—although his father had called her mother—and, indeed, while he was absent from her, she felt that unquiet, but perfectly natural, dread which attends upon a sensitive mind for the welfare of a beloved whenever the one is separated from the other.

It was a great relief to her spirits when she heard the light foot of Stasia Byrne on her threshold, and she felt new-sprung hope within her heart when she looked into the bright eyes and observed the full smile of the joyous girl.

"They're all a-bed, and the baby went off to sleep without an Aisling; and mother says, as you're all alone by yourself, I might as well stay with you all night, Mrs. Browne; and so I will, if you please—and I've brought my needle, and—hem! I'll hem the handkerchief, if you please—and then, maybe—maybe you'd show me how you mend mine—I should so like to mend Mister Browne's herring net; he gave mother (God bless him!) as many herrings last year as I used all Lent!—I'm sure we could give it to him."

"Pray for him then, Stacy—pray to your bearded knees—for Dermott and Benjamin Browne this night."

"Why so I will," rejoined the girl, astonished at the woman's earnestness of manner; "but the night is fine, the sky is blue, the waters clear as crystal; they've been out many a night when the winds are blowing the waves into the sky, and I've wondered to see you here—easy about them—wast, then, are you to-night?"

"God know!" replied Kate Browne, with a heavy sigh; "I think I'd go over my bed, a bit; maybe, Stacy darling, it's a fine thing to have religion to turn to when the heart turns against everything else." Kate sprinkled herself with holy water out of a small chalice, and knelt down, with a "decker" of beads in her hands, to "say her prayers;" almost unwittingly, she repeated them aloud, but they had, in a degree, lost their soothing power, and she mingled the anxieties of earth with her petitions, not to heaven, but to its inhabitants; her "mingled yaru" ran thus:—

"Holy Mary pray for us!—Stasia, open the door, agrs, and I avenge myself on the wind's riant—now, and in the hour of the last agony, don't you see the cat at the herring-tub? bad luck to that cat!—now, and in the hour of our death!"

There was a long pause, and she continued murmuring her petitions, and speaking aloud her anxieties, while Stasia went on hemming the handkerchief; at last she looked up at her young companion and inquired, "Where did I leave off, my darling—was I for'd 'Vingins, most powerful, or 'Queen of Confessors?"

"I did not hear, replied the industrious maiden. "Hear what?" exclaimed Kate Browne, starting off her knees.

"Lord defend us, you startle the very life out of me!" ejaculated the girl, devoutly crossing herself.

"But what did you hear, Stacy?"

"Nothing. I told you I did not hear where you left off."

(To be Continued.)

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