UNION COUNTY STAR AND LEWISBURG CHRONICLE.

BY O. N. WORDEN AND J. E. CORNELIUS.

At $1.50 per Year, always in Advance.

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Union County Star & Lewisburg Chronicle

AN INDEPENDENT FAMILY NEWSPAPER,

Issued Fridays, at Lewisburg, Union Co. Pa.

TERMS—$1.50 per year, if not paid in advance—and $1.00 in addition if not paid in six months, or $2 if not paid in nine months. Subscriptions to be for a full year, and no paper will be sent out of the county unless the money is paid in advance. Papers will be sent to subscribers in Lewisburg, if not taken out of the office, at the rate of 25 cts. per year, payable half yearly. Payments by mail should be made in gold, postage stamps, or bank notes, at their risk. Most kinds of Produce will be received at the office in payment for subscription, if delivered free of charge. Papers will be discontinued at the expiration of the time paid for, when notice to the contrary is given, or they are ordered to be continued. No paper will be sent out of the State of Pennsylvania, unless paid for in ADVANCE.

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Communications on subjects of local or general interest are invited and accompanied by the writer's real name will be welcomed.

The MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH is located in the office of the Mid-Union Gazette, which will be found to be a very important News Exchange of the Public Mails.

Connected with this office are a supply of materials for most kinds of JOB PRINTING, which will be executed with neatness and despatch, and on reasonable terms.

Usual Advertisements to be paid for when handed in, and Job Work when delivered.

All Bills rendered quarterly.

OFFICE on Market square, north side, one door west of Post Office.

Worden & Cornelius.

The West Branch Fair!

$300 in PREMIUMS!

SEVENTH ANNUAL FAIR

OF THE

Union County Agricultural Society,

at the new Fair Grounds,

NEAR LEWISBURG,

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday—Oct. 6, 7, & 8, 1859.

Premium Lists—and Judges.

No. 1—Horses.

[illegible]

Judges—Wm. Nagle, A. M. Lawshe, Levi Shoemaker.

No. 2—Plowing Match.

[illegible]

Judges—George Slear, Adam Gundy, Peter Stahl.

No. 3—Durham Cattle.

[illegible]

Judges—Peter Hagenbuch, Samuel Barber, Isaac Eyer.

No. 4—Oxen, Steers, and Teams.

[illegible]

Judges—Thos. Comly, David Herbst, George Wolf.

No. 5—Sheep and Swine.

[illegible]

Judges—Peter Newman, And'w Hauck, J. F. Pontius.

No. 6—Poultry.

[illegible]

Judges—Jos. W. Shriner, J. F. Vanvalzah, Elam Meixel.

No. 7—Grain and Root Crops.

[illegible]

Judges—John Walls, Wm. Rule, R. V. B. Lincoln.

No. 8—Fruit.

[illegible]

Judges—Eli Slifer, Samuel G. Boop, Wm. T. Linn.

No. 9—Dairy Products.

[illegible]

Judges—Jesse Schreyer, James M'Clenaghan, D. S. Kurtz.

No. 10—Flour and Bread.

[illegible]

Judges—Michael Fichthorn, John A. Barber, Daniel Miller.

No. 11—Household Manufactures.

[illegible]

Judges—John M'Call, E. L. Metzger, Robert Swineford.

No. 12—Manufactured Articles.

[illegible]

Judges—Wm. Moore, John G. Brown, Mark Halfpenny.

No. 13—Agricultural Implements.

[illegible]

Judges—Wm. Frick, Peter Sleas, Benj. Lohr.

No. 14—Unenumerated Articles.

Judges—C. W. Schaffle, H. C. Stedman, L. Steiner.

☞ There will be no premium allowed on an article unless the Judges think it worthy of a premium.

All articles for exhibition must be entered in the Recording Secretary's book on or before 4 o'clock, in the afternoon, on the 6th day of October, (it being the 1st day of the Fair.)

Articles taken on the Fair Ground and not entered in the above stated book, are not entitled to draw a premium.

Articles can be entered by writing to the Recording Secretary previous to the Fair.

The Judges are requested to be punctual in their attendance by noon of the first day.

☞ Certificates of Life Membership, $10.

Persons not members, to pay 50 cents for entering any article for Premiums. 10 cents for single admission.

PLOWING MATCH at 9 A. M., of the second day.

The name of the plowman must be given, as well as the plow to be used, at the time of entry.

The Executive committee will take every precaution in their power, for the safety of stock and articles on exhibition, after their arrival and arrangement on the grounds, but will not be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur. Hay and straw will be furnished, gratis, for all animals entered for Premiums. They desire exhibitors to give personal attention to their articles and animals, and at the close of the Fair to attend to their removal, as the Society can not take further care of them.

E PLURIBUS UNUM

General Election Proclamation.

WHEREAS, in and by an Act of the General Assembly of this State, entitled "An Act to regulate the general elections of this Commonwealth," enacted on the 2d day of July, 1839, it is enjoined on me to give public notice of such election to be held, and to enumerate in such notice what officers are to be elected, I, NO. CROSSGROVE, High Sheriff of the county of Union, do therefore hereby make and give this public notice to the electors of the said county of Union, that a *GENERAL ELECTION* will be held in said county on the SECOND TUESDAY OF OCTOBER NEXT (being the 11th day of the said month,) at the several Districts composed of the following townships and boroughs, viz:

I district, at the late Commissioners' office in and for New Berlin borough.

II district, at the house of Thomas Pursel, in and for Union township.

III district, at the house of Theobald Sanders, in and for White Deer township.

IV district, at the house of James Lawson, in and for Kelly township.

V district, at the house of George Wolfe, in and for East Buffaloe township.

VI district, at the house of James M'Creight, in and for Buffaloe township.

VII district, at the house now occupied by Jacob Deckard, in Mifflinburg, for West Buffaloe township.

VIII district, at the public school house in and for North Ward in Lewisburg borough.

IX district, at the Buffaloe House, in and for South Ward in Lewisburg borough.

X district, at the house now occupied by Wm. Inhoff, in and for Mifflinburg borough.

XI district, at the Laurelton School House, in and for Hartley township.

XII district, at the house of Peter Wehr, in and for Limestone township.

XIII district, at the election house near John Reish, in and for Lewis township.

XIV district, at the house of William Wolfe, in and for Hartleton borough.

At which time and places there will be elected by ballot—

One person as Auditor General for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

One person as Surveyor General for said Commonwealth;

Two Persons as Representatives of Union, Snyder and Juniata counties in the General Assembly of this Commonwealth;

One person as Prothonotary and Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions, Oyer and Terminer and Orphans' Court of Union county;

One person as County Surveyor;

One person as County Treasurer;

One person as District Attorney;

One person as County Commissioner; and

One person as County Auditor.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,

"That every person, excepting Justices of the Peace, who shall hold any office or appointment of profit or trust under the United States, or of this state, or any city or incorporated district, whether a commissioned officer or otherwise, a subordinate officer or agent, who is or shall be employed under the legislative, executive, or judiciary departments of this State or of the United States, or of any incorporated district, and also that every member of Congress and of the State Legislature, and of the select or common council of any city or incorporated district, is by law incapable of holding or exercising at the same time the office or appointment of inspector or judge of any election in this Commonwealth, or be eligible to be elected a member of the Legislature he shall at the time of his election be a citizen and inhabitant of the district and county in which he shall hold the said office or appointment, and have resided within the district or county in which he may be elected or appointed one month next preceding such election or appointment.

"Section 2. That no person shall be elected or appointed inspector or judge of any election in this Commonwealth who shall not be a citizen of the United States, and who shall not have resided in the district in which he shall serve as such inspector or judge one month next preceding such election or appointment.

"Section 3. That the inspectors of every election shall meet at the place appointed for holding such election in each district, within one hour after sunrise on the election day, and if any inspector so appointed shall not attend at such place within that time, the qualified electors of the district may then and there elect a person to fill the place of such absent inspector.

"Section 4. That if any inspector or judge of any election shall be wanting when the time for opening the election in any district shall arrive, the qualified electors of such district may then and there elect a person to fill the place of such absent inspector or judge.

"Section 5. That if any inspector or judge of any election shall be wanting during the hours of election, the qualified electors present may then and there elect a person to fill the place of such absent inspector or judge.

"Section 6. That if any inspector or judge of any election shall be wanting during the hours of election to receive the votes of any district, the votes of such district may be received and taken by the other officers of election at any place they may think most convenient for the purpose of holding such election.

"Section 7. That if any person shall vote out of the district in which he shall reside, or shall vote out of his proper township or ward in any city or incorporated district, or shall vote in any township or ward in any city or incorporated district in which he shall not have resided one month next preceding such election, or shall vote out of his proper district when he may be entitled to vote in more than one district, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof before any court of quarter sessions of the county in which such offence may be committed, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, and be imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding three months.

"Section 8. That if any person not qualified to vote according to the laws of this Commonwealth, shall vote at any election in this Commonwealth, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof before any court of quarter sessions of the county in which such offence may be committed, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, and be imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding three months.

"Section 9. That if any person shall vote in any election in this Commonwealth, in any other place than in the district in which he shall reside, or shall impose himself upon any election officer as a citizen, for the purpose of voting, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof before any court of quarter sessions of the county in which such offence may be committed, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, and be imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding three months.

"Section 10. That if any person shall make a bet or wager upon any election in this State, such person, and the person with whom such bet or wager shall be made, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction before any court of quarter sessions of the county in which such offence may be committed, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars for every such offence, and be imprisoned in the county jail not exceeding three months."

Accurately to the provisions of the sixty first section of said act—every General and Special election shall be opened between the hours of eight and nine in the forenoon, and shall continue until seven o'clock in the evening, when the polls shall be closed."

The Return Judges of the several districts will meet in the Court House at Lewisburg, on the third day after the election, (being Friday, the 11th day of October,) to do and perform those duties enjoined on them by law.

The Return Judges of Union, Snyder and Juniata counties are required to meet at the Court House in the borough of Middleburg on Monday the 17th of October, to make out returns for the members of Assembly.

Dated at the Sheriff's Office, Lewisburg, the 8th day of September, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine.

JOHN CROSSGROVE, Sheriff.

BRIGADE ORDERS.

THE Uniformed Militia of the Second Brigade P. M. are hereby commanded to meet in the Boro' of Hartleton, on *Saturday, the 24th day of September next*, at 10 o'clock A. M. for Review and Inspection. A Battalion will be duly organized at the same time and place. An election for Major will be held at 2 o'clock P. M. Punctual attendance is requested.

By order of

JOHN W. SIMONTON,

[illegible] Brigade P. M.

Aug. 19, 1859.

PUBLIC SALE [illegible]

MY BABY.

[illegible]

Story of a Dew Drop.

In a harebell cup, at the break of day,
Sparkling and bright a dew-drop lay.

When really morn the east o'erspread,
The dew-drop caught the rays it shed,

And blending with them the flowerets blue,
It rivaled the gem with its delicate hue.

But the sun, when he rose, was wroth to see
A dew-drop could shine more brightly than he;

So he sent down a beam to the harebell cup,
And drank the drop in its beauty up.

And such is the law in Nature's plan;
Subject to it is the lord of man:

Life is the dew in the harebell cup,
And Death the beam that shall drink it up.

The Star and Chronicle.

MONDAY, SEPT. 19, 1859.

Futile Hits at Mr. Bilger.

The Administration party in Union county, seem to *concentrate* their efforts, against our Ticket, on Mr. BILGER—hoping, if they have to *sacrifice every other man*, at least to secure the fattest office in the county—that of *Prothonotary*. "Forewarned, let us be forearmed."

Their *Argus* says, "Mr. Bilger has at least some enemies!" That is doubtless true: for what man of any note, and of mind—what man of will in any exciting controversy, or of enterprise in any important movement—has not made enemies, either with or without cause? We never know a *decided man* who had not determined dislikers, if not haters, in some degree; and, often, the *best men* have the most and worst foes. Politically, Mr. Bilger was a stirring Whig, from his youth up; and, during the last four years, he has put forth as much hard personal service in the Republican cause, as any man in this county. In the TRESSLER campaign, JOHN BILGER was making speeches, or otherwise laboring in his behalf, for month—nearly every week day evening; and if he thought he could be of service during the day, he would devote them also to the cause, when his private business would allow of it. No man of his means in "old Union" wrought more effectually and earnestly for "Freedom and Fremont," than did "the good carpenter," Bilger. He has encountered the ablest Democrats in the We't end of the county—the BARRERS, YOUNGS, &c.—at the school houses, in the domestic Legislature, and elsewhere, often, and entirely to the satisfaction of our side. To him, as much as to any one, is the great political overturn in Mifflinburg to be credited. A man of that cast of mind, passing through such scenes and times—encountering the thousand phases of neighborhood increase, politics, religions, moral, &c.—could hardly escape decided if not most bitter hostility, sometimes from rivals on his own side, but especially from the leaders of the party he so frankly and fearlessly combatted. LUTHER himself had sharp controversies, with friends and foes; but he was not more stern and inflexible and enthusiastic and bold as a Reformer, than—when the contest requires it—Mr BILGER is as a Republican. The sterling zeal of each—not, in every case, infallibly wise, or perfectly well tempered—very naturally provoked strong antagonisms, which, however, to all candid minds should not detract a whit from the *merits* or the *worth* of either.

But the *Argus* states that the *Chronicle* says, "A friend of his, the day after the nomination, *informed* him that Mr. Bilger *was* a man of bad character." This is not correct; we said "*had been told*" he was, &c. Our friend did not *assert* the falsehood: he only stated that it had been told him—which is a very essential difference! Mr Bilger's character will stand as good a test as that of his competitor, or of any assailant who manufactures or who publishes such falsehoods.

The *Argus* adds—"If he had been popular *at home*, he should at least have received the votes of the Delegates from that place." That paper knows very well that *both* Mr SANDS and Mr BILGER resided in the *same town*, and, necessarily, *both could not* carry the Delegates. Mr. Sands is the oldest citizen, and if he had consented to run at an early day, Mr Bilger would not have been a candidate. After the latter had consulted friends and undertaken the contest—and Mr Sands had, at the late a days, consented, at the request of his friends, to have allowed his name to be used—it was a free and fair race between them; and so correct and sensitive were the friends of each, that the unprecedented number of 24 Opposition votes was polled, of which Mr. Sands had *one* only. The closeness of the vote is equally complimentary to *both* the candidates. Had Mr Sands been no candidate, Mr. Bilger would have had the Delegates of course. As it was, he swept the field—against four strong opponents—in Hartley, Lewis, Limestone, West Buffaloe, Buffaloe, White Deer and Kelly townships—by a vote of his personal acquaintance. This explanation of facts leaves no ground for the implied opinion of the *Argus* of Mr. Bilger.

—Mr Rousin, also, has "*at least some enemies*," and is quite as worthy of them as his opponent. Each is a respectable man, however, and a good citizen, for all that; each is fully worthy for the office; and each in every way still I to every Voter of it. Party to which he belongs, and which has loved him for its stand and bearer and champion of its cause.

FARLY FATTING OF ANIMALS.—The philosophy of increase of fat in animals is, that the digested food not needed to supply wastes in the system, is laid up in the form of fat around the muscles, ready to be absorbed again into the circulation, if needed. Waste is induced by exercise, or use of the muscles, and also by combustion, in the lungs, of the digested food, to supply animal heat. Hence, the same amount of food given in warm weather will, if digested, afford a greater surplus of fat than when fed in cold weather. Hogs or other animals intended for fattening, should be shut up this month. Many advocate the size of the pen so small that the animal will have but just room to stand or lie. While confinement favors rest and a disposition to fatten, too close quarters are not healthful for the animal, which needs moderate exercise to promote digestion. The quality of the flesh produced must be somewhat impaired by any confinement that interferes with the health. The appetite may be kept up by change of food, a frequent supply of green vegetables, such as corn, cabbage leaves, pea vines, and the refuse of the garden. Cooked food digests much more easily than raw, and is in a condition to yield more nourishment, and is also better relished by most kinds of stock. Cleanliness in the fattening pens should not be overlooked. Although pigs proverbially are filthy, they are not really so; they do not delight in the cellaria of their own droppings, as any one can see by noticing that they generally appropriate one portion of the pen to filth. An occasional washing and scrubbing with soap suds will conduce much to their thrift—all animals keep in good condition more easily when the skin is kept clean and healthy.—*American Agriculturist.*

The African Slave Trade.

The Pensacola (Florida) *Observer*, noticing the statement recently announced, that a cargo of six hundred Africans had been landed on the Florida coast, near Smyrna, says:

"The above intelligence, we are assured by Col. E. E. Blackburn, U. S. Marshal, is true, as he has received letters conveying these facts. *But how can it be expected that the party violating the law will be arrested, when the U. S. Marshal is* DENIED THE POWER AND MEANS *of doing so?* If this official was vested with sufficient power and provided with ample means, (*as he applied for to the proper authorities*) he would, perhaps, have been able to prevent such violation of law; but, as it is, with his limited power and want of means, it is almost impossible.

"We further understand that the vessel which brought these Africans to our coast, as soon as the landing was effected, was set on fire and abandoned to the elements."

This, says the Albany Eve. *Journal*, is a significant confession. U. S. Marshal Blackburn can not arrest those pirates, because the General Government has "denied him the power and means of doing so!" The result is, that the law is violated with impunity. It has been apparent, from the first, that the Administration has no wish to put itself out of the way to prevent or to punish this crime. Where arrests have been made, the parties have been treated as gingerly as if merely guilty of the most trifling misdemeanor. District Attorneys, Judges, and Juries, all apparently conspire together to prove them heroes rather than pirates, and to secure for them gold medals rather than the gallows.

A prisoner in the dock, "once upon a time," burst into tears. "Why do you weep?" inquired the Judge. "Ah! my lord, it was not till I heard my counsel plead that I knew how innocent I was."

☞ We are grateful for several invitations to attend County and State Fairs, this year; but can only attend that at home. We endorse the following article:

Agric. Fairs...Importance and Profit.

In our issue of the 20th ult., we gave a list of State, County and other Fairs, and the time and place of holding them, to the number of over 350. These annual gatherings of the farmers are becoming important, on account of their great and increasing number and the vast amount of time and means employed. They have become a great power in the land for good or evil; and it is of the utmost importance that they should be so conducted as to yield a harvest of good fruit. These fairs we will suppose to occupy two days each, and to be visited by 1,000 persons each day, which we think a low estimate. This will add up 1,100,000 days, or nearly 10,000 years, or a year each for 10,000 men. Supposing each visitor to spend 50 cents for admission fee and other expenses, we have a cost of $500,000. This is in addition to the time and money given gratuitously by officers and committees. An institution which enlists such a vast multitude of the practical working men of the country in its support, can not be considered unimportant, or unworthy the attention of the press having the interests of this class especially in its keeping.

Without saying what the Farmer's Fairs should be, we will merely remark that they should not be permitted to become mere *shows*, or prominently partake of the character of the museum, the circus, the caravan, or the horse-race. If this is done, the time and money which we have shown is expended in maintaining them will be worse than wasted, for though it may by some be claimed that these shows are innocent in themselves, the evils always incident to large gatherings of people will more than counterbalance any good likely to result. Our object, however, at this time is not to advise in regard to management of Fairs, but to give a few hints as to the most profitable way to examine these shows, for as much depends upon those who visit, as upon those who get up and manage these exhibitions. Many go away from the finest exhibition dissatisfied, having spent a day, seen a great deal, and learned but little. The knowledge of this fact makes them unhappy, and very many, on returning home, are ready to vote all fairs a humbug—an unprofitable outlay of time and money. We would like to show the way in which every tolerably good exhibition may be viewed with profit, but have only space to briefly allude to one or two points.

Those who attend one of our State, or even a large County Fair, and spend five or six hours upon the grounds, or even twice this time in looking over the whole exhibition, will go away with a confused jumble of men and women, cattle and flowers, sheep and pigs and pumpkins daguerreotyped upon the mind, without one new or valuable idea that will be of service in practice. Almost every farmer has some subject in which he is more particularly interested, and this he should make a special study, whether it is stock, grain, potatoes or roots, thoroughly examining every thing of the kind exhibited, a little question of exhibitors, and taking all necessary pains to gather information. Every one before going to the fair should determine to make a specialty of some department, and give it his almost entire time and thought. By so doing he will gain much knowledge, that will be of value to himself and to those to whom it may be imparted.

The first thing that demands our attention is the Horses. Too much attention perhaps has been given to speed, of late, and too little to strength and endurance, qualities that make the horse valuable for the farmer. Our improved and improving system of agriculture—deep plowing, subsoiling, &c.—calls for heavier horses than were needed when farmers, in an olden time, only turned over the virgin soil a few inches in depth. Farmers who look for fine farm horses should remember this fact.

To examine the CATTLE, the various breeds and the different animals in each, *and* to judge of their comparative merits, and their adaptation to different purposes and circumstances, and to do this thoroughly and profitably, requires all the time of the show. Here you will find the owners, ready to answer a host of questions as to feeding, milking, fattening, &c., and here too, better than by reading a library of books, you can learn the good and bad points of animals, no mean acquisition to the farmer.

The *Implements* are a curious and profitable study, and from their careful examination may be learned not only how to lessen labor by the use of labor-saving implements, but much knowledge of mechanical principles, very useful to their management.

We might continue these remarks, but we have said enough to give our ideas of the best way to look at an exhibition, when the object sought is to gain knowledge, and not to pass an idle hour or day in a careless manner.

A Column of Interesting Varieties.

Philosophers regard it as demonstrated that, even in the most solid substance—gold, for instance—the particles do not touch each other. This inference is drawn from the fact that the metal shrinks in cooling. They say if the particles were already in contact, they could not come any closer together; and, consequently, the metal could not shrink.—Before the whites went to California, the principal articles of food among the Digger Indians was grasshoppers and acorns. They caught the grasshoppers in square holes, which they dug in the ground, and pounded them into a paste, which they dried into a hard cake; the acorns they pounded and mixed with water in a porridge, which they cooked in water-tight baskets, by putting in hot stones.—The reputation of American cutlery is now so fully established that some of the cutlery made in Sheffield, England, for this market, is stamped with the names of American manufacturers in order to facilitate its sale.—The dress of the women among the Digger Indians of California, in their wild state, consists of a bunch of grass tied around their waists and falling down to their knees.—When Lieut. Berryman was sounding the ocean, preparatory to laying the Atlantic Telegraph, the quill at the end of the sounding line brought up a seed which, on being dried, became a powder so fine that, on rubbing it between the thumb and finger, it disappeared in the crevices of the skin. On placing this dust under the microscope, it was discovered to consist of millions of perfect shells, each of which had been the abode of a living animal. These have been sinking down through the water to the bottom, and will no doubt form, in the course of ages, an extensive range of either silicious or limestone rock. The process is similar to the one by which stratified rocks were formed in ancient geologic periods.—It is reported that Stevenson, the celebrated English engineer, received $225,000 for the plan of the Victoria Bridge, at Montreal.—A telegraphic message was recently sent from Albany to Kansas City, and an answer received, in the short space of six hours!—The amount of money exchanged by the New York City banks, for the week ending the 5th instant, was $120,568,205, an average each day of $20,094,629.—The wine crop of Ohio, for the present year, is estimated at over $1,000,000 in value. Within 20 miles around Cincinnati, the crop is estimated at 500,000 gallons. Our trans-atlantic friends will thus see that the production of wine in this country is becoming a vast interest.—Among the papers published in costly style, by the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, is one on microscopic plants and animals which live on and in the human body. It describes quite a number of insects. The animal which produces the disease called the "itch" is illustrated by an engraving about half an inch in diameter, which shows not only the ugly little fellow's body and legs, but his very toes, although the animal himself is entirely invisible to the naked eye.—Twenty eight and a half lbs. of pure lime consist of 8 lbs. of oxygen, and 20½ lbs. of the metal calcium.—The battle of Flodden, on which Scott's poem, "Marmion," is founded, was fought on the 9th of September, 1513, in the reign of Henry VIII., of England, and James IV., of Scotland. The Scotch king was killed in the battle, with a multitude of the highest rank among the nobility and gentry of the kingdom.—In looking at the most distant stars, we see them, not in the places and condition in which they are at the present time, but as they were several years ago, when the light by which we see them started from them on its long journey to the earth. We are looking, in fact, upon their past history.—The engineer of the great tunnel nearly nine miles in length which is in process of being excavated through the Alps, has adopted a plan for working the drills by power which is said to have succeeded admirably. By a water power at the mouth of the tunnel, he forces air through a pipe into the tunnel where the operatives are at work, here it is used to drive small portable engines, which work the drills. By this plan, he avoids the smoke and steam which, of course, would be insufferable in so confined a place; and the air, as it escapes from the engine, ventilates the tunnel, furnishing a fresh supply for the workmen to breathe.—The sun with all the planets and satellites which revolve around him, the whole solar system, is sweeping along through space in a direction towards the constellation, Hercules.—NOVEL AS WELL AS CHEAP SCHEME.—An iron spire is about to be erected on a church in Pittsburg. This will be the first construction of the kind in the United States, and it is fitting that it should be put up in the "Iron City." This church has now a brick tower 100 feet high, which is to be carried up almost as high again, by erecting upon it a beautiful cast iron spire, 75 feet high, exclusive of the cross that will crown the apex. The style is to be the perforated Gothic of the Middle Ages.—The New York city [illegible]