

**THE SUICIDE.**

A shadowed form before the light,  
A gleaming face against the night,  
Cintched hands across a halo bright  
Of blowing hair,—her fixed sight  
Stares down where moving black, below,  
The river's deathly waves in murmurous silence flow.

The moon falls fainting on the sky,  
The dark woods bow their heads in sorrow,  
The earth sends up a misty sigh:  
A soul defies the morrow!

**QUIEN SABE.**

—The *London Agricultural Gazette* is convinced that the coming sheep in England is the Hampshire. It says there is no race of sheep in the world that can vie with them in the production of large-sized lambs of from six to eight months old.

—To make shoe-pegs enough for American use there are consumed annually 100,000 cords of timber and to make timber matches, 300,000 cubic feet of the best lumber are required every year. Lasts and boot-trees take 500,000 cords of birch, beach, and maple, and the handles of tools 500,000 more.

—The sea of Azoff has a new island, about one hundred feet in diameter and ten feet above the surface of the water. The most recent addition to the territory of Russia is the result of some subterranean disturbance. The birth of the island was attended with a marine eruption and the appearance of a fissure in the land on the shore near by.

—Mr. Edison has nearly finished a dynamo-electric machine having three field magnets six and a half feet long, and an armature one and a half tons in weight. The armature is connected directly to a Porter-Allen engine of 100-horse power. Both the engine and the dynamo-electric machine are mounted upon a large iron bed. This new electric generator is intended to do what is usually done by sixteen smaller machines with greater steadiness and economy.

—Bertin and Dubosq are not content with making magic mirrors as good, or even better, than those made in Japan or China, the secret of which was described months ago in this column; they intend to go further than the original inventors dreamed of. "One of these days," they say, "while our mirror is magical under the influence of pressure, we shall take a cast of its surface and then reproduce this by means of galvano-deposition. This surface will have all the irregularities of that of the magic mirror, and will produce by its reflected rays the image of a design which no longer exists on its back."

—It will be remembered that the artificial production of the diamond made last year by a Scotch chemist looked very much as though small diamonds had been fractured. None of the specimens were perfect. All of them were fragments. A step in advance has been made, however. Dr. Marsden has lately been able to effect the crystallization of carbon in the cubical form. Possessors of the most valuable of natural gems need not be alarmed as yet. Dr. Marsden says his crystals are so small that they are of no commercial value whatever. The fact that a perfect diamond can be produced, no matter how small, is a notable event, and when the paper describing the process by which the end was attained is published, it will command general attention.

—The country suffers the loss of millions of dollars annually by the ravages of rats, when, by keeping one ferret, farmers could rout the last one of the pests from their premises. Ferrets are similar to the weasel in habits and size, but they have been domesticated and used for expelling rats in England for centuries. Mine are white, very small in size, and so tame that I can call them to me and handle them as I please. If nursery-men are bothered with rabbits lurking about, gnawing their trees, with a ferret they can catch the last one. No matter where they burrow, the little fellows will start them in no time. If I can find where a rabbit has taken to a hole in the ground, I place a sack over the hole, let in the ferret, and, in less time than it takes to tell it, the rabbit is in the sack.

—At Zurich, Switzerland, where the Siemens crematory furnace has been introduced there is a distinct stipulation that the ashes of the dead must remain in separate urns at the crematory for twenty years. At the end of that time the nearest of kin to the deceased may take the urn to his dwelling, and if this is not done the ashes are interred. Before a body is burned every precaution is taken by the authorities to ascertain that no crime has been committed. Other furnaces of the same type are in use at Breslau, Dresden and Gotha. Indeed, throughout Germany the prejudice against disposing of the dead by burning is rapidly disappearing. The furnace named will consume a body in an hour and a half without causing any odor or sound. It costs about \$5,000. The weight of the ashes varies from three and one-quarter to seven pounds.

—In a paper recently read before the French Academy of Sciences, Prof. Fort gave some startling instances of the efficacy of artificial respiration. A three-year old child had apparently died, and was considered as having passed over to the majority for three and a half hours. At the end of that time Prof. Fort set up artificial respiration and kept up the process for four hours, when the child returned to life. A person had been under water for ten minutes, and was evidently drowned. Dr. Fournol, of Billancourt, however, after four hours of labor, managed to make natural succeed artificial breathing, and so reanimated his patient. In some instances artificial respiration will be

found of great efficacy in removing poison from the lungs and glands. In any case of asphyxia hope should not be abandoned until hours of trial of artificial respiration gives no encouraging result.

**Strange Forms of Fungi.**

A gentleman who recently had occasion to explore the chambers, drifts and caverns of the old deserted Ophir and Mexican mines, says fungi of every imaginable kind have taken possession of the old levels. In these old mines, undisturbed for years, is found a fungus world in which are to be seen counterfeits of almost everything seen in our daylight world. Owing to the warmth of the levels and to the presence in them of a certain amount of moisture, the timbers have been made to grow some curious crops. Some of the fungi in the old chambers are several feet in height, and being snow white, resembles sheeted ghosts.

In places where at a little distance appear to be white fowl, and there are representations of goats with long beards, all as white as though carved in the purest marble. The rank fungus growth has almost closed some of the drifts. The fungi are almost every imaginable variety of growth. Some kinds hang down from the timber like great bunches of snow white hair, and others are great pulpy masses. These last usually rise from the rock forming the floor of the drifts, and seem to have grown from something dropped or spilled on the ground at the time work was in progress in these mines years ago. These growths have in several places raised from the ground rocks weighing from ten to fifty and even one hundred pounds. Some of the rocks have thus been lifted over three feet from the ground.

In the highest levels, where the air is comparatively dry, the fungi are less massive in structure than below, and are much firmer in texture. Some resemble ram's horns, as they grow in spiral or twisted shape, while others four or five feet in length, and about the thickness of a broom-handle, hang from the cap timbers like so many snakes suspended by the tails. One kind, after sending out a stem of the thickness of a pencil to the length of a foot or two, appears to blossom; at least produces at the end a bulbous mass that has some resemblance to a flower. In all the infinite variety of these underground fungi it is somewhat strange that not one was seen at all like those growing upon the surface in the light of day. Nothing in the nature of toadstools or mushrooms was found.

**Washington Frugality**

Washington, says a correspondent, is described by sensational correspondents as a city of extravagance and almost Arabian Nights luxury. In reality it is a city of frugal salaries and of a constant effort to live inside of them. I do not think any of our present cabinet officers live beyond their official incomes except, perhaps, the Secretary of State, who has many daughters, and whose house is large and must be very expensive, and who has to make up to the diplomatic corps in spirituous attentions what they do not receive at the White House. Secretary Schurz pays \$3,000 a year for his furnished house. His style of living is that of a thorough gentleman, but—dress for his family and all—it does not indicate an expenditure of more than three or four thousand more. This administration does not entertain the multitude as the Grant administration used to. Then Secretaries Fish and Chandler used to give large evening receptions, to include all who had called upon the ladies of their families. Delicate refreshments were provided, and their houses were thronged with middle-class people, with a sufficient number of the upper grade of official and diplomatic and political guests mingled in to give the assembly a semi-air of distinction. Department clerks mourn those halcyon days. The pleasantest memory I have of such crowded occasions is of dear Mrs. Fish's face, so stately yet so maternal, as she would stand by her beloved husband's side from 9 o'clock to 12, saying a kind word to each comer and goer, making each one feel a large and bountiful sense of having been entertained by a queen among women; or Zachariah Chandler, with his rugged, honest face, the embodiment of an accomplished political host. No man could give a politician's party better than Chandler. Both these men were rich. Nobody blames a poor man in the cabinet for not entertaining the masses on \$8,000 a year. Still, the Washington of those free-handed, cordial days was more the people's Washington than this of to-day.

**Ballet Dancers.**

In spite of her seeming scantiness of clothing, a ballet dancer does not suffer from cold. A Washington paper, which is responsible for this statement, also adds that, under her silk or cotton hosiery, every ballet-dancer without exception, wears padding. The padded tights are heelless.

A strap of the stockinet, of which they are woven, extends under the hollow of the foot. The webbing is finely ribbed around the ankle, and not padded below the swell. The padding is of fine lamb's wool fleeces knitted with the fleece thrown up like plush on the under side into the web, which is of cotton, strong and not too elastic. There is no padding around the knee, and none around the hips. The tights are well padded. Few men or women have small, well proportioned knee joints, and even when they have sufficient flesh it is not distributed as to produce perfect symmetry of form. These padded goods are, therefore, generally made to

order. In about a week the garment ordered is finished. If there is too much padding at any point it can be seen at a glance and clipped off. Padded shirts or bodies for both men and women are also measured for when ordered in a similar manner.

The fact that the demand in New York for theatrical goods of this kind is sufficient to warrant the erection of a factory in Brooklyn, and the importation of the machinery and the weavers, knitters, and embroiderers from Europe to carry it on, is proof of the extensive use of these articles. In fact, they are not worn by theatrical people alone. Numbers of men and women who daily promenade the streets, who drive in the park, and are seen at balls, theatres, receptions, and the opera, wear padded hosiery with fine silk hosiery over it. From a distance, too—from the far west, from the east and south,—padded hosiery is ordered in immense quantities. The circus ring owes no small part of its attractions to the wearing of these padded goods. Whoever has seen a boat-race and athletic games, and observed the almost Bernhardt-like sparseness of many of the best athletes, and the want of proportionate development in others, as compared with the forms and limbs of the gymnasts and the athletes, the equestrians and the trapeze performers of the ring, must be convinced of the truth of our assertion. In fact, the training necessary to make a Bontanti, or a Rosa, or the Rizzardi brothers, must reduce the human form divine in the same way that training a race-horse does. The racer is beautiful only because our eyes are wonted to a conventional taste which associates his sparseness with his fleetness. When it comes to grace, that is quite a different thing.

It's only a crumpled and worn little glove,  
But you can't imagine with how much of love  
I linger o'er it;  
For Rosalind, darlingest, sweetest coquette  
That ever made lovers to fume and to fret,  
Long ago wore it.

**CENTENNIAL HOTEL**

BENTON, MONTANA.

**CULBERTSON & MILLS,**  
PROPRIETORS.

**NEW AND COMFORTABLE ROOMS**

With or without fire. The house has been recently enlarged and new sleeping rooms added. Board by the day or week. Special rates given Regular Boarders.

Passengers on Coaches wishing to Stop at this House will please inform the drivers.

**THE "Eagle Bird" Saloon.**

WM. ROSTER, Proprietor.

(Late of the Palace Parlors.)

Main Street, opp. Court House, Ft. Benton.

**THE FINEST KINDS OF**  
**Wines, Liquors and Cigars**  
KEPT CONSTANTLY ON HAND.

The proprietor cordially invites his old patrons to call on him in his new departure, assuring them that they will receive careful attention and courteous treatment.

**FIRST-CLASS RESTAURANT**

run in connection with the establishment, where Meals will be served AT ALL HOURS by prompt and attentive waiters.

**JOHN SCHWARTZ,**

Dealer in

**Fine Cigars, Confections**

**FRUITS,**

**TOBACCO, CIGARETTES,**

**Nuts, Toilet Articles,**

And a full line of

**SMOKERS' ARTICLES,**  
NOTIONS, ETC., ETC.

NEXT DOOR TO THE POST OFFICE.

**THE GEM**

Front Street, Fort Benton.

**Choicest Wines and Liquors,**  
THE CELEBRATED  
**Sultana Cigars.**

J. J. MURPHY, Proprietor.

I. G. BAKER, St. Louis, Mo.  
C. E. CONRAD, Fort Macleod.

W. G. CONRAD, Fort Benton.  
JOHN H. CONRAD, Fort McKinney.

**I. G. BAKER & CO.**

FORT BENTON, M. T.

**BANKERS, FREIGHTERS, INDIAN TRADERS**  
**STEAMBOAT OWNERS,**

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

**GENERAL MERCHANDISE,**

We are in receipt of a Larger Stock of Assorted Merchandise than any other House in Montana, and offer Special Inducements to Cash Buyers.

**WILL PAY THE HIGHEST RATES FOR ROBES AND FURS**

PROPRIETORS OF

**BAKER & CO.'S BONDED LINE,**

FROM EASTERN CANADA TO THE N. W. TERRITORY.

Will Contract Freight from all Eastern Cities in Canada and the United States to all points in Montana and the Northwest.

**WILL INSURE GOODS via MISSOURI RIVER.**

Eastern Office, No. 219 Olive St., St. Louis, Mo.

**BENTON STABLES**

McDEVITT & WRIGHT,

PROPRIETORS.

**LIVERY, FEED and SALE STABLE**

Day and Night Herd. Horses Boarded by the Day or Week.

**Saddle Horses, Light and Heavy Turnouts**

FURNISHED ON SHORT NOTICE AND AT REASONABLE RATES.

**W. E. TURNER, M. D.**

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,

—DEALER IN—

**Drugs and Medicines**

PERFUMERY, TOILET ARTICLES.

Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Brushes and Glass,

CIGARS, NOTIONS, CONFECTIONERY, ETC.

Front Street, - - - - Fort Benton, M. T.

H. J. WACKERLIN.

T. C. POWER & BRO.

**H. J. Wackerlin & Co.**

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

**HARDWARE, BAR IRON, WAGON TIMBERS**

HORSE SHOES AND NAILS,

Tinware, Stoves, Queensware, Glassware, Tin Roofing, and Sheet Iron Goods of Every Description.

Our Wagon Timbers are of the Best Seasoned Hard Woods, and consist of all woods used in building and repairing Wagons, Carriages and Buggies. Our stock of Queensware is the largest and most complete ever brought to Montana, and comprises every article required by hotels and families.

PLAIN AND FANCY TOILET, DINNER AND TEA SETS,

Cut Glass Bar Tumblers, Plain and Fancy Goblets.

**CHARTER OAK COOKING AND HEATING STOVES,**

THE CELEBRATED GARLAND BASE BURNER,

And the popular

**Argailia Soft Coal Base Burners,**

THE BEST AND ONLY SUCCESSFUL BASE BURNERS IN USE.

**TIN GOODS.**

We have a complete stock of Tin Goods, including Tin roofing, Gutters and Pipes, and will contract to do all kinds of Roofing, Repairing, etc. Tin Goods of every description Made to Order on short notice and at reasonable prices. We propose to keep one of the largest and best establishments of the kind in Montana, and will spare no pains or expense to

**GIVE ENTIRE SATISFACTION TO OUR PATRONS.**