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NEW SERIES, VOL. 18, NO. 7.

PARIS, MAINE, FRIDAY, MARCH 8, 1867.

OLD SERIES, VOLUME 34, NO. 17.

THE OXFORD DEMOCRAT

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING

W. M. A. PIDGIN & CO.

PROPRIETORS.

JOHN J. PERRY, Editor.

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MISCELLANY.

An Interesting Story.

In 1809, among the clever young women who endeavored to earn a livelihood by contributing to the Parisian periodicals, was a young maiden, aged about 18, whose name was Pauline de Meulan. She was of an excellent family in Paris, but her near relations, who had given her an excellent education, died, and Mad'le de Meulan had to look out for the means of living. She had a taste for literature, and determined to try whether she could live by her pen. She sent various little tales, essays and poems to some of the newspapers and magazines, but unfortunately none of them succeeded in obtaining insertion,—editors are often hard to be pleased. Mad'le de Meulan had perseverance—she had energy as well as talents—and this made her continue efforts which were literally made without hope of being successful. Meanwhile, one by one, her ornamental possessions disappeared. At last her perseverance was rewarded. The managers of a publication called "The Publiciste," accepted some of her papers, they found merit in the opinion of the reading public, and it was found worth while to engage her as a constant contributor. The publication had eminent success, and the payment she received was sufficient to let the young authoress live in comparative comfort. She even became talked of and inquired after, so that she frequently went into literary society. At that time no literary soirees were so well attended as those of M. Suard, a well known and wealthy literateur, and at them, an invited guest, Mad'le de Meulan met and mingled with the persons, male and female, most distinguished for talent in Paris.

Thus happily did matters proceed, until poor Pauline was unable, from a severe illness, to send any more articles to the Publiciste. It is not the custom for editors to pay when contributions are not sent to them, unless the writers be of such vital importance to the work that it becomes prudent to pay them during illness for articles to be written when they are convalescent. Now poor Pauline de Meulan was very useful to the Publiciste, but her articles were by no means indispensable to its success, especially in a metropolis which supplied very many persons of no less ability than hers to write ad libitum for the work. And Mad'le de Meulan was fully aware of this; so, being thus sensible of her situation, and having been unable to have saved much money, fears of indigence and distress haunted her sick bed. At this moment relief came in an unexpected manner, so as to seem quite providential, and relieved her of her terrors by mitigating the fears and abolishing the reality of distress.

She was lying on her bed of sickness one morning, sadly musing on the evils present and anticipated, when a packet reached her by the hands of an unknown messenger, which was directed in a hand she did not know. It contained an article in her own line and manner, which an anonymous note accompanying it requested she would send to the Publiciste, hoping that it would be accepted by the editors in lieu of her own. The writer added that he would take leave to transmit her a similar article at regular intervals until she was quite able to resume the pen. Ignorant of the handwriting, Pauline had no idea who her unknown friend was. He kept his promise, however, and suitable articles were sent at regular intervals, accepted by the editor of the Publiciste, and the same remuneration as her own contributions had produced, was thus obtained. By such means all requisite comforts were secured to her during her illness, and the distress of mind which would have materially impeded her recovery, was wholly relieved.

When Mad'le de Meulan resumed her own literary labors, her correspondent ceased to write for her. She much longed to know and thank him, but months rolled on and still she had no clue by which to ascertain who her benefactor was. At length a young man, pale and slender, with a countenance of a mild and contemplative expression, called upon her, and introduced himself as her unknown correspondent.

Pauline de Meulan instantly remembered that she had met this young man at M. Suard's soirees, where she had heard him spoken of as one who had won for himself the reputation of being one of the most rising and promising young men of the day. She had been struck, at various times, with his modest demeanor and eloquent and thoughtful conversation, and he also had taken notice of her, although until that hour he had never breathed to her or to anyone the interest her beauty, her simple manners and her talents had excited in his heart. This interview was followed by others, until, at length, Pauline had the pleasure of having the benevolent stranger her recognized lover. Very tenderly they loved each other, and they married.

But what connection has this anecdote with M. Guizot? Why, no more than the little circumstance that the actors in this little drama of the heart are M. Guizot and his wife. The marriage took place in 1812, the same year that he became Professor in the University of Paris, which he still holds. But I anticipate Madame Guizot's Letters on Education, and other works show that she was a clever woman.

Southern Daughters at the Parental Grave.

Mr. Nasby has lately witnessed the assembling of several Southern daughters around the grave of their father with floral tributes of affection. They came in two groups, and we begin to quote the story on the appearance of the first:

"It was a techie site, and feelin' that I wuz a intruder, not bein a blood relashun and only connected with the decess by note ov hand, I withdrew a short distants. Skasly had they got to the tomb, when from the other sid' approached three more ravishingly beautiful young ladies, with baskets uv hot-house flowers onto their arms. The last ones resembled in a striking manner the first ones, cepth they wuz a shade darker, and their hair wuz perfect strate. The two parties faced each other on the opposite sides of the tomb, and party number one glared fiercely at party number two.

"Lize! Flora! Jane!" said the eldest uv party number one, "What are you doin here?"

"Sisters," said the eldest uv party number two, "we're here dischargin a fillyl dooty. Beneath these sods lies the remains uv our father, and we are goin to strew these flowers onto his toom. Jine us in the strew."

"Father!" shrieked the three uv party number one, "Your all niggers and waz servants unto—"

"Our half sisters," said the spokesman of party number two, "but Linkin removed the cuss uv Ham, and we're now free and bev ez much right to strew the grave uv our common parent, wich wuz John Guttle, ez you. Oh! our sisters, our father wuz a good man—let us bedew his grave with our tears and—"

"Wat impudence!" shrieked party number one, all in chorus.

"Impudence yourself!" retorted party number two, gettin red in the face. "We are John Guttleses daughters precisely ez much ez you, and the only advantage you hev over us is in the articles uv mothers. You three hev wun, wich wuz John Guttle's wife, while we three hev three—one spiece eggcrackly—wich wuz John Guttleses servants, but we can't nevertheless, stifle our emoshuns. I shal command myself and thus proceed to perform a act uv fillyl dooty."

And she histed out the flowers and comment to strew.

The tother wuns wuz a gittin hot. The oldest wun cood stand this impudence no longer, and, droppin her basket, went for her, followed by her sisters. It was a sperited conflict, and lasted perhaps four minutes, or until I parted 'em, when they gathered themselves together and departed,—one party went one way and tother tother.

Fillyl loves hev done more in the strewin bizness than it sot out to do. The six lovin daughters uv the decess John had not only strewed flowers onto his grave, but hair, and collars, and huzzum pins, and shreds uv silk, and water-falls, and cotton, and false teeth, and pieces uv almost everything wick goes to make up the sum total uv female attire.

Ex! gazed at the wreck and saw their tattered forms vanish in the dim distance, I cood not help admittin that when it come to strewin the graves uv decess ancestors there wuz some disadvantages attendin the patriarck system.

COMMERCE ON THE LAKES. The Chicago Times says that since the commencement of the war there has been no ship-building of any account along the shores of our inland lakes. A demand for additional tonnage to carry on the lake trade has been met during the present winter by an unusual activity in the work of vessel-building, and more vessels, and of a larger amount of tonnage, have been constructed during the season than during any year hitherto. Besides sailing vessels, several new propellers and two side-wheel steamers will be ready for business at the opening of navigation.

The Bangor Whig publishes a challenge to Mr. Bisbee of Camden, to trot a match against his best mare "Lady Chapman," reported to have gone a mile in 2.24, for \$1000 a side, to come off at the Bangor park sometime in May next.

Artists have adopted different emblems of charity. We wonder none of them ever thought of a piece of India-rubber, which gives more than any other substance.

How to Cure a Setting Hen.

"Timothy, that air yaller hen's setting agin," said Mrs. Hayes to her son, one morning at breakfast.

"Well, let her set," remarked Timothy, "I guess I can stand it as long as she can."

"Now, Timothy, as soon as you've done eating, I want you to go out and break up that hen. She's setting on an old axe and two bricks now."

"I hope she'll hatch 'em," returned Timothy.

"If she was set now, she'd hatch the fourth week in May. It's a bad sign; something ails her after it. There was Jenkins' folks, their gray top-knot hatched the last week in May, and Miss Jenkins she had the conjunction on the lungs, and would have died if they hadn't killed a lamb and wrapped her in the hide while 'twas warm. That was all that saved her."

Timothy finished his breakfast in haste and departed for the barn, from which he soon returned, bearing the squalling biddy by the legs.

"What shall I do with her, mother? She'll get on again, and she is as cross as bedlam—she skinned my hands, and would be the death of me if she could get loose."

"I've heern it said that it was a good plan to throw 'em up in the air," said Mrs. Hayes. "Aunt Peggy broke one of setting only three times trying. Spose'n you try it."

"Up she goes—head or tail?" cried Tim, as he tossed her skywards.

"Land o' massy," exclaimed Mrs. Hayes, "she's coming down into the pan of bread that I set out on the great rock to rise. Tim, 'tis strange that you can't do nothing without overdoing it."

"Down with the traitors, up with the stars," sung out Tim, elevating Biddy again with less than a pint of batter hanging to her feet.

"Good gracious me! wuss and wuss!" cried Mrs. Hayes, and Tim agreed with her, for the hen had come down on the well polished tile of Squire Bennett, who happened to be passing, and the dignified old gentleman was the father of Cynthia Bennett, the young lady with whom Tim was seriously enamored.

The square looked daggers, brushed off the dough with his handkerchief and strode on in silence.

"Yes, but it's going up again," said Tim, spitefully, seizing the clucking biddy and tossing her at random into the air. Biddy thought it time to manifest her own individuality, and with a loud scream she started against the parlor window, broke through, knocked down the canary cage, and landed plump in the silken lap of Mrs. Gray, who was boarding at the farm house.

Mrs. Gray screamed with terror, and, starting up, dislodged Biddy, who flew at her reflection in the looking-glass with an angry hiss. The glass was shattered, and down came the hen, astonished above measure, against a vase of flowers, which upset, and in falling knocked over the stand-dish, and deluged with ink and water a pair of slippers, which Helen Maria was embroidering for her lover, Mr. James Henshaw.

Helen entered the room just as the mischief had been done, and, viewing the ruin, she at once laid it to her brother Timothy. She heard his step behind her, and flung the unfortunate hen full in his face.

There was a smothered oath, and the hen came back with the force of a twelve pound shot.

Helen was mad. Her eyes were nearly put out with the feathery dust and dough, and she went at Timothy with true feminine zeal. She broke his watch-guard into a dozen pieces, crushed his dicey, and began to pull his whiskers out by the roots, when she suddenly remembered that Timothy had no whiskers to pull out by the roots.

But when she came to look closer she perceived that the man she had nearly annihilated was not Timothy, but James Henshaw.

Poor Helen burst into tears and fled into her chamber, the usual refuge for heroines; and James, after washing his face at the kitchen sink, went home sternly resolved never to marry a woman with such a temper as Helen Hayes had.

The hen, meanwhile, returned to the barn to establish herself on her nest, suddenly determined to set if the heavens fell. Three weeks later she made her appearance with eleven chickens. While Mrs. H. and Tim did not succeed in "breaking up" the setting hen, the hen had broken up two matches—for Miss Bennett was "not at home"—the next time Timothy called, and Mr. Henshaw never forgave Helen for having such a temper.

In the beginning, woman consisted of a single rib. Now she's all ribs from her belt to the rim of her petticoats.

THE GREAT TOBACCO FACTORY OF SPAIN

A sojourner at Seville writes: "The change from the fairy scene in and around the Alcazar to the tobacco factory is like nothing on this planet. Put your hand into a pitcher of hot water, and quickly plunge it into another of cold, and the change will not be a whit more strange than to pass from the beautiful Alcazar to the presence of five thousand girls, all in one room, and Sevilleans too, in the factory. They are all old enough to be mischievous and 'put on airs.' I doubt if as many black eyes can be seen in any one place as in this factory. Their fingers move rapidly, and their tongues a little faster. Both consume ten thousand pounds of tobacco per day; but you must not suppose that they use tobacco in any shape. No; but they must talk, and talk they do with a rapidity that is amazing."

I have often heard that a woman's weapon is her tongue, and that the sex is notorious for using it; but, like many other unkind statements against Heaven's best, last gift to man, I doubted it until I peeped into the Fabrica de Tabacos of Seville. What must be the weight of mischief manufactured each day along with the cigars, I don't know, but I feel safe in stating that it is at least equal with the tobacco. This factory was erected in 1750, is 660 feet long by 525 wide, and is surrounded by a mole. It is the principal factory in the kingdom, as everyone uses tobacco in some shape in Andalusia, not excepting the ladies, but it is when they are on the shady side of forty that they puff and cogitate. Snuff, cigars, and cigarettes are all manufactured here. The best workers among the girls earn about forty cents per day; the poorest about half that amount. Every night they are all searched."

TRUE WORDS ABOUT HEALTH. Doctor Harlow, Superintendent of the Insane Asylum, at Augusta, in his report for the year ending December 31st, 1866, says:

Glancing briefly at the causes enumerated as operating most apparently upon those who have come to us for treatment within the year, you will find ill health by far the most prominent. Every year we spend with those of "mind diseased," leads us more fully to the conviction that greater care and watchfulness over the physical part of our nature would lessen surprisingly the number who annually fall victims to the worst of human ills. The rules of hygiene are so woefully neglected and disregarded by all classes and in all conditions of men, that it is no marvel to see the vast number of wrecks afloat on all sides.

The conventionalities of society are but steppingstones over which the young scramble to find themselves too soon in some institution for the insane or at the brink of an early grave.

The various excesses of life in which the great majority indulge, prey most surely upon the vital forces, and implant within the clayey tenement of the soul seeds which "grow with the growth and strengthen with the strength," until they ripen into cruel disease and merciless death.

The effect of the intemperate use of stimulants upon the brain is too well known to require any extended discussion. It is only necessary to look about and see the willing disciples of Bacchus crowding the avenues leading to asylums for the insane. Alcohol, Opium, Tobacco, and Cannabis Indica are each but tile-leaders of the serried ranks, as they press to the goal. As the rocket, so the votaries of those pernicious substances by their brilliant coruscations along the upward track are but the prelude of the perpendicular descent of what remains when the glowing flame expires.

The Milwaukee Daily Wisconsin says an effort was made to attract Rietori to that city, but Manager Grau replied: "Sho'tlement, I thank you generally for your invite to come, but de grand expense be too much for mine darling little angel. I takes a special train, do you see, and that be costs de grand monish. Den I loses de go to St. Louis; and I pays my angel more vat I gets in Milwaukee, and dat is vera bad. O no, gentlemen, I likes the people vera much, and I comes by and by, ven I gets another little angel what's shon so good, only vat does'n cost so much de monish, do you see."

SHARP. A man in Connecticut obtained a winter's supply of excellent potatoes in the following cute manner: He gave out word he was desirous of obtaining a specimen of the best sort of potatoes, and would pay three dollars for a peck of such, himself to be the judge. Potatoes poured into his cellar from all the country round, and when the avalanche had subsided, the man handed over his three dollars for the best peck, and the next spring sold potatoes enough to more than cover the original outlay, besides having had a first quality article for home use all the winter.

BREVITIES.

How would you measure your lover's sincerity? By his sighs.

A man in London lost his life at a game of poker. His wife held the poker.

To cure a felon,—Suspend the neck about an hour.

When does truth cease to be truth? When it "lies at the bottom of a well."

Why is the letter C like a generous fairy? Because it turns ash into cash.

Why is a non invariably disappointed with her mode of life? Because it's "no end of a cell."

Why is the ballad of Cock Robin's death like the letter C? Because it makes a clark of the lark.

Why are A, E and U the handsomest of vowels? Because you cannot have beauty without them.

Why should volunteers especially dislike the letter T? Because it turns rifles into trifles.

A Philadelphian is disgusted with Rome, because "its so plaguey full of ruins there's nothing else to see."

"Perley" says some of the Washington ladies who still sympathize with secession are making for Mrs. Jeff. Davis an elegant outfit of diminutive child's clothing, some of which is elegantly embroidered.

A lady of New Bedford, Mass., who recently wrote to a Boston publishing house for a copy of "Gellert; or Trust in God," received the sad reply, "There is no trust in God to be found in Boston."

A Sensitive Plant was exhibited at the last Pennsylvania State Fair, the label of which read as follows: "Sensitive Plant—this plant opens its leaves at sunrise and closes them at sunset, or when touched."

"Of what use are forms?" exclaimed a petulant legislator to Dr. Franklin; "you cannot deny that they are often mere empty things!" "Well, my friend, and so are barrels, but, nevertheless, they have their uses," quietly replied the doctor.

CANADIAN CONFEDERATION. An advance copy of the Confederation bill to be introduced into the Imperial Parliament, has been received. The name of the united Provinces it to be the "Kingdom of Canada." The Federal Legislature will be styled "Parliament of Canada." The upper House is to be styled "Senate," and the lower House to be styled "Commons." The local legislatures are to be known as the "Provincial Legislatures of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick," respectively. Ontario, formerly Upper Canada, is to have but one chamber, to be known as the "Legislative Assembly of Ontario." The other Provinces each have a Legislative Council and House of Assembly. The Senate to be appointed by the Crown and is to have power to create six additional Senators beyond the stipulated 72 in the event of necessity.

The House of Commons is to consist of 181 members, 82 from Ontario, 65 from Quebec, 19 from Nova Scotia, 15 from New Brunswick; the Queen's representative presiding over the new kingdom, is to retain the old title of Governor General with a salary of \$50,000; each province to have a Lieutenant Governor appointed by the Governor General in Council; the seat of the government to be at Ottawa, subject to the Royal prerogative; Toronto, Quebec, Halifax and Fredericton to be seats of local legislatures.

JEFF DAVIS. A Virginia paper notices the fact that the second year of Jeff. Davis imprisonment will soon expire; that his name is never uttered in the halls of congress—seldom seen in the public prints; appeals for his deliverance and cries for his blood are equally hushed, the nation seeming dead to his existence, but the crowning disgrace of the past six years of sectional strife, the writer says, is the neglect of Davis' own people, which sickens his heart, and he is dying, with this feeling wearing out his soul. [Boston Journal.]

The attachment of some ladies to their lapdogs amounts, in some instances, to infatuation. We have heard of a lapdog biting a piece out of a male visitor's leg. Its mistress thus expressed her compassion: "Poor little dear creature! I hope it will not make him sick!"

A railway accident lately occurred, caused by the axle of a tender giving way, detaining the train several hours. A lady inquired of a gentleman passenger why it was so delayed; he bravely replied, "Madam, it was occasioned by what is often followed by serious consequences—the sudden breaking of a tender attachment."

Skilful cooking is readily discovered in a nicely baked potato, a slice of fried pork or a respectable johnny-cake, as in a nut-brown sirloin or a brace of canvass-back ducks.

PARIS, MAINE, MARCH 8, 1867.

The Decimal System of Measures.

The Portland Press of March 20 has something to say upon the above matter, and concludes by quoting a portion of a paper prepared by Moses Bliss, Esq., of Pittsford, in this State, upon a new system of standard measures. Mr. Bliss is well known to be a man of scientific attainments, and one who has made a special study of what may be called practical mathematics. But, with all respect for this gentleman, it does not seem to us that his system at all accomplishes what we have a right to expect from a change. As we understand the requirement, we ought to gain two things: first, a system which shall be simple and uniform in itself, so that all lengths, weights and measures, both of areas and capacities shall be deducible from a single unit, and that by a uniform ratio; and, secondly, that we shall have a system uniform with the standard European unit, so that the rules, tables and experimental data of foreign mathematical, physical and chemical works, may be, in the easiest manner, made available for our use. Neither of these requirements is obtained by the system of Mr. Bliss. He makes the yard his standard for length, and divides it decimally; next, he makes the foot his standard, or unit, for solid measure; so that between the lengths and areas, and the cubes, we have no uniformity whatever; and the only change we make is from an irregular system with which we are acquainted, to an irregular one with which we are not acquainted. But, even if Mr. Bliss had the yard, or foot, as a single unit from which to deduce lengths, areas, cubes, weights and capacities by a constant ratio, we do not then get the second, and by no means least, of our requirements,—uniformity with the European standard, the metre. The French will not change their standard to make their system uniform with some new one which we may adopt; they have no need to make a change, but we certainly have need for a better system, and it is quite likely that we shall soon get it, and it seems to us that we had better adopt for our unit the metre, so well known and so generally used among Europeans, and not undertake to complicate matters still further by dividing the yard decimally. Mr. Bliss remarks that the foot is used by most of the European nations, by using the foot as a unit we adopt a common term; but this common term means just nothing, inasmuch as no two standard European feet are alike. The French standard,—the metre, is equal to 39.37 inches Paris feet, to 39.37 inches English feet, to 39.37 inches Prussian feet, to 39.37 inches Castilian feet, and to 39.37 inches Vienna feet.

Mr. Bliss selects the yard as a unit because of the manner in which it is got, viz by measuring the length of a pendulum which shall vibrate seconds of mean time at a vacuum, at a given temperature, and at a given latitude, at the level of the sea; as all of this sounds mighty exact and scientific; but when, in 1834, the British standard was destroyed by fire, it was found impossible, even to so good an observer as Capt. Kater, to restore the yard with the exactness demanded by science. It means of a pendulum, and the restoration was finally made in an arbitrary manner by the Government. Thus the getting up of standard yard by gravity is not a practical thing. Nor is the metre much better when we undertake to obtain it by astronomical or geodetic measurements. I great advantages are the simplicity of subdivisions and multiples, and the general use of which has been made of it by scientific men. Even in American books on physics it has been used of late, on account of the ease which is thus acquired of reducing observations. It has a single unit, as a constant decimal ratio.

The unit for length is the metre.

The unit for area, the decimetre squared.

The unit for bulk, the metre cubed.

The unit for liquids, the decimetre cubed.

The unit for weight, a cubic centimetre of pure water.

So that, as Prof. Cooke, in his "Chemical Physics," observes,—this system of weights is so simple that it is almost always possible to calculate the weight of a substance from its volume, and the reverse, mentally, when the specific gravity is known; and of this same decimal system of France was said by John Quincy Adams to be "one of those attempts to improve the condition of human kind which, should it ever be destined to fail, would in its failure deserve little less admiration than in its success."

The system of Mr. Bliss, if we understand the Press, commences with six different units, viz: the yard, area, foot, pound, gallon and dollar, each of which he divides decimally, but between which units there is no constant ratio, and between which and the European standards there is no connection.

Mrs. Betsey Baker, of West Dedham, Mass., died on Sunday, Feb. 24, aged 81. She is the woman who made the first straw bonnet ever fabricated in this country. She saw an imported bonnet, examined the braid, and by her own ingenuity, prepared and split the straw, and braided and fashioned the bonnet. It contained more material than is required in the present day for such a purpose.

We see it stated that Joseph S. Walker, of Fryeburg, has been appointed a paymaster in the regular army.

Town Elections.

PARIS. Moderator, J. S. Hobbs. Clerk, H. E. Hammond. Selectmen, Silas P. Maxim, Thomas C. Oushman, H. N. Bolster. Agent, Hiram Hubbard. Treasurer, A. M. Hammond. School Com., Seth Benson. Highway Surveyors, Hiram Hathaway, Joseph Libbey, James Penley, Albert Winslow, Sylvanus Porter, E. K. Cummings, Preston R. Robinson, John Whitman, Eleazer Dunham, Nathaniel Knight, Daniel Grafham, Jonathan Clark, Adna C. Cushman, Jonathan Richards, Hiram Jackson, Devona Bates, David R. Ripley, Roscoe E. Bradbury, Cyrus Richardson, Stephen Richardson, Simon Dudley, Moses Foster, John McKenney, Wm. F. Perkins, Aratus Mixer, P. Mellen Colburn, Charles A. Scott, Porter Stevens, Frank W. Barrett, Wellington Dunham, Charles Shaw, Marston E. Bersey, Samuel Dammon, Gilbert Evans, Henry Maxim, Oliver Curtis, Edwin Stearns, Geo. C. Ryerson, Saml A. Bumpus, Elbridge Faber, Joseph Noyes, Peleg Hammond, Jr., Chandler B. Curtis. Field Drivers, V. D. Parris, Tristram Hersey, Solomon Chase. Pound Keeper, Merrill Wyman. Survey of Brick Moulds, Otis Swift, Alex. S. Thayer. Constables, A. S. Thayer, Tristram Hersey, E. D. Marshall. Surveyors of Lumber, Wood and Bark, Francis Bemis, Wm. D. Brett, John D. Briggs, Orra Hall, Sam M. King, John G. Sweet, Ira Bartlett, Oliver Pratt, H. G. Brown. Tythingman, Jonathan P. Richards. Sextons, David Jordan, Seth Benson, J. K. Clifford, Charles F. Cummings, Beazell White, S. P. Stearns, Leonard Young, Luther Stone, Horace W. Rawson, Ransom Ripley. Fire Wardens, V. D. Parris, Ziba Thayer, Horace N. Bolster. Hog Reeves, Benjamin F. Bates, A. R. Andrews, James D. Williams, Jefferson Washburn, John W. Deming, Frank L. Willis, Robert Skiffins, Austin Foyal. Voted, To raise amount required by law for schools; \$2000 for Poor and Town charges; \$4000 in labor for roads, and a cash tax of \$1000 for same purpose to be expended where needed; to collect taxes before Feb. next; to raise \$8000 to meet liabilities; accepted roads in North Paris and Fobes district, and ordered them to be built; chose Orson Ripley, Collector of Taxes, at the rate of 3-4 of one per cent.

NORWAY. Moderator, W. W. Virgin. Clerk, E. H. Brown. Selectmen, B. H. Noble, L. H. Wisley, F. A. Danforth. Treasurer, S. Favor. Agent, W. W. Virgin. School Com., Rev. T. T. Merry. All Union. It was voted to hold future Town meetings in Concert Hall, the use of which, with necessary offices for Selectmen, Assessors and School Committee, with room for deposit of records, is given for \$100 rent per year. The old Town House will be sold by auction next Saturday.

NORWAY does a commendable thing in furnishing a safe for the preservation of the Town records.

The Town voted \$1500 for schools; \$2,200 for Town expenses; \$2000 for Town debt. Raised for highways \$2000 in labor and \$1000 cash.

CANTON. Moderator, Otis Huxford Jr. Clerk and Treasurer, John P. Swasey. Selectmen, Hiram A. Ellis, Albion Thorne, Calvin S. Browne. School Com., Albion Thorne. The Town voted to purchase a farm, on which to support their poor; also voted to issue bonds to the amount of \$3000, payable in five years, to be deposited until the P. & O. C. railroad is extended to Canton Village,—if within two years,—when they shall be given to the proprietors of that road. The town also voted to accept of the location of a road made by the selectmen, the estimated cost of which is about \$600, which, added to sums raised to defray Town charges, support of schools, etc., makes a prospect of having round taxes assessed.

There was great unanimity in the action of the Town, and a more quiet meeting has not been held for many years. The people are alive to their interests and are willing to pay for the privileges they enjoy. The meeting alluded to in the 11th instant, to further consider the purchase of a farm, and provide means of paying for it.

HIRAM. Moderator, S. D. Wadsworth, rep. Clerk, Jas. L. Hill, rep. Selectmen and Assessors, Chas. Allen, dem. (1 ms.) N. W. Adams, rep. A. P. Sanborn, rep. Overseers of Poor, John C. Mason, Ben. Berhank, Thos. B. Seavy, rep. Treasurer and Collector, John McDougal, rep. S. S. Committee, A. P. Sanborn, rep. Auditor, S. D. Wadsworth, rep. Constable, A. R. Basknell.

GILEAD. Moderator, Caleb Wight. Clerk, Jason W. Kimball. Selectmen, John M. Bean, Caleb Wight, Orlando Wight. Treasurer, Wm. R. Peabody, Agent, Parmenio Peabody. School Com., Jason W. Kimball.

BETHEL. Moderator, Josiah Brown, 2d. Clerk and Agent, Enoch Foster. Selectmen, David F. Brown, Saml B. Tinsell, C. T. D. Crockett. Treasurer, Robert A. Chapman. Collector, Israel G. Kimball. School Com., C. T. D. Crockett. Constables, Israel G. Kimball, Geo. W. Haskell, Oliver W. Mason, Joseph Brown, 2d, Charles R. Locke, Augustus M. Carter, Gilman P. Bean, Gilman P. Blake, John S. Swan and Elias S. Bartlett.

NEWRY. Moderator, L. R. Paine, Clerk, Orrin Foster. Selectmen, Orrin Foster, S. R. Wilber, J. B. Littlehale Jr. School Com., N. J. Baker. Treasurer, Orrin Foster. Agent, L. C. Smith. All Republicans.

ALBANY. Clerk, H. D. Haskell. Selectmen, John Haskell, Lewis Sawin, Lawrence Mass. Treasurer, J. H. Lovejoy. Agent, Geo. French. School Com., D. T. Cummings. Constables, Jacob Dresser, John Haskell. All Republicans but last two Selectmen.

OXFORD. Clerk, Thomas Baker. Selectmen, S. S. Smith, Charles F. Durell, Roscoe Brown. Treasurer, Charles F. Durell. Agent, S. T. Holbrook. School Com., Edwin A. Perry, Wm. W. Thomas, Jr. Constable and Collector, Jacob T. Washburn.

SWINDEN. Moderator, Benj. Webber. Clerk, J. P. Plummer. Selectmen, Samuel Plummer, J. N. Stone, Wm. E. Whitcomb. Treasurer, G. A. Holden. Agent, J. W. Chase. School Com., M. M. Hamlin, B. W. Newell. Collector and Constable, Isaac Eastman. All Republicans, and elected without opposition.

LOVELL. Moderator, James Hobbs, rep. Clerk, Barnes Walker, dem. Selectmen, Barnes Walker, dem. E. G. Kimball, dem. David B. Walker, rep. Treasurer, Marshall Walker, rep. School Com., Joseph F. Stearns, rep.

FREYBURG. Moderator, Enoch C. Farrington. Clerk, Tilo S. McIntire. Selectmen, Ava Charles, Seymour C. Hobbs, Philbrick A. Bradley. Treasurer, Timothy C. Ward. School Com., Charles D. Barrows, Franklin Shirley, Albion P. Gordon. All Republicans.

SWINDEN. Moderator, William R. Sewall. Clerk, Hiram S. Coburn. Selectmen, Lewis Bissbee, Charles Y. T. ell, Stephen C. Heald. Agent, Benj. Y. Tuell. Treasurer, Hiram B. Chandler. School Com., Winfield S. Robinson.

BUCKFIELD, March 6, 1867. Editor Democrat: The republicans carried the Town election by hard work and unity of action. Mr. Noah Prince was elected Moderator by one majority; John Farrar, Clerk, by one majority; Hiram Howe, by two; A. C. Day, by one, and A. P. Boushey by one majority, for Selectmen. The democrats then lay down their arms and abandoned the field, except a few skirmishes, who kept up a scattering fire until the very last. Mr. J. C. Irish was elected School Committee. The whole vote cast was two hundred and eleven; Irish had one hundred and ninety eight, and "was elected."

The Last Days of Congress. The 39th Congress expired on Saturday night. The closing hours were diversified by the receipt of three vetoes. That of the Reconstruction bill went to the House, and was immediately passed over the veto by a vote of 155 to 47. The Senate passed it by 38 to 10. The tenure of office bill was passed over the veto by a similar vote. The Committee on Custom House frauds made a report, implicating officials, and both Senators Patterson and Doolittle, as well as a Washington woman. The Bankrupt bill, which had passed the House, was amended by Committee of Conference, and passed the Senate. The tax of 2 1/2 cents per pound on cotton was retained. The Committee on Impediment reported that they had not been able to fully investigate the question, but that evidence had been obtained sufficient to demand the prosecution of the investigation. The bill to redeem compound interest notes with 3 per cent certificates was adopted by both Houses. Mr. Bingham's wool bill was adopted by the Senate, giving 12 cents on best grades, and 10 cents on poorer, with 10 per cent ad valorem. Gen. Dix was confirmed Minister to France; but Mr. Cowan was rejected as Minister to Austria. The Senate proposition to pay relief assessors was stricken out in Conference Committee. Notice is to be given to the Globe that in two years the contract for publishing the debates of Congress will be abrogated.

NON-RESIDENT LANDS. The bill requiring advertisements of non resident tax sales to be published in some paper in the County where the lands are situated has become a law. The arguments for the change we have stated, and it seems the Legislature appreciated their force, and enacted an amendment giving them effect. The local papers in the State, as well as the people, are deeply indebted for this change to Maj. W. B. Lapham, representative from the Woodstock district, who has been indefatigable in keeping the bill in sight, through the various manipulations that can be given a bill and by which wire-pullers understand how to defeat a measure. He appeared before the Committee to which the order was referred, and a bill was reported, with but one dissenting voice. The act met with most determined opposition, and was well-nigh lost, but finally passed both Houses. We thank him most heartily for his earnest efforts to secure a needed reform. The law will take effect in thirty days from the adjournment of the Legislature. In counties where there is more than one paper, Treasurers are to advertise in the one designated by the County Commissioners, to publish their official orders.

BEAUTIFUL PICTURES. We have received from John Hanksen & Co., 106 Middle street, Portland, two pictures—"The Morning Kiss," and "Going to Bed," belonging to the series of Parlor Prints now offered the public by these Agents. In the former, a mother has been sitting and watching by the bedside of her sleeping boy, who has been awakened by the light streaming through the lattice, and he is now in the act of rewarding her tender solicitude with an affectionate kiss. The latter is a companion picture. Each is 13 by 16, with margin for framing, and they are charming pictures, which will be appreciated by the public. Price \$2.00.

From our Regular Correspondent. Letter from Augusta. AUGUSTA, Feb. 27, 1867. The subject of extension of the State Capitol has been settled for this session. The Senate amended the report of the Committee by providing for the purchase of a safe and fire-proof vault. When the matter came before the House, it was indefinitely postponed, and an order passed directing the Governor and Council to report plans and specifications for all needed improvements to the next Legislature. Bill for the consolidation of certain railroads in this State was indefinitely postponed without debate. The Senate has voted to accept the minority report of the Committee on the question of capital punishment, which leaves the matter where it now stands. The vote was nearly unanimous. A bill, which passed the house, yesterday, providing for the repair of certain roads and bridges in this State, appropriates three thousand dollars for rebuilding the bridge across Wild river, in the town of Gilead, and one thousand for the repair of the road through the town of Grafton. A bill providing for the times of holding the terms of the Supreme Judicial Court has passed the House and will doubtless become a law. It takes away one term from Oxford, one from Cumberland, one from Waldo and one from Washington. An act providing that towns may loan their credit to the amount of five per cent of their valuation to aid in the construction of any railroad and take stock in such company for security has also passed. Bill providing that advertisements of non-resident lands shall be published in some paper published in the county where such land lies has been signed by the Governor. March 2, 1867. The Legislature adjourned finally last evening, at ten o'clock. Many of the pet schemes that had been put off till the close of the session, with a view of pressing them through in the rush and excitement incident to the closing scenes were signally defeated. The scheme for giving the European and North American Railroad Company one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, or, in other words, an assumption on the part of the State of the debt owed to Massachusetts on account of lands, which debt was to be paid by the Railroad Company, by the terms of the act granting that Company the public lands of the State, was brought before the House on Thursday, and, after a long discussion, the bill was indefinitely postponed and sent up to the Senate for concurrence. The Senate amended by providing that the Company should give to the State a bond, with sufficient securities, to pay the debt due Massachusetts as it should become due, and it came back to the House Friday morning. After a prolonged discussion, the House, by fifteen majority, insisted on its former vote, and asked a conference. The Committee of Conference could not agree, and so reported back to the House. The report was accepted, and the House voted to adhere and refused to reconsider. So the bill was finally disposed of. The appropriation for the Orphan Asylum at Bangor and Bath came from the Senate amended, and was indefinitely postponed by the House. The Militia bill shared the same fate. At three P. M., on Friday, the table of the House was cleared and a recess was had to await the action of the Senate. At six P. M., all matters of disagreement between the two branches had been adjusted, and nothing remained but to act finally on eight bills which were at the engrossing office. So the House and Senate adjourned till eight o'clock. At eight, the two branches reassembled, the remaining business of the session was disposed of, the usual messages were sent to each of the several departments of the Government informing them of the completion of the legislative business, the Governor transmitted a list of the acts and resolves to the House and Senate and informed the two branches that he had no further communication to make, resolutions of thanks to the Speaker of the House and President of the Senate were offered and passed, affecting and pathetic speeches were made, to which the presiding officers touchingly responded, votes of thanks to the clerks and officers of the Legislature were passed, and at ten o'clock the gavel fell and the forty-sixth Legislature adjourned without date. Previous to adjournment, Mr. Frye, of Lewiston, resigned his seat in the House, and sent a letter accepting the office of Attorney General, to which he had been elected the first of the session. Bill an act providing for a State police has become a law. It provides for a State Constable and thirty Deputies, whose special duty it is to enforce the liquor law. The act providing for amendments to the liquor law of 1858, making it imprisonment for the first offense, does not take effect until it shall have been approved by the people at a special election to be called for that purpose. Hon. Wm. P. Frye, of Lewiston, took an active part in perfecting and passing these new provisions and in reconciling the differences between the two branches. The temperance community will not forget his efficient services in this regard. During the session just closed the Governor has affixed his signature to three hundred and seven acts and one hundred and seven resolves, being the whole number passed by the Legislature. The two appropriation bills passed amount to a little more than one million and a half of dollars.

Much encouragement has been given to the question of internal improvement during the session just closed. A hydrographic survey of the State has been provided for with a view of developing our vast water power, and the Governor has appointed as Commissioners under this provision Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, John A. Poor and A. D. Lockwood, of Lewiston. But I will not spend time to enumerate the several important measures which have been passed. A list of these and all the public acts in force will soon be published, and there will be an opportunity for the people to judge more understandingly of the labors of their public servants. In speaking ability the last Legislature will not compare favorably with those of former years, though Gen. Caldwell, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Crosby and Mr. Woodman, of the Senate, and Gen. Shepley, Eugene Hale, Wm. P. Frye, Mr. Oak and J. L. Stevens, of the House, are ready and eloquent debaters. But as a working body of men I doubt if ever the forty-sixth Legislature had its equal, to which the large amount of important business acted upon, the numerous unpopular schemes which have been thwarted and the shortness of the session will abundantly testify. No member can go to his home and congratulate himself that he led the Legislature, for it could not and would not be led, either by the eloquence of the speakers or the blandishments of the lobby. The friends of the European and North American Railway scheme will testify that they never saw so hard a set of men to manage. This communication closes the short series of "Letters from Augusta," for the present. They have been necessarily fragmentary and loosely thrown together, as they have been prepared in great haste. But if any of our good people have, through them, been able to understand something of the doings of the General Court, I shall consider myself amply repaid, and will remain their humble servant. INDEX. Oxford Christian Association. This body assembled at the Congregational church, South Paris, on Wednesday, at 9 o'clock. The morning hour was spent in social prayer. At 10 the meeting was organized as follows: Rev. Dr. Wilson, Moderator. Messrs. Burnham, Buck and Dunham, Secretaries. Several committees were also appointed. The first topic discussed was, "How shall the unity of the various evangelical churches be best promoted?" The discussion was opened by remarks by Dea Morse, who was followed by Rev. Messrs. Merry, of Norway, and Bartlett and Knowlton, of South Paris, and others. AFTERNOON. Meeting was opened with prayer and singing. The 2d topic for discussion was, "How shall the Pentecostal influences of the Holy Spirit be procured and perpetuated?" An interesting discussion followed, when the following was announced as the third topic: "What is to be understood by Christian separation from the world?" Rev. Mr. Bartlett was the first speaker, and a general discussion followed. The remarks were of very interesting character. EVENING. An hour was spent in social prayer. The fourth topic was, "The scriptural way of keeping the Holy Sabbath." The meetings are very fully attended, and are harmonious and interesting throughout, and doubtless will have a wide influence for good. It is noticeable that most of the pastors of the churches are in attendance. We are unable to obtain account of later proceedings for this week. MASONIC DEDICATION. Masonic Hall, South Paris, was formally dedicated on Thursday, 28th ult. The decision to have the exercises private was changed, so that the friends of members were able to participate in the pleasure of the occasion. In the afternoon, a very able and interesting address was delivered by Rev. Mr. Sawyer, of Bath, at the Methodist church. At the close of the address, the members of the fraternity, with invited guests, sat down to an oyster supper at the restaurant at the station. ANOTHER RACE. The reader will remember the result of the race at the Fair, last September, in which the mare "Lady Parson" owned by Cyprian Benson, of North Paris, was the winner in so hand some a manner over "Red Bird," owned by W. H. Woodbury, of Norway. Last week, another trial was had between the two trotters, on Moose Pond, North Paris, on a lot of \$100. Red Bird had better fortune this time, winning each of the three heats, to saddle. The mare was driven in a sleigh. The friends of the latter evidently lost considerable money in the result, and they assert that the mare did not do her best. Possibly she cannot do so well on ice as upon the track. Time 1:16, 1:20, 1:17. The day's sport closed with a trot in which the Russell mare, of Buckfield, won the purse. She made a mile in 1:15, and a quarter in 25 seconds. S. J. COURT. The next term of the S. J. Court, for Oxford County, will commence on Tuesday of next week. By the assignment, Judge Walton will be present. The Summer Case. Examination of Ervin Robinson continued. I was at home night before the fire; was in the barn at 10 or 11 in the evening to feed my horses with glass lanterns, shut up tight, except air holes; did not take out the lantern; was past 11 when I went to bed; to my knowledge there was no fire in the barn or in the field near by on the day before the fire; three days before the fire, set some barrels on fire three or four rods from the barn and remained by it till fire was down, which was perhaps 8 1/2 in the morning; the next night it rained quite a shower; was at home every day afterwards till the fire. Goss-Kennison, by Mr. Black. The carriage house occupied part of the small building, and rest of it was an open shed, opening on the east into a barn-yard; about four feet of the shed lapped onto the east of the barn; south side of the house was about 20 feet further south than south side of the barn; the north side of the barn extends further north than north side of the L. of the house, the county road running between house and outbuildings. After I set the fire in the barrels I went to an auction and stand all day, being sunny when I got home; my boy took charge of the barn; was at home the next day, I think; day before the fire I was shingling day before that; don't recollect of looking at the buckard fire after I left it; it rained night after buckard fire, I know because it leaked through roof where I hadn't shingled; thought tracks made after dew fell because they were fresh; bars where the horse was tied opened into quarter were last; horse's tracks between my house and Buckfield were some on grass; thought these tracks were made after dew fell when I first saw them; know there was a dew that night; did not see nor try to find any tracks of a man in the dew of grass; over the fence the grass was very short and saw no dew brushed off; my judgment is the tracks were recently made because they looked fresh compared with other tracks. Have complained of Mr. Buck and his son once before; appeared at appointed time at Buckfield; magistrate did not appear; waited six hours or more; have been hunting for testimony ever since; have talked with Mr. Davis; have had no funds furnished me expressly to carry on this prosecution. Docket examination resumed. I don't think I had matches in my pocket on the evening before the fire; when I built the buckard fire I went specially to get the matches and these I did not put in my pocket; took notice of the remains of the buckard fire next day after I built it and saw no signs of fire towards the barn; after the barn was burned I found that for 21 feet from the buckard fire towards the barn there was no sign of fire. FRIDAY. G. D. Bishop called. Have resided in Buckfield sometime less than a year; heard Ambrose Buck threaten last fall, in Gerrish store, the temperance people and especially those that prosecuted him; heard him say they had been poisoning on him and prosecuting him; and he had stood it as long as he should; think those were his very words; he also said he was going to fight them now; he said he had stood it a good while, that he was a hard customer and that when it they had got to suffer if they didn't stop poisoning him; he said he always had sold rum and he always would; examined the tracks after Robinson's fire; the morning of the fire about 9 in the morning I took Capt. Paine in my carriage, and started for Robinson's; going opposite Mr. Andrews and met Robinson coming down to our place; Robinson told us of the discovery of tracks and proposed to show them to us; went up by Mr. Bridgman place and we got out; he showed me tracks; I carefully examined them both ways; he applied a measure to them; think I took the measure and applied it to tracks for space of several rods; he gave the measure to Capt. Paine; then rode along and got out of carriage 3 or 4 times before reaching Robinson's and saw tracks similar to those first observed; riding in the wagon I see the tracks in the foot path that looked like those examined; got 20 rods from Robinson's barn and saw similar tracks there on the greenward; saw these tracks within 10 or 15 rods from Ambrose Buck's stable; saw them this side of the Jewett place near R. R. crossing; the track there indicated a walk; followed them from there up to Samuel Thorne's, 20 rods towards Robinson's then hilly or gravelly; but found them near Mr. Andrews again; those tracks corresponded in size with the rest; when I examined these last, two, between 12 and 1 P. M. of the same day of the fire; about 5 P. M. of day of the fire I measured a track I know to be his white mare's track; measured at the depot at train time; saw her make the track; the tracks I saw at the depot looked as smooth and as free from nail head marks as those I saw between Robinson's and Buckfield. Within a few days after measuring tracks at the depot measured track of the white mare; it was in the street near Carleton Gardner's house on the river road, leading from Buck's to Sumner's; this was before the shoes were taken off by the officer; found plainer nail prints; the shoe appeared longer and wider. Albert E. Robinson, son of Ervin Robinson, testified that the ell of the house took fire, and that he put out fire on several parts of the house, where sparks had fallen during the night. Sharon R. Hanson, Jr., testified to having gone to Buckfield, night of fire. Started shortly after going to fire, and made distance in half an hour. He did not see any one stirring, but saw tracks in various places at every point in the road examined. Saw tracks leading both ways. They resembled those exhibited in court. Henry A. Young. Was at fire; remained 20 minutes, and went with Sharon Robinson, Jr., to Buckfield. Saw tracks, as described by previous witness, and assisted Mr. Robinson to take up some of them. Some of the tracks had a broken cork mark. Compared measure with shoes on white mare, several days after, but they did not agree in size. The shoes on the mare seemed to have been set within a short time. N. M. Varney called. Reside 1-2 mile from Robinson's. Was at fire; then went to examine Buck's horses. Found five horses. All but one show no signs of having been driven. One was sweaty, but had no harness marks upon her. Did not notice whether she had saddle marks. Saw white mare one day after she had been driven from Lewiston. She was then sweaty as when I saw her that morning. An A blacksmith. Examined white mare's shoes that night, to see whether she had been recently shod. Found the prints of filing on outside of hoof were not worn off. SATURDAY. Charles G. Davis, who had been sick in

