THE AVANT COURIER

TUESDAY, : : : NOV. 29, 1877

The Tramp.

A tramp looked in at the office door,
His nose—it was strangely red,
As if he'd been drinking and wanted more,
"Can you give me a lift?" he said.

"A lift!" said the merchant, "of course I can,"
As he lifted him several feet
With the toe of his boot—and that red-nosed man
Shot, howling, across the street.

The Perils of the Big Horn.

[Black Hills Miner, Nov 1.]

Mr. D. K. Snively, formerly of Custer and Battle Creek, who went to the Big Horn country last spring, has returned with a party of four men. His party started the 25th of April, going out by way of Central and Ft. Reno, striking the Big Horn mountains at Crazy Woman's river, which they followed up into the mountains. The party prospected as far west as the base of Cloud Peak, Crook's old camp, at which point they turned northward, crossing all the tributaries of the Tongue and Little Horn rivers to the Big Horn river. They stayed out over five months, and report that there is absolutely nothing to tempt the gold seekers anywhere in the country.

At the widest part of the Big Horn river the party saw five Sioux Indians, but did not exchange shots with them, the distance being too great.

They found a large number of relics of the same character as have been found in Lawrence county, old pumps, drain ditches and a deserted cabin or two. The party found a beautiful American horse which had been captured by Sitting Bull, and had afterwards got away. This animal, when taken by them into Ft. Custer, turned out to be better than any at the post.

They found colors in Goose creek, where the deserted cabins were, but nothing anywhere else.

The party consumed their provisions & had to go north to the River Crow agency, on the Rosebud river, for a fresh supply. The Big Horn was very high, and after turning their horses into the stream and starting them for the opposite side, the party constructed a raft, placed their blankets, guns and camp equipage on it and launching it into the swift current, made for the western shore. They were carried down by the current for miles, before they could make a landing. As the raft approached the shore Mr. Snively leaped off. His companions threw him a rope, which he made fast to a tree, but was forced to cut loose again to save their supplies, which were in great danger of being washed overboard. The raft turned back nearly to the opposite shore, then turned and made for the west bank, and finally grounded in a small chute.

They followed Clark's Fork up into the Shoshone mountains, prospecting all the smaller tributaries as well as the main stream, but found nothing. The party prospected the western slope of the Big Horn mountains on their return trip, finding nothing, as before.

At Fort Reno they were relieved of their horses by thieves, and made the rest of the way into Central city on foot. Mr. Snively, with his four companions, have fully decided to make Central city their home for the future, and will turn their attention to quartz mining in this immediate vicinity.

Advice that Should be Heeded.

In the pocket book of Hon. Stephen Allen, who was drowned when the Henry Clay was burned on the Hudson River several years since, was found a printed slip, apparently cut from a newspaper, of which the following is a copy. It is worthy to be engraved on every young man's mind:

Make few promises.
Always speak the truth.
Never speak evil of any one.
Keep good company or none.
Live up to your engagements.
Never play a game of chance.
Drink no kind of intoxicating liquors.
Good character is above all things else.
Keep your own secrets, if you have any.
Never borrow if you can possibly help it.
Make no haste to be rich if you would prosper.
When you speak to a person look him in the face.
Keep yourself innocent if you would be happy.
Do not marry until you are able to support a wife.
Ever live (misfortune excepted) within your income.
Save when you are young to spend when you are old.
Never run into debt unless you see a way to get out again.
Avoid temptation through fear you may not withstand it.
Small and steady gains give competency with a tranquil mind.
Good company and good conversation are the sinews of virtue.
Your character cannot be essentially injured except by your own acts.
If any one speak evil of you, let your life be such that no one will believe him.
When you go to bed think over what you have been doing during the day.
Never be idle: if your hands cannot be employed usefully, attend to the cultivation of your mind.
Read over the above maxims carefully and thoughtfully at least one time a week.

About our Presidents.

A correspondent of one of our secular exchanges has discovered the following facts relating to the Presidents of the United States:

Of the various Presidents there have been five whose names ended with the letters S-O-N.

Of the first five Presidents only one had a son, and this son also became a President.

The majority of the names of all the Presidents end in N.

Franklin Pierce was the Fourteenth President; his initials, F. P., show this very plainly; the reader will also note that there are fourteen letters in his name.

Hannibal Hamlin was Vice-President under Abraham Lincoln; the last three letters in Abraham and the first three in Lincoln, when joined, spell Hamlin.

The table below gives the names of four Presidents who were born at regular intervening periods of eight years, and who retired from office at the same regular periods:

	Born.	Retired.
John Adams	1735	1801
Thomas Jefferson	1743	1809
James Madison	1751	1817
James Monroe	1759	1825

In addition, John Quincy Adams was born in 1767, eight years after the birth of Monroe, but he served only four years.

—Louisa Chandler Moulton says that to be properly dressed in the streets of London, a woman must wear a tiny bonnet hanging upon a knot of her hair, an immense crinoline, heelless boots, a black lace shawl, and her front hair pasted down over her cheeks like a horse's blinders.

Our Boys and Girls.

A young mother, explaining christening to her 6-year-old boy, told him when he was christened he "would be one of God's little lambs." "And will I have hind legs and ba-a?" eagerly asked the boy.

On being asked what he thought fireflies were made for, a little boy answered, "think God made them for candles, to light the little frogs to bed."

Why did Solomon tell the sluggard to go to the ant? asked a teacher in the Sunday school. "Because he knew his aunt would have him at the wood pile or onion bed every afternoon as soon as school was out," was the ready response.

The Face Speaks.

"I didn't say a single word," said Annie Barton to her mother, who was reproving her for her unamiable temper.

"I know you didn't Annie; but your face talked."

What volumes our faces say! Some speak of love and kindness, some of anger and hatred, others of pride and rebellion, and others still of selfishness. We can't help our faces talking, but we can make them say pleasant things, and should try to have them do so.

Children, Read This.

"Don't write there," said one to a lad who was writing with a diamond-pin on a pane of glass in a window.

"Why not?" said he.

"Because you can't rub it out."

There are other things men should not do, because they cannot rub them out. A heart is aching for sympathy, and a cold heartless word is spoken. The impression may be more durable than that of a diamond upon a glass. The glass may be broken, but the impression upon the heart lasts forever.—*Kind Words.*

A Practical Lesson.

It was a very pertinent remark made by an attendant who was conducting a party over the dead letter office. He said it was a pity the school children of the land could not be permitted to look into the dead letter office in a body, to impress upon them the necessity of always directing letters in full to the name of the person addressed, the town, county and State, and signing the writer's name, with his address in the inside, instead of "Your affectionate Thomas," or "Susan." If this very useful suggestion could be tacked to the multiplication table, and drilled into the children with as much vigor, it would save a vast deal of annoyance and trouble in after life.

Man's Better-Half.

—For outside winter wrappings, for ladies' wear, black will be the favorite hue.

—There are three sisters living at the same house in Barbour county, Alabama, whose ages are, respectively, 92, 86, and 65.

—The best sewing machine in the world is about seventeen years old, and wears gaiter boots and a pocket to put her wages in.

—Why is a man ascending Vesuvius like a man trying to kiss a pretty girl? Because he wants to get at the crater's mouth.

—In the face of the fact that woman is the puzzle of the nineteenth century, few men ever think of giving her up.

—A young lady being asked by a politician which party she was most in favor of, replied that she preferred a wedding party.

—The masculine element predominates in the fashions for ladies' street costumes. Ladies now wear white vests and flat-folded scarfs like those worn by gentlemen.

—The latest imported buttons are of an enormous size, the largest being three inches in diameter. These come in fine Buffalo horn, polished and made in Paris, in French horn, and in silk crocheted.

—The painful perplexity and indecision of a young lady who has the ankle of a Venus but a foot like an ironing board, as she clutches her dress and steps on a muddy crossing, is the saddest thing we know of.

—Says an exchange: "The more a hat resembles a cart-wheel in size, a vegetable garden in decoration and a millinery establishment in general 'make up,' the more pleasing it will be to the average female wearer."

—Three daughters of a Kentuckian determined to be married, the other day, and as their father refused to approve their resolve, they all eloped with the men of their choice the same night. Only in Kentucky do they do things in this wholesome way.

—In the Globe Theatre, Boston, Clara Butler, the wife of Frank Frayne, while shooting at an apple in her husband's hand, took off the first two fingers of his left hand. Frayne took it so quietly that no one in the audience was enabled to perceive the accident that had taken place. The same afternoon the wounded man, after losing a great deal of blood, had the fingers amputated at the middle joint. It is curious that Mrs. Frayne says she had a presentiment all day that something bad was about to happen. She fainted when she found what she had done.

Post Office Drolleries.

The Portland (New Brunswick) *Transcript* collects the following. Almost any post office clerk of long experience could report equally amusing "humors of the mail service:"

The following dialogue took place at a country post-office in King's County, N. B.:

"I want a bill stamp."

"Of what denomination?"

"Hey?"

"I mean, do you want a one-cent, three-cent or six-cent stamp?"

"Oh, I want to put it on a note."

"Well, how big is your note?"

Customer impatiently, and measuring on his hand: "Oh, it's only a little one—about that wide."

Another customer wanted "two three-cent stamps," and earnestly inquired how much they were apiece.

A third party came in a hurry and wanted a "post-card." He brought an envelope to put it in, which he wanted the postmaster to address for him and put the card in it. The obliging official addressed the envelope, but finding it too small to contain the card, got another and put the card in that.

"And now," said the customer, producing a twenty-dollar note, "I'll pay you for it."

The postmaster objected to so large a bill, and said the postal-card was only one cent.

"But," said the customer, "I wanted a twenty dollar postal-card."

"Oh, it's a post-office money-order you want, isn't it?"

He said he "didn't know;" some said a post-order, and more said a post-card, and any way, one sounded as so much like both, that he couldn't tell 'tother from which."

Other People's Property.

It is not every man who is fit to take care of other people's property. And the man himself ought to know his own weaknesses, and refuse a trust that may tempt him to do wrong. But if he has become a trustee, the vow is on him, the load is on him and the danger is before him. Now let him look around him and see that the tempter is not allowed to enter into the secret chamber of his soul. The easiest of all slides into sin is the use of other people's money for the sake of doing a good thing with it. The trustee sees a chance to improve the property in his hands by taking a risk with it; or he would build up his own fortunes by the temporary use of the funds in his hands, promising himself that he will return them with large interest when he has gained his ends. Or he would do a friend a good turn by letting him have the use of the money just for a little while to get by a tight place. And then comes the slip up; the disappointment; the failure; the fall; the defalcation; the ruin. He meant well. His motives were good. He would have shrunk from stealing as he would from touching the plague; but he has taken another man's property without his consent, and he cannot restore. It is gone, irretrievably gone, and with it peace, confidence, honor, happiness, all gone; he is an unfaithful trustee, and goes down under a cloud.

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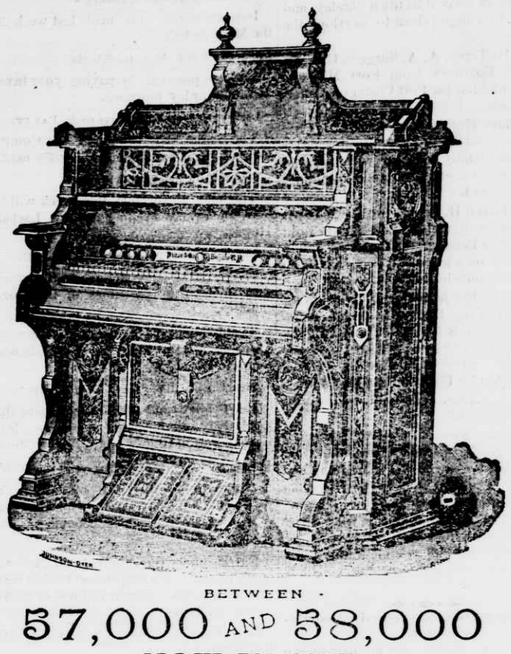

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