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ADVERTISING RATES. One square (12 lines or less) one insertion, \$2.00

JOB PRINTING. THE PROPRIETOR OF THE ARGUS is happy to inform the public that he has just received a large stock of JOB TYPE and other new printing material, and will be in the speedy receipt of additions suited to all the requirements of the locality.

A DROLL PRESIDENT.—In a late number of the Albany Evening Journal, Thurlow Weed tells us what a droll President we have got, in the following concise words: "He entered the White House, with a promise of freedom to Kansas on his lips, and a scheme for enslaving it in his pocket."

A Word to the Wise. Love hailed a little maid, Romping through the meadow; Headlong in the sun she played, Scornful of the shadow.

THE FATAL OATH.—It was only six years ago that two distinguished citizens of Washington county, Kentucky, whom we will call Messrs. Borland and Harland, both running for a high political place, met at a barbecue to argue their claims before the people.

At this barbecue, both of these men—gray-haired they were, too—appeared on the stump without arms upon their persons, so persuaded by their friends, who knew of their hatred each to the other, and had no wish to have their different party candidates cut off—at least until they knew how the election would turn.

But where fresh fuel is heaped upon old embers a blaze is sure to rise. And so in this case. The speech of Mr. Borland bore hard upon the party of Mr. Harland, yet harder still upon Harland himself.

It passed, and a meeting with rifles at twenty paces was the result. At the first fire Borland fell dead with a ball through his head. Harland also fell, mortally wounded, but lingered through the night, with his faculties so retained that he prepared his will and other documents, and conversed with the only living one of his family who was near him—a son, then twenty years of age—about his affairs.

Before dying, he prepared a package, and had it sealed carefully, and then calling for his son, said: "William, my will is open and can be read as soon as I pass away. But this package contains a private matter, and no one but you can attend to it, for you are the last male of my race."

"I will attend to any request which you make, my dear father," replied the unhappy son. "You must swear to me, my boy, to fulfill this request! The seal must not be broken until I have laid in my grave one week, when you will have regained composure and strength for your work! Swear to me to fulfill my wish!"

—yet their tearful eyes exchanged glances from which each read more than their lips could utter. A week passed by, and alone in his chamber William Harland opened the sealed package which his father had given him, and the instructions of which he had sworn to obey.

"William, my boy, I am the third of my family who have fallen by the accursed hand of the Borlands. Of them, there is but one left, Elias; of my family, only you. Now, you are his superior in skill, in strength, and courage. You have sworn to fulfill my direction! Keep your oath, or feel that a father's curse hangs over you!"

"My God! why did I take that oath? Elias is not my foe, and Flora is my love. Were I to kill him, she is lost to me forever—lost to the world—for the blow which would kill him would break her heart!"

All that night, in wretchedness, young Harland walked up and down his chamber in agony of mind, studying what to do. He would fain have fled the place; but his oath was, in his eyes, most sacred, and he dare not break it.

He sought a comforter—a comforter, I said! Oh, if the fiend is a counselor—if all the ills that e'er were clustered into one, could find a name, that name would be the comforter! He sought next!

Maddened with its fumes, he left his home at an early hour, armed to the teeth, and determined to fulfill his pledge; and if he did not fall himself in the conflict, to end the tragedy by self-destruction.

Too soon, alas, at the village tavern, he met young Borland, and, in the frenzy of imbrication, insulted him so grossly that an instant combat was the result. And it was a fearful one. Revolvers and knives were the weapons, and both were used with terrible effect.

She is now a maniac. They sleep as their fathers sleep—in bloody graves.—'Tis a sad tale, but a true one, this of a Kentucky feud.

NUMERICAL RELATIONS IN NATURE.—Every one has observed that the leaves of some plants stand in pairs opposite each other, on opposite sides of the stem. In other plants the leaves are scattered over the stem; but in these cases also we find them arranged in the most regular manner.

Commencing with any given leaf, for instance, we shall find the next leaf above this one third of the way around the stem; the next another third, and the next another third, so as to stand exactly over the first. The series is, therefore, arranged in a spiral, which may be designated by the fraction 1-3.

But the most wonderful coincidence is yet to be noticed. Neptune, the remotest planet, revolves about the sun in 60,000 days; Uranus the next, in 30,000 days; which is one half the preceding number; Saturn the next, in 10,000 days, which is one-third the period of Uranus; Jupiter revolves in 4,000 days, which is two-fifths of the period of Saturn.

It is a fact well known to physiologists that the power of absorption of nutritious matters depends upon the fact that the blood in the capillary vessels which surround the intestines is thicker than the fluid contained in the intestines. Water is absorbed in great quantity and rapidly into the blood from the intestinal canal.

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COM. CHARLES STEWART.—This veteran of our navy has completed the 80th year of his age, and is said to be as active, blithe, and cheerful as a man of thirty-five. Besides he is just as able to fulfill the physical duties of his position of captain in the navy of his country as he was the first day he received a commission of that rank.

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The Savannah News proclaims Judge Green, a professor in the law school at Lebanon, Tennessee, "a dangerous as well as an untrite citizen in the South."

The Charleston Courier announces that a process has been discovered by which cotton can be compressed into a solid form, harder than wood, impervious to the elements, fire-proof and water-proof, and capable of use for building purposes, at about one-third of the cost of brick.

New York, Aug. 16.—Immediately on the announcement of the Queen's message received over the Atlantic cable, the bells of old Trinity church struck up a merry peal. The public buildings were decorated with flags, and salutes were fired according to previous arrangements.

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MENTAL OVER-EXERCISE.—Severe or long-sustained thought is injurious, both by the direct over-excitement of the brain, and by leaving less nervous energy available for carrying on the ordinary vital processes.

BRUSSELS LACE.—The spinning of the fine thread used for lace making in the Netherlands, is an operation demanding so high a degree of exquisite skill, minute manipulation, and vigilant attention, that it appears impossible that it can ever be taken from human hands by machinery.

LIVE WITHOUT LOVE.—We sometimes meet with men who seem to think that any indulgence in affectionate feeling is weakness. They will return from a journey and greet their families with a distant dignity, and move among their children with the cold and lofty splendor of an iceberg.

HEAT FROM THE STARS.—It is a startling fact, that if the earth were dependent alone upon the sun for heat, it would not get enough to make the existence of animal and vegetable life possible upon its surface.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY.—At the last meeting of the Linnean Society, Dr. Hooker read an extract from a letter, mentioning the discovery, near the banks of the river Amazon, of large equisetum, the plant which abounds fossilized in coal formations.

INSECTS.—The number of distinct species of insects already known and described cannot be estimated at less than two hundred thousand—there being nearly twenty thousand beetles alone, now known, and every day is adding to the catalogue.

TO SAVE HARMLESS.—It is the hairy side of leathery that cracks; and if harness is made (if double) so that the hairy side is next to the horse it will not crack.

THE MAILS PER AMERICA, received July 23d, bring accounts of the commencement some months ago of the "Alpine Tunnel" connecting Modena and Bardonecchia on opposite sides of the Alps, which there tower to a height of 4,800 English feet, nearly a mile high.

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