HER BEAUTIFUL HAND.

Sweet hand that, held in mine,
Seems the one thing I cannot live without,
The soul's one anchorage in this storm and doubt.
I take thee as the sign
Of sweeter days in store
For life, and more than life, when life is done,
And the soft pressure leads me gently on
To Heaven's own Evermore.
I have not much to say,
Nor any words that fit such fond request;
Let my blood speak to thine, and bear the rest
Some silent, heartward way.
Thrice blessed the faithful hand
Which saves e'en while it blesses; hold me fast—
Let me not go beneath the floods at last,
So near the better land.
Sweet hand that, thus in mine,
Seems the one thing I cannot live without,
My heart's one anchor in life's storm and doubt,
Take this, and make me thine.

PLEASANTRIES.

GOODS marked down—Feathers.

ONLY a question of time—Asking the hour.

"PLEASE pass the butter," as a man remarked when he sent his goat by rail.

A RICH but parsimonious old gentleman, on being taken to task for his uncharitableness, said, "True, I don't give much; but, if you only knew how it hurts me when I give anything, you wouldn't wonder."

THEY were at a dinner party, and he remarked that he supposed she was fond of ethnology. She said she was, but she was not very well, and the doctor had told her not to eat anything for dessert but oranges.

RECORDER (to witness with bandaged head)—"Did he have any provocation when he struck you?" Witness—"He may have had something of the kind concayled on his parson, but it was a brick he struck me wid."

"YOU'VE been in swimming again, you rascal. Don't lie; I see your wet hair and your shirt turned wrong side out!" "There's no danger, mother; I can always touch bottom." "So can I." Mother grasps slipper. Tableau.

THERE is nothing like a college education to fit a man for the battle of life. A graduate of Cornell University recently married Miss Jennie McGraw, of Ithaca, N. Y., whose fortune is somewhere between $4,000,000 and $5,000,000.

THE college graduate is hanging about the outer edges of journalism, waiting for a chance to jump clear into the middle of it and astonish the world, and when he does get the chance he is sent around to the police office to see how many "drunks" have been brought in. —*New Haven Register.*

A WELL-MEANING poet asks: "If in some morn or eve 'twere said, by kindly lips to thee, 'she's dead'—She who hath loved thee more than true, What would'st thou think, or speak, or do?" No doubt he'd feel pretty bad about it, and make preparations to attend her funeral—and in a few weeks hunt up another girl.

"I'M an archer, dear, no longer,"
Said a maiden fair and bright
To her beau, with lips a-quiver,
"Webster says, toxopholite."
Then she gave her beau a narrow,
Searching glance, with pert grimace,
While he thought his love was archer
Than Diana in the chase.
"William, tell me how you like it!"
"Well enough," replied the wight;
"It is true, among the archers,
Oftentimes talk's awful light!"

THE marvel of the census of cities is the increase of 614 per cent. in the population of Denver, Col. In 1870, Denver was a frontier town of 4,759; now it numbers 34,000.

THE Marquis of Hartington stated recently in the British House of Commons that the cost of the war with Cabul was $45,000,000 over the estimates of the Tory Government. The deficit which the Government will be obliged to make up during the next fiscal year is $16,535,000.

COTTON mills are flourishing in the South. The gross earnings of the mill at Augusta for the year just closed were $968,183; net earnings, $157,371. After paying 9 per cent. dividend on the stock, interest, insurance, etc., the Directors added $50,000 to the surplus fund, which now aggregates $318,197.

A SUNDAY-SCHOOL has been inaugurated at Augusta, Ga., on a novel plan. It is for the benefit of the factory children in that city, and is known as the "Pinafore Sunday-school." Its plan of working is to take the children in the little canal steamer Pinafore up the canal every Sunday afternoon, and on the excursion the little ones are entertained with religious teachings and the singing of hymns.

A GOOD story comes from Newport. A certain young Boston bachelor, wealthy but modest, was taking his bath one morning when his telephone called him. He sprang from the tub and was horrified to hear that a lady, wife of a distinguished New York banker, was at the other end of the wire, a mile away. It would never do for him to carry on a conversation with one of the fair sex in his present condition. "Excuse me. A thousand pardons," he cried, aghast. He donned his dressing-gown and then repaired to the telephone and conversed without fear or molestation.

JIM BROWN, a Texas desperado of the Currie type, recently, while laboring under a severe spell of emotional insanity resulting from drink, rode on horseback into a saloon at Cambridge and amused himself by snapping tumblers off the bar with his whip. He then invited all present to drink with him, adding that he would shoot anyone daring to refuse. Among the bystanders was a Mr. Dawson, who, having taken a pledge of total abstinence, positively refused to break it. Brown exclaimed: "Then I have got to kill you," and reached for his pistol; but Dawson was too quick for him, and the outlaw tumbled dead from his horse with a bullet in his brain.

OUR PRESIDENTS.

The United States have had nineteen Presidents, four of them of Irish descent—Jackson, Tyler, Pierce, and Buchanan.

The President holds his office for four years. He must be a native of this country, and must have attained the age of 35 years.

In the early days of the republic its chief magistrate was called "His Highness the President of the United States and the Protector of our Liberties." As this title was inconsistent with our democratic pretensions it was soon dropped.

Our chief Executive is not chosen by a popular vote. He is elected by a college of electors chosen by the people. Each State has as many Presidential electors as it has Congressmen and United States Senators. New York has thirty-three Congressmen and two Senators, hence its electoral vote is thirty-five.

In 1860 Buchanan's vote was 20,000 less than half the total, and Lincoln's 800,000 less than the half, yet the college of electors chose Lincoln. In 1876 Hayes received 251,000 votes less than Tilden. The Sage of Gramercy will, however, have to go down into history without the Presidential title.

In most cases, from 1789 to 1824 the President was elected by the Legislatures of the different States. The President is not the executive of the people. He is the executive of the United States.

The original provisions of the constitution provided that the person having the next-highest number of votes cast for President should become Vice President. It is a pity that provision of the constitution is not in force to-day. Through its operation men of opposite political parties would become President and Vice President, and much of the partisan character of our Government would be obviated.

No Roman Catholic has ever occupied the Presidential chair. All the other prominent religious denominations have been represented. Grant and Hayes are Methodists.

Wm. Henry Harrison, Zachary Taylor and Abraham Lincoln were the only Presidents who died while in office. Harrison assumed his office March 4, 1841, and died the next month. Vice President John Tyler succeeded him. Taylor served until July 5, 1850; Millard Fillmore served out the term. Lincoln was shot on the 15th of April, 1865, Andrew Johnson taking his place.

Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Harrison, Tyler and Taylor came from Virginia; John Adams and his son John Quincy from Massachusetts; Van Buren from New York; Pierce from New Hampshire; Fillmore from Maryland; Jackson, Polk and Johnson from Tennessee; Lincoln and Grant for Illinois; Buchanan from Pennsylvania; and Hayes from Ohio. Weaver is from Iowa, Garfield from Ohio, and Hancock from Pennsylvania, although he lives on Governor's island. The last Democratic President was James Buchanan, elected in 1856. His opponent was John C. Fremont, the first candidate of the Republican party.

Ten of the Presidents have been soldiers, and nine lawyers.

INHERITED ANTIPATHIES.

Cows hate dogs instinctively from their earliest calfhood upward. I used to doubt once upon a time whether the hatred was not of artificial origin, and wholly induced by the inveterate human habit of egging on every dog to worry every other animal that comes in its way. But I tried a mild experiment one day by putting a half-grown, town-bred puppy into a small inclosure with some hitherto-unworried calves, and they all turned to make a common headway against the intruder with the same striking unanimity as the most ancient and experienced cows. Hence I am inclined to suspect that the antipathy does actually result from a vaguely-inherited instinct derived from the days when the ancestor of our kine was a wild urus, and the ancestor of our dogs a wolf, on the wild forest-clad plains of Central Europe. When a cow puts up its tail at sight of a dog entering its paddock at the present day, it has probably some dim, instinctive consciousness that it stands in the presence of a dangerous, hereditary foe; and, as the wolves could only seize with safety a single isolated urus, so the cows usually make common cause against the intruding dog, turning their heads in one direction with very unwonted unanimity till his tail finally disappears under the opposite gate.

Such inherited antipathies seem common and natural enough. Every species knows and dreads the ordinary enemies of its race. Mice scamper away from the very smell of a cat. Young chickens run to the shelter of their mother's wings when the shadow of a hawk passes over their heads. Mr. Darwin put a small snake into a paper bag, which he gave to the monkeys at the Zoo; and one monkey after another opened the bag, looked in upon the deadly foe of the quadrumanous kind and promptly dropped the whole package with every gesture of horror and dismay. Even man himself—though his instincts have all weakened so greatly with the growth of his more plastic intelligence, adapted to a wider and more modifiable set of external circumstances—seems to retain a vague and original terror of the serpentine form. —*St. James' Gazette.*

GEN. WALKER, Superintendent of the Census, will issue a number of handy volumes for the convenience of business men. They will contain statistics of gold, silver, iron, building stone, cotton, cereals, pauperism, crime, railroads, life insurance, and fire insurance. The quarto volumes giving the returns in full will, of course, be printed as usual.

HUMAN NATURE.

Its Peculiarities and Characteristics.

BY N. W.

Human nature, in its many shapes and various forms, presents to our minds a subject for study so intricate and mysterious that, although one may devote a lifetime that shall exceed three score years and ten, it will still remain an enigma to us, and we shall find we have only commenced with its first pages. Science and art may be mastered and developed, but the most profound philosophers of both ancient and modern genius have been, and are still being, baffled with its obscurity.

Man as a being, his creation, his birth, his life, and his death are all profound mysteries to us.

Of all the millions and millions of human beings who have existed and have passed away, and those who are now existing, there are no two, nor ever will be, just alike. No two eyes are precisely alike, although they may look very similar. The forms, faces, features, voices, minds, thoughts, and hearts of all this vast multitude of humanity are all different, each individual having its own characteristics and peculiarities. When we contemplate this we are lost in wonder and amazement at the great wisdom and power of the One Being Who has constructed all this and Who rules and reigns over all things with such a mighty hand.

We are a mystery to ourselves. We are even strangers to ourselves. We know not our own hearts while we are constantly being subjected to such a routine of changes. We are creatures of the moment. We do to-day what we condemned yesterday in others, like Peter, of old, who vowed so faithfully his fidelity to his Master, and, although all others should forsake him he would not, in a short space of time after, declares he never knew Him.

This Peter did, not because he had lost his love for his Master, but through fear of his own safety. Each person lives apparently in a world of his or her own. We know not our dearest and best friends, for we have closeted in the deep recesses of our hearts hidden secrets which will remain there through all the walks of life and pass with us even into the valley and shadow of death. Again look at Human Nature and see how differerently she will array herself as she walks through the various avenues of society, always ready to suit circumstances, times and places. Her favorite garment seems to be deception, and she arranges it in as many different ways as there are stars in the heavens.

What a multiplicity of faces we all have stored away in our closets and wardrobes at our immediate command and convenience. Once in seven days, if not oftener, we will put on our sanctimonious face for church services and costume to match it. We have a face for our friends that we love, and a face for those we dislike, a face for the parlor, a face for the kitchen, a face for the brilliant ball-room, theater, opera, promenade, etc., and they are all different. Perhaps, if you were to meet the fashionable belle at a noted watering-place to-day, you would scarcely recognize in that person the one whom you saw a few weeks ago on one Monday morning at her home. Again, of all these different faces, others can see them, but we ourselves cannot see our own faces only as they are reflected to us in the mirror. I remember when I was a little child looking in the glass and wondering if that little girl I saw there laughing so saucily and making up such ugly faces was me. I did not think I looked like that, and sometimes I fancy now, when I look in the glass, perhaps some one else is back of me that causes that reflection.

We shed tears because we are sad, and we shed tears when we are very happy. We love, we hate, we laugh, we cry, we live and we must die. These forms, upon which we devote so much time and expense to clothe so finely, must to dust return and molder in the silent tomb.

I like to see people well and becomingly dressed. It is our duty to take proper care of our bodies. God commands that. But when I see some people so vainly and gorgeously arrayed, I feel sorry that they will make such use of time, money and brains. There are a great many Dives in this world—perhaps fewer Lazaruses.

Love is one of the chief attributes of the soul. It is undying, and shall live on through never-ending realms of eternity. For earthly love, which will so easily perish, we will sacrifice almost everything in our power, while we would banish from our thoughts the love that never dies. How strange this seems! This is the work of the fallen angel. How artful he is in all his ways! He has not forgotten the success that he met with in that beautiful garden, long ago. As he tempted our Master, as he tried Job, so he will follow us all, in all of our walks, unless we are very watchful and cautious of his many golden traps and snares. They are constantly set for us, as the spider sets his gauzy web for the fly; and, if we walk into his brilliant parlor once, We may never walk out again.

CHICAGO, Ill.

IN his address to the graduating class at West Point, the other day, Gen. Sherman said to them: "If you will give me your youth and aspirations you may take my rank and age. Let me urge you not to toil by the midnight lamp, but cultivate the heart and all affections. Mingle with the soldiers. The men are not common, and you have many things to learn before you can command. Honor your position and your flag, loving your brother as yourself, and defend your country."

THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.

There is now a good prospect that the Washington monument will some day be finished. In case the $677,000 estimated by the commission as necessary to complete the work is promptly appropriated by Congress, Col. Casey promises that the monument shall be completed within the next four years. About $92,000 of the $200,000 appropriated in 1876 has been consumed on the foundation. An immense elevator, capable of bearing ten tons, has been erected within the shaft at a cost of $20,000, which is run by a fifty-horse-power engine, and will be used in carrying stones to the top. An iron stairway has also been erected at a cost of $16,000. Both the elevator and the stairway will be permanent, and will be carried up as the work progresses. A railroad has been constructed from the workshop o the foot of the monument, where a derrick hoists the stone and puts it upon the elevator, and a little railroad at the top conveys it to its place. Everything is now substantially ready for the work of laying new courses of stone. Col. Casey has on hand about 12,000 cubic feet of marble and granite and about 100 stones, contributed by lodges and private parties throughout the Union. He expected that the first stone in the new work would be laid on the 15th of July.

It is now proposed to carry out the original plan, which contemplates a simple obelisk 550 feet in height, crowned with a pyramidian, or roof, fifty feet in height. The base of the monument is fifty-five feet square, and its dimensions will be reduced as it ascends until, at the top, it will be thirty-four feet six inches square. The proportions are in exact accordance with the classic proportions of this style of architecture, as determined, after careful research, by George P. Marsh, American Minister at Rome, and the monument, when completed, promises to be a more creditable work than the advocates of other plans have been willing to admit.

THE FEAR OF FAT.

No doubt it is unpleasant to be excessively obese; but the morbid dread of fat, which has in recent years become fashionable, has no foundation in physiological fact. Fat answers two purposes; it acts as a non-conducting envelope for the body and protects it from too rapid loss of heat, and it serves as a store of fuel. In the course of exhausting disease it not infrequently happens that the life of a patient may be prolonged until the reserve of fat is exhausted, and then he dies of inanition. Fat supplies the material of the heating process upon which vitality mainly depends. In great excess it is inconvenient; but the external layings-on of fat is no measure of the internal development of adipose tissue. Much less does a tendency to grow fat imply or even suggest a tendency to what is known as "fatty degeneration." It is time to speak out on this point, as the most absurd notions seem to prevail. Again, it is not true that special forms of food determine fat. That is an old and exploded notion. Some organisms will make fat let them be fed upon the leanest and scantiest and least saccharine descriptions of food, while others will not be "fattened" let them feed on the "most-fattening" of diets. The matter is one in regard to which it is supremely desirable and politic to be natural, adapting the food taken to the requirements of health rather than substance. Simple food, sufficient exercise, regular habits, with moderation in the use of stimulants, compose the maxim of a safe and healthy way of life.—*Lancet.*

A LEADVILLE BOY-GIRL.

At the Grand Central Theater in this city, says the Leadville (Col.) *Democrat*, is a freak of nature. The name of Gus Mills is pretty well known among variety-stage frequenters, but the world has never been told that Gus is a phenomenon. From early boyhood he has exhibited a passion, not for girls, like other boys, but to be a girl himself. This desire became a mania, till at the present time Gus is more girl than man. He dresses as a girl, sews as a girl, sings as a girl, dances as a girl, and flirts with the boys. His female wardrobe is probably the most extensive in Leadville, and every article made and every stitch taken was by Mills' own hand. He makes his own bonnets, knits his own striped stockings, and paints his face with exquisite skill.

A RECENT report from the German Consul General at Moscow gives some information concerning the manufacturing industries of Russia. There are about 15,000 factories in the empire, producing goods to the value of 500,000,000 rubles ($325,000,000) a year. At Moscow the wholesale trade is almost entirely in the hands of the Germans—that is, either Russian subjects of German origin or subjects of the German empire. Among the manufacturers, on the other hand, the Russian element predominates. Imported goods, which formerly came chiefly from France, are now almost entirely of German production; year by year the French imports are diminishing, while the German imports are increasing.

AT the request of the Sultan some members of the Prussian civil service have been sent to Turkey to aid in reforming the civil administration of the country. Hitherto such invitations have been almost invariably sent to English civil servants. The change is regarded as significant, and is interpreted to mean a German-Turkish or an Austro-German-Turkish alliance. This suspicion is only strengthened by the repeated declaration of the German diplomats that the tender and acceptance of the invitation do not mean anything.

WEBSTER.

In his "Records of Fifty Years," in the New York *Tribune*, Mr. C. T. Congdon writes interestingly of Webster, who died in October, 1852: "People said," says Mr. Congdon, "that the nomination of Gen. Scott killed him; they forgot his 70 years, his liberal method of life, and the energy which he had put not only into his works, but his amusements." Mr. Congdon adds: "There was a time when the Defender of the Constitution might have sent a withering sneer from his dying pillow at our desperate antics; but the self-sufficiency, the arrogance and the dictation which had in it a flavor of despotism, were all gone then. There was nothing for the great man to do now but to die. That the nomination made by the Baltimore Convention grievously disappointed him is certain. A friend who happened to be in his house when the news of Gen. Scott's candidacy reached there, told me that Mrs. Webster spoke pathetically but with perfect frankness of the pain which the decision of the convention would give to Mr. Webster. And, after all, it was as well that he should die soon; there was no Presidency for him; through all his life he had never had a chance of it. Indeed, there was now no remaining public career for him. It was a pain to hear some men speak of him even in Boston; and, after he was dead, they told odd stories of which that sick-chamber was the scene. They said that he had taken a formal farewell of his blooded stock; that his whole herd had been driven slowly by the door at which he was seated, to receive his dying benediction; and that, solemnly waving his hand, as he distinguished one favorite animal, he had exclaimed in weak, pathetic but still semi-sonorous tones, 'Molly Mottle, farewell!' There were other stories, whether ill or well founded, of actual pecuniary exigency at the Marshfield farm-house—stories which reminded one of the dying days of Sheridan, though, of course, there was nothing like the absolute pinch which put the 'last blanket' of the wit in danger of attachment. It is true, however, that the man who had received enormous sums of money for professional and other services left no money behind him. He would have had his revenge, if he could have lived just a little longer, to read the election returns, and to find Gen. Scott receiving the votes of only four States. Mr. Webster himself would hardly have done so badly as that."

FORFEITS FOR FUN.

A list of amusing forfeits, which will make the company laugh and not offend the person called upon to pay them, are herewith given:

1. Put a newspaper upon the floor in such a way that two persons can stand on it and not be able to touch each other with their hands. By putting the paper in the doorway, one-half inside and the other half outside of the room, and closing the door over it, the two persons can easily stand upon it and still be beyond each other's reach.

2. To go out of the room with two legs, and come in with six. Not difficult, if one thinks to bring a chair along on the return.

3. To act the dumb servant. The person who has the forfeit to pay must act out the answers to the questions put by the master of the ceremonies; as "How do you make bread?" "How do you eat soup?" etc. This forfeit will cause much merriment, if proper questions are put.

4. Put one hand where the other cannot touch it. One can get out of this difficulty by putting one hand on the elbow of the other arm.

5. Place a pencil on the floor so that one cannot jump over it. May be done by putting it close to the wall of the room.

6. Put a question that no one can answer with a "no!" This is not hard if one thinks to ask, "What does y-e-s spell?"

7. Push a chair through a finger ring. This forfeit is made by putting the ring on the finger and pushing the chair—any other object will do as well—with the finger.

8. Put yourself through a keyhole. This was a great puzzle to us for a while, but when a piece of paper was taken with the word "yourself" written upon it, and pushed through the hole, it was all clear.

A HAPPY-GO-LUCKY bank teller in Bradford, Pa., made a slight mistake one day last week. A shipping clerk had appeared at the desk to get a check of $150 cashed. The teller handed him a $1,000 bill and small bills to the amount of $50, thus shortening the bank's fund by $900. The clerk returned to his office with the money and soon discovered the teller's mistake, but could not at first make up his mind to return the difference. Finally his conscience gained the mastery, and he went to the bank and asked if they made mistakes there. "Of course not," the teller answered; "they are not allowed in the banking business." "But," said the clerk, "you paid me $1,050 instead of $150." "Guess not," came the response. "Let me see—oh, yes, to be sure. Beg a thousand pardons. Ahem! Thank you."

A LETTER has recently been delivered in France after being detained in the postoffice for half a century. A singular discovery was made in the course of the operations now going on in the General Postoffice at Paris. In a panel near one of the boxes was found a letter, which had been posted exactly fifty years ago, and which, by some mischance, had got stuck in the panel instead of finding its way into the box. The letter was duly forwarded to the person to whom it was addressed, who, still more strangely, was alive, and received it safely. The writer, however, had been dead many years.

All Sorts of Paragraphs.

SAVANNAH has had a decrease her in white population during the past ten years of 169, and an increase of the colored population of 2,681.

EX-GOV. B. GRATZ BROWN, of St. Louis, has announced himself as a Democratic candidate before the next Legislature for the United States Senate from Missouri.

EUGENIE, en route from the Cape to England, stopped at the island of St. Helena to visit Longwood and the tomb where the remains of Napoleon I. were at first deposited.

FROM the fact that the lower animals arrive at maturity much earlier than man, and the inferior races of men develop more rapidly than the superior, a French biologist infers that precocity indicates a low order of development.

SAN FRANCISCO has not yet established a claim to the eighth place among American cities. The *Chronicle's* estimate of 280,000 for the former city seems to be 40,000 too high. The Supervisor of the Census is confident that the population will be under 240,000. This will leave Cincinnati next to Baltimore.

CHARLES DE YOUNG'S will has been admitted to probate in San Francisco. It recites that he owned twelve-eighteenths of the San Francisco *Chronicle*. He bequeaths the profits of three-eighteenths to his mother as long as she lives, and leaves the remainder to his sisters, Amanda and Laura, and their children, and to the wife of his brother Gustave. The will makes several minor bequests to his nieces and nephews and to his favorites on the *Chronicle's* force.

C. L. WILLIAMS, an official in the Wisconsin State Institute for Deaf and Dumb, was tried two years ago for fiendish cruelty to a mute girl. The jury disagreed, and he was discharged from custody. A brother of the girl declared during the trial that he would kill Williams if the jury let him go. Williams was terrified by the threat, and lost no time in disappearing after his release. The news now comes from Texas that the brother, after searching the country over, has found and mortally wounded him.

THE driver of a San Buenaventura stage, in California, lately had an adventure which he will not soon forget. While making his trip up, a passenger, who was on the roof seat above and behind the driver, suddenly became insane, and declared that he was pursued by two men. Drawing a small, new hatchet, he held it over the driver's head, threatening to bury it in his brain if he did not drive faster. The driver, utterly helpless, ran his team at full speed for some seven miles, and finally drew up at the Newhall House, where the lunatic sprung down and took to the hills.

JUDGE MCCRARY has decided that the Western Union Telegraph Company had not the exclusive right to use the telegraph wires of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, and that the American Union Company could use the wires. The contract between the railroad company and the Western Union was declared void, because beyond the power of the railroad company to execute. The court further declared that the provision of the contract by which it was agreed to send messages for the officers of the railroad company free was corrupt, immoral, and against public policy.

THE plentiful use of lemons at this season of the year is wholesome and healthful. Lemon juice is the best anti-scorbutic remedy known, and is valuable in fevers, inflammation, liver complaint, children's complaints, etc. By rubbing the gums with lemon juice they are kept healthy, the nails and hands are also kept clean, soft and supple by the use of lemon. Neuralgia is said to be cured by rubbing the affected part with lemon, and it is an excellent thing for use on the hair. It is now customary to put a slice of lemon in the glass of iced tea, which renders the customary drink much more palatable.

DALE, otherwise Jordan, the Canadian cricketer who was arrested as a deserter from the British army, and was duly tried and sentenced to thirty-six days' imprisonment, has got himself into still worse trouble—stepped out of the frying-pan into the fire, as it were. Instead of thanking his lucky stars that his sentence was so light, he just gathered himself together and bolted. Of course he was recaptured, and he was given a new trial with a celerity that must almost have taken his breath away. And now once more he is under sentence, only this time his sentence is to a term of 336 days' imprisonment.

KEELY, the motor man, of Philadelphia, invented, among other things, a vaporic lift, intended for raising heavy weights. The feat is accomplished by means of a belt strapped around the waist, to which are attached numerous small wires. Two of these wires are connected with a small instrument resembling a watch-case, which contains wheels and springs. While Mr. Keely was practicing with the lift, recently, he burst a blood-vessel, causing a severe hemorrhage. He was found in his workshop in an insensible condition, with blood flowing from his mouth. He was ill for several days, but his condition is now improving.

BY a recent Cabinet order horse-leather has been adopted as the material of which the boots issued to sailors of the German navy are in the future to be made. Experiments with the horse-leather boots have been carried on for the last eighteen months, and with such satisfactory results that the use of calfskin is to be altogether abandoned in making naval boots and shoes. The leather used is to be made of the skin of the quarters of the horse, the flesh being carefully scraped off so as to render the leather soft and pliable, while still remaining to a large extent waterproof. The new pattern of foot-covering for the German sailor is a laced half-boot coming up above the ankle-bone, with a sewn and pegged sole.

THE North British Railway Company's plans for restoring the Tay bridge are now published. The main features of the new structure will be two. The old long girders, which were thirteen in number, are to be replaced by twenty-six small girders, and they are to be thirty-one feet lower than they were in the old bridge. This new plan will give abundant securities for stability, but it will, of course, necessitate a lowering of the girders already standing, and it is on this ground that the plan is expected to be opposed. The people interested in the fifteen or twenty smacks that find their way up the river to the neighborhood of Perth in the course of a year will, in the name of "the navigation of the Tay," probably take considerable exception to the new plans.

A CHINESE wash-house in San Francisco being burned to the ground, and eleven of its occupants burned to death, the newspapers described them as exhibiting, by the positions in which the bodies were found, the agony they suffered from the fire. The *Pacific Medical and Surgical Journal* rightly regards this as a prevalent popular error, that being burned to death is necessarily painful. In almost every case of this kind the gases developed by the flames put the sleepers into an unconscious condition long before the flames reach their beds. In other words, they are practically anesthetized before being burned. So that, in spite of the fact that the bodies may exhibit contortions, it is none the less true that the unfortunate victims die a painless death.

A REMARKABLE hit was made by a New York insurance company in the matter of the Brougham annuity. When the benefit was given to John Brougham by his friends, every effort was made to render it profitable in the highest degree. Under such circumstances it became a grand success, and the two performances cleared the almost-incredible sum of $14,000. The next question was, what to do with the money? After some deliberation the purchase of an annuity was ordered, and the life-insurance company in question took the contract, which gave the annuitant $28 per week for life. In two years the payments are stopped by his death. The company during this time paid Brougham $2,912. They received $14,000, which, with 5-per-cent. interest for two years, equals $15,400. Now deduct the payments ($2,912), and you have as the net gain $12,488.

THE Rev. Mr. White, of New Hampshire, has founded a religious sect called Angelic Believers. They believe in the disposition of angels to visit earth's people, if they are only properly encouraged. His object is to restore the old sociability between human and angelic beings. In a sermon lately White said that it would not surprise him to have angels call upon him at any time, and he held himself in readiness to give them a welcome. Three boys resolved that White's faith should be rewarded. One of them borrowed three of his sister's nightgowns, and got three pairs of chicken's wings, which were fastened on the shoulders of the white garments. With some fixings by way of disguise, the boys went at night to the cottage of White. They knocked and said they were angels. He examined their wings and raiment, and was satisfied. They were hungry and asked for a kid. White had no kid. A fatted calf would do. White had no calf, and offered them pork, at which they turned up their noses. Some cold chicken was set before them, and hard cider, and they were enjoying the repast when Mrs. White came in. She was suspicious, and examined the flowing garments, on which she saw the name "Blodgett" marked. "Ole man," she cried, "I've washed all three o' them nightgowns afore." The Whites locked the door, took off the angelic robes, used up two broomsticks on the boys, and turned them out to go home like common mortals

A CORRESPONDENT of the Chicago *Tribune* copies from an atlas printed in 1826 a part of a table showing the population of 153 cities and towns of the United States according to the census of 1820, except in a few cases where a later count had been made. The name of Chicago is, of course, not found in the list. The total population of the fifty-three towns was less than 750,000:

New York (1825)	170,000
Philadelphia	108,000
Boston (1825)	68,000
Baltimore	68,000
New Orleans	27,000
Charleston (1824)	27,000
Providence (1825)	15,000
Albany (1825)	15,000
Cincinnati (1826)	14,000
Washington	13,000
Salem, Mass.	12,000
Richmond, Va.	12,000
Pittsburgh	7,000
St. Louis	5,000
Louisville, Ky.	4,000

It will be noted that Chicago has now more population than the eight largest cities of that time: St. Louis then having but 5,000 people, and Cincinnati but 14,000. Boston and Baltimore were then, as now, neck and neck in the race. Only fifty-three towns in the whole country could claim 2,000 people, and a glance at the above table, when compared with the present census, not only shows the wonderful growth of the republic, but also shows substantial foundation for what New England has sneeringly called "the growing arrogance of the West." Verily, the last half of the nineteenth century finds it as true as Bishop Berkeley saw it in the first half of the eighteenth, that "Westward the course of empire takes its way."