The Sun.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1875.

Average Daily Circulation Over 120,000,

[illegible] nearly equal to that of all the other morning newspapers printed in the English language [illegible]

[illegible] day of the current month the average issue may be formed from the fact that it is sufficient to place two copies in each dwelling house [illegible] and county of New York every morning, or one copy to every family in New York, Brooklyn, Williamsburgh, and Jersey City, with some thousands to spare. Although THE SUN is much [illegible] the demand for it [illegible] 96,028,884 copies were printed during the twelve months ending on the 31st day of December last, [illegible] THE DAILY SUN is especially valuable to those who employ clerks, with facts to be [illegible] in business. [illegible] Advertising medium THE DAILY SUN is especially valuable to those who employ clerks, with facts to be [illegible] in business. [illegible] Subscription, by mail, postage prepaid, 55 cents a month; $6.50 a year.

Advertising Rates.

[illegible] $0.40
[illegible] 0.50
[illegible] 0.75
[illegible] 0.50
[illegible] 1.00
[illegible] 2.00

The Weekly Sun.

[illegible] Union and Territory.

THE WEEKLY SUN [illegible] $0.50
[illegible] 0.75
[illegible] 1.00

New York, Jan. 1, 1875. [illegible] prepaid, $1.20 a year.

The New Postal Law—Postage to be Prepaid.

The new postal law, which requires prepayment of postage by publishers on all periodicals sent to all actual subscribers, took effect Jan. 1, 1875.

This postage is determined by weight, and to be paid in advance by the publisher.

Postage on THE DAILY SUN from Jan. 1 will be fifty (50) cents a year, or five (5) cents a month for monthly subscribers. Subscription to THE DAILY SUN $6.50 a year, or fifty-five (55) cents a month, postage paid.

Amusements To-Day.

Booth's Theatre—Henry V. Matinee.
Bryant's Opera House—[illegible] Matinee.
Bowery Theatre—The Roman Serf, &c.
Bowery Opera House—Tony Pastor and Troupe.
Coliseum—[illegible] Matinee.
Fifth Avenue Theatre—Big Bonanza. Matinee.
Grand Central Theatre—Variety. Matinee.
Lyceum Theatre—Fairy Ring. Matinee.
Olympic Theatre—Variety. Matinee.
Park Theatre—Pure Crystal. Matinee.
Robinson Hall—Opera Monologue. Matinee.
San Francisco Minstrels—[illegible] Matinee.
Theatre Comique—Variety. Matinee.
Union Square Theatre—The Two Orphans. Matinee.
Wallack's Theatre—The Shaughraun. Matinee.

The Rise of Gold—The Remedy.

The recent rise in the price of gold which pinches the importers, disturbs values, and deranges markets, to the great detriment of the business of the country, may be set down to the failure of the Forty-third Congress to act upon the currency question. It is a natural result of the persistent neglect of Congress on this great national subject. Whether this neglect came from ignorance, or timidity, or partisan scheming, we do not stop here to inquire. It is enough for our purpose that the fact stands out plain and distinct to every intelligent observer. Nevertheless, if Congress had wished, it might have adopted a simple plan to prevent the injurious operations we have mentioned: and it might have done this without entering upon that domain where flourish the vexed questions of resumption, contraction, and expansion.

Up to this period in our financial discussions, we have had little else than a pitched battle between hostile forces. On one side have been forged and applied the arguments for resumption and contraction, and on the other those for paper money, expansion, and inflation. This conflict has been fought over and over again, until every intelligent combatant sees and knows both his own and his enemy's strength and position. We think the battle in this form has lasted long enough, and that nothing is to be gained by carrying on such a contest any longer. It is plain that the contractionists and inflationists are each determined to hold their ground. And it is also plain that their representatives in Congress, on one side and the other, are numerous enough to continue to hold one another in check, and so continue the deadlock now existing in regard to a financial policy for the country, fruitful as this deadlock is of present and future pernicious consequences.

Now, until we come to some general agreement as to the basis on which our domestic trade and exchanges shall be conducted, there will be no healthy and stable revival of the business and industry of the country. Our complaint against Congress is that it took no notice of this important fact, and adjourned leaving the financial question without a real attempt at its solution. For no man of sense can pretend that the so-called financial bill, declaring we would resume specie payments in 1879, without taking any steps to accomplish that end, was anything better than a farce.

Nevertheless it was in the power of Congress, while keeping clear of debatable ground, to have at least made a stand on the currency question. It could have at least established a starting point, and it is greatly to blame that it did not do so. It might at least hold the currency where it is, and keep the fluctuation of gold in as narrow limits as those within which the value of our national bonds vibrates.

The receipt for doing this is simple. It is merely *to provide a bond redemption of the greenbacks at their par value in currency.* As a movement toward specie payments, this bond redemption should be, as we have often advocated, of a more stringent character than that of which we are now speaking. To make it effective to that end, the bond should be worth more than the greenback, and for this reason the latter should be convertible into five per cent. bonds. But as a movement by way of beginning, without disturbing perceptibly the volume of the paper circulation, and with a view to avoid the hostility of the anti-contractionists, bonds bearing a lower rate of interest must be used.

It is plain that when specie is at a premium of eleven per cent., a four-and-a-half per cent. specie-paying bond would bring in the market just about par in currency. Such a bond, then, if obtainable on demand for the greenback, would fix the value of the greenback, and also measurably determine the premium on coin. Suppose such an arrangement to have been in existence when the scheme to advance the premium on gold was first set on foot, it would have arrested the rise, because an advance of two or three or four per cent. would have produced conversion of the greenbacks into the four-and-a-half per cent. bond as a substitute for remittance abroad. The fact that such a result would have followed the gold movement, on such a basis, is no evidence, however, that conversion to any extent would have taken place, but only that it would have prevented the inception of the scheme. Gold would thus have been kept from rising, while the volume of greenbacks would not have been diminished.

By this plan of making the greenback redeemable at the will of the holder in a four-and-a-half per cent. bond, the circulating medium would be held to a specific and steady coin value of about ninety cents on the dollar, and the premium on gold of course would correspond. The fluctuations in the value of the currency and the price of gold would therefore be limited to the rise and fall in the value of the four-and-half per cents. And we know from our experience with our five and six per cents that this would be but little. The five per cent. is steady at about par in gold in the foreign market. The price of the four-and-a-half per cents would obey the same rule. Thus a result of the utmost importance would be established, second indeed in consequence only to the actual resumption of coin payments. And yet there can be no hostility to this proposition from non-resumptionists and non-contractionists, because under ordinary circumstances nobody will want to exchange his greenbacks for a four-and-a-half per cent. bond. He can always do better with the money.

We repeat our complaint that Congress did not seriously approach and consider the financial question from some such point of view as we have now taken. It is altogether possible, without resumption of coin payments, to steady the value of our currency and lay the foundation of a further improvement, and at the same time to prevent these damaging fluctuations of the gold market, by a process that should not excite the opposition of doctrinaires on any side. We are fully persuaded that this is our only practical starting point for the ultimate recovery of the specie standard. All radical measures on one side or the other are out of the question; and least of all is it possible to carry out the absurd propositions contained in the foolish measure of political finance thrown before the country without rhyme or reason at the beginning of the last session.

Words of Comfort.

The solicitude we feel for the brethren in Brooklyn leads us at times to utter words of warning to them, lest they tumble into some of the pitfalls which wicked men have set in their path. Because we cry out loudly, however, they must not conclude that we are not feeling very unhappy and very anxious for their welfare. That, in fact, is why we call so loud. We are told to rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. A disagreeable French cynic has remarked that it is easier for men to sympathize with their friends when they are in trouble than to be glad with them when they are in prosperity. The utter falsity of this assertion we shall now proceed to prove by putting ourselves in an attitude of delight over the happiness of the Plymouth brethren. In order to do this we shall banish from our thoughts all the gloomy features of this BEECHER business, and resolutely turn our gaze toward such bright spots as stand clearly out from among the mass of darkness which surrounds the scandal.

In the first place, never before in history was a Christian pastor so happy, so rollicking, in fact, under the pressure of a terrible charge of adultery and its judicial injury overflows with fun. Ministers who before have been charged with such a revolting abuse of their calling and influence over women, have, even when innocent, been inexpressibly saddened by the fact that they were so much as suspected of so awful a sin. The mere existence of a public investigation has been terrible to them, for it implied doubt, and doubt of his character ordinarily destroys the standing of a clergyman, who is required by the public to live a life as spotless as the truth he preaches. Even when utterly blameless, therefore, many a minister so accused has had his whole soul darkened and his career interrupted by the public discussion of his virtues and failings. But Mr. BEECHER does not indulge in any such morbid emotion. He never was so happy, so jolly, so eloquent, so funny as he is now. In this exceptional mood of their pastor's the brethren have reason, of course, for devout thankfulness. An adultery trial has no depressing effect on his spirits; indeed, it rather elevates them, for it has many amusing features, and suggests no end of jokes which he can use in his Sunday sermon. So the brethren get a direct advantage from the high spirits of the pastor.

Another delightful fact is that when the pastor was accused of adultery—or rather when after the failure of his many and long efforts to suppress the charge by the aid of heathens and others, he was finally confronted with it in open court—there was at hand among the brethren an extremely industrious lawyer to defend him, in the person of Brother SHEARMAN. This lawyer was both highly pious and unusually experienced in all sorts of legal devices for the benefit of his client. He had been the attorney of JAMES FISK, Jr., and never disappointed that ingenuous speculator when he demanded of him clever expedients for keeping his startling operations within the bounds of law, or perhaps, more correctly speaking, outside the bounds of crime. Brother SHEARMAN is also a man of a highly susceptible heart, prone to weeping, and fervent in prayer. For so short a man he can cry harder and pray more effectively than any other man we ever knew of. The brethren have great reason for rejoicing at the opportune fact that among them was a brother who could be so useful to the pastor, in court and prayer meeting both, and that even though Mr. BEECHER did a few years ago write and say uncomplimentary things about him; this was, however, at a time when the pastor had fallen among heathens.

Another circumstance is both encouraging and matter for pride. There is probably in no other church in the country, if, indeed, in the world, a brother who can pray with so much elocutionary power as Brother BOB RAYMOND. At this time when the prayers of the brethren are unusually valuable, and are even reported in the papers, the presence of this champion in that line affords occasion for high glee. Brother BOWEN has to pray at home or in his office for the present, but no one knows whether he prays for or against the pastor, on TILTON'S side or against it. But this does not matter much, for the brethren being in doubt on this point, have crowded him out of the prayer meetings, and his closet prayers can neither harm nor help any one.

Assistant Pastor HALLIDAY has proved himself a man of so great piety that he was able to bear continued failure in business without souring his disposition or unfitting himself for the more profitable work of saving souls. We doubt if there is another church in the country, or the world even, which has an assistant pastor with so checkered and disastrous a business experience. He is a notable aid to the pastor, especially in the trial, his face alone in the court room being a convincing argument to the jury.

We do not know whether BESSIE TURNER is a sister or not. If not, she ought to be. Her evidence has greatly refreshed the brethren. The *Times* calls her a "shameless minx," but it omits to say that her testimony was the most telling blow against THEODORE yet delivered, and that the brethren have not been so happy during their affliction as since she gave it and since the negro servants gave theirs. Ex-brother JO HOWARD is also of great service to the brethren in advocating their cause in the press. He has a style chaste, vigorous, vivacious, and convincing, and loses no opportunity to strike a blow in favor of his bosom friend, Mr. BEECHER. He has, it is true, more spiritual religious views than his former brethren; but he agrees with them as to the pastor's character, and is at one with him and them in his opinion as to the relations of the sexes—a very important point just now.

We feel that we have justified our purpose and sufficiently disproved the ill-natured saying of the French cynic. It, however, we shall hereafter in our laborious digging among the evidence of this scandal discover by chance further nuggets of comfort for the brethren, we will furnish them to the best of our ability, and give them effective display.

Mr. Blaine and the Candidature.

The Presidency woos the late Speaker to its embraces, and there seems to be no blushing coyness of resistance. Enterprises of great pith and moment, unless strictly intellectual, are best undertaken upon fullness of stomach. BINGHAM'S Philadelphia dinner was happily chosen for a public development. In the enthusiasm of the fourth bottle the nomination was made with the foaming beakers.

A correspondent of ours has recently delineated Mr. BLAINE in a lively limning and with vivid coloring of character. Mainly, it was correct. Few, if any, of our public men are gifted with qualities so seductive to popularity. He has a fascination of manner, a copious possession of personal attributes which win to regard. No pharmacopoist has so large an assortment of amative philters. Like the sweet Prince HAL, he hath given medicines to make men love him. As a diner out he has a peerless lustre. As a host he shines preeminent. If Washington city could open a poll and decide the election, he would be largely in the majority.

Unfortunately for him in this regard, the Federal capital ceased long ago to be the manufactory of Chief Magistrates. The last effort was its nomination of WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD in 1827. The result did not stimulate to any repetition of the attempt. In 1856, gentlemen elected to the duties of legislation, enlarged their area of influence, and came to Philadelphia with a modest demand that Judge MCLEAN should be the nominee of the convention. Their wish was disregarded, nor have the people since that time been much moved in their selection by the mutual admiration of the two Houses of Congress.

Mr. BLAINE'S geography is not felicitous. The modern Magi are not following any star of the East. There is a broader heriwidening sovereignties of States than might not be fatal to a more substantial candidate, but it will suffice for Mr. BLAINE. With youthful dreams of empire, the Speaker, after the close of his duties last summer, returned to his residence and made a speech. It was an English statesman who gave the advice: "When you have nothing to say, be sure that you say nothing." It would have been safe counsel for Mr. BLAINE, but it was not heeded. There was no demand for any exhibition of his dictionary. His hold upon the Augusta district is as tenacious as that of death on the victim. And while he erred in opening his mouth, he blundered in its utterances. It was a provincial declaration suited to the wards of the city of his residence, and bounded by the valley of the Kennebec. It had no nationality, and left an unpleasant suspicion that with all of his rare acquirements, broad statesmanship was not of his property; and that confessedly accomplished as he is in the chair of the Speaker and in his social blandishments, he has not the breadth and expansion of those who successfully sway governments.

His foray into the State of Massachusetts, in the autumn campaign, was almost as disastrous as the expedition of the Corsican to Moscow. He bore no returning sheaf from that gleaning of harvests. His most irreparable lapse was, however, in the last days of the dissolving Congress. There was a bill pending which took from personal rights and civil liberty a boon, the slow conquest of centuries of struggle and immeasurable blood, and left men to the grasp of a military despotism and the walls of the prison, with the *habeas corpus* held in suspension by one who, whatever may be said of him by his friends, would not be chosen for the arbitrament of a wise and inflexible justice. It was said by those supposed to be in his confidence, that Mr. BLAINE would proclaim from the floor of the House his uncompromising opposition to this last attempt at unchecked power. But his tongue was not unloosed, and his speech was digested in his stomach or stuck in his throat. He might have had a future such as his ambition has pointed to him, but he was not equal to the crisis. He dared not launch his shallop at that state of flood tide which floats to fortune. His insubordination earned him the resentment of the Ruler whose unvarying law is not forgiveness, but revenge and condign punishment; and his timidity has not gained the confidence and approbation of the people.

There was another occurrence, small in itself, but by no means insignificant. On the last day of the session, there was placed upon his desk a silver bauble with a Latinized inscription of *Vestibuli rex* as the giver of the gift. Mr. BLAINE had better have sacrificed five years of his most strenuous and successful life than to have submitted to this ostentatious folly of exposure. Mr. SAMUEL WARD and his kind do not yet make Presidents, nor does his endorsement, with or without revenue, give high character to his favorites, with the people. They are not now, while reviewing the achievements of the lobby, passionately in love with this outside organization, or overburdened with respect for it. Such tributes of regard were better presented in confidence than in a public and offensive spectacle. Moreover, Mr. BLAINE has other surroundings which in the popular judgment are not healthy. He associates with and receives suggestions from men whose embraces are as deadly to him as the foldings of the "enormous asp of LAOCOÖN," and who will, in his high reachings for an elevation which has become barren of honor, enforce upon him "pang on pang, and stifle gasp on gasp."

He must be a bold man who hazards a confident prediction who will or will not be the elect of 1876; but we live in a not entirely fallacious hope that it may be one not an administrator or executor of the *débris* of Grantism. We trust that no success in of this most degraded dynasty of government is to fasten upon the country and foster in a prolonged life of disease and decay. Mr. BLAINE does not seek advice, but he receives adulation, and his best friends who would urge him to "bide his time," and keep outside of the Presidential arena, now have their voices drowned in the noisy acclaims of selfish flatterers and destroying fools.

Apprehension is expressed for the safety of Senator HANNIBAL HAMLIN, who has been missing for several days. After protecting the interests of the Administration in the Senate by a responsible pairing off, he suddenly disappeared. While he is in the full bloom of youth, with great elasticity of physical organization, his native vigor was somewhat impaired by the arduous labors of restoring the franking privilege and taxing pestilent printed matter; yet it was not supposed that any hospital retiracy was needed for his recuperation.

If he passed through New York on his way to his residence, he must have been billed through as a D. H. package by a fast express line. We have been apprised that an easy vehicle of benevolent transportation has been waiting his arrival at Cortlandt street ferry festooned with the evergreen pine of his native State, and he may have traversed the city in an incognito of Senatorial dignity.

If still roaming at large, he will be readily recognized by those not familiar with his personal identity by a two-cent postage stamp placed upon his forehead above the bridge of his nose. We are also informed that the companies in interest, in grateful recognition of his services, have awarded him the privilege of wearing the placard seen in the windows of traders, "Adams Express Co.," "Merchants' Union Express Co.," with an elegant rubric of letter and a golden border of band, leaving it to the choice of the wearer whether it shall hang upon his conscientious bosom or droop from the reverse exposure of his overladen shoulders. Waiting anxiously for information of his health and safety, a reward of five dollars in cancelled postage stamps will be paid for early intelligence of his present hibernation.

There is an old story which Speaker MCGUIRE would do well to ponder. When the famous GEORGE STEPHENSON was before a Parliamentary commission he was asked what would be the effect if a cow should get in front of one of his proposed fast railway trains when it was under full headway. The great engineer gravely answered: "It would be bad for the cow." It would be sad, indeed, if Mr. MCGUIRE'S ambitious political aspirations should find their fulfilment in a lofty flight into the air, caused by the resistless impact of a cow-catcher.

The failure of the Senate to confirm Mr. CHARLES A. NOLEN as Examiner-in-Chief of the Patent Office will leave Mr. R. L. B. CLARKE, the incumbent, in occupancy. The office is one which presupposes experience to be an improving quality in the discharge of its duties. Mr. CLARKE has had the advantage of familiarity in his long period of holding. What may have been his shortcomings of support of the Administration or his overt acts of offence we are ignorant.

He is a brother of the facile and sparkling GRACE GREENWOOD, and has been for years a Republican of the original faith. He was a candidate for Congress in Iowa in the election which chosen by the single term Democrat, contest by the single term Democrat, and only failed of a return by a narrow margin of votes. Republicans did not then fight for pay and rations, and those who sustained the doctrine were of conscience and conviction. What may be the exigencies of official change which require a firm Republican, a good lawyer, and an honest man to be dispossessed, we are not informed; but we must express the opinion that other considerations than that of fitness have impelled the attempted removal.

The top part of the Western Union Telegraph building seems to have no sort of congruity or harmony with the rest of the edifice. This massive and substantial structure is surmounted by a Mansard roof, tricked out and disfigured by every sort of finial conceivable, and many that ought to be inconceivable, projecting from every point where it is possible to plant one. They are all of a dull and sombre drab, and as lifeless and cold in appearance as a camebrake. Above this confusing spectacle shoots a nondescript tower of no particular design or order of architecture, and the spectator wonders what it all means. From the foundation to the eaves the Western Union building is thought to be handsome; above that all admit it looks like an athlete wearing a harlequin's cap. But isn't the *Tribune* building still more marvellous?

The *Whitewater Register* prefaces an article from Mr. BEECHER'S newspaper with these words:

"The following beautiful and brave defence of Beecher comes from his associate editor in the progresses of [illegible] Can it be this is the whom the world has learned to love is the black villain he is charged with being?"

That is just the question which is now on trial in Brooklyn.

The Judiciary of South Carolina, as well as the Legislature of that unfortunate State, are not disposed to tolerate undue freedom of remark from newspapers opposed to the dominant party, and the editor of any journal not in harmony with the carpet-bag Administration in Columbia, if accused of libel, has little to hope for from the impartiality of the bench. A curious example of the notions entertained by the present Judges in South Carolina as to their functions in respect of the press has been given in Greenville, where a week or two ago Judge COOKE exhibited to the Grand Jury, then in session, a copy of the *News* which contained an article reflecting severely upon the character of J. M. RUNION, who is editor of a rival sheet called the *Republican*. The learned Judge pointed out one or two paragraphs which he declared libellous, and desired the jury to do their duty. The latter retired, and after giving the matter their serious attention reported that they found no bill. Upon this the Judge sent them back to the jury room with instructions to remain until they reached a conclusion in the libel case, which, as they had already arrived at one, was a mild way of telling them to indict the offending editor without regard to their own convictions. This remarkable procedure was twice repeated without the jury being able to see that any one had been libelled, when his Honor got furious, told them that he would hold them from day to day until action was taken, and further, that he would make them serve without pay. Even the last terrible menace failed to bring the obdurate jury to terms, and as they resolutely refused to indict the editor of the *News* they were finally discharged.

The cheapness and abundance of jute have given to it, within a comparatively recent period, a decided industrial importance, and its employment in the manufacture of textile products, particularly in some European countries, is constantly increasing. Brussels carpets and rugs of great beauty and softness are now largely manufactured almost entirely of this fibre. It is also used in great quantities to form the warps of cheap broadcloths, and to some extent for mixing with silk, for which last purpose the lustre of jute is considered a peculiar advantage. The chief seat of the manufacture of jute into fine goods is Dundee, in Scotland, tens of thousands of tons being annually consumed there in this way.

A very fresh and charming novel is Mrs. OLIPHANT'S "Story of Valentine and His Brother" (Harpers).

SOME NEW BOOKS.

Long Island—A Volume of Curious Historical Information.

A book has been published by J. W. Bouton, which contains matter of especial interest to many residents of Long Island and New York city, and is likely also to engage the attention of all persons inquisitive as to the early history of this State and the manners that prevailed among the founders of the great republic. It is entitled *Antiquities of Long Island, by Gabriel Furman. To which is added a Bibliography by Henry Onderdonk, Jr., edited by Frank Moore.*

In a prefatory notice of the volume, Mr. MOORE says: "The manuscript from which it is printed is fragmentary, and seems to have been put together at odd times during the period embraced with in the years 1824 and 1838. It was discovered by the editor among the gatherings of a quaint and popular dealer in old books, pictures, and *bric-a-brac*, in University place, and was thought valuable enough to merit publication. A few errors of date, but none of judgment, have been corrected, and some obscurities made plain. Otherwise the work is given as it was left by its industrious author." He would have done well had he also amended a few faults in grammar, which doubtless the author would have rectified had he revised the manuscript for publication. One of the most noticeable of these faults occurs twice in the following quotation:

A man who the Rev. Dr. Buell, in a letter of May 9, 1761, characterizes as a "preacher of the gospel who seems always to have in view the end of the ministry, the glory of God, and the salvation of man," and who he also speaks of as "the glory of the Indian nation."

In addition to the antiquities, which the author entitled "Long Island Antiquities and Early History; with the Manners and Customs of its Inhabitants," the volume contains Mr. Furman's "Notes, Geographical and Historical, relating to the Town of Brooklyn, in Kings county, on Long Island," republished from an edition issued in 1824. Naturally enough the same matter occasionally appears in both the Antiquities and the Notes.

The work begins with a kind of historical essay on the national affiliation of the Indian tribes found on Long Island, and then treats of their character, habits, traditions, and disappearance. From one of their traditions it would appear that Satan had an uncommon affection for Connecticut long before blue laws were devised as an effective safeguard against the successful assertion of his seignorial pretensions:

It is said that, at a certain time, doubtless some years ago, the devil set up a claim against the Indians to Connecticut as his peculiar domain; but they being in possession, were determined, of course, to try to hold it. The surfaces of Connecticut and Long Island were at that time the reverse of what they are at present. Long Island was covered with rocks, and Connecticut was free from them. The Indians refused to quit on so short a notice, and accordingly both parties prepared for the contest. His Satanic Majesty crossed to Connecticut to enforce his claim by dispossessing the Indians; but he was disappointed. The Indians were too much for him, and forced him to retreat to Throg's Point. The tide being low and the passage not being very wide, the gentleman concluded his retreat by stepping from rock to rock until he reached Long Island. After having seated himself in the middle of the Island at Coram and brooding over his defeat in sullen humor, he suddenly aroused himself, and collecting the rocks on his back he dashed off pettily yet at on the Island, he deposited them in heaps at Cold Spring, when he amused himself with hurling them across the Sound on the ferrie plains of Connecticut. The Indians who last remained in that part of the country not only succeeded in driving the spirit where he stood, but also insisted that they could discern the prints of his feet.

This tradition explains the origin of the name given to certain rocks in the Sound, viz., "The Devil's Stepping Stones." In some observations concerning the changes in the aspect of the country, the author affirms the belief that Governor's Island and Red Hook were formerly connected by dry land, and in support of it notes the "established fact that many years since cattle were driven from Red Hook to Governor's Island, which places at that time were only separated by a very narrow channel, which has filled, Buttermilk Channel, and is now wide chant vessels of the largest size."

The shores of Long Island have undergone even greater changes:

About a century ago, the father of Samuel Jones, the late Chancellor of this State, accompanied some old people, who then was a boy, to the south side of this Island, to view a new inlet which had then just broke through the beach during a very heavy storm. This inlet was afterward known as "Jones's Inlet," and was in Oyster Bay, south. When they came to the spot it was observed the Cedar tree said was washed away they discovered a meadow soil very many feet below high water mark, and which had, apparently, been covered by the beach sands for many ages. The most extraordinary fact connected with it was that on this meadow soil they found the impressions of cloven footed animals, which it was impossible could have been made after the inlet was washed through, for they could not by any means get there, and which they supposed at the time were buffaloes' tracks, there being no tame cattle on this Island at the period when they thought the tracks must have been made, at which period the large channels of water between the outer beach, through which the inlet was formed and the main land must have been an extensive meadow, although, as we have seen, a very change, this inlet is now nearly closed, and it is probable that in a few years it will again be a sand beach. For a long time after it was thus opened it was navigable for small schooners.

It appears that Fire Island was formerly as much esteemed for health-giving qualities by rheumatic patients as it now is by those afflicted with hay fever:

This Fire Island is a place of great resort in the pleasant season of the year, both for the sportsman, the pleasure seeker, and the valetudinarian. The latter go there in search of relief from the healthful breezes of the ocean, and those affected with rheumatic complaints to enjoy the benefit of the sand baths. The patient, if able to help himself, walks—others are borne or carried—down to the beach just as the water is falling, and four or five feet above the water line a hole is excavated large enough to bury him all but the head, and the right arm, if that is not affected, is left out. He then strips his clothes, and gets into the hole, and is covered over with the sand. Very soon he is in a profuse perspiration, and continues so as long as he remains thus covered. They are advised not to continue in this bath longer than fifteen minutes, the action is so violent; but very few would be willing to continue even that time, unless it was deemed necessary, the heat is so great, and the pricking sensation through the limbs so intense. There is no instance, I believe, where it has been used without effecting a cure. It is necessary to be very careful and go warmly clad for a day or two after taking this sand bath, because the pores of the body are so open, and the whole system so relaxed, that they would be very liable to take cold, severe cold, and to be again laid up with their old complaint much worse than they had it before.

The author dwells with some pride upon the fact that only one Quaker was persecuted in this colony, and adds that he was only sent to Holland and reinstated by the Dutch West India Company, whose excellent letter to Gov. Stuyvesant upon the occasion is worthy of publicity. It was dated in 1663:

We perceive, from your last letter, that you had exiled and transported hither a certain Quaker named John Bowne. Although it is our anxious desire that similar and other sectaries may not be found among you, yet we do not extremely the policy of adopting rigorous measures against them. In the youth of your existence you ought rather to encourage than check the population of the colony. The consciences of men ought to be free and unshackled, so long as they continue moderate, peaceable, inoffensive, and not hostile to the government. Such have been the maxims of prudence and toleration by which the magistrates of this city (Amsterdam) have been governed, and the consequences have been that the oppressed and persecuted, from every country, have found among us an asylum from distress. Follow in the same steps, and you will be blessed.

Only one prosecution for witchcraft was commenced, and that, in effect, was dismissed without condemnation. The author eulogizes Governor Stuyvesant for his tolerant rule, and for other things; shows that he was practically the head of the Church as well as of the State; gives the dates of, and circumstances attending, the building of the first houses of worship of the different denominations, the substance of the code of laws for their government, the names of the clergy, and mentions the fact that "sermons in Dutch were preached in the towns of Flatbush, New Utrecht, Gravesend, and Boshwick, until about the year 1818," and that "the first organ in any church in Kings County was that of St. Ann's Church, Brooklyn, which was first opened April 11, 1810, and a number of fine pieces of music performed and anthems sung."

Among pre-historic things this pleasant antiquary describes an ancient fort upon Fort Neck, "the remains of which are yet very conspicuous on the southernmost point of land on the neck, adjoining the salt meadows. It is nearly, if not quite a square, each side of which is about thirty yards in length. The breastwork or parapet is of earth, and there is a ditch on the outside which appears to have been about six feet wide." He concludes that this "was the work of a people entirely different in the modes of living, and in other respects, from the aboriginal race found here by our forefathers."

He indicates the locations, styles, or dates of many of the oldest dwelling houses on the island, and tells of many customs now nearly or quite obsolete. The manner of entertaining friends at a funeral, for instance, must have made the occasion resemble an Irish wake:

Even within the present century it was likewise the custom at funerals, in the country parts of Long Island, for relatives of the deceased, at the house from which the funeral was to proceed, to prepare a large quantity of cold provisions, such as roast turkeys, boiled hams, roast beef, &c., which was set down on a table in a room opened for the purpose, and every one went there and helped himself as he pleased. Also rum, brandy, and gin, with pipes, tobacco, and cigars, were handed around among the people during their stay at the house, it being considered inhospitable not to do so; and it was not an unusual thing to see the farmers congregate together in warm weather under the shade of trees about the vicinity of the house, smoking their long pipes and drinking, hearing and telling the news, and laughing and talking for two or three hours before the funeral would move.

But expensive as was the character of the funerals on this island and in New York, they could not compare in that respect with those among the Dutch inhabitants of the city of Albany. Judge Benson, in his memoir read before the New York Historical Society, describes the funeral of Lucas Wynzaard, who died in that city in the year 1756, a bachelor, leaving some estate. The invitation to that funeral was very general, and those who attended returned after the interment, as the custom then was, to the house of the deceased toward the close of the day, and a large number of them never left it until dawn of the ensuing day. In the course of the night a pipe of wine, which had been stored in the cellar for some years before the occasion, was drank; dozens of pipes of tobacco were consumed; grosses of pipes broken; scarce a whole decanter or glass was left; and, to crown the whole, the pall bearers made a conflre of their hearse upon the hearth of the room where they were carousing. This may have been a little more uproarious than most of the funerals of that period, as the deceased was a bachelor, and had no widow and children in the same house to control, and, in some degree, to modify their proceedings; but yet all the funerals of that time were more than enough so under any circumstances. Even down to within the last fifty years Albany was noted for the expensive character of its funerals. That of the first wife of the late Patroon, the Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer, it is said, cost upwards of twenty thousand dollars! All his tenants were invited, and most of them were in Albany two or three days at his expense, and two thousand linen scarfs were given on that occasion. It was formerly the custom there for a young man, immediately previous to his marriage, to send to the Island of Madeira for a pipe or two of the best wine; a portion of which being used in the rejoicings consequent upon his marriage, and the remainder stored away for his funeral and that of his wife.

When Gen. Schuyler died in that city all the clergy, lawyers, physicians, and even students in Albany and its neighborhood for many miles were invited specially, and a scarf, gloves, a bottle of wine, with funeral cakes, given to each of them.

Among the Dutch inhabitants on Long Island it was recently, and had been from time immemorial, if it is not even yet, customary to convert the first money that a young man obtained by his labor or services, after he became of age, into gold coin, and then lay it by for the purpose of burying him, until a sufficient sum was thus procured to bear the expense of a "respectable funeral."

The practice of giving nicknames to people by which they were known even in the public records, was very common during the Dutch, and for some time under the English Government of the colony:

In the Newton purchase from the Indians dated April 12, 1656, one of boundaries is "by a Dutchman's land called *Hans the Boere*," and in the Bushwick patent, dated Oct. 12, 1667, one of the boundaries is "Joan the Swedes Meadow." In 1686, in the Kings county records, a man is named living at Gowanus as "Tunis the Fisher." (This will remind the reader of Sir Walter Scott's essay on the derivation and formation of names in a note to "The Fair Maid of Perth.")

And we also find that by the records of the Common Council of the city of New York, on the 28th of March, of 1691, they ordered that "fish be brought into the dock over against the City Hall (then standing in Pearl street, at the head of Coenties slip, or the house that *Long Harry* formerly lived in."

And also on the 9th of April, in the same [illegible] that *Old Rich* deliver into that he hath in his hands belonging to the city, being first satisfied for the making of them."

Again, on the same day, the order "that *Top-Knot Betty* and her children be provided for as objects of charity, and four shillings a week allowed," and further that "the treasurer let *Scarbouch* have a new suit, and assist him in what's wanting."

What the author says about the way in which changes of family names occurred may be useful as well as interesting:

The manner in which names of families sometimes become changed in this country is truly curious. There was previous to the middle of the last century, among the Dutch settlers in the southern part of this colony, and particularly upon Long Island, a regular systematic change of the family name with every generation, so that the son never bore the family name of his father; thus, if the father's name was Leifert Jansen, and he had a son named Jacobus, this son's name would not be Jansen, but it would be Leifert Jacobus. Suppose the old gentleman would have a grandson by his son, who was christened Gerrit, his whole name would be Gerrit Jacobusen.

This custom, which was identical with one that prevailed in Iceland, seems to have been confined to Long Island. It was not followed by the Dutch in Albany. In other parts of the country radical changes have occurred in family names through the medium of translation. The author cites the following instance from Edward Livingston's answer to Mr. Jefferson, in the case of the New Orleans Battery:

An unfortunate Scotchman, whose name was Faverston, was obliged, in pursuit of fortune, to settle among some Germans in the western part of the State of New York. They translated his name literally into German and called him Fourstein. On his returning to an English neighborhood, his friends, ignorant of the word Fourstein, in German, meant Flint in English; they translated, instead of restoring, his name, and the descendants of *Fegerston* go by the name of *Flint* to this day. I thought, however, says Mr. Livingston to except one of his grandsons, who settled at the Arcadian colony on the Mississippi, whose name underwent the fate of the rest of the family; he was called, by a literal translation into French, *Pierre-a-fusil*, and his eldest son returning to the family clan, his name underwent another transformation, and he was called *Peter Gun!*

In some cases, for greater definiteness breeds were classified:

Upon this island, and especially in the central portions of it, are very many families of the name of Smith, and so numerous did they become at an early period of the settlement, that it was thought necessary to distinguish the various original families by some peculiar name. Thus we have the Rock Smiths, the Blue Smiths, the Bull Smiths, the Welsh Smiths, and the Tangier Smiths. These different appellations of the families of the Smiths became as firmly settled as if they were regular family names; so that when any inquiry was made of any person in the town, man, woman, or child, for any particular Smith, they would at once ask whether he was of the Rock breed, or the Bull breed, &c; and if the person desiring the information could say which *breed*, he at once was told of his residence.

The first Fourth of July celebration here was held in the year 1653, "as is clearly shown from the communication which Gov. Stuyvesant made to the Church of Brooklyn, on this island, on the last of June, 1653, directing the *fourth day of July* following to be observed as a day of thanksgiving, because among other things the English had been defeated in their attempt to take possession of the whole of Long Island by the timely arrival of a Dutch fleet of armed ships in the bay of New Amsterdam."

A convention of deputies assembled at Hempstead in 1664, and after adopting a code known as the Duke's Laws, made an obsequious address to James, Duke of York and Albany, afterwards James II. of England:

The people of Long Island were so much exasperated against the deputies of the convention at Hempstead for making that address to the Duke of York, which they regarded as too base and servile to come from representatives of freemen, and expressed their disgust in such a plain, open manner, that the Court of Assizes, (composed of the Governor and his council, and a Justice of the Peace of each town) at a term held at New York in 1665, in order to save those deputies from abuse, if not in some instances from personal violence, deemed it expedient to declare that, "Whosoever hereafter shall any wave detract of speak against any of the deputies signing the address to His Royal Highness at the general meeting at Hempstead, they shall be presented to the next Court of Sessions, and if the Justices shall see cause, they shall from thence be bound over to the assizes, there to answer for such slander upon plaint or information.

This, probably, was the first gag law passed in this country.

In 1669, where New York now stands, "there was but one magazine, or store house, for wares and merchandise, but one small church, one blacksmith shop, two saw mills and a grist mill." In 1751, one hundred and twenty-four years ago, the population numbered only 10,000. Then "Newport, in Rhode Island, was a much more important place in a commercial point of view than New York; and Boston was very much its superior in every respect. As regards Philadelphia, in point of size, appearance, or trade, there was then no comparison, and no one thought of making any; Philadelphia was then a city, and New York, in comparison, but a village. And thus continued the relative positions of the two places until some time after the close of the Revolutionary war; evidence of any jealousy on the part of the former did not begin to manifest itself until about 1810, and even then no Philadelphian would ever believe that New York could ever equal Philadelphia in population."

The author describes samp porridge, how the samp was prepared and pounded, and how the porridge was cooked, and adds that it "is said to be better on the second day, after another cooking, than it is on the first, and that it even improves in taste and goodness to the third or fourth day, being heated up and partially cooked on each day." He also tells us of the simplicity with which houses were furnished to "within the last forty years;" and of what the furnishing consisted; of the common beverages, and of how carefully wines, malt and solid liquors were kept; of how, as late as 1729 "Rohaxton was selling in Philadelphia for fifty shillings a pound;" of visiting on Sunday, the excuses which he finds for the custom, how the practice was broken up, and the reasons