

THE AVANT COURIER.

Enchantment
The sea we see on the ocean
As white as white, can be
But one in the harbor
As white as the sails at sea.
And the clouds that crown the mountain
With purple and gold delight;
Turn to cold, gray mist and vapor
Ere ever we reach the height.
The mountains were crowns of glory
Only when seen from afar;
And the sails lose all their whiteness
Inside of the harbor bar.
Stately and fair is the vessel
That comes not near our beach;
Stately and grand the mountain
Whose height we may never reach.
Oh, distance, thou dear enchantment,
Still hold in thy magic veil;
The glory of far off mountains,
The gleam of the far off sail.
Hide in thy robes of splendor,
Oh, mountain cold and gray,
Oh, sail, in thy snowy whiteness,
Come not into port, I pray.

Failure of Daniel Drew.
Daniel Drew, or "Uncle Daniel," as the boys on Wall street call him, who has been wont to fleece the brokers with his left hand while his right bestowed magnificent endowments upon theological schools and colleges, has at last been forced to the wall himself, and is a voluntary petitioner in bankruptcy with liabilities aggregating not far from \$1,500,000, and assets of stocks and lands which the old gentleman thinks will enable him to pay in full, though leaving him without a cent. His principal liabilities are as trustee for four grand children in the sum of \$750,000, which is secured by \$320,000 par value of stock of the People's line of steamers, \$70,000 market value of stocks and bonds, and a mortgage on the house at the southwest of Union square and 17th street. He is also liable as partner of King, Cox & Co., brokers, in the sum of about \$300,000, secured by mortgages on real estate.
Mr. Drew made most of his money, as he did his reputation as a stock operator, in 1866, when he devised and engineered the tremendous watering of the Erie stock to the tune of \$3,000,000, sending its market quotation down in one day from 95 to 50, and enabling him to meet the large "short" contracts which he had put out. From that time Mr. Drew had his series of successes and reverses like all Wall street operators. In the famous "Harlem corner" he was entrapped by Commodore Vanderbilt, and contributed, it is said, nearly half a million dollars to his great rival's wealth. But his heaviest loss and from which he dates his present collapse, occurred two years ago, in the famous "North-western corner," which cost him, it is said, \$1,000,000. He also made heavy losses on Toledo and Nebraska, Southern and Quicksilver mining stock, and has been obliged lately to bear the losses of King, Cox & Co., with whom he was a general partner.

The Interesting Sight in Congress.
[Washington Cor. Cleveland Plaindealer.]
One of the most interesting phases of Congressional sight-seeing, occurs when little children come in on the floor of the House, to visit their dignified papas. Half frightened and shy, the little mites are led by the door keeper. They scarcely look up till the dear, face is in sight; then with a bound and a laugh, whose gladness is fully answered by the father's smile, the child nestles closely in papa's chair, as it were a throne, and papa looks so proud of his darling, that all the gentlemen about him catch the pleasure. There's Keegan, of Texas, a great, burly, ponderous fellow, looking as if nothing could ever move him; smiles are so rare on that sober face that when they do come they don't seem at home one bit; but his little boy comes in, climbs all over him, takes all sorts of liberties with books and papers, and the grim face relaxes, the busy brain stops considering party problems, and the father plays with his child as if Congress were of no possible consequence. Once in a great while a little girl strays in, making a bit of brightness among the black coats on the floor. I don't believe children were ever that pretty before as they are now, and when one of these darlings in her picturesque dress does appear, every man with any little ones at home, claims a bit of the child's attention.

Do Potatoes Mix in the Hills.
There has been much reasoning and argument on this subject, but not enough of clear and careful experiment. We have always believed that, while potatoes can not mix in the hill, by the proximity of the roots, they may and will mix while growing in the hill by cross-impregnation through the blossoms. How much of this will be visible in the potatoes the same year, has not been determined. The experiment is easily tried, and should not be confined to isolated plants, but to a hundred or a thousand hills, with two very distinct sorts in color, shape and quality, one-half of which should have the blossoms carefully cut off before they open, and the other half should have all the benefit of mixing. The experiment might be varied by cutting off the blossoms of one of the other, so as to ascertain which was the fertile and which the fertilized. Single instances, as related by our correspondent, do not prove much.—[Country Gentleman.]

The Silver Lining.
The family of a Berlin tradesman, who had formerly been prosperous but was then a bankrupt, were sitting sorrowfully around their open fireplace. The household had been nearly emptied of its furniture, to meet the executions of judgment creditors, and a promissory note for 600 marks was overdue. Suddenly the door bell rang, and the gentleman who had bid the note entered, followed by a servant carrying a large basket. The servant placed the basket on the table and quietly departed. The creditor pressed his debtor's hand, slipping into it at the same time a sealed envelope, and begging him to be patient for better times left the house. The basket was hurriedly opened, and a large assortment of delicacies, besides coffee, sugar, etc., was disclosed. The envelope contained the promissory note torn in half and a bank note for 100 marks. And joy reigned in the late disconsolate house.

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1876.
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