THE MORRISTOWN GAZETTE.

By JOHN E. HELMS. MORRISTOWN, TENN., WEDNESDAY APRIL, 5, 1882. VOL. XVI.--NO. 1

LODGES.

F. & A. M.—Morristown, No. 231—1st Thursday evening, 2 o'clock, every month, in their hall, at the Masonic Academy building.
DR. JOHN L. HOWELL, W. M.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.—3rd Thursday in every month. JOHN MURPHEY, H. P.

I. O. O. F.—Morristown No. 138—1st, 2nd and 5th Tuesdays of every month.
JOHN MURPHEY, N. G.

KNIGHTS OF HONOR.—Morristown, No. 972. Meets every Thursday of each week.
W. S. DICKSON, D.

I. O. G. T.—Morristown, No. 5. —Meets every Monday evening. D. P. ROWE, W. C. T.

KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN RULE.—Morristown, No. ——. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. S. W. SHIELDS, N. C.

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THE MORRISTOWN GAZETTE.

Subscription Price, $1 50,
Invariably in advance, otherwise $2.

Entered at the Post Office at Morristown, Tenn. as second class matter.]

A protest against the admission into the Union of Dakota until her record is purged of the repudiation with which it is charged in the matter of the Yankton county bonds, issued in aid of the railway in that county, upon which interest payments have ceased, was presented to the Senate on the 21st by Senator Hale.

Hon. Roscoe Conkling, it is now asserted, does not want any office within the gift of the people or the President at present. His plan is to make all the money he can by his law practice in the time intervening, and return to the United States Senate from New York at the election three years hence—provided, of course, that the stalwarts can then command the necessary strength.

The Clarksville *Tobacco Leaf* states it thus: The widow of the brave Custar, who died with his boots on, in the service of his country, gets a pension of $360 from the Government, while Grant, into whose capacious maw the Republican party has crowded the first fruits of the Government for twenty years, as a peace-offering, cries out, like Oliver Twist, for more, and is generlly voted a pension of $13,500. "Thus hath the cause of justice wheeled about."

James B. Christmas, indicted for the murder of William G. Whitney, in June last, was put on trial in the Criminal Court at Washington, last Wednesday. Both sides were ready. A jury was promptly procured, and after hearing the testimony and short addresses from the counsel, the Court directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty, on the ground of self-defense. This was done and Christmas was released. Whitney was the son of Mrs. Myra Clark Gaines, and Christmas is her son-in-law. Mrs. Gaines was in court as a witness for Christmas.

St. Nicholas, for April, opens with a charming frontispiece picture, illustrating a timely little poem by Mary Mapes Dodge, entitled "An April Girl." "Brigham, the Cave-dog," is an account of a clever animal that was lost in the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky, but found his way out after wandering for thirty-six hours among a maze of pitfalls and dark windings. Mrs. Abby Sargent Dias contributes "the Story of Wanpee Pah and the White Elephant," an illustrated sketch of Siamese life. "Lord Mahport of Moonshine Castle" is a bright comedy for children. The veracious legend of "Mr. Weathercock" is given by "Aunt Fanny" Barrow. Dr. Eggleston's serial, "The Hoosier School-boy," and the "Recollections of a drummer-boy," by Harry M. Kieffer, are brought to their conclusions, and "Donald and Dorothy" have a good thing in their "House Picnic." The illustrated "Northern Myth" stories are continued with the legend of "The Hoard of the Swarthy Elves."

It is said that President Arthur receives more dainty souvenirs than any unmarried clergyman in the land. His æsthetic blue bedroom at the Executive Mansion shows numberless hand-kerchief cases, glove boxes, pin cushions, scent-bags, wall pockets, clothes brush holders and the like, mostly labeled "Remembrance," "Token of Friendship" and "Forget-me-not," or bearing similar sugary titles.

THE TARIFF LOBBY AT WASHINGTON.

The manufacturers, according to a special under a recent date, have not been demonstrative at Washington this winter, but it must not be supposed, for that reason, that they have been indifferent to or neglectful of their interests. They have the great committees in the Senate and in the House of Representatives at their back, and, therefore, do not feel any degree of alarm at the prospect of adverse legislation. Some of the representative manufacturers, with an intelligent appreciation of advancing public sentiment, which demands thorough reform in the whole revenue system, profess a willingness for a revision of the present tariff, and are willing to make certain concessions, which, from their standpoint, might be considered liberal. These great corporations, however, are in no hurry to give up their present profits, nor to make unnecessary sacrifices. They will not surrender until the last hour. It is an open secret that they have kept agents on guard during the whole session of Congress, to urge the appointment of a commission on the tariff. Some of these agents have recently occupied conspicuous positions in public life, and advocated the policy they are now pressing as attorneys. The appointment of a commission of civilians, or of members of the two Houses mixed with experts, means substantially indefinite postponement of all tariff reform during the present Administration. No report would be made until the middle of January, 1883. In the remaining six weeks of the expiring Congress, any bill for a general revision would have no chance of being considered, with any desire to defeat it. There are free traders and protectionists in both parties, and they would be equally concerned in avoiding any positive issue before the nominating conventions in 1884. After the Presidential election the question would naturally be put off for the new Administration. So that no real legislation need be expected in regard to the tariff, if the Republicans in Congress want to prevent it. And their bills for commissions, and all the performances before the public, have in view but the single object of delay and of continuing the existing iniquities.

The most liberal men on earth! So said a lady about the publishers of the *Southern Musical Journal*, and she was about right. The gifts that they give to subscribers, would well befit a King. In 1874, they gave R. W. Jamison, of Macon, Ga., a splendid piano, and in 1878, another one to Mrs. Rowland; in 1880, another piano to the Savannah Masonic Fair. For Christmas, 1882, to Mrs. P. Molina, a $65 sewing machine, and on March 1st, to Mr. J. F. Gearon, a $22 baby organ. Now for April 1st, they will give away a $50 gold watch among subscribers only. One dollar secures the *Journal* for a whole year, and a ticket in the premium drawing. Send your dollar quick, and it will be in time. Address the publishers, Ludden & Bates, Savannah, Ga.

WOMEN.

Women are not only more religious than men, but they are more law-abiding and more morol in their conduct. Whether this is because they have greater fear of the law or a more instinctive sense of right will perhaps be questioned, but the results, whatever the motive, are loudly in their favor. Of the commitments to the Massachusetts State Prison last year only eighteen in one hundred persons were of women. This is really smaller than it appears, because there are many more women than men in Massachusetts. Offenses against person and property are rarely committed by women. Their chief offenses are unchastity, drunkenness and vagrancy; and these being their chief offenses, they are, as a matter of course, somewhat more frequent proportionally than the same offenses among men. In Massachusetts the proportion of females to the whole number of criminals is decreasing.

THE WEALTH OF THE ADAMS FAMILY.

Portland Press.

The Adams family are far from being poor in the world's goods. They live in Quincy, Mass., where are still pointed out in the traveler, hardly a quarter of a mile from each other, the houses in which President John Adams and John Quincy Adams were born. They are taxed upon their personal estate, and a large amount of valuable real estate in that town; but the Hon. Charles Francis Adams also pays tribute to the city of Boston upon $514,600 of real estate in that city, and he and his son, Charles Francis, Jr., together, upon $250,000 more. The wife of John Quincy Adams is taxed for $147,300 in Boston real estate, and John Quincy himself on $57,100 worth.

THE COMING GREAT COMET.

New York Sun.

If the comet that was discovered by a young astronomer in Albany a week ago fulfills half of the promises made for it, we may expect to behold, in May or June, a celestial spectacle such as has not been equalled since 1858 or 1811. This comet, although some 200,000,000 miles from its perihelion, which it will not reach for three months, shows a bright tail and a star-like nucleus. The inference is fair that the comet is a very large one, and that when it gets into our neighborhood it will present a magnificent appearance. Moreover, Prof. Chandler's figures show that the comet is plunging almost straight at the sun, which it will probably approach within 100,000 miles. The only other comets, in the long list of those bodies whose orbits have been calculated, which approached anything like as near to the sun as this are the comet of 370 B. C., the comet of 1668, the comet of 1680, often called Newton's comet, the comet of 1843, and the comet of 1880. The last named was observed only in South America and Australia and at the Cape of Good Hope. Concerning the comet of 370 B. C., of which frightful things are related, and which is said to have split in two, not much is known, but the measurements made in the other cases are generally to be depended upon. In fact, it was the nearness of the approach of the comet of 1680 which led Newton to anticipate possible peril to the earth from the fall of a great comet into the sun. This is not the popular view of the danger from comets, the fear usually being that they may may strike the earth, or produce pestilence by mingling the substance of their tails with our atmosphere. Of late, the other view has been made more conspicuous, especially since Mr. Proctor's recent article on what he calls the menacing comet of 1880, which he anticipates may return in 1897.

The appearance of this new comet on the heels of the discussion awakened by Mr. Proctor's suggestion gives the subject renewed interest, especially in view of the announcement that the coming comet is going so close to the sun. Unless the calculators have made a very great blunder it will pass through the corona, and, if large enough, may graze the luminous surface. It should be noticed that there is a discrepancy between the estimates of the perihelion distance made by Prof. Chandler of Harvard University and Prof. Boss of the Dudley Observatory, the latter making the distance considerable greater than that above given. Both agree, however, that the approach will be a close one. The question whether the earth may not at some time be in danger from a great comet is all the more interesting because men of science are not exactly in accord upon it. Mr. Proctor is not the only astronomer who thinks that if ever the world is to be destroyed with heat it will be when a great comet plunges into the sun. Even those who think Mr. Proctor is mistaken in his conclusions admit that, given a comet big enough and massive enough, undoubtedly its fall upon the sun would prove disastrous to the earth. But they say it would require a body having a mass something like that of Jupiter to produce such effects, and compared with Jupiter the most massive comets ever seen are mere pigmies. Besides, there seems good reason to belive that a comet would, on approaching close enough to the sun, be pulled to pieces and so drop piecemeal into the great orb, the fall being prolonged perhaps through many revolutions, so that the accession of heat caused by the conversion of the comet's motion would be distributed over a considerable period of time. Besides, as Prof. Young has pointed out, if a comet fell into the sun the increase of heat would be mainly used up in producing expansion of the sun's orb, and would afterward be radiated out again through a long space of years. Another very interesting objection has been raised to Mr. Proctor's theory, namely, that as three quarters of the surface which the earth presents to the sun is covered deep with water, such an increase of the sun's heat as the fall of a comet might produce would cause a great increase of evaporation, which would use up the extra heat, and so protect the earth from harm. According to this view we are reasonably safe so long as the oceans last and the sun does not get too hot.

Of course the reply may be made to these objections that, although no known comet is great enough to cause us harm by its downfall upon the earth, yet we do not know but that comets exist thousands of times more massive than any that human eyes have ever seen, and that such a comet may at some time pay us a visit. In fact, we have had a rather distant view of one comet that really seemed to belong to an order of magnitude different from that of ordinary comets—a sort of celestial whale among fishes. This was the famous comet of 1811, which had a head almost as big as the sun itself. But it kept far away, its perihelion distance being some ninety million of miles. If such a comet as that should rush upon the sun, Mr. Proctor thinks, it would soon show us what it could do. But his opponents say that even the downfall of the comet of 1811, although it might make the weather uncomfortably hot for us, would not "dissolve the elements with fervent heat." Those who may have a lingering suspicion of danger can take comfort in the fact that when this huge comet disappeared it was travelling on a track that must have carried it uncounted billions of miles away from the solar system, so that it is not likely to return in thousands of years, if ever. That the astronomers themselves are not much alarmed is shown by the fact that they are all very anxious to witness the promised spectacle of the downfall of a comet in 1897 or thereabouts.

Whether the coming comet's close approach to the sun will throw any light on this interesting question of course cannot be foretold, but all the present indications are that it will pay its respects to the ruler of the solar system with royal splendor, presenting perhaps such a scene as was witnessed when the great comet of 1264, which failed to return, as expected, in 1860, spanned the heavens with its [illegible] tail. In the meantime there is no occasion for anybody to be alarmed, but good reason for everybody to rejoice that we are likely to witness one of the grandest phenomena of the skies.

LARGEST CAVE ON EARTH.

THE NEWLY-FOUND KENTUCKY CAVE—ITS CATACOMBS, MUMMIES, AND MASONIC EMBLEMS.

Grayson Advocate.

The great cave lately discovered here has been visited by a multitude of people from various points of the United States. We think that Litchfield is destined to become the great "Mecca" of the world—for the Masonic fraternity, and scientists generally.

For the last two weeks no one has been admitted to the cave except upon presenting a written permit from Mr. Rogers, and those who have been fortunate enough to obtain admission have been principally scientists from abroad, who journeyed here to see the great wonder for themselves. It was necessary to take this step, as the cave was readily being dispoiled of its contents. Indeed, several of the mummies and some of the smaller Masonic emblems were carried off before Mr. Rogers—or, in fact, any of our citizens realized the importance of the discovery, and of preserving the contents of the cave in tact. The subterranean river has been so swollen from the excessive rains of the last month that no explorations have been made in the avenues beyond it. Excavations have been made, however, in the chambers or catacombs where the mummies and Masonic emblems were found, and in the vicinity of the pyramid, and several tablets, with queer hieroglyphics have been dug up, also some bronze and copper vases, and pieces of pottery. A mound was opened and found to contain six well preserved mummies, reposing in regular order with feet radiating from the centre.

In the discovery of this cave the key is undoubtedly found that will unlock the mystery of the prehistoric race of America, and also prove their identity with the ancient Egyptian race who undoubtedly crossed over and peopled this continent, built temples, and flourished in a high degree of civilization until wiped out of existence by the ruthless hand of the savage. The caves of Kentucky undoubtedly afforded them shelter and protection, and were used as a sort of catacomb for the storage of all that was near and dear to them, including their illustrious dead. Such at least seems to have been the case in this instance, whether this theory will apply to the other caves of Kentucky or not.

Many beautiful formations have been discovered during the last week. The stalactites and stalagmites glisten like so many million diamonds. The pillars and columns of alabaster are beautiful beyond description, and its wonders will have to be seen to be fully appreciated.

A New Orleans octoroon girl named Lydia Montrose is to be put forward conspicuously as a tragic actress. She is described as superlatively beautiful, with a deep, musical voice. She learns readily, and is being carefully drilled for a tour next season. Her wardrobe is to be something astonishing, and gorgeous street posters will herald her like a circus. Up to this time she has been a teacher in a negro school.

To Travelers.

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