Wyandot County Republican.

PIETRO CUNEO, Editor and Proprietor. Office in Cuneo's Building, over the Post Office. TERMS: $2.00 per Annum.

VOL. XXVII. UPPER SANDUSKY, OHIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1871. NO. 4.

Miscellany.

IN THE TUNNEL.

Rushes up from Bangor,
On the Pullman train,
From a six weeks' shooting
In the woods of Maine;
Quite extensive whiskers,
Beard, moustache as well,
Sat a "student feller,"
Tall, and fine, and swell.

Empty seat behind him,
No one at his side;
To a pleasant station
Now the train doth glide.
Elder aged couple
Take the hinder seat;
Enter gentle maiden,
Beautiful, petite.

Blushingly she falters:
"Is this seat engaged?"
(See the aged couple
Properly enraged).
Sinks in quite ecstatic
(See her ticket "through;")
Thinks of the long tunnel—
Knows what he will do.

So they sit and chatter,
While the cinders fly.
"Till that "student feller"
Gets one in his eye:
And the gentle maiden
Quickly turns about—
"May I, if you please, sir,
Try to get it out?"

Happy "student feller"
Feels a dainty touch;
Hears a gentle whisper—
"Does it hurt you much?"
Ding, dong! a moment
In the tunnel quite,
And a glorious darkness
Black as Erebus's night.

Out into the daylight
Darts the Pullman train;
Student's beaver ruffled
But its owner's vain;
Maiden's shame is vanished,
And there soon appeared
Cunning little cut-ring
Cash in student's beard.

—*Harvard Advocate.*

DONKEY JOHN—A STORY FOR YOUNG FOLKS.

BY LAURA SOUTHGATE.

"Come, Bernard, don't work any longer—supper is nearly ready."

Bernard looked up when his mother spoke; he knew by her pleasant smile she thought his day's work had made the little garden look very nice. Then Bernard went in to his supper of bread and milk. While he ate it he sat by the window, and wished he had two or three pairs of hands that he might keep the potato patch and the whole of the garden looking a great deal nicer yet.

Bernard was twelve years old, and the house, where he lived with his father and mother, was a very little brown house; they had hardly any money, for Mr. Barton, Bernard's father, was old and had the rheumatism a great deal of the time; he could not work at all, and then the mother—when Bernard thought of his mother, so pale, and so often sick, he would wish and wish that he was a man, so that he could do more work and take care of his father and mother.

Often up in his little room he would sit by the window and think about the nice house he should build when he was grown up, and how his mother should have a beautiful arm chair to sit in, and his father a horse and wagon, so that when he had the rheumatism he need never walk.

Now it happened this evening that I am telling you about, after Bernard had eaten his supper, he went up, as he often did, and sat by his little window; then he began thinking and wishing he could do something to help his father and mother. And there he sat until two or three stars came out and then pretty soon the moon shone out so bright and beautiful, that Bernard could see not only down into the little garden, where he had been hoeing the corn and potatoes all day, but he could see ever so far away.

While Bernard sat there in the cool, pleasant evening, he heard a strange sort of a noise coming from a little hollow place, where a brook went along. There were so many trees and bushes growing there that Bernard could not see what should make the noise, but that he heard something he was very sure. So pretty soon, after he had listened awhile longer, he thought he would go softly down the stairs so as not to wake his father or mother, and he would find out what could be down there among the bushes.

He ran along the road and over one or two fields, till he came to the place, and now he heard the noise very plainly, and he knew, too, pretty well, what it was that was there by the brook. But he pushed along through the small trees and through the bushes and then he climbed down a steep place, and there was just what he expected to find—a donkey, that belonged to Squire Preston, who lived over the hill.

The donkey didn't try to run away when he saw Bernard coming, and it was just as well he didn't try, for he couldn't move at all. A rope around his neck had got caught in a little tree, and it was twisted round and round, so that the donkey could move only a very little way, and I rather guess he didn't want to run away. Perhaps he thought Bernard would get the rope loose for him, and Bernard did, and then he started with the donkey to take him home to Squire Preston's.

But after he had gone a little way, Bernard thought that all the people at Squire Preston's might have gone to bed, and that he had better take the donkey home with him to keep till morning. So he turned back, and when he got home he put the donkey under a little shed near the cow. And then he said: "Now donkey, there is no kowing, perhaps you haven't had anything to eat all day." So Bernard got some hay for the donkey to eat, and some water for him to drink, and then he shut the door of the shed, and went in, and softly up the stairs to bed.

The first thing in the morning, Bernard showed the donkey to his father and mother, and then he gave some hay for his breakfast, and then he started off with him to Squire Preston's.

Bernard found the Squire, with his man Sam, very busy at work in the field, so he went up to him, leading the donkey by the rope.

"Oh, there he is, is he?" said Squire Preston, when he saw the donkey. "I thought he had gone off on a journey, traveling round somewhere."

"Well, John," he said to the donkey, "so you've come home, have you?"

John stood half asleep, winking and blinking, as though he didn't care whether he was at home or somewhere else.

"Is his name John?" asked Bernard.

"Yes," said Squire Preston, "his name is John. A Good Christian name, and it's all that is Christian about him, and seems to me you're Mr. Barton's boy, the other side of the hill, aint you?"

"Yes, sir," said Bernard, and then he told how he had found the donkey the night before down among the bushes. But while he was telling the Squire about it he put his hand on John's neck and patted him.

"Are you the boy that I see hoeing the corn and potatoes, when I go over that way sometimes?" asked Squire Preston.

Bernard said "Yes," that he was the only son his father had.

"Well," said Squire Preston, "that potato patch of yours looks pretty well. I guess now you are a pretty smart boy, and your father has the rheumatism and can't work much, can he?"

"Not very much," Bernard said.

"Well, now," said Squire Preston, "I tell you what, if you would like that donkey you may have him, I guess, as I've had about enough of him."

Bernard had begun to like John very much, and when Squire Preston told him he might have him for his own, I can't tell you how delighted he was. John stood all this time just the same, half asleep, but Bernard thanked Squire Preston over and over again, he was so pleased to have John.

And then he started to go home, and John trotted along, winking and blinking, as though it was all the same to him whether he lived with Squire Preston or with Bernard.

When they got home Bernard tied John under a tree, and then he went to tell his father and mother that Squire Preston had given him the donkey. His father said that if the donkey had learned to draw a cart, he could help Bernard about working in the potato patch.

Bernard hadn't thought of this, but now he began at once to think that he would make a cart and a harness for John; and out he ran, for he wanted to see John all the time; and he patted him and talked to him awhile, and then he untied him and started off with him up the road to show him to Angie.

Angie lived a little way off; she was nearly as old as Bernard, and she and Bernard were great friends.

Angie was delighted with John, just as Bernard thought she would be; she patted him, and put her arms round his neck, and she pulled his long ears, and then she laughed to see John wink and blink, and almost go to sleep. She played with him a long time, and then pretty soon she thought of the guinea-hens her father had bought the day before, and she told Bernard he must come to see them.

But as John couldn't very well get into the hen-house, and he wouldn't care much for the guinea-hens, Angie said they had better tie him up there while they went to see the hens.

So Bernard tied John to a stick that was in the ground, and went with Angie round to the hen-house.

The guinea-hens were so pretty—all so beautifully speckled—Bernard wanted to look at them for a long time, but he knew he ought to go home and work in his cornfield; so he and Angie went round the house to where they had left John.

But where was John? No John was there!

"Why, where is he?" said Bernard, and for a minute he did feel so troubled; he was afraid John had run away and he should never find him again.

"Oh, dear!" said Angie, "I wonder where he has gone to; dear, dear! But we'll hunt all around and we will find him."

"I think," said Bernard, "that it would be most like him to go to Squire Preston's; he don't know that he isn't going to live there any longer."

"Oh, yes," said Angie, "and let's go right away, may be we shall find him on the road."

So off they started, almost running down the lane that led to the road. They had not quite reached the gate, when Angie's brother called to her, from the little porch at the side of the house, to tell her not to go off without her sun-hat; so Bernard waited, and Angie came running back.

She remembered she had left her sun-hat on the piano in the parlor, so in she ran, for the door was wide open, and then—dear me! dear me! what was there? John, sure as the world, standing up in front of the mantel-piece.

For a minute I believe Angie was frightened to see a donkey in a parlor, but she ran to the door, and called Bernard, and he was surprised, sure enough.

John was soon marched out, and Bernard talked to him a great deal about minding his manners better in future, and Angie laughed very much, and said she should make her mother guess who the company was that had been in the parlor.

Then Bernard went home, but before he went to work, he got some branches of trees and made a little house of them for John, because he thought it would be cooler and John would like it better than staying all the time in the shed.

The next day Bernard saw Angie coming down the road, and she came running so fast he thought she was coming to tell him something. And so she was.

Angie came up all out of breath, and then she told Bernard there was going to be a pic-nic. All the Sunday School was going, and Bernard must go. And Angie thought, perhaps, if they could get a little cart, it would be nice to put the baskets and other things in, and have John draw it. "If only we could get the cart and then the harness too," said Angie.

Bernard said he had begun to make a cart, and he would work on it all he could, and go to the village and buy some wheels for it, and some leather to make a harness, and he was sure he could get it done before the pic-nic.

So Bernard worked away on the cart and the harness; for the harness maker in the village had given him some pieces of leather to make it of, and some pretty colored pieces, red and blue, for trimming.

Bernard worked away all the time he could spare, and the day before the pic-nic he got it all finished; the cart and the harness too, and in the afternoon Angie came down to see him try the harness on.

But such a time as they had! They brought John out and began to dress him up; but for all the harness was so pretty, John didn't seem at all delighted with it; he would seem to be half asleep, then all of a sudden he'd give a great jump, and they could hardly do anything with him. And Angie said: "I should think, John, with such long ears, you might hear what was told you, and learn to behave yourself."

"But, oh dear!" she said, "Bernard," suppose to-morrow, at the pic-nic, he should be jumping about, and act so bad?"

"Oh, no," said Bernard; "I'll lead him along right by his bridle all the way, so he'll have to go on good, and very soon I'll teach him so he won't think of acting bad at all."

The next morning, bright and early, Bernard put on his best clothes and then he dressed John out in the pretty new harness. You can't think how fine John did look in the harness, all trimmed with red and blue. And then the cart, all new and nice. Bernard meant to put in a seat so he could sit in the cart and drive, when he had taught John to go along nicely; but to-day he thought he had better lead him by the bridle.

When all was ready, Bernard led John to Angie's for the baskets, which were to go in the cart; he led him round by the kitchen, but Bernard saw by the open window that no one was in the kitchen, so he left John a moment while he ran into the parlor.

Angie was in the parlor, and she was all dressed in a white dress, with a blue ribbon around her waist, and her hair was curled and tied with a blue ribbon. But Bernard soon ran out to see to John; and where now was that mischievous John? His head was in the kitchen window, and he had bitten the wing off a chicken, and there he was chewing it up.

"Oh, John!" said Bernard, "here! here! what are you about?" And when Bernard looked in on the kitchen table, what else had John done?—there was an apple pie eaten almost up! "Oh, John, John, I'm ashamed of you!" said Bernard, and poor Bernard felt as though he could cry, he was so ashamed of John's behavior.

Then Angie came out, and she didn't know whether to laugh or to cry. "To think," said Bernard, "when I gave him so much breakfast he should act so;" and Bernard's face got very red, he felt so bad, but in a few minutes Angie's mother came out, and she said there was more than the baskets could hold, and it was no matter if Donkey John had helped himself to a little. And then Angie began to laugh and think it was very funny indeed.

And then she went and got a beautiful wreath which she had made to put on John's neck. It was all made of large, yellow marigolds, and looked like a great, golden chain.

At last they got the baskets and other things in the cart, and off they started. Bernard led John along, and Angie walked on the other side of him.

Such a bright, sunny morning!—how pleasant it was; and pretty soon they came to the place for the pic-nic. A good many of the children had already come, and the teachers and the minister and the minister's wife, too.

Then they took all the baskets and put them in a nice, shady place till it was time for dinner. And Bernard took John out from the cart, and tied him with a long rope, so that he could eat all the grass he wanted. All the children thought John looked so pretty with the wreath of flowers around his neck; and they patted him and played with him and pulled his ears, and talked to him for a long time.

Then what a good time the children had! First they ran about under the shady trees, and they picked flowers, and I don't know what they didn't do. They played games, and after a while, when they were tired, they all sat down on the grass, and one of the gentlemen told a story, a very funny story, about "A Merry Cobbler, and how he lost his shoe and found his fortune." The story was so funny that it made them all laugh very much.

After this the minister said "Now let's all sing some songs," and he took a book out of his pocket that had pretty songs in it, and they all began to sing; and they sang one song and then another, all together, the children and the ladies and the gentleman.

As for Donkey John, he seemed to be enjoying himself very much, eating the grass, and not much notice did he take of the funny story or the singing either. Quietly he kept walking along, nibbling the grass close by where they all sat, till all of a sudden, in the midst of one of the songs, if John didn't stick his head right over the minister's shoulder, and then such a noise! such a noise as he made was never heard before.

The minister jumped up, he was so startled, and then he laughed, and all the children laughed a great deal more than they had before; they couldn't sing any more, they laughed so much; so the minister laid the book down on the ground and said it was time for dinner.

Then they went to the place where the baskets were, and where a little brook ran along under the trees, and there they spread the table cloth on the grass. And then the dinner—all the nice biscuit and butter, and the pies and the cakes, and everybody was so hungry. The children all thought nothing ever tasted so good before; and then there were the apples and the nuts, which I had almost forgotten. One of the boys said he thought there was more fun in cracking the nuts than eating them, but the girls said they liked the eating part best. And all the time while they were so busy with the nuts some of the ladies and gentlemen told such funny stories—one about Mit Mitting made them all laugh till they cried.

But after awhile it began to be nearly time to go home, and then the children and the ladies went to get their hats, which they had left tied on the little trees. Donkey John was there eating the grass still. His eyes were half shut, and he looked as though he didn't care whether he came to a pic-nic or not; it was all the same to him. But he looked so good and so gentle, you would never have thought he did any mischief in his life.

Oh there now! What was that, the first thing Bernard saw? There lying on the grass was the minister's book, all chewed to pieces.

"Oh, John, John! What have you been doing? Oh, dear, dear! after all I've told you. Well, I ought to have known it. Such a bad beast as you are!"

And then Bernard told Angie just what John had done. "Oh, Angie," he said, "what shall we do?"

Angie felt very sorry about it, and tears would come in her eyes, and in Bernard's, too, they felt so ashamed to tell the minister. But Angie said it couldn't be helped, and she would ask her father, when he went to town, to buy another book just like it for the minister.

Now all the ladies and the children began to put on their things; but the minister's wife kept looking and looking all round, as though she had lost something.

"What are you looking for?" asked one of the ladies.

The minister's wife said she couldn't find her bonnet; she thought she had tied it to one of the trees; but she couldn't find it.

So then everybody began to look all about everywhere; every one but Bernard, he was busy putting John into the cart; but all the rest kept looking for the bonnet; and after they had been looking and looking, some one found it behind a bush; and there it was! all broken and mashed up, and chewed to a wisp.

Angie knew, the minute she saw it, that John had dragged it down off the tree and chewed it up. It was well he didn't eat it all up; perhaps it had some pins in it, which he didn't so much enjoy; but such a looking bonnet as it was!

Angie burst right out crying; but the minister's wife laughed, and held up the bonnet, and made everybody laugh, and Angie had to laugh, too. The minister's wife said *she* thought it was very funny, but it was time to go home, so she straightened out the bonnet and put it on.

And now the sun was going down, and they all started with the empty baskets to go down the road. On the way home, Bernard and Angie scolded John, that he had behaved so badly; but John trotted along, and didn't seem to care at all. "Just to think of it, John," said Bernard, "to eat up the minister's book, and the mistress's bonnet, and then to scare the minister besides. I don't know what I shall do to you."

After the pic-nic, Bernard worked part of the time every day in his little garden; but the summer was nearly over, and then after a time, the autumn came, and nothing would grow in the garden, and there would be no grass for John to eat. Every day he used to wish he could do something to get money to help his father and mother.

Well, one day a gentleman came to their little house, and he said: "Bernard, you have a donkey and a nice little cart, haven't you?" and Bernard said, "Yes, he had." "Well," said the gentleman, whose name was Alvord, "I want some boxes brought over from Brownville, two miles off, you know. You bring them for me in the cart, and I will pay you."

Bernard said he would, and that he should like to do errands for people, and earn a little money. So he harnessed up John and off they started for Brownville. Bernard sat in the cart on the seat which he had made, for he had begun to teach John to draw it and to go along as he ought.

And John behaved that day like the very best donkey in the world; he must have understood that they were on important business. But along the road he trotted and Bernard sat on the seat and held the reins, and John didn't once stop or jump until they came to Brownville. Then Bernard got the boxes and started for home. And as they came along the road Bernard met Squire Smith, and he stopped to tell the Squire that he was doing an errand with his cart and donkey for Mr. Alvord, and that he should like to do all the errands for people that he could. And Donkey John stood still while Bernard said this, but he held up his ears a little, as if he would say: "Yes, Bernard and I mean to do a great deal."

Then after Bernard had talked with Squire Smith a little while, and told him how his father had got the rheumatism again, they trotted along and pretty soon they met Squire Preston; he stopped to ask Bernard how he liked John. And Bernard showed the Squire the little cart he had made, and told him if he could do errands for any body, he should be glad, because he wanted to help his father and mother.

Squire Preston said that was right, and that come to think of it, next week he should want to send his hay cutter down to the Lake Village to have it mended, and that if he sent Sam with it he would forget to come home, just as he always did. So he told him to come the next Tuesday with the donkey and cart, and he would have the hay cutter all ready.

Bernard felt very much pleased as he started along again; and pretty soon he met the doctor; and the doctor stopped and he said: "Why, Bernard, you've got a fine cart there." And Bernard told the doctor that he made it himself, and that he had been to Brownville on an errand for Mr. Alvord.

"Now that's just the thing," said the doctor, and then he said he very often wanted some one to take parcels for him, and that he should remember and send for the little expressman.

Bernard went home feeling very much pleased; and when he took John out of the cart he patted him, and told him how well he had behaved. "And now John," he said, "I hope you will always be good after this, for you and I must do a great deal of work." And Bernard began to whistle, and John, I think, was happy, too; he went into his place in the shed and ate his supper as though he had a very good appetite.

While Bernard was eating his own supper, he told his father and mother all about his trip to Brownville. "And now, father," said he, "I mean to be an expressman. John and I are going on errands for people. Squire Preston says he thinks I shall do very well; that he shall want me next week to go to Lake Village. At first, you know, I shan't get very many errands to do, but after a while I guess I shall." And Bernard went to bed that night feeling very happy, and making a great many plans about what he meant to do.

One day he went to the store, and the storekeeper gave him some paint, and he painted his little cart; and he painted "Express" on each of the sides, because Bernard said he meant to be a real expressman. Then he pulled John's ears, and said: "Now, John, after this I shall be the expressman, and you are to be the expressman's donkey. So, remember, now, and none of your pranks any more."

And John seemed to know how important he and Bernard were getting to be; though after this, it is true, he would once in a while stop right still in the middle of the road, as though he was thinking of something, or else taking a nap, and he would stand still till he was pleased to go along. Sometimes he would all of a sudden give a great jump, when there was nothing at all to jump at; and once in a while he would be so silly as to stop right in the middle of the road and kick up his heels, and then everything would go flying out of the cart; but, as a general thing, John behaved pretty well.

After a little while Bernard had errands to do every day, and pretty soon he had so much business he could hardly attend to it all; he got so many nice things for his father and mother, and after a few years he had money enough to buy a nice house for them to live in; and he bought a beautiful chair for his mother and a horse and wagon for his father, just as he used to say he should.

They were all so happy; and everybody said that he and Angie were going to be married, and so it finally turned out. And Angie used to put her arms around John's neck and pat him and play with him; and she used to ask him if he remembered the first time when he came to see her and walked right into the parlor! but Donkey John stood winking and blinking as usual, and never answered her a single word.—*Rural New Yorker.*

About Insurance.

In the present unfortunate condition of insurance companies resulting from their unprecedented losses by the great fire in Chicago, by which a very large number throughout the country have become hopelessly insolvent, it is of the utmost importance to insurers that they take the earliest opportunity to protect themselves against further disastrous consequences. It must be understood at the outset that a policy of insurance is a contract of indemnity, only, against loss, and not a contract to pay absolutely the amount written in the policy—and, in case of several policies upon the same risk, each policy pays only that proportion of the loss which the amount written in it bears to the total amount insured. Thus: A insures his barn and its contents in four different companies by four different policies for $10,000, $2,500 in each. A fire occurs by which his barn and its contents are destroyed, with the exception of $8,000 worth of the property insured, which he is fortunate enough to save. His loss, supposing the property is insured for its full value, is $8,000. This is divided equally between the four companies, each paying $2,000. If two of the companies prove insolvent, A will secure $4,000 from the two solvent companies, and such proportion of the balance from the insolvent companies as they may be able to pay—say 10 per cent., or $400. His total insurance would thus produce for him only $4,400, while his loss is $8,000. And this result will be the same if, before the fire which destroys the property insured, two of these companies become insolvent by any means whatever.

It becomes, therefore, of great importance for the farmer to look well to his policies and see that none of them are written by companies no longer sound. If such are found, they should be handed in to the nearest agent of the company, and cancelled at once, without waiting to effect new insurance to take their place, since, as in the illustration we have given above, although a cancellation of the policies of the insolvent companies would reduce the insurance to $5,000, the loss would be divided between the solvent companies and paid in full, one-half by each, a gain to the insurer of $600 on the amount which could be obtained in case the insolved companies remained uncancelled. The insolvent companies are authorized upon the cancellation of policies, to pay to the holders the unearned premium, that is, a sum which bears the same proportion to the full premium paid that the unexpired term does to the full term. This is fair to all parties, since, if an outstanding policy in an insolvent company sustains a loss, the loss becomes a claim upon the funds of the company for its amount, a result which may be obviated by the small payment of the unearned premium as above stated.

In case the insolvent company refuses to pay the unearned premium upon the cancellation of its policies, the amount of it is nevertheless a claim against its assets and entitled to its proportionate dividend upon presentment and proof, as in case of a loss. Therefore, to avoid the possibility of danger that the insolvent policy may be called upon to contribute in case of loss as has been shown at the head of this article, and thus reduce good insurance, insurers should see to it that a new policy taken in place of a doubtful one contains a clause as follows:

"Any loss under this Policy shall be paid without reference to any existing Policy (or Policies) on same property in the ——— Insurance Company (or Companies.)"—*Prairie Farmer.*

England is excited on the subject of her favorite bivalve, oysters. The price charged for good ones is five times as great per bushel in 1871 as it was in 1861. The beds have been dredged to death, and cannot restock themselves. Formerly the price was from sixpence to one shilling per dozen; now it is from half a crown to three shillings—though there is a large, coarse oyster sold at fifteen pence per dozen.

—In a suit recently tried in Coldwater, Mich., Mary J. Miller, a girl of nineteen years, who was permanently injured by a railroad train on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway, recovered $5,500 damages.

General News Summary.

THE OLD WORLD.

A large number of sympathizers with the ex-Emperor Napoleon made a demonstration in Paris, on the 24th, in his honor. They traversed the Faubourg Saint Germain with shouts of *Vive Napoleon!* No attempt was made by the police to interfere with the demonstration.

The Emperor of Germany accepts the position of arbitrator between the United States and England on the question of the boundary of Vancouver's Island. Minister Bancroft will be invited to present to His Majesty on the 10th of December the memorandum in the matter.

A colliery explosion near Brainwich, England, on the 24th resulted in the killing of eight miners. By a similar accident near Haversford, twenty men were injured, but no one was killed outright.

A London dispatch of the 25th says the sudden and severe coldness of the weather had caused great distress among the poor within the city. Seventeen deaths had resulted immediately from the extreme cold since the ice first appeared.

A dispatch from Alexandria, Egypt, dated the 23d, says a terrible catastrophe had occurred in the harbor of that port, in consequence of a collision between two steamships carrying passengers and mails. The vessels met with great force, the shock and sinking resulting in the death of seventy-five Algerian pilgrims by drowning. The men were overburdened with gold, the weight of which rendered their efforts to swim unavailing, indeed impossible.

For the first time since the occupation of Rome the Italian Parliament met in that city on the 27th. The opening speech was delivered in person by King Victor Emmanuel.

John Jay, United States Minister to Austria, and Count Andrassy, Minister of Foreign Affairs, have signed an international convention between the United States and Austria, guaranteeing the inviolability of trade-marks in the two countries.

The Commune prisoners, Rossel, Ferre and Bourgeoise, were executed at Paris on the 28th. The behavior of the three men was most courageous. Ferre refused to allow the bandage to be placed over his eyes, declaring that he should look his executioners in the face. Rossel fell at the first discharge, and was instantly killed. The others were only severely wounded, and received a second volley from pistols.

The Chamber of Deputies of the Prussian Diet effected an organization on the 28th. Forkenbeel was elected President, and Roeller First Vice President.

A Constantinople dispatch of the 29th ult. says there had been a large increase in the number of cases of cholera during the previous three or four days.

General Sickles, United States Minister, was married at Madrid a few days ago, to a Miss Creigh. The couple left for Liverpool the day after the marriage.

A Bombay, India, telegram of the 1st says the cholera, in its worst form, was raging with great violence in the city of Delhi.

It was reported on the 1st that the small-pox, in a virulent form, was spreading in Plymouth, England, and vicinity. The authorities were building special hospitals for those stricken with disease, and had adopted stringent sanitary precautions.

The Earl of Chesterfield died in London on the 1st, of typhus fever. The condition of the Prince of Wales was reported to be improving.

The Belgian Ministers tendered their resignations on the 1st, at the request of the King. This had a tranquilizing effect upon the people. The formation of a new Cabinet was entrusted to M. de Theux, leader of the Conservative party.

A London dispatch of the 1st says: "The final settlement of the United States funded loan was made to-day, without disturbing the money market, bonds closing higher than ever before, the loan advancing to 90½ in gold, because the settlement was anticipated. The portion of the loan unsettled at the opening of the books to-day was only $20,000,000, and of this the taking of nearly $15,000,000 was arranged in London, leaving less than $6,000,000 undisposed of, with the Continent to hear from. There is no doubt that the whole of the loan in European markets is taken."

THE NEW WORLD.

Gold closed in New York on the 29th at 110½.

A Washington telegram of the 24th says: "The management of the Russian Legation passed to-day from Catacazy to General Gorloff, whose residence has been at Hartford as military attache of legation. This gentleman will be very acceptable to the executive authorities in his new position. This change relieves the President of the unpleasant duty which Catacazy's conduct had otherwise made a necessity, of sending his passport to the Minister, and may be regarded as a practical compliance with the request of this government for his recall."

The official returns from the Wisconsin State election give General Washburne, for Governor, a majority of 9,382.

Mrs. Catherine V. Waite made application to have her name registered as a legal voter at Hyde Park, Ill. The Board of Registry refused the application, whereupon Mrs. Waite has petitioned the Superior Court for an alternative writ of *mandamus* against the Board of Registry, to show cause why a peremptory writ should not be issued against them.

The Wyoming House, on the 17th, voted—9 to 3—in favor of repealing the bill granting the right of suffrage to women.

Complete returns of the vote for Governor in Maryland, nearly all being official, give the following results: For Jacob Tome, Republican 58,824; Wm. Pinckney Whyte, Democrat, 73,959. Democratic majority, 15,135.

The Grand Duke Alexis and suite, accompanied by Secretary Robeson, visited Annapolis, Md., on the 24th.

Mexican news of the 12th says the government troops, commanded by General Folentino, were entirely routed in Durango by the revolutionary forces, under command of General Guerra.

A Washington dispatch of the 25th says it had been ascertained from an official source that there was no truth in the statement that Minister Schenck would be recalled and Secretary Fish succeed him.

Ex-Comptroller Connolly, of New York, was arrested on the 25th on a charge of fraud. Bail to the amount of $1,000,000 was required. A new order of arrest for Ingersoll, Garvey and Woodward was issued on the 25th, by Judge Larned, at Albany, fixing their bail at $500,000 each and made returnable December 5, to the Bureau of Municipal correction, of which O'Conor is at the head. The New York *Times* of the 26th says Mayor Hall would shortly be arrested on a similar complaint to that under which his fellow conspirators were awaiting the course of justice.

By the official count only two Tammany Aldermen—Coman and Plunkett—are elected in New York city.

The next Wisconsin Legislature will be composed as follows: Senate—Republicans, 23; Democrats, 9; Independent, 1. The Assembly will contain: Republicans, 58; Democrats 36; Independents, 6.

Severe snow storms have been experienced in the Western Territories. According to a Salt Lake dispatch of the 26th, the loss of life by snow slides in the canons had been large. At Fort Shaw, Montana, the thermometer had marked 30° below zero. Two companies of the Seventh Infantry had been caught in a fearful snow storm, and several members had their feet badly frozen.

Reports received at Havana from all parts of Cuba state that the growing sugar cane is in an excellent condition, and that a large crop is expected everywhere for next year.

Ex-Senator Wade has declined the tender made to him by Secretary Fish, of President or umpire in the Boundary Commission between England and Liberia. Mr. Wade says his position as chief law officer of the Northern Pacific Railroad will not permit him to be long enough away for that business.

The following Internal Revenue appointments were made on the 28th: Eugene B. Moore, Gauger in the Ninth Illinois District; Joseph D. Keebaugh, Third Missouri, and J. S. Sage, Seventeenth Kentucky.

The Republicans of Boston have nominated Vinton T. Abbot for Mayor.

The New Hampshire Republican State Convention, to nominate candidates for Governor and Railroad Commissioner, is to be held in Concord on Wednesday, January 3.

There were ten new cases and four deaths from small-pox in New York city on the 27th. There were 153 deaths from this disease in Philadelphia during the week ending on the 25th, and ninety-two new cases were reported there on the 26th.

Up to a late hour on the afternoon of the 27th Connolly was still in the hands of the officer, having so far failed to furnish the requisite bail.

Complete official returns from the election in Illinois are as follows: Total vote, 253,363; Beveridge received 137,926; Hayes, 115,437; Beveridge's majority, 22,489.

A Charleston dispatch of the 27th says: "A committee of influential citizens, including Hon. J. D. Pope and ex-Governor Orr, publish the result of their examination of the Treasurer's debt statement, which they find correct. The committee report that the total debt of South Carolina is $11,995,306, exclusive of $6,000,000 owing in New York. The American Bank Note Company certify that they have in their possession $6,000,000 of funding bonds, and Governor Scott has instructed them to print no more bonds or stocks of any kind for this State."

Eight medical students were publicly shot at Havana on the 28th, for having demolished the grave of Gonzalo Costanon. They met their death with resignation, and expressed regret at having committed the act for which they died.

A dispatch from the City of Mexico, dated November 19, says a state of anarchy prevailed throughout the entire republic. The journals were filled with accounts of pronunciamentos, and the troops were growing revolutionary.

The thermometer at Quebec marked ten degrees below zero, on the morning of the 28th. The river St. Charles was frozen over.

A Washington dispatch of the 29th says the government had advices to the effect that the volunteers in Havana were commiting great excesses, and among other things threatening American citizens. The Secretary of the Navy had given such instructions as would afford proper protection in case the anticipated trouble arose.

An Eastport (Me.) dispatch of the 28th says the weather was the coldest there ever known in November. The thermometer was five degrees below zero.

A dispatch from Little Cottonwood, received at Salt Lake on the 28th, says the snow, on a level, was six feet deep. Residents of Alta City had to dig themselves out of their dwellings. Many of the houses were buried in the snow. The storm continued.

It was reported in Detroit on the 28th that the schooner William Sanderson had gone down, with all hands, on Lake Ontario.

Admiral Lee and fleet have been ordered to the Cuban waters. A Washington dispatch of the 29th ult. says "All arrangements necessary have been made to protect American citizens, with their property, in any emergency. The Spanish Minister is alarmed at the situation, and has telegraphed to t e authorities at Havana that our Government has instructed its representatives in Cuban waters to resent any attempt on the part of the volunteers to interfere with American interests."

The President has appointed C. W. Babcock Surveyor General of Kansas; General J. W. Vandervere, of Iowa, and N. Hilton, of St. Louis, United States Commissioners to examine and report upon the roads and telegraph lines of Kansas, and the Texas Railway Company, in the Indian Territory.

The Health Officer in New York reported, on the 29th ult., that the cholera had disappeared from the bay.

The ice was two inches thick throughout the whole section of the Erie Canal, on the 29th ult., at Boonville. The canal was frozen tight east of Utica. No boats were moving, and the weather was cold and freezing.

There were sixty deaths from small-pox in Cincinnati during the week ending November 25.

A disgraceful prize fight came off in the vicinity of New Orleans, on Thanksgiving Day, between the two professional bruisers—Mace and Coburn. Eleven rounds were fought, lasting four hours and ten minutes, with no definite result, the mill being pronounced a "draw."

The following is the recapitulation of the December statement of the public debt:

Debt bearing interest in coin	$1,854,498,800
Interest	36,951,930
Debt bearing interest in lawful money	58,168,000
Interest	1,314,700
Debt on which interest has ceased since maturity	1,269,227
Interest	251,346
Debt bearing no interest	422,686,977
Unclaimed interest	14,142
Total debt—	
Principal	$2,317,123,124
Interest	37,508,287
	$2,354,631,411
Cash in Treasury—	
Coin	$96,256,354
Currency	10,123,599
Debt, less cash in Treasury, Dec. 1, 1871	$2,228,251,809
Decrease during the month	3,402,090
Decrease since March 1, 1871	73,457,479
Decrease from March 1, 1869, to March 1, 1870	194,754,413
Bonds issued to Pacific Railway Companies, interest payable in lawful money, principal outstanding	64,618,832
Interest accrued and not yet paid	1,615,470
Interest paid by United States	12,692,455
Interest repaid by transportation of mails	3,317,907
Balance of interest paid by United States	9,374,567

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued an order to the Assistant Treasurer at New York calling in a million and a quarter of three per cent. certificates.

Internal receipts for November, $9,641,827; for the fiscal year to December 1, $57,298,981.

Ex-Comptroller Connolly, having failed in his efforts to furnish the requisite bail, was locked up in Ludlow Street Jail on the 29th. ult. He appeared much depressed in spirits, and looked, in fact, like a broken-hearted man.

It was stated on the 1st that three of Tweed's bondsmen had signified their intention of withdrawing their names from his bonds. If others were not secured he would share the fate of Connolly.

Information was received at Omaha on the 1st that Governor Campbell, of Wyoming Territory, had signed the bill repealing female suffrage.

Some time ago a resolution was introduced into the Georgia Legislature looking to payment for emancipated slaves. A resolution was passed on the 1st defeating and condemning the proposition, by an overwhelming majority. The proposed measure was censured as tending to evil.

Similes, Grotesque and Comical.

A grotesque simile is sometimes very expressive. We mention those of Daniel Webster, who likened the word "would," in Rufus Choate's handwriting, to a small gridiron struck by lightning; of a sailor who likened a gentleman whose face was covered with whiskers up to his very eyes, to a rat peeping out of a bunch of oakum; of a Western reporter, who, in a weather item on a cold day, said that the sun's rays in the effort to thaw the ice were as futile as the dull reflex of a painted yellow dog; of a conductor, who, in a discussion as to speed, said the last time he ran his engine from Syracuse, the telegraph poles on the side looked like a fine tooth-comb. Similes of a like character are often heard among the common people, and are supposed to be the peculiar properties of Western orators. Instances: As sharp as the little end of nothing; big as all outdoors; it strikes me like a thousand bricks; slick as grease or greased lightning; melancholy as a Quaker meeting by moonlight; flat as a flounder; quick as a wink; not enough to make gruel for a sick grasshopper; not clothes enough to wad a gun; as limp and limber as an India-rubber stove-pipe; uneasy as a cat in a strange garret; not strong enough to haul a codfish off a gridiron; after you, like a rat-terrier after a chipmunk squirrel; useless as whistling psalms to a dead horse; no more than a grasshopper wants an apron; don't make the difference of the shake of a frog's tail; soul bobbing up and down to the bosom like a crazy porpoise in a pond of red hot grease; enthusiasm boiled over like a bottle of ginger-pop; as impossible to penetrate his head as to bore through Mont Blanc with a boiled carrot; as impossible as to ladle the ocean dry with a clam-shell, or suck the Gulf of Mexico through a goose-quill; or to stuff butter into a wild cat with a hot awl; or for a shad to climb up a shad-pole with a fresh mackerel under each arm; or for a cat to run up a stove-pipe with a teazel tied to its tail; or for a man to lift himself over a fence by the straps of his boots. There is another class of similes scarcely as pertinent; as, for instance: straight as a ram's horn; it will melt in your mouth like a red-hot brickbat; talk to him like a Dutch uncle; smilling as a basket of chips; odd as Dick's hatband; happy as a clam at highwater; quicker than you can say Jack Robinson; like all possessed; like fury; like all natur'; like all sixty; as quick as any thing; mad as hops; mad as Halifax; sleep like a top; run like thunder; deader than a door-nail; getting along like two-forty on a plank-road.—*Appleton's Journal.*

Heroism of a Conductor.

A conductor on a freight and passenger train on the Syracuse & Binghamton Railroad performed a daring feat a few days since, by which a fearful catastrophe was averted. The train, consisting of twenty-four stock cars and one passenger car, which was filled with passengers, was between this station (Chenango Forks) and Whitney's Point, going at a tolerable rate of speed, when the engineer, Wm. Hardy, discovered a rail entirely out of the track some distance ahead. He immediately reversed his locomotive, but, upon second thought, determined to attempt to run the train over the place where the rail was missing, and at once turned on a full head of steam. The engineer and fireman, however, did not remain to see what success the experiment would meet with, but jumped off the engine, leaving it without any one to control it. The train bounded over the disconnected track at a fearful rate of speed, every car retaining its position on the track. The dangerous spot was passed, but, with no one upon the locomotive to control its speed, a most terrible fate awaited the train somewhere. The state of affairs became known to the passengers, and a panic was at once raised. At Whitney's Point there was every probability that the track would not be in readiness for the train, as at the rate it was going it would reach there some minutes before its time. In this extremity Conductor John Vrooman proved himself to be a hero. He was in the passenger