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EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Condensed from Telegrams of Accompanying Dates.

MONDAY, Oct. 5.—Germany has sent a note to the French Government demanding the placing of a French army on the Spanish frontier to prevent the rendering of aid to the Carlists, or otherwise Germany would station an army there....The Ministers of Great Britain and France presented their credentials to President Serrano, of Spain, on the 4th.... The annual report of the Commissioner of Pensions will show 33,640 pension certificates issued the past fiscal year, of which, however, only 9,783 were original certificates.... On the 3d Henry Ward Beecher appeared before the Grand Jury, in session at Brooklyn, and secured the indictment of Theodore Tilton and Francis D. Moulton for malicious libel and slander. It is said that when Mr. Beecher gave his testimony he declared that the allegations of Tilton and Moulton with reference to himself, Mrs. Tilton and another lady were "atrocious falsehoods." In a letter to the press, published on the 4th, Mr. Tilton solemnly reaffirms the literal and absolute truth of his charges against Beecher, and demands immediate trial. He declares that this tardy action by Mr. Beecher and his friends in prosecuting him for libel can be attributed only to the fact that the verdict of the committee fails to command popular credence. Mr. Beecher preached to a large congregation in Plymouth Church on the 4th ....The State Executive Committee of the Democratic and Conservative party of Alabama have issued an address in which they deny the truth of the charges made by Minister Spencer, Congressmen White, Hayes and Pelham, and J. J. Martin as to outrages in that State, and alleging that such charges were made for the purpose of influencing the elections in the North and West, and to procure Federal troops to be sent to control the election in Alabama.... The Railway Commissioners of the Northwestern States recently in session at Madison, Wis., adopted a form for reports so that the railroad statistics of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin will be collated and published in a uniform series of tables. The next meeting will be held at Springfield on the 9th of December, when the consideration of the subject of legislation and classification will be resumed.

TUESDAY, Oct. 6.—The Catholic Vicar of Posen, Germany, having disobeyed an order to leave the country within twelve hours, had been forcibly ejected...."Barry Cornwall," the English author, died on the 5th. ....The Sultan of Morocco has issued a decree prohibiting the export of cereals for three years....David Valentine & Co., of New York, silk importers, have failed, with liabilities of $500,000. Kupfer & Silverman, dealers in woolen goods, have suspended, and Clews & Co., bankers, have also stopped payment, but expect to resume shortly....Congressional nominations on the 5th: People's Party—First Illinois District, B. G. Caulfield; Second District, C. H. Harrison; Third District, J. V. LeMoyne. Democratic—Fourth Arkansas, Thomas M. Gunter; Twelfth Ohio, William E. Fink....The New York *Times* publishes a dispatch from New Orleans stating that, upon the arrival of the United States troops at Coushatta, some fifteen White Leaguers who were engaged in the recent murders at that place left town and fled to Arkansas and Texas....A letter has been received at the Postoffice Department in Washington from a special agent sent to investigate the murder of a colored route agent in Alabama a little over a month ago, which says: "The reign of terror existing in this country at present far exceeds anything of the kind I have ever seen. Armed bodies of men are riding over the country, and colored people are afraid to go into the fields to save their crops from waste and ruin." This letter is dated "In the Woods, near Livingston, Sumter County, Ala., Sept. 29."

WEDNESDAY, Oct. 7.—The failure of H. B. Patterson, broker, was announced in New York on the 6th. There were also rumors on Wall street of trouble in all departments of trade, and the utmost use was made of them to depress stocks, and with good success ..M. J. Townsend has been nominated for Congress by the Republicans of the Seventeenth New York District ....The Conservative State Central Committee of Louisiana has issued an address to the people in which they claim that the White Leagues were organized as an offset to Black Leagues, composed of colored men, which at one time, they say, were numerous throughout the State....President Grant arrived at St. Louis on the night of the 5th....There will be a total eclipse of the moon on the night of the 24th inst., visible in this country. The eclipse will begin a little before midnight and end about three o'clock on the morning of the 25th—the total occurring about one o'clock.

THURSDAY, Oct. 8.—The report that Don Carlos had been seriously wounded at Durango is pronounced untrue....Washington dispatches state that applications for troops are constantly reaching the War Department from Alabama, Tennessee and Louisiana. Gen. Sheridan has been requested to spare a regiment from his command, and the Thirteenth Infantry has been ordered to report to the Department of the South. The Secretary of War says if he were required to comply with all the applications received it would be necessary to largely increase the force of the army....On the 1st day of October, according to an official bulletin issued by the Secretary of the National Grange, there were in the several States 20,788 subordinate Granges. During the preceding month 409 new Granges had been instituted. The next session of the National Grange will be held in Charleston, S. C., on the first Wednesday in February, 1875....The Rev. Dr. T. M. Eddy, Missionary Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died in New York on the 7th, aged fifty-one years....The State Republican Convention of Massachusetts met at Worcester on the 7th. Gov. Talbot was renominated on the first ballot, receiving 755 of the 1,042 votes cast. Horatio G. Knight was the choice for Lieutenant-Governor, Oliver Warner for Secretary of the Commonwealth, Charles R. Train for Attorney-General, Charles Endicott for Auditor, and Charles Adams, Jr., for Treasurer. The resolutions adopted declare in favor of a sound currency and such legislation by Congress as shall place the currency on a par with gold; express gratitude to the President for his promptness in suppressing the New Orleans outbreak; declare that the Republican party has proved itself under all circumstances the party of progress and reform, etc.... C. C. Warren, of Princeton, Ill., has obtained judgment for $1,000 against the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad for extortionate passenger and freight charges.... Twenty-six indictments have been found by the Grand Jury of St. Paul against Charles McIlrath, late State Auditor of Minnesota, for alleged malfeasance in office....The election in Georgia on the 7th for members of the State Legislature passed off quietly. But little opposition, except in a few counties, was made to the Democratic candidates. The Democratic majority on joint ballot will be about 205....Congressional nominations on the 7th: Democratic—First Michigan District, A. S. Williams; Second Kentucky, John Young Brown, renominated; Fourteenth Illinois, J. H. Pickrell. Republican—Fifth Wisconsin, John Cochrane. Republican and Independent—Tenth Missouri, Ira B. Hyde.

FRIDAY, Oct. 9.—Count Von Arnim, late German Ambassador to Paris, was recently arrested at the instance of Bismarck, who charged that he had concealed important State documents and was about to publish them. A London dispatch of the 8th says the affair had taken a very serious turn, and that the Emperor had ordered that no stone be left unturned to recover the missing papers. The Count had denied that there was any intention of publishing State secrets, and intimates that the documents were removed from the archives of the embassy without his knowledge. A Rome dispatch of the same date says the missing documents relate to the establishment of a new Government in France and to German interference with Spanish affairs....Spain has disbanded 10,000 soldiers, the period for which they enlisted having expired....The Democrats of the Twenty-eighth New York Congressional District have nominated Edward S. Esty (Liberal) for Congress ....The Grand Jury at Salt Lake City, Utah, have indicted one of their own number, Thomas E. Ricks, for polygamy. He is charged with having five wives, three of whom were married to him since 1862. His own daughter is one of the principal witnesses ....The Attorney-General of Wisconsin has stipulated with the general solicitor of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway Company to unitedly ask the United States Supreme Court to take up the railroad case appealed from the United States District Court at Madison, and set it down for trial on the 10th day of December next....At his own request the name of Prof. David Swing has been dropped from the roll of the Chicago Presbytery by a vote of 18 to 11....The Conservatives of South Carolina, at their recent State Convention, resolved to support the candidates for Governor and Lieutenant-Governor nominated by the Independent Republican party ....John Means is the Republican candidate for Congress in the Tenth Kentucky District .... Gov. Kellogg, in a reply to the recent address of the Conservative State Committee, asserts his anxiety to secure a full registration and a fair election, and declares his willingness to do all in his power to that end.

SATURDAY, Oct. 10.—The President has appointed Charles G. Hammond, of Chicago, a member of the Board of Indian Commissioners....Postmaster-Gen. Jewell has expressed a determination to do away with claim agents in the transaction of department business with railroad or other corporations or individuals. He prefers dealing with parties directly interested....At Buffalo, recently, the United States detectives arrested Thomas Ballard, *alias* John Davis, one of the most expert counterfeiters and engravers in the country; also Elizabeth Ballard and Ann Adams, accomplices. In their possession was found $10,000 in counterfeit money of various denominations, together with press, dies, plates, etc....At the recent election in Delaware for Inspectors and Assessors to conduct the election in November the Democrats carried the day by an aggregate majority of about 450....A New Orleans special of the 7th says Frank Morey, Congressman from the Fifth District, had sent a communication to S. B. Packard, Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, stating that intimidation, organized and thorough, prevailed in the parish of Union to such an extent that not more than 300 of the colored voters would register. He stated further that a similar state of things existed in some of the other parishes.

THE MARKETS.

NEW YORK.
OCTOBER 9, 1874.

COTTON.—Middling upland, 15⅝@15⅞c.

LIVE STOCK.—Beef Cattle—$10.75@12.75. Hogs—Dressed, $8.25@8.62½. Sheep—Live, $4.50@6.25.

BREADSTUFFS.—Flour—Good to choice, $5.50@5.80; white wheat extra, $5.80@6.40. Wheat—No. 2 Chicago, $1.11@1.12; Iowa spring, $1.12@1.13; No. 2 Milwaukee spring, $1.14@1.15. Rye—Western and State, 92@95c. Barley—$1.30@1.35. Corn—Mixed Western afloat, 96¼@96¾c. Oats—New Western, 61@63½c.

PROVISIONS.—Pork—New Mess, $23.00@23.12½. Lard—14⅛@14⅜c. Cheese—12½@15½c.

WOOL.—Common to extra, 45@66c.

CHICAGO.

LIVE STOCK.—Beeves—Choice, $5.50@6.00; good, $4.25@5.25; medium, $3.75@4.25; butchers' stock, $2.50@3.50; stock cattle, $2.25@3.50. Hogs—Live, $6.25@6.75. Sheep—Good to choice, $4.00@4.50.

PROVISIONS.—Butter—Choice, 30@35c. Eggs—Fresh, 18@19c. Cheese—New York factory, 14@15c; Western, 13@14c. Pork—New Mess, $21.50@21.62½. Lard—14@14½c.

BREADSTUFFS.—Flour—White winter extra, $5.50@7.50; spring extra, $4.75@5.50. Wheat—Spring, No. 2, 92@92½c. Corn—No. 2, 79@79¾c. Oats—No. 2, 49½@50c. Barley—No. 2, $1.07@1.08. Rye—No. 2, 84@84½c.

WOOL.—Tub-washed, 45@57c.; fleece, washed, 40@50c.; fleece, unwashed, 27@35c.

LUMBER.—First Clear, $50.00@53.00; Second Clear, $47.00@49.50; Common Boards, $10.50@12.00; Fencing, $10.50@12.00; "A" Shingles, $3.00@3.25; Lath, $3.00@2.25.

CINCINNATI.

BREADSTUFFS.—Flour—$5.15@5.30. Wheat—Red, $1.05. Corn—83@85c. Rye—97c. Oats—54@57c. Barley—$1.10@1.30.

PROVISIONS. — Pork — $23.00@23.25. Lard—13½@14¼c.

ST. LOUIS.

LIVE STOCK.—Beeves—Fair to choice, $4.50@6.00. Hogs—Live, $5.50@6.60.

BREADSTUFFS.—Flour—XX Fall, $4.25@4.75. Wheat—No. 2 Red Fall, $1.14¾@1.15. Corn—No. 2, 82@83c. Oats—No. 2, 51@52c. Rye—No. 2, 91@92c. Barley—$1.10@1.15.

PROVISIONS.—Pork—Mess, $22.25@22.50. Lard—13¾@14¼c.

MILWAUKEE.

BREADSTUFFS.—Flour—Spring XX, $5.25@5.50. Wheat—Spring No. 1, 97@98c; No. 2, 92@92½c. Corn—No. 2, 78@79c. Oats—No. 2, 49@49½c. Rye—No. 1, 87½@88c. Barley—No. 2, $1.09@1.09½.

DETROIT.

BREADSTUFFS.—Wheat—Extra, $1.16@1.16¾. Corn—89@90c. Oats—49@50c.

TOLEDO.

BREADSTUFFS—Wheat—Amber Mich., $1.07@1.07¾; No. 2 Red, $1.06@1.06½. Corn—Mixed, 83@84c. Oats—51@52c.

CLEVELAND.

BREADSTUFFS—Wheat—No. 1 Red, $1.10@1.11; No. 2 Red, $1.04@1.05. Corn—83@84c. Oats—52@53c.

BUFFALO.

LIVE STOCK.—Beeves—$4.00@6.40. Hogs—Live, $5.00@6.75. Sheep—$4.50@5.25.

EAST LIBERTY.

LIVE STOCK.—Beeves—Best, $6.00@6.40; medium, $5.25@6.00. Hogs—Yorkers, $6.00@6.50; Philadelphia, $7.00@7.25. Sheep—Best $5.00@5.25; medium, $4.25@4.75.

SEEING WITHOUT EYES.

Remarkable Case of a Little Girl Stricken Blind Who Yet Sees.

H. N. LOWRY, of Cascade, Mich., writes to the Grand Rapids *Eagle* inclosing the following letter from his brother-in-law, Helliar D. Perkins, of Kinsman, Ohio, in relation to a singular gift, faculty, power, or whatever it may be called, affecting a little daughter of Mr. Perkins. Mr. Lowry says the little girl Jessey is about nine or ten years old, and the sister Louesa twenty or over. Susan, spoken of, the mother of the girl, is his sister:

KINSMAN, Ohio, Sept. 10, 1874.

BROTHER HENRY: We received your letter. You want to know about Jessey. About the middle of April Louesa came home from Portage County with inflammation in her eyes, and was blind for some days, and Jessey stuck right by her from Monday noon until Saturday noon, and bathed her eyes with cold water, when she (Jessey) began to complain of her eyes, and in two hours she was stone blind. We noticed that she could get around without running against things and help herself, but thought nothing of it for several days, until a cousin sent her a very nice book. She sat holding it, with her eyes bandaged, with the tears running, never complaining, as patient as a lamb, and feeling of her book, until she could tell when she came to a picture, and finally she could describe them by running her finger over them. She soon got so she could read by running her fingers over the letters, and in a few days after she could read without putting her fingers on the letters. I tell you it looked curious to see her sit and read with a wet cloth on each eye and a bandage over that. She was stone-blind for three weeks, and the doctor gave her up. Susan was almost crazy, and more for her sake than Jessey's (for I had made up my mind she never would see) I took them to Cleveland, and she got her sight. She can see as well now as ever, but she retains her faculty now. She can see, can read both behind her back and before her face, and describe pictures, tell colors, thread a needle and sew as well as any little girl, with her eyes bandaged in the most thorough manner, so that anyone will be satisfied she cannot see. Now what this means no one pretends to know, but the facts remain the same. She can do it, and that is all we know about it.

Yours, H. D. PERKINS.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

HE who by his biz would rise, must either bust or advertise.

THE first essential for a good, permanent sward is a deep soil.

OLD PROB. hit it eighty-eight times out of every hundred, last month.

YOUR bonnet is to be worn nearer your nose this winter, my dear.—*Boston Globe.*

WHY are ladies thieves? Because they steal gentlemen's hearts and hook each other's dresses.

THE strongest propensity in woman's nature, says a careful student of the sex, is to want to know what is going on, and the next strongest is to boss the job.

A MISSOURI agriculturist tells a story of his having corn thirty-three feet high, and expects the public to give ear to it.

THE Canada thistle has got such a foot hold in Missouri that the Legislature is called upon to take immediate measures for its extermination.

A RECENT combination of Mrs. Peters, of Jersey City, and a lighted kerosene lamp has resulted in serious damage to both.—*N. Y. Telegram.*

JOHN FORK lent a stranger a dollar at Richmond in 1856, and the other day the stranger paid him back $20,000. Step this way, strangers.—*Detroit Press.*

A VERMONT paper recently closed an obituary of a young lady by remarking that "she had an amiable temper and was uncommonly fond of ice-cream."

HARRIS LEWIS says he has found as high as 30 per cent. of cream in the last pint of milk drawn from a cow, when the first pint from the same cow had only 3½ per cent.

NOT long since a juryman in making terms with a lady of a boarding-house in Lowell, Mass., wanted a reduction made in his board bill, because, he said: "He didn't use sugar in his tea."

IN repairing the Norwalk (Conn.) hotel the workmen found a large quantity of honey stored behind the front cornice, by a monstrous swarm of bees which had been at work for some years.

THE shingles upon the roof of the First Congregational Church in East Haddam, Conn., says the New Haven *Register*, "were placed there seventy-nine years ago, and the roof is still tight."

IT is altogether too absurd to say that "man is not perfect." Who is there who has not met with many who were perfect strangers and some who were perfect rascals, and not a few who were perfect fools?

A WASHINGTON belle has forty-eight pairs of shoes. Some curious wretch calculates that if they were arranged, heel and toe, in a straight line, the shortest possible length would be a fraction over 110 feet.—*Williamsport Register.*

IT is strange, but nevertheless true, that the old-fashioned cloak—the regular affair, reaching to and sometimes below the knees—is to be revived in all its ancient and modern glory. They are made of quilted silk, cashmere and velvet.

THE Springfield *Republican* calls upon Massachusetts to believe that it knows a black-and-tan terrier that, being troubled by another dog, summoned a canine friend to his assistance, hid him behind a tree, and then enticed the enemy up to be killed.

SOMEBODY having excused frequent pardons because "the State's Prison is very crowded," the *Congregationalist* thinks that the next thing may be a justification of reprieves of men sentenced to be hanged "because the Commonwealth is out of rope!"

GIVE a man the necessaries of life and he wants the conveniences. Give him the conveniences and he craves the luxuries. Grant him the luxuries and he sighs for the elegancies. Let him have the elegancies and he yearns for the follies. Give him all together, and he concludes that he has been cheated both in price and quality of the articles

RECORD is made of the preternatural sagacity of a horse in Lockport, N. Y. He trotted alone into a smithy where the day before he was shod. He was lame, and in pulling off one of his shoes it was found that a cruel nail had been driven into his foot. It is not every man who is wise enough to go to the doctor when it is necessary, or to keep away from the doctor when it is unnecessary.

A MAN eighty-four years old, who left Weymouth, Mass., thirty-seven years ago for parts unknown, has just returned to spend the remainder of his days. The cause of his abandonment of home was the loss of his property through his love for drink. He left a wife and eight children, taking with him a yoke of oxen belonging to a neighbor, and it turned out he has been at work in the West all this time.

IT'S a Boston lawyer who tells this story: "Twenty years ago, just after I was admitted to the bar in Maine, I called one evening on the young lady who has since become my wife. I made friends with her little brother, Addie, and when he ran out of the room heard him ask his mother, confidentially: 'Mamma, do you think angels' wings are strong enough to carry lawyers to heaven?' The good woman's answer was lost in the 'Hush, dear!' but in the battle of life since then the question has come back more than once."

A PRISONER in the State Prison at Charlestown, Mass., has just been detected in an imposition which he successfully maintained for two years and a half, hoping to get a pardon. He took to his bed nearly three years ago and has lain there ever since, stating that his lower limbs were paralyzed. A few days ago the prison surgeon, who was by no means satisfied with the fellow's statement, administered ether to him, when he got out of bed and danced around the room. When the effects of the ether passed away the prisoner got into bed again, where he still remains.

A SINGULAR fish is found in great numbers in the coast rivers of Alaska. It is about eight inches long, transparent, and the fattest of all the finny tribe. This fat, however, has not the oily, rancid taste of other fish, but is like fresh lard. When these fish are dried the Indians often turn them to a novel and practical account—burn them instead of candles. They give a clear, brilliant light, and are not liable to be blown out by the wind. Mr. Manson, Superintendent at Fort Simpson, says that the tail should be lighted instead of the head, and each fish will burn about fifteen minutes.

THE TWO ANCHORS.

IT was a gallant sailor man
Had just come home from sea,
And as I passed him in the town
He sang, "Ahoy!" to me.
I stopped, and saw I knew the man—
Had known him from a boy;
And so I answered, sailor-like,
"Avast!" to his "Ahoy!"
I made a song for him one day—
His ship was then in sight—
"The little anchor on the left,
The great one on the right."

I gave his hand a hearty grip.
"So you are back again?
They say you have been pirating
Upon the Spanish Main;
Or was it some rich Indiaman
You robbed of all her pearls?
Of course you have been breaking hearts
Of poor Kanaka girls!"
"Wherever I have been," he said,
I kept my ship in sight—
"The little anchor on the left,
The great one on the right."

"I heard last night that you were in;
I walked the wharves to-day,
But saw no ship that looked like yours,
Where does the good ship lay?
want to go on board of her."
"And so you shall," said he;
"But there are many things to do
When one comes home from sea;
You know the song you made for me?
I sing it morn and night—
"The little anchor on the left,
The great one on the right!"

"But how's your wife and little one?"
"Come home with me," he said.
"Go on, go on; I follow you."
I followed where he led.
He had a pleasant little house;
The door was open wide,
And at the door the dearest face—
A dearer one inside!
He hugged his wife and child; he sang—
His spirits were so light—
"The little anchor on the left,
The great one on the right."

'Twas supper time, and we sat down—
The sailor's wife and child.
And he and I: he looked at them,
And looked at me and smiled.
"I think of this when I am tossed
Upon the stormy foam,
And though a thousand leagues away
Am anchored here at home."
Then, giving each a kiss, he said,
"I see in dreams at night
This little anchor on my left,
This great one on my right."

—*R. H. Stoddard, in Harper's Magazine.*

WHO WAS HE?

BY G. M. MARSHALL.

ON a dreary November afternoon in the year 1866 Mr. Blonger, senior member of the well-known firm of Blonger & Co., machinists and manufacturers of marine engines, established in 1803, was sitting before a blazing fire in his office in the east end of London when a visitor was announced. "Show him in, James," said the old gentleman, and continued the perusal of the *Times*. A moment after the door opened and a young man, apparently about twenty-four years of age, plainly attired, entered and stood, hat in hand, awaiting the leisure of the gentleman, who merely glanced at the stranger and immediately resumed his paper, evidently thinking his visitor to be a person of no importance. After a silence of a few minutes Mr. Blonger laid down his paper and, looking up, abruptly said:

"Well, my good sir, what do you want with me?"

"Are you the elder Mr. Blonger?" inquired the stranger with an unmistakable American accent.

"I am."

"I heard of you and came to see you. I understand that you transact a large and successful business, but it is not on that account that I have called upon you. I am told that you have considerable influence with the chief persons in this Government, and it is for that reason that I pay you this visit."

Mr. Blonger placed his gold-rimmed spectacles on his nose and gazed in mute astonishment at his visitor, who continued:

"I am the inventor, or discoverer, rather, of a secret of nature, a process which will revolutionize the world, which will reverse natural laws, which will inaugurate a new order of things: a discovery the results of which are so vast that no human mind can comprehend them. In short, I can suspend the law of gravitation."

At this monstrous assertion a look of alarm appeared upon the countenance of the listener, but as he compared his own brawny frame with the slight figure of the lunatic before him it gave place to a contemptuous smile as he answered, somewhat impatiently:

"Well, well, my dear sir, perhaps you can—perhaps you can; but I am not in that line of business and you had better apply to somebody else."

The young man went on with imperturbable gravity: "I can swing the mightiest man-of-war England possesses into the air with my little finger. I can lift the largest cannon at Woolwich like a cork; I can——"

"Yes, yes, I know—but I am busy now," replied the manufacturer, rising and advancing toward the bell to summon a servant.

"Wait, Mr. Blonger," said his visitor, in a tone of such deep earnestness that that gentleman hesitated in spite of himself—"wait a moment. I am not mad. I know you do not believe me and I do not wonder at it; but I will show you that what I say is true."

He laid his hat upon the table and drew from the breast-pocket of his coat a glistening blue wire. There was an iron anvil in a corner of the room. He wound the coil of wire round the anvil in a moment, lifted it like a feather from its place to the middle of the apartment, and then stepped proudly back. The anvil floated like a bubble in the air.

To say that Mr. Blonger looked astonished and aghast would convey but a mild idea of the expression of his countenance at this moment. It was one of absolute horror. He stood gazing first at the anvil and then at the man, and at last, with a sigh of relief, he ejaculated: "Perhaps this is only jugglery," and dropped into a chair. The young American snatched the coil of wire from around the anvil, and it fell at once with terrific force, crushing in a portion of the floor. "I beg your pardon, sir, but is there any jugglery about that, think you?" he asked, with a smile, and also sat down. The conversation that ensued was long and earnest, and resulted in this conclusion: Mr. Blonger was to notify one or two of his personal friends in the Cabinet, several scientific men of high repute, and two or three prominent foreigners, the whole number not to exceed twelve, that he wished them to meet him in order to investigate in concert a wonderful discovery in science, the nature of which would then be communicated. The young stranger agreed to repeat his experiments on the occasion of the meeting, and explain the process by means of which they were accomplished; for the present he declined to make any further revelations.

On the night of the 23d of November, 1866, there assembled in St. George's Hall, in London, three members of the English Cabinet, four gentlemen well known in the scientific world, two prominent Frenchmen, and two Italians—eleven in all, exclusive of Mr. Blonger. At the earnest solicitation of that gentleman these persons had come to meet they knew not whom and see they knew not what. On the platform at the end of the hall lay a small cannon, a heavy piece of iron shafting and several large iron wheels. What these articles were for they could not imagine. At half-past eight o'clock the young man arrived and was introduced by Mr. Blonger to his friends as a young American who did not care to have his name announced. The stranger was dressed in a rough suit, the worse for wear, and wore a slouched black hat. His hair was brown and straight, his eyes were large and bright gray in color, and his face was as destitute of beard as a woman's. He was above the medium height and very slender, and his age was apparently about twenty-four years, though he might have been older. He was evidently but little used to the society of distinguished persons, and at first appeared somewhat embarrassed at his position, but there was an expression of firmness about his mouth that showed a strong will and a habit of having his own way. When he spoke it was with the air of a man who knew the ground upon which he stood, and his manners were those of one who felt that he was the inferior of no man.

The janitor having been dismissed and the door locked, Mr. Blonger proceeded to explain to those present why he had called them together. His young American friend, he said, had convinced him that he was in possession of a prodigious secret, of the magnitude of which they could judge when it was presented to them.

The whole affair at this point came near being broken off in disgust by an unexpected requirement which the unknown stranger exacted. He declined to proceed, unless all present entered into an agreement not to communicate what they might witness to any living person for a period of ten years, without gaining his consent. The Right Honorable G—— was on his mettle at once. He washed his hands of the whole matter, and desired to retire immediately. The others were equally indignant, and expressions not considered elegant in high society were heard. It required all Mr. Blonger's sagacity to quell the storm. But the young man was immovable, and at last, at the earnest solicitation of Mr. Blonger, the guarantee was given. The stranger then took the stage, and his auditors the seats immediately in front of it.

"Gentlemen," he began, "from what I have noticed of your incredulity this evening I am satisfied that if I should inform you that the attraction of gravitation could be so suspended that objects upon the earth's surface would have absolutely no weight, and, further, that I was in possession of the simple means whereby this end could be accomplished, you would only greet my assertions with jeers and ridicule. I shall therefore show you what I can do first, and talk afterward. You see in my hands this coil of wire, blue like tempered steel. This cannon weighs nearly three tons. I wrap the wire around it. If you listen carefully you will hear a burring sound, similar to that made by an electrical machine. But that has nothing to do with the matter. The ends of the wire are joined. This cannon now weighs no more than a soap bubble. You see I move it about through the air with my hand, with two fingers, with one. Here is a strong oaken chair. I place the cannon upon it, and when I withdraw the wire, mark the result. The chair goes crashing to pieces on the floor under the weight of three tons of iron."

This conclusive proof of the grandest discovery ever yet made by man brought every person present to his feet. Mr. Blonger stood apart in triumph. The young exhibitor alone remained unmoved. "How is it done?" cried they all. "How did you make this wonderful discovery?" They now looked upon him with the awe one feels in the presence of a superior being.

He raised his hand and requested silence. "The action of this simple wire," said he, "is not confined to metallic substances. Its affects on all objects is the same. I put it round this wooden bench, as you see, and the bench weighs nothing; around this chair, and the result is the same. Here is this large iron shaft, and these wheels. You perceive that it effects all alike. Perhaps you think it has no power over living substances. You are mistaken. I will agree to put this little wire round my waist and step from the dome of St. Paul's. I will show you."

A ladder extended from the floor to the lofty ceiling of the hall. The stranger climbed to its very summit, adjusted his belt, and sprung bodily off. He slowly unclasped the ends of the wire, so that they scarcely came into contact, and descended gradually and safely to the ground, to the infinite relief of the spectators, who gazed horror-struck at the scene.

"Thus you see, gentlemen," said he, again ascending the stage, "what powers lie hidden in nature, until they are accidentally stumbled upon. You all think that there is some power contained in this wire. I must tell you that the wire has but little to do with it. And yet I will agree to go down to any of your sea-ports, and put this wire or one like it round any of your old seventy-four-gun ships we read of, and lift it into a dry-dock with a line no stronger than pack-thread, if the wind is not blowing at the time. This wire, at which you all gaze so curiously, has no power in itself. It is only the means of communicating a power; still, no man shall examine it, except under certain conditions; and this brings me to the point I intended to make by calling gentlemen of your high standing and intelligence here to-night. I wish to sell my knowledge to the English Government."

"And why to the Government?" cried the Right Honorable B. I—— and the Honorable Mr. S—— in a breath.

"Because no private individual is rich enough to buy it. I once thought to dispose of it to my own Government, that of the United States, but I shall not enter into the reasons why I abandoned that idea and came here. Besides, it becomes public property after ten years. I would not agree to sell the right under any conditions for a longer time. The benefits of the discovery are universal, and in justice belong to mankind, and mankind shall have them."

Said a member of the Cabinet: "Your idea of selling such a discovery to the Government of Great Britain seems chimerical, and, I may add, it savors of selfishness to keep your knowledge from the world. But may I be permitted to ask how much you demand for your knowledge?"

Here the young man rose to his feet in an excited manner. "You talk of selfishness," said he; "I know what it is to labor and to suffer, to be lost amid mountains, and tormented with thirst upon deserts. I have labored hundreds of feet underground with pick and shovel for my daily bread. I got tired of it; I swore off. I hold in my possession what will make me independent for life, besides conferring inestimable benefits upon my fellow-men, and I intend to use it so far. Selfishness indeed! What did Morse or Fulton make from their inventions, except what was given them almost as a charity, after they let their knowledge go out of their hands? No charity for me. I hold my discovery alone, and I will part with it only on my own terms. You ask me what I demand for it. I want $5,000,000."

"Five million dollars is a rather large sum," Prof. T—— ventured to remark.

"A large sum! Have you taken into consideration what this discovery is destined to accomplish? Why, I tell you, it will revolutionize the world. Take the dock-yards of Great Britain alone. What, think you, will be the saving in a year, when every object, from the greatest to the smallest, can be moved to any distance, without expense? How long will it take to build your largest edifices, when your blocks of marble weigh nothing? Oh, gentlemen, when you have considered this subject as I have done, you will stand overpowered with the magnitude of the results that are to follow. Think of its effects upon means of transportation. When there is no weight to carry, may not even the air be navigated?"

"Do you object to informing us how you happened to discover this mighty and mysterious secret of nature?"

"Mysterious! Why, it is so simple that any child can understand it. I stumbled upon it. Since I have discovered it, I wonder that it is not found out a thousand times every day. But, gentlemen, are you aware that I doubt whether I am really a pioneer in this field? There are books, written thousands of years ago, which I read when a boy, that have led me to believe that this is one of the lost arts, though it was known perhaps only to a favored few. I feel sure—very sure—that the simple law by which the attraction of gravitation is suspended was known in ancient Peru, Arabia and perhaps in Egypt also, and went down into oblivion with other lost arts, in some general catastrophe. The same law I rediscovered while working in a silver-mine, 1,000 feet under ground, and my knowledge I am ready to communicate, under the conditions that I have named."

"But should you die in the meantime, would not your discovery be again lost, and the world be deprived of its benefits?"

"Oh, not at all. I have taken care of that. Whether I live or die or whatever may happen to me within ten years from the present time the world will be fully informed upon this subject."

After some further consultation a select committee was appointed, to meet in three days, to fully investigate the secret and take some action upon the proposition of the stranger, who, after reminding all present of their promise of secrecy, departed and was never seen again.

Several months ago a distinguished gentleman, a resident of a great American city, received the following communication from a prominent solicitor in London:

No. —, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, Sept. —, 18.3.

——, Esq.—*Dear Sir;* A short time since, an Italian, who was the confidential clerk of one of my much esteemed clients—Signor Suzzini, of the house of Suzzini, Inola & Co., of London, Naples, and France—died suddenly, leaving in writing the statement which accompanies this letter. What transpired at St. George's Hall in November, 1866, concerning a subject of the most absorbing interest to those present has been kept a profound secret, under a solemn pledge, but, owing to the strange circumstances of the case, and the almost certain death of the remarkable stranger, supposed to be an American, whose reappearance has been awaited with the most intense anxiety for years by those informed on the subject, Signor Suzzini has considered himself so far absolved from his obligation as to convey to some trustworthy barrister in your city the information herein contained.

All communications received from you will be kept strictly secret; but, in any event, if you succeed in discovering the bank, impress upon the managers the supreme importance of carefully preserving, at all hazards, the documents committed to their charge.

I have the honor to remain, etc.,
GEORGE MATHIOT MARSHALL.

The following is the statement of the Italian clerk:

"In November, 1866, a