THE AMERICAN UNION.

A Weekly Newspaper of Current News, Literature, Poetry, Agriculture and Local Affairs.

VOL. XI. DENTON, MD., THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1871. NO. 37.

ENOCH PRATT FREE LIBRARY BALTO.

Watching.

I see the fishing-boats put out,
And sail away;
I watch them out and in again,
Day after day.
Across the white lip of the bar,
The fog uprises like a scar,
And blots the bay.

I mark them when the wind they take,
And urge their flight;
I'm waiting when their shining wake
Creeps into sight.
Across the mellow afternoon,
The breeze keeps pulsing like a tune;
The light-house star forgets its swoon,
At fall of night.

And following up the beckoning tide,
They flash and fade;
While the dark water-bank beside
I crouch dismayed.
The stars come out like glittering tears,
Waiting upon my hopes and fears;
The dipping oar salutes my ears;
I hear the boat's keel graze the shore,
My soul in thankful song can soar.
No more afraid!

Was it a Dream?

One night, as Luna mildly beamed
From Heaven's star-gemmed canopy,
I had a vision, and it seemed
I floated o'er a summer sea:
While round on every side the Land
Of Romance teemed with beauties rare—
As though a fairy's magic hand
Had touched the flowers, trees, and air.

There, soft and low, a maiden's song
Was wafted o'er this summer sea;
Entranced, soul-charmed, I listened to
It's weird, alluring melody:
Till nearer, nearer yet it came,
And I beheld a form divine
With beauteous face, and azure eyes
That read the ecstasy in mine.

Oh, charming maiden! queen of joy!
How could I e'er resist thee when
Thy dewy mouth was pressed to mine
And thrilled me with its touch, and when
Thy golden tresses swept my face,
As lip met lip in glowing kiss,
And through my trembling form I felt
It's sweet, intoxicating bliss?

The fairy barque in which she sailed
Had rose-leaf sails and silken shrouds;
The gentle wind, that never failed,
Came from rose-tinted, fleecy clouds.
Her silken banner bore these lines:
"No storm of life can overwhelm
"Those who will sail in 'Hope and Faith,'
"With Love, as pilot, at the helm."

"Co, darling! wilt thou sail with me
"Across the sea?" the maid inquired.
"Yes, darling; I will sail with thee,"
I said—(I felt like one inspired).
Then, side by side, we glided o'er
The silvery waves to Romance Land;
And, as we neared the rosy shore,
The maiden clasped my willing hand,

And pointing to the flowers rare,
That met my eager, joyous gaze—
(And not a single blossom there,
But shed bright, scintillating rays)—
She trilled a song, with 'witching smile,
And bade me welcome to the spot
That was her home—Oh, charming isle,—
Where pleasure was, and pain was not.

In haste to reach the pleasure land,
That I might cull a floral gem—
I turned, with quick, impatient hand,
And took from Love the steady helm.
Lo! all was changed—the sullen roar
Of breakers boomed upon the lee!
The barque was gone forevermore,
And I was sinking in the sea!

As with a sad, despairing cry,
I gazed my last upon the land,
I saw the maiden on the shore
With silken banner in her hand,
Whereon again these words I read:
"No storm of life can overwhelm
"Those who will sail in 'Hope and Faith,'
"With Love, as pilot, at the helm.

G. FRED. PRICHARD.

UP IN THE AIR.

Some months back I was called in, being a surgeon by profession, to attend a Senor Tornados, who, despite his name, was as true an Englishman by birth and parentage as the parish of Lambeth ever bred and reared. I found him suffering from extreme debility and nervousness, brought on by the overstrained tension of the muscles and sinews. He told me that he was a rope-dancer, slack and tight; a tumbler, stiff and loose; sprite, acrobat, and bottle-equilibrist, and many other things which have escaped my memory.

His family consisted of his wife, a pale, sickly woman, somewhat older than himself, and a very handsome little girl. Accustomed as I was to witness the devotion of women by a sick bedside, and the irritability of male patients, the self-sacrifice of Madame Tornados, and the demonstrative gratitude of her husband for each little act of attention, surprised me. He was under my care some months, and, as he got better, grew talkative and familiar. One evening, as he sat in an easy chair, propped up by pillows, he favored me with the following narrative. I purposely suppress any professional technicalities and acrobatic *argot*, which would be unintelligible to the ordinary reader.

"You see, sir," he began, "my father was a hawker over in Lambeth Marsh. I never knew my mother, because she died when I was quite young. I don't know how it was I learned tumbling. The first thing I can remember is standing on my head close to Westminster Bridge, and a gentleman going by giving me a shilling. 'Now, my boy,' the gentleman said, 'do that again,' which I did. 'Now,' said he, 'spring' which I did, and came on my feet again. 'Good boy!' said he, and he patted me on the back. That gentleman, sir, was great Mr. Ducrow. Well, sir, of course, after such encouragement from such a man, a tumbler I became. I spared neither, pains nor trouble, and practised till I became master of my art and head of my profession.

"About seven years ago—I was just twenty-three—I first met with James Ranford, who was also in my line, and he proposed to me that we should work together. I consented, and we traveled about and exhibited at town halls and assembly rooms, and large rooms at inns; but we did very badly. Ranford had a wife and child, so it fell harder upon him. I was forced to lend him what little I could spare; for I could not see a young woman and a little baby go without while I had it, could I?

"Well, sir, things got from bad to worse; and my partner, being a man of violent temper, took to drink—he was always given that way—and I am sorry to say, he used to beat his wife. Sometimes by blood has boiled, and I have walked away for fear that I should interfere. However, I used to cheer up the missus as well as I could, an nurse the little girl, and they both grew to like me very much.

"One night, at a little place called Peddlethorne, we had no audience come to see us at all. We were entirely without money, and were asking each other what we should do, when the squire's son and a lot of young gentlemen came in and asked us to perform for them, which we did; and they gave us a couple of sovereigns, and, more than that, asked us to supper at the hotel. After supper the squire looked at one of our bills of the day, and said—'Hollo! why, I see you call yourselves Messrs. J. Ranford and W. Kerr. No wonder you get no audiences. I suppose that these are your real names?' We answered that they were.

"'Oh, that'll never do,' he said. 'You must have an *alias*; you mustn't let the public suppose you are Englishmen. It is contrary to the rules of professional etiquette. You must make out that you are foreigners.'

"Well, at that all the gentleman began to laugh; but it was settled before we broke up that night that, for the future, we were to call ourselves 'The Two Foscari—the Spineless Siamese of Syria!'

"Well, sir, from that moment Ranford and I began to do well; but I'm sorry to say that our good luck only caused my partner to drink the harder, and, in consequence, to behave more badly to his wife. His child he certainly was very fond of, partly, I think, because he had only known her a short time, for Ranford was one of those men who liked new faces. As soon as he met a stranger he was all life and spirits, and he would do anything or go anywhere to oblige him; but when he had known a man some time he didn't care for him, but grew cross and contradictory.

"At last we got an engagement at a garden near London, where there was a grand gala night every week, on which occasion a balloon ascended. I scraped acquaintance with the aeronaut, and one evening I went up with him. The sensation was singular. I cannot describe it but I liked it very much. The aeronau, showed me how he managed to steer through the air, when to throw out the sand, and how to descend. As we were sailing over London, he said to me:

"'You couldn't do the slack rope up here, Foscari, could you?"

"Why not?' I said; and as I spoke the idea flashed upon me what a splendid feature in the programme it would be: 'Perilous Performance of the Two Foscari Brothers, who will go through their inimitable Evolutions on a Slack Wire suspended from a Balloon floating thousands of yards above the surface of the earth!' A balloon, I thought, that could bear the weight of eight men inside the car, could bear the weight of two outside it. The wire could be fastened to the sides of the car, and, when at a sufficient height, we could get out on it and perform.

"As soon as I reached ground, I went to Ranford, who first laughed at the notion, and then agreed to it. The proprietor of the gardens asked us to name our terms. We did so. He tried to beat us down, but at last consented, and we went up and did it."

I interrupted him by asking if the danger were not extreme.

"Not a bit," replied my patient. "If I fell from a wire swung fifty feet from the ground, the chances are that I should break my neck; if I fell from a height of fifty miles I could do more. Then, if our feet miss, we have our hands to hold on by. However, I was saying we went up, and when we had risen a certain distance, we got out of the car and commenced the performance. It seemed odd to me at first, tumbling and swinging in the air, with the gardens and the audience, and the houses and the trees, such a depth below us; but what struck me as being strangest was when we hung head downwards, and looked up at the clouds. I used to feel that the earth could not be so very distant, for high as we had risen, the sky seemed as far off from us as ever.

"Our performance gave great satisfaction, and was favorably noticed in the daily and weekly papers. We were told that the act that thrilled the audience most was the last one we performed before descending. Ranford, who was a heavier man than I, hung from the rope with his head downwards; then taking hold of both his hands with both mine, I swung by their support; and then by way of climax, I let go my left hand, and hung on only by my right. I never felt the least fear. We knew each other's grip, and it was all right.

"At first the aeronaut went up with us; but after a few times we were able to manage for ourselves so well that, had an accident happened to one of us, the other could have got safely to the ground.

"We were earning a great deal of money, but I noticed that Mrs. Ranford looked paler and more careworn everyday, and I knew how her husband was conducting himself by that. She often told me that she wished they were poor again, as he had been much kinder in those times.

"One night—I shall never forget it—I was returning from the gardens, and as I passed the door ot Ranford's lodgings, little Evelina's nurse ran out to me, and said—

"'For Heaven's sake, sir, go in. Master and missus have had a dreadful quarrel, and missus is going to kill herself!'

"I ran into the house. I found the parlor-door open. Mrs. Ranford was in the room alone; her back was towards me, but I could see her face in the large looking-glass that stood over the chimney-piece. She had a razor in her hand, and was about to use it on herself when she caught the reflection of my face in the glass. She stopped, turned round, and fell upon the floor in a fit. I picked up the razor, put it in my pocket, and placed the woman on the sofa. Ranford came into the room half drunk, half mad, and scowled at me like a demon.

"I expostulated, and tried to reason with him; but he only made me jeering replies, such as 'O! I understand—better than you think for! I'm not a fool! I have got eyes and can see!' and so on, and I left the house with a heavy heart.

"Next day the nurse-girl told me that Ranford was jealous, and that he and his wife had quarrelled about me. We ascended that night. He never spoke to me, nor I to him. We both twirled and tumbled up in the air without exchanging a word.

"When we got down I felt inclined to give him a good thrashing for his unjust suspicions; but I kept my temper for the sake of the poor woman, and so we went on for eight or ten days.

"Our next ascent took place on the grand gala night of the United Order of Ancient Toxopholites. It was a still summer night, without a breath of wind. We ascended till the gardens, and the streets, and the churches looked like Dutch toys, and then got out upon the rope.

"As I took my seat beside Ranford, I noticed that he had been drinking more than usual. He had lately taken to an odd way of shutting his eyes, and smiling with his lips tightly pressed together, and what with his knit brows, white tights, spangled trunks, and the bit of ribbon round his head, with a paste star in the centre, he looked, as he sat swinging backwards and forwards in the air, more like an evil being than a man.

"We went through our performance, all but the last trick. As I was swinging from his two hands the thought came right into my head, if he should not hold on!

"At the same moment that I let go with my left hand, and swung only by my right, I heard his voice above me.

"'Kerr,' he said, 'are you guilty or not?'

"I asked him what he meant.

"'You know,' he answered. 'Confess that you have wronged me; speak the truth! They are your last words! I have but to loose my grip, and down you go.'

"I tried to seize his disengaged arm, but he held it above my reach, and put his other in such a position that I could not catch at it, but swung entirely at his mercy.

"I leaped to reach the rope with my feet, and so hang by my heels, but I failed. I shut my eyes, and prayed Heaven to forgive me. Every act of my past life rushed through my brain; at the same time I was perfectly conscious of everything about me—the blue sky, the quiet evening, the rope, the bottom of the car, and Ranford's head inverted over me. I thought what a time I should be falling—falling. I knew how slowly the sand sank from the car, and what a long, long time I should be dying ere I reached the earth.

"I found strength to speak.

"'Ranford,' I said, 'you are mistaken.'

"'You lie!' he answered.

"'If you let go my hand you are a murderer. There will be an inquest.'

"'I don't care.'

"'It is known that there was ill-blood between us,' I continued. 'You may be hanged. Your wife will say how jealous"

"'*A wife cannot give evidence against her husband!*'

"I knew the next moment I should be falling through the air. A spasm shot to my heart. I fancied I saw the bottom of the car rising from me. I felt the grasp of his fingers loosen! With the energy and strength of desperation, I leaped up, and caught his wrist with my disengaged hand. I climbed up his body, I know not how, till I reached the perch, and thence into the car, where I lay panting for breath, and trembling like a hare.

"He soon followed me. 'I frightened you, didn't I?' he said, 'You don't suppose I meant it, do you?'

"I made no answer, but prepared for the descent. While arranging the cordage our hands met. I could not bear his touch. I struck him, and knocked him into the bottom of the car, where he lay growling and swearing till we came to earth.

"Next morning I called on the proprietor of the gardens, and told him all. To my intense astonishment, he flatly refused to cancel our engagement, and said that our quarrels were nothing to him; that an agreement was an agreement, and business was business; that the performance drew crowds of visitors, and he insisted on its continuance. I told him that I would not risk my life again, and he threatened me with an action for breach of contract. Shortly after I got an engagement at Glasgow, and left London without seeing Ranford or his unfortunate wife and child.

"Two years passed away, during which I heard but little of my late partner. While I was performing at Manchester, I I heard of an old friend of mine, of the name of Coobie, being at a circus in a neighboring town. I took the train and went over to see him. I dined with him, and at seven o'clock we went together to the circus. Lounging near the entrance I saw Ranford. He was considerably altered—thinner, and, if possible, more evil-eyed than ever.

"'I know that man,' I said to Coobie.

"'I know you do,' my friend replied. 'He calls himself the Excelsior, or Champion Somersault Thrower in the world. He is in the bills for a treble somersault to-night.'

"You must know, sir, that a treble somersault means standing on a spring board, throwing your heels up, and turning completely round three times in the air before you light upon your feet. I need not say that it is a very difficult thing to do.

"I said to Coobie—'It's odd that a man who drinks so hard should be capable of such a feat.'

"'His engagement depends upon it,' was the reply; 'we're full in every other line. The governor told him he'd sign articles with him for that, but not for anything else. Eh! he sees you.'

"I turned round, and saw Ranford walking quickly from us. I entered the circus, and was accommodated with a seat in the orchestra. I could not help thinking of my old partner, and had a strange nervousness upon me, as if something was about to happen; but the feeling wore off when Ranford came into the ring. The audience applauded loudly, for he had thrown a treble somersault twice before, and was a favorite in consequence.

"I saw that he was not sober, and I noticed that he had the same little star upon his forehead that he wore the last time we made an ascent together. While the grooms were altering the position of the spring-board he walked up to the orchester, and with a devilish smile upon his face, said to me—'You *can't* keep away, then, can't you? You *will* come!'

"'Ranford,' I whispered, 'you're not yourself to night; take my advice—don't throw the treble.'

"He swore an oath, and then burst into a loud laugh.

"'You want me to fail, do you?' he said. 'Fail when you're here! 'Hi!—youp—la!'

"He ran up the spring-board, bowed, and kissed his hand. The music began. He threw several single somersaults, then a double one; then he stopped and crossed his arms, and looked at me. The audience was very enthusiastic, and he began again, repeated the performance, and stopped. There was more applause. Then he turned towards me, smiling, as if he said—'Now?'—and went to work a third time. He made some little preparation—turned over once or twice. The house was so silent, you might have heard a pin drop. He got the spring, and over he went—once, twice. My heart rose in my mouth, for I saw that he had not room to turn a third time. His head came down with a horrible *thud* among the tan and sawdust; and he lay in the ring, doubled up and dead!

"A surgeon came out of the boxes, who said that his neck was broken, and that death must have been instant. I fainted away. When I came too, I saw his body being carried out of the ring.

"Well, sir, I was pitched upon to be the bearer of the sad news to the widow. I'll pass over that. I was surprised to find that, in spite of his cruel usage, she still was very fond of him. I kissed the child, who had grown a fine little girl, and returned to Manchester the next day. I attended the funeral, of course. Ranford hardly left a pound behind him. I gave the widow an address that would always find me, and told her to write whenever—when—if she wanted—that is, whenever she required assistance.

"First the poor thing tried to set up a school for children, but that failed; and, knowing that she must have been pressed, I often sent to her. I don't know how it came about, but after a long correspondence and a courtship, I married her; and here she comes with my beef-tea—and here come Evelina; for that's the very woman, sir, and that's the very little girl, and a real beauty she is!"

The Sumner Difficulty.

The excitement in regard to the removal of Senator Sumner, of Mass., from the Chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Relations, culminated, when it was reported that a majority of the Republican members had decided in caucus to accept the report of the Sub-Committee recommending the change.

When the report was read making Mr. Cameron Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, and Mr. Sumner Chairman of the new Committee on Privileges and Elections, Mr. Sumner, after a dignified speech, giving his reasons for his actions, withdrew from the caucus. A very warm debate ensued on the report of the Committee, participated in by Messrs. Sherman Shurz, Logan, Wilson, Fenton, Ferry, and others, in opposition, and by Messrs. Conkling, Nye, Stewart, Howe, Carpenter, Edmunds, and others, in favor of the report.

The Senators who favor the report of the Committee professed to do so out of no opposition to Mr. Sumner personally, and disclaimed that success of the Santo Domingo project had anything whatever to do with it. They said, however, that very important questions would be submitted to this Committee, and that it would be very embarrassing to have as its Chairman one whom neither the President, nor the Secretary or Assistant Secretary of State could have any communication. They argued that the success of the negotiations now in progress between the representatives of Great Britain and the United States, would be endangered by such a state of affairs.

Those who opposed the report held, on the other hand, that the quarrel between Mr. Summer and the President and Secretary of State was a personal one, and while they blamed Mr. Summer for many things he has done, they did not think there was sufficient cause for the party or the Senate to take up the disagreement and make it the basis of any action. Mr. Fenton characterized the proposition as a "grave mistake," and Mr. Wilson predicted disaster to the party if it was carried out. He referred to the time when Stephen A. Douglas was removed from the Chairmanship of the Territorial Committee, because he disagreed with the President, and reminded Senators that from that action was to be dated the split in the Democratic party. He assured Senators that their proposed action would bring down on them the indignant protests of thousands of the oldest and strongest Republicans of the country, including the old anti-Slavery phalanx, the members of which, unable to appreciate the embarrasments referred to by the other side, would be in full sympathy with Mr. Summer, and would at least, if this change was made, lose heart in future, and fail to work for the party and the cause, as they have done before. Others argued that no Administration ever made a greater mistake than this, when it proposed to strengthen itself by removing Mr. Summer out of its path.

Mr. Hamilton, whom it was proposed to place on the Committee to make up its quota, declined, and Mr. Frelnghuysen was then selected. Mr. Wilson moved to recommit the report, with instructions to restore Mr. Summer's name to the Chairmanship, and was voted down by 26 Nays to 21 Yeas.

Important to Postmasters.

Not many weeks ago the postmaster at Hillsboro, N. C., refused to take a mutilated $2 bill in exchange for stamps. The gentleman who had offered the bill determined to test the thing, and accordingly sued the postmaster for $2 damages. The suit has just ended, and the postmaster finds himself victimized to the extent of $90. At the trial it was shown that the Post Office Department had issued orders that the postmasters should receive mutilated currency in exchange for stamps, when offered.

This Court, besides, held that all the departments of the Government were bound to sustain the currency of the Government, and the fact of the bill being more or less mutilated was no justification for its being refused by an official of the Government.

A MAD STONE.—They have at St. Joseph Mo., a genuine "mad-stone." A citizen of that place was lately bitten by a rabid dog when this wondrous talisman was providentially at hand. When placed within two inches of the bitten member, we are told the stone was violently attracted towards the wound, and adhered to it until all the poison was extracted. Where this marvelous mineral came from or whether there are more of the same sort in Missouri, we are not told; but it is certainly not right that St. Joseph should be so blest, while all the rest of the world is afflicted with dogs, but has no "mad-stones" in store.

AN EXPERT.—Gen. Bourbaki is thus described by a correspondent: "He is a wondrous swordsman, and, it is said, often performs the feat for which Sir Walter Scott made Saladin famous—laying a silk handkerchief on the blade of his scimiter and shredding it in two with an almost imperceptible movement of the arm. It is said that Gen. Bourbaki can even exceed the dexterity of Musa, the Saracen chief made so renowned by Lord Lytton."

General News Summary.

OMAHA says it is going to be the market of the West.

A revival of the troubles in the Red River region is apprehended.

UNITED STATES currency to the amount of $398,891,466.18 is in circulation.

A SNOW-SLIDE from a house-top killed a little boy in Montreal, a few days ago.

MORE than a hundred bills were introduced in the U. S. Senate in one day.

THERE are thirteen railroads terminating on the Illinois shore, opposite St. Louis.

THE ship Mistress of the Sea has foundered in the Ocean. Seventeen lives were lost.

THE proffer of England's mediation is accepted in the dispute between Egypt and Spain.

THE British Government denies all knowledge of a secret treaty between the Czar and Prussia.

IMMODERATE laughter killed an Indiana man last week. It brought on hemorrage of the lungs.

ORDERS have been given to place the Belgian army on a peace footing, and disband the militia.

A. C. MARKHAM is the Democratic candidate for Senator in the VIth District of Connecticut.

M. THIERS offered the Prussians another million of thalers to keep Metz, but the offer was refused.

MAINE offers to every able-bodied male Swede a farm of 100 acres and exemption from taxation until 1876.

THE Republican Convention of Rhode Island, renominated the present incumbents to all the State offices.

THERE are 696 grain distilleries registered in the United States. They can produce 670,945 gallons a day.

A BILL to incorporate the Boston Base-Ball Club has been defeated in the Massachusetts Senate by a vote of 17 to 9.

A FARMER was instantly killed by lightning in Mehard county, Ill., last week, while sowing grass-seed on his farm.

A RIOT occurred at Meridan, Miss., in which Judge Bromlette, a white man, and eight or ten negroes were killed.

THE Nebraska House of Representatives has impeached John Gillespie, the State Auditor, as well as Gov. Butler.

SOMEBODY asserts that more than half the Hotels in this country are kept by natives of New Hampshire and Vermont.

AN exchange, in counting up Congressman Bowen's wives, says there are yet thirty-five more States to hear from.

JOHN WADE, convicted of the murder of his father in Camden, N. J., was sentenced to be hanged on the 10th of April.

W. D. FOSTER, has been nominated by the Republicans for Representative to Congress in the Fourth District of Michigan.

IT is now stated that there are over 100 feminine lecturers in the country, and the number is increasing every month.

A THOUSAND workmen have struck at Newcastle, Eng., because the masters refuse to pay them weekly, instead of fortnightly.

AN old man, John Ashford, and a young man named Slattery, were killed in a drunken brawl at the close of the election in Aurora, Ill.

ROBERT THOMPSON and another man, whose name is unknown, were found dead at a lime-kiln near Philadelphia, where they had gone to sleep.

THE fortified cities of Luneville, Nancy, and Belfort are left to France. Longwy, Thionville, Metz, Saarbruck, and the iron districts will go to Germany.

M. ROTHSCHILD promises to pay the French indemnity to Germany within a year, by which the German army of occupation will be got rid of at the end of that time.

A PHYSICIAN, called to attend a young lady in Missouri, was told by her that her parents had not spoken to her during the past five years, although they occupy the same house.

HIRAM POOL, who killed Perkins Adams in Tuolomne County, Cal., last summer, and was acquitted, was assassinated a few days ago, near the spot where Adams was killed.

DURING the year 1869, in a transportation of 90,000,000 of people over the French railroads, there were but two deaths from accidents, and but one injury in every 800,000 travellers.

POULTRY of all kinds is now cheaper in Boston than it has been at this season for many years. Good turkeys sell for 15 and 23 cents, chickens at 12 and 23 cents, and frozen lots still lower.

THE Kansas Legislature has passed a bill staying execution on persons convicted of murder until the Governor signs the death-warrant. This will virtually abolish capital punishment.

THE BRITISH Commissioners proposed that Secretary Fish should be President of the Joint High Commission, but he declined, and after discussion it was decided that there should be no President.

A PRIVATE letter received in Washington contains the announcement of attacks by Indians near Florence, Arizona, on three distinct parties of immigrants, and the murder or capture of all, within two weeks.

THE Democrats of the Fourth District of Michigan have nominated Col. William M. Ferry for Congress, to fill the vacancy caused by the election of Hon. Thomas W. Ferry to the Senate. Wilder D. Foster is the Republican candidate.

A YOUNG woman, not more than twenty years old, starved to death in Rochester, N. Y., last week. She had always striven hard to support herself after being deserted by a worthless husband, and was too proud to let her poverty be known.

A WHOLE family named Walker were found dead in their house near Elgin, Ill., a few days since. The father and mother had given laudanum to their children and then taken it themselves for the purpose of going to another world together.

A BILL now before the Wisconsin Assembly provides that whenever eleven jurors, empanelled to try any criminal case or civil action, shall agree upon a verdict, such agreement, duly announced in court, shall be taken and held to be the verdict of the whole jury.

The Circus Business.

There are in the United States, traveling through the Summer season, no less than forty-four different circus companies. The fitting out of a first-class circus exclusive of any menagerie, costs fully $100,000. The expense of a new tent, with poles, ropes, seats, lamps, banners, and entrance curtains, is little short of $5,000. The baggage wagons range in value from $260 to $700. The extra horses, needed for them, are from $500 to 600 a pair, and the great gilded show chariot for musicians, $5,000 to $8,000. The entree livery dresses and horse paraphernalia cost from $1,500 to $2,000, and the ring carpet for tumbling, from $200 to $500, according to size and quality. Trick horses range from $1,500 to $30,000 in value, pad horses from $1,200 to $2,000, bareback act horses from $1,200 to $2,200, trick ponies, from $400 to $1,000, and the trick mules often cost $1,000 a pair. The salaries paid to performers are: First-class stock gymnasts and riders receive from $75 to $100 a week and their board for the traveling season. First-class men or women riders receive from $60 to $175 a week and their board. Clowns from $60 to $100; and the mass of riders from $25 to $50. Equestrian stars, receive from $500 to $1,200 a month. Six to ten acrobats, six riders, and half a dozen super-numeraries, usually form the complement of a circus, in addition to the stars. The daily expenses of such an establishment are from $600 to $1,000. The amount invested in the forty-four circuses and menageries, is $2,500,000. A town of 2,000 inhabitants will require about $200 worth of advance posters; and large cities, $500 to $1,000. Circuses do not travel during the winter in the Northern States. They either lay up until the spring, and start upon their tours from the 1st of April to the 10th of May, or they travel in the Southern States, beginning their marches from the 1st to the 10th of November—About ten of the forty-four proprietors are wealthy, but the great majority of them are in the hands of sheriff from two to twenty times during each season. The weather is their greatest enemy, a raining day setting them back badly.

THE NATHAN MURDERER.—Impenetrable mystery appears to surround all connected with the Nathan murder. Suspicion has now centered strongly on a certain Bill Forrester, with any number of aliases; but, unfortunately for a community anxious to see a cool-blooded murderer meet his just reward, and unhappily for detectives anxious to handle the large reward for his arrest and conviction, the whereabouts of Forrester is a profound mystery—so great a mystery indeed that the police authorities of New York City after trying every clue, have now advertised for assistance.

THE social-scandal litigation has received a singular turn down in Cincinnati. The wife of Colonel Robert Harlan sues Elliot Clark and his wife for seducing her husband! She alleges that they enticed her husband away from her bed and board, and demands that the court compel them to pay her $20,000. She brings no action against her husband, does not ask for alimony, is rich in her own right, and does not wish her husband to return. The case was argued by able counsel on both sides, and the decision of the court, the case being wholly without precedent, was reserved.

TEXAS maintains a standing army three times as large as that of the United States. The Governor, in his recent Message, speaks of it as a permanent military organization, and as being in a flourishing condition—the State Guard consisting of 127 officers and 3,386 privates, and the reserve of 341 officers and 89,478 privates. The National Government furnishes arms in quantities deemed to be sufficient; but the Governor, to make assurance of military aid and protection doubly sure, recommends the purchase of ten thousand stand of small arms.

ROCHESTER is distracted, through the columns of its papers, over arithmetical problems. Here is one propounded: If one hundred yards of cord be wound in single coil upon an upright post an inch in diameter, what time will it take a man to unwind it, he holding one end in his hand and travelling in a circle whose radius is the unwound cord, supposing he walks four miles an hour; and what is the length of ground walked over.

MURDER BY A BOY.—At Nauvoo, Ill., a short time since, a lad named Logan broke away from a school mistress while she was punishing him, and was captured and brought back by another lad named Yates. This so enraged an elder brother of Logan's that when the two met at school, Logan attacked Yates with a knife, and stabbed him so severely that he died in a few hours. Logan fled and has not yet been arrested.

A gentleman was distributing bread in a certain quarter of Paris. He had a slice in his pocket, scraps of which he was throwing to a dog. It startled him when a woman ran out of a doorway and begged him to give her for her child the bread he was throwing to the dog. She was a lady—God help her!—the wife of a surgeon, who was in the south with the army, and her infants were starving.

The national account, in Britain, with the Queen thus stands: For the civil list of the Queen, £453,000 Prince of Wales, £113,587; other princes and princesses £82,000; total, £652,187. The income is: From Crown lands, £336,000; Duchy of Lancaster, £31,000; Duchy of Cornwall, £63,587; total, £430,587.

VIRGINIA talks about separating its State and Congressional elections.

THE bill permitting marriage to a deceased wife's sister has passed the English Parliament.

It is officially stated that it cost nearly $1,000,000 to dig the hole in which the New York Post-office is to be put.

The manufacture of linen last year in Ireland was greater than ever before, and prices, it is thought, will somewhat decline.

THE daily yield of oil in the Pennsylvania region for the month of February was 14,182 barrels, or a total yield for the month, twenty-eight days, of 402,426 barrels.

Facts and Fancies.

There are only twenty new spring styles of bonnets this year.

A rifle bullet it is said, will not go through more than thirty sheets of paper.

G. Augustus Sala has prosecuted a London journalist for calling him a loose Bohemian.

Four young women were graduated as physicians from the New England Medical College.

The amount of shoe manufacturing at Dover, N. H., is said to be about $2,000,000 annually.

A Pittsburg man has sued his brother to obtain possession of the ambrotype of his dead sister.

An ugly old bachelor suggests that births should be published under the head of "New Music."

In Germany the opera begins at six in the evening, and it is the fashion of young ladies to attend unescorted.

A roasted onion bound upon the pulse on the wrist will stop the most inveterate toothache in a few minutes.

We are told that there is nothing made in vain. But how about a pretty young girl? Isn't she maiden vain?

The greater part of the once beautiful Bois de Boulogne of Paris is now only a vast area of unsightly stumps of trees.

A lawsuit over a hog, in Illinois, lately cost $15,000. Sensible people will think that was two little pork for a shilling.

A lover of the weed exhibits to his friends a ball of tin-foil weighing 13¾ pounds, which he says he has "saved" in two years.

A young lady being asked by an enthusiastic politician which party she was most in favor of, replied that she perferred a wedding party.

There are sixty-one thousand clergymen of all denominations in the United States, who are paid on an average seven hundred dollars per year.

In New Haven the police arrest every boy between the ages of six and sixteen, who is found in the streets during school hours, and cannot "rise to explain."

Jean Pierron, an old miser, died last week, in New Orleans, worth $150,000. He had often begged in the street, and is said to have lived on 25 cents a day for years.

Daughter—"Well, to tell the truth, I did not think much of the close of the sermon." Father—"Probably you were thinking more of the clothes of the congregation."

It is rumored in Cincinnati that suspicions of foul-play are entertained in the case of Capt. Barry, the Government Storekeeper, who was scalded to death in a condensing tub.

The Concord (N. H.) *Patriot* furnishes the latest hen story—to the effect that a hen covered up by hay on the 27th of December made her way out on the 19th of Febuary, lively but lean.

The London fire brigade is as particular to prevent damage by water as by fire, and in 1870 used an average of only 5,000 gallons of water in extinguishing each of 270 serious and 1,979 slight fires.

The Chinamen bring original notions about earthquakes with them from the great empires. They say that "once he all alive; then the outside die but the inside still alive; sometimes he get tired and turn over;" hence the convulsions.

The prize of $500, offered by the Frenchmen in California for the first Prussian battle-flag captured in the war, has been claimed for Ricciotti Garibaldi, who captured the flag of the Sixty-first Prussian Regiment, at Dijon, Jan. 24.

In Jackson county, West Virginia, there is a spring strongly impregnated with arsenic. For some years past its owner has been compelled to keep a fence around it, to prevent the cattle from drinking the water, and thereby poisoned themselves.

A correspondent writes from Milan that the reason Rossi, the Italian tragedian, was averse to coming to America to play was that he did not believe the war was over in the country, and that he had some fear that the Indians would invade New York and take his scalp.

Very careful arrangements are being made for taking the census in Great Britain. The time fixed is midnight of Sunday, April 2. The first census taken in that country was in 1801, when the population numbered 16,302,410. It is now expected to exceed 31,000,000. This census will be the seventh.

The good influence exercised by the press cannot be overestimated. Here comes the true story now of a man in Denver, Colorado, who read in a paper which he hated, a statement to the effect that he was dying, and though he was on his death-bed, as every one thought, he recovered to spite the editor.

The last attempt to colonize the desert peninsula of Lower California has resulted in complete failure. Emigrants who had been induced to go to Magdalena Bay are now coming back to San Francisco, where they can find the means of doing so, broken spirited, and full of indignation toward those who allured them to their ruin.

Mrs. Bella French, in her *Western Progress*, in giving an account of her visit to St. Paul and her lecture, says: Several of the first ladies of St. Paul met us at the close of the lecture, kissed us, and bade us 'God speed' in the good work. We also received flattering congratulations from a number of gentlemen, who looked as if they wished to kiss us, but we were too bashful"

The manager of a theater in Vienna hesitated some time which of two well-known musicians to choose as the leader of his orchestra. Their claims were nearly equal and at last he referred the matter to a committee of his friends, who decided in favor of the candidate with a bald head, agreeing that a man with a full growth of hair could not of necessity know a great deal about music.

THE proposition to reduce the duty on salt was defeated in the House, by opposing members offering resolutions that coffee, tea, lumber, timber, potatoes, barley and malt be placed on the free list.

THIRTY German wounded soldiers were killed by the recent accident on the Versailles Railway.

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