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## Miscellaneous.

From Household Words.

### Down Among the Dead Men.

There is one great fault in most of the novels and romances of my acquaintance, and that is, that all the interesting adventures are limited to persons of extraordinary personal attractions. Can't an ugly fellow meet with surprising accidents by flood or field? Must all the people who run up ladders when a house is on fire and save beautiful young ladies from being burned to death—must all the heroes of this sort be six feet high, five and twenty years of age, and end with a baronetcy and twelve thousand a year? It is a most unfair distribution of the gifts of fiction, no perhaps Truth may be more just; and therefore I write down what happened, some thirty years ago, to my friend John Belton, of the house of Jones, Belton and Jones.

John Belton even then was not handsome; but he was big. Everything about him was big—his eyes, his nose, his mouth—but his manner was biggest of all. He was something like Louis the Fourteenth, only bigger; and with a considerable quantity of John Bullism in addition to the French dignity of the Grand Monarque. When big John Belton was sheriff of his native city, he expanded more than ever. It was supposed there would have been no room for him in the narrow streets of his jurisdiction if he had swelled out any more, so they did not make him a knight. The consequence might have been awful. Big men, you may have remarked, are often addicted to very small puns. Belton was very fond of fishing. We used to laugh to see him affix a small bait to a small hook, and bring out at last a very small trout. But he was as much gratified as if it had been a whale. So every year when his principal, as he called old Jones, had gone for his holiday, and his ships were fairly off on their long voyages, and the home-bound ones not expected for a month, he used to pack up his trunk and arrange his fishing-rods, and away he went to his favorite stream in the beautiful county of Hants, and we heard no more of him until a notice from Lloyd's summoned him back again to his desk in Riches Court.

One autumn he had buried himself as usual in the solitude of the Downs. He had carried his conquering rod from brook to brook, and had waded up to his chin, and toiled beneath his basket, and persuaded himself that he was honorably and usefully discharging the duties of his station in life; and, full of this happy consciousness, he had slept soundly every night for a fortnight in the little cottage about nine miles from Winchester; which out of compliment to that classical anatomy, though without any polioptic regard to strict accuracy, he called his *Rus in urbe*. But, on a certain morning, the even tenor of his way was interrupted in a very disagreeable manner. He had risen early, he was walking at a rapid pace towards the scene of his morning walk—a river at some distance from his *rue en urbe*—when on crossing the high road to get on the gentle down which led to the valley he was in search of, he heard the noise of wheels. Animal magnetism was not invented at that time, or at least Mr. Belton had never heard of it;—but he has often said that a feeling came over him, on hearing that very common-place sound, that all was not right. A sort of all-overlaidness came upon him, and he wished he had stood in bed, instead of wandering over Hampshire hills at six o'clock in the morning. The vehicle came near him and stopped—a stately determined dead stop it made, just at his side—and, on turning his eyes towards it, he saw a young man of seven or eight-and-twenty years of age, descending from the carriage, evidently with the intention of addressing him. He was surprised but not displeased. Belton was always fond of high society and he felt that this was a Lord.

"Will you excuse me, sir," said the stranger, lifting his hat in a stately but graceful manner. "I take the liberty of requesting a favor at your hands."

Belton bowed in a very stately and graceful manner, too.

"Certainly, sir; whatever lies in my power."

"It is what I expected from your appearance. One gentleman is rarely disappointed when he throws himself on the generosity of another."

"Oh! hang it," thought John Belton. "Here is a gentleman in distress. I won't give him a farthing." But a look at the carriage and the beautiful bay horses restored to him, better thoughts. "He's out of money, perhaps. I'll lend him twenty pounds."

"The obligation you will confer upon me, sir," continued the stranger, "is the greatest which one man can bestow upon another. I know I have no right to ask it, except of a sinner; but with me the appearance of a gentleman is a sufficient guarantee that my request, though not accorded to, will at all events be excused."

Belton's weakness we all knew, from his earliest appearance in the city, was a passion for the gentle.

"Say no more, sir, by way of apology," he said. "I'll do what you want, I'll be bound—unless"—he added with a playfulness which never left him—"unless it be to rob a church."

The stranger smiled. "It is not on quite so dreadful a business. It is merely to accompany me for a few miles along this road and be witness to a deed!"

The stranger paused and looked at Belton, who by this time had taken his seat in the carriage, and was sitting in a easy attitude (as if he had been used to carriages every day of his life); with his rod and fishing basket between his knees.

"I shall witness it with the greatest pleasure," he said. "Some important document,"

he thought: "his will, perhaps, or perhaps his marriage settlement." But there was a coldness and firmness in the expression of the handsome features of his companion, which did not accord with the idea of a wedding.

The ferry boys stepped out in noble style. Belton was great on horseback, as on all other branches of life and art; and guessed the prices of the animals; and told anecdotes of the horrid bargains his friends had made at Tattersall's; and was just in the middle of his famous anecdote of the Lord Mayor's horse which had been in the dragons, and which horse carried his lordship almost into collision with George the Third, when the trumpet's sounding a charge, when the stranger turned his horse sharp round up a narrow lane, and put them into a hard gallop with an exclamation that he feared they were too late.

"It must be the will of some rich old relation at the last gasp," thought the discomfited story-teller.

"Is there any danger of immediate death?" he inquired.

"Considerable," replied his companion, again whipping the smoking steeds. On breasting the height, "Thank heaven!" he exclaimed, "we are yet in time!"

Belton looked in the direction of the course they now took along the level summit of the down, and perceived three gentlemen engaged in conversation at the side of a phaeton, from which it was evident they had just alighted.

Two of the gentlemen came forward and shook hands with the owner of the carriage, and looked inquiringly at Mr. Belton.

"The colonel has deceived me at the last moment," said the young man in an explanatory tone; "and my friend here has kindly consented to take his place."

This seemed quite satisfactory; and one of the gentlemen taking Belton aside, said: "It is useless, I suppose, to change the resolution of your principle?"

"This gentleman knows me," thought Belton, "and is aware that a pig-headed blockhead my principal, old Jones is. Change his resolution!" he said aloud. "When he has once made up his mind, you might as soon ask a millstone to grow into butter-milk."

"Then we may proceed to do business at once," said the gentleman, drawing himself up and assuming a haughty look.

"With all my heart," said Belton.

"Will you step, or shall I?"

"You, if you please."

"You'll drop your handkerchief!"

"Sir, I'm very much obliged to you," said Mr. Belton, placing his handkerchief in the breast-pocket of his coat, and considering that the gentleman was warning him against the depreciation of rustic virtues.

In the space of two minutes from the time they arrived on the ground, Mr. Belton, with the half-consciousness of a person in an epicurean dream, saw curious evolutions performed without having the slightest idea of what they meant. His companion took his stand opposite the third gentleman of the other party, who had kept some little way retired. The active individual who had entered into such a strange conversation with him, took long steps, leading pistols, whispering to the two gentlemen, and making himself excessively useful in a way he had never observed before. The tall and powerful figure of his friend might have been a study for a painter or sculptor. His lips firmly contracted; his cheek pale. There was one peculiarity of his attitude which it was impossible not to observe; with his left elbow supported on his right hand, the left hand was continually used in smoothing the long moustaches which adorned his lips. While all the preparations were going on he never moved from that position, till on a pistol being placed in his hand, he turned rapidly round, watched the fall of a handkerchief, which was dropped by the active assistant, and two sharp cracks went off at the same moment. When Mr. Belton looked again, he saw his companion stretched on the ground, his face covered with blood, and the discharged weapon lying close to his nerveless hand. The third member of the original party came quickly up from the phaeton where he had stood; grasped the wrist of the recumbent figure, and shook his head on discovering no pulse.

With a cloth which he had rapidly unrolled he tied up the chin of the unfortunate combatant, giving him the ghastly appearance of a corpse; and exclaiming, "Gentlemen, this is an unfortunate affair. The wound is fatal. We must provide for our own safety," he aided the horror-struck perpetrator of the crime into the phaeton, mounted the box, and drove off at full gallop across the down.

This was too serious a matter to be misunderstood any more. Belton was terrified and shocked—terrified at the prospect of his own fate and shocked at the dreadful ending of the unfortunate young man. He overcame the instinctive horror which all men have of death, and placed his hand on the victim's breast. There was vital warmth still there; but he could detect no beating of the pulse. The cloth round the jaw became saturated with blood; and, sickened with the sight, bewildered with surprise, and utterly unknowing what to do, he was awakened at last from the torpor of his despair by hearing at a great distance, the voices of some of the shepherds noisily guiding their flocks.

He rushed away, scarcely caring in what direction. In spite of his eminent skill in horse-flesh, his practical education in that department had been neglected; and he had not the least hope of being able to drive the fiery couriers in the curiela, even if he had known in what direction to make the attempt.

He had some vague recollection of a law by which the person found in presence of a murdered man was instantly executed, or at all events imprisoned for trial. But who was at the scene of the terrible event? Was the

corpse to lie there, unheeded, unattended, on the summit of that bare moor, looking up into the noontide sun and midnight stars with that awful visage, with the white cloth round the chin? These thoughts passed through him with the rapidity of lightning—perhaps they did not occupy half a minute altogether. But the good prevailed over the timid in Belton's nature; and he determined that his late companion, if beyond the reach of human aid, should at least have Christian burial. He made right across the combe or ravine by which they had ascended; and, on the upland levels of the opposite down, he encountered a man engaged in watching a great number of sheep.

"Can you drive a pair of horses?" inquired Belton, assuming as easy a manner as he could.

"Ees; I droives five," said the man; "and main hand work it be, when they be all on end."

Belton thought probably it was tremendous work to drive five rearing horses, which was his interpretation of their being all on end; but felt sure now that the curiela would be a very easy affair in the hands of such a charioteer.

"Then here's half a crown for you," he said. "Goto that hill, and you'll see a gentleman—lying on his back—only to refresh himself, of course. Help him into the carriage you will see near, and drive to the nearest surgeon's; he has met with a slight accident. In fact," he added with a faint laugh, "he has had a hurl out of his drag and requires a plaster."

"He Doctor Whimble's man," said the shepherd; "he rents all these downs, and lives in that ere red house among the turnips with the broken chimney pots."

"That's very lucky," said Belton. "I'll hurry on and tell the Doctor to be ready to receive his patient."

So saying, he turned a way in the very opposite direction; and was rushing off as fast as he could, when the man called him back. The summons shook him like a leaf; he felt his knees bend under him; but the man had only stopped him to point out the nearest way to Doctor Whimble's; and Belton, saying he had to call on a friend on the road, continued his walk at a pace that would have done honor to a steam engine.

But where to go? He had no notion in what direction his *Rus in urbe* lay. Even if he had, what was the use of going there? The hue and cry would be up in a very short time; the people who had seen him sitting so stately in the curiela would be sure to recognize him; and—here a dreadful thought overwhelmed him, as if he were already looking on the judge's black cap—his rod and basket! he had left them in the carriage!—Was his name on the handle? Was there a card with his address on the lid? He could not remember; and therefore took it for granted that they were. "John Belton, Riches Court." What was the use of further concealment? He would inquire for a magistrate—for a policeman—for a turnkey; he would give himself up to justice. He has often told that this resolution calmed him like a charm. He was now going to be hanged, and knew the worst. He even became peculiar. He saw a considerable amount of humor in the rapidity of the change that had taken place in his position. Half an hour had altered it for life. He merely accepted a polite stranger's offer of a seat in his carriage, and had become enveloped in an affair with which he had no original concern, and must make his appearance on a scaffold for the murder of a man he had never seen before. In these meditations many miles were passed over, and many by-ways sought out, many turnings and twistings scientifically performed to find his pursuers off the scent; but at last he felt faint and hungry, and was under the necessity of seeking the haunts of men. Some smoke at a little distance directed him towards a village at the foot of a gentle eminence. He looked out for a public house and a little way across a field he perceived a mansion which he feebly began to recognize as one he had seen before. It was not, however, a house of entertainment; it was a red brick house; it stood in a field of turnips; it had broken chimney pots.

"I say, my man," he said to a lad of ten or twelve, who passed him while gazing on the object of his surprise, "there's a penny for you. Whose house is that?"

"That be Dr. Whimble's sir—thank'ee."

Doctor Whimble's—the very place in all the world it was his object to avoid! The love of life grew strong as the danger of death drew near. He slunk like a guilty wretch from hedgerow to hedgerow, and finally got into a wayside inn.

Three or four laboring men were refreshing themselves. Belton ordered some bread and cheese and a glass of beer.

"He was dead, I tell ye, afore Jem Stokes got up to the Down," said one.

"Well, I heard say that he groaned four or five times after he got to Whimble's," said another; "but whoever did it will be hanged, and that's a great comfort!"

"Yes it is," said all the guests, except one. Mr. Belton did not enjoy his bread and cheese so much as usual.

"It was a duel," continued the first orator, about Miss Florimond at the Hall. The Captain said he would have her, though her father had promised her to Sir Charles. So Sir Charles shot the Captain, and if he's hanged she can't have ne'er a husband at all."

This seemed to be considered a good joke, and the men laughed accordingly. Belton did not laugh, but he joined in the conversation.

"Miss Florimond will be much to be pitied," he said. "Who was the Captain?"

"He's the dead man you at old Whimble's, and there goes the beadle for the Crowder's jury," said the man "and they'll send out a warrant for the seconds, and I 'spose they'll all be hung in a fortnight."

Belton left unfinished his bread and cheese, and his reckoning without saying a word, and walked at his utmost speed away from the fatal neighborhood. A coach overtook him when he was nearly worn out. It was bound for London. He got inside, pulled down the blinds, and determined to keep his own counsel, and let events take their own course.

From that day he was more attentive to business than ever. A weight was on him. But it was like the weight of a king's crown; it had dignity as well as care. He was the depository of a tremendous secret, and he swelled with the consciousness of the superiority which this gave him over everybody he met. A week passed on and he was unsuspected. He ventured to look at the newspapers. Only once he caught a glimpse of the awful subject. It was an allusion to the fatal duel in Hampshire, and though the report was wrong in his date, there could be no doubt it alluded to the same event.

The seconds have absconded, and have hitherto eluded discovery. One of them is unknown; and the medical man, it is supposed has gone to America."

Time has had its soothing effect. He had visions of the murdered man for some days, but after the lapse of a few weeks the strange longing came upon him which has impelled so many evil doers to visit the scene of their iniquities. He would go to *Rus in urbe* once more, and make inquiries for himself. He would find out who Miss Florimond at the Hall was. Florimond was a beautiful name. Belton was romantic in spite of weighing thirteen stone. What an ending it would be if he—but then there was that Sir Charles, the actual culprit. It would be an excellent secondary punishment to cut him out. So, at the end of two months, Belton ordered a new suit of clothes; a bright green satin waistcoat; with a diamond stud in the full of his shirt, which would have equaled a king's ransom if it had been real; a pair of boots with fixed brass spurs on the heels; and set off, without consulting anybody, to resume his apartments in the *Rue en urbe*.

The plea of a sudden call to town soon explained to his housekeeper the cause of his disappearance, and he lost no time in making all the inquiries he could venture on without exciting suspicion. With this view he resumed his piscatorial pursuits, and as he discovered that near the scene of the dreadful transaction there was a house of entertainment called the "Isaac's Arms," in honor of old Isaac Walton, he betook himself to his rod, and strolled, in a very unconcerned manner, from brook to brook, till, at the close of a sharp October day, he found himself in the coffee-room, or rather the bar of the walled hotel. If there appears a little frivolity in the case with which Mr. Belton resorted himself to the sad event, you must bear in mind that he considered himself free from moral guilt attending the affair. He could not justly be charged with any intentional wrong, and he had only had a very few minutes' intercourse with the unhappy victim of the laws of society, he had no feelings of regret for the loss of a personal friend. He had therefore, got entirely over the first shock of the scene, and, if the truth must be told, I fear some little portion of pride and gratification mingled with his remembrance of the dead.

It is not every ship-broker who takes part in a duel with a Sir Charles. "A meeting" is an heirloom of feudal times, and a very knightly method of settling a dispute. No duellist has yet been hanged, and till that tremendous event takes place, the pistol will be the only argument resorted to by people who have perhaps no other way of showing their patriotic blood. These considerations had some weight with Mr. Belton, and though he would have seemed to join a housebreaker in forcing his way into a lady's chamber, he considered it rather a feather in his cap that he had assisted at an affair of honor. Murder is so much more aristocratic than theft.

The bar of the "Isaac's Arms" was left in solitary possession to Belton all night. The landlord had been bottling off his winter's ale and felt the effects of the operation so powerfully that he could not speak. In answer to some questions about Miss Florimond at the Hall he heaved a good deal about the odds being five to one, and then remembered that the name was Miss Rosamond, and that she was a chessnut filly rising four. The candles burnt themselves nearly out—the gusts of a rising wind were heard against the outside walls—a pale watery moon moved ghost-like in the sky, like the wreck of the flying Dutchman floating noiselessly over the waves—the waiter who enacted the parts also of gardener and stableman, came in with "the gentleman's slippers," and Belton who was now very sleepy, could only gather from the rather indistinct replies of the multifarious functionary, that, though they were very dull just now there would be rare doings next week, as Sir Charles was going to marry the young lady at the hall. The surname of Sir Charles was unknown to the intelligent hostler, the Christian name of the young lady labored under the same disadvantage. He had never heard him called anything but "Sir Charles"—and had never heard her called anything at all. But the marriage was to be on Wednesday, and both horses were ordered for eleven o'clock. This was ample food for a long series of meditations. Miss Florimond was going to marry the survivor—forgetting the gallant young fellow who died for her sake. The whole picture of that awful hour presented itself afresh. He saw the frightful features—the paternal calm—the rigid features—the girl was about to lay her hand, before the altar, in the hand of the man who had pulled the trigger—who had taken the aim! He tried to banish the thought, but couldn't. It haunted him, and oppressed his spirits beyond the power of brandy to raise them. Great were his efforts in that way, and perhaps his unnatural excitement was produced by the unusual quantity he drank to

explain the extraordinary incident which occurred that night. I am not superstitious, but it is useless to deny that persons under strong agitation of the nervous system have their senses so sharpened that they can perceive unearthly appearances which it is impossible to account for by the ordinary laws of nature; and, however difficult it may be to bring ourselves to a belief in these startling departures from the usual course of human affairs, I think that the evidence that "such things be," is irresistible and conclusive.

The "Isaac's Arms" was a long, rambling old fashioned inn, with a narrow passage, running through it from end to end. The bed-rooms lay to the south of this passage, while a window or two looked northward over some quiet fields, by the side of which lay the parish road. With the candle in his hand, Belton paused a long time on his way to bed, and looked out of the window. The night had grown wilder than before—the wind was louder—the observations of the moon darker and more frequent. In one of the sudden clearings of the sky he thought he saw something in motion on the narrow road, but the light of his own candle confused him, and he laid it on the floor of the passage and looked out again. The quick tramp of a horse now met his ear, and, wondering who could be in such rapid motion at that time of night, and in that retired situation, he slipped down stairs, and went out by the northern door, which commanded the road by which the traveler must pass. The traveler pulled up and dismounted within a yard of where he stood. The moon was under a cloud—he could see very indistinctly.

"Is the chase ready? They are close at hand," said a voice he did not recognize.

"I really don't know," said Belton.

The speaker started—and by a rapid motion pulled the cloak closer round.

"Are you a gentleman?" resumed the voice hurriedly.

"I should think I was," replied Belton.

"Then I am safe. You will be secret—pass on."

The clouds dispersed for a moment. The stranger was a lady of tall and graceful presence, closely muffled, but revealing enough of shape and motion in the riding habit in which she was dressed, to complete the conquest which her musical voice had begun. But Belton had no time for the display of his admiration. The stranger disappeared, and the horse, when left to itself, celebrated his recovered liberty by some well directed kicks in the immediate proximity of Mr. Belton's eyes, which made him beat a rapid retreat towards the house. The clatter of the emancipated animal's gallop was shortly lost in distance, and Belton, after ten minutes' ineffectual search for the mysterious lady, gave up the attempt to discover her retreat, and, wearing more than ever, chilled with the night air, and pulled at the strange event, he went once more up-stairs and entered on the long narrow passage which conducted to his room. His candle was still on the floor, and he saw as distinctly as it had been in open day a figure standing silent and erect at the other end. It was not fancy that conjured up the terrible appearance. It was the form of a tall and handsome man—resting the left elbow in the right hand and smoothing the moustache—there was the same firm expression of the eyes and mouth, and round the jaw was rolled a white cloth concealing the cheek, and sustaining the chin exactly as he had seen it applied by the surgeon on the morning of the death.

Belton gazed horror-struck, for some time. The figure made no movement. There it stood, fixed and rigid, still playing with the moustache, and looking with those unearthly eyes, as if expecting to be addressed by the witness of his fate. Belton could stand the sight no longer, but made a forward rush to seize his candle. In his terror and agitation he overturned the light, and the duellist and his second were left in total darkness. Ever through the long hours of that awful night Belton, who groped his way to his bed, saw nothing but the features of the murdered man—near him—near him they seemed to come, and clearer the phantom rose early in the morning, and without any allusion to the adventures of the night betook himself to town.

There was something too painful in this incident to be kept entirely to himself. He told it to his friends. I heard it very soon after it occurred, and though we all good-naturedly labored to dispel his illusion, it was in vain. He became, as the saying is, an altered character. He subscribed to charities, and became governor of hospitals, and grew immensely rich, and had a charming family, and gave dinners to lords, and put Charles Belton, his eldest son, into the crack regiment of the service. The memory of the night at the "Isaac's Arms" by these means was beginning to die out, or at least it was not so much talked of as before. But about two years ago, he asked me to go with him to Gravesend in a magnificent new ship he had just launched, which was going to carry out the recently appointed Governor to one of our noblest dependencies. The great man was to embark at Gravesend, and Belton resolved to get everything ready for his reception. The cabins designed for his Excellency and suite were fitted up as if for an Indian King, and very difficult to please must have been, if he felt discontented with the attention bestowed on his comfort. The small vessel which brought him on board at Gravesend was to take us on shore. The Governor stepped on deck, and was received by Belton with all the respect due to his rank. He was a man about fifty years of age, and supported on his arm a lady a few years younger, but still wearing the remains of exquisite beauty. With somewhat haughty manners he had a bold, manly appearance, which attracted notice, and a sweet smile, which won our liking. He stood near the helin, and looked with admiration at the pro-

portions of the noble ship. Belton shook hands with him, and wished him a prosperous voyage. We then got into the vessel at the side, and, on looking once more to the quarter deck we had left—"See there!—see there!" whispered Belton to me. "Look how he stands!"

The governor had rested his left elbow in his hand, and was smoothing the moustache. There was a visible scar on his left cheek, imperfectly concealed by his whisker.

"That's the man I saw die on the Hampshire Downs, whose ghost I saw at the 'Isaac's Arms.' I can't be mistaken."

"Perhaps you are," I said. "Perhaps he was only wounded—perhaps he ran away from the intended bride of his rival—perhaps you had taken too much brandy and water."

But Belton was overcome with astonishment. On arriving in town we looked at one of the biographical compilations of the day; we found he had served in all quarters of the globe, and that he had married Miss Florimond, daughter of Alfred Hope, Esquire, of the Hall.

Belton was disappointed and displeased to find that his ghostly visitation had faded in the light of common day. But there are some people who turn everything to profit. Charles Belton was shortly afterwards ordered on foreign service within the limits of his Excellency's command. A letter from Belton, with an account of his share in certain transactions long ago, produced a friendship which it is probable will never decrease. Charles is aid-de-camp to the Governor, and has outstripped all his contemporaries in the rapidity of his rise. And Belton himself thinks that duels are sometimes excellent things, and is no believer in ghosts.

THE GREAT NEED OF FARMERS. The great necessity of the farming community, is more extended and thorough knowledge as to the modes of saving and applying the substances capable of enriching the land, which are furnished by their own farms. Many, it is true, buy guano, and ashes, and bone dust, and other manures; but the large majority, the great bulk of the farming community rely entirely on what they can get at home to make their crops. They do not go off their own farms for manure of any kind, and are not at present likely to do so. It is, consequently, a matter of the highest importance to them to learn how to husband and to use to the best advantage all their home resources. When it has once become converted into coin farmers are generally saving enough of their property. The wise and parsimonious Dr. Franklin could not have wished them more so. But, inconsistently enough with this, most of them waste the value of several hundred dollars every year, in the loss of manures which might be saved almost as well as not. This amounts to a very considerable percentage of their whole income, and in the course of a lifetime makes the difference between a rich and a poor man—using the term rich according to its general acceptance in the country, and not as John Jacob Astor would probably have used it.

We believe this to be one of the greatest fields open for improvement in agriculture, and we hope to see great progress made in it by means of judicious and careful experiments, which, when successful, will soon be extensively followed.

One of the leading doctrines which we shall endeavor to inculcate through the columns of the Evening Post, is this: That it is practicable so to cultivate land, as rapidly to improve it by simply expending upon it the manure made from the crops which it produces, without the aid of any thing from abroad. We fully believe, for instance, that the product of many of the comparatively barren farms on Long Island could be tripled, in a few years, by saving and properly applying all the manures—both liquid and solid—made upon them, without the help of one pound of guano or any other substance not produced on the land. The effect of such improvement upon the individual and collective wealth of the country would be immense—almost incalculable. But can it be brought about? We believe it can; and having thrown out this foundational idea to-day, it will be our task hereafter—to point out some of the modes by which it is to be effected.

(N. Y. Eve. Post.)

ONE KIND OF "HELP." A tradesman was waiting upon in his shop by a superbly dressed female whom he politely addressed and desired to know what commands she wished to honor him with. The lady, after lifting her veil, which hid a not unhandsome face, intimated, in a style corresponding with her dress, that hearing that there was a vacancy in the gentleman's service, she desired to be engaged by him as a house-maid. The gentleman stated that his "better half" was at their residence in the suburbs. The following dialogue then ensued:

Servant girl, (in a querulous and disaffected tone.)—Then you reside in the country—that would be so inconvenient."

Gentleman—"but then, we could remove to town."

Servant girl—"And then the washings, I am given to understand, are done at home, which I don't much like."

Gentleman—"but then we could give them out."

Gentleman—"twelve."

Servant girl—(in great excitement and half inclined to faint.)—"Twelve children."

Gentleman—"then to oblige you, we could drown a few of them."

The lady-servant turned upon her heel, and swept away from the premises with the air of a Cleopatra.

Mr. Wickahedikaeshaedcaesvaustobenbenben fell down stairs the other day, and broke his name in three pieces.

SNOW STORM OF THE OLDEN TIME. The year 1717 is memorable in the history of New England, on account of unusual quantity of snow which fell Feb. 20th and 21st of that year. In those two storms the earth was covered with snow from 10 to 15 feet, and in some places, to 20 feet deep. Many houses of one story were buried, and in numerous cases, paths were dug from house to house under the snow-drifts. The visits were made by means of snow-shoes, the wearers having first stepped out of their chamber windows. One gentleman, wishing to see his "lady love," walked three miles with snow-shoes, and entered her residence as he had left his own, namely: by the chamber window. He was cordially received, as he was the first person the family had seen from abroad for a week! Cotton Mather has left a manuscript account of this "great snow," and the many marvels and prodigies attending it.

(Boston Transcript.)

A FAST STEAMSHIP. It is stated that the steamship John Norris is nearly finished, and will be launched in a fortnight. This is the vessel built on a model which has not been tried on the ocean, and which it is predicted will make the passage across the Atlantic in from five to six days. Her model resembles that of the North River boats—being very long and very sharp, with a flat bottom, and drawing comparatively a very light draft of water. In pleasant weather and smooth sea such a vessel would undoubtedly prove a veritable "Skimmer of the Seas," but in rough and tempestuous weather her success would be more than doubtful. The William Norris, it is said, will be an uncommonly strong boat—no expense being spared in the material or the fastening. If her success meets the expectation of her designers, a new era in Atlantic steam navigation will be commenced.

(Rockland Gazette.)

LEGAL AUTHORITY. On a recent occasion, at a trial of a cause before a justice of the peace, in Louisiana, some rather novel authorities were cited by one of the learned counsel. For example:—

"The court will observe," he said, "that in the case of Shyluck vs. Antonio, although judgment was rendered in favor of the plaintiff, yet circumstances prevented the execution which had issued from being carried into effect."

"What cause," asked the justice, "did the Court understand the gentleman to refer to?"

"Shyluck vs. Antonio, 2d Shakespeare's page two hundred and thirty-five, Johnson's edition. The Court will there find the case reported in full."

The "learned counsel" went on to apply the case to that of his client; but whether the "Court" considered this authority sufficient, has not yet transpired.

NEW GEOGRAPHY IN SCHOOLS. Chicago, Q. Where is Chicago?

A. At the head of Lake Michigan, on either side of Chicago river.

Q. What are the principal articles of trade, manufacture and otherwise in Chicago?

A. Corner lots and Wild cat notes.

Q. What notable historical event has occurred in Chicago?

A. The death of Knud Iversen.

Q. What would you infer from the incidents attending his disease?

A. That people in Chicago, who will not steal are drowned.

POOR FELLOW. While standing at the store of one of our mercantile friends, a poor, bloated, used-up specimen of humanity came up, and doffing a tattered stocking had into our friend, asked for a job. Upon being told that there was no work for him, he broke out into violent, drunken anathemas against Stockton and its inhabitants, saying that he had offered to work for a man three days for \$5, and could not even obtain a job at that rate.

As he staggered off, looking the very picture of woe and destitution Mr. — gave a small sketch of the poor fellow's life in California. He came here in '49 and proceeded to the mines, a fine, stalwart, manly picture of health and sobriety, with a will to work and a good constitution. He soon amassed an (to him) independent fortune, some \$5,000 or \$10,000. With a light heart, and cheerful step, he arrived here in the '51 on his way home, with the proceeds of his hard toil and great privations. He came too late for the afternoon boat, and taking a stroll in the evening to see some portion of that life from which he had been so long debarr'd, he was induced to try "the Tiger." It was the crisis of his destiny! "The Tiger" won and he



## Nebraska.

The Troy Daily Post (Hart) has a capital article on the Nebraska and Nebraska. It says:

"It becomes necessary again to ask what questions are settled by the compromise? Is the Fugitive Slave Law the only unalterable one among the compromise acts? Was every thing settled unchangeably in favor of Slavery, and nothing gained for freedom?"

"Nebraska lies north of the limits of the line commonly known as Mason's and Dixon's line, and within the northwest territory, consequently to freedom by the celebrated ordinance of 1798."

"A new agitation of the Slavery question is inevitable. The North will not consent to let all the great Western wilderness be overrun by Slavery, and so eternally cursed with barrenness and iniquity."

"The Constitution of the United States does not recognize Slavery as a system, it merely alludes to Slavery as existing in some of the States. Congress assumes no power over it in the States, but has always studiously avoided any legislation directly interfering with it."

"It is a settled principle of the common law, that Slavery is contrary to natural right, and can only exist by virtue of local and municipal enactments. It requires positive statutes to establish between man and man the relation of master and slave. Judge Brown, the martyr of the 'Hards,' has expressed his opinion that Slavery cannot exist in territories of the United States."

"How then shall it be introduced into Nebraska? If at all, certainly contrary to the Constitution and the Common Law. If a Slaveholder of Missouri takes his slaves there, they are free the moment they cross the line, and even the Fugitive Slave Law could not remove them back to service."

"We do not agree that the compromise measures, had Congress to admit a State into the Union, which deliberately establishes Slavery in territories now free. We hold that Congress would be bound by every principle of natural justice to reject the application for admission under the slave clauses are stricken out. Every State should be required to come into the Union as a free State."

"The compromise is, after all, a rope of sand. It has already broken and fallen to pieces. The President does not name it. In all his appointments he has disregarded it."

"The South understands it in one way, the North in another. The 'Hards' and 'Silver Grays' construe it so as to exclude the Free Soilers from official patronage, and to permit agitation in favor of Slavery, but not against it."

"Such sentiments in a Hunker paper, of the 'Hard Shell' stamp, at this juncture is a significant sign of the times."

**COALITIONS.**—"HARD" CONVENTION.—"NATIONAL DEMOCRACY." &c. We have just now at our pen and an apology to offer to the "Hards," self styled "National Democrats" in this region for copying from the N. H. Patriot the following brief article which bears their case exactly:

"Men who have loved themselves honest in denunciation of coalitions in Massachusetts and Vermont are now glorying over the infamous coalition in the U. S. Senate between a few disaffected Democrats and the Whigs and Abolitionists. Men who were so pure that they felt called upon to denounce the appointment of men to office who formerly opposed the compromise, and are now seen united with Sumner and Sumner and the whole whig and abolition parties, to elect to office a man who was lately a whig, and an original opponent of the compromise."

"Men who held to a degree to them to act with those who opposed. Case in 1848, and held the regular organization of the party rather than to do so, are now forced to sever over and defending a coalition of their friends with whigs and abolitionists in support of a Taylorite in 1848. This is 'Hard' consistency; this is 'National Democracy,' as exemplified by the democratic opponents of a democratic administration."

"The special organs of the 'Hards' in this State are 'howling themselves hoarse,' in denunciation of a coalition in the Legislature when it is well known that they themselves are parties to a coalition whose object is to place a Whig in the Executive Chair this year as they did last year. 'This is 'Hard' consistency, this is 'National Democracy,' as exemplified by the democratic opponents of a democratic administration.'"—*in Maine.*

[Hunker Jeffersonian.

**CONGRUATION.** The Parliament House at Quebec was a week ago last Wednesday, destroyed by fire. This was one of edifices which we among a party of friends visited last Fall. It contained a large Library—an extensive Museum—a Representatives Hall, and a Council Chamber. The latter apartment, was not excelled in beauty of style, elegance of finish and richness of furniture by any Hall in North America. It is really quite melancholy to hear of such a catastrophe.

The Parliament House at Montreal was, not long since, destroyed by a political mob. The following particulars are given by the Boston Journal:

"Few buildings on this continent possess greater claims for the antiquary and the historian than the Parliament House at Quebec."

"It was situated on the first clearance made by Champlain in 1608, and some of the stones of the foundation were used to construct the Fort he built there, as a protection against the Indians."

"When this spot was abandoned by the military authorities for the more commanding heights of Quebec, 'the Bishop's Palace' was erected here. A portion of that Palace stood on Wednesday morning. It was a magnificent building for the place and age."

"French travellers state, that it compared favorably with Bishop's palace in France."

"In 1852, the seat of the government being transferred to Quebec, extensive repairs were made to the Parliament House. The Legislative Council Chamber was pronounced to be the finest Hall of the kind on this continent, not excepting the Senate Chamber at Washington. The Library was especially admired. The collection of works on the history of Canada was, it is believed, unparalleled."

## The Oxford Democrat.

PARIS, Mo. FEBRUARY 10, 1854.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY  
NOAH PRINCE.

THOMAS H. BROWN, Editor.

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his friends. Take the case of John L. Cutler of Franklin. The Morrill democrats in that County held the balance of power, and in order to secure the election, Mr. C. thought it necessary to define his position before them before election. He distinctly and unequivocally pledged himself to vote for Morrill, provided Crosby and Morrill were sent to the Senate. The Morrill men took him at his word and elected him. More than this—after his arrival at Augusta, at his earnest solicitation, Mr. Ruggles of Penobscot, a fast friend of Mr. Morrill, by his casting vote elected him to the President's chair—and afterwards, when the seven undertook to organize the Senate permanently, for the want of Mr. Ruggles' vote, Mr. Cutler was kicked overboard. What can be thought of a man who will thus coolly and deliberately falsify his word, cheat his friends, and basely betray both them and the democratic party? Let the People answer, next fall.

Where are the men who betrayed Gov. Hubbard, last year? Politically dead, now and forever, and the same power that "carried out their dead carcasses" will "lay out" and bury those who have followed in their footsteps. They will all go to that political "bourne from which no traveller returns."

Mr. Morrill and his friends are in first rate spirits. They have been betrayed but not beaten. Their watchword is *endured*. Their colors are nailed to the masthead, and there they will "proudly flaunt" until final victory crowns their efforts.

Yours truly, McDUFFEE.

FROM EUROPE. TURKISH NEWS. Further accounts of the battle of Ciala, confirm the Turkish successes. It appears that the Russians were concentrating their force at Ciala to attack Kalaft, on the 14th.

On the 9th, 15,000 Turks marched out of Kalaft, attacked and stormed Ciala. They resumed the conflict with the Russians in the field on the 7th, renewed the battle on the 8th, ending in the evening with the total discomfiture of the Russians, who suffered 1,000 killed and 4,000 wounded including General Anrep, and Talmont wounded. On the 9th the Turks having remained on the field beyond Ciala, attacked the reserve of Russians, and drove them back upon Krapava, with the loss of cannon, and immense slaughter on both sides. On the 10th, the Turks having razed the Russian fortifications returned to Kalaft.

The Hungarians and Poles who had been waiting at Constantinople for employment were shipped 24 Jan. for Asian Army.

On the 5th the allied forces in the Black Sea. Two ships were sent with the following to the Russian Governor at Sebastopol.

Negotiations, Dec. 31st. The Porte made the following modifications to the note of the four powers: 1st, instead of the evacuation of principalities as soon as possible, say within 15 to 20 days after the acceptance by Russia. 2d, The renewal of treaties to be with special reference to the integrity and independence of Turkey. The Porte will ameliorate her administrative system alone and spontaneously. On the receipt at Vienna, the English, French, Austrian, and Russian representatives met and drew up a protocol, stating that the Porte's terms were good and satisfactory. They were immediately sent off by a courier to St. Petersburg, where they would arrive 19th.

The Porte's demand is that the note shall be definitely accepted or rejected within forty days from January 24, and the principalities evacuated within 20 to 30 days of date of the letter of acceptance. This demand is on the way to St. Petersburg, also communicated to the Russian minister of Foreign affairs, the czar of the fleet into the Black sea. The czar's reply was not known when the Arabia sailed. All Europe were anxiously awaiting it, as indications had already transpired that he would at once withdraw his Ambassadors from France and England, and formally declare war. Nothing else is looked for. The czar's reply had not reached the Capital.

BRITAIN. England is actively recruiting her Coast Volunteer Artillery, and Coast defender Guard. 10,000 men are wanted. Ex-tensions using also to man the navy, and more ships fitting out, but apparently no land forces.

FRANCE. The greatest activity exists in the French Navy-yards. The operators are ordered to work Sundays, and every ship to be fitted for sea immediately. A levy has been made for all seamen between 20 and 40 years old, and all the Newfoundland fishermen are drafted into the fleet stores for 40,000 soldiers are ready for shipment at Toulon.

Admiral Doudart's signal on entering the Black Sea, was—"Our duty is to protect the Ottoman marine, and territory from all aggression in the Euxine Sea."

AUSTRIA. France is understood to regard as settled that Austria shall preserve the strictest neutrality in event of war. France will enforce that neutrality.

ITALY. Roman States suffering great scarcity of food—especially at Faenza and Ravenna.

On the 26th day of May next there will be such an eclipse of the sun as only the oldest inhabitants have witnessed in this vicinity. It will be similar to the great eclipse of 1866, eleven-twelfth of the sun being obscured.

The Boston Traveller states that some of the four dealers in that city have been obliged to recede from the high prices which they attempted to establish for that article of food.

The wire suspension on bridge between Lexington and Newport, Ohio, gave way Jan. 16, while two men and 18 cattle were upon it. The men escaped, but some of the cattle were killed.

A printing press has been shipped to Lower California, for the establishment of a newspaper under the name of Republic.

The editor of the Louisville Journal, has been to the spirit-rappings. His first question was whether he would be any better looking in the next world than in this, which, much to his satisfaction, was answered in the affirmative.

A young man named Joshua Kelley, hung himself with an ox chain, last week, in Ludlow, Vt., because he lost his clothes and \$14 by the burning of the house in which he lived.

Rev. Dr. Shaler, of Brooklyn, Mass., has accepted the call of the First Baptist (Federal St.) Church and Society, Portland, to become their pastor.

What is the difference between an attempted homicide, and the butchering of swine? One is assault with intent to kill and the other is a kill with intent to eat.

The Argus of Tuesday states that a boat left one of the Islands on Sunday, to come up to the city, but the boat became jammed in the ice, and before they could extricate it the women froze to death.

O. A. Brownson refuses to discuss his creed in St. Louis, on the ground that by so doing he would concede that the question between catholicity and protestantism was debatable, which would be compromising the rights of his religion.

The Lewiston Journal states that the house of Mr. Ezekiah Gowell, of Peru, was so badly blocked up with snow, in the late storm, that he was obliged to tunnel a drift seventy feet, the snow being three or four feet deep, over the tunnel, to get to his door.

The Belfast Signal has been again suspended, and its publishers have made arrangements to supply their subscribers with the Kennebec Journal.

A cannon, loaded at the breech, has been invented by Dr. Church, of England. By this process of loading, heavy ship guns can be fired five times in a minute by two men, and a field piece six times in a minute.

BRIGHTON MARKET—Feb. 2. At market, 1650 Cattle, no Stores 3400 Sheep, and 100 Swine.

BEET CATTLE. We quote extra \$7.50 and 7.75; first quality \$7.00 and 7.50; second, \$6.50 and \$7.00 third \$5.50.

WORKING OXEN. Sales from \$7.00 to \$10.00; COWS & CALVES. Sales from \$2.50 to \$4.75; SHEEP. Sales from \$3.00 to \$5.50; SWINE. At retail, from \$3 to 6.

CIRCULATE THE NEWS! DR. PARBURY & CO., will be in attendance for consultation with patients at Office, corner of Federal and Temple streets, Portland, for one week, commencing Tuesday, Jan. 24th; St. George House, Washington, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Boston, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New York, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Philadelphia, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Baltimore, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Washington, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New Orleans, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; St. Louis, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Cincinnati, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Chicago, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; San Francisco, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Portland, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Boston, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New York, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Philadelphia, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Baltimore, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Washington, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New Orleans, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; St. Louis, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Cincinnati, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Chicago, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; San Francisco, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Portland, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Boston, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New York, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Philadelphia, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Baltimore, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Washington, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New Orleans, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; St. Louis, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Cincinnati, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Chicago, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; San Francisco, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Portland, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Boston, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New York, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Philadelphia, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Baltimore, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Washington, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New Orleans, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; St. Louis, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Cincinnati, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Chicago, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; San Francisco, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Portland, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Boston, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New York, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Philadelphia, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Baltimore, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Washington, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New Orleans, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; St. Louis, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Cincinnati, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Chicago, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; San Francisco, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Portland, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Boston, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New York, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Philadelphia, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Baltimore, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Washington, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; New Orleans, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; St. Louis, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st; Cincinnati, Feb. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8



