





Premium for Immorality.

Mr. Perham, chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions, has just reported a bill containing a new and important principle applying to female pensioners. The 2d section of the act is as follows:

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That upon the presentation of satisfactory evidence to the Commissioner of Pensions that any female pensioner is living a life of prostitution, or is cohabiting with, or living with, or being supported by any man as his wife or mistress, to whom she is not lawfully married, he shall immediately notify such pensioner, or her agent of the charges or charges and the evidence upon which the same is founded; and unless such pensioner shall within—

months thereafter produce satisfactory rebutting evidence, her name shall be dropped from the pension rolls.

Whether the bill is sufficiently guarded, in all its provisions, or not, is one question, but the principle sought to be carried out, is unmistakably correct and must ultimately be adopted by the government, because just and demanded by morality.

The bill was attacked with considerable bitterness, on its introduction, and on a motion to recommitt Mr. Perham was afforded an opportunity to explain the bill, and to discuss it so fully as is allowable at certain stages of legislation. Mr. Ingerson of Illinois characterized the bill in most unmeasured terms as an act fit only for a barbarous age—that it was indicative of barbarism, and that it could have emanated only from the cold and rigid regions of Maine. The objections urged against the section quoted above, were, that it casts a stigma upon the whole class of female pensioners and subjects them to the danger of being made the victims of anonymous and slanderous complaints, and puts them upon their defense needlessly, and that an improper discrimination is made between female pensioners who commit crime, and males, who are equally guilty, and that it destroys the safeguards of the law in criminal cases, which provide that a person charged with the commission of a crime shall be presented by a grand jury, shall have a traverse jury to try his case, shall be allowed to meet his accuser face to face, and shall be allowed counsel, and that member, Mr. Boyden, raised the question whether Government or its officers, are required to take care of the morality of its citizens.

Mr. Perham, who subjected to a running fire of interruptions from all quarters, and restricted to the limits of debate on the motion to recommitt, shyly answered the objections, and showed conclusively the necessity for such a bill. He quoted from the report of the Commissioners of Pensions, showing that the proposition did not emanate entirely from the "cold and rigid regions of Maine." The Commissioner says:

"Widows in increasing numbers cohabit without marriage, refusing this solemn rite and living in open prostitution." "The Government should not be placed unwittingly in the strange attitude of offering a premium upon immorality."

In regard to the necessity for the law, Mr. Perham said:

Now, as for the occasion for legislation of this kind, facts are coming to the knowledge of the Federal Office from different sections all over the country of numerous instances—and the number is increasing every day—of widows who are entitled to pensions who perhaps contract for marriage with men, but for the purpose of retaining their pensions they come together and live together as though they were married, and have children. In such a case, the woman every six months makes oath that she is still a widow and she draws her pension from the Government. You place the Government, by the law as it now is, in this anomalous position; and I ask my friends who oppose this measure to see just what they propose to do for it they vote as they indicated they would yesterday. Here are two widows drawing pensions and living, it may be, in the same community. They both make an agreement with some gentleman of their acquaintance, as she should do; under the law she forfeits her pension. The other declines to marry, but lives with the man just the same as though she was married, and she draws her pension every six months, making out that she is still a widow. The Government is thus placed in this position: you take away the pension from the woman who is honest and has married as she ought to do, while to the woman who is dishonest and living in sin you give the pension as a reward for her sin. That is just the position.

In regard to male pensioners, who may be equally criminal, Mr. P. justly says:

That is an entirely different case. You offer to the man no premium for time. You give him a pension because he has been injured in the service of his country. He has personally borne his share of the storm of battle; he has lost an eye or the loss of a limb or the loss of his health upon the field of battle. I do not know what the members of the House may think, but the members of the Committee on Invalid Pensions are of opinion that there is a great difference in the cases.

As to removing the safeguards of the law, Mr. P. says, if the Bill is not sufficiently guarded, let it be amended, but if the principle is right there is no need of sacrificing it on account of omissions in the details. But the section provides that satisfactory evidence shall be produced, &c., and the pensioner will be afforded ample time to meet the charges before her pension is suspended.

Mr. Perham closed with an eloquent defence of his native State, as follows:

That, then, is all there is in regard to the subject. Now, sir, I would content myself with these remarks but for the fact that my friend from Illinois [Mr. Ingerson] was pleased to characterize this measure in most unmeasured terms as an act fit only for a barbarous age; that it was indicative of barbarism, and that it could have emanated only from the cold and rigid regions of Maine. Mr. Speaker, Maine needs no such insult. Her sons need none. Their impress is made upon the broad western prairies, the State of Illinois, that the gentleman represents not excluded. The State of Maine furnished, according to her population, as many, as faithful, and as valiant soldiers as any other State.

Proud as we all are of the soldiers who went from Maine to fight with equal prowess and valor upon almost every bloody field during the war, I detract nothing from the credit due to Illinois, and I claim that there should be no detracting from the services performed by the soldiers of Maine during the recent struggle. That State has been as benevolent toward her soldiers as any other. While in the service she took care of their wives and the little ones, and since the close of the war she has done and is doing, I am certain as much as the State of Illinois. In addition to what the Government is paying, we are paying to our meritorious soldiers who are in needy circumstances a pension out of the State treasury. We have a separate department of the State government for the distribution of pensions. Our people by their legislation and by their acts toward the soldiers have indicated that they have a much regard for those men and their widows as the people of any other State. They have gone from their native State to the West, and have aided in developing the immense resources of the State of Illinois. If no Maine men had gone to that State would you, think you, have been quite up to her present prosperous and enviable condition? Many of her best citizens were reared in the "rigid State" of Maine, and were educated in her common schools, and wherever they have gone they compare favorably with the citizens of any other State. I know members of the House will feel that I give no offense when I say this.

The Speaker here suggested that the remarks were severely germane to the motion to recommitt, and Mr. P. closed with a few words more, to wit:

Now, I was going to say that I had the privilege of visiting the State of Illinois some two years since, and I found people that had come from my State scattered all around. I found them there as lawyers, as doctors, as merchants, as mechanics, as statesmen, and wherever they were I found them leading men. Why, the good sense of the constituency that the gentleman himself represents sent here to this House for three successive Congresses a man who was born and reared and educated in "the cold and rigid regions of Maine." I refer to the lamented Owen Lovejoy, who had his birth there, who cultivated one of our farms until he was eighteen years of age, who was educated at one of our colleges.

Death of Ex-Gov. Hubbard.

Ex-Gov. John Hubbard died of heart disease, on Saturday last, while sitting in his office at Hallowell. His age was 74. He was twice elected Governor, by the people, in 1849 and 1850. These were the years when Democracy in Maine began to struggle in its death throes, though it did not give up the ghost till 1856. We well remember the State Convention in the old City Hall, Portland, in 1849, when Hubbard was nominated over John Holsdon. The Convention was a large one, and excitement ran high. It was claimed that the convention was called to order prematurely, and each wing of the party had a Chairman in the desk—Gen. Philo Clark, of Turner, for the Holsdon men, or wildcats, as they were denominated, and Gen. Hiram Rose, of Camden, for the Hubbard men. The day was hot, and Clark threw off his coat, and held his position like a Gladiator.

The Morrills and E. K. Smart, were the leading supporters of Hubbard, while Bion Bradbury, Shepard Cary and Gen. Shepley supported Holsdon. The first ballot showed that the Hubbard men had the Convention. Resolutions committing the party to strong free soil ground, were passed, and the present platform of the Republican party is but little in advance of them. The old Hokers tried to get rid of Hubbard, complaining of his nomination by the Legislative Council, and a bill was got up by a few leaders which resulted in the nomination of Anson G. Chandler of Calais—the run wing of the party laying the radical temperance law. The voters succeeded in forcing their will, and made an irreparable split which rent the party in twain. They sowed the wind and reaped the whirlwind, and have had a pretty fish wind ahead ever since, which has stranded them on a lee shore each succeeding year. They have shipped a good many hard seas, but the one last year was a sea-saw from which, God Grant they may never recover.

Gov. Hubbard was not a politician, but his honesty was never questioned.

The State Normal Schools.

It has been a matter of surprise to us that the State Normal Schools which were established for the professional training of teachers, and which afford such excellent opportunities to this class, should be so little appreciated. They are located at favorable points to accommodate the whole State, and tuition is free to those proposing to teach in the schools of our State. A part of the text books used are also supplied to the pupils free.

The Normal Schools of Massachusetts have been long considered indispensable parts of the educational system of that favored State, and the standard of common school teachers has been raised incalculably by them. Maine has liberally adopted the policy of the parent State, and shall its sons and daughters be slow to take advantage of such benefits. Our common school system, needs nothing so much as trained teachers who intend to make the avocation a permanent profession or calling.

The School for our section of the State is located in the beautiful village of Farmington, at the terminus of the Androscoggin railroad, and students receive free return tickets over this road.

Attention is called to the advertisement of this school, in another column. Its teachers have a high reputation—the Principal, Mr. C. C. Rounds, and Mr. R. Woodbury, are Oxford boys, who are well known in our County.

We trust that this brief notice will move many of the young people who are preparing to teach, to reflect upon the advantages pointed out, and that they will make the requisite effort to improve them.

Legislative Matters.

The Legislature is now hard at work, and the Committee on Invalid Pensions, is thought that the Legislature will not rise till about the 10th of March.

The question of interest, or usury, which has annually been agitated for years, has given rise to some able discussion this year. The proposition to establish the rate of interest to any sum, agreed upon, and to abolish the usury laws is gaining ground with every Legislature. The House only refused to pass the bill by four votes, and the Senate by a large majority in the other way. Mr. Farrington, of Fryeburg, ably sustained the position in favor of the present system. It will not be long, however, before the people come to believe that laws not kept in the spirit had better be changed, and no one pretends to regard the usury law of our Statute book.

The Capital punishment question is exciting much interest. The vote to relieve Harris for 30 days does not indicate the sentiments of the Legislature on the main question. It is reported that a majority of the Judiciary Committee will report a bill which retains the death penalty for murder, but provides that on the recommendation of the jury and judge, the Governor may commute the sentence to imprisonment for life.

If this were done, as we have previously intimated it should be, in our judgment, there would probably be a minority report, sustaining the other ground.

The act concerning registers of deeds gives those officers sixty cents for making a record of conveyances, instead of fifty cents as now provided by law.

During the year 1869 it will be necessary to take the State valuation as a basis for taxation during the next decade, and a resolve for the appointment of commissioners is now before the Legislature. It provides for the appointment of seven commissioners by the Governor and Council, one from each councillor district. The first session of the commissioners is to be held at Augusta on the 10th day of October next, and the assessors of towns and cities are on that day to lay before them orally or transmit by mails the lists of taxable polls and the valuation lists of their respective towns for the three years next preceding 1870, and also special lists for the year 1869, affixing to the property of their towns its true cash value, the latter list to be verified by oath. Towns not observing this requirement are to be "doomed" to the payment of such proportion of the State tax annually as the commissioners may deem just. The commissioners are to complete the work of valuation on the basis afforded by these data by the first of January, 1870. Commissioners receive for compensation five dollars a day while they are employed and the same travel as members of the Legislature. In addition to this resolve, a bill has been introduced prescribing the duties of the assessors in ascertaining the true valuation of their respective towns.

One of the most important measures before the House is that of Mr. Whidden of Calais proposing to allow railroad corporations to organize without special acts of incorporation.

Among the bills before the Legislature is one reported to the Senate by Mr. Snell from the Committee on Legal Reform, regulating the sale of milk. It provides for the appointment by the municipal authorities of one or more inspectors of milk in every city or town containing more than three thousand inhabitants. It provides that the inspectors shall record the names of all persons selling milk and have authority to enter any place where milk is sold, causing any milk found therein to be analyzed if they suspect that it has been adulterated. It further provides that all cans or other vessels used in selling milk shall be sealed annually, and that whoever sells by any other measure shall forfeit \$20 for each offence. Section four provides that persons selling adulterated milk or that diluted with water shall be fined \$50, and all persons acting as agents in the sale are made subject to the same penalties as the principals. The inspectors are to prosecute offenders against the provision of the act.

The Committee on the Prohibitory Liquor Law and Constabulary had a meeting this week. The temperance men urge the Police clause, but what the feeling of the Legislature is, does not yet appear.

The Kennebec Journal, in an able article, reviews the subject, and contends that the law can be enforced as it is and with the present police force better than by any other.

Mr. Editor: I am a reader of your very interesting paper. I think that you have made it much more so since you enlarged it. Now as you wish the several towns to contribute the improvements, changes, and interesting news, I thought that a line or two from me might be interesting, especially to the inhabitants of Norway. We have a small District in the western portion of Norway, known as Yaggar, numbering only eleven families, and in those eleven families there have been six births within the last nine months. A daughter each to Mrs. Wm. Green, H. C. Oxnard and A. H. Stuart. A son each to Mrs. B. W. Marston, J. Foster, Jr. and T. Austin. Two years ago we repaired the school house in our district, and we now have a model house. While our house was undergoing repairs, it was hinted that we should not want so large a house as the old one was, for our school was small, and every year growing smaller. But we were determined that we should not continue to decrease in numbers; hence the above. Where is the district to speak next.

The Cumberland Bar association had their annual supper at the United States Hotel, Portland, on Friday evening last. We propose that the Oxford Bar association have an annual supper on the first Wednesday of the March term each year, it being the second day of the term, and that the practice be inaugurated this year.

The Mormons in Oxford County.

Mr. Editor: You must believe that we have Mormons in Oxford County, and among us. We actually have Elder Sessions from Salt Lake City here, and we have had proposed Mormons here for some years. The present winter, Elder Sessions is laboring in this vicinity and it is not his first "session" in this vicinity. He has labored here before, and not only he, but Elder Tripp, of the same faith, also. As a reward for his labors he took away with him on his return, and has since made one of his wives, the step-mother of one of the first men of our State. Quite a number have gone in former times from this region to the valley. Elder Sessions has many relatives in this county. I think he was born in the town of Newry; from whence his mother, a widow, moved to the valley, arriving there very destitute of everything excepting apple-seeds, which she planted, and which have proved a source of great income to her, she now being very wealthy.

Mormonism was first preached here about twenty-five years ago, by one Elder Wiley, who came here from Nauvoo. He made some converts; a part of whom—some three or five families, followed him back. About 16 years since, Elder Sessions came here and labored a while. About 14 years since, Elder Tripp spent something like a year in this vicinity. From the labors of all these Latter Day Saints, it was very natural that some should be converted, and that seed should be sown, the fruit of which should make it much easier to bring in a few to the fold of Brigham Young, at this time.

Two families went west with Elder Tripp, but returned some time since, and have established themselves here in very comfortable circumstances, all the time doing a little towards spreading their peculiar doctrines, thus affording better chance for Elder Sessions at this time. He came here some weeks ago, and the result of the efforts has only been to make fully ripe that which was in different stages of growth already. There are now in this town eight heads of families, who have embraced the faith and are now in full fellowship, as I understand, with the Church of Latter Day Saints. Besides these, there are some ten to fifteen women and children who have been baptized and are now Mormons.

Whether the wives of all these eight, sympathize with this state of things I am not fully informed. Of these eight heads of families six are related to each other as follows: Three of them are brothers, one a brother-in-law to the three brothers, one a son of said brother-in-law, and the son married the sister of the other one of the six, the brother-in-law of the three brothers is step-father of the last mentioned person's wife, and the whole number are otherwise related to each by marriage and intermarriage. The other two of the eight are brothers-in-law.

That Elder Sessions' labors will spread to any further extent, is questionable, although it is reported that Nathaniel Maybury and P. M. Edmunds have declared their intention of joining the "Saints."

These "Mormons" are among our most industrious and worthy citizens, aside from those "false ideas of true religion." They are men of good standing in community and all in comfortable—some in very good financial circumstances. No doubt there, perhaps five, families will move here before another Autumn, with a view of locating in the valley. They advocate their peculiar doctrine boldly, and really have some Biblical ground hard to overcome, unless by those well versed in scripture knowledge, upon which to base their belief. They don't talk much about the plurality of wives here, still they say it is in accordance with Bible teaching. They are all "well read" in Bible and Bible history.

PAINTED CASUALTY. Died in Bethel, Feb. 2d, Mrs. L. A. wife of Jonas W. Bartlett, aged 43 years. She had been deprived of her usual rest for several nights in consequence of a sick daughter, but on the night preceding her death, being nearly exhausted for want of rest and sleep, she lay down on a couch before an open fire, in the sick-room, and at once fell asleep. While thus asleep, fire was communicated to the cotton fabric of her dress from a spark or coal from the fire, and when she awoke it had made such progress that she was unable to extinguish it. She ran through the front entry and through the kitchen to the sleeping apartment occupied by her husband, who, being awakened by her cries in endeavoring to divest her of her burning garments, severely burned his own hands. Falling to do this, he led her out and plunged her into the snow which put out the fire but not until her clothes were nearly consumed and herself burned in a shocking manner. She suffered most excruciating torment for the first five hours, but under the influence of anodyne treatment, her pain was relieved and she became calm. But so extensive were her burns, nearly or quite two thirds of her body being completely charred, that collapse supervened and she continued in a sinking condition till 7 o'clock Wednesday evening, nine hours after the accident, when she quietly breathed her last. She was a good woman and much respected in the community where she resided. A husband and six children are left to mourn their sad bereavement. She was the oldest of a family of nine children and daughter of John Lapham, of Woodstock.

DIXFIELD. The Universalist Society of Dixfield, had an entertainment at their Church on Tuesday evening of this week, consisting of Plays, Tableaux, Songs, &c., which passed off very acceptably. They had a good house, we understand, and propose giving another in two weeks, with new plays, &c.

MASONIC. The officers of Mount Moriah Lodge, Denmark, recently installed, are as follows:—

Joseph B. Gray, W. M.; Edmund P. Pingree, S. W.; Frank L. Watson, J. W.; Dominicus D. Tarbox, Secretary.

Bethel Items.

The Democrats came to us this year enlarged and greatly improved, making it decidedly the handsomest and largest as well as cheapest paper that comes to our notice. We were fully satisfied with it before—we are proud of it now, and find it difficult to see wherein it could be changed again, for the better. May it succeed as it deserves, which is the best wish we have for it.

Among the anniversaries of weddings, now-a-days, one is called the reception wedding. Such an event occurred last Tuesday evening, 2d inst., at the Chapman House in this village. The happy couple were Mr. Livingston G. Robinson, of the firm of Kimball and Robinson, of this town, and son of the late Hon. O'Neill W. Robinson of Waterford, and Miss Emma Towne, daughter of Tyler P. Towne, Esq. The public house was brilliantly illuminated and tastefully arranged for the occasion. Twenty couples of invited friends were in attendance including the members of the Bethel Cornet Band and their ladies, to partake of its enjoyments. At nine o'clock, supper being announced, the happy couple took the lead, followed by their friends which furnished them a ready passport to a well spread table—and such a supper. Neither jans nor expense were allowed to hinder this from being one of the most luxuriously arranged tables we have sat down to for a long time. The event was much enjoyed by all present. We heartily wish successful wedding seasons to the happy couple till they are crowned in a good old age with the Golden—and all the way one of blessing and comfort. We must not forget to say it was an occasion which did credit to the wide-awake landlady of the Hotel, who got up the supper of large dimensions and excellent quality which proved more than sufficient for the occasion.

Mr. J. Loud, who has been living with his father-in-law, Mr. Brooks, in this village, committed suicide by hanging himself in a barn. Mr. L. has been somewhat deranged by spells for quite a number of years, and it is supposed he committed the act while laboring under the influence of insanity.

Samuel Bird, of Albany, formerly of this town, while about his daily labor last Friday, the 5th inst., fell dead. Disease of the heart is said to be the cause of his death. Mr. B. was about seventy years of age, and a worthy citizen.

Since I commenced this letter we have experienced one of the severest down-cast snowstorms of the season. It commenced snowing on Wednesday morning, and kept up its reputation till Friday, some two feet having fallen when the wind veered round to the north-west, blowing the snow into immense drifts and making the roads impassable.

Buckfield.

It may not be amiss to inform the readers of the Democrat that the fast horses of Buckfield are winning new laurels this winter. The Big Chase, 4 years old, who started up and surprised his owner by beating all 4 year olds, at Bryant's Pond and Dixfield races, was sold last week for \$500.

"Russell's Brandy" trotted a good race at Bryant's Pond, easily beating Lady Emma who has been reckoned down in low figures. While at Dixfield, he and Lady Benson probably trotted the fastest race ever trotted in this County—the first heat both horses being yoked for the whole half mile, the mare winning by a neck, and the 2d and 3d heats being well contested. The past week, he trotted a race at Lewiston, with Happy Jack and Brown Loder, and came in second to Happy Jack, who trotted one heat in the race, in 1:15, and won the 2d part of the Purse. Lady Benson, owned by Farrar and Morrill, was in the sweepstake purse of \$75 at Lewiston, with Lewiston Lady, Richmond Boy, and Happy Jack. The mare won the race in three straight heats, time 1:15, 1:14 and 1:12 3/4. But as so much money was staked on the horse Happy Jack it was deemed advisable, by the friends of Happy Jack, to give him one-half of the heats the first day and thus delay the race till the next day, hoping as Ethan Spike says that "something would turn up" and it did, for in the morning Lady Benson got the word go a full length behind and headed the horse fairly at the score in 1:13. The track has since been measured and found to be 25 feet over 1-2 mile in length. BUCKFIELD.

Being at Buckfield village Feb. 1st, I went into the Court that was sitting for the trial of Dr. Charles D. Bradbury, before Gilbert Barrett, Esq., upon a complaint for furnishing liquor at his house to various persons, upon election day, Sept. 14th. Counsel for defendant took the ground that a gentleman might keep all kinds of ardent spirits and give it away and no law of the State was broken by that act. The Court so ruled (as understood) and Bradbury was acquitted. Sampson for Plaintiff—Andrews for Defendant.

The friends of temperance are not discouraged, if the decision of Esq. Barrett, is law. The defect can be remedied elsewhere.

On the 2d, I went into the Court and witnessed the trial of Charles O. Godwin, of East Buckfield, late member of Nezinecott Lodge, before Noah Prince, Esq., upon a complaint for wilfully breaking, with a chair, five lamps filled with kerosene oil, and all lighted and placed upon a stand, being the property of the Crystal Wave Lodge, at the school house at East Buckfield, on the evening of the 21st of Jan., being the regular meeting of said Lodge. Verdict, guilty; appealed to March term in Paris. Verdict DeCoster, Bondsman; Biscoe and Sampson for Plaintiff, Andrews for Defendant.

On the 3d, Delegates from Lodges of Good Templars met at the Buckfield House, and organized a County Lodge. The public social meeting for the cause of temperance, appointed at the Baptist Church for that evening, was postponed

on account of a storm, which proved the most severe of the winter, and prevented the installation of the officers of the Crystal Wave for the present quarter, on the evening of Feb. 4th.

I notice in the Portland Press, a communication from a Buckfield correspondent, that there was a dispute at the east part of the town by the district, about the Crystal Wave Lodge of Good Templars occupying their school house for their meetings. The Lodge has occupied the school house for their weekly meetings for the year past, and the district has held two meetings in the mean time for business concerning their schools, without one dissenting voice, in said meetings against the Lodge occupying the house for their meetings. No Lodge meeting was disturbed until the evening of the 21st of Jan. and then by only 3 voters out of 29.

As much has been said in the newspapers of the great value of pomace from Pogy fish for neat cattle, &c., Caleb Blake of Turner village, a gentleman of much experience in that article, informs me that if given in large quantities to cows, it injures the good qualities of the milk. Will the farmers inform me through the Democrat, of their experience with that article.

Norway Items.

Rev. Mr. Tabor commenced his duties with the Universalist Society at Norway last Sabbath. He receives \$1000 a year. He does not officiate at the church on Paris Hill, as did Mr. Gunnison. He came from Concord, Vt. and gives promise of being a successful and popular preacher.

Col. Elden Barker, of Norway, has concluded to sell out and move to Kansas. The Millinery business carried on by his wife will also be sold.

Anthony Crockett, the Daguerreotypist of Norway, is getting up a Velocipede on his own account.

It is proposed to construct a railroad from here to South Paris, next summer, the cars to be drawn to and from by horses. The project seems to have met the approbation of the Legislature, as the bill to incorporate it has passed to be engrossed, and, most certainly, it is highly favored by the citizens of this place, as they hope it will greatly increase the business. A great amount of freight is necessarily brought to, and carried from here, and could the cars perform the "trucking," it would save a prodigious amount of labor.

Business in all its various departments, at the present time, is exceedingly dull.

The Norway Amateur Dramatic Club, which has given such pleasing entertainments during the winter, will give their last one on Thursday evening next, 18th inst., when they will present the Drama entitled "Black Sheep," and the Farce "John Wopps."

Mexico.

The Lewiston Steam Mill Co., have 28 men and 8 horses hauling in timber on the head waters of Swift River. They have already worked thirteen weeks. The snow in the woods being fully five feet in depth makes it slower work than it would be if there were two feet less. They calculate they now have on the landing 115 millions, and are now putting in 1-4 million per week. In Roxbury, the Reeds and "Len Morse," are putting in about 30 M. per week.

Oxford Co. Lodge, I. O. of G. T. This body was organized at Buckfield, on Wednesday, Feb. 3d, notwithstanding the severe storm of that day. Five Lodges were represented by about fifty Delegates. The meeting was called to order by W. B. Lapham, County Deputy.

A committee on constitution was appointed which subsequently reported a series of articles which were adopted. A committee to nominate officers to hold for the remainder of the year reported as follows:

W. C. T., J. W. Whitten, of Buckfield. W. S., Thomas J. Bartlett, do. W. T., Seth Benson, Paris.

These officers were accordingly elected and duly installed by the County Deputy.

The following standing committees were appointed executive committee:

S. S. Vose, Canton. M. D. L. Foster, Buckfield. G. W. Shaw, do.

Committee on the state of the order in the County:

Rev. E. W. Coffin, Bryant's Pond, D. F. Brown, Bethel, H. O. Tuell, North Paris.

It was voted that this County Lodge meet monthly for the present, and that the next session be held with Whitney Lodge at Canton, March 3d, at 1 o'clock P. M.

By the constitution adopted, this Co. Lodge is composed of the Lodge Deputy, W. C. T., and W. S. of each subordinate Lodge in the County, who are ex officio members, and of one delegate for every fifteen members in good standing.

All Lodges in the County are respectfully invited to send Delegates to the next session.

Three young children named Hamlin, and three others by the name of Stetson, who live in Bangor, have sent to W. T. Adams, Esq., more widely known as "Oliver Optic," a young bear, nine months old. His cubship is a sportive little fellow, and at present has taken up his quarters with Messrs. Lee & Shepard, who presented him with a copy of Optic's Magazine which he literally devoured.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.—The soldiers of Maine, who belonged to the noble old Army of the Potomac are reminded that a preliminary meeting for the purpose of organizing a befitting Association, will be held in New York on the 22d of this month.

A cowardly fellow having kicked a newboy for pestering him to buy an evening paper, the lad waited till another boy accosted the "gentleman," and then shouted in the hearing of all bystanders, "It's no use to try him, Jim; he can't read."

Editorial and Selected Items.

—There will be an adjourned term of the County Commissioners on the 1st Tuesday of March, the 2d day of the month.

—The Dry Goods trade seems to be flourishing in Norway. See advertisements.

—The P. & O. C. R. R. was badly blocked by the storms. They had not got through on Tuesday.

—Gen. Grant has been North for a few days, but has returned to the front.

—The Portland Press has a delicate way of announcing births, to wit: We learn that a grand-daughter of Governor Anson P. Morrill arrived in this city on Saturday morning and is stopping at Judge Goddard's.

—Judge Kent is to hold the March term of the S. J. Court, which commences on the 9th. Sine die for this Court expires a week from next Tuesday.

—The Bangor Whig says that gymnastics have been introduced into all the public schools of Bangor, except the primary, as a regular exercise.

—The Portland Argus says that an unusual phenomenon occurred Thursday morning about 2 o'clock, being no less than a severe clap of thunder, accompanied by vivid lightning. It was snowing at the time.

—Dry Hard Wood is very scarce in this vicinity. We should like a few cords more.

—The snow storm of last week gave us from 14 to 20 inches of snow on a level, throughout our County. In the woods the snow is deep and heavy and operations are considerably retarded. Mr. Black, who came from Errol Dam last week, where he was "snowed up" for several days, reports that travelling was absolutely impossible in that section till the roads were broken out.

—More snow Thursday morning, with prospect good for two feet—weather moderate, no wind.

—Danl. G. York, Esq., has been appointed Postmaster at Newry. Vice L. C. Smith, resigned.

—C. P. Knight, Esq., of our village contemplates moving to Bethel and going into trade there. He has bought of Mr. Dunn the house formerly known as the Congregational parsonage, and will move his family in March.

—Hon. Daniel D. Pratt, the new Senator from Indiana, is a native of Palermo in this State.

—We learn from the friends of Rev. B. Lufkin recently met at the house of Mr. Solon Coffin, in Glend, and left about \$50 for the benefit of Mr. Lufkin.

—We had the annoyance, in our last issue, of having two columns of the report of the State Temperance Convention go into print without being corrected.

—The Ladies of the 2d Universalist Society of Paris, will hold their annual Fair and Levee at Trull's Hall, West Paris, on Tuesday evening, Feb. 23d. All are invited and a good time expected. Admission 20 cts. Children half price.

—Apples and potatoes can be picked over to good advantage this month. No fruit or vegetables should be allowed to decay in the cellar, if for no other reason than for the foul, poisonous air and gases which arise from them.

—A minister in Minnesota has been presented with a watch guard composed of hair, every lady in the congregation having plucked out one hair as a contribution.







## Agricultural.

### The Farmer's Convention.

JUDGE FRENCH ON DRAINAGE.

Wednesday, Jan. 27.  
Judge Henry F. French, former President of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, delivered a lecture this afternoon on "Farm Drainage." The gentleman had been announced to give two lectures on drainage, to occur on succeeding days, but in consequence of some change in the programme, the two were condensed into one. Perhaps owing to this change, and the difficulty of the lecturer to treat the subject properly in one lecture, there was a want of completeness to it that might have rendered it a little unsatisfactory to many who heard it, and who had expected to learn "all about drainage."

Farm drainage was the means of farm improvement; and in starting, the question presented itself, what land needs drainage? In answer, it was said to be that three-fourths of all the land in Maine was already sufficiently drained by nature. The swamps and runs, and many fields need drainage. In glancing at the history of drainage, he stated that in 1855 there were one and one-fourth million acres of underdrained land in England, and since that the number had no doubt largely increased. He followed up the history of drainage in this country, and passed to consider the effects of drainage; lengthening the season, preventing drought, increasing the yield of crops, the value of the land, &c. The methods of drainage took up the greater part of the lecture, and open ditches, brush, wood, stone, and tile drains were successively described in a manner that evinced great familiarity with the subject.

At the close of the lecture a discussion followed, in which Hon. Mr. Lang of the Senate and other gentlemen engaged.

Prof. Goodale on "DISEASE IN PLANTS."

The third lecture was delivered Wednesday evening in Representative's Hall by Professor George L. Goodale of Bowdoin College. He announced the subject as "Disease in Plants." Disease is defined by medical writers to consist of any deviation from the normal functions of a part. Thus the eye is diseased when it fails to perform the function which has been assigned to it by the Creator. Scientifically considered, the same definition of disease should apply to plants, but practically the definition does not hold good. For instance, the function of the root is to absorb the crude juice of the soil, that of the stem to convey the sap, that of the leaves to work it over into food for the plant and that of the flower to produce seed to reproduce its kind. Now the double root is one in which the stem has become transformed to petals, and thus have lost their power to impregnate the soil. It fails in the formation of the flower, but no one calls it a diseased condition. After describing the cells and tissues of plants, he proceeded to present the fundamental facts in vegetable chemistry and the needs of plants. He grouped the diseases of plants into the great classes of first, those produced by mechanical injuries, comprising all attacks of insects and animals; second, those produced by flowerless parasites, including all forms of "mildew," "smut," and "rust"; third, those produced by improper or insufficient plant-food. The various diseases in these groups were described at considerable length, and certain rational means of cure were pointed out.

Under the last head, he remarked that plants may be either poisoned, starved or stuffed. Illustrations of the diseased conditions were given, and their remedies were alluded to. In the course of his remarks the lecturer referred to Dr. A. S. Packard's "Guide to the Study of Insects," and Prof. Johnson's "How Crops Grow," as being the latest and best practical treatises upon practical entomology and practical chemistry for a farmer's use. They are plain and practical.

After the lecture the question was asked what degree of heat seeds may be subjected to before destroying the germ.

Prof. Goodale replied that to some kinds of seeds 200 degrees, which was slightly below the boiling point.

Ex-Gov. Brown, of Massachusetts, then spoke at some length, and to great acceptance, on some of the causes of diseases in farm crops. One reason he believed to be that seeds were often covered too deep or not deep enough, and the consequence was that through these influences disease was frequently generated. Too heavy manuring of some soils, as for fruit trees, or grain crops, was also a great source of disease in trees and plants. Several instances from his observation were cited to prove these assertions.

The discussion here turned on the subject of soaking seeds, corn, wheat, &c., before consigning them to the ground, upon which different opinions were given by those present, and the various results of which were asserted with persistency. Corn soaked in a strong solution of tar was offensive to crows, and they would not trouble corn if soaked in it before it was planted. Strong alkali water was regarded as a good preparation in which to wash or soak seed wheat. Dr. Loring thought it was possible to conceive that in time the noxious insects would be kept in check by their own particular parasites, regulated by the hand of science; so that when one kind becomes very destructive, the scientific man must breed and let loose hordes of parasites to destroy them. In regard to seed wheat, he remarked that wheat soaked from four to twenty-four hours in strong brine, then rolled in ashes, had invariably done well and produced good crops.

The subject of Potato Culture, in connection with the exhibition of new varieties, was taken up.

Among the most prominent exhibitors were C. Chamberlain of Foxcroft, Samuel Taylor of Fairfield, J. L. Truett of Benton, Allen Lambard and Howard Pettigill of Augusta, Samuel Wasson of Ellsworth,

Frank Buck of Orland, M. L. Wilder of Pembroke, Z. A. Gilbert of East Turner, Andrew Archer of Fairfield, J. G. Whitney of Harrison; E. B. Stackpole, Kennebec; and others.

Several varieties were discussed, remarks being made by Mr. Pettigill of Augusta, Messrs. Gilbert, Brackett, Holmes and Stackpole of the Board, Dr. Loring of Massachusetts, and others. After the varieties had been passed upon, the methods of culture were taken up.

Mr. Perley of Naples, detailed an experiment in the culture of the potato, which was instituted and carried out by him last season, the results of which can be well understood we presume, by the following statement furnished by that gentleman:

One large potato, whole, gave one bushel in 27.5 hills—129 bushels per acre. One large potato cut, gave one bushel in 29.9 hills—132 bushels per acre. One large potato, cut in three pieces, gave one bushel in 36.6 hills—97 bushels per acre.

A gentleman alluded to the seed required per acre, and said that poor land required more seed than rich land. He thought the rule was one applying to potatoes and grains as well. In rich land, grain would fill out and fill the ground, while in poor land it would not do so. So with potatoes.

Mr. Frank Buck of Orland, remarked that his potatoes had rotted much less when manured with plaster and some of the phosphates, than when manured with stable or barnyard manure. He thought about one hundred and fifty bushels per acre were as much as should be grown on an acre. If a greater quantity was raised, he believed it was done at the expense of the quality of the tubers.

Mr. E. R. French believed it was better to plant moderate sized potatoes whole than to cut them, or to plant smaller ones. The stem end of the tuber would give better potatoes if planted than the seed end.

Vote was then taken and the name of "Orono" was adopted for the variety known as the Foot, Reed, Carter and Orono.

Dr. Geo. B. Loring of Massachusetts, in response to a call, spoke for some length of time in a forcible and instructive manner. He alluded to the culture of the potato in Massachusetts, and especially to the artificial culture of those forced for early market use. He thought the soil of Maine such as to become the headquarters of the best potatoes in the country. If he wanted potatoes to plant, he would much sooner get them from Maine, if grown here long enough to have become acclimated, than to procure them from Western New York. The potato needed very much the same manure as did the Swedish turnip. Both needed phosphoric rather than nitrogenous manures. Night soil would be very injurious manure for the potato. The soil of Maine he believed to be admirably suited to the culture of the potato, but was of opinion that a potato anywhere with good cultivation was a good thing. A potato ripens as much as an apple or a peach, and unripe potatoes would be no better for eating than an unripe apple, and should never be planted. The farmers of Maine should be very careful to preserve the strength and vitality of the different varieties grown, for it will continue to be the place whence the best seed potatoes must come.

The question was then tabled.

Mr. H. W. Morton of Augusta then exhibited the Peerless churn, and also at the wish of the Board, churned. Five quarts of cream were churned, and butter was churned in four minutes. In eight minutes the butter was gathered, buttermilk worked out and churn cleaned. The churn can be cleaned in one minute.

Mr. J. S. Grant of Centre Sidney, exhibited a model of Freeman's Sheep Rack, which has been in use by many farmers in this country, and from whom he has received testimonials of its value.

PAINTING HOUSES. Repeated experiments prove that paint applied between November and March, will last twice as long as that applied in warm weather. The reason is that in cold weather the component parts of the paint form a hard substance on the surface, almost as hard as glass; but in warm weather the oil penetrates the boards, and the paint wears off.

A man never knows he is mean; he only thinks himself cautious, and as a near-sighted person seems to be looking far away.

### AGENTS WANTED!

FOR THE PEOPLE'S EDITION OF  
"Compendium of Human Life and Epistles of  
SAINT PAUL."

With an Elucidation and a Preliminary Dissertation  
by  
REV. LEONARD BACON, D. D.,  
OF YALE COLLEGE.

Over 1000 Large Octavo Pages.  
AN EXACT REPRINT OF THE LATEST ENGLISH "PEOPLE'S EDITION," and differs from all others, by the substitution, by the authors, of translations and notes in English, in place of numerous quotations and notes in foreign languages.

Combines the results of accurate scholarship, antiquarian research and personal observation—learned and popular—FRANK HORNALL, Williams College.

I heartily commend this book—PRES. WOOLSEY, Yale College.

The most complete and satisfactory treatise in modern literature—EDMUND HAYWARD, a poet, Magazine of Facts—BOSTON, D. W. CLARK, of Cincinnati.

It is the one book upon the "New Testament" which every family, and especially every Sunday School teacher should, if possible, procure and study—PROF. FORTNER, of Yale.

A rich mine of information—PROF. EDWARDS A. PARK, Andover Theological Seminary.

It is invaluable to the student and general reader. Commending this book is but giving gold—REV. C. H. TAYLOR, D. D., Cincinnati.

One of the most interesting and instructive works that has ever fallen under my notice—FRANK C. WELLS, Secretary University.

Every intelligent Bible reader should possess a copy—PRESIDENT EDWARDS, Washington and Jefferson College, Pa.

I regard it as one of the best books ever written. Send for our descriptive circular, giving full particulars and terms to Agents.

W. P. P. FREE, Publishers, Hartford, Conn.

Responsible Agents Wanted.

To dispose of guarantees for the sale of Land and other valuable property in different parts of the United States. Profits very liberal. Sales easily effected and no loss of time from other business. MILLER & CO., 100 N. 3rd St., New York.

## AT COST!

And Less than Cost!!  
Preparatory to Putting in a NEW STOCK in the EARLY SPRING.

THE subscribers will sell from their LARGE STOCK OF  
**DRY GOODS,  
CARPENTERS,  
CROCKERY WARE,  
CLOTHING,  
BOOTS & SHOES,  
&c., &c.,**

**AT COST FOR THIRTY DAYS!**  
From January 25th.

Norway Village, Jan. 28, 1888.

**Fryburg Academy.**  
THE SPRING TERM of this Institution will commence on Wednesday, Feb. 24, 1888, and continue ELEVEN WEEKS.

USHER W. CUTTS, A. B., Principal, with competent Assistant.

For further information, address Rev. D. B. SEWALL, Secretary, at the Principal's residence, Fryburg, Jan. 28, 1888.

**West Peru High School.**  
THE SPRING TERM of this Institution will commence on Monday, Feb. 22, 1888, and continue ELEVEN WEEKS.

Common English, Higher English, Latin, French, and Mathematics.

Board can be obtained for \$2.25 per week, or \$7.50 including washing, wood and lights. Rooms for those wishing to board themselves can be had. Board or rooms can be obtained by addressing the Principal.

West Peru, Me., Jan. 20, 1888.

**Bridgton Academy.**  
THE SPRING TERM of this Institution will commence on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 1888, and continue ELEVEN WEEKS.

JOHN A. WHITNEY, A. B., Principal.

Miss LAVINIA K. GIBBS, Drawing & Painting.

Miss KATHA A. FORTY, French and Italian.

Board and Tuition reasonable.

For Text Books furnished by the Principal at Portland Prices.

THOMAS H. MEAD, Secy., North Bridgton, Jan. 28, 1888.

**Western State Normal School.**  
FARMINGTON, ME.

THE SPRING TERM will commence on Wednesday, Feb. 24th. Candidates for admission will be examined on the day in Elementary Studies, and if candidates for admission to advanced standing, in all the studies taken by the classes who desire to enter.

Tuition, \$10.00; for those preparing to teach in the schools of Maine, \$12.00.

For information in regard to Board, Rooms, &c., and for Catalogues, address:

C. C. BOUNDS, Principal, Farmington, Jan. 28, 1888.

**Maine Central Railroad.**  
SPECIAL NOTICE.

PASSENGERS from Oxford County coming from stations on the Grand Trunk Railroad, above Danville, can reach Bangor by the Maine Central Railroad from Danville to Winthrop, and thence by stage to Bangor. Stage leaves Winthrop on arrival of afternoon train from Danville. Trains leave Danville at 4:45 P. M., on arrival of train from Portland.

Through tickets to Bangor are sold at Danville, Jan. 28, 1888.

**TO THE WORKING CLASSES.** I am now prepared to furnish constant employment to all who are honest, industrious, and capable of doing good work. I have a large stock of goods on hand, and am prepared to furnish constant employment to all who are honest, industrious, and capable of doing good work.

Business new, light and profitable. Fifty cents to \$5 per evening is easily earned, and the boys and girls can earn money as well as the men. Great inducements are offered. All who see this notice please send me their address and I will send them a copy of my circular and list of inducements. If not well satisfied I will send them a copy of my circular and list of inducements. If not well satisfied I will send them a copy of my circular and list of inducements.

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## Paris Hill Academy.

THE SPRING TERM of this Institution will commence on Wednesday, March 21, 1888, and continue ELEVEN WEEKS.

J. LEWIS MERRILL, Principal.

Miss HAZEL D. PARRIS, Teacher of Music, and Miss MARGARET J. PARRIS, Teacher of Drawing and Painting.

For further particulars application may be made to SAM'L M. CARTER, Secy., Paris Hill, Jan. 19, 1888.

**Hebron Academy.**  
THE SIXTY FOURTH SPRING TERM of this Institution will commence on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 1888, and continue ELEVEN WEEKS.

A. C. HERRICK, A. B., Principal.

For Circulars, Board or Rooms, apply to A. B. BUMPUS, Secy., Hebron, Me., Jan. 1888.

**ATTENTION!**  
Selling out at Cost!

THE subscriber desirous of disposing of his ENTIRE STOCK IN TRADE.

Will sell the greater part of his Goods Within Sixty Days.

Now is the time to buy

**Dry Goods!**

HATS and CAPS, BOOTS, SHOES, HARDWARE, CROCKERY, GLASS WARE, ROOM PAPERS, WINDOW CURTAINS and SHADES.

and other goods, too numerous to mention, all of which will be sold at cost or less.

All persons indebted to the undersigned by note or account are requested to call and settle the same.

Any one wishing to go into business would find this a good opening, and could buy the stock at a good bargain and take possession at any time.

D. V. BAILEY.

South Paris, Jan. 1, 1888.

**FURNITURE!**

THE subscriber having purchased the Stock in trade of R. L. LURVEY & CO., would say to his friends and the public that he is

Making Additions to his Stock, and is prepared to furnish goods as LOW AS CAN BE BOUGHT IN THE STATE.

H. H. BARROWS.

South Paris, Me., Aug. 10, 1888.

**Pianos! Organs!**

AND MELODIONS.

For Sale and to be Let.

INSTRUMENTS WARRANTED, and let on trial if desired. Rent free if purchased. Instruments Tuned and Repaired at reasonable rates.

H. N. HALL.

Dec. 4.

**Piano Fortes,**

ORGANS, MELODIONS

FOR SALE BY

AMES & NEVERS,

Norway Village, Me.

BEING connected with manufacturers, we can sell and will sell Musical Instruments

Cheaper than can be bought elsewhere.

We warrant all instruments sold by us to be FIRST CLASS and to remain so.

Reference—Hon. W. W. Virgin, Asa Danforth, M. D., Norway; E. G. Pease, St. Paris, Norway, Nov. 13, 1888.

**Dissolution of Copartnership.**

NOTICE is hereby given that the partnership heretofore existing between Cyprian Rose, Newton Grover and Lewis A. Sanborn, in this State, dissolved, as far as relates to the said Cyprian Rose. All debts due to the said partnership, or by the said partnership, shall be paid or received by the said Cyprian Rose, or by the said Newton Grover, or by the said Lewis A. Sanborn, or by any one of them, and those due from the said partnership, shall be paid to the said Cyprian Rose, or to the said Newton Grover, or to the said Lewis A. Sanborn, or to any one of them, and those due from the said partnership, shall be paid to the said Cyprian Rose, or to the said Newton Grover, or to the said Lewis A. Sanborn, or to any one of them.

BEING continued under the firm of C. Rose & Co. Bethel, Jan. 1, 1888.

CYRUS WORMELL.

Paris, Jan. 1, 1888.

**AGENTS WANTED FOR NIGHT SCENES IN THE BIBLE.**

By Rev. Daniel March, D. D.

FOR full, free, flowing, clear, sparkling, pure and graceful style, for poetic genius, for beauty of thought and rich glowing imagination, for nice analysis of character, graphic delineations and ripe scholarship, for life-like pictures, glowing words and happy illustrations, this work has no equal. Such commendations as the above, have been received from Bishop Simpson, Dr. Albert Barnes, Noah Porter, D. D., L. W. A. Stearns, D. D., Geo. Dana, D. D., D. D., L. W. A. Stearns, D. D., and many other prominent names. Agents are everywhere meeting with unparalleled success. It is a most beautiful and instructive and elegantly bound book, and places every body.

Commissions, \$100 to \$200 per month according to ability and energy.

ZIGLER, McCURDY & CO., Philadelphia, Pa., Cincinnati, O., Chicago, Ill., or St. Louis, Mo.

I. W. ANDREWS,

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Keeps constantly on hand a large stock of Ready-made

Grace Clothes' Trimmings, of the LATEST STYLES.

Also, will furnish DOORS and SASH, at short notice.

South Woodstock, Nov. 6, 1888.

N. W. CORLISS,

AGENT FOR

LAMB KNITTING MACHINE CO.

FOR OXFORD COUNTY.

THE LAMB MACHINE is the only one in use in the world that can set up its own work on the heel into the stocking, or narrow off the toe, or widen or narrow, or knit with any number of needles, or knit a full, single, double or ribbed specimen of work can be seen at any office, or by mail promptly attended to.

P. O. address, Milton Plantation, Me., Dec. 6, 1888.

LAW PARTNERSHIP.

SHAW & KIMBALL,

Attorneys & Counsellors at Law,

PARIS HILL, MAINE.

Will attend to cases in Bankruptcy, and

Partnerships and Business Claims, and practice in all the courts of the State.

J. E. SHAW. W. E. KIMBALL.

Paris, Jan. 1, 1888.

## The Great Question of the Day:

HOW SHALL WE RETURN

To Specie Payment?

The Question Finally Solved!

Buy your Goods & Cash