## A DOWN-HILL FIGHT.

*How Two Miners Rolled 500 Feet While Engaged in a Death Struggle.*

Tom Cox and Jim Null were two miners working far up on the bleak, snowy slopes of Mount Elbert, in Colorado. They slept in a tent near the mouth of Golden Lode, in which they were working all night, when they went into the tent for the purpose of going to sleep. One of them got in bed, and, enveloping himself with the blankets, was snug and comfortable and drowsy in a moment. The other, not in so great a hurry, noticed that the melting snow was dripping through the roof of the tent and right where he had to sleep. He couldn't stand a wet couch, and, arousing his companion, asked him to get up so that the bed might be moved to a position where the melted snow would not touch it. His sleepy partner growled out a refusal. There was a hot reply, and in less time than it takes to write it the two men were engaged in a fierce personal encounter. They were both clad in their night-shirts alone, and a small tent is but limited space for two angry men to fight each other in. They had hardly clinched before one carried the other through the front flaps of the tent.

Right here it is necessary to say that the tent was pitched on the fearfully steep slope of Mount Elbert, and there wasn't more than two feet of level ground between the front of the tent and the precipitous slope of the mountain. This slope was covered with four feet of soft snow, and it extended down for 2,000 feet before there was a resting place. In the fierce fight between the two miners they were carried down the dizzy slope, and, with their hands upon each other's throats, they went whirling down the mountain like a pair of bowlders. They had gone but a short distance when anger vanished in the presence of a possible death, and each man turned his attention to the paramount work of saving his life. Down they went along the fearful slant of the great mountain, and at each revolution they sunk in the soft snow, sometimes head first and sometimes feet first. They were paralyzed with fright, and no sound escaped their lips. The further down they went the greater the momentum of their bodies, and when about 500 feet from the point where they started, they bounded in the air and alighted in the snow so deep that they stuck fast. After arduous efforts they managed to extricate themselves and get back to their tent, bruised and bleeding, and their quarrel healed. No matter what the future has in store for these two men, they will never forget the time when they were whirling down the snowy slopes of the continental divide of North America, and a snow drift saved them from landing 1,500 feet below in a condition in which none but the Coroner and the undertaker would feel any practical interest in them. They have been the best of friends ever since their perilous down-hill fight.

### ABUSE OF PUBLIC MEN.

The people of free countries ought to be particularly considerate of the reputation of public men who are faithful to their trusts. Such men are the people's servants, whom they have chosen, and who are doing their work. If these men go astray or prove incompetent, the dishonor rests upon those who chose them, and it is certain that the people must defray the cost of their misdeeds.

In private life a man is not respected who abuses his clerks, and has no regard for their reputations or their characters. We say that he is a scurvy fellow; that he lacks some of the qualities that are essential in a good business man. We are not surprised when his clerks prove unfaithful, or he proves unsuccessful, through poor judgment in his business undertakings.

The same principle, in a degree, applies to public men. We who selected them, who pay them, who are responsible for them, are bound to give them the fairest chance to do well. We are foolish if we do not. We are like a man who should pay a large sum for a horse, and then give him unhealthy food, or lame his fore feet.

Next to the man who ill-treats a woman, we despise the American citizen who treats a public man with personal disrespect, for mere party reasons. Why do we so universally abhor a man who abuses a woman? Because a man is physically stronger than a woman, and, ordinarily, she cannot defend herself.

No more can a President, or a Cabinet Minister, or most public officials. Etiquette commonly closes their mouths against the most brutal calumny. They stand as public targets, open to the shot of every passer-by who has malice in his heart.

Mind, we are now speaking of personal abuse only. Let there be the frankest and strongest criticism of public men as public men. If their measures are unwise or ill-timed, let the fact be stated with all needful emphasis and iteration. If there is good reason for thinking them corrupt their conduct should be probed and investigated. But while a public man is apparently trying conscientiously to do his duty every good citizen should regard an abusive personal attack upon him as an offense against himself.

Upon this point we will relate two small anecdotes. We noticed a while ago upon a friend's table, in a distant city, a copy of the weekly edition of the London *Times*. Seeing our look of curiosity, he said:

"Yes, I take the *Times*. I prefer to get my news now by way of London. I can afford to take only one newspaper, and in this one I have my news without any 'personalities.'"

Our other incident also occurred in a Western city. A gentleman retired from business was asked to become a candidate for election to Congress. His reply, in substance, was this:

"You know how our public men are abused, and why they are abused. Now, if I should accept your nomination, I might stand the abuse myself, but I do not want my children to read every morning in the papers that their father is a scoundrel or a fool."—*Youth's Companion.*

### THE EGYPTIAN IDEA OF IMMORTALITY.

In Egypt, from the very earliest time, the tomb was of the greatest significance for sculpture. Of temple ruins on the Nile, from that hoariest past between the First and Eleventh Dynasties, there is scarcely a trace. How vivid the witness borne to the sepulchral art on the plains of Memphis, the capital of oldest Egypt! Along the margin of the desert stretches the vast Necropolis, with a hidden population of statues, sentinelled by those stupendous royal tombs, the Pyramids. Where else have such preparations been made for the final rest of the dead as in this great *campo santo* of the ancient empire?

Though mingled with much that was naive and material, how vivid were the conceptions of that ancient people concerning the future world! They believed this life but an episode in an eternal existence. Death to them was the real life, only evil spirits being spoken of as dead. The coffin was called the "chest of the living." But to the ancient Egyptian the immortal part, even after death, was in some mysterious way dependent for its contented existence upon the preservation of the body; hence the importance of embalming, the care taken to keep the body as life-like as possible and secure from harm during the long period of the soul's probation. The "eternal dwellings," hewn in the solid rock, high above the floods, were in strong contrast to the abodes of the living, built within reach of the swelling Nile, and of which scarcely a vestige remains.

The massive chamber of this tomb where lies the mummy is pictureless, and its entrance is closed by solid masonry. From it a shaft leads up, which was at many places thirty meters deep, and was filled with a dense mass of earth and stone, making more inviolate the mummy's rest. Over the concealed entrance of this shaft there rises that other essential part of the tomb, the sacred chapel (*mastab*) of equally solid construction.

In a dark recess (*sordab*), aside from this chapel, are found many statues walled up. There are usually twenty or more in number, and represent the deceased with great diversity. To what purpose are they here? Singular beliefs, prevalent among the Egyptians and read from the hieroglyphics by Maspero, furnish us the key to this problem.

An immortal second-self, *ka*, somewhat resembling the "eidolon" of the Greeks and the shade of the Romans, was believed to spring into being with every mortal, grow with his growth, and accompany him after death. So close was the relationship of this strange, double *ka* to man's proper being, that it was of the greatest importance to provide it with a material and imperishable body which it should occupy after death, sharing with the mummy the security of the "eternal dwelling." It was believed that the shade *ka* could come out of this statue and perambulate among men in true ghostly fashion, returning to it at will. This stony body for the dead man's *ka* was naturally made in his exact likeness, and also bore an inscription stating his name and qualities. But a single statue might perish, and future happiness be thus forfeited. Hence that most unique feature of Egyptian statuary, the multiplication of the portraits of the deceased in his tomb.—*The Century.*

### THE FUTURE OF THE MORMON SYSTEM.

In the *Century*, the "Legal Aspect of the Mormon Problem" are discussed by Arthur G. Sedgwick, who concludes as follows:

The failure of the attempt to break up the Mormon system by Congressional legislation does not, by any means, show that the Mormon system will ultimately prevail in Utah. The operation of natural causes is certain, in the long run, to sap the foundations of polygamy. The railroads have already brought the Territory into communication with the rest of the country, and the development of the mines must ultimately bring in a large Gentile population—almost altogether male. A strong tendency in the direction of marriages between Gentile men and the daughters of Mormon parents must spring up. Indeed, this is said to show itself already. There is no surplus of women in the West from which to recruit polygamous households; the births of the two sexes are always very nearly equal, and the Mormon population is no longer being rapidly increased from abroad, as it was in the times of the early persecution of the church. It is now stationary, or nearly so, and being rapidly hemmed in by a community having a social system which all experience shows is the only one permanently adapted to modern industrial life. As the Territory fills up, and the Mormons are brought more and more into relations with the rest of the world, one of the strongest internal causes of disintegration will unquestionably be the sense of shame operating upon the younger female generation. In the natural course of things, some of the daughters of Mormon householders must marry Gentiles, and others, who do not marry outside the church, will be made keenly aware that they are surrounded by a community which regards their position as a degraded one. As long as they could keep themselves separated from the rest of the world, this Gentile feeling was of very little consequence to them. It did not affect them in their daily life; it was something remote from them, which they did not even need to disregard. This cannot continue forever, and indeed a change must begin, if it has not begun already, as soon as the surrounding monogamic Gentile system of marriage has a fair opportunity to enter into competition with its rival. Under these circumstances, there is nothing to be done with the Mormons but to let them alone. Persecution has been tried, and has only served to strengthen and increase them. Law has been tried, and has proved of no use, because it has not been enforced. From the circumstances of the case, it cannot be.

### TRACKED TO DEATH.

*Methods of Criminal Detection in France.*

[From the Cornhill Magazine.]

a man in France be arrested, or merely suspected, he must say who he is. Concealment is useless, for the police will not release the man until they have exhausted all means of ascertaining the truth. He may give a false name, or say that he is a foreigner, but the authorities of the place where he professes to have been born will be written to, and, if the information he has given be found incorrect, he will be liable to six months' imprisonment for being a vagabond; nor will his troubles end there, for the police will take it for granted that he is only concealing his identity because he has committed some great crime, and he will be placed under surveillance till his life becomes so burdensome that he will tell the truth to get a little peace.

French criminals of the lower classes scarcely ever try to conceal their identity. In the course of fifty years the Prefecture have had many cases of Englishmen and Americans who gave false names, and whose identity could not be discovered because the English and American police could afford no assistance in the matter, but they can only quote one case of a Frenchman who obstinately resisted all endeavors to ascertain what his name was.

This wretched man had been arrested for a petty theft, and stated that he was an Italian. This proved to be false; at least it was discovered that no person bearing his name had been born in the commune which he described as his birthplace.

He was kept in prison fifteen months and questioned eighty times by a Judge d'Instruction, but to no purpose, so that he was at last tried for being a thief and a vagabond, and sentenced to a year's imprisonment. On his release he was treated as a foreigner—that is, he was expelled from the country by order of the Prefect of Police, and, being conveyed to the frontier between two gend'armes, he was given up to the Italian authorities as a suspected criminal.

The Italian police system being like the French, the vagabond was taken to jail and asked to give an account of himself. As he persisted in telling palpable untruths about his birth place, he was kept for several months in durance, then sentenced to six months for vagabondage, and on the expiration of his term he was sent back to France.

This time the French police did not arrest him, but they watched him. The unhappy man, seeking for work as a stone-mason, soon found employment, but gave his master a name different to that under which he had been sentenced. The police were down upon him at once.

Having ascertained that his new name was not his own, they got him sentenced again to a year's imprisonment, "pour usurpation de faux noms," and upon his discharge they told him plainly that he could expect no peace until he made an avowal of his identity. He was consigned to a "Depot de Mendicite," or depot for incorrigible vagabonds, and there committed suicide.

Who he was has never been ascertained, but the relentless pertinacity with which he was hunted to death shows what a grim duel it is which the French police wages against criminals.

If this unfortunate man had given himself out for an Englishman, and had got himself conveyed to Dover, his troubles would have ceased when he touched English soil, for the British police would have no right to worry him or to ship him back to France.

### YOUNG VOICES.

There is a charm, an inspiration, in the blending of young voices in sacred song which nothing else can impart. We owe it to our children, to ourselves and to the dignity of worship, that an element so thrilling, so effective, should not be lost to the church for want of training.

The teaching of music in the schools in a great measure prepares for participation in the church and Sunday-school services. Perhaps the most forcible objection to that form of worship in which the people participate is that the American people are not trained to sing.

Let vocal music be taught, in its integrity, in the public schools, and our choir and congregational singing must become as grand and universal as now in Holland and Germany, where music forms an integral portion of education. What is done in these countries, 'with means far inferior to those at our command, may be done and better done here, by a liberal and enlightened system of school instruction.—*Musical Herald.*

WHAT is the difference between cotton and wool? Give it up, eh? Well, one is grown down South, and the other is grown on a South Down.

### SCHWATKA'S SEARCH.

No more interesting tale of Arctic exploration has been written than the account of Lieut. Schwatka's sledging party in search of the records of the Franklin expedition, and described in a most graphic manner by Mr. Gilder, the second in command. The important feature of this expedition lies in the fact that the five members composing it were left for two years in the Arctic regions without any depot from which to draw supplies, and were therefore compelled to live like the natives of the frozen land and adopt their manners and customs, or their lives would speedily have paid the forfeit of their daring ventures. During eighteen months the party of four white men and one "Eskimo" performed a sledge journey of 3,250 miles, during which their courage, energy, endurance and perseverance were severely tested. In its main purpose the expedition was a failure. It did not find the Franklin records, but it did ascertain definitely that they had been destroyed, found the remains of many of Franklin's crew, and brought home for burial the bones of Lieut. Irving, an officer of the Terror. In geographical results the expedition accomplished all that was to have been expected of it.

During their journey Mr. Gilder says "We ate quantities of reindeer tallow with our meat, probably about half our daily food. Breakfast is eaten raw and frozen, but we generally have a warm meal in the evening. Fuel is hard to obtain, and consists entirely of a vine-like moss. Reindeer tallow is also used for light. * * * Eating such quantities of tallow is a great benefit in this climate, and we can easily see the effect of it in the comfort with which we meet the cold. * * * January proved the coldest month of our experience, with the mean thermometer of—53.2 deg., lowest—71 deg., and the highest—23 deg. Fahrenheit. * * * Our meat had to be eaten cold—that is, frozen so solid that it had to be sawed, and then broken into convenient-sized lumps, which, when first put into the mouth, were like stones. * * * The country began to swarm with wolves now. Equeesik killed two by the most infernal traps ever devised. He set two keenly sharpened knive-blades in the ice, and covered them with blood, which the wolves licked, at the same time slicing their tongues, the cold keeping them from feeling the wounds at the time, and their own warm blood tempting them to continue until their tongues were so scarified that death was inevitable. He also prepared some pills by rolling up long strips of whalebone, bound with sinew and hidden in meat, which, freezing, would hold together until it had passed into the animal's intestines, when, the meat having thawed and the sinew digested, the whalebone would open out and produce an agonizing death."

Mr. Gilder thus sums up the results of the expedition: "We had traveled (in one year) 2,819 geographical, or 3,251 statute miles, most of which was entirely over unexplored territory. * * * Our sledge journey stands conspicuous as the only one ever made through the entire course of an Arctic winter, and one regarded by the natives as exceptionally cold. * * * The party successfully withstood the lowest temperature ever experienced by white men in the field, * * * it is the first in which the white men voluntarily lived exclusively upon the same fare as their Esquimauq assistants. * * * The expedition was the first to make a summer search over the route of the lost crews of the Erebus and Terror, and, while so doing, buried the remains of every member of that fated party above ground.

### UGLY PEOPLE AND BIG NOSES.

Napoleon was not the first person to declare a preference for men with big noses. A century before his birth the author of "Nugae Venales," in reply to his own question, pronounced "the biggest nose the best nose," instancing the cases of the Roman Emperors. Numa's nose was half a foot long, and earned for him the honorable surname of Pompilius. According to Pliny, Lycurgus and Solon ran to nose, and did all the Roman Kings except Tarquinius Superbus, and he was deformed. Homer's nose was seven inches long. "Big noses," says Vigneul Marville, "are held in honor everywhere in the world, except among the Chinese and Tartars." Titus Livius, Ovid, Cæsar and St. Charles Borromeo may be enumerated among men of enviable nose development. Henry III.'s brother, Francis, Duke of Alencon, had his nose fairly cleft in two by the ravages of small-pox, a fact which inspired the epigram, when in 1583 he made a perilous attempt on the friendly city of Antwerp, concerning two noses befitting a double face. Cyrano de Bergerac had so huge a nose that he went about perpetually with his hand on his sword prepared to punish those who stared at him. Mme. de Genlis had a model nose—at least she thought it to be such, judging from her frequent allusions to it in her "memoirs," and the sculptor she gave the artist who represented her as aquiline. "Is that," she said, "the little nez retrousse celebrated in prose and verse?" and she went on to describe it in detail as most delicate, the prettiest nose in the world, with a lump on it like most noses of the sort. She also anticipated Tennyson's heroine, with her nose tip-tilted like the petals of a flower.

Among the ugly people famed in history may be mentioned Margaret, Countess of Tyrol, nicknamed "Sack's Mouth;" La Tremouille, Mme. de Sevigne's friend, who, when he turned his back on one person to pay attention to another, was said by the first to have paid her a compliment; Mlle. de Scuderi, Delilie, Florian, Gilbert, Remou de la Reyniere, Mirabeau and Dutton. Vain Venargues found himself such a picture of horror after recovering from an attack of small-pox that he refused to appear in society, but, going into seclusion, made the world debtor for his books. Hilsenberg, the Prussian naturalist, was distinguished by the natives of Madagascar with the surname of "The Fright." Becker, having denied the existence of the devil, was adjured by Le Mounoie to complete his good work and free humanity from all its terrors by suppressing his own portrait. Scarron's account of his phenomenal ugliness is too familiar to need mention.

### HOW THE EXPRESS BUSINESS STARTED.

I have just found an old letter, addressed to me on the 27th of October, 1838, which led to results quite overpowering in their magnitude. The writer is William F. Harnden. He tells me that he has applied for a post of conductor upon the Western railroad, and solicits my influence, as Treasurer of the road, "should you think me worthy of the office." Harnden had been selling tickets at the Worcester railroad depot, but found this occupation much too sedentary for his active nature. He was a man who wished to be moving. For some reason, which I do not recall, Harnden did not get the conductorship; but his application brought me in contact with this lithe, intelligent young fellow, who wished to be on the go, and I suggested to him a new sort of business which, in the hands of a bright man, I thought might be pushed to success. As Director and President of the Providence railroad, I was compelled to make weekly journeys to New York, where the bulk of our stock was held. The days of my departure were well known, and I was always met at the depot by a bevy of merchants' clerks, who wished to intrust packages of business papers, samples of goods and other light matters to my care. The mail establishment was at that time utterly insufficient to meet the wants of the public. The postage was 17 cents upon every separate bit of paper, and this was a burdensome tax upon the daily checks, drafts and receipts incident to mercantile transactions. I was ready to be of service to my friends, though some of them thought my good nature was imposed upon when they found that I was obliged to carry a large traveling-bag to receive their contributions. I kept this bag constantly in sight on my journey, and, upon arriving in New York, delivered it to a man whom the merchants employed to meet me and distribute its contents. Now, it occurred to me that there was an opportunity for somebody to do, for an adequate compensation, just what I was doing for nothing. I pointed out to Mr. Harnden that the collection and delivery of parcels, as well as other transportation, might be undertaken by one responsible person, for whose service the merchants would be glad to pay. The suggestion fell upon fruitful soil. Harnden asked me for special facilities upon the Boston and Providence road, which I gladly gave him, and, with the opening of the year, he commenced regular trips (twice a week, I think he made them), bearing in his hand a small valise, and that valise contained in germ the immense express business—contained it as the acorn contains the forest oaks that may come from it; but many generations are required to see the magnificence of the forests, while the growths of human enterprise extend to their wonderful maturity in one short life. Harnden's fate was that too common with pioneers and inventors. He built up a great business by steady industry, saw all its splendid possibilities, tried to realize them before the time was ripe, and died a poor man at the age of 33. In attempting to extend the express business to Europe he assumed risks that were ruinous, and the stalwart Vermonter, Alvin Adams, took his place as chief in the great industry which had arisen under his hands. —*Josiah Quincy, in the Independent.*

### A MULE'S EARS.

United States Consul Aynie, of Yucatan, relates the following:

Traveling in Yucatan is attended with some difficulties, owing to the heat of the day and the bad state of the roads. To avoid the heat all long journeys are performed at night; to mitigate the roughness of the road a peculiar style of vehicle is employed called a volan. This is a conveyance altogether peculiar to Yucatan, not found anywhere else. It might be called a modified volante—in common use in Cuba—only, instead of sitting up in it, you lie down. It has two large wheels, and the body of the concern is placed directly over the axle, suspended upon high, very elastic springs. The shafts are very long, and a framework projects behind, upon which trunks may be secured, and from which the body of the vehicle is suspended at that end. It has a covered canvas top, with curtains and a bottom of interlaced rope. Upon this springy support is placed a mattress. It is always drawn by three mules—one in the shafts and one on either side—harnessed in by such a combination of leather and rope that no stranger could by any possibility disentangle them. These mules are generally very small, but make up for this by a generous length of ears, which are carried along their backs.

Speaking of ears, a friend of mine traveling here told me that he once had a mule with very fine ears, so long that they met behind his back. They were continually in his way, as the mule couldn't help flapping them, and frequently knocked my friend—who is a very staid and truthful man—off his saddle. Though a very humane man, as well as veracious, he couldn't stand this sort of thing every day, so what did he do? Well, he thought over it a while, and then hit upon a plan. He inoculated one of the mule's ears with a wart, and then by cutting a slit in the other he had a natural button and button-hole, by means of which he buttoned the ears together under his mule's tail. This was pleasant for a while—for my friend—but he soon saw his mistake. That wart kept growing, and he had to extend the button-hole to keep pace with it until those ears were hardly anything else but wart and button-hole.

Another uncomfortable thing about it was that, when the mule wanted to waggle his ears—for a mule is so constituted that he must wag a certain number of times a day or die—he had to dismount, tie the animal to a tree and pry the ears apart with a button hook. I asked him how much the ears measured, and he said he didn't know, but the mule had caused him to "measure his length" several times.

### CONGRESSIONAL DUELISTS.

A complete record of the number of Congressmen who have been engaged in duels has never been kept; but the number who have died in affairs of honor is pretty well known.

Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury under Washington, leader of the Federalist party, and a leading spirit in the formation of the constitution, was mortally wounded by Aaron Burr, at Hoboken, July 3, 1804.

Richard Spaight, of North Carolina, was the first to die in a duel. He served in the Continental Congress, and sat in the convention which framed the constitution. He was killed by his successor in Congress, John Stanley. The latter was tried and sentenced to imprisonment, but was pardoned by Gov. Williams, of North Carolina, in a year. Stanley was subsequently elected to Congress.

Thomas K. Harris, of Tennessee, died in 1816 from wounds received in a duel with Col. Simpson.

Spencer Pettis was killed in a duel fought with Maj. Thomas Biddle, at St. Louis, Aug. 26, 1831. The duel arose out of a quarrel over the United States Bank, the President of which, Nicholas Biddle, was the brother of the challenger.

Armstead T. Mason, ex-Senator from Virginia, fell in a duel fought near Washington city with John McCarty, his brother-in-law, in 1819.

Joseph Pierson, of North Carolina, died from a duel fought in 1834 with John Jackson.

Jonathan Cilley, of Maine, died from a shot received in a duel fought Feb. 28, 1838, fired by William J. Graves, of Kentucky. Graves was subsequently elected to Congress.

George A. Waggaman, United States Senator from Louisiana, lost his life in a duel near New Orleans, March 23, 1843.

George Poindexter, Representative from Mississippi, fought a duel with Elijah Hunt, a merchant, about 1835, and killed him.

#### BLOODLESS DUELS.

There have been many duels which were bloodless. Among them the following are the most notable.

Those between Henry Clay and Humphrey Marshall, and between Clay and John Randolph, of Virginia.

Samuel W. Inge, Representative from Alabama, fought at Bladensburg with Edward Stanley, of South Carolina, in the Thirty-first Congress, neither being seriously injured.

John S. Jackson, of the Thirty-seventh Congress, fought several duels, one with Thomas F. Marshall—none resulting seriously.

Leonard Jarvis, member from Maine, challenged a colleague, F. O. J. Smith, from the Portland district, in about the Twenty-fourth Congress; but the latter declined to fight.

### HASTY JUDGMENT.

Nothing is more unjust than to judge of a man by too short an acquaintance, and too slight inspection; for it often happens that in the loose and thoughtless and dissipated there is a secret radical worth, which may shoot out by proper cultivation; that the spark of heaven, though dimmed and obstructed, is yet not extinguished, but may, by the breath of counsel and exhortation, be kindled into a flame. To imagine that every one who is not completely good is irrevocably abandoned, is to suppose that all are capable of the same degree of excellence. It is, indeed, to exact from all that perfection which none can ever attain. And, since the purest virtue is consistent with some vice, and the virtue of the greatest number with almost an equal proportion of contrary qualities, let none too hastily conclude that all goodness is lost, though it may for a time be clouded and overwhelmed, for most minds are the slaves of external circumstances and conform to any hand that undertakes to mold them, roll down any torrent of custom in which they happen to be caught, or bend to any importunity that bears hard against them.—*Samuel Johnson.*

### EVERY EGG BROKE.

A farmer, carrying a basket of eggs, tried to steal a ride on a freight train, and when he came to want to get off the train didn't stop, and so he jumped off. The train wasn't going very fast, but he didn't understand getting away from it, and so got slung several somersaults and stopped against a fence, with a wrist sprained, his clothes muddied and rent, and one ear pretty nearly torn off. He got up and took an inventory of the result, and, in his despair, lifted up his voice and said: "Gosh durn the gosh durn luck, anyhow! Every gosh durned egg in the lot's broke!"—*Boston Post.*

### THEIR FIRST APPEARANCE.

Envelopes were first used in 1839.

Anæsthesia was discovered in 1841.

The first steel pen was made in 1830.

The first air pump was made in 1654.

The first lucifer match was made in 1798.

Mohammed was born at Mecca about 570.

The first iron steamship was built in 1830.

The first balloon ascent was made in 1798.

Coaches were first used in England in 1569.

The first steel plate was discovered in 1830.

The first horse railroad was built in 1826–7.

Ships were first "copper bottomed" in 1783.

The Franciscans arrived in England in 1224.

The first steamboat plied the Hudson in 1807.

The entire Hebrew Bible was printed in 1488.

Gold was first discovered in California in 1848.

The first telescope was used in England in 1608.

Christianity was first introduced into Japan in 1549.

The first watches were made at Naremburg in 1477.

First sawmaker's anvil brought to America in 1819.

First almanac printed by George Van Furbach in 1460.

The first newspaper advertisement prepared in 1652.

Percussion caps were used in the United States army in 1830.

The first use of a locomotive in this country was in 1829.

Omnibuses were first introduced in New York in 1830.

Kerosene was first used for lighting purposes in 1826.

The first copper cent was coined in New Haven in 1687.

The first glass factory in the United States was built in 1780.

The first printing press in the United States was worked in 1620.

Glass windows were first introduced into England in the eighth century.

The first steam engine on this continent was brought from England in 1753.

The first complete sewing-machine was patented by Elias Howe, Jr., in 1846.

The first Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge was organized in 1698.

The first attempt to manufacture pins in this country was made soon after the War of 1812.

The first prayer-book of Edward VI. came into use by authority of Parliament on Whitsunday, 1549.

The first temperance society in this country was organized in Saratoga county, N. Y., in March, 1808.

The first coach in Scotland was brought thither in 1561, when Queen Mary came from France. It belonged to Alexander Lord Seaton.

The first daily newspaper appeared in 1702. The first newspaper printed in the United States was published in Boston Sept. 25, 1790.

The manufacture of porcelain was introduced into the province of Hezin, Japan, from China in 1513, and Hezin ware still bears Chinese marks.

The first society for the exclusive purpose of circulating the Bible was organized in 1085, under the name of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

The first telegraphic instrument was successfully operated by S. F. B. Morse, the inventor, in 1835, though its utility was not demonstrated to the world until 1842.

### LITERALLY SO.

A young fellow riding down a steep hill, doubting if the foot of it was boggish, called out to a clown that was ditching and asked if it was hard at the bottom.

"Aye," answered the countryman, "it is hard enough at the bottom, I warrant you."

But in half a dozen steps the horse sank up to the saddle-girths, which made the young gallant whip and spur and utter oaths.

"You rascal," said he to the ditcher, "didst thou not tell me that it was hard at the bottom?"

"Ay," said the ditcher, "but you are not half way to the bottom yet."

### THE DOG'S EYES WERE BEST.

A gentleman, accompanied by a favorite dog, visited the studio of a rising artist. There was a picture on the easel, and the dog began to bark furiously at it.

"Nature may be relied upon after all," said the gentleman. "The best evidence of the faithfulness with which you have painted that dog in the background is the earnestness with which *my* dog barks at him."

"But that isn't a dog," said the artist, flushing; "it is a cow."

The gentleman was nonplussed for a moment, but he quickly replied, "Well, the dog's eyes are better than mine; he never did like cows."

THERE is said to be no male descendant of the Sumner family. Its only representatives are the three nieces of the great Senator—the daughters of his sister, Mrs. Julia Hastings.

A YOUNG married man whose house rent is paid by his mother-in-law alludes to her as his darling pay-rent.

LITTLE drops of rain brighten the meadows, and little acts of kindness brighten the world.