THE HERALD.

ALL SORTS.

The Detroit *Free Press* tells of a young lady who could not make her bangs stay, bung, and who said she was having a tuft time of it.

Queen Victoria does not approve of carpets, and has Indian matting placed on the floors of nearly all her private apartments.

The Rev. William Marshall, colored, of Clark county, Ky., announces that he will pray for any desired object on receipt of 75 cents.

So rapid has been the destruction by hunters of prairie chickens that the Omaha *Bee* suggests the passage of a law prohibiting their killing for the next ten years.

Mrs. Burdette the invalid wife of the Burlington *Hawkeye* humorist, has fallen heir to $10,000, bequeathed by her grandfather, the late Capt. Hall, of Peoria, Ill.

When Rev. Dr. Cayler, of Brooklyn, stepped off the steamship on his return from Europe, he immediately telegraphed his venerable mother at Saratoga as follows: "Psalms xiviii; 14."

Robert Purvis of Philadelphia, says that he went to Europe with the first passport ever given to a colored man by the United States government. It was issued, by order of President Jackson.

Some philosopher not of the Concord school has said: "Many a man thinks it is principle that keeps him from turning rascal, when it is only a full stomach." Be grateful, and do not mistake potatoes for principle.

Mr. Satterthwaite, of the *Forest and Stream*, is a great grandson of Benjamin Franklin. Mr. Duane, grandson of the secretary of the treasury of that name under Jackson, of the firm of Schuyler & Duane, is another.

Mme. Marie Blanc, late proprietress of the gambling hell at Monaco, has left her property, worth $20,000,000, to her three children, who will keep up the establishment and run roulette and "trente et quarante" as usual, for all comers.

It seems that even in Canada all is not merry so far as the Indians are concerned. A correspondent of the Toronto *Globe* fears that the frauds of certain Canadian Indian agents will bring on war in the northwest before long.

The memoir of Bryant, upon which Mr. Parke Godwin is engaged, will contain several poems that have never appeared in print. The work will not be very lengthy, as there were but few incidents in Bryant's life that are worth relating.

Midhat Pasha's place of banishment, it is said, is considered by the Arabs as the most ancient place in the world. They say it is the place to which Adam and Eve fled after their expulsion from paradise, and Eve's tomb is shown to pilgrims.

The only thing that the Duchess of Edinburg really studied before her marriage was music. Every whim of hers was indulged by the czar, who adored her; and, when the temperature was at 20 degress centigrade below freezing point, flowers were forced to bloom for her delight.

Alexander H. Stephens is writing a book about the rebellion, taking issue with Jefferson Davis. He keeps two stenographic amanuenses at work constantly. Gen. Beauregard also has a book nearly ready, which is described as one of the most readable of all the war records.

Olive Logan says that English doctors are so scrupulous about "professional ethics" that he heard considerable comment in London recently because Dr. Austin Flint's baggage was marked conspicuously with his name and address, his English professional brethren deeming it an indirect advertisement.

Reporter Murphy of the United States senate, relates of Daniel Webster that one day when he was to debate with Silas Wright, a loquacious friend went over and said: "Mr. Webster, you will have an easy victory to day; Mr. Wright is drunk." "I would have you know, young man," said Mr. Webster, "that Silas Wright either drunk or sober, is a very hard man to encounter."

Accuracy in Standards of Measurement.

Few realize the great practical importance of extreme accuracy in standards of weight and extension, and it is not generally known what degree of accuracy has been attained in the measurement of the standards of lengths now in use in different countries. The carpenter's foot-rule and the tailor's yard are familiar articles, but, if asked, probably neither the carpenter nor the tailor could tell whether there is any means by which the true length of a foot or a yard can be determined. It is clear, however, that there must be a standard with which the common measures should be made to agree, in order to have the same absolute value. But we may reflect that the constant use of any measure will change its length, and that it will eventually become worn out. We can, then, readily understand the great value of an accepted standard, from which copies can be made, thus preventing any gradual alteration in our measures. Such standards of reference are properly held in the custody of national Governments, scientific societies and institutions.

It is by no means a simple process to compare one measure with another, and to determine the variation between the two. On the contrary, the utmost skill and long experience are required for such work, as well as the most elaborate and costly apparatus. Allowance must be made for errors that are so small as to be almost inappreciable, but which cannot be eliminated, until they have been subjected to future investigations of a very delicate nature. Every careful observer will obtain results which are almost marvelously accordant *inter se;* but the results obtained by two observers, with different instruments, will probably not agree. The "personal equation" has not yet been eliminated from work of this kind.

In the comparison of weights and measures, science demands the utmost accuracy, and it would not be possible, even if it were desirable, in an article like this, to more than allude to a few of the steps which have resulted in the final adoption of national and international standards.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

The Flying Dutchman.

A name given by sailors to a phantom ship, supposed to cruise in storms off the Cape of Good Hope. According to tradition, a Dutch captain, bound home from the Indies, with long, continued head winds and heavy weather off this cape, and refusing to put back as he was advised to do, swearing a terrible oath that he would beat around the cape if it took until the day of judgment to accomplish the feat. He was taken at his word, and doomed to beat against winds all his days. His sails are believed to have become threadbare, and the ship's sides white with age, and himself and crew reduced almost to shadows. He cannot heave to or lower a boat, but sometimes hails vessels through his trumpet, and requests them to take letters home for him. The superstition has its origin in the looming or apparent suspension in the air of some ship out of sight—a phenomenon sometimes witnessed at sea, and caused by unusual refraction in the lower strata of the atmosphere.

Indian Mound Builders.

We are not, moreover, without testimony to the fact that the present Indian tribes did build mounds. Lewis and Clark mention the custom among the Omahas, saying that "one of their great chiefs was buried on a hill, and a mound twelve feet in diameter and six feet in height erected over him." Bertram states that the Choctaws covered the pyramid of coffins taken from the bone-house with earth, thus raising a conical hill or mound. Tomochichi pointed out to General Oglethorpe a large conical mound near Savannah, in which he said the Yamacraw chief was interred, who had, many years before, entertained a great white man with a red beard, who entered the Savannah river in a large vessel, and in his barge came up to the Yamacraw bluff. Featherstonhaugh, in his "Travels," speaks of the custom among the Osages, referring to a mound built over the body of a chief, called Jean DeFoe by the French, who unexpectedly died while his warriors were absent on a hunting expedition. Upon their return they heaped a mound over his remains, enlarging it at intervals for a long period, until it reached its present height. Bradford says that many of the *tumuli* formed of earth, and occasionally of stones, are of Indian origin. They are generally sepulchral mounds—either the general cemetery of a village or tribe, funeral monuments over the graves of illustrious chiefs, or upon a battle-field, commemorating the event and entombing the fallen, or the result of a custom, prevalent among some of the tribes, of collecting at stated intervals the bones of the dead, and interring them in a common repository. A mound of the latter description was formerly situated on the low grounds of the Rivanna river, in Virginia, opposite the site of an old Indian village (Jeffersn's "Notes on Virginia," pp. 100, 103). It was forty feet in diameter and twelve feet in height, of a spheroidal form, and surrounded by a trench, whence the earth employed in its construction had been excavated. The circumstances attending the custom alluded to were, the great number of skeletons, their confused position, their situation in distinct strata, exhibiting different stages of decomposition, and the appearance of bones of infants. A mound of similar character, and constructed in layers of strata at successive periods, existed near the south branch of the Shenandoah, in the same state. A *tumulus* of stones in New York State is said to have marked the grave of a distinguished warrior (McCauley's "History of New York," vol. ii., p. 239). "Beck's Gazetteer" (p. 308) states that a mound of the largest dimensions has been thrown up within a few years in Illinois, over the remains of an emin nt chief."—*Popular Science Monthly.*

The late Duke of Alba, brother-in-law of the ex-Empress Eugenie, was one of the most persistent gamblers of the time. He once gambled away the sum of 5,000,000 francs in a single night's play. After squandering the immense fortune which he inherited, he received a pension of 60,000 francs a year. He was paid monthly, but by the fifteenth day of every month not a franc was left of his 5,000 francs, and he used to borrow 5 or 6 louis d'or in the club. At last, however, a turn of fortune came. All his debts were paid, and the Duke of Berwick and Alba purchased one of the most splendid palaces in Madrid, where he lived in princely style, keeping 100 horses in his stables and open table every evening for forty guests. During the latter part of his life he only played for very small sums, having a wholesome dread of again risking his fortune and position.

"Wanted—A compositor; one who uses neither tobacco nor rum." Thus reads an advertisement, and we'll bet our boots to a leaden greenback that the man's place was crowded with applicants, and that the passers-by thought there was a funeral there. The idea of a compositor drinking or chewing! Pretty soon they'll accuse editors and reporters of staying away from church.

Soul Burying.

Whenever an Abchasian is drowned his friends search carefully for the body, but if this is not found they proceed to capture the soul of the deceased, a measure which has then become a matter of importance. A goat skin bag is sprinkled with water and placed with its mouth, which is stretched open for a hoop, looking towards the river, near the place where the man is supposed to have been drowned. Two cords are stretched from the spot across the river as a bridge on which the soul can come over. Vessels containing food and drink are set around the skin, and the friends of the deceased come and eat quietly, while a song is sung with instrumental accompaniments. The soul, it is believed, is attracted by the ceremonies, comes over on the bridge that is laid for it, and goes into the trap. As soon as it has entered—that is, when the bag is inflated by the breeze—the opening is quickly closed, and the bag is taken up to the burial place, where a grave has already been prepared. The bag is held with the opening to the grave, the strings are untied, and the soul—that is, the wind in the bag—is squeezed into the grave, and the burial is afterwards completed. This rite is considered of equivalent value with the burial of the body, and the grave is treated with the same honor as if the body were really within it.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

Covered with Gold.

It is a curious fact that Russia, one of the poorest of civilized countries, makes a greater parade of wealth in one respect than any other State. The domes of all the great churches in St. Petersburg, Moscow, and other large towns are plated with gold nearly one-quarter of an inch thick. The new church of the Saviour dedicated and opened in Moscow last August, represents a value of fully $15,000,000. The Isaac Cathedral, in St. Petersburg, may be safely credited with at least twice that amount. So strong, however, is the old Slav belief in the inviolable sanctuary of "holy places" that, during countless seasons of wide-spread and bitter distress, no attempt has ever been made to plunder the gold thus temptingly exposed. Indeed, one of the finest churches in St. Petersburg, the Kazan Cathedral, owes its massive shrine to a voluntary offering of the plunder taken by the Cossacks in 1812.

If you are too poor to indulge in the luxuries of life do not despair. You can become a leader of the esthetics. Crockery and lilies are cheap.

There is no writer but may fail sometimes in point of wit; and it is no less frequent that the auditors fail in point of judgment. What can be more ridiculous than to labor to give men delight, when they labor more earnestly on their part to take offense?—to expose one's self voluntarily and frankly to all the dangers of that narrow passage of unpro itable fame which is defended by rude multitudes of the ignorant, and by armed troops of the malicious? If we do ill, many discover it, and all despise us. If we do well, but few men find it out, and fewer entertain it kindly. If we commit errors, there is no pardon; if we would do wonders, there would be but little thanks, and that exported from unwilling givers.—*Cowley.*

One of the Things Newspaper Reporters Have to Do to Keep Up.

One of the most brilliant feats of French reporting is the following: It happened at the time when the great Troppmann murder case was agitating Paris and France, and everybody was eager for details. A reporter who had the matter in hand left Paris for Cernay, where the father of Troppmann resided. He arrived, called upon the justice of the peace and the commissaire de police, invited them to follow him to the Mairie, took his seat in the judge's chair, and there, with unparalleled audacity, ordered the garde champetre to go and bring before him the assassin's father. The officers did not say a word; the reporter had conquered them by his air and demeanor. When the father of Troppmann was brought before him, he interrogated him as though officially commissioned to do so. The result of the cross-questioning was that the son had written to the father on the eve and on the day of the crime. "Monsieur le Commissionaire," said the reporter, "please go to the witness' house and seize these letters."

The functionary obeyed; the letters were brought, the reporter read them, found them full of evidence of Troppmann's guilt, copied them carefully and with a solemn air. Then, with respect, he handed over the originals to the justice of the peace, asked him to seal them carefully and keep them for the future use of the court. The reporter put the copies into his pocket, saluted the gentlemen and left. It was 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and the train that was to bear his letter to Paris would not leave before evening. If he sent his precious report by that train it would be too late for the morning edition of his paper. Besides, he met two other Paris reporters, who had just arrived, and who would soon learn the news at Cernay and send it on to Paris at the same time he did his report. What does he do? He goes to his brother reporters and says: "I am dying of hunger, my friends. Let us breakfast together. You go to the tavern there and order a good *dejeuner*, with plenty of wine, you know, and I'll come presently." The two reporters did as he bade them, while our friend jumped into a wagon, and had himself driven to the station; after hard begging, and giving money, he was allowed to leave on a luggage train then about to start, caught a passenger train for Paris at a junction further on, and arrived at the office of his paper late at night. He communicated his information, and the first page, which was already "closed up," was completely reset. The next morning eighty thousand copies of the paper were sold.—*The Parisian.*

The Soldiar Comedian.

M. Got, the charming French comedian, was in his youth nearly lost to the stage. While a student in the conservatoire, he was conscripted, and having no money and no rich friends, he was obliged to go to Algeria as a cavalryman. There he served for some time, and was an excellent soldier. He would probably have won his epaulets had not his colonel discovered in him the stuff of a great comedian, and excited in his favor the interest of M'le. Mars. With liberal generosity she redeemed the young trooper and enabled him to resume his studies.

The "Sweet Singer of Michigan" is in Arizona, else we would not dare to publish the opening verse of a poem found in our mail, dedicated to the comet now fleeing away from us with tail in air:

"Hale bowl of liquidescent fire,
That like a egle darts througe s ace,
You kepe a m untin hire and hire
And hire and hire with queaely grace,
At I ke this earth a peopled word,
With nativ s sich as we are hear!
Oh, so, it cannot be sea whirls
Would make them die of trembly skeer!"

Boston becomes bibulous. Last year 611,603 barrels of beer, two barrels to every inhabitant, man, woman and child, were drank in that city. A barrel averages thirty gallons, and each gallon twenty glasses.

No man can choose a bonnet for his wife without meeting very serious complications at home.

The Man With the Flail.

It carried the beholder back to thirty years ago, when the thrashing-machine was heard only at rare intervals, and the honest farmer spread his golden stalks on the clean barn floor and flailed away with such tempered blows that not a kernel was broken. The man who had it sat down on one of the benches in the West Circus Park. The rare sight of such an article halted every pedestrian, and the man had to keep explaining over and over:

"Well, I'll have some beans to shell this fall, and I kinder thought 'twould be easier to flail 'em out. The hardware man told me he had to send to Vermont for it."

Pretty soon along came a gray-headed Alderman, and when he saw that flail he looked ten years younger all at once.

"I handled that for over ten years," he said as he picked it up and spit on his hands. "Seems like old times to get hold of this hickory again."

He stepped out one side to give the crowd an exhibition on the grass, and his success was great. At the second blow the flail end hesitated in mid-air, wobbled about and finally came down with a whack on the patriots' head, making him see more stars than a winter's night ever brought out. He dropped the weapon with the remark that he was already ten minutes late in keeping an appointment, and he was rubbing his skull as far down the street as he could be seen. The next man to try it was one who got off a passing car under the idea that a dog-fight was in progress."

"A flail? Ha! ha! Why. I haven't seen a flail since I was married," he chuckled as he reached for it. "I presume I have flailed a thousand bushels of wheat in my time. You boys stand back there."

The boys retreated, and the man lifted the flail on high and patted the grass in a vigorous manner.

"Yes, my stint used to be twenty bushels a day," he continued, and though I do say it myself I—"

Something happened. He dropped the flail, seized his jaw, and danced off as if he had springs and pins on him, and although a dozen voices asked what hit him he refused to tell.

By and by a third man come sailing along, and when he saw the flail he remarked that his father had used one like it nearly all his life, and was called the smartest flailer in New Hampshire.

"Can't you use it?" inquired one of the crowd.

"Why, of course. If you boys want to see how our fathers got their wheat to mill I'll give you a little exhibition. Here, bub, hold my hat."

He buttoned his coat, moistened his hands, and began work. The first blow nearly broke a man's knee; the second cracked against a boy's elbow, and at the third the flailer grabbed the top of his head and sat down with a subdued look in the corners of his mouth.

"Well, I guess I'll be jogging along," said the owner of the flail as he rose up. "It's all in getting the kink of it. A feller who makes twists and wobbles a special study won't git his head broke over twice a day, but a green hand might as well sit down under a brick kiln durin' a tornader. Day, gentlemen."—*Detroit Free Press.*

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From a Physician and Surgeon.
Missouri, June 26.—Please forward me another box of the Pastilles. The patient on whom I have used most of one box, in addition to a sample box, is feeling recovering, and I think another will set him all right.
From a Druggist.
Maryland, Sept. 2, '79.—Last January we got a box of your Remedy for our customers, and it has made a perfect cure of him. We have another customer now suffering in the same way, and wish one No. 3 box.

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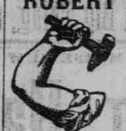

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