THE HERALD.

GLEANINGS.

The salary of Rev. Dr. Scudder, of Brooklyn, has been raised to $10,000.

Both senators and six of the eleven members of congress from Massachusetts are in favor of suffrage for women.

General Nathaniel P. Banks is still popular in Massachusetts as a lecturer. He is 66 years old, is as handsome as he ever was, and he knows it.

It is said that there are eleven nuns in the Hotel Dieu Convent, Quebec, who have each completed over fifty years in the sisterhood.

There are now 2,208 school districts in Pennsylvania, with 18,835 schools. Last year $7,994,705.01 was spent on these schools, which were under the charge of 21,352 teachers.

Burlington *Hawkeye:* A new religious novel has just been issued entitled: "Who did it?" We are not going to lie about it; we honestly believe it was Robert Ingersoll.

M. Gambetta is trying hard to acquire the German language, and to that end has lately surrounded himself with persons almost exclusively acquainted with that tongue.

A dressmaker of Leeds, Eng., was seriously injured by keeping threads of silk in her mouth, because it had a sweet taste. The taste was due to sugar of lead used in coloring.

Mrs. Langtry's excellent elocution on the stage is said to be a gift she has inherited from her father, the Dean of Jersey. Much of her beauty, too, comes from that exceedingly handsome dignitary.

Mrs. Attorney General Brewster's father, Robert J. Walker, was secretary of the treasury under Polk, and Mrs. Secretary Lincoln's father, James Harlan, was secretary of the interior under Johnson.

The wife of the Chinese minister at Washington has not yet made her appearance in society. One of the chief reasons, besides official etiquette which keeps her in seclusion, is that she does not understand a word of English.

The Washington *Star* says that a caller at the White House, who wanted to see the President very much, wrote on his card as an inducement to be let in: "My wife is a personal friend of one of your groomsmen."

George W. Childs' collection of clocks, at his residence in Philadelphia, foreign and domestic, is said to be valued at $30,000. For one of them, cased in onyx and verde antique and crowned by a female figure in silver, Mr. Childs paid $5,000.

Oscar Wilde may, perhaps, be interested in a little family conundrum lately put by a snarling Diogenes. "Who was the first esthete?" asks the cynic, and answers in the next breath: "Balaam's ass, because the Lord made him to (o) utter."

United States Senator Charles W. Jones, of Florida, who is about to marry a wealthy young lady of Newburyport, Mass., is said to be unusually well read in the works of English statesmen. He is a tall, robust, pale-eyed, sandy-haired widower.

A fashion correspondent writes: "The Princess of Wales was once almost as tasteless in dress as her mother-in-law, but the visits of this charming lady to Paris have gradually developed a genuine taste, and she is almost as much of a sovereign dictator in dress as Eugenie was."

A liquor-dealer in a Massachusetts town received last week a postal card signed "Justice," and reading: "Mr. ——, Rumseller, Westfield: "Please attend the funeral of a man whom you have tried to kill for the last ten years."

Oil City *Derrick*: A wag describes a teacher's institute as a place where the males go to look at the females, and the females to look at each other, while bits of learning are sandwiched in like the clove the young man puts on his flower or pen between the acts.

The monument to Garfield, which the society of the Army of the Cumberland proposes to erect, is to cost $200,000, and will probably be placed in Washington. The society has appointed a committee to attend to the work of collecting subscriptions.

Near Knoxville, Tenn., an intoxicated man fell across the railroad track a few feet in front of the engine, which had begun to move, when Miss Sarah Shea, a young girl, darted forward and jerked the man from the rail, thus saving him from a terrible death. The railroad company has honored the young lady by a lifetime pass over the road, which is all very well, but there is yet room for further romance if the rescued is a single man and properly appreciates the noble act of a heroine.

It is said that the Rogue's gallery of Paris contains about 60,000 photographs, collected during the six years since the system was adopted. They lie in a confusion, however, which puzzles the most patient explorer. It has been suggested that they be classified according to those characteristics of the subject which his ingenuity cannot disguise, as height, color of the eyes, length of the foot, shape of the head, etc., thus separating the vast collection into groups, any one of which could be easily examined whenever an individual's identity is in dispute.

Edmund Yates says: "The American Christmas is purely due to Charles Dickens. When he invented, or, rather, revived Christmas, the Americans took up the matter warmly. The celebration had long been made out in the States to be the festival of the winter solstice and a purely pagan affair. Dickens infused new life into it, and the Americans have taken Christmas at his estimate. Before that they had only three festivals—the Fourth of July, New Year and Thanksgiving. Christmas became the fourth and is now very popular among Americans, who delight in entertaining any Briton who may be among them."

The last census shows a rapid advancement in the growth of cotton and food products. In 1870 the amount of cotton produced was 4,352,317 bales; in 1880 more than 6,000,000 bales. In 1870 the amount of corn raised was 760,940,594 bushels; in 1880, 1,751,449,435 bushels. During the last decade our agricultural products were increased nearly 100 per cent. During the year from 1879 to 1880 our export trade largely increased. The cattle export rose from $13,000,000 to $14,000,000; wheat from $167,698,000 to $190,546,000; flour from $35,900,600 to $45,000,000; cotton from $209,852,000 to $245,536,391; and pork from $5,000,000 to $8,000,000 annually.

A shrewd little female scamp in St. Louis collected about $50 during the holidays from benevolent persons in the following manner: She would get into a horse-car, pay her fare, ride a long distance, and then tell the conductor to let her out at a street remote from the point where the car then was. "Why, you are on the wrong car, three or four miles from where you want to go," the conductor would answer. Thereupon the little shivering wretch would begin to cry bitterly, and the other passengers, aglow with seasonable kindness, would take up a collection for her benefit.

The Vienna *Neue Freie Presse* quotes from Tacitus his description of the collapse of the wooden amphitheatre at Fidenæ during the reign of Tiberius, by which, according to the annals, 50,000 persons were killed or wounded. The immense structure was a flimsy affair, put up by a certain Atilius, and there is much comfort after reading about the horrors of the catastrophe and the measures adopted to prevent their repetition, in being informed by Tacitus, with characteristic terseness, that "Atilius was burned."

MEN OF THE DAY.

LIEUT. GEO. W. DE LONG.

The subject of this sketch, Lieutenant Geo. W. De Long was born in New York City, in 1844. He was appointed an acting midshipman in 1861, and in the ordinary course of promotion he was made lieutenant in 1869. In 1873 he was appointed navigator of the relief ship *Juniata*, sent to the arctic seas in search of the survivors of the *Polaris*.

The story of the loss of the *Jeannette*, and of the safe arrival of a part of her officers and crew at the mouth of the Lena River, in Siberia, after a boat and sledge journey unparalleled in the history of arctic adventure, has been before the public for months. Societies have eagerly waited, since her departure for the frozen seas in 1879, for news of her whereabouts, and the suspense of the past year is prominent in the public mind.

The *Jeannette* was crushed in ice on the 23d of last June, more than six months ago. For three months the brave Commander De Long and his party were struggling with the terrors and dangers of the frozen seas before they could reach human habitations, and three months more have elapsed while the news of their escape traversed the barren wastes of Siberia, and finally reached St. Petersburg, from whence it was transmitted in all haste to every part of the civilized world. But beyond the mere fact that the *Jeannette* is lost, and that most if not all of her crew are saved, nothing is yet known of the thrilling adventures through which this gallant ship and her brave company have passed. The story of nearly two years of arctic experience is yet to be told—a story which is awaited with anxious impatience.

No New Jokes.

There is absolutely nothing new in jokes. They never die. The jokes that are familar to us are those which our ancestors enjoyed. They are found in the most ancient literature that remains, and in hieroglyphics of the ruined monuments of dead empires. Their unchanged existence through these ages does not allow that these, like the earth and man, may have been created by a process of development; they must have been created absolutely. At some stage of the work of creation the jokes were launched into being, and they have continued to revolve by their own gravity, the same as the planets. None of them can be annihilated any more than matter, nor can another be added. No person who attempts originality can get recognized as a wit, but any man can, who has talent for memorizing the old stock jokes and funny stories, and for working them over on all occasions.

We have much to learn from New England and from the giant west, and we have an equal part in their achievement; but the spirit and the germs of our own progress and future glory are our own, or else we have to die out, move away, or become absorbed by a people worthy of this inheritance.—*Nashville American.*

Scandinavian Honesty.

The traveler in Sweden and Norway sees many customs which indicate that the people are unusually courteous and honest. At the railway dining stations, a large table is set in the centre of a spacious room. Upon it are displayed a variety of tempting dishes, and piles of warm plates with knives, forks, and napkins.

The passengers enter without confusion, walk around the central table, select what dishes they like best, and then seat themselves at little marble tables scattered in the room. Every person, remembering that his neighbor may like the dish of which he partakes, helps himself with moderation. For the dinner a fixed sum is charged, about thirty-nine cents; but wine, beer, and coffee being *extras*, the guest tells how much of each he has drank. His word is taken without question, as no one watches him.

On board the steamboats three meals a day are served, which, however, are not included in the price of the passage. After each meal, the passenger who has partaken writes his name in a large book, and records under it what he has eaten or drank.

When he is ready to go ashore, he calls one of the waiters—a girl—who puts the price against every item, adds up the amount, and puts the sum she receives in her pocket. When the money becomes too heavy, she gives it, without counting, to the stewardess.

All is left to the honesty of the people. Instead of this confidence begetting laxity, it makes everyone careful to pay to the uttermost penny. His honor is at stake; therefore he feels obliged to be very particular.

Mr. Du Chaillu tells of a servant girl who brought him a gold locket which he had dropped on the floor the previous evening, while displaying his curiosities.

"Why did you not keep it?" he said, playfully.

"How, then," she answered, "could I ever walk erect and look people in the face?"

He once had hard work to make a man accept a small sum of money which he had earned. The honest fellow had traveled on snow-shoes in the soft snow for an hour to restore to Mr. Du Chaillu his gold watch and chain, which he had left under his pillow at the house where he had slept the evening before. Only by showing him that he was paid for his loss of time, and not for returning what did not belong to him, could he be persuaded to accept the money.

Illuminating Discovery.

They have discovered a kind of illuminator in France which gives light but which does not consume. It is a mineral essence, which when put in a lamp gives light when ignited through a wick. M. Cordig, the inventor, after filling and igniting a lamp, dashed it against the ceiling of the laboratory. The blazing fluid was scattered over the floor, and on the persons of the lookers-on, but strange to say, no one was burned or scorched. A pocket-handerchief was then soaked in the fluid and set on fire. A fierce flame resulted, but the pocket-handkerchief was uninjured. The fluid was then set on fire in a pail, and the bystanders plunged their hands into the burning flame. A prickly sensation followed, but no scorching or burning. In short, the discovery has been made of light without heat, of an artificial fluid of which there is no danger of combustion. The occupation of insurance companies will be gone when this fluid is in universal use.

Not a Minister.

An Amusing Adventure of a Drummer.

An Arkansas paper tells a story on John A. Meeks, a traveling man for Weil & Brother, of St. Louis. He had just stepped off a train at a small town in the southern part of the State, when he was accosted by a countryman, who asked, deferentially, "What is your name, please?"

"Meeks."

"Well, Brother Meeks, I am here with a spring-wagon, and am at your service. Are you ready to go now? Where is your baggage?"

Meeks did not question the man who had addressed him, supposing him to be a merchant of the village not far distant. He had been wondering if any means of transportation would be within reach, and considered himself fortunate in securing a spring-wagon. The trip to the village was mainly characterized by silence. The driver made one or two allusions to religious matters, which Meeks answered laconically. When the spring-wagon arrived at the village, Meeks was driven to the residence of a prominent citizen, Mr. George Young, where an excellent supper was waiting. Mr. Young and his family were delighted to see the young man. Young laughingly alluded to the large trunks of his guest, remarking that the old saddle-bag days were over. Meeks smiled over a chicken bone, and affably agreed with his host.

After supper the party repaired to the parlor, where miscellaneous conversation, tempered by a religious tone, was engaged in. Finally Mr. Young, handing Meeks a Bible, requested him to read a certain chapter, which the young man did. Then Young, clearing his throat at one of his children, and nodding to another, remarked:

"Brother Meggs, lead us in prayer."

"Meggs, the deuse!" exclaimed Meeks. "My name is not Meggs. What in thunder does all this mean, any way? I am a St. Louis drummer—"

"What!" exclaimed Young. "Are you not the man who was sent here to preach for us to-morrow?"

"I am sent here to sell you goods, but hanged if I'll preach for any body."

A rap at the door interrupted the conversation. A young man, fatigued and muddy, entered and introduced himself as Preacher Meggs. The mistake was then explained. The driver of the spring-wagon had taken the wrong man. Poor Meggs "hoofed" it seven miles.

An Intelligent Ape.

A man of strict veracity relates these two facts, of which he was an eye-witness. He had a very intelligent ape, to whom he amused himself by giving walnuts, of which the animal was extremely fond. One day he placed them at such a distance from the ape that the animal, restrained by his chain, could not reach them. After many useless efforts to indulge himself in his favorite delicacy, he happened to see a servant pass by with a napkin under his arm. He immediately seized hold of it, whisked it out beyond his arm to beat the nuts within his reach, and so obtained possession of them. His mode of breaking the walnuts was a fresh proof of his inventive powers. He placed the walnut upon the ground, let a great stone fall on it, and so got at its contents. One day the ground on which he had placed the walnut was so much softer than usual that, instead of breaking the walnut, the ape only drove it into the earth. What does the animal do? He takes up a piece of tile, places the walnut upon it, and then lets the stone fall while the walnut is in that position.

In Nantucket there are sixteen women to one man.

Patti travels with thirty-three trunks. Patti, it may be superfluous to add, does not perform in the ballet.

A Perplexing Wedding.

"May a man marry his wife's deceased sister?" was a question which used to be put, as a hoax, by college freshmen, by "experts in the junior class; and the tyro would often argue at good length until a broad laugh among bystanders revealed the trick in the query. "May a man marry his deceased wife's sister?" is the form in which the inquiry is raised by late chronicles.

A recent story from Long Island is that a wife and mother, enfeebled by disease, and believing that she was soon to die, sought to assuage her anxiety for the future of her little ones by promoting a match between her husband and her sister. The invalid no doubt had read extensively in the cautionary literature relating to step-mothers, and could not bear to leave the selection of one for her babes to chance—or, what is much the same thing, the widower's choice. Her sister, the children's loving aunt, would be, she was sure, still more loving as a mother. She adjured the sister and the husband to give her the comfort of seeing them solemnly married before she should close her eyes upon the world. They at length acceded; a wedding was held; whereupon, being relieved in mind, she straightway began to recover in body, and at last accounts was much better than had been expected. In short, she is getting well. And the question in the neighborhood now is, What about that wedding?

It "goes without saying" that this ceremony was no marriage. The consent or request of the wife could not take the place of a divorce, or dispense with the law which forbids a marriage by one having a wife living. It is not clear that it would even warrant a prosecution for bigamy. True, here was a married man formally taking another wife. Every outward aspect of bigamy is presented. But judges have a maxim that there is no crime where there is no criminal intent; and a jury would perhaps be told that if they believed that the husband and the sister did not intend or suppose they were contracting a present marriage, but only meant by the ceremony to attest in the most binding manner to the dying woman that they were to be married as soon as they lawfully might, there was no bigamy. The case, though a very earnest one, would probably be likened in law to a mock-marriage, such as is sometimes performed in jest at an evening entertainment.

What is better worth knowing is that serious questions have arisen whether engagements to marry, made while one of the parties is already married, are of any effect. Suppose the wife in the story had died, and the husband had been disposed to say to the sister: "I only promised to marry you, and went through the pretence of doing so, to relieve my wife's mind." Could she sue him for preach of promise? Cases have occurred in which a man already wedded has courted another woman, and obtained her promise to marry him when he should become free by divorce or death. And if he has, when that time came, refused, and she has brought suit, lawyers for her have argued that his engagement was a binding one; it was like a contract to sell a farm which one expects to buy, and he must perform it or pay damages. But the current of thought among judges is that all such engagements are "contrary to public policy" and void. A married person cannot make a binding promise to marry, not even with reference to a time when freedom to fulfill it is expected. Whoever, knowing the marriage, trusts to such a promise, does not even gain a right to sue for breach. But a man who being married pretends to be single, and in that character engages himself to a woman ignorant of his ties, cannot escape damages on this ground.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

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West Virginia, Aug. 28, 1879.—I received your medicine and I believe it has cured me, for which I am very thankful. Inclosed find $5. Please send me another box (No. 2) for a friend. You have done a great thing for me. I will send you all the orders I can.
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 fast recovering, and I think another will set him all right.
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Very Respectfully,
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Pastor of M. E. Church, Patten's Mills, N. Y.
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