

THE SMOKY HILL AND REPUBLICAN UNION.

"WE JOIN OURSELVES TO NO PARTY THAT DOES NOT CARRY THE FLAG, AND KEEP STEP TO THE MUSIC OF THE UNION."

Volume III.

JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1864.

Number 50.

Smoky Hill and Repub'n Union.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING AT
JUNCTION, DAVIS CO., KANSAS.

WM. S. BLAKELY, GEO. W. MARTIN,
Editors and Publishers.

OFFICE IN LAND OFFICE BUILDING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
One copy, one year, \$2.00
Ten copies, one year, 15.00
* Payment required in all cases in advance.
All papers discontinued at the expiration of the
time for which payment is received.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING:
One square, first insertion, \$1.00
Each subsequent insertion, 50
Ten lines or less being a square.
Yearly advertisements inserted on liberal terms.

JOB WORK

Done with dispatch, and in the latest style of
the art.
* Payment required for all Job Work on
delivery.

WHERE PETROLEUM COMES FROM.

THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH SCIENTIFICALLY
OVERHAULED—VARIOUS USES OF PETROLEUM.

The subject of explaining the phenomena
of the production of petroleum has attracted
the attention of scientific and practical men
ever since its discovery and adaptation to
the uses of society. Several theories have
been advanced, but the most reasonable
which we have remarked, and which has
been fortified by personal investigation in
the oil region of Pennsylvania, may be as-
certained from the following summary of
the views of the most enlightened investi-
gators in the mysteries of this wonderful
production of the earth:

It seems certain that the principal sup-
plies of petroleum are not diffused between
the planes of stratification, but are collected
in cavities more or less sunken in the strata,
whence it is less liable to be carried away
by running water. It is common to find
large quantities in places where there are
marks of disturbance and displacement of
the rocks, and those who have professionally
"prospected for oil" nearly always select
such spots for sinking shafts or wells.
These cavities are not unusually of great
horizontal extent. It is seldom that two
neighboring wells strike oil at the same
depth, whether the strata be horizontal or
dipping. It is one chance out of many to
strike oil at all, even in neighborhoods
where it exists in abundance—except in
certain localities in the Oil Creek region,
where the average chances of striking oil
are superior to those of other districts, with
the exception, possibly, of some of the
newly discovered districts in Western Vir-
ginia. But there are facts connected with
oil wells, particularly their intermittent
action and their interference with one an-
other, which serve to show the existence in
many cases of systems of these cavities con-
nected together by channels of communica-
tion, more or less free, running sometimes
along the strata and sometimes across them.
On Oil Creek the greatest quantities are
found in the same horizontal stratum of
sandstones. It would seem that this rock
is very porous, and perforated like a honey
comb with numerous cells and fissures con-
taining petroleum. The history of many
of the wells is as follows: When oil is
entered the gas begins to raise it up over
the top of the boring, increasing gradually
in force until it projects it in the air, often
to a height of from thirty to forty feet,
then alternately diminishing and increasing
gradually in force at regular intervals, but
without any cessation in the flow for a long
time. These variations in the force of the
gas—the "breathing of the earth," as they
are termed—are to be explained on the
principle of supposing that, as the tension
of the gas is relaxed by the removal of the
oil, the gas and oil from other cavities
around rush in through the pores and slight
fissures till a certain maximum tension is
reached, and the influx ceases, then, by the
expansion of the gas already in the cham-
ber, the oil continues to come up, but with
a diminishing flow, until a relative vacuum
is again created; after which the influx is
renewed and gradually increases as at the
beginning. These regular alterations vary
in different wells from two to three times a
day to as many times an hour; the inter-
vals, however, gradually increasing in length
as the supply of oil is diminished, unless,
as sometimes happens, new communications
are forced, and the wells deriving new
supplies, start off again with a new period.
It is no uncommon thing for intermittent
wells to throw out at first three or four
hundred barrels a day, or to yield in all
as much as twenty thousand barrels. The
activity of some wells is increased by rains;
others, with less gas, are rendered unpro-
ductive until the water can be reduced.
There is no reason to suppose, according to
the theory of Professor Evans, of Marietta
College, that this oil is raised to the sur-
face by the direct pressure of a stream of
water whose head is higher than the issue,
as the jets of Artesian wells are said to be
produced. In spouting wells the presence
of gas, as the immediate agent, becomes
known not only from their variable action,
but also from the actual escapes of gas, and
consequent cessation of flow wherever the
oil is reduced to a certain level. If collec-
tions of oil had direct and free connection
with strong currents of water, the mechan-
ical agency of these currents would break
them away rapidly. The "show of oil"

increases in value as a sign with the depth
at which it is found. Especially is the
finding of large quantities of imprisoned
gas, though oil may be present, regard-
ed as a good indication that oil is near.
A learned writer on the subject is inclined
to attribute petroleum and its associated
hydrogenous gases to a fermentation and
distillation by subterranean heat of the
hydrocarbon elements resident in all the
carbonaceous strata underlying the rock oil
region. Moreover, he is inclined to assign
the oil and gas to the lower deposits almost
exclusively, for these reasons:—First, that
they come forth, and very abundantly, in
large districts, far remote from any tracts
of the coal formation, and where those
inferior rocks are the only carbonaceous
ones which underlie the surface. Secondly,
that a like discharge of petroleum and com-
bustible gases occurs in some of the other
coal fields of the earth, even where their
coal beds are notoriously bituminous and
dangerously full of fire-damp. Thirdly,
there are some differences, so the chemists
inform us, between these native hydrogen-
ous products, and the genuine coal oil and
its resultants, procured by artificial methods
of separation. From this it is inferred that
the greater portion of the oil and gas is
really derived from the marine animal car-
bonaceous shales, and not from the vegeta-
ble beds of coal and their coaly rocks. The
process of the extrication of the petroleum
from the lower strata, and its accumulation
in the pores, crevices, and joints of the
upper ones, is believed by the same learned
authority to be simply this: That during
the epoch, or the perhaps successive epochs,
of the uplifting of all these water-buried
and water-side sedimentary strata, earth-
quake pulsations and other undulations of
the crust formed and fixed the flexures in
the strata as described, and that during the
earthquake oscillations, and even after their
cessation, a copious amount of the highly
heated subterranean steam, the constant
attendants upon earthquakes, heated the
strained and ruptured rocky beds, dislodged
their more volatile constituents, and carried
or distilled these latter, one portion into the
atmosphere and the residuary part into the
interstices of the overlying cooler and less
fractured strata. Upon this hypothesis we
see how in those belts of the Alleghanies,
where the crust was most convulsed and
the rocks were most contorted and highly
heated, the coal beds were actually coked
into dense anthracite, and how further, from
the lines of maximum, subterranean pul-
sation and steaming of the rocks, the volatile
matters below the surface were progressively
less expelled, till entering the petroleum
districts the crust movements and warming
were so moderate that they only sufficed to
displace the tarry and gaseous matters from
the underlying beds, to leave them at least
in part, in the cavities and cells and frac-
tures of the overstrating strata.

HOW THEY LIVE IN NEW YORK.

How do the mass of the inhabitants live?
Let facts and figures show. Three-quarters
of a million live in tenement houses. Of
116,000 families in the city, only 16,000
have an independent home by themselves.
14,362 families live two in a house, 4,416
live three in a house. In the 11,964 houses
not included above, 71,388 families live,
or rather stay; seven families, of thirty-
five souls, in each house. This is the
average; while in the Eleventh Ward,
113 rear houses, or the back ends of lots
reaching through alleys, contain 1,653 fam-
ilies, 170 to a house. Others have eighty
and some ninety-five persons living in them.
In one ward twenty-nine houses hold 5,499
souls—187 persons in a single house. In
one house there are 112 families. In an-
other house there are 500 low Irish and
German persons huddled together. Tacked
into a single block, are in some cases peo-
ple enough to make a city the size of Utica,
New York. To call these barracks by the
name of houses has been well-described as
follows: "A structure of rough brick,
standing upon a lot twenty-five by one
hundred feet, from four to six stories high,
and so divided internally as to contain four
families on each floor—each family eating,
drinking, sleeping, cooking, washing and
fighting in a room eight feet by ten; un-
less, indeed, the family renting these two
rooms takes for another family to board, or
sub-lets one room to one or even two other
families." Of course, most of the rooms
are so dark you can scarcely see in them of
a cloudy day; and as to ventilation, water
and other closets, or any of the comforts
and conveniences of a home, they are not
to be thought of. Stench, indecency, gloom,
demoralization—these are the attendants.
Is it strange that children and adults cannot
live while crowded into such places? And
is it strange that vice and brutality rage
rampant?

THE RATES AND RULING IN NEW YORK.

So extensive has the business become in
New York that a regular petroleum board
has been established at the Merchants' Ex-
change and news room, which is attended
daily by from four to five hundred dealers.
The number of companies is increasing, the
old ones are commanding more attention,
new oil territory is being brought into the
market, and science is bringing its powerful
aid to produce from petroleum many new
and important articles, all of which are cal-
culated to have a beneficial effect upon man-
kind all over the world.

NEW USES FOR PETROLEUM.

The subject of the expense of fuel for the
use of ocean steamers has been an all-im-
portant one whenever a line of trans-Atlan-
tic steamers has been proposed. We learn
that an ingenious mechanic of Meadville,
Penn., is engaged in experimenting upon a
plan to produce from naphtha, or the residu-
um of petroleum, an article of fuel that will
be used, at an immensely reduced cost from
coal, for generating steam on board steam-
ships traversing the ocean. The experiment
is being practically tested at the Downer
refinery, in Corry, Penn., where it was
giving much satisfaction, producing a heat
as powerful and regular as any ever pro-
duced from either bituminous or subterran-
eous coal. It must be remembered that this
article is produced from what was at first
rejected as the debris or useless residuum

A PRAYER IN THE BUTTERNUT CHURCH.

Lord! we beseech of thee, if thou art
not an Abolitionist, to save our country,
if thou canst do it constitutionally and
without freeing the niggers or giving unto
Old Abe Lincoln any of the glory. But,
oh Lord, if thou art an Abolitionist, and
had any hand in the freeing of Egyptian
slaves and drowning their oppressors in the
Red Sea, thou art not our God; for be it
known unto thee, oh Lord, that we have
established a new Church and will also set
up a new submit to the dictum of one who
set all the Egyptian niggers free and killed
their masters, because they are Democrats,
or Butternuts, as the Abolitionists call them.
And, oh Lord, if thou art an Abolitionist,
and in favor of freeing the niggers, please
make it known unto us, that we may at our
next church meeting at Columbus, appoint
a new Lord, and take immediate action in
regard to a new *Heaven*, for we have re-
solved nor to serve an Abolition God,
neither will we occupy the same heaven
with the Abolitionists and niggers. We
pray thee, oh Lord, to inform us if thou
art in favor of free speech, free press, free
whisky, free acting, free everything but
free niggers, and if thou wilt admit niggers
into thy heaven, that we may consider the
matter at our next meeting, and then and
there determine whether it would not be
prudent to cast thee aside, and appoint in
thy room and stead, our worthy brother,
E. B. Olds, Esq., as thy successor, for we
wish thee to understand most distinctly and
emphatically, oh Lord, that we will have no
God to rule over us who is not in favor of
everything except niggers.

Oh Lord, if thou art not an Abolitionist,
we will continue our supplications unto
thee, but if thou art an Abolitionist, and
say it is wrong to keep the niggers in bond-
age and admit them into thy heaven, we
utterly repudiate thee and thy church, and
will establish for ourselves a new church,
a new religion and a new heaven. Oh Lord,
we desire a pure church, and holy people—
people who have no more regard for the
nigger than for a dumb brute. We don't
believe they have any souls, and if they
have, a nigger's soul is not worth saving.
Oh God, protect and defend slavery—give
us peace, but don't let the Abolitionists
interfere with slavery. In mercy, oh
Lord, restore the Democratic party to power,
and every infernal cuss of a nigger to his
master. Lord, don't let the niggers come
North, lest they become our equals; and
in much mercy don't abolish slavery, lest
they become our superiors.

GORILLAS—THEIR FEROCITY.

The most interesting part of Mr. Du
Chailu's lecture, recently delivered in New
York was his description of the Gorilla and
other members of the Ape family. The
Gorilla is the largest and most formidable
beast in that region, being from five to six
feet two inches high when standing erect.
His strength is so great that he can tear
down trees, the sap of which he eats. He
does not kill men for food, but when at-
tacked he is fearful, and with a single blow
of one hand will eviscerate a man in an
instant. The speaker exhibited the skele-
ton of a Gorilla, and pointed out those
features of the anatomy by which he is
indisputably distinguished from the human
family, and he showed that it is impossi-
ble for the race of apes to produce a man, or
for men to degenerate into apes; a very
comfortable conclusion certainly.

A TIGER FRIGHTENED BY A MOUSE.

A traveler gives the following anecdote
of a tiger kept at the Residency at Calcutta:
But what annoyed him far more than our
poking him with a stick, or tantalizing him
with shins of beef or legs of mutton, was
introducing a mouse into his cage. No
fine lady ever exhibited more terror at the
sight of a spider than this magnificent royal
tiger betrayed on seeing a mouse. Our
mischievous plan was to tie the little animal
by a string to the end of a long pole and
thrust it close to the tiger's nose. The
moment he saw it he leaped to the opposite
side, and when the mouse was made to run
near him he jumped himself into a corner
and stood trembling and roaring in such an
ecstasy of fear, that we were always obliged
to desist in pity to the poor brute. Some-
times we insisted on his passing over where
the unconscious little mouse ran backwards
and forwards. For a long time, however,
we could not get him to move, till at length
by the help of a squid, we obliged him to
start; but instead of pacing leisurely across
his den, or of making a detour to avoid
the object of his alarm, he generally took a
kind of flying leap, so high as nearly to
bring his back in contact with the roof of
his cage.

HOW TO DO GOOD.

How to do good.—It has been said
"He who waits to do a great deal of good
at once will never do anything." Life is
made up of all things. It is but once in
an age that occasion is offered for doing a
great deed. True greatness consists in be-
ing great in little things. How are rail-
roads built? By one shovelful after an-
other, one shovelful full at a time. Thus
drops make the ocean. Hence we should
be willing to do a little good at a time, and
never wait to do a great deal at once. If
we would do much good in the world, we
must be willing to do good in little things.
Little acts one after another, speaking a
word here and a word there, and setting a
good example all the time.

THE WAY TO SELECT FLOUR.

First, look at the color; if it is white, with a yellow-
ish or straw-colored tint, buy it. If it
is very white, with a bluish cast, or with
white specks in it, refuse it. Second, exam-
ine its adhesiveness; wet and knead a little
of it between your fingers; if it works soft
and sticky, it is poor. Third, throw a
lump of the flour on a smooth surface; if
it falls like powder, it is bad. Fourth,
squeeze some of the flour in your hand; if
it retains the shape given by the pressure,
that, too, is a good sign. Flour that will
stand all these tests is safe to buy.
These modes are given by old flour deal-
ers, and they pertain to a matter that con-
cerns everybody—the staff of life.

DISCOVERY OF A PLOT TO RELEASE THE PRISONERS AT CAMP DOUGLAS AND BURN THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

A dispatch dated Chicago, November
7th, says:
Yesterday telegrams were received by
Hon. John Wentworth and others, announc-
ing the coming of large numbers of bush-
whackers. Colonel Sweet, commandant at
Camp Douglas, was communicated with,
and orders were at once issued for the ar-
rest of the desperadoes upon their arrival.
The fact leaked out and the faithful found
means to apprise their friends of what lay
in store for them, and the trains lost their
loads of cut throats at the city limits. The
bushwhackers scattered in various direc-
tions, and the military and police, by con-
stantly scouring the city, have picked up
hundreds of them. A propeller, with
nearly a hundred individuals, of hang-dog
look, arrived here this morning from Cana-
da. The military and police are after them
and all will be captured. Trinity Church
is full of these fellows, who have been
picked up, and are kept there under guard.

Col. Sweet, who for some time has been
aware of the existence of a rebel plot to
release the prisoners at Camp Douglas and
burn the city, discovered that the time had
arrived for action. His detectives had been
at work diligently and with success, and
though the evidence was not conclusive
enough to warrant the arrest of some hun-
dreds of the conspirators, who nevertheless
ought to be arrested and hanged, it was
deemed necessary to strike at once such
ones as were unquestionably treasonable,
arrest the rebel spies known to be lurking
about here, and seize the arms depot of one
of the branches of the Chicago Sons of
Liberty.

Calling Capt. John Nelson, of the police,
to his assistance, Col. Sweet secured the
ready co-operation of the city police. Capt.
Nelson was dispatched to the house of Dr.
Edwards, a Peace Democrat, residing at 70
Adams street, to arrest Col. Vincent Mar-
maduke, of the rebel service, and a brother
of General Marmaduke, who was known to
be harbored there. The rebel Colonel was
very indignant over the affair, as doubtless
was Dr. Edwards. While the above arrest
was being made, a detachment of military
and police proceeded to the Richmond
House and captured the rebel Colonel G.
St. Ledger Greenfield, Morgan's Adjutant
General, and J. S. Shanks, an escaped rebel
prisoner. These were marched to Camp
Douglas. Buckner S. Morris, a Kentucki-
an, a man noted for his hatred of the
North and unmistakable sympathy with the
South, was also arrested and is now con-
fined in Camp Douglas.

Col. Sweet possesses evidence implicating
Judge Morris as Treasurer of the Chicago
Sons of Liberty. In his dispatch to Gen.
Cook, this morning, Col. Sweet says: "I
have complete proof of his having assisted
Shanks, the rebel prisoner, to escape, and
of plotting the release of the prisoners
at this camp."

MATRIMONIAL.

The following advertisement is taken
from an Eastern exchange:
"I have lived solitary long enough—I
want somebody to talk to, to quarrel with,
then kiss and make up. Therefore, I am
open to proposals from young ladies and
fresh widows of more than average respect-
ability, tolerably tame in disposition and
hair of any color but red. As near as I
can judge of myself, I am not over eighty,
or under twenty-five years of age. In
height I am either five feet eight or eight
feet five; I am not sure which. Weight
135, 115 or 531, one of the three; recollect
each figure perfectly well, but as to
their arrangement am somewhat puzzled.
Have a whole suit of hair, dyed by nature
and free from dandruff. Eyes butternut
brindle, tinged with pea-green. Nose
blunt, according to the Ionic order of ar-
chitecture with a touch of Composite.—
Mouth between a catfish's and an alligator's
—made especially for oratory and the re-
ception of oysters. Ears plained, long
and elegantly shaped. My whiskers are a
combination of dog hair, moss and briar
brush—well behaved and fearfully luxuri-
ant. I am "sound" on the nigger ques-
tion. Wear boots No. G, when corns are
not troublesome, and write poetry by the
mile, with double rhyme on both edges—to
read backwards, crosswise and diagonally.
Can play the jewsharp, bass drum, and
whistle Yankee Doodle in Spanish. Am
very correct in my morals, and first-rate at
ten-pins; have a great regard for the Sab-
bath, and only drink when invited. Am a
domestic animal and perfectly docile when
towels are clean and shirt buttons all right.
If I possess a predominating virtue it is
that of forgiving every enemy whom I
deem it hazardous to attempt to handle. I
say my prayers every night, mosquitoes
permitting, and as to snoring in my sleep,
I want somebody to tell me. Money is no
object, as I was never troubled with any,
and never expect to be."

NO NATION IS BORN FOR EMPIRE.

No nation is born for empire—none
is organized for long life—none can make
history—none can ultimately escape Slavery
and live in the divine rights of Self-
government—save those that are endowed
with the grand old Roman instinct of never
submitting while disasters prevail, of never
making peace until the supremacy of right
and power is acknowledged. If the Amer-
ican nation shall halt or counter-march on
its victorious way to the re-establishment
of the Republic, complete, purified and in-
divisible, it will die—and die deservedly.

A LADY OF BERKSHIRE.

A lady of Berkshire, New York,
presented her husband with her twenty-first
child last week. The babies are all living,
but the father is almost caved in. He
wants a government contract.

THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH SCIENTIFICALLY OVERHAULED—VARIOUS USES OF PETROLEUM.

The subject of explaining the phenomena
of the production of petroleum has attracted
the attention of scientific and practical men
ever since its discovery and adaptation to
the uses of society. Several theories have
been advanced, but the most reasonable
which we have remarked, and which has
been fortified by personal investigation in
the oil region of Pennsylvania, may be as-
certained from the following summary of
the views of the most enlightened investi-
gators in the mysteries of this wonderful
production of the earth:

It seems certain that the principal sup-
plies of petroleum are not diffused between
the planes of stratification, but are collected
in cavities more or less sunken in the strata,
whence it is less liable to be carried away
by running water. It is common to find
large quantities in places where there are
marks of disturbance and displacement of
the rocks, and those who have professionally
"prospected for oil" nearly always select
such spots for sinking shafts or wells.
These cavities are not unusually of great
horizontal extent. It is seldom that two
neighboring wells strike oil at the same
depth, whether the strata be horizontal or
dipping. It is one chance out of many to
strike oil at all, even in neighborhoods
where it exists in abundance—except in
certain localities in the Oil Creek region,
where the average chances of striking oil
are superior to those of other districts, with
the exception, possibly, of some of the
newly discovered districts in Western Vir-
ginia. But there are facts connected with
oil wells, particularly their intermittent
action and their interference with one an-
other, which serve to show the existence in
many cases of systems of these cavities con-
nected together by channels of communica-
tion, more or less free, running sometimes
along the strata and sometimes across them.
On Oil Creek the greatest quantities are
found in the same horizontal stratum of
sandstones. It would seem that this rock
is very porous, and perforated like a honey
comb with numerous cells and fissures con-
taining petroleum. The history of many
of the wells is as follows: When oil is
entered the gas begins to raise it up over
the top of the boring, increasing gradually
in force until it projects it in the air, often
to a height of from thirty to forty feet,
then alternately diminishing and increasing
gradually in force at regular intervals, but
without any cessation in the flow for a long
time. These variations in the force of the
gas—the "breathing of the earth," as they
are termed—are to be explained on the
principle of supposing that, as the tension
of the gas is relaxed by the removal of the
oil, the gas and oil from other cavities
around rush in through the pores and slight
fissures till a certain maximum tension is
reached, and the influx ceases, then, by the
expansion of the gas already in the cham-
ber, the oil continues to come up, but with
a diminishing flow, until a relative vacuum
is again created; after which the influx is
renewed and gradually increases as at the
beginning. These regular alterations vary
in different wells from two to three times a
day to as many times an hour; the inter-
vals, however, gradually increasing in length
as the supply of oil is diminished, unless,
as sometimes happens, new communications
are forced, and the wells deriving new
supplies, start off again with a new period.
It is no uncommon thing for intermittent
wells to throw out at first three or four
hundred barrels a day, or to yield in all
as much as twenty thousand barrels. The
activity of some wells is increased by rains;
others, with less gas, are rendered unpro-
ductive until the water can be reduced.
There is no reason to suppose, according to
the theory of Professor Evans, of Marietta
College, that this oil is raised to the sur-
face by the direct pressure of a stream of
water whose head is higher than the issue,
as the jets of Artesian wells are said to be
produced. In spouting wells the presence
of gas, as the immediate agent, becomes
known not only from their variable action,
but also from the actual escapes of gas, and
consequent cessation of flow wherever the
oil is reduced to a certain level. If collec-
tions of oil had direct and free connection
with strong currents of water, the mechan-
ical agency of these currents would break
them away rapidly. The "show of oil"

HOW THEY LIVE IN NEW YORK.

How do the mass of the inhabitants live?
Let facts and figures show. Three-quarters
of a million live in tenement houses. Of
116,000 families in the city, only 16,000
have an independent home by themselves.
14,362 families live two in a house, 4,416
live three in a house. In the 11,964 houses
not included above, 71,388 families live,
or rather stay; seven families, of thirty-
five souls, in each house. This is the
average; while in the Eleventh Ward,
113 rear houses, or the back ends of lots
reaching through alleys, contain 1,653 fam-
ilies, 170 to a house. Others have eighty
and some ninety-five persons living in them.
In one ward twenty-nine houses hold 5,499
souls—187 persons in a single house. In
one house there are 112 families. In an-
other house there are 500 low Irish and
German persons huddled together. Tacked
into a single block, are in some cases peo-
ple enough to make a city the size of Utica,
New York. To call these barracks by the
name of houses has been well-described as
follows: "A structure of rough brick,
standing upon a lot twenty-five by one
hundred feet, from four to six stories high,
and so divided internally as to contain four
families on each floor—each family eating,
drinking, sleeping, cooking, washing and
fighting in a room eight feet by ten; un-
less, indeed, the family renting these two
rooms takes for another family to board, or
sub-lets one room to one or even two other
families." Of course, most of the rooms
are so dark you can scarcely see in them of
a cloudy day; and as to ventilation, water
and other closets, or any of the comforts
and conveniences of a home, they are not
to be thought of. Stench, indecency, gloom,
demoralization—these are the attendants.
Is it strange that children and adults cannot
live while crowded into such places? And
is it strange that vice and brutality rage
rampant?

THE RATES AND RULING IN NEW YORK.

So extensive has the business become in
New York that a regular petroleum board
has been established at the Merchants' Ex-
change and news room, which is attended
daily by from four to five hundred dealers.
The number of companies is increasing, the
old ones are commanding more attention,
new oil territory is being brought into the
market, and science is bringing its powerful
aid to produce from petroleum many new
and important articles, all of which are cal-
culated to have a beneficial effect upon man-
kind all over the world.

NEW USES FOR PETROLEUM.

The subject of the expense of fuel for the
use of ocean steamers has been an all-im-
portant one whenever a line of trans-Atlan-
tic steamers has been proposed. We learn
that an ingenious mechanic of Meadville,
Penn., is engaged in experimenting upon a
plan to produce from naphtha, or the residu-
um of petroleum, an article of fuel that will
be used, at an immensely reduced cost from
coal, for generating steam on board steam-
ships traversing the ocean. The experiment
is being practically tested at the Downer
refinery, in Corry, Penn., where it was
giving much satisfaction, producing a heat
as powerful and regular as any ever pro-
duced from either bituminous or subterran-
eous coal. It must be remembered that this
article is produced from what was at first
rejected as the debris or useless residuum

A PRAYER IN THE BUTTERNUT CHURCH.

Lord! we beseech of thee, if thou art
not an Abolitionist, to save our country,
if thou canst do it constitutionally and
without freeing the niggers or giving unto
Old Abe Lincoln any of the glory. But,
oh Lord, if thou art an Abolitionist, and
had any hand in the freeing of Egyptian
slaves and drowning their oppressors in the
Red Sea, thou art not our God; for be it
known unto thee, oh Lord, that we have
established a new Church and will also set
up a new submit to the dictum of one who
set all the Egyptian niggers free and killed
their masters, because they are Democrats,
or Butternuts, as the Abolitionists call them.
And, oh Lord, if thou art an Abolitionist,
and in favor of freeing the niggers, please
make it known unto us, that we may at our
next church meeting at Columbus, appoint
a new Lord, and take immediate action in
regard to a new *Heaven*, for we have re-
solved nor to serve an Abolition God,
neither will we occupy the same heaven
with the Abolitionists and niggers. We
pray thee, oh Lord, to inform us if thou
art in favor of free speech, free press, free
whisky, free acting, free everything but
free niggers, and if thou wilt admit niggers
into thy heaven, that we may consider the
matter at our next meeting, and then and
there determine whether it would not be
prudent to cast thee aside, and appoint in
thy room and stead, our worthy brother,
E. B. Olds, Esq., as thy successor, for we
wish thee to understand most distinctly and
emphatically, oh Lord, that we will have no
God to rule over us who is not in favor of
everything except niggers.

GORILLAS—THEIR FEROCITY.

The most interesting part of Mr. Du
Chailu's lecture, recently delivered in New
York was his description of the Gorilla and
other members of the Ape family. The
Gorilla is the largest and most formidable
beast in that region, being from five to six
feet two inches high when standing erect.
His strength is so great that he can tear
down trees, the sap of which he eats. He
does not kill men for food, but when at-
tacked he is fearful, and with a single blow
of one hand will eviscerate a man in an
instant. The speaker exhibited the skele-
ton of a Gorilla, and pointed out those
features of the anatomy by which he is
indisputably distinguished from the human
family, and he showed that it is impossi-
ble for the race of apes to produce a man, or
for men to degenerate into apes; a very
comfortable conclusion certainly.

A TIGER FRIGHTENED BY A MOUSE.

A traveler gives the following anecdote
of a tiger kept at the Residency at Calcutta:
But what annoyed him far more than our
poking him with a stick, or tantalizing him
with shins of beef or legs of mutton, was
introducing a mouse into his cage. No
fine lady ever exhibited more terror at the
sight of a spider than this magnificent royal
tiger betrayed on seeing a mouse. Our
mischievous plan was to tie the little animal
by a string to the end of a long pole and
thrust it close to the tiger's nose. The
moment he saw it he leaped to the opposite
side, and when the mouse was made to run
near him he jumped himself into a corner
and stood trembling and roaring in such an
ecstasy of fear, that we were always obliged
to desist in pity to the poor brute. Some-
times we insisted on his passing over where
the unconscious little mouse ran backwards
and forwards. For a long time, however,
we could not get him to move, till at length
by the help of a squid, we obliged him to
start; but instead of pacing leisurely across
his den, or of making a detour to avoid
the object of his alarm, he generally took a
kind of flying leap, so high as nearly to
bring his back in contact with the roof of
his cage.

HOW TO DO GOOD.

How to do good.—It has been said
"He who waits to do a great deal of good
at once will never do anything." Life is
made up of all things. It is but once in
an age that occasion is offered for doing a
great deed. True greatness consists in be-
ing great in little things. How are rail-
roads built? By one shovelful after an-
other, one shovelful full at a time. Thus
drops make the ocean. Hence we should
be willing to do a little good at a time, and
never wait to do a great deal at once. If
we would do much good in the world, we
must be willing to do good in little things.
Little acts one after another, speaking a
word here and a word there, and setting a
good example all the time.

THE WAY TO SELECT FLOUR.

First, look at the color; if it is white, with a yellow-
ish or straw-colored tint, buy it. If it
is very white, with a bluish cast, or with
white specks in it, refuse it. Second, exam-
ine its adhesiveness; wet and knead a little
of it between your fingers; if it works soft
and sticky, it is poor. Third, throw a
lump of the flour on a smooth surface; if
it falls like powder, it is bad. Fourth,
squeeze some of the flour in your hand; if
it retains the shape given by the pressure,
that, too, is a good sign. Flour that will
stand all these tests is safe to buy.
These modes are given by old flour deal-
ers, and they pertain to a matter that con-
cerns everybody—the staff of life.

DISCOVERY OF A PLOT TO RELEASE THE PRISONERS AT CAMP DOUGLAS AND BURN THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

A dispatch dated Chicago, November
7th, says:
Yesterday telegrams were received by
Hon. John Wentworth and others, announc-
ing the coming of large numbers of bush-
whackers. Colonel Sweet, commandant at
Camp Douglas, was communicated with,
and orders were at once issued for the ar-
rest of the desperadoes upon their arrival.
The fact leaked out and the