WIT AND HUMOR.

When a man gets tight the devil generally gets loose Many pastors would rather preach to empty heads than to empty pews.

It is a time-honored custom in Quincy, Fla., to salute a newly married couple by firing a cannon. This is to remind those present that the battle of life has fairly begun.

So many societies for the promotion of things are established that Johnnie wants to know why somebody doesn't get up a society for the promotion of boys in school without making them

"Will you have cream and glucose in your coffee?" is the question now propounded from the maternal end of the breakfast table. "Yes," answers pater-familias, "and pass the oleomar-

A little boy, watching the burning of the school house until the novelty of the thing had ceased, started down the street, saying: "I'm glad the old thing burned down: I didn't have my the street, saying: "I'm glad the old thing burned down; I didn't have my jogfry lesson, no how."

The Burlington Hawkeye remarks that "as you travel around the country you are more and more impressed with the conviction that the chief end of man is to paint patent medicine signs on the fences."

The girls in his native village were lighting the candles in the front parlors and pulling down the blinds and the Excelsior boy reported that "the shades of night were falling fast."

An English tourist at a New Zealand restaurant, having finished his meal, thinks he will try some dessert: "Waiter, bring me a piece of mince pie." Waiter, apologetically : "H'aint got no mince pie, sir; missionaries is | their hands by the police. so thin this season we only biles 'em for soup."

The English language is rich in syn-onymous terms. A mechanic in search of work is "out of a job"; a clerk in the same predicament is "disengaged," and a professional man similarly placed is "at leisure." The mechanic "gets work," the clerk "connects" himself with some establishment, and the professional man "resumes" practice.

A very good hit was made yesterday morning by one of the defeated candidates in Thursday night's primary election. A gentleman approached him with, "Well, Mr. —, how do you feel?" "Well," said he, "I feel, I suppose, pretty much as Lazarus did."
"As Lazarus did?" "Why, yes," said
he, "Lazarus was licked by dogs, and so was 1." - Yonkers Gazette.

Ruined by Indorsing Other Men's Lia-Women more frequently commit

suicide from disappointment in love, and men from loss of money, than from any other cause, which might in dicate that their sex is sentimental, and that ours is mercenary. The number of men who have destroyed themselves during the past year for financial reasons is very noticeable. One can hardly read newspapers from any part of the country without observing a report of some such case, and it is remarkable what a proportion of men have been ruined by indorsing for their friends. One of the latest instances is that of Henry Schaefer, a florist at Los Angeles, Cal., who shot himself through the head in a summer house. He left a number of letters, in which he said that, as he was growing old and was heavily in debt, he feared that he could not support himself much longer, and he wanted, therefore, to quit the world. He is represented as a warm-hearted, generous man, who had once possessed a handsome property, but who had lost it by indorsing for friends, often in better circumstances than himself. He had hardly means enough to defray his funeral expenses. Of how many men this is the history! The misfortune is that most of those persuaded to indorse are kind, sympathetic fellows, who are reduced to poverty and despair through their very kindness and sympathy; while men hard and selfish go through the world prospering and prosperous, and die of faultiess old age. When men indorse for one another in the way of business, it is a commercial transaction, and is so understood. The prospect of failure and loss of money must be taken into account. But when a man indorses for another without any equivalent, without any hope or thought of reciprocity, merely for accommodation, as it is termed, and is obliged to take up the paper he has indersed and surrender his property to such end, it is bitter enough.

Relative to French Matrimony. London Echo.

"Figures," said the late Robert Peel, "you can prove anything by figures." M. Legrand, accordingly, has no diffi-culty in proving that marriage in France is not altogether as it should be; had it been so his work, Le Mariage et les Mœurs en France, would never have been written.

The fact which makes thoughtful

Frenchmen anxious is that, while the marriage rate is not lower, nay, is even slightly higher, than it was, the birth rate is alarmingly low, and gets lower, instead of rising. There were actually more births at the beginning of the century, with a population of only 27,000,000, than there were in 1860. Between 1800 and 1815 the number of children per marriage averaged 4.24. It sank gradually till 1860, averaging only 3.03 for the years between 1855 and 1860; between 1860 and 1865 it rose to 3.08. Tantalizing, as, indeed, such tables generally are, this particular table ends with 1865, and we are left to M. Legrand's assertion that the decrease is still a sad fact, and to another table which shows that the births for every hundred inhabitants have averaged during the last forty years 2.62. The worst year was 1871, when, owing to the war, the average sank to 2.26. In 1872 it rose to its highest, 2.67. In 1877 it was 2.55, the same as in 1850.

Of marriages the French average for the last ten years is 88 for every hundred inhabitants. It was 60 in 1870, 72 in 1871, 93 (its highest) in 1872, when the war and its results were well-nigh over. As with us, the matrimonial barometer is, from year to year, a delicate test of the national prosperity or depression. There is no ber of marriages; it has risen since 1800, between which year and 1850 the average was not quite 79. Nor does France in this respect stand badly as compared with other countries. There are actually more marriages per cent.

Oswald Puckeridge, a retired publi-can of Minster, England, has been sen-tenced to six weeks' hard labor for causing the death of a valuable dog. The prisoner painted the dog all over with the Liberal and Conservative colors, and the animal was poisoned through licking the paint off. The

prisoner gave notice of appeal. A bar of gold has been brought to Halifax, N. S., from the recently discovered lead at the Moose River gold mines. It weighs thirty-four ounces eleven penny weights and ninety-eight grains, is valued at \$650, and represents a hundred and thirty-six days' labor of five men from twenty tons of

The first volume of Kossuth's Memoirs, to appear simultaneously in English, German and Magyar, will show, it is said, that Napoleon III., on summoning him to Paris in 1859, offered him naturalization and a senatorship. While refusing these, Kossuth agreed

to use his influence in favor of France

and Sardinia in the impending war, whereby he offended Mazzini, Victor Hugo and the French Republicans.

again, where it was taken out unin-

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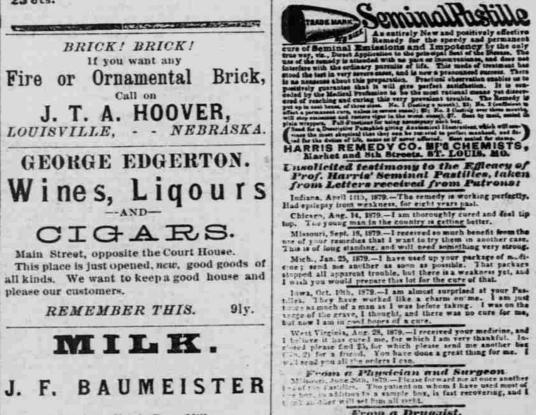
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NUMBER 27, FOR 1880.

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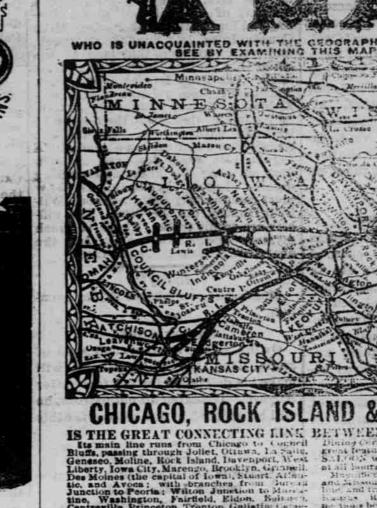
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