Specail Advertisements

AMERICAN MOWER.—THE ONLY SELF-OILING MACHINE.

With the great perfection in construction to which sewing Machines have been brought, I call the atten-tion of Farmers to the Machine embracing STILL GREATER IMPROVEMENTS than any before offered to the public.

Particular attention has been paid to the wants of the Farmer in the construction of the AMERICAN MOWER, to make it

THE VERY BEST MACHINE IN USE.

There are numbers of Machines that do their work as perfectly as this, and yet there are beneveolent traits that are greatly annoying to the operator, among them the frequent necessity of oiling the bearings, but more particularly the crank-pin, or pitman head. This is a serious fault, for it is very apt to be, from which, to unprepared, it is very apt to be, result in ruining the curves of knives, and in the moment in-jury to any machine. The AMERICAN MOWER has the following Patents of excellence.

THE BEARINGS OF THE AMERICAN MOWER, as well as the CRANK PIN, are all SELF-LUBRICATING, and wears no out.

The outer end of the Finger Bar will drop lower and off higher than that of any other Mower.

You can elevate the Finger Bar from a declining position without raising the inner shoe.

The Finger Bar can be raised higher, to pass over obstacles, by means of the hand lever, than that of any other wheel bar Machine.

The Frame Work in the Driving Wheels will pass over higher obstructions than the frame of any other Mower.

The operator has a greater control over the Finger than is usual, than he has of any other Machine.

The Finger Bar will conform to a more uneven surface than that of any other Machine, which is one of the most important features in a perfect Mower.

Either wheel operates the Cutter Bar, independently of the other, and in motion, either way, the knives are kept in proper motion.

The Draft is from the front of the frame which gives it great advantages over those that draw from the rear.

IT HAS NO SPRING SEAT FOR THE DRIVER.

It is simple and perfect in its construction, and can be thrown in and out of gear when in motion.

It has a good lift bar, and can be folded without disconnecting the Pitman.

IT IS LIGHT DRAFT, and has no EXCEPTIONABLE FEATURE.

It is more simple and perfect in its construction, and lighter of draught, with lightness combined, than any other Mower.

It makes the best work.

I may confidently refer to the above, and invite the attention of all who are in any way interested in the Farming interest to examine this Mower, before concluding to purchase.

Shop of the Proprietor, WILLIAM VAN ANDEN, 68 Main Street, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

AGAIN, AND AGAIN, DALLEY'S GALVANIC HORSE SALVE cures cases of quittor, young swerin, sore cracks, and bunches, which has been given up as incurable; yet we can freely say that for galls, scratches, sores, cuts, bruises, nail pricks, swellings and enlarged joints, and swellings of all kinds, it has no equal. It also heals and preserves. In the Book, to be had in the vicinity of Fairmount, as horses before considered almost worthless, have been cured and are now in a new lease of life. Every one who knows a good thing should know that the smart and knowing one are using it. Call at the office and get pamphlet containing testimony of those who have used it, then judge for themselves. Try one box, and our word for it, you will never thereafter be without one. It is neatly put up in a large tin box, and can be obtained at all Druggists, and by the dozen or single box, at the Depot, 49 Cedar st., N. Y. Price only 25 cents per box. 4x3

ATTENTION!—FALL IN AND MARCH TO THE SHIRT STORE OF SCHENCK'S, 103 Bowery, cor. of Houston st., and inspect his stock of the hand sewed work for men, boys, misses and children's wear, which he is selling at very low prices. 519

ASTONISHING EVERY ONE WITH ITS rapid and wonderful cures. Dailey's Magical Pain Extractor only costs 12 cents. A box will prove it; cure the worst cases of pain. Many, after trying one box, cheerfully recommend it. Thousands have been cured by a few boxes of this wonder working balsam. For burns and scalds, it freely invites compliments with its other remedies known to the world, for nothing can relieve the terrible agony as quick as this, invariably soothing the sufferer and healing without sore. Corns, bunions, old sores, chilblains, chilblains, boils, and all skin diseases, succumb to its healing qualities; in fact, it is a perfect family salve, and be cured can be without it. It will save suffering, and, in many cases, life itself, it always kept at hand. 12 cents a box. Sold by druggists, and at the depot, 49 Cedar st., N. Y. 432

BIRDS—JUST ARRIVED FROM BELGIUM, the finest collection of song breed and half breed canaries ever imported. Nightingales, sky larks, linnets, goldfinches, and all kind of singing birds, parrots, &c. Also, a large selection of monkeys, birds for sale. Food, bird seed, and cages for sale at ROEDER'S, 148 West Broadway, N. Y. 144

BALM OF WHITE LILIES FOR PRESERVING and beautifying the skin.—This delightful preparation stands pre-eminent for removing pimples, blotches, tan, and all imperfections from the skin, rendering it beautifully clear, soft and white, rivaling Praxiteles in her lovely Venus. Price only 50 cents per bottle. To be had only at 46 South Second st., Williamsburgh, and 51 Sixth ave., N. Y. 414

CARD.—TO THE LADIES OF BROOKLYN, E. D.

Family Sewing, Machine Stitching Braiding, &c., Done on the shortest notice at

256 Grand st. Brooklyn, E. D., top floor.

N. B.—Children's clothes and ladies' underwear neatly made. 561

GOOD BOOKS FOR ALL.—NEW PHYSIOGNOMY, 1,000 Illustrations, $5. EDUCATION COMPLETE, embracing Physiology, Parentage and Self-Culture, $4. WEAVER'S WORKS—Hope and Hope, Alms and Alms, Ways of Life, $3. HORACE MANN'S LECTURES, Portrait, $1. LEWIS'S HAND-BOOK—How to Write, How to Talk, How to Behave, and How to do Business, $2 25. FAMILY GYMNASIUM, Illustrated, $1 50. PHYSICAL PERFECTION, $1 75. LIBRARY OF MESMERISM AND PSYCHOLOGY, $4. EMPHATIC DIALOGUES, of the New Testament in Greek and English, $4. SCIENCE OF HUMAN LIFE, by Dr. Graham, $5 50. All works on Phrenology, Physiology, Physiognomy, Psychology, Hydropathy, Pathology, Biography, and the Natural Sciences. Agents wanted. Circulars free.

FOWLER & WELLS, No. 389 Broadway, N. Y.

New Annual of Phrenology for 1867 by return post, 50 cents.

"SPECIAL LIST" of Private Medical Works, on receipts of stamp. 435

J. LITTLEDALE'S WHOLESALE AND Retail Fishing Tackle and Variety Store, 104½ Bowery, N. Y. Fishing tackle of every description, mechanic's tools, watches, jewelry, clocks, runs, pistols, cutlery, fancy goods, musical, mechanical and surgical instruments, portmonnaie, violin and guitar strings, &c. Clocks, watches, jewelry, musical instruments, &c. repaired. 563

NO HIGH PRICES CHARGED

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OVERCOME BY

H. T. HELMBOLD, Druggist, 594 Broadway, next Metropolitan Hotel.

Just received, a large and elegant assortment of Toilet Articles, Perfumery, &c. Lubin's, Coudray's, Bayles, Lowe's and other imported extracts, Soaps and Pomades, sold at same prices charged for inferior or domestic goods at other stores. French, Spanish and German spoken. Prescriptions accurately compounded.

Receipt HELMBOLD'S store open at all hours, NIGHT and DAY. 426

PATENTS—PATENTS—PATENTS—MUNN & Co. continue to solicit Patents and obtain Government protection on new inventions, 20 Years experience.

Office, 37 Park Row.

Pamphlets of information free. 441

STOP AND LOOK AT SCHENCK'S FALL Boots and Shoes.

Everybody likes them.

Everybody approves of them.

Everybody admires them.

Everybody is delighted with them.

Everybody ought to wear them.

Everybody can get them at his

Great Boot and Shoe Emporium,

594 Bowery, corner Houston.

TO EMPLOYERS—ORDERS ARE SOLICITED for every description of work at the work room of the Working Women's Union, located on the fourth floor of No. 179 Fulton st. Every description of family sewing and repairing will be done at the shortest notice, and in the best possible manner. 5 0

TWO CENTS PAYS FOR A WELL known newspaper. It is THE SUN. Be sure and have it.

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THE HORACE WATERS GRAND, Square and Upright Pianos, Melodeons and Cabinet Organs, wholesale and retail. To let, and rent allowed if purchased. Monthly payments received for the same. Second-hand pianos at bargains, from $60 to $125. Old pianos taken in exchange. Liberal discount to teachers and clergymen. Piano stools and covers. Pianos tuned and repaired. New 7 octave pianos for $275 and upward. Factory and Warerooms, 481 Broadway, New York. Cash paid for second-hand pianos. HORACE WATERS. 421

THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS WILL BUY a beautiful country residence, situated 1½ miles from Kingston, on the Hudson River. First class barn in perfect order, together with barn, wagon house &c.; fruit in abundance. For particulars inquire of Capt. J. ZABRISKIE, on board propeller R. B. Brown, foot Rockey st. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, before 12 M. 257

WHEN THE WHOLE WORLD AND HIS wife come to town, and want an hotel where they can be well fed and lodged, they invariably inquire for the Metropolitan Hotel, Broadway, near Houston st. 5 0

THE NEW YORK SUN.

"IT SHINES FOR ALL."

34TH YEAR!

THE OLDEST DAILY MORNING PAPER IN NEW YORK CITY

Except the Journal of Commerce, and without exception the

CHEAPEST DAILY NEWSPAPER IN THE WORLD.

THE NEW YORK SUN possesses every facility for collecting the news of the day from every part of the world, whether by Atlantic Cable, by Telegraph or by Mail, and presents THE WHOLE in a compact form, AT ONE HALF THE PRICE of other city papers.

THE SUN is read, every day, by nearly a quarter million persons, and thus becomes, for a single sheet, exposing its entire contents at a glance, a medium of advertising rarely to be found.

THE PRICES of the paper, at the publication office or furnished by news venders, is TWO CENTS PER COPY; and is delivered by carriers at the Houses, Store or Shop of any who desire it, for TWELVE CENTS PER WEEK, or sent by mail at SIX DOLLARS a year.

THE PRICE FOR ADVERTISING vary, according to location, FROM TWENTY TO FIFTY CENTS PER LINE, for each insertion, special arrangements may be made for advertisements of unusual length.

The editorial department of THE SUN is under the charge of JOSEPH P. BEACH, to whom communications should be addressed.

All letters relating to advertisements, subscriptions or any branch of the publication business should be addressed to the Proprietor

MOSES S. BEACH,

Corner of Nassau and Fulton streets.

New York City.

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BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM.—Afternoon and evening—Van Amburgh's Collection of Wild Animals, $5,000 curiosities, "Kabri: The Wooden Showmaker."

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NEW YORK THEATRE.—"Cendrillon."

NIBLO'S GARDEN.—"The Black Crook." Great Paintings; Ballet; Drama.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Mlle. Jordan, "Master of Ravenswood."

WINTER GARDEN.—Edwin Booth, "Hamlet."

BROADWAY THEATRE.—John E. Owens—"Solon Shingle" and "Happiest Day of my Life."

NEW BOWERY THEATRE.—"Griffith Gaunt."

FOX'S OLD BOWERY THEATRE.—"True to the Core."

CHARLEY WHITE'S COMBINATION TROUPE.—Comic ballets, songs, ventriloquism, &c.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE.—"Americans in Turkey." Songs, dances, &c.

FIFTH AVENUE OPERA HOUSE.—Budworth's Minstrels. Songs, dances, burlesques.

SAN FRANCISCO VINSTRELS—Ethiopian Burlesques, Songs, dances, etc.

NEW YORK CIRCUS—Melville. New York Circus Troupe. Matinees at 2

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, 28th st.—Fair and Festival.

MASONIC FAIR, Corner of Grand and Crosby sts.

CHARITY AND QUARTETTE CONCERT in behalf of the Newsboys' Lodging House, Middle Church, cor. Fourth st. and Lafayette Place.

THE NEW YORK SUN,

"It Shines for All."

TUESDAY MORNING, DEC. 18, 1866.

To Advertisers.

OUR friends who wish their advertisements classified, are requested to hand them in early. We keep our office open until a late hour for the reception of advertisements but cannot agree to classify them unless sent in in time.

A Threatening Danger.

WHILE the attention of the whole country is absorbed by the dangers and difficulties of the political situation, there is another danger coming into view which threatens the most serious consequences. The latter is not political, but financial. It does not threaten the stability of the Union, as the reconstruction difficulty is by some people supposed to do, but it threatens to strike the spot most sensitive in most men, and where all men are more or less tender. For months past there have been indications pointing to a monetary revulsion in this country. Shrewd men have observed them, but the great mass of the people have given them no attention. So far as Congress is concerned, one would not suppose, from its legislation, that there is a single ripple upon the surface of the financial waters, or that such a thing is ever likely to occur. The danger is ahead, however, and both Congress and the people should endeavor to make provision for it. No people ever did, and no people can, long withstand such a pressure of taxation as that which now rests upon the people of the United States. We have borne the load manfully thus long, aided by the kindness of Nature in giving us bounteous agricultural products, but even with these advantages we begin to totter, and must, ere long, fall, unless the load be diminished. And what is the prospect? The estimated amount of revenue which the Government proposes to raise next year is $465,000,000—an average of over $16 for every man, woman, and child, white or black, in the United States. This, be it remembered, is simply the revenue required for the use of the General Government. In order to get at the actual burden of taxation, the various State, county and other taxes, must be added to the above sum. Before the war the expenses of the General Government were less than $100,000,000. We now have to make up the addition with resources greatly diminished. If the development of our resources had been going on in a ratio proportionate to the increase of taxation, all would be well; but while the burden has been piled up like a mountain we are now less able to bear it than we were to bear the light load that we carried before the rebellion. Under such circumstances it is plain enough that we must fail unless relief can be had, and the signs of the times admonish us that the danger is drawing near. What is the remedy? In the first place the Government *must not* raise a revenue of $465,000,000, nor anything near it, for the coming year. It is a ruinous policy which aims to collect an immense revenue with the object of hastily paying the national debt. The proposed aggregate of taxation, in view of the threatening state of financial affairs should be reduced so as to pay, next year, nothing more than the current expenses of the Government and the interest on the National debt. By this means the weight of taxation would be decreased nearly $200,000,000 for the coming year, which amount will otherwise apply upon the principal of the debt. Then how shall we pay the said principal of the debt? When the wagon settles in a rut, and the horses are unable to pull it out, the teamster takes off part of the load, and the animals are thus enabled to pull through. The financial wagon of this country is fast settling into the mire, and unless the Washington drivers throw off part of the load the people will not be able to pull through. Let the principal of the debt stand for the present and increase our ability to pay it by developing the nation's resources. In the Western States and Territories we have enough undeveloped wealth to pay the national debt half a dozen times. Let us make that available by encouraging emigration thither. Let Congress grant half a section of land in the West to every man who will go there and improve it—and, to make it a greater inducement, let such settlers be exempt from Government taxation for five or ten years, and make an appropriation to open roads and build bridges for them besides, if necessary. In short, bring out the hidden wealth of the country, and we shall be able to extinguish the national debt within a reasonable period, without incurring the risk of a financial revulsion.

The Gambling Mania.

THE insidious crime of gambling is spreading itself, like a blight, throughout nearly all classes of society with alarming rapidity. It is not to be wondered at that the vice has become so common in view of its strong hold in high places. Rumor told us, two or three days since, that an ex-Congressman had won $140,000 from a Congressman elect. Spacious and elegant saloons for gambling have been fitted up in Washington, wherein the law makers of the country may enjoy their hours of recreation. The descent made last week on the lottery and policy dealers of this city involved some persons holding high positions in society. The more recent raid on a professional gambling house on Broadway resulted in the capture of a recent candidate for Alderman, besides many others of good standing in the public estimation. The vice is not only popular, but fashionable; and fashionable sins are of all others the most difficult to remedy. But gambling proper, with cards or dice, is only one form of this dangerous moral disease. The principle of gambling has come to be associated with almost everything in which the public are expected to take an interest. An ocean yacht race is very well and very innocent in itself, but the fact that $30,000 depends upon it renders it simply a piece of attractive gambling. Horse racing has a universal popularity, but a large share of its zest is due to the gambling and betting always attached to it. Not even a billiard match or a game at base ball can be played now-a-days without a bait of a thousand dollars or so to spur on the contestants; and so these games become an excuse for pure and simple gambling. The public taste thus becomes morbid and vitiated. The desire to gain by gambling grows after the first indulgence, and becomes ruinous to all mental and moral discipline. It causes an impatience of all wholesome industry, and is subversive of the best qualities and the highest aspirations. Yet this gigantic evil is spreading surely, and if unchecked and unrestrained by public opinion, the state of our national morality will soon become terrible to contemplate.

Paraguay Triumphant.

THE late news from South America leads to the conclusion that little Paraguay has proved more than a match for the combined strength of Brazil, Uruguay, and the Argentine Confederation. It is now stated that the Argentines and the Uruguayans have abandoned the contest, leaving Brazil to prosecute the war alone. It is also reported that the forces of Paraguay have been increased, that their defences have been rendered almost impregnable, that Brazil is nearly exhausted in respect to men and money, and is almost ready to give up the war in disgust. It would be difficult to credit the news of this good fortune for Paraguay, were it not that all the reports of the war which we have received for some time past foreshadow this result. When the war began it was thought by outside observers that Paraguay had no chance whatever for ultimate success. The pluck of the little Republic, in throwing down the gauntlet of war to the allies, at an apparent disadvantage almost unparalleled in history, was very generally admired; but it was looked upon as a rash and foolish proceeding. In point of population and area of country, Paraguay, as compared with the allies, looked like a mole-hill by the side of a mountain. Still, the result, so far, has proven that courage and determination are hard to subdue. The Paraguayans have proven themselves every inch soldiers, and their President and military leader, DON CARLOS ANTONIO LOPEZ, has shown himself to be the most able South American leader since the days of BOLIVAR.

Another Nomination for Street Commissioner.

THE Mayor yesterday made another nomination for the office of Street Commissioner. GEO. H. MCLEAN, a Wall street broker, is the nominee. Mr. MCLEAN is well spoken of, and there seems to be no doubt about either his integrity or his ability for the position. He is regardful of his reputation, however, and for that reason it is likely that he will not come up to the Aldermanic "standard" of qualification. If the Aldermen retain any regard for the interests and the wishes of the people, however, they will bring this Street Commissioner force to a close by the confirmation of Mr. MCLEAN. The patience of the people in this matter has become very nearly exhausted, and should not be further taxed.

Democratic National Convention.

A MOVEMENT has been started in Kentucky looking to the holding of a Democratic National Convention in Louisville about the 1st of next May. The end to be accomplished by this means is not stated, but the inference is that the country is to be saved, the Radicals dethroned, and the hungry Democratic party installed in the Government. It is quite doubtful, however, whether the proposed National Convention would be of any benefit to the party. It could not be gotten up under more favorable auspices than was the memorable Philadelphia Convention and the latter was a complete failure in point of results, notwithstanding Mr. RAYMOND'S excellent address, the arm-in-arm hit by Massachusetts and South Carolina, and several other novel and unique attractions that were introduced by the experienced managers. The Democratic party need not look to conventions as a stepping-stone to political power. A sound, political policy, in keeping with the progress of the age, is what is required for rejuvenation.

Charge of Inhumanity.

THE verdict of the Coroner upon the inquest held on Saturday on the body of Edward F. Bacon severely censures the medical officers of Bellevue Hospital, for failing to render services which would have given deceased a chance of recovery. If, as is stated, the skull of the man was badly fractured, it is not probable that any attention would have saved his life, yet the charge against the officers is not less grave on that account. The inquest is supposed to develop all the facts in the case, and it appears that the man, who was taken to the hospital in a delirious condition, received no medical treatment, and was allowed to leave the hospital while raving and incapable of taking care of himself. Bellevue Hospital has hitherto had a high reputation for good management, and for the efficiency of the staff of physicians, but such occurrences as this are very damaging to the character of the institution and will not soon be forgotten by the public.

Catholic Priest Turned Protestant.

The Chicago TRIBUNE of Thursday says:

A remarkable event took place last night at the Clark street M. E. Church, where a prayer meeting was being held by the members of the congregation. During the course of the proceedings a Roman Catholic priest—Rev. Father Kenny of Dubuque—arose and formally renounced his faith in presence of the congregation. Father Kenny has officiated for several years at Dubuque. He stated his reasons for so doing to the meeting, and produced credentials from the Bishop and clergy regarding his character, which were entirely satisfactory. It is understood that Father Kenny will immediately proceed to New York in the interest of the Evangelical Alliance, to operate there upon the Catholic community.

Sun by Jottings Abroad.

NUMBER V.

PARIS, Nov. 20th, 1866.

Having already spoken of some of the excellencies, a reference to some of the defects of European car travel will not be out of place. My week in Berlin was just closing, and the business which led me there adjusted to the satisfaction of all parties concerned, when, ticket in hand, I bade my friends good-bye at the station, and sought my quarters for a twenty-five hours ride to the so-called Queen City of the world—Paris. It was still the evening, so that, as yet, my precautions for a night of comparative rest were really useless. What these precautions were you shall hear presently.

There are no such things as sleeping cars in this part of the world, but there are cars in which one may sleep—and soundly too—if only he "knows the ropes." With this slight hint, you will understand why it was that I walked a good part of the length of the train, the conductor at my side, looking up suitable accommodations, and why it was that after I entered a compartment containing but one other occupant, the door was closed *and locked*. Silver lining makes many a dull picture glisten! And so it was, that, quite at my ease, I passed the night, and passed out of Prussian dominions at the same time. Could you have heard me compare notes the next morning with an American friend, who proved to have been a fellow traveler over night, you would scarcely suppose we had traveled in the same country. He, one of eight, had endured his upright position how he might, while I had stretched my bones upon four times the space allotted him.

I do not quarrel with my own comfort, but I do think our sleeping cars, where sleep is provided for at a regular extra charge, are vastly better than this hidden favoritism which only the initiated get the benefit of.

Morning found us in the neighborhood of the great Cathedral of Cologne, and almost under its shadow we had opportunity to wash, dress and breakfast. But the three operations were, alike, subjects of taxation. The wash-bowl, soap, towel, comb and brush must be paid for, and the dust of your coat is only removed by a consideration to the attendant. But it is a luxury none the less because paid for in small items, and the well cooked, and well served breakfast is the more palatable for the wholesome cleansing up.

Cologne Cathedral, I may say, *en passant*, is in the same process of completion which it has been undergoing these almost two centuries; but I must do the justice to add that I can perceive the advance of the last fifteen years quite distinctly. The two spires have crept up several—not less than ten, and probably not more than thirty—feet, and some of the corner and ridge ornaments have been quite completed. On the way to Berlin I had the glimpse which might be had on a cloudy afternoon, of the interior, and observed about the same degree of progress there. Probably, when the whole is finished, the world will wonder for what object it was erected.

Breakfast over and the half-hour's stop ended, we were again *en route*. Would that I might trust myself to paint the beauties of the scenery. Old travellers will remember the vicinities of Namur and Liege, and the banks of the river Meuse, as among the most attractive in Belgium, and new ones who delight in fine scenery will not be long *in finding* them out. But notwithstanding the fine scenery, the hours of day wore on heavily enough, and I welcomed the shades of night as the harbingers of my journey's end. How provoking, then, to discover what any one might know after a moment's thought—that seven o'clock in the evening at Paris came not until it was eight o'clock at Berlin, and that thus my nominal twenty-five hours' ride was really made into six-and-twenty, while the nominal seven-and-twenty hours from Paris to Berlin would prove to be only a single hour more than the twenty-four.

But the lights glisten about my mind's eye as I write. We are in Paris!! Another change and I find myself in a rich, velvet-lined cab—a splendid equipage throughout,—which bears me with suitable speed to the "Grand Hotel," one of the new creations of Paris. Evidently some private "establishment" was mustered into my service, but whether by accident, or the avarice of the owners' driver, I did not inquire. A walk through the "grand" corridors of the hotel and a short promenade out of doors, were quite sufficient preparations for a sleep of many hour's duration. Just such a sleep is before me now, and not doubting that you and your readers are likewise inclined, I will for the time lay down my pen. B.

REBELLION REMINISCENCES.

Presentation to General Thomas—The General Describes the Battle of Nashville.

General Thomas and staff arrived at Nashville, Tenn., on Saturday morning, and proceeding to the Stacy House, were informally received by the Legislative joint committee. Gen. Thomas was conducted to a seat on the speaker's stand, amidst vociferous cheering. Gov. Brownlow, and Senator Grierson, Speaker of the Senate, being seated on the left.

After a congratulatory address, followed by the band playing "Hail to the Chief," Gov. Brown presented the medal with appropriate remarks.

As General Thomas received the medal, the assemblage broke forth into tumultuous applause. The General replied as follows:

Governor Brownlow, and gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives of the Legislature of Tennessee—Profoundly sensible of the high honor you have this day conferred upon me, I confess myself totally unable to thank you in appropriate terms. Be assured, however, of my sincere appreciation of those honors, and the particular compliments which have been paid to the officers and soldiers who participated with me in defeating the enemy two years ago this day, at Nashville. Some twenty years ago I received my diploma at the military academy, and soon after was commissioned in the army. On receiving that commission, I took an oath to sustain the Constitution of the United States Government, and to obey all officers of the Government placed over me. I have faithfully endeavored to keep that oath as a solemn pledge on my part, to return to the Government some little service for the great benefit I had received in obtaining my education at the Military Academy of the Union. [Renewed applause.] While I can't venture to speak of myself without fear of being accused of egotism, I can with pleasure and sincere pride speak of the brave soldiers and officers, who, at the commencement of the late war, voluntarily came forth from the private walks of life and devoted their lives to the defence of the Government established by our fathers. (Applause.) It has been my pleasure on all occasions to witness the devotion of our army, and I today take pride in saying that no other country on earth ever produced such another army as that which was assembled to put down the rebellion. (Applause.) The events immediately preceding the battle of Nashville are of such a nature that I am sure they would bear repeating, or at least justify some allusion to them on this occasion. After a victorious advance into the heart of the enemy's country, our great leader, General Sherman, at Dalton, ordered a little rest. Indeed, it was the only resource left us, and attempted to drive him back. Seeing into their plans, Gen. Sherman detached me to Tennessee to attend to affairs in the rear of the army, and keep open my communication with them. Even on my arrival in Tennessee, an advance force of the enemy had attacked our communications and had done some damage, but he was soon driven out. Very soon afterwards General Sherman conceived his plan of marching to the sea, and left me to defend Tennessee in case the enemy should advance on that State and attempt to go further North; and in case the enemy should follow Gen. Sherman, I was to pursue with what troops I could gather up, and harass his rear and destroy his communications. Gen. Sherman's main army, and the main army of the enemy, remained quietly observing each other on the borders of Alabama and Georgia, while I endeavored to meet the emergency that was approaching by the organization of returned furloughed men and convalescents, and concentrated them in such a manner as to be able to defend the post, if possible. But I was not permitted to remain idle, or delay operations. The enemy, perceiving his advantage, started directly for Tennessee, while Gen. Sherman, just about the same time, started for Savannah. Thus there was then nothing left for me but to delay his approach as long as possible without risking a battle until an army could be assembled sufficiently large to meet the enemy. After the utmost exertions on the part of myself and part of my staff, and also on the part of the commanders of different bodies of troops, we finally succeeded in getting an army of some 50,000 men at Nashville on the 1st day of December, but they needed clothing and transportation; they also needed horses to enable them to do something more than simply to fight a battle. It was necessary, then, to delay until these would come. In the meantime the weather became very disagreeable, and it was almost impracticable to move troops. This further delayed us some four or five days; but finally, about the 12th of December, all preparations being made, the order of battle was explained to the different commanders, and everything prepared for the conflict next morning. Bad weather delayed until the 15th, and on that day Gen. Steedman, with a small band of convalescents and men who had been on parole and were but partially organized, commenced the battle on the left, and contrived so to occupy the attention of the enemy that he appeared entirely to forget the other portion of his line, and concentrated heavily at that point, evidently expecting a battle there. This was expected in my programme, and after General Steedman had opened battle, and had been engaged about half an hour, the troops were moved into their respective positions, and almost like men on review, and took post after post, and drove the enemy to the hills. (Cheers.) The next day, by a skilful movement of the cavalry commander, the enemy's left was entirely turned, and this by one of the most gallant assaults I have ever witnessed, the entire line of the enemy was swept from left to right. (Applause.) So ended one of the strongest and most daring armies the enemy ever equipped. (Renewed applause.) This army was pursued two hundred and fifty miles, and finally received its last blow at the hands of the cavalry commander. It is with the greatest pleasure that I avail myself to-day, of the opportunity of speaking praise of these gallant men and officers then under my command.

As General Thomas concluded, the hall rang with shouts of applause. Several short speeches were then made by members of the General's staff, and the assemblage adjourned.

About Furs.

The latter part of the month of November generally finds furs greatly in fashion. But the mildness of this Winter until a few days past has not allowed the fashionables to bring out their most costly fur equipments. The last few days, however, have made such a pressing demand upon the sable and mink departments that they are met every day now warming and adorning the ladies. In all Northern countries furs and skins form a very important branch of trade, and notwithstanding the quantities brought into market annually, the demand equals the supply. Russia and the United States and British America are probably the largest fur producing countries in the world, and several millions of dollars change hands annually in this business alone. In semi-civilized or uncivilized communities furs and skins form the entire dress of the people, who are distinguished in rank by the quantity, quality and color of such articles worn by them. Educated and civilized communities are constantly gravitating toward this custom of savage nations, and by expensive and rare articles of apparel the wealthy are proclaiming their position in society, to the discomfiture of many of their less fortunate neighbors. The comparative cheapness with which even the poorer classes may supply themselves with a set of warm furs in this city and in various other parts of the country—ranging from $5 to $250 and upwards—compels the wealthier classes to pay larger sums to enable them to distance competitors not blessed with so much gold. While furs constitute an essential part of dress in the colder countries of Russia, Siberia, North America, &c., the more beautiful and costly take rank as articles of luxury and fashion in the milder climates of Turkey, China, England and the United States. The general use of furs in this country has materially increased the prices of superior kinds, so that much of that material is imported from European countries.

The Davenport Iowa Disaster—Three Persons Burned to Death.

The following details of a fire which occurred in Davenport, Iowa, on the morning of the 9th instant, and by which three persons lost their lives, and a fourth was fatally burned, are gathered from the GAZETTE of that city.

A family named Miller, consisting of husband and wife, five children and the mother of Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Julia Ann Cahill, resided just outside the city limits, in a small one-and-a-half story frame house. About four o'clock on the morning abovenamed, the family were aroused from their slumbers by a discovery of the fire in the house. Mrs. Cahill and three of the children were sleeping. Mr. Miller tried to put out the fire by buckets of water, but his efforts were fruitless, and he was compelled to leave the house in his night dress. Mrs. Miller previously escaped with her two youngest children who slept with her in the lower part of the house. Going to the end of the house, where there was a window, Miller saw Mrs. Cahill and the children surrounded by flame. Instantly the window was dashed out by the oldest boy, Richard, aged 12 years, who threw himself out, falling, terribly burned and bruised, upon the frozen ground. The morning was intensely cold, and there was quite a breeze blowing, and in a few minutes the flames had spread to every portion of the building. Mrs. Miller took up her three children, the oldest boy, who had thrown himself out of the window, her little daughter and the baby, and started with them to the residence of Mr. McLaughlin, her sister's husband, who lived nearly a quarter of a mile distant and who were their nearest neighbors, carrying her three children nearly the entire distance. Arousing the family, they rendered her all the assistance and relief possible. Mr. Miller remained at the house endeavoring to rescue the other children and their aged mother, but without avail. The neighbors arrived only in time to see the floor of the the upper story fall through, carrying with it the remains of the three persons who had fallen helpless near the upper window. The members of the family who escaped were badly frostbitten, none of them having had time to dress. A messenger was dispatched for a physician, and all that could be was done to relieve the physical suffering of the distressed family. The eldest boy, Richard, was found terribly burned, and cannot survive; he was conscious, but insensible of pain from the nature of his severe injuries. He told the Doctor that he was awakened by the stifling smoke, that he called his grandmother and the children, and then jumped out of the window. The last he saw of them, the grandmother was getting the children in her arms. Mrs. Cahill, who perished in the burning building was 70 years of age. Her grandchildren, James, aged 8, and Edward, aged 6 years, also shared the same fate. Besides the loss of life and the grief consequent thereupon, the family have lost all their worldly goods, not even having saved clothing enough to cover them. The neighbors, however, were kindly caring for them.

Married by Accident.

Last evening, says the Detroit UNION of the 6th, Edward Thayer and Miss Helen P. Jellman, attended by Mr. Austin Humphrey and Annie E. Crane, went to St. Paul's Church, the former couple to get married, and the latter to act as groomsman and bridesmaid. They all stood up before the altar, and the officiating clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Dunn, supposing that both couples were to be married, commenced the ceremony to join hands with their respective ladies, which was done, and in a very short space of time the four were made two. The situation being fully realized by the latter couple, they concluded to accept what they could not very well help, and all adjourned to their boarding house quite well pleased with the result of the preacher's mistake.

An Opera House on Fire.

The grand tableaux entertainment which was announced to come off at the Opera House last evening, says the Troy PRESS, 15th, for the benefit of the Troy Orphan Asylum, was brought to a sudden termination toward the close, by the fearful cry of "fire!" The immense audience which had assembled completely filled every nook and corner of the edifice. Not even standing room was to be obtained in the building, soon after the performance had commenced. Everything passed off handsomely, until a few minutes after ten o'clock, when the two last pieces on the evening's programme were reached. Some person in the street, in front of the Opera House, raised the cry of fire—and in a few minutes after St. Paul's bell repeated the alarm. At this moment some person in the rear part of the parquette cried out, "the fire is in the hall!" and instantly the truth of his remark was confirmed by volumes of smoke which were seen to emerge from the openings in the heating apparatus near the stage. Almost the entire audience arose from their seats, and the mere nervous and excitable made a hasty start for the door. Some jumped over the seats, others crowded their way through the narrow aisles, while many of those in the gallery becoming utterly "demoralized," crowded the passage ways leading down the stairs. When the excitement was at its height Chief Engineer Hall ascended the gallery and assured the audience that there was no danger. This had the effect of pacifying the throng for a moment, but the smoke arose from the cellar so rapidly that it filled the dressing rooms and stage, and was seen by the audience. This caused a fresh alarm, and the people began again to crowd toward the doors. On the stage and in the dressing rooms under and about it, were quite a large number of ladies and gentlemen—all of whom had been or were dressed to take part in the different pieces on the programme. Many of the ladies were mostly *en dishabille* in their rooms, while others were attired as queens, fairies, gipsies, etc. The ladies rushed from the dressing apartments, on the alarm being given, and crowded towards the rear door of the stage leading into the alley. In this way many escaped, leaving behind them their wearing apparel, etc. Others followed the audience in front and found refuge in the American House. The most exciting scene of the evening, was the conduct of a number of Albanians, both ladies and gentlemen, who occupied the upper private box on the left hand side of the hall. The young men jumped from the box to the stage—as Booth—and the ladies followed their example, alighting in the arms of the young "gallants." This scene was ludicrous in the extreme, and, notwithstanding the danger which was apparent, created a "titter" among the audience. One or two of the ladies on the stage fainted, and had to be conveyed home in carriages. The fire originated from a defect in the flue leading from the furnace in the cellar to the ground floor of the building, near the billiard room. A portion of the wood-work surrounding the flue was burned, but no other damage was done. The officers and several citizens picked up numerous pieces of wearing apparel—furs, muffs, gloves, shawls, &c.

Mysterious Absence of Louis Fox, the Billiard Player.

The Rochester DEMOCRAT of the 12th says:

Apprehensions are felt by the family and friends of Mr. Louis Fox, the distinguished billiard player, of this city, as to his safety. He has not been seen or heard from since Tuesday forenoon of last week, when he left his residence on North Clinton street, apparently in his usual health and spirits. A few minutes later he was met by Mrs. C. A. Kellogg at the west end of Andrew street bridge, and that is the last that is known of his movements. For two or three days it was supposed that he might have gone to New York. He had been talking of visiting that city, but he took no baggage or change of clothing it was supposed that his absence could not be protracted beyond a day or two. Eight days have now elapsed without bringing any tidings of him, and it seems to us that the alarm of his family is fully justified by the circumstances, especially as he is most intimate acquaintances in New York and other cities say, in reply to telegrams, that they have not seen or heard of him. Mr. Fox carried an umbrella in his hand when he left home, and is supposed to have had about one hundred dollars in