

The Oxford Democrat

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POETRY.

DOMESTIC LOVE.

Domestic Love! 't is not in proud palace halls,
In lofty towers, or in lowly cottage walls,
That in the thickets of the foliage hide,
With hum of bees around, and from the side
Of woody hills some little bubbling spring,
Shining along through banks with haresells dyed;
And many a bird, to warble on the wing,
When morn' her soft robe o'er heaven and earth
Doth fling.

While watching of thy white hand is given,
Of earthly joys the golden key;
Thine are the joyous hours of winter's eve,
When the leaves cling around the father's knee,
And thine the voice that, on the midnight sea,
Meets the rude mariner with thoughts of home,
Plopping the gulls with all he longs to see.
Sprung! I've built a shrine, and thou hast come,
And on its altar blood—forever closed thy plume!

"Go it Alone."

BY JOHN G. SAGE.
There's a game much in fashion, I think it's called
"Go it Alone."
Though I've never played it for pleasure or lure,
And got—not a convert for all of his pains,
And only devotion, and prayer, and praise,
Nor count the odds, who have made with a grain
That his something, no doubt, in "go it alone!"

When great Gullies proclaimed that the world
In a regular orbit was peacefully whirled,
And got—not a convert for all of his pains,
And only devotion, and prayer, and praise,
Nor count the odds, who have made with a grain
That his something, no doubt, in "go it alone!"

For he fell in his heart he could "go it alone!"
Alas for the player who bids defiance,
In the struggle of life, upon kindred and friends,
Whoever the cause of blessing like those,
Nor count the odds, who have made with a grain
That his something, no doubt, in "go it alone!"

There is something, no doubt, in "go it alone!"
Hence, family, culture, wit, beauty and gold,
The fortunate owner may fairly regard,
As each in its way a most excellent card—
Yet, his game may be lost, with all these for your own.

Unless you've the courage to "go it alone!"
In battle or business, whatever the cause,
In law or in love it is ever the same,
In the struggle for power or supremacy,
Let this be your motto—"Go it alone!"

For whether the prize be a ribbon or throne,
The victor is he who can "go it alone!"

There is something, no doubt, in "go it alone!"
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perfect yourself in some occupation—I don't care what, so it be honest, and then come to me, and if the girl is willing she is yours.

As the old man said this, he deliberately knocked the ashes out of his pipe against one of the pillars of the porch where he was sitting, tucked it into his vest pocket, and went into the house.

Pretty Mary Allen was waiting down at the garden gate, their usual trysting place. She noticed his faded, discomfited look, and she smiled his sob, and she said, as Luke told her the result of his application.

"And I am not sure but that he is about right," he resumed, after a thoughtful pause, "for it seems to me that every man, be he rich or poor, ought to have some occupation."

Then as she noticed her lover's grave look, she added softly, "Never mind, I will wait for you Luke."

Luke Jordan suddenly disappeared from his accustomed haunts much to the surprise of his gay associates. But wherever he went, he carried with him in his toilet, these words, and which were like a tower of strength to his soul, "I will wait for you Luke."

One pleasant, sunshiny morning, late in October, as farmer Allen was propping up the grape vine in his front yard, that threatened to break down with the weight of its luxurious burden, a neat looking cart drove up, from which Luke Jordan alighted with a quick, elastic spring, quite in contrast to his former leisurely movements.

"Good morning, Mr. Allen. I understand that you want to buy some butter tubs, and cider barrels. I think I have some here that will just suit you."

"Whose make are they?" inquired the old man, as opening the gate, he passed by the wagon.

"Mine," he replied, with an air of pardonable pride, "and I challenge any cooper in the State to beat them."

"They'll do," he said coolly, "as he set down the last of the lot. 'What will you take for them?'"

"What I asked you for, six months ago to-day—the hand of your daughter, sir."

The roguish twinkle in the old man's eyes brightened to a smile.

"You've got the right metal in you after all," he cried, "Come in, lad—come in. I shouldn't wonder if we made a trade after all."

Nothing loth, Luke obeyed.

"Molly!" bawled Mr. Allen, thrusting his head into the kitchen door.

Molly tripped into the entry. The round white arms were bared above the elbows, and bore traces of the flour she had been sifting. Her dress was a neat gingham, over which was tied a blue checked apron; but she looked as winning and lovely as she always did, wherever she was found.

has to teach the same thing over and over again, still she is never weary of her vocation of arranging and ordering, and never less than hopeful of a favorable result."

Common School Education.

Present below a sketch of the address delivered recently at the Educational Convention at Lewiston, by Mr. C. B. Stetson.

Some of Mr. Stetson's opinions are novel, but he claims for them that they are based upon fundamental principles of intellectual development and must sooner or later be recognized in our system of education.

The Convention listened to the address with great interest, and at the conclusion, added to the customary vote of thanks a recommendation that it be repeated before other audiences and published for general circulation.

The education of the individual should conform to the education of the race—the general course of man's intellectual development.

That development indicates that the imagination should be largely cultivated in childhood and youth,—yet for the special culture of the imagination in the common schools no provision whatever is now made.

At that vital point our system of common schools is fundamentally vicious. In the next place the acquisition of facts should precede the exercise of reason. Hence, during the earlier years the memory should receive special culture along with the imagination, while special culture of the reason, of discriminating judgment, should come at a later day.

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which is specially metaphysical, requiring delicate discrimination of judgment.

To one other characteristic of the childish mind we should pay infinite respect—to that spirit of inquisitiveness, of investigation, so strongly manifested by all children.

Our primary instruction should not be confined to one or two text-books, but should take a range wide as the free inquiry of the childish mind. It should embrace the endless phenomena of nature.

Of these questions, children will ask almost innumerable questions, if permitted to do so. They should be instructed to proceed according to a regular system, so there may be a constant review of the topics considered. The teacher should note down the questions.

Primary education should be mainly oral and ocular—the whole school being taught at once, instead of a single scholar. In this way each would receive three or four hours of daily instruction directly from the teacher. It does not now amount to more than twenty minutes. It would also conduce to health, as there would be less need of so much close confinement.

Such a change from the present arbitrary method of instruction in primary schools, to the natural method, to the oral and ocular, would save at least three years of precious time between four and ten, which are now worse than lost for the want of studies adapted to the childish mind and taught according to natural method. Here we should secure more time for new studies. Time enough.

Common Schools cannot properly undertake to give exhaustive instruction in any department of learning; though so far as their instruction goes it should be thorough. It is for common schools to show the great body of citizens the way and teach them the first and all important steps. Afterward they can go further if they choose.

There must be material abridgment of present studies—an abridgment which can happily be made without material loss.

At least one-half of the time now devoted to arithmetic may be wisely saved. This time is quite enough for all needful instruction in geometry and algebra, from which all mere puzzles should also be excluded.

Tough problems are not so good for the illustration of rules and principles as plain, practical business examples.

Writing should always be preceded by drawing, even though it be of the crude kind. A dozen special lessons in writing will then be enough, with the simple direction that the pupil hold his pen so it will make no noise and write quick and plain as possible.

For the study of grammar, in the ordinary acceptance of the term, there should be only one small text-book, and this should not be used more than six months. It is the universal confession of teachers that the study of grammar in our common schools, is almost a failure.

Then there should be very few set lessons in spelling and defining—the fewer the better is the general rule; but there should be concrete instruction in the form of composition. Commencing so early as six or eight years of age, there should be, at first, daily compositions of ten or twenty words, gradually growing in length, and after a season, diminishing in frequency. That is the way—in the concrete—which shows the use of what is learned and so makes the learning much easier—that is the way to learn to write and spell, to learn grammar—all that is needful—and the clearest signification of words. By thorough change from the abstract to the concrete in these studies, a vast deal of time may be saved—while that which is learned will be properly learned and so made doubly valuable.

Two small text-books for geography are quite sufficient. The first should be devoted to descriptive reading exercises, such as will give the child a vivid and picturesque impression of the world beyond the reach of his vision. He will then surely take delight in the dry facts of the second book. Avoid minutiae with which it is worse than useless to burden the memory. One half of the time now devoted to geography may thus be profitably saved.

In the common schools history should be studied not as a mere exercise of the memory, which is so apt to disgust the young, but rather for the purpose of creating a love for historic reading to be gratified in after life. It should be studied by topics, only the main facts being memorized; and it should be made the frequent subject of composition.

Reading should receive quite as much attention as now,—perhaps more. But the exercises should not be wholly confined to set text-books; works of imagination, travel, biography and history should be read daily from the infant schools to the close of the grammar course. In this way only can the scholar be prepared for reading whatever may fall into his hand with ease and understanding,—for in this way only can he acquire great versatility of execution, an ample vocabulary, a varied stock of ideas and a genuine taste for reading.

Studied in this way a more practical knowledge of these branches of learning could be acquired than now, while a vast

deal of time would be gained for new studies.

Chemistry, that greatest revealer of God's wisdom and wonders, is of practical use to the farmer, cook, dyer, &c. Mineralogy, the mirror of the world, carries the key to vast wealth, which should be at the command of every one who owns or works land.

Botany not only has pleasure for him who loves nature, but profit for him who cultivates the garden, orchard or field. The adornment of the person and of home requires a knowledge of the beautiful science of colors. Drawing has important uses of its own, while it makes writing a much easier acquisition. The preservation of health requires a knowledge of physiological laws.

Study of foreign language, the French for instance, would not only give us a better knowledge of our own, but would give the artisan, the farmer, physician, immediate access to all the scientific literature of France, the best in the world. All these things for their practical uses, should be embraced in the common school curriculum. Nor should vocal music be overlooked, while the general facts of astronomy, so easily learned, though they have little practical bearing, should be taught, because they so tend to enlarge man's conception of the universe and the Creator.

Finally, much care should be given to what is graceful in bearing and chivalric in spirit, but all special religious instruction must now be avoided from sectarian necessity, though let us hope this need not always be.

How to Sustain a Local Paper. We see the following sensible advice given the rounds of the press, and reproduce it that our readers may know how country editors elsewhere talk to their patrons:

1. Lay aside your fears that the editor will get rich faster than his neighbors. We have never heard of a man making much more than a decent living by the publication of a country newspaper if he had ever so good a business.

2. If the paper agrees with your way of thinking, subscribe and pay for it, and persuade your neighbors of the same mind to go and do likewise. Do not tell the editor to send you a paper without paying, and when you get it owing two or three dollars tell your friend that the paper will burst up one of these days. The way under such a state of the case, to keep a paper from "bursting up," is for each subscriber to "burster" the editor's books free from charges against himself. This thing of applying the credit system to the newspaper business may be likened to a farmer selling out his crop a bushel to a man. The sum each would owe would seem of little account, but the aggregate might make or break the farmer.

3. If you have a father, mother, brother, sister, or a friend, at a distance, and are able to do so, subscribe, and pay for and send them a copy.

4. Do not expect too much of the editor when he is compelled to be his own compositor, proof reader, etc.

5. Do not expect the editor to make honorable mention of your business every few weeks for nothing.

6. If you wish to sustain your local paper properly, to live in peace and die happy, remember what we have told you in this article.

At a wedding at Holderness, in York-shire, Eng., recently, a curious ceremony was performed. As soon as the bride and bridegroom had left the house, and had the usual number of old shoes thrown after them, the young folks rushed forward, each bearing a tea kettle of boiling water, which they poured down the front door steps, that other marriages might soon follow, or, as one said, "flow on."

A man who was a great stickler for etiquette, having married a widow before her period of mourning had expired, soon after made his appearance with a weed on his hat. On being spoken to on such singular conduct, he remarked that he considered it no more than the handsome thing toward his lamented predecessor.

Weston having walked to Chicago, is going to talk all the way back; in other words lecture on the route home. The people like to see walking, and hear talking lions. Weston will demonstrate the manner of putting one's foot into a pair of \$20,000, so that everybody can see how it is done; and do it—if they can.

A little four year old girl attended church in Bridgeport, Conn., recently, and upon returning home her mother asked her if she remembered the text. "O yes," said she; "it was this: 'The Ladies Sewing Society will meet at Mrs. So-and-so's house on Monday next.'"

The Sanrise says that a youth of Presque Isle village, who had several sisters on the verge of matrimony, says he wishes "they would hurry up and get hitched, for then he should not have to zize so much wood."

SPECIAL NOTICE.

We are receiving gradual accessions to our Subscription List, but desire to increase the number...

We design visiting the different towns and villages in the County as soon as possible to effect arrangements by which our circulation shall be increased...

Our subscription price is low, and we make this offer to our subscribers that those who make the advanced payment...

We offer a PREMIUM on new subscribers, as follows: An additional copy for every five subscribers obtained.

For TEN subscribers, any magazine of the value of THREE dollars, at club rates, for one year, or the money.

For TWENTY subscribers, the value of SIX dollars in magazines, or papers, at lowest club rates, or the money.

We will also club with the popular magazines, at their lowest rates, payment invariably in advance.

[For the Oxford Democrat.] THE DYING YEAR.

The old year is dying, 'tis fading away. Its light has grown feeble and dim; 'Tis near the wind through the branches of yew leaf...

The old year is dying, its death knell is heard, Re-echoed from every hillside; Its name will be carved on the visage of Time...

The seasons, so promised, their courses have run, And soon with its spirit shall close; The glories of autumn have faded and gone, And winter appears on the throne.

The thought seems to tell us old age must approach, That childhood and youth cannot last; Not many vanish away in their beauty and pride, And only exist in the past.

May we greet the new year with a nobler desire, With a purpose more honest and true; Our vain selfish motives with meanness resign, And start on life's journey anew.

Let us bury all sin with the perished and past, That darkens the visions of heaven; Let this be inscribed on its tombstone at last: DIED, 1867.

PARIS, DEC. 27. MAXIM.

A New Year.

Before another issue of our paper, the old year will have passed away, and the new year be heralded by many happy greetings.

These marked periods of time, are favorable for reflection—for reviewing the past, and forming new resolutions for the future.

What is the record of 1867? Each individual has made one for himself or herself. The leaves of the year have been turned—fifty-two in all, and the book has been sealed.

It is a good season to balance the books, financially and morally. The man of business is inclined to make a halt here, take account of stock, and strike the balance in the profit and loss account.

How is it with us, politically, as a nation? Have we made any advance, since a year ago? A review of the year does not disclose much.

There is a hopeful condition of things, so far as the financial question is concerned—it being evident that there is an earnest disposition to adopt some policy calculated to bring relief.

We are glad to notice a disposition to retrenchment in public affairs. Extravagance, in every form, has made great strides, for a few years past, in public as well as private habits.

The general stagnation in business throughout the country will tend to cure the evil, in a great measure, and it may be felt in governmental as well as private affairs.

The year 1867 has been a profitable agricultural year—the products of our lands having greatly multiplied over past years. It has been far from prosperous, as a business year; its progress having been marked by many commercial wrecks.

We think that considerable progress has been made during the year, in the spread of moral and religious ideas among the people, and that the various philanthropic and benevolent movements of the day have been better promoted than heretofore.

A fitting question for each one to ask himself, at this time, is, does the close of the year find me a wiser, better man than its commencement—have I made any progress in those qualities which elevate, refine, and christianize humanity?

The year that will soon be ushered in,

bids fair to make an exciting history, as far as our country is concerned. Most important political results are within its unknown cycles. The principles of our government are to be tested as they only were in the struggle of arms.

Live Questions.—The following views, from the Boston Daily Advertiser, upon the most important issues before the country, at present, so well express our own, that we give them entire.

The currency question is one which has the most immediate bearing upon the commerce and industry of the country, and hence one which demands the instant attention of Congress.

Between the Scylla of immediate resumption, and the Charybdis of indefinite expansion, it will require the greatest skill on the part of our financial pilots to steer the ship clear of peril and disaster.

Congress must also act, with as little delay as possible, upon the all important matter of Federal taxation. Both our tariff and internal revenue system need to be essentially modified in the interest of home production.

To this end our internal taxes must be cut down if not wholly abolished, in their application to the various branches of domestic manufacture. These are more seriously depressed, and less able to bear special taxation, than any other great producing interest.

Congress must also devise some means for tending the national debt at a lower rate of interest. If this debt is not to be speedily extinguished, but the principal left for posterity to pay, the burden of carrying it should be materially reduced, as well as equalized.

Furthermore, Congress must bring relief to the country by cutting down the expenses of the government to the ordinary basis of a peace establishment. Its present lavish yearly expenditure, of millions upon millions, for objects, in many cases, that are worse than superfluous, is an outrage against a tax ridden and suffering people which they will not long tolerate.

The Tribune Yields.—The all-embracing Grant movement has, at last prevailed even over the obstinate prejudices of the New York Tribune. It yields somewhat ungraciously, however, and merely says that "the President, in which he so earnestly protests against the suspension of Secretary Stanton, and his hazy indorsement of Sheridan, more than justify the assertions of friends who have claimed that he is in full accord with Congress and its policy of reconstruction."

Railroad Accidents.—Have become fearfully frequent of late.—There was one in Vermont, where the engineer pined—absence of mind as an excuse for negligence—absence of body would have been better.

The New York express train from Cleveland, on the Lake Shore road, being behind time at Angola, near Buffalo, either from defect in the rail or misplacement, caused by the first, met with a most serious accident. The two rear cars were thrown from the track and rolled down an embankment fifty feet high.

The accidents which occur in distant States, hardly arrest our attention, but when our citizens suffer, we think more about the matter, and are led to inquire why there is not as much safety to life and limb on our railroads, as in England.

An enthusiastic Grant Meeting was held in Boston last week. Alpheus Hardy, in presenting the brief resolutions, said that Grant's platform could be found in his private letter to the President—a point which was highly appreciated by the audience.

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IMPORTANT BOUNTY DECISION.—A law firm in Boston carried a case to the Court of Claims, which the Treasury Department had disallowed, and have just obtained a favorable judgment. The decision is to the effect that all soldiers who enlisted under the President's proclamation before July 22, 1861, are entitled to bounty, whether discharged for disease or other honorable cause.

Christmas Festival.—A merry time was enjoyed at the Universalist Church, Christmas Evening. The house was tastefully decorated with evergreens and mottoes, and the Christmas trees, brilliantly lighted with tapers, festooned with presents of variegated hosiery, and literally dangling with choice toys for the little ones, and nice and costly presents for the older ones, made a splendid spectacle.

There was choice singing by the little ones, an address of welcome by A. Black, Esq., prayer by Rev. Mr. Gunnison, followed by an address, after which the venerable Santa Claus, with stately march, passed up the broad aisle and made his bow to the children, greatly to their amusement and wonder.

We have been repeatedly asked how, as far as profit to the holder is concerned, the present mode of converting the seven thirties differs from the mode which came to an end with the close of November.

Judkins & Taylor, carriage manufacturers, have twenty nice sleighs, which they offer cheap for cash; now is the time to call on them.

A. S. Parker of this town, is wintering five hundred sheep. Last summer he sold from a flock of four hundred, sixteen hundred dollars worth of wool and lambs. There are several persons, heads of families, in this town and vicinity, without a paper of any kind. Why don't they subscribe for the Oxford Democrat?

JOURNALISM. In no department, perhaps, has there been more progress in our country than in journalism. The latest cable and telegraphic despatches are eagerly published by the press, correspondents despatched to places, no matter how distant or expensive, where important events are anticipated, and the most inventive processes for raising the news invoked by penny-a-liners, oftentimes to the extent of over-doing.

We believe in picking up, legitimately, every thing which transpires, in the way of news, but when the Paul Pry's of the press go so far as to invade private life, as some of the New York papers do, it is simply a nuisance. One instance of this kind is reported as follows:—

The leading temperance men of Boston, gave a breakfast to Gen. Neal Dow, at the Quincy House, Boston, Thursday A. M., at 8 1/2 o'clock. About one hundred and fifty of the principal business and professional men of Boston and neighboring cities were present.

The marriage has since transpired, in a private way, though some 5000 persons assembled at the church, to witness it, were again doomed to disappointment, Gen. Grant gave away the bride.

A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST. The yield of this year, in our country, is one of the most bountiful ever gathered. A close and accurate observer of agricultural matters reports, with regard to the harvest, that Illinois is much the largest producer of Indian corn—more than one-sixth of the whole crop of the country being grown there; and also the largest producer of oats (more than twenty per cent of the whole), and of hay more than ten per cent. Pennsylvania takes the lead in the production of rye—nearly one-third of the whole country; and in buckwheat over forty-two per cent. New Jersey raises more rye than any other State, according to her population. New York takes the lead in raising of barley, about forty per cent of the whole. Virginia leads in the production of tobacco—about thirty per cent. New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey together produce two-thirds of all the rye.

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN.—A correspondent in Newville, Piscataquis county, informs us that Mrs. Rachel Heath, the oldest inhabitant of the town, died on the 23d ult., at the age of 102 years and 3 months. She leaves nine living children, the oldest of whom is upwards of 82 years old, and the youngest 57. The united ages of the mother and children is 727 years.—Mrs. Heath always enjoyed good health to within about four weeks of her death, and retained her mental faculties remarkably well. She was probably the oldest person in the county of Piscataquis.

A man in Vermont, put \$500 worth of bonds into a straw bed for safe keeping, and afterwards emptied the straw into his pig pen, and lost the bonds. He had the description and numbers of the bonds, and has applied to the Government for restitution, and may possibly get it. The wonder is, that a man who took the precaution to register his bonds, should be so careless about them.

Dixfield Village Items.—W. S. Chase, who purchased the saw-mill in this village, about a year ago, has recently substituted for the "old up and down saw," the improved circular broad saw, four feet in diameter, with all necessary machinery, and now is prepared to saw lumber, in the most workmanlike manner, at the rate of one thousand feet per hour. This is a saving to the man who comes with his thousand of lumber in the log, for he may return with his boards as soon as he can load them. Chase has also added a new shingle machine, and broad planer. There have been three hundred thousand of shingle laid in this village the past summer. Wm. W. Bolster, Esq., has enlarged and improved his dwelling house, the past summer, and now has one of the most elegant and convenient houses in the county. He has it richly and fully furnished, yet he is in need of that, necessary to every apartment.

Hon. E. G. Harlow, has recently fitted up a confectionary store, where John Stanley keeps everything sweet, and can suit the tastes of the most fastidious.

B. S. Marble, has nearly completed his four-story Hotel. A stove was set too near the wall in the third story, which set fire to the room and burnt the partition from the third to the fourth floor before it was discovered. The rooms being almost airtight and the doors kept shut till water was ready, the fire was quickly subdued.

Judkins & Taylor, carriage manufacturers, have twenty nice sleighs, which they offer cheap for cash; now is the time to call on them.

A. S. Parker of this town, is wintering five hundred sheep. Last summer he sold from a flock of four hundred, sixteen hundred dollars worth of wool and lambs. There are several persons, heads of families, in this town and vicinity, without a paper of any kind. Why don't they subscribe for the Oxford Democrat?

JOURNALISM. In no department, perhaps, has there been more progress in our country than in journalism. The latest cable and telegraphic despatches are eagerly published by the press, correspondents despatched to places, no matter how distant or expensive, where important events are anticipated, and the most inventive processes for raising the news invoked by penny-a-liners, oftentimes to the extent of over-doing.

We believe in picking up, legitimately, every thing which transpires, in the way of news, but when the Paul Pry's of the press go so far as to invade private life, as some of the New York papers do, it is simply a nuisance. One instance of this kind is reported as follows:—

The leading temperance men of Boston, gave a breakfast to Gen. Neal Dow, at the Quincy House, Boston, Thursday A. M., at 8 1/2 o'clock. About one hundred and fifty of the principal business and professional men of Boston and neighboring cities were present.

The marriage has since transpired, in a private way, though some 5000 persons assembled at the church, to witness it, were again doomed to disappointment, Gen. Grant gave away the bride.

A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST. The yield of this year, in our country, is one of the most bountiful ever gathered. A close and accurate observer of agricultural matters reports, with regard to the harvest, that Illinois is much the largest producer of Indian corn—more than one-sixth of the whole crop of the country being grown there; and also the largest producer of oats (more than twenty per cent of the whole), and of hay more than ten per cent. Pennsylvania takes the lead in the production of rye—nearly one-third of the whole country; and in buckwheat over forty-two per cent. New Jersey raises more rye than any other State, according to her population. New York takes the lead in raising of barley, about forty per cent of the whole. Virginia leads in the production of tobacco—about thirty per cent. New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey together produce two-thirds of all the rye.

DECLINE IN PRICES.—As showing how much prices of general merchandise have shrunk since last year, we avail ourselves of a table published in a commercial paper, making comparison of wholesale quotations in New York, on Nov. 12, 1867 and 1866. Gold has declined from 147 to 139, and lower since that date; cotton from 31 to 19; shewing 33 to 14 1/2; shirtings 47 1/2 to 22 1/2; Mess Pork from 32.25 to 29.85; lard 28 to 18 1/2; prime Rio coffee 30 to 24; prime muscovado molasses, 80 to 55; Scotch pig iron 53.00 to 39.00. Most articles have declined, but flour, wheat, corn, oats, and beef have risen.

The attention of those who may wish to buy or sell farms, is invited to the advertisement, in our columns, of Albert Colby & Company, dealers in real estate. They are practical farmers, and are said to be qualified to explore and survey farms, or appraise their value, in any part of the country. Albert Colby, is a native of Fryeburg, Oxford County, Maine, and received his education at the academy in that town, where the immortal statesman, Daniel Webster, was once preceptor. Here he acquired as good a knowledge of mathematics as is taught at the colleges in New Hampshire. He has been known in Boston for the last twenty years, for his book-publishing and banking operations. About four years ago, he retired from active business, since which he has been attending to his private affairs, and the management only of his own property. But seeing the need of another reliable house in Boston, that would attend to the buying and selling of farms as a specialty, he has formed his present co-partnership. Mr. Colby is a resolute, energetic man, and will be likely to do well whatever he undertakes. (Boston Traveler.)

Editorial and Selected Items.—The course of Lectures on Mountains, delivered here by G. L. Vose, Esq., last week, was highly interesting. Mr. Vose is a Scientific lecturer, who can and will base his theories on original structures. He is an easy, pleasing speaker, and calculated to succeed in the field of public lecturing, should he devote his attention to such a calling.

Hon Sidney Perham arrived home on Saturday last, and leaves for Washington, again with his family, on Saturday of this week.

We have received a letter from Gorham, correcting the published account of the terrible accident to the daughter of Rev. E. W. Jackson. The boy had nothing to do with the firing of the pistol, and gave as clear a statement as could be expected. The pistol was in a box, and as the girl was taking it out, by the muzzle, the hammer caught on the edge of the box and discharged it, the pistol dropping back into the box.

There will be a Social Assembly at Gibbs Hall, Bridgton, on New Years Evening, January 1st.

See notice of Dancing School next Tuesday Evening.

Retrenchment, No. 3, a day in Montreal, and other interesting correspondence, is crowded out. We find our columns entirely too limited for our necessities, both as to reading matter and advertisements.

Sleighting is very good in this vicinity.

At the late law term in Penobscot County, the following decision was rendered in one of the County cases.—Nathaniel Wilson vs. Bernard Gannon. "Defendant defaulted."

Last fall two trout from the Rangeley lakes, in our State, one weighing 9, the other 7 or 8 lbs. were conveyed to a pond in New Jersey, but they both died shortly after reaching their place of destination.

A Patent has just been issued to Chas. B. Pottinfill, of Hebron, assigned to Freeman C. Merrill, of South Paris, for improvement in Cultivators.

Therlow Weed objects to "the admission of millions of green negroes to the ballot box."

Can the Ethiopian change his skin?

The Amesbury Villager says that Mrs. F. Noyes, of that place, recently killed a Brahma rooster who had thirteen nickel cents in his crop, two two cent pieces, and other indigestible articles.

The Pondicherry Mill, at Bridgton, was built in 1865—three stories high, with two attics. It runs 5 sets of carls on shafts, clockings, cassimeres, &c., and employs 90 hands.

The Press tells of a generous lumber dealer, who having had a man arrested and fined \$5 and costs for stealing his lumber, and seeing the culprit's wife in court, was so touched by her distress at not being able to pay the fine, that he gladly furnished the money to pay the whole bill!

We have received the Constitution and By Laws, of the Union Soldiers' and Sailors' association of Portsmouth Va. Dr. S. Bartlett Kenney, late of Dixfield, is corresponding Secretary.

A Boston clergyman is reported to have accomplished \$500 worth of marrying one day last week. This is great weather for weddings.

Direct shipment of wheat from Iowa to Europe is the latest Western commercial sensation. St Louis is to become a wheat exporting city.

The suspensions or failures among mercantile men in New York during the last four weeks involved about \$20,000,000, the assets, as a whole, bearing but a small proportion to the liabilities.

Fifty sheep of Allen Wells, of Westminster Vt., were slaughtered by a railroad train running through the flock.

Dr. True of Bethel, will lecture on Geology in Warren. He has lectured in many other towns this fall, to general acceptance.

The Androscoggin Herald says the train on the Portland & Oxford Central Railroad met with quite a smash-up the other day a few miles above Mechanic Falls. The cars slipped from the track and down over the dump, completely smashing the small car used as a baggage car, and doing considerable other damage.

It is given out by the President's friends that he will veto the bill passed Monday, giving negroes the right to sit on jury in the District of Columbia.

No wonder Weston is a good walker. It turns out now that he used to be a collector for a newspaper office.

The Peoria Transcript says that Mrs. Lincoln, like Grant, means to "fight it out on that line"—her's being a clothes-line.

Mr. Dean of Cornwall Vt., recently sold a yearling merino buck, for \$1,000.

The Russian Possessions, just ceded to us, cover seventeen times the size of Maine.

"Hard times" must account for the falling off of 10 per cent in the stove trade of Boston for the current season.

We are glad to learn that the young men of Norway, and South Paris, have united in a Young Men's Christian Association. Their regular meeting is on Saturday Evening of every week, and the place of meeting is over Mr. Benson Hawkins' Store, Norway Village.

Gen. C. F. Matlock, of Portland, has been appointed Asst. Adj. Genl. Dept. of Maine, Grand Army of the Republic, by Gen. J. C. Caldwell, the Provisional Commander of the Department. A convention of the order will be called soon.

AMUSING INCIDENT.—Elder David Webster, of Georgetown, this State, now about 78 years of age, was reduced so low about 78 years ago with pulmonary troubles, great difficulty of breathing, &c., that his case was pronounced hopeless by the physicians, who thought he could not live five months, but a short time. The Elder owned a house and a lot worth about \$500, which he agreed to give to board and take care of him the few remaining weeks he was expected to live. A deed of the house was made, but it was not recorded until after the death of the aged minister. The family moved into the house, much pleased with the splendid bargain, to enter upon their duties and kind attention to the Elder. About this time the Elder got one of his neighbors to send to Portland, for a package of Dr. Morse's Inhaled Remedies, by the use of which his health was rapidly improved, and in two months he was apparently as well as ever. The family continued to board the minister with due kindness and attention for one year or more, when they began to think he was likely to live as long as any of them, and came to the conclusion that the bargain was not so good a one as they had anticipated, and left the premises to the amusement of all those knowing the circumstances. Dr. Morse received a line from one of the neighbors saying that the family might call on him for damages, for having restored the good minister to such a perfect state of health, which was the means of their losing the house. The Elder keeps the invaluable remedy by him which has preserved his life and health so many years, to use occasionally. No one can use Dr. Morse's Inhalations without deriving benefit from them. A large number of clergymen and thousands of others have been cured of pulmonary affections by the use of them. Many have been saved from consumption; many have been cured after this disease was upon them. Dr. Morse may be consulted and his remedies obtained at his residence No. 5 Pearl Street, third door from new High street, Portland, Me.

The resolutions in relation to "Bliss's Decimal System of weights, Measures and Currency," which were adopted last winter by our Legislature, were laid before Congress by Mr. Peckham, on Monday. This system, derived by Moses Bliss Esq., of Pittsford, in this State, is intended as a substitute for the French Metric System which has already been made legal by Congress.

DANCING SCHOOL.
Mr. D. B. WELLS, assisted by Mr. A. B. GEE, will open a Dancing School at Academy Hall, Paris Hill, on Tuesday Evening, Dec. 31st, 1867. Tickets for the Course, \$4.00 per couple. Ladies not accompanied by gentlemen, \$1.50.
Dec. 27, 1867.

OUR TABLE.
REMARKABLE CHARITIES AND MEMORABLE PLACES OF THE HOLY LAND.—This is a book of great merit and permanent value, surpassing any work of the kind ever offered to the American people. Its talented editor, Charles W. Elliott, is assisted by some of the ablest pen and most accomplished scholars in the country, by such writers and original thinkers as Theodore D. Woolsey, LL. D., Joseph C. Hastings, D. D., LL. D., Right Rev. Thos. M. Clark, D. D., Bishop of Rhode Island, the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, &c. &c. The book is in every respect worthy of its distinguished authors. Its graphic descriptions of its various places are like life and glowing; its style beautiful and attractive. He who reads, never tires. Its value is enhanced by twelve elegant steel engravings and a comprehensive Map of the Holy Land. The book is a treasure and ornament to any family, and we earnestly commend it to all without distinction, especially to those who love the Bible, and value a pure, elevated literature. Rev. Mr. Barrows, of Somers, will canvass this and other towns in the County, with the book, and give an opportunity for all to obtain the work.

HOOD STORIES.—Part 2 has just been issued by Ticknor & Fields, with the following attractive contents: The Mystery of the following, by Robert Marcell, illustrated by S. Fyffe, Jr.; The Artist who illustrated the Diamond of Louisa; The Unlabeled; The Bellows-Mender of Louisa; illustrated by George G. White; The Smallpox Family; illustrated by W. H. Davenport; The Sontagman's Tale; by Harriet Lee; The Blacksmith of Helder; illustrated by W. L. Sheppard; A Pleasant Confession.

These stories are not original, but are generally unfamiliar to the present generation of readers. They are fresh, readable, suitably good stories; printed in clear, legible type, suitable for reading in cars or on steamboats. The price is only fifty cents. All bookstores and news dealers keep them, or they can be procured postpaid directly from the Publishers, Ticknor & Fields, Boston.

THE ATLANTIC ALMANAC. Edited by Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Donald G. Mitchell. This almanac is now an unique in plan and its character as to form a Holiday number of the Atlantic Monthly. The literature is by the first Atlantic Monthly writers. The illustrations are by leading artists. It contains 150 illustrations in color. For sale, Ticknor & Fields, publishers, Boston.

WHY SUFFER FROM SORES?
WHY THE USE OF THE ARNICA OINTMENT?
It can easily be cured. It has relieved thousands from Pain, Swelling, Stiffness, Sprains, Cuts, Bruises, and every kind of sore. Try it for 50 cents but 20 cents. Be sure and ask for Hales Arnica Ointment!

IMPORTANT TO FEMALES.
The Female System is the most delicate and the most important of all. It is the source of life and health. It is the foundation of all our strength and vigor. It is the source of all our happiness and contentment. It is the source of all our wisdom and knowledge. It is the source of all our glory and honor. It is the source of all our power and influence. It is the source of all our greatness and majesty. It is the source of all our glory and honor. It is the source of all our power and influence. It is the source of all our greatness and majesty.

SMOLLETT'S EXTRACT BUCHU.
CURES ALL
KIDNEY DISEASES.
And Rheumatic Difficulties.
Price 91. Sold Everywhere.
J. A. BURLEIGH, Wholesale Druggist, General Agent.

MARRIED.
In Summer, Dec. 20th, by Rev. Allen Darrow, Mr. Allen C. Arnold, of Cairo, and Miss Louisa, of New York.
In Fall, Dec. 10th, by Rev. D. B. Wells, John W. Collins, Esq., of Boston, and Miss Margaret Sumner, of N. Y.
In Charleston, 18th Dec. by Rev. E. S. Jordan, W. R. Emery, and Miss Alice F. Emery, both of C. S. C.
In Portland, Dec. 10th, by Rev. J. W. Carruthers, Dr. John G. Palmer, of Canton, and Miss Elizabeth B. Jordan, of North Yarmouth, also 21st, by Rev. Dr. Chandler, Samuel Tappan, Jr. and Miss Anne B. Sumner, of Portland.

DIED.
In South Portland, Dec. 27th, of scarlet fever, 11th Dec. 1867, daughter of Joseph and Rosette J. Cook, aged 7 years and 6 months. She was buried at 11 o'clock in the morning. No. 100.
In Portland, Dec. 26th, Mrs. Nathaniel Benjamin, aged 72 years 10 months.

All white goods washed to a whiteness that is really white, not dingy white, or yellowish white, or gray white, by the use of the Steam Refined Soap.

Notwithstanding the great variety of Pills heretofore in the market, a want has been very generally felt for a safe and perfectly reliable purgative medicine, such a remedy is now supplied in Parsons' Purgative Pills.

We are ready and willing to warrant Johnson's Anodyne Liniment to be the best article that can be used for coughs, colds, dysentery, diarrhoea, cramp and pain in the stomach or bowels. It is equally safe and effective for children or adults.

ROSSER'S COLLEGE, PORTNEY, N. Y. The Vermont Commercial College and Normal Academy opened for the Winter Term, 1867-68, on the 1st of September. The course of study is for the degree of Bachelor of Science, Business Course, B. S. B., Classical, by Rev. J. Goodell, D. D., Common English, Music, and Telegraphing taught. Circular free.

There are two special qualities which determine the value of the hair. One is the quantity of hair, and the other is the quality of the hair. The hair of a man is generally thicker and longer than that of a woman. The hair of a woman is generally finer and shorter than that of a man. The hair of a man is generally darker in color than that of a woman. The hair of a woman is generally lighter in color than that of a man.

Special Notices.
The Rev. EDWARD A. WILSON will send (free of charge) to any who desire it, the prescription with the directions for making and using the simple remedy by which he was cured of a long and painful case of the lung disease, Consumption. His only object is to benefit the afflicted and to help suffering humanity. He will try this prescription, as it will cost them nothing, and may prove a blessing. Please address: Rev. EDWARD A. WILSON, No. 155 South Second Street, Williamsburgh New York.

HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU gives health and vigor to the frame and blood to the pallid complexion. It is a powerful tonic, and is especially adapted to the treatment of all diseases of the blood, and of the system generally. It is a powerful tonic, and is especially adapted to the treatment of all diseases of the blood, and of the system generally.

TURNER'S TIC DOLOROUS OR UNIVERSAL NEURALGIA PILL.
It is a self-curing and speedy cure for Neuralgia and all Nervous Diseases. The average course is completed and permanently cured in a very short time. It is a self-curing and speedy cure for Neuralgia and all Nervous Diseases. The average course is completed and permanently cured in a very short time.

HELMHOLD'S FLUID EXTRACT BUCHU is a powerful tonic, and is especially adapted to the treatment of all diseases of the blood, and of the system generally. It is a powerful tonic, and is especially adapted to the treatment of all diseases of the blood, and of the system generally.

Catarrh Can be Cured!
Headache relieved, and in fact every disease of the nose and head permanently cured by the use of the new and improved Catarrh Cure.

Rader's German Snuff!
Try it for Rheumatism. For sale by all Druggists, or send list to G. P. SEYMOUR & CO., Boston, and receive a box by return mail.

DR. S. S. FITCH'S "FAMILY PHYSICIAN."
Seventy-Six Pages. Price 25 Cents.
Sent to any address. No money required until the book is received, read, and fully approved. It is a perfect guide to the sick and the afflicted.

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New Advertisements.

30 Cords Hard-wood Wanted
AT THIS OFFICE.
Seasoned and Green—Maple, Yellow Birch and Birch.
Dec. 27.

NOTICE.
The subscriber would respectfully inform his friends and the public generally, that he has leased the

New Store on Pleasant Street, in OXFORD VILLAGE.
Where he intends to keep a full assortment of the following articles, to which he invites your attention:

Boots, Shoes, Rubbers.
HATS, CAPS, HOSIERY.
GLASS WARE, TEAS, TOBACCO, SPIRITS.
SALERATUS, &c. &c.
Call and examine before purchasing elsewhere.
Custom Work Done to Order.
DAVID RIGGS.
Oxford, Dec. 27, 1867. 3a

Farms! Farms! Farms!
We will pay net rent for Farms in any part of the country. Send full descriptions, and eight cents in stamps or currency for our

New Book on Farms & Farming.
It tells you how to be independent and happy, and is worth its weight in gold.

ALBERT COLBY & CO.
REAL ESTATE AGENTS.
19 Lindell St., Boston, Mass.
(Directly opposite the South Entrance to the Post Office.)

WANTED!
4 GOOD COAT MAKERS.
21 GOOD PANT MAKERS
AT
BEAL & GORDON'S
NORWAY VILLAGE, ME.
Dec. 27.

NOTICE.
The undersigned will sell their Shovel Handle Factory during the present winter, and will take the best offer of a suitable quality, at the highest market price.

After this winter we contemplate a change in our business, and parties will govern themselves accordingly.
ANDREWS, WALDRON & CO.
Buckfield, Dec. 24, 1867.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.
We, having been appointed by the Judge of Probate for the County of Oxford to receive and examine the claims against the estate of Mrs. Rebecca, late of Hartford in said County, deceased, whose estate is represented in said County, do hereby give notice to all persons interested in said estate, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Paris in said County, on the 3d Tuesday of January next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

A true copy—attest: J. S. HOBBS, Register.

OXFORD, ME.—At a Court of Probate held at Paris, within and for the County of Oxford, on the 3d Tuesday of December, A. D. 1867, the Hon. J. AUSTIN, Judge of said County, do hereby give notice to all persons interested in the estate of Mrs. Rebecca, late of Hartford, in said County, deceased, having presented his first and final account of administration of the estate of said deceased for allowance.

Ordered, that the said Administrator give notice to all persons interested in said estate, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Oxford Democrat, printed at Paris, in said County, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Paris, on the 3d Tuesday of January next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

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STATE OF MAINE.

LOUISA T. WHITE, vs. IRA WHITE.
The Sheriff of any County in our said State or either of his Deputies, greeting:
We command you to attach the goods or estate of Ira White of Dixfield, in the County of Oxford, commencing to the value of one thousand dollars, and to return the same to me, or to the holder of my writ, on the 22nd day of December, A. D. 1867, then and there in our said County of Oxford, in the third Tuesday of September, A. D. 1867, then and there in our said County, in a plea of libel for Divorce, who shall follow, to wit:

SUSAN G. MORSE, vs. DAVID F. MORSE.
The Sheriff of any County in our said State or either of his Deputies, greeting:
We command you to attach the goods or estate of David F. Morse, of Paris, in said County of Oxford, commencing to the value of one thousand dollars, and to return the same to me, or to the holder of my writ, on the 22nd day of December, A. D. 1867, then and there in our said County of Oxford, in the third Tuesday of September, A. D. 1867, then and there in our said County, in a plea of libel for Divorce, who shall follow, to wit:

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STATE OF MAINE.

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