The Burlington Free Press.

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POETRY.

UNDER THE VIOLETS.

Her hands are cold, her face is white;
No more her pulses come and go;
Her eyes are shut to life and light:
Fold the white vestures, snow on snow,
And lay her where the violets blow.

But not beneath a graven stone,
To plead for tears with alien eyes:
A slender cross of wood alone
Shall say, that here a maiden lies
In peace beneath the peaceful skies.

And gray old trees of hugest limb
Shall wheel their circling shadows round,
To make the searching sunlight dim,
That drinks the greenness from the ground,
And drop their dead leaves on her mound.

When o'er their boughs the squirrels run,
And through the leaves the robins call,
And, ripening in the autumn sun,
The acorns and the chestnuts fall,
Doubt not that she will heed them all.

For her the morning choir shall sing
Its matins from the branches high,
And every minstrel voice of spring,
That thrills beneath the April sky,
Shall greet her with its earliest cry.

When, turning round their dial track,
Eastward the lengthened shadows pass,
Her little mourners clad in black,
The crickets sliding through the grass,
Shall pipe for her an evening mass.

At last the rootlets of the trees
Shall find the prison where she lies,
And bear the buried dust they seize
In leaves and blossoms to the skies.
So may the soul that warmed it rise!

If any, born of kindlier blood
Should ask what maiden lies below?
Say only this, a tender bud,
That tried to blossom in the snow,
Lies withe'd where the violets blow.

Oliver Wendell Holmes.

MISCELLANY.

THE BRIDAL AND BURIAL.—The circumstances attending the death of Mrs. Field, by the collision of trains on the Hudson river railroad, on Wednesday of last week, are touching in the extreme. She was formerly Miss Ann H. Tuthill, principal of the female department of the Brooklyn high school, and had been married that (Wednesday) morning, at Kingston, where her sister resided, to Thomas W. Field of Williamsburg, a member of the board of education. It is stated that while the bridal party were on their way to church to have the marriage ceremony performed, four gentlemen, who were unable to procure seats in the sleighs, were proceeding along on foot, when Miss Tuthill's niece called her attention to them, and remarked that they looked more like pall-bearers than wedding guests. What a strange significance there was in those few words. They were united at 10 o'clock, and after the ceremony Mr. Field and his happy bride crossed the river on the ice, in order to take the express train. There had been some doubts expressed regarding the safety of the ice, and when once fairly across, they congratulated each other upon their safety. When the accident occurred, Mrs. Field and her friends were sitting at the rear of the last car, chatting and jesting together, Mr. Field being outside with several other gentlemen. The engine of the approaching train tore through the car from behind, carrying Mrs. Field with it, breaking both her legs, and mangling her body frightfully. After the first crash, her husband hastened to her rescue, and removing a great quantity of rubbish, he found her on top of the boiler of the locomotive, held fast against the side of the car by portions of her clothing. Tearing her dress from its fastening, and breaking his way through the car windows, Mr. Field bore the mangled and almost lifeless form of his bride to the air. Here he was surrounded by sympathizing friends, who did everything for her that it was possible to do, till at last she was placed on a mattly made cot in one of the cars, and conveyed to the Getty House at Yonkers. Medical aid was instantly procured, but Mrs. Field faded rapidly, and at 7 o'clock she breathed her last in the arms of her beloved husband. Mr. Field was nearly frantic with grief, and it was feared that this sudden dashing to earth of his cup of joy, so recently filled to overflowing, would affect his reason. But after a night of the wildest grief, he fell asleep in the morning, and when he again awoke the danger had passed. The body of the unfortunate lady was taken to Kingston on Thursday, accompanied by the bereaved husband, brother and sisters, and on Friday her funeral took place at the same church from which, but two days before, at the same hour, she issued the happy wife of the chosen one of her heart.

CURIOUS PHENOMENON. For the last two or three months workmen have been engaged in sinking an artesian well in the rear of the Bay State House, in this city, under the direction of Mr. J. H. Gove of Providence. It has already reached the depth of 123 feet, of which the last 53 feet are in solid rock. Several water-bearing veins have been struck, but not sufficient to raise the water to the surface. The rock is a conglomerate composed of layers of slate, quartz and other formations. Since Saturday last, it has been a mixed that the water in the well rises and falls at nearly uniform periods, the fluctuation continuing from day to day. At the highest, the water rises 118 feet, or within five feet of the surface of the ground, and falls to 106 1-2 feet. On Monday, it was highest at 12 o'clock, M., and on Tuesday, at 11-2 o'clock, P. M. It is a phenomenon for which the gentlemen acquainted with the subject have not been able to find a satisfactory explanation. The ground where the well is sunk was filled in to the depth of 12 feet when the house was built; so the water, at the highest already rises seven feet above the natural surface. The work still progresses at the rate of about one foot per day.—*Worcester Spy, 19th.*

ADULTERATION OF LIQUORS.—A letter from Dr. Hiram Cox, official Inspector of Liquors at Cincinnati, has been published, which contains some remarkable statements relative to the adulteration of liquors. He says that a Cincinnati druggist, desirous of obtaining some pure liquor as a medicinal article, purchased in New York two half-pipes of extra "Seignette brandy" one pale and the other dark. He called the Doctor's attention to his "beautiful pure brandy," which the doctor at once tested by inserting some blue "litmus" paper. It came out as red as scarlet. He then put a polished "spatula" (an instrument for spreading plasters) into a tumbler containing half a gill of the liquor, allowing it to remain fifteen minutes, at the end of which time the liquor was black as ink. The spatula corroded, and when dried a thick coating of rust appeared, which when removed left a copper coat almost as thick as if it had been plated. A chemical analysis of these liquors resulted as follows:

"First sample (dark) 55 per cent alcoholic spirits by volume, and 41 per cent by weight; specific gravity 0 945. The tests indicate Sulphuric Acid, Nitric Acid, Nitric Ether, Prussic Acid, Guinea Pepper, and an abundance of Fusil Oil. Base—common whiskey, not a drop of wine.

Second sample (pale) 54 per cent. alcoholic spirits by volume, 40 per cent. by weight; specific gravity 0 955. This article has the same adulterations as the first, but in greater abundance, with the addition of Catechu."

The druggist was forbidden to sell the brandy, and refused to pay the New York dealer for it. The latter sued him in the Cincinnati courts but lost his case, the poisonous character of the liquor being fully demonstrated. Dr. Cox remarks:

"I was appointed to the office of Chemical Inspector on the 19th day of March, 1855. Since then I have made upwards of 600 inspections of stores, and lots of liquors of every variety, and positively assert that 90 per cent. of all that I have analyzed were adul- [illegible] the most [illegible] ous ingredients. Since my appointment I have, as physician to the Probate Court, examined upwards of 400 insane cases, two-thirds of which number became insane from drinking the pernicious liquors sold at the groceries and taverns of our city and country. Many of them were of boys from 19 to 21 years of age, some of whom were laboring under a hereditary taint—and perhaps in many of them the mental derangement would never have been developed had they not drunk of these poisonous decoctions."

The following incident shows what sort of stuff is furnished to to the poor fellows who frequent low groceries:

"I called, at a grocery store one day, where liquor also is kept. A couple of Irishmen came in while I was there and called for some whiskey and, at the first drank, and the tears flowed freely, [illegible] life he at the same time caught his breath like one suffocated or strangling. When he could speak, he says to his companion—"Oh, Michael, but this is warming to the stomach." Michael drank and went through like contortions, with the remark, "Wouldn't it be fine in a cowld freezhy morning?"

After they had drank I asked the landlord to pour me out a little in a tumbler, in which I dipped a slip of litmus paper, which was no sooner wet than it put on a scarlet hue. I went to my office, got my instruments and examined it. I found it had 17 per cent alcholohic spirits by weight, when it should have had 50 per cent to be proof, and the difference in per centage made up by *Sulpurhic Acid, Red Pepper, Pellitory, Caustic Potassa* and *Brucine*, one of the salts of *Nux Vomica*, commonly called Nux Vomica. One pint of such liquor would kill the strongest man."

A DAY IN THE HOUSE.

[CONDENSED FROM THE DAILY PAPERS.]

WASHINGTON, January 12th, 1860.

Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, who has thus far refrained from speaking, with a special view to ultimately becoming Speaker, said that Mr. Houston, of Alabama, had been indulging in pleasantries at his expense. Mr. Houston had called him a burning, withering curse and shame, and had otherwise jocularly expressed himself. He desired to know if the gentleman from Alabama had intended to stigmatize him as a personal withering curse and shame, or merely as a political one.

Mr. Houston, of Ala., replied that no one but a raving and inexpressible idiot could suppose, as the gentleman from Ohio had done, that any personal application was intended. He simply considered Mr. Sherman a treasonable and infamous character, besides being stingy and not at all manly. That was all.

Mr. Sherman said every one ought to be satisfied with so noble a disclaimer. He had not concealed his opinions, and he would say to Mr. Houston frankly, and with sincerest regard, whenever occasion demanded, "You're another."

Mr. Houston then observed that in a political sense, no one could deny that Mr. Sherman was flimsy and dishonorable, and also sullied in various ways to a considerable extent, to say nothing of his being foolish and incendiary from early infancy.

Mr. Sherman agreed in the main with the honorable gentleman's sentiments, but suggested that it would be a personal convenience to him to have the resolution offered by Mr. Clark, of Missouri, now before the House, declaring him to be an offensive and ignoble object, withdrawn, because it interfered with his appetite, and gave him unpleasant visions at night.

Mr. Houston said that for his part he was a man of resolution, and he objected to the withdrawal.

Mr. Sherman cordially reciprocated the honorable gentleman's friendship.

Mr. Clark, of Missouri, rose and announced a physical inability to sit still in his seat, so he would stand by his resolution. Without calling in question the integrity of Mr. Sherman, he would say that gentleman was not fit, politically, to iron shirts in a third-class laundry. As he himself represented a virtuous community, he could only say.—what are you going to do about it?

Mr. Harris, of Maryland, coincided with everybody that had thus far taken part in the debate.

Mr. Clark, of New York, begged to call the attention of the House to a work entitled "The Impending Crisis," written by one Helper, in relation to which he would offer some feeble remarks.

Mr. Haskin, of New York, said the feebler the better.

Mr. Clark said it was none of Mr. Haskin's business, and that he would then and there fight him for the beer.

Mr. Haskin remarked that his colleague was a very good circus-rider, but that he certainly could not keep a hotel, as he was ready to testify before the Supreme Court, or the bar of any house in Washington.

Some evil-disposed person here cried "Order." This was the signal for instantaneous uproar. The cry was echoed on all sides with the natural and physical consequences. The Clerk grew pale with envy as the shouts of the honorable gentlemen overpowered the noise of his gavel. Mr. Haskin threw his revolver upon the floor and invited somebody's nob. Then ensued rare pegging and stopping, unexceptionable clinching, feinting and planting of one twos on pimple and in wind. The Sergeant-at-Arms having at length detected a foul blow on the part of an inexperienced new member, interposed, and said that if the disturbance continued he should be compelled to exclude the reporters.

Mr. Keitt, of South Carolina, said if people entertained enmity towards one another, their true plan was to do as he did, and never let it be known.

Mr. Davidson, of Louisiana, dispatched a messenger for his broad-sword and double-barrelled shot-gun.

Mr. Winslow, of North Carolina, suggested that the House proceed to business.

Mr. Clark, of Missouri, said, Never! [Applause.]

Mr. Clemens hoped that Mr. Haskin would be held politically responsible for throwing his pistol upon the floor.

Mr. Haskin explained that he had never before used a pistol, except in an honorable way, and he trusted that this single failure to put it to legitimate use would not be visited too harshly upon him.

Mr. Clark begged to say that he had accidentally been discourteous. He wished to add that, in using the language he did to his colleague, he meant that he would fight him for the political, and not for the personal beer.

Mr. Etheridge, of Tennessee, observed that the House had passed a pleasant day, and that such events would sometimes occur. So far as he was concerned, he would be very well pleased to have them happen oftener; but as all appeared now very quiet, and as it was growing very dull, he moved an adjournment which was carried.—*Vanity Fair.*

RAIN IN EGYPT.—Sir Archibald Alison, in his history of Europe, writes as follows: "It never rains in Egypt; centuries may elapse without more than a shower of drizzling mist moistening the surface of the soil. It is said it has not rained in Egypt for 1700 years." A correspondent of the *Times* writes from Alexandria, Oct. 31, 1859, as follows: "Englishmen express their astonishment at the heavy rains we have lately experienced, having come with the erroneous impression that it never rains in Egypt." Upon this, it is asked whether the rain which is referred to by the above correspondent is the first which has appeared in Egypt for 1700 years.

SOUTHERN POLITICS. Mr. Memminger's speech to the Virginia legislature, on Thursday, as the ambassador of South Carolina, occupied four hours in a full review of the steady encroachments of the North. He counselled a convention of southern states to see what they would do about it.

The Louisiana legislature met on Wednesday, and the governor recommends in his message a conference of all the southern states, and retaliation upon the North by a discriminating tax on northern goods amounting to absolute prohibition.

The Free Press

BURLINGTON:

FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 27 1860.

THE SUPPER OF HOOK & LADDER CO. NO. 1.

The re-union and supper of the Hooks and Ladders at the Lake House Friday eve., was, like the Company, A No. 1. A nicer supper, a more genial and gentlemanly assemblage, a more satisfactory affair of the kind, in every way, it has never been our good fortune to attend in Burlington. The tables were elegant and attractive in appearance, and groaned under a profusion and variety of substantials and luxuries too numerous to catalogue here. It was ready at the hour, and was nicely cooked and beautifully served; the waiters were abundant, attentive and generally in possession of their faculties; the Landlord, without bustle or show, was everywhere present as the genius of discipline and order; everything was clean, tasteful and acceptable as possible, and in strong contrast with some other suppers we wot of. The Hook & Ladder Company filled one long table, while another was occupied by the invited guests, among whom were Messrs. Charles Adams, Wm. Weston, S. E. Howard, C. L. Nelson, Capt. Anderson, H. Barnett, J. A. Shedd, H. Loomis, Messrs. Parker and E.C. Loomis of the Prudential Committee of the Fire District, Chief Engineer Huntington, Messrs. Flanagan and Chaffee of the Boxer Co., the editors of the three papers, and many others of our citizens Mr. P. Ballou, foreman of Hook & Ladder Co., presided at this table, and Wm. Weston, Esq., at the other end, officiated as toastmaster.

The feast of reason and flow of soul (we are not sure but this expression has been used before in some such connection) succeeded the feast of fat things.

THE TOASTS.

1. The Fire Department. Efficient in its organization—effective in its work.

Responded to by N. Parker, who assured the company that this evening had made the Prudential Committee in favor of separate suppers for the different Companies provided they (the Com.) were to be invited, and by E. C. Loomis, in a few sentences.

2. The Boxer Boys. Prompt at a fire and not second at a feast.

Responded to briefly by N. B. Flanagan, and A. B. Chaffee.

3. The Ethan Allen's. Though young as a Company, they possess the spirit of the old Hero.

Responded to by E. Pitkin, of the Allens.

4. The Volunteers. Called into existence by a noble public spirit, they will ever be found volunteering in every good cause.

Responded to by G. G. Benedict.

5. The Hooks and Ladders. Soldiers for the working day; their hearts are always in the trim.

J. S. Adams was loudly called for and responded. Alluding to the somewhat delicate matter which had given occasion to the supper, he said that while the Company had not blamed themselves for their spontaneous vomement of the other evening—for they believed that when they sat thirty long minutes without seeing even a cracker, or any prospect of the entertainment they were invited to they had done all that could be asked of them—they *had* feared that the general good feeling of the department might be impaired by the occurrence. He was glad to be convinced by the scene before him that the fear was groundless. He gave them as a sentiment, which the Hook & Ladder Company endorsed by rising as one man "The Concord and harmony of the Fire Department, dear to the heart of every member of Hook & Ladder Company No. 1."

6. The early settlers of Burlington. May their efforts and toil in laying the foundations of our town be ever held in grateful remembrance.

Charles Adams, Esq., responded in some reminiscences of the Burlington of half a century ago, when Water street was not only the court end, but the whole of Burlington. He related several anecdotes of the Kings, Pearls, Sheldons and Willards, of that day, which created immense merriment. In conclusion he gave: "The Town of Burlington, may its citizens always exhibit the forecast, wisdom and industry which characterized its founders."

7. The Ladies. Their smiles cheer us, their approbation inspires us.

Gen'l. Clarke was loudly called for, but declined to respond to this toast, inasmuch as he had a very capital speech prepared for a response to another toast to the Press. Mr. E. M. Smalley was then called and spoke briefly in response.

8. The Press. While we have a Free Press, a Sentinel, and Times, footprints among us, we need not despair of a happy and long continued union.

Mr. G. W. Benedict was called for. He alluded to the emotions with which he had stood before a monument in Greenwood cemetery, erected to a fireman who had sacrificed his life in saving a child from the flames—spoke of the nobility and disinterestedness of the Fireman's vocation, and described some of the changes and improvement in the Fire Organization which time had wrought in Burlington. He gave them: "The Hook and the Ladder, emblems and implements of the fireman's labor and duty; the one to arrest danger, the other to rescue from it. If ever in Burlington, strong arms shall be wanting to man the one or bold hearts to mount the other, it will be in another generation from the present."

Gen. Clarke was next called on for that speech; and responded in a string of funny sayings, which kept the tables in a roar throughout his speech. He closed by giving: "Our fire organizations—the insurance companies, that enable the other kind of insurance companies to make dividends." Mr. Smalley was also again called up and convulsed the assembly by the disinterested repetition of an ancient joke ascribed to Jacob Marck Esq., to the effect that one way to keep anything a profound secret was to publish it in the *Sentinel*. Volunteer sentiments followed. One to the Hook & Ladder Company, brought up Mr. Ballou, the foreman, and Mr. Styles, Clerk, who spoke briefly, pledging the best efforts of the Company for the Union and harmony of the Department.

The following resolutions were then introduced.

Resolved, That we value rightly the interest which our invited guests have taken in our prosperity as exemplified by their prompt personal appearance in response to the invitation extended to them to join us in our festivities. As *patrons* and *friends* they have been among the first; so shall they be among the first as *guests* at our festive board.

Resolved, That *deeds* (not words), are the proper exponents of the value we put upon the successful efforts of our landlords to entertain us this evening; and that we have already indicated by valiant onsets upon the trencher, our appreciation of their labors.

Mr. Weston spoke of the important place filled by the Fire Department, and the important niche in the Department filled by the Hook & Ladder Co.

Mr. S. E. Howard in response to loud calls, made delightful anticipations of the time when a steam engine shall supercede the Volunteer, and an alarm of fire be only a summons to take a ride on the "masheen" to see it put out.

J. S. Adams Esq. took occasion to speak of "mine host" Curtis alluding in a strain of high and deserved eulogy to his good qualities as a landlord, as a citizen, and as a man—sentiments which the whole assembly endorsed with the heartiest applause of the evening.

The assembly broke up with three rousing cheers, called for by Mr. E. C. Loomis, in the heartiest good humor, delighted beyond measure with the success and above all with the good feeling, of the whole affair.

CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, 1860.

SENATE.—Sundry resolutions were introduced by Mr. Brown, looking directly to the establishment by Congress of a slave code of law for the territories. Mr. Hale desired to put a private bill from the Naval Committee, on its passage.

After a debate by Messrs. Mason, Hunter, Fessenden, Benjamin and others, during which it was contended that such a bill was not in order as Congress had not organized, Mr. Hale withdrew his motion to put the bill on its passage.

Mr. Bayard offered a resolution that no final action shall be taken in the Senate on any bill or joint resolution till notice is received of the organization of the House. Laid over.

HOUSE.—Mr. McRae was entitled to the floor, but yielded it to Mr. Clayton, who was about to address the House, when Mr. Washburn of Me. interrupted him by calling for a vote on the Hutchins resolution for the adoption of the plurality rule. He insisted that they were obliged by law to proceed to vote for Speaker without debate and delay.

Mr. Grange of N. C. raised a point of order on Mr. Washburn, when the latter repeated the motion for the adoption of the plurality rule.

This was discussed at considerable length with animation and considerable confusion, during which several speakers were called to order.

Mr. Clayton said the South was the victim to be led to the slaughter. There was but little, if any, disagreement in his district, that the South would secede in the event of an election of a Republican President. The people would not submit to that party. We stand on the verge of a volcano, and its trembling movements portend the eruption. Union meetings cannot bring a sense of security to the Southern people, while in the North, Southern rights are trampled upon and disregarded. The people of the South do not want resolves but action. In the event of the election to the Presidency of a Black Republican, the Union cannot and ought not to be maintained.

He contended that the Republicans ignore State sovereignty, and that if they succeed in abolishing slavery in the Territories, they would then follow out their policy in the Southern States. He asserted that the slave, as well as other property of the South, in the Territories, should be protected by congressional law. He advocated the policy of secession as a preventative remedy against injustice, and that the States have a right to resume the powers which they delegate to the Federal Government.

Mr. Carter did not vote for Mr. Sherman, because he identified himself with that party, but because under existing circumstances, he thought the Republicans ought to have the presiding officer. In so voting he did not endorse Helper's book. He could not vote for a South American, because that party is in favor of a slave code in the Territories. If it is not so, let any one of them deny it.

Mr. Hardeman said he was in favor of such a code, and intended to demand every Southern right.

Mr. Quarles was for equality, and believed that Tennessee has a right to carry slaves into the common territories, and a right to claim every arm of government to protect it.

Mr. Etheridge said—So help him God, he would never give a vote to put slavery in the Territories, while the Nebraska-Kansas bill, according to the construction put upon it at the time of its passage, remains in force, for it gives the right to the people, while in the territorial condition, to regulate slavery in their own way.

Mr. Botsler said they were in favor of protecting slave property in the Territories, and the former said no territory can interfere with those rights.

Mr. Briggs explained that he never believed a necessity existed for legislation on slavery beyond what is claimed by the Constitution. He approved of non-intervention in the Territories, as a kind of squatter sovereignty.

Mr. Carter understood the Southern Opposition to be in favor of a Slave code. He asked if the Northwestern and other Democrats were in favor of such a code.

Mr. Morris of Ill, said he was not.

Mr. McRae said, Why did not you ask the question of Mr. Gilmer?

Mr. Carter—Mr. Gilmer is of age, and can answer for himself. (Laughter.)

After a day spent in this fashion, the House adjourned without taking any vote—as usual.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19th.

SENATE.—Thursday was chiefly occupied with the question how far the Senate could proceed in their business while the House remained unorganized.

Mr. Mason called attention to the fact that on previous occasions, when the organization of the House was delayed, the Senate did no business but receive credentials, refer bills, memorials, resolutions, &c. No legislation was accomplished, but only initiatory steps taken. He read the opinions of Benton, Crittenden and others, in 1839, to show that they were opposed to the transaction of business in the Senate while the House was unorganized.

The opinion of some Senators was that initiatory steps in legislation could be taken, but that no decisive action could be had, and Mr. Bayard offered a resolution to that effect. Amendments were offered and the subject was discussed by Messrs. Foster, Fessenden, Collamer, Trumball and others; but finally laid on the table.

Mr. King offered a resolution appointing a select committee to investigate whether $45,000, or any other sum has been paid out of the public printing appropriation, or the printing of executive departments, to the support of newspapers, especially the Washington Constitution, the Philadelphia Pennsylvanian, and Albany Argus; and whether any contract has been made, at any time, by Mr. Bowman, with the former printer of the Senate and Executive departments, by which he was to receive $20,000; and also whether any cabinet officer or member of the Government was privy to the arrangement; and what reduction can be made in the price of the public printing.

The resolution was laid over, and the Senate adjourned till Monday.

HOUSE.—Mr. Hindman, of Ark. (dem.), spoke at length on the slavery question, taking the most ultra views, and reading from the New York Herald, to prove that the victims of the Pemberton mill disaster were, with other northern operatives, the victims of tyrannny, slavery and obscenity worse than is inflicted upon Southern laborers.

Mr. Gooch, of Mass. (rep.), promptly replied to him on this point; and Mr. Pottle, of New York, (rep.), read the resolution adopted by the abolitionists at Utica, N. Y., thanking the Herald for its kind services in getting the country by the ears.

Mr. Leake, of Va. (dem), also occupied the floor for some time to prove the divine origin of slavery, and to denounce the New York Courier and Enquirer for certain strictures upon himself.

Mr. Bingham of Ohio (rep.) called for a vote upon the question of order raised on the plurality resolution of his colleague, Mr. Hutchins. Mr. Reagan of Texas (dem.) demanded a call of the House, which was refused by 95 yeas to 111 nays. A conversation ensued on the point of order respecting the plurality resolution, and it being evident that the democratic side would filibuster against it the question was not pressed further by the republicans. During this colloquy Mr. Colfax of Ind. (rep.) brought out the fact that forty southern members (a sufficient number to hold the House in check for any length of time) had signed a paper pledging themselves to resist a vote on adopting a plurality rule by every and all stratagems. This was frankly acknowledged by some of the signers.

Adjourned.

When the voting for Speaker began, if it had been kept up *without debate*, Sherman would have been elected in less than 24 hours. The democrats knew that, and hence the interruption with the howl raised against him by Clark, of Missouri—about the Helper book. If that occasion had not been at hand another would have been found, the object being to prevent an election till by fair or foul means the democrats could combine votes enough to defeat him and elect a man of their own. For seven weeks it has been yelp—yelp, about the Helper book, and about Sherman's having recommended its circulation—the yelps being interspersed with vociferous disunion bellowings, threats of personal violence, and vulgar and abusive charges of all sorts against republicans and the northern people generally. That the clamor fo Mr. Sherman to disavow the Helper book is all a pretence, a contemptible humbug, is evident enough from abundant proofs. The passage, on Friday day night last, between Hardeman of Georgia, Sherman, Hindman, of Arkansas, and Clark of Missouri,—given below, is the last, but not least of them:

"Mr. Clark of Missouri made some explanation as to his object in introducing the resolution that no endorser of the Helper book was fit to be Speaker of the House.

Mr. Sherman asked Mr. Clark whether he would withdraw his resolution, in order to give him an opportunity to explain.

Mr. Clark said he had avowed his purpose, and would tell the gentleman his explanation has failed to absolve himself from the recommending the circulation of the Helper book.

Mr. Sherman replied that an opportunity had never been tendered him. When the gentleman from Missouri introduced the resolution, offensive in character and at an improper time and manner, he cut off what he said he desired to do, namely—offer an opportunity for explanation. When, three days after, the gentleman from Virginia, Mr Millson, appealed to him, he stated that he never had seen or read the book, and had no recollection of signing any recommendation. After that explanation was published, he received a letter from E. B. Morgan, a member of the last Congress, recalling the circumstances under which his name became connected with the publication. Mr. Morgan stated that while he (Mr. Sherman) was writing at his desk, he asked permission to use his recommendation in circulating a political pamphlet. He consented, provided there was nothing in it offensive or improper, and confiding in the judgment of the friend who requested the favor. This was the whole story, and presented a plain, unvarnished statement of facts, which had been so much misrepresented. These were all the circumstances under which his name had become associated with the book. The other day, when the subject was brought before the House, and in language which he did not consider courteous, when he was charged with disseminating treason and lighting up the torch to be applied to the dwellings of his Southern brethren—charged with crimes, which, if he were guilty of them, would take from him his title to a seat on that floor—when he rose in his place, and told the gentleman from Missouri that if the resolution was withdrawn, he would answer, as the book was read, page by page, whether he avowed or disavowed the sentiments therein, the gentleman refused to withdraw it.

He did not believe it was the desire of the gentleman to give him the opportunity, or to relieve the opportunity. If so, he would now withdraw it, to give him an opportunity to do what he proposed. Never, so help me God, whether the Speaker's chair stands befor me or not—never, while the resolution is before the House improperly and in an unparliamentary way, and its adoption is urged by offensive arguments—will I explain a single word in those extracts. (Applause from the Republican side and galleries.) While the resolution is intended as a stigma, and is sustained by epithets, he cannot expect me to say more.

Mr. Hardeman—I charge the gentleman with having advocated on this floor a proposition to exclude slavery from the territories by Congressional legislation, and of having avowed his intention to oppose the admission of any slave State into the Union: and of having branded the fugitive slave law as savage and inhuman. I charge him with having stigmatized Southern slavery as injurious and a crime.

Mr. Sherman—In other words I am charged with being a Republican. This is my offense—none other. I never sought to invade the rights of the Southern States, nor the rights of any citizen. I have my ideas of slavery in the territories, and at a proper time am willing to define them. I have made but one speech on the subject in Congress, and that growing out of the offensive message of President Pierce. They are the opinions of the body of the Republicans, and gentlemen may discuss them. I stand by my political record.

* * * * *

I believe the resolutions are unjust, offensive and wrong, not only to Republicans but to our common constituency. This agitation has struck up bad blood. If this obstacle were removed, I believe we can yet go to work and organize the House, and administer its power with impartially. Whenever my name stands as a barrier to organization, and my friends are satisfied they can combine a larger number of votes, either by a majority or plurality, I will not stand in my present position one hour. I will cheerfully retire from the field, and give place to any other Republican who will except the barren honors of the Speaker's Chair. (Applause.)

Mr. Clark of Mo., expressed his astonishment that the gentleman had taken the ground he had. He had, by his remarks, destroyed the last hope that he (Clark) would withdraw the resolution.

The gentleman has passed the day of grace. He has been arraigned before the country. He (Clark) would never withdraw the resolution.

In the recent cold weather in London, three of the cast iron columns which support a roadway, fronting warehouses, at the St. Katherine's Docks, burst with a loud report, similar to a piece of ordnance, and fragments of metal were found at a considerable distance. The columns had become partially filled with water, which entered at the top, and there being no outlet, the frost caused the explosion.

New Publications.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for February is received. The Holidays in Costa Rica, by Meagher, is continued with copious illustrations. There is an interesting article on Coins and Coinage, with representations of many coins of ancient times and of the middle ages. Thackeray begins a new novel in this number which will be continued through several of the following numbers.

For sale by Fuller.

LIFE WITHOUT AND LIFE WITHIN, or Reviews, Narratives, Essays. By Margaret Fuller Ossoli. Boston: Brown, Taggard & Chase.

This last volume of Margaret Fuller's works is edited by her brother, Arthur B. Fuller. Only one of the articles in it has ever before appeared in a book form, and a large portion of it has never appeared in print at all. It will therefore be to most of those acquainted with many of the writings of the gifted authoress, and interested in former publications from her pen, a novelty and a treat. There is a great range of topics in the volume. Some are treated of very briefly, and others at considerable length—all showing the activity and force of the writer's mind, and her sympathy with humanity.

For sale by Fuller.

THE GREAT TRIBULATION, or Things coming on the Earth. By Rev. John Cumming. New York: Rudd & Carlton. 1860.

Dr. Cumming is a highly celebrated preacher of London, very much given to discourse on the prophecies, and the discussion of prophetic times and half-times, and to cyphering out from the mystical numbers in Daniel and the Revelations, when Popery is to breathe its last gasp, Mahometanism to cease from the face of the earth, and possibly the world itself, as a residence for the human family, come to an end, some of which great events, he thinks are to occur in 1867. The volume before us is a second series of lectures from the learned and lively doctor, on those topics. Dr. Cumming is an interesting writer, and however difficult a task it may be for him to bring all who read his lively discourses to agree with all his conclusions, he will easily satisfy them of his earnest purpose and good spirit.

For sale by Fuller.

THE AMERICAN ALMANAC, and Repository of Useful Knowledge, for the year 1860. Boston: Crosby, Nichols & Co.

This is the *thirty-first* volume of the American Almanac. We have been familiar with this work as a book of frequent reference for a large range of topics, from its beginning, and know its value. No where else, in so compendious a form, can be found such a digest of information on the government, finances, legislation, public institutions, internal improvements, and resources of the United States, and the several States. The publishers assure us that no pains have been spared to make this volume equal to its predecessors in fullness and accuracy. Corrected lists of public officers, of our Ministers and Consuls in foreign countries and of foreign Ministers and Consuls in the United States, tables of information on imports, exports, tonnage, coinage, sales of public lands, &c., abstracts of the public laws and joint resolutions, passed by the Congress last year,—and many other matters of interest and importance in our own country and in the several European States, are to be found in the volume; and the usual American Obituary list, and the Chronicle of noticeable events from Sept. 1, 1858, to August 31, 1859.

For sale by Huntington.

CHRISTIAN BELIEVING AND LIVING.—Sermons by F. D. Huntington, D. D., Preacher to the University, and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals in Harvard College. Boston Crosby & Nichols & Co., 1860.

This is a volume of twenty-five sermons, by Professor Huntington, on several of the great topics of Christian doctrine and the important verities of Christian life. So far as we can judge from the perusal of three or four of the discourses, taken up at random, and a cursory look at the titles of the others, the volume seems to be one of excellent spirit and tendency. The discourses are full of earnest religious thought presented in an uncommonly attractive manner. The style of writing and mode of treating the subjects are considerably different from what are most commonly seen in sermons from the pulpit; a deviation which will not lessen but probably will add to the attractiveness of the discourses with not a few minds, without injuring, so far as we can see, their usefulness with any. Hardly any preacher in New England has drawn more attention from the religious public than Prof. Huntington has of late years. Yet he does not write to draw attention, but to do good—not to win followers to himself but souls to his Divine Master. So far as we have examined the volume, it seems quite free from polemics, properly so called. There are, however, one or two discourses which set forth in a clear and decided manner, the adherence by the author to Trinitarian doctrines in place of those which he adopted in the early part of his ministry. The volume cannot fail to have a wide circulation.

For sale by Huntington.

The St. Albans *Messenger* says of Dr. N. G. White's Pulmonary Elixir, which is advertised in our columns:

This medicine is prepared by Dr. Henry Baxter, a regular Physician; and graduate of one of our first Medical Colleges. As he has had a large and extensive practice in this County for the last 15 years,—he is too well known to need any recommendation from us.

The Dr. no doubt thoroughly understands the diseases for which he recommends the Elixir; and their proper mode of treatment; and would not prepare a medicine not adapted to their cure. We are informed that the Elixir is having a large and extensive sale.

"The secret history of the origination of that mongrel and deceptive sheet [*The Times*], there-iterated double dealings with its originators—*original* with respect to those who patronized its outfit—has already destroyed the credit of the *Gen'l.*, as to always meaning what he professes; it has reduced him to utter political bankruptcy. Of course, then, he feels at liberty to attack us vigorously; *he has nothing to risk.*"—*Sentinel.*

Pray what's the *hidden meaning* of all that? Won't the *Sentinel* explain?

POST OFFICE SCRIP.—There has been over $4,000,000 worth of Scrip issued by the Post Office Department. One man it is said holds two millions of this Scrip purchased at 80 cts. The President has tendered to Ex-Gov. Thomas of Maryland, the U. S. Treasuryship. He declines.

GREAT LITERARY ENTERPRISE.—Brown, Taggard & Chase of Boston, are engaged in a literary enterprise that will be hailed with satisfaction in all parts of the country. They have in press the complete works of Lord Bacon, to be issued in superb style in twelve crown octavo volumes. They intend to make this new edition of Bacon, for which a great necessity exists in the market, the beginning of a series of standard works of the first class. Every effort will be made to issue the volumes in a style of excellence and magnificence that shall surpass anything yet produced by book makers at home or abroad. Messrs. Houghton & Co., of the noted Riverside press at Cambridge, have these works in hand. The books will be printed upon the finest tinted paper, and bound in a style which for beauty and durability will commend itself to all tastes. Lord Bacon's works will be followed by a complete edition of the writings of Sir Walter Scott, including his novels and poems, and his life by Lockhart. We commend this enterprise to the literary public, in the full assurance that it will be in every respect worthy the most liberal support.

During the past year the Smithsonian Institution, through its extended system of meteorological observations, has been enabled to make some very curious investigations, respecting the three memorable cold days of January, 1859. It was found that the cold of the three days above mentioned, swept progressively over the country like a wave, coming down from the Arctic regions and first entering the Territory of the United States at the extreme Northwest among the Rocky Mountains. It was experienced at Utah some three days before it reached the banks of the Northern Mississippi, and was heralded by telegraph at Minnesota some two days before it reached Washington. At Buffalo it was some hours in advance of Boston, and was felt last on the Atlantic Ocean, where it appears to have disappeared. This cold wave also swept South in a most remarkable manner, and progressively appeared in Florida and other Southern States, and Mexico; and the last pulsations, as it died away in this direction, were experienced in Central America, and among the West India Islands. Taken all in all, it was a most remarkable meteorological phenomenon.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—Eusha Brown, a man of about 60 years of age, of Pittsford, Vt., was killed at the railroad station in Providence, Friday morning, by the train on the Hartford & Providence road while it backing in. He was the father of the Cashier of the State bank of Providence.

THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.—We draw the attention of our farming and horticultural readers to the advertisement in our columns of "The Country Gentleman," published by LUTHER TUCKER & SON, of Albany, N. Y. Some days ago, in noticing the merits of the "Cultivator" published by them, we spoke also of the superior excellencies of "The Country Gentleman. With the beginning of the year, Messrs. Tucker & Son bring out "The Country Gentleman" in a new style and with a considerable enlargement of its reading matter. It is conducted with an ability and liberality which must be appreciated by all their patrons.

MASONIC.

At the session of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, at Burlington, January 11th, 1860, the following resolution was passed by a unanimous vote.

Resolved, That the hearty thanks of this Grand Lodge are tendered to the following named Railroads for passing the members of the Grand Lodge over said roads for fare one way, viz:

Rutland & Burlington, Vermont Central, Vermont & Canada, Passumpsic, Rutland & Washington, Western Vermont and Sullivan, and that this resolution be published in the papers of this town.

Attest JOHN B. HOLLENBACK,
Grand Secretary.

KILLED.—Thomas Waters, of this place, brakeman on the Rutland road, was killed Thursday, being knocked from the train while entering the covered bridge at Salisbury. Part, if not all the train, passed over his body, mangling it horribly. The remains were brought up on the 6 P. M., train yesterday.

Waters was a steady and industrious man, aged nearly 40. He le