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The Oregon Argus.

—A Weekly Newspaper, devoted to the Principles of Jeffersonian Democracy, and advocating the side of Truth in every issue.—

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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 this locality. HANDBILLS, POSTERS, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

Wanted—A Preacher. We have been without a pastor Some eight or ten months or more; And though candidates are plenty— We've had at least a score; All of them 'up top' preachers, Or so their letters ran— We're just as far as ever From setting on a man.

The first who came among us By no means was the worst, But then we didn't think of him— Because he was the first; It being quite the custom To sacrifice a few, Before the church in earnest Determines what to do.

There was a smart young fellow With a serious, earnest way, Who, but for one great blunder, Had nearly won the day; Who left so good an impression, On Monday one or two Went round among the people To see if he would do.

The pious, godly portion, Had not a fault to find, He clear and marching preaching They thought the very kind; And all went smooth and pleasant Until they heard the views Of some influential sinners Who read the highest law.

On these his pungent dealing Made but a sorry hit; The coat of gospel-teaching Was quite too tight a fit. Of course his fate was sealed— Attend, ye parsons all! And preach to please the sinners If you would get a call.

Next came a spruce young dandy, With his hair too long; Another's coat was shabby, And his voice not over strong; And one New Haven student Was worse than all of those— We couldn't hear the sermon For thinking of his nose!

Then wearing of candidates We looked the country through, 'Mid doctors and professors, To find one that would do; And after much discussion, On who should bear the ark, With tolerable agreement, We fixed on Dr. Parke.

Here then we thought it settled, But were amazed to find Our flattering invitation 'Respectfully declined,' We turned to Dr. Hopkins, To help us in the pinch, Who strangely thought the college Had claims above 'our church.'

Next we dispatched committees, By two and three, to urge The labor for St. Paul's, Of the Rev. Shallow Spurge. He came—a marked sensation, So wonderful his style, Followed the creaking of his boots, As he passed up the aisle.

His tones were so affecting, His gestures so divine, A lady fainted in the hymn, Before the second line, And on that day he gave us, In accents clear and loud, The greatest prayer ever addressed To an enlightened crowd.

He preached a double sermon, And gave us angels' food, On such a lovely topic— 'The joys of solitude.' All full of sweet descriptions Of flowers and bowery groves, Of warbling birds, and moonlit groves, And golden sunset beams.

Of faith and true repentance, He nothing had to say; He rounded all the corners, And smoothed the rugged way; Managed with great adroitness To entertain and please, And leave the sinner's conscience Completely at its ease.

Six hundred is the salary We gave in former days;— We thought it very liberal, And found it hard to raise; But when we took the paper, We had no need to urge, To raise a cool two thousand, For the Rev. Shallow Spurge.

In vain were all the efforts— We had no chance at all— We found ten city churches Had given him a call; And he, in prayerful awe, Was kneeling all in tow; But when they bid the highest, 'Twas whispered he would go.

And now good, Christian brethren, We ask your earnest prayers, That God would send a shepherd, To guide our church affairs, With his clear understanding— A man, to meet our views, Must preach to please the sinners, And fill the vacant pews.

—Springfield Republican.

A Sharp Housekeeper.

I have seen the reason why your smart housekeepers must necessarily be Xant-p-p-s. I once had the misfortune to be domesticated during the summer months with one of this genre.

I should like to have seen the adventurous spider that would have dared to ply his cunning trade in Mrs. Parrott's premises. Nobody was allowed to sleep a wink beneath the roof after daylight— Even the old nigger cowered an hour earlier than any of his neighbors.

There was a long breath of 'the shroud' written an every household in the establishment. She gave her husband his breakfast, buttoned him up in his overcoat, and put him out of the door with his face in the direction of the store, in some time than I have taken to tell it. Then she snatched up six little Parrotts, scrubbed their faces up and down without regard to feelings or pug noses, till they shone like a row of milk cans.

Close the tracks!— She never drew a long breath till the wash tubs were turned bottom upwards again, and every article of wearing apparel sprinkled, folded, ironed, and placed on the backs of their respective owners. It always gave me a stitch in the side to look at her.

As to cleaning days, I never had courage to witness one. I had to lay under an apple tree in the orchard until she was through. A whole platoon of soldiers wouldn't have frightened me so much as that vinegar.

You should have seen her in her glory on baking days, her sleeves rolled up in her apron and a long black apron swathed round her bolster-like figure; the great oven blazing, glowing and sparkling in a manner very suggestive of a laced manner like myself. The interminable row of green pie plates, and pans of buns, and ready gagerbread, and pots of pork and beans, in an edifying state of preparation; and the immense embryo loaves of brown and wheaten bread. To my innocent inquiry whether she thought the latter would rise, she put her skinny arms akimbo, marched up with hissing distance of my face, cocked her head on one side, and asked if 'I thought she looked like a woman to be trifled with by a loaf of bread?'— The way I settled down into my slippers, without

a reply, probably convinced her that I was no longer skeptical on that point. Saturday evening she employed in washing up everything that was on hand in the house, the old entry clock included. From that time till Monday morning, she devoted herself to her husband and Sabbath exercises. All I have to say is, that it is to be hoped she carried some of the fervor of her secular employments into those halcyon hours.

MARRIED PERSONS DON'T DO SUCH THINGS.—A trial, involving matters of a delicate character, in which it was deemed necessary to establish the nature of an intimacy between the defendant, a married man, and a young woman, took place, a day or two ago, before Justice Hainman. Among other evidence offered, a witness—a daughter of the State, of course—stated that she had observed the pair sitting so very closely together that she could not see daylight between them (graphic description, that!)—that he had his arm about her waist, and though her head was turned away, he frequently stooped down and kissed her lips, and she returned his caresses ardently.

You say you did not see the lady's *Lea Man*—I quoted one of the counsel. "How, then, do you know that the woman the defendant embraced was not his wife?" "His wife—pshaw! Do you think I haven't sense?"

Whether nature has or has not provided you with the average amount of brains, ma'am, is not the question," remarked the attorney, pompously. "Please answer the one I ask."

"Are you in earnest, sir?" "Of course I am, ma'am." "Well then, sir, you don't know much. I knew they weren't husband and wife when I saw them kissing each other, for husbands and wives don't do such things."—*Cincinnati Inquirer.*

The Court Ladies of Washington.

The New York correspondent of the Springfield Republican, evidently a woman, writes: "When I think of Mr. Douglas's struggles, labors, anxieties, for the last few months, in order to secure his re-election, I conclude that he must have at least a weary life of it. So much was staked—his fortune, his fame, his hope of the Presidency. The time had come when he must rise or set, brighten or go out in the political world. He sold his house in Washington, mortgaged his large property in Illinois, and during all the burning summer 'electioneered' abroad, while his wife electioneered quite as successfully at home. On the Sabbath she worshipped devoutly in the Catholic church at Chicago, while during the week she gracefully propitiated the Protestants. At the Lake View House she exerted a marked personal influence over the gentlemen congregated there, who as usual were quite willing to be led by a young, beautiful, and brilliant woman— Educated at Washington, long a 'copyist' for the 'House,' she is thoroughly initiated into the chicanery of political life, and knows how to touch with a sure and delicate hand its most intricate wires. That Mrs. Douglas will do her part toward making herself 'lady of the White House,' no one who knows her doubts. Give her all his wifely honor. She has rescued Mr. Douglas from at least some of his low associations. He becomes drunk less often, and in social life is now admitted into society from which he was once excluded— That he is to-day the great man of the political world, he probably owes to himself. But if only through the lowest sympathy, the meanest self-escape, through the pools of craft and falsehood, one is to wade to 'greatness,' let us all pray to be little.

Appropos of female politicians, Mrs. Douglas is not alone. Mrs. Conrad, a young, rich, and lovely widow, 'who (another has said) has too good sense to marry,' is called the greatest courtier in Washington, and exerts no small influence over state affairs. Her full length photograph, with those of all the other beauties of grandpa Buchanan's court is to be seen at Brady's in Broadway. First stands Mrs. Douglas; her physique is splendid—not soft and pliant, but proud and queenly after the Roman model. Dark hair, eyes, classic features, brilliant complexion, with a commanding rather than winning expression. Her dress of black silk is not becoming, and is made in a fashion which rolls somewhat the grace of her perfect form. Next stands Mrs. Conrad, all grace, clad in black velvet with pearls. A wily, a subtle, a beautiful Greek, with far-searching eyes, peach-tinted cheek, and wavy, golden-brown hair. Beside her, stands Madame Le Vert of Mobile, long an habitue of Washington, who for her social genius is pre-eminent above all American women. Madame Le Vert, without being beautiful, either in form or feature, has reigned as a 'belle' since she was ten years old. She has traveled widely, has visited nearly all foreign courts, can carry on conversation in six different languages at one time, and is equally charming in all. Yet not in her talents, nor in her accomplishments, lies her fascination, but in the genial sweetness, naturalness, and perfect simplicity of her manners, which seem to give her possession of all hearts. Her clear, blue eye overflows with the exuberance of kindness, while around the serene mouth all gentle affections seem to have found dwelling. She wears a dress of brown silk with gorgeous bordered flounces, and a crimson rose in her hair.— The sweetest compliment I ever heard of Madame Le Vert, was uttered to me by one of her personal friends: 'She is like a flower out in nature.' Next her is Harriet Lane, of the "White House." Mr. Buchanan's niece. A blonde, cold and statuesque; pure and passionless as marble— one's very admiration gives them a chill.— She stands in a verandah, the capitol in sight. A spray of flowers in her hair falls low upon her bare and beautiful neck.— She looks a model of repose; the very Miss Lane whom the papers assure us 'receives with great dignity.' And then, Lady Gore Ouseley, the Yankee-English woman who had seen fit recently to dip her fingers into Nicaragua affairs, who rules not only her dear 'Sir William,' but our lady-like old President. Well, she is coarse and homely enough; and, according to the notion of your 'Own Correspondent,' is dressed in horrid taste. She wears a string of jets around her head of the size of walnuts; another around her neck of equal roundness. She does not seem to care for a simple

skirt, and has utterly discarded the 'line of beauty' in its 'fall,' for it is 'skipped,' shorter behind than before, and the flounces curve up on the sides. But she has a falcon eye, and her whole bearing indicates, in even more than an ordinary degree, the woman's penchant power to 'rule.'

REV. MR. SPURGEON.—The New York Evening Post says it is a fact that Mr. Spurgeon has received a very liberal offer to come to this country and preach. In a private letter, however, Mr. S. states that while it is likely he will soon visit America, he will do so without any pecuniary engagement or inducement whatever. He will come as an independent preacher, and whatever means he may take to raise money for the building of his new chapel, will be taken after he shall have reached New York city. A London correspondent of the Boston Recorder says Mr. Spurgeon is expected to leave for this country in A. ril.

The Boston Journal says Mr. Spurgeon "will undoubtedly be received with much sincere enthusiasm, as one whose spirituality and power have already made their impress upon his fellow-men. His brilliant reputation as a pulpit orator will also attract immense crowds. But we question whether his reputation in this respect will bear the ordeal unimpaired. In England, where intense formalism prevails, a direct off-hand, brilliant preacher—what we should call 'a live man'—is a decided novelty, and as refreshing to the popular taste as he is surprising. But we have a great many such men—so many, at least, as in some measure to form a standard in the public mind. Such men are Henry Ward Beecher, E. H. Chapin, and Dr. Tyng. They are found in every denomination, their individual peculiarities being more or less restricted by old opinions and customs. Mr. Spurgeon, therefore, will fall into the ranks of this class of men, whom he may possibly excel in some particulars. But he will not astonish as a phenomenon. He will find audiences prepared for him, and who will have standards by which to judge him."

A TWO-HEADED GIRL.—They have a two-headed girl on exhibition at the Franklin (Tenn.) Fair grounds. The Review of that place gives the following account of this strange *lusus naturæ*. The body or trunk of this curious and interesting being is certainly one, at least below the stomach; this is proved by every test that can be applied. At the same time the chest, head, neck, and arms are those of two distinct persons, and below the trunk there are four distinct and perfectly formed lower limbs, all of which are used in locomotion.

The brain and intellectual organization are those of two distinct persons, but with a strong desire to sympathize; so that although capable of attention to two different objects at the same time, yet their mental operations are less firm and coherent than when the powers of both are directed to one and the same object.

Each head and face is that of a sprightly little negro seven or eight years old.

WIFE MURDERER ATTACKED BY WOMEN.—At Lyville, Oregon county, Ill., a few weeks ago, a man named Ozias G. Elliott was arrested on the charge of having murdered his wife, whose body was found buried under mysterious circumstances and whom he had always greatly ill-treated.— While the coroner's jury were holding an inquest on the body, the prisoner was attacked in the hotel where he was in custody by a number of infuriated women, who tore out his hair and handled him so roughly that his life was in danger. He was then locked up in an upper room by the officers, to keep him from the fury of the women, and while there he jumped out of the window and escaped.

TELEGRAPH LINE TO CHINA.—The great scheme of constructing a telegraph line from Marseilles to Hong-Kong is absolutely in progress. The route will be from Marseilles via Algeria and Alexandria to Antioch in Syria, down the Euphrates to Bagdad, and thence along the shores of the Persian Gulf to Western India, and also to Ceylon, thence to Singapore and across the China Sea to Hong-Kong. The project looks, however, to still grander results, and goes out upon the coral beds of the Pacific to the Island of Java, and thence to Australia, and where else we know not.

MOIST VERNON.—Ann Pamela Cunningham, Regent of the Mount Vernon Association announces that \$100,000 have been paid toward the purchase of Mount Vernon, and the Association has \$15,000 invested. Two payments were made in February—\$5,000 on the 5th, and \$10,000 on the 11th—thus leaving but \$16,000 of the second installment of \$41,666 due on the 22d of February, 1860.

DANIEL WEBSTER.—Rev. Mr. Dwight, officiating clergyman at the North Congregational Church, in the course of his sermon on Sunday evening last, related the following striking anecdote of the "man of giant mind." Upon entering church one Sabbath morning, a friend remarked to Mr. Webster, "You worship where the *Logic* is of 'One in three, and three in One' is applied." "My friend," replied Mr. Webster, "did you not understand the *Arithmetic* of *Logic*?"—*Nantucket Inquirer.*

CURIOUS FACTS IN THE BRITISH CENSUS.

—Among other facts of interest in the last census of Great Britain, it is stated that the English people in Scotland numbered 18,562 males, and 19,234 females; the Scottish people in England and Wales, 60,704 males 42,834 females; Irish people in England and Scotland, 219,397 males and 199,850 females.

The males in the three islands at the soldier's age of twenty to forty, amount to three millions, three hundred thousand men. So that with a good militia system, and such a degree of military discipline as experience in this country has proved can be attained by volunteers, England might bid defiance to all Europe in arms.

In Great Britain, 596,030 have passed seventy years; a hundred and twenty-nine thousand are over fourscore years; ten thousand over ninety years; two thousand and thirty-eight, ninety-five years, and three hundred and nineteen more than a hundred years. The report gives those well-known 'examples of longevity,' Thomas Parr and Henry Jenkins—Parr lived 153 years, nine months—Henry Jenkins, 169 years. Thomas Carr died January 23, 1588, aged 207 years. From the year 1759 to 1780, died 48 persons, the youngest aged 130—eldest 175; also, in 1791, a mulatto, in Fredericktown, N. A., said to be 180. In Kirby's Wonderful and Eccentric Magazine, mention is made of two Hungarians, John Kovel, in his 173d year, and Sarah, his wife, in her 184th. 'Their children,' adds this account, 'two sons and two daughters, are yet alive; the youngest son is 115 years of age. Dated August 25, 1725.'

The picture given of the mortality of children in the large manufacturing cities is frightful. It is stated that of 100,000 children born in Liverpool, only 44,097 live to the age of 20, while in Surry that age is attained by 70,885 out of the same number of children born. The probable lifetime is about six years in the unhealthiest towns. In Manchester, 100,000 children born are reduced to about half that number in six years.

Of the professions, the lawyers numbered 16,766; doctors, 18,728; clergy of established church, 18,587. The blind are to the population as one in 975; the deaf and dumb as one in 1,670. The deaf and dumb of Great Britain are said to be more common in the agricultural and pastoral districts, especially where the country is hilly, than in those containing a large amount of town population.

The prisons of Great Britain, as elsewhere, show but a small proportion of women; 24,451 males, and 4,404 females.

RAILROAD SPEED.—It is stated that a railroad car moves about seventy-four feet, or nearly twice its own length, in a second. At this velocity, the locomotive driving wheel, six feet in diameter, makes four revolutions in one second, the piston-rod thus traversing the cylinder eight times. If a horse and carriage should approach and cross a track at the rapid rate of six miles an hour, an express train approaching at the moment would move towards it two hundred and fifty-seven feet while it was in the act of crossing; if the horse moved faster than a walk, the train would move towards it more than five hundred feet, which fact accounts for the many accidents at such points. When the locomotive whistle is opened at the post eighty rods from the crossing, the train will advance near one hundred feet before the sound of the whistle traverses the distance to, and is heard at the crossing.

ON MAKING POETRY.—REV. DR. PLUMER recently delivered an address at the opening of a Female Seminary at Wheeling, Va., in which he made the following, among other sensible remarks. It deserves the consideration of a very considerable portion of the poets whose effusions are forwarded to newspaper editors, especially the closing sentences. Turning to the Principal of the Seminary, Dr. Plumer said: "I hope, sir, you will not teach poetry here—I mean what some people call the science of composing poetry. If it will come from some of these youths, let it come, but don't force it. I feel about like the Methodist preacher who was giving a charge at a class meeting about some regulations. While in the midst of his charge one old lady uttered a shout. 'Now,' says he, 'brethren and sisters, since the subject of shouting has come up, I'll give you my views on the subject. Never shout from a sense of duty. If you feel that you can't hold in—why then shout, but not otherwise.' "I hope, then, that no one here will ever write poetry from a sense of duty. Poetry is despicable, unless it is first class. Poor poetry is about the meanest of all things. As the Latin satirist has said, 'neither gods nor men can endure it.'"

The prospects are now that the Overland Mail route to California will be abolished. Every letter taken costs the Government thus far \$60, and that does not pay. The mail contract, of which there will be but one, will be given to the shortest route.

Threatened War between France and Austria.

Emperor Louis Napoleon of France and Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria are on bad terms, and a serious war is threatened, which, it is justly feared, may involve the whole of Europe in its bloody consequences.

It appears that at the levee held by the Emperor Napoleon on New Year's day, which the foreign ministers and chief functionaries of the State usually attend to pass their compliments to the Sovereign, his Majesty expressed his regret to M. Hubner, the Austrian Ambassador at his Court, at the very unsatisfactory relations which exist between the French and Austrian governments, although his personal feelings toward his 'brother of Austria' were unchanged. The Emperor's manner and tone of voice are said to have indicated serious displeasure, so much so that Marshal Vailant, the French Minister of War, informed M. Hubner that he 'could not give him his hand after what had occurred.' The tidings of this affair at once caused a panic, diplomatic, political, and financial. The Paris Bourse, the center of French financial operations, experienced a shock that sent terror to the hearts of stock speculators and money lenders. The information was instantly telegraphed to England, and a panic in the London money market was the consequence.

The cause of this serious quarrel seems to be the obstinate course pursued by the Austrian government in Italy, and more particularly in the States of the Church. It appears that Napoleon has long been urging Francis Joseph to assist him in inducing the Papal government to introduce extensive administrative reforms, and, in case of refusal by the Pope, to concur in the withdrawal of the French and Austrian troops from the Roman States; but that the Vienna Cabinet has opposed the most dogged resistance to every plan that has been proposed; has rather increased than relaxed the rigor of its rule in Italy; and has encouraged the Pope to expect that in any contingency Austria will protect him. In the midst of all this, comes the Serbian complication, and the probability of an Austrian occupation there also. This, it appears, the Emperor Napoleon most decidedly sets his face against. He will listen to no occupation except a joint one, of Serbia, and under the authority of the Powers which signed the treaty of Paris.

Late from Europe. The steamer Prince Albert arrived at St. Johns, N. F., with dates from Europe to Feb. 5.

Parliament had been opened. The Queen's speech was non-committal and silent on the war question, which caused a decline in the funds at London and Paris. It threatens a force against Mexico.

Warlike rumors were rife. The disquietude in political affairs throughout Europe was on the increase. Lord Derby and Disraeli expressed their confidence in the maintenance of peace.

France continues her warlike preparations. Great anxiety was felt regarding the speech of the Emperor of France, which was to be delivered Feb. 7.

Prince Napoleon was married at Turin, Jan. 30, to the Princess Clotilde, daughter of the King of Sardinia, and had arrived at Paris with his bride.

LATER.—The Canada arrived at Halifax Feb. 24, bringing Liverpool dates to Feb. 12, seven days later than was received by the Prince Albert.

The political aspect of affairs on the continent has undergone some change, and during the early part of the week more pacific rumors predominated, but the latest advices are of a more warlike character, notwithstanding the peaceful sentiments which have been uttered by the Emperor Napoleon and his Minister Count Morsey.

The action of the French Government goes far to weaken confidence in the Emperor's expressions of a desire for peace.

Warlike preparations are still continued on a large scale at every military and naval department of France.

The Paris Bourse has fluctuated considerably during the week, and continues sensitive.

The Sardinian Chamber of Deputies had ratified the loan of fifty millions of francs. Count Cavour explained that the loan was called for by the critical position of Italian affairs, and was designed to be used for the defense of Sardinia against the threatening attitude of Austria.

Extensive preparations are going forward in Austria; the movement of troops toward the Italian frontier continued.

The Princess Frederick William of Prussia, daughter of Queen Victoria, has given birth to a son, causing great rejoicings in Prussia and much satisfaction in England.

Sixteen boys were crushed and trampled to death in the Victoria Theater, London, on the 27th of December, in a panic caused by a false alarm of fire. The excitement speedily subsided, and the performance was proceeded with as usual!

Chief Justice Taney abstains from all society. Lord Napier was recently dejected in an interview with him, in consequence of age and infirmities.

Miss Burdett Coutts has given \$125,000 for the endowment of the Church in British Columbia. This is the third Bishopric she has endowed.

MEXICO.—The Mexican wheel of events has taken another turn, and Zolanga comes uppermost again.

Gen. Miramon, with a modesty quite out of place in his country, has declined the Presidency, and also, although he appears to have no superior in military power and capacity, has placed Gen. Salas at the head of the army. Thus, the Church party seems to be set on its feet again in the capital, while Miramon is said to have planned an expedition against Vera Cruz, the Liberal stronghold. This looks like bringing the rival parties to a decisive encounter. But, when we remember the shifting events of the past few months, it would be unsafe to calculate upon anything in Mexico as decisive, except for the succeeding twenty-four hours. In regard to our relations with that country, the last change is unfavorable to the Buchanan policy.

"LET US MAKE A RIVER TO THE MEXICANS."—Under this heading the St. Louis Democrat broaches a magnificent enterprise, which is nothing less than to unite the waters of the Upper Arkansas, the South Platte, and the Kansas rivers into one stream to fill the bed of the latter, and make from three considerable and almost useless streams, one broad, deep, navigable river, that would open the far West country clear to the base of the mountains, and into the new arid regions, whither emigration and civilization are now powerfully attracted. The river thus created would be equal to the Missouri in magnitude.

THE GREAT FRAUD IN ILLINOIS.—The fraud recently discovered in Illinois, is of great magnitude. The large amount of \$235,000 of State scrip, as far as has been ascertained, has been fraudulently re-issued, it having been paid and sent to the Governor for cancelling, some years ago. A committee of the Legislature is diving deep into the fraud, and it is feared that new and more astounding frauds will be brought to light. Ex-Gov. Matteson is said to be implicated in the matter. He holds a large portion of the fraudulent scrip, which he alleges he has bought of various persons during the last two years, but the names of most of whom he cannot now recollect.

DISCOVERY OF A PASS IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS.—Intelligence has reached the city that Capt. Palliser, who is at the head of a surveying party sent out by the British Government, has discovered a pass in the Rocky Mountains, about the 51 deg. of latitude. It lies between the head of the Kolumiski River, a fork of the Southern branch of Saskatchewan, and Bow River. —*Montreal Herald.*

William and Mary College in Virginia was destroyed by fire lately. Everything, including a valuable library, was burnt. Measures are being taken to rebuild the edifice.

A bright boy of nine years was delivered in Launaboro' a few days since, for the purpose of attending school, having been forwarded by Adams's express from Houston, Texas. The 'freight' had been four weeks on the road.

The Northampton Gazette says that an oddly matched couple from the town of Perley were married in Williamsburg on the 2d Feb. The bridegroom was a verdant looking youth of sixteen years, and the bride a dashing widow of thirty-four, who had already buried two husbands, the last of whom was eighty years old. The minister at first hesitated, but being assured by the lad's father that it was 'all right,' performed the ceremony. The widow doctored a farm to the lad before they were married. She was one of the 'widders,' certainly.

A SURPRISE PARTY.—The Hartford Press relates that one evening, as a young clergyman was skating down the Connecticut at great speed, he came so unexpectedly upon a group of young ladies that he could not turn to avoid them, and therefore to prevent accident caught one by the waist and took her with him. As soon as the astonished female could recover her speech, he was saluted with 'Who's dat a huggin' me so?' and on looking upon his frail burden's face the young clergyman found that it was black as night. He did not carry her far, and doesn't enjoy compliments for his politeness.

William Smith O'Brien, the Irish patriot, is about to visit the United States. He designs that his visit shall be wholly of a private nature.

A bill to prevent the emancipation of slaves in North Carolina has been rejected by the House of Representatives of that State.

CURE FOR NEURALGIA.—A gentleman who has been afflicted with neuralgia, and has tried a great number of remedies in vain, says he has found no cure for it save the following: "Dissolve half a dram of sal ammoniac in an ounce of water, and drink a tablespoonful every three minutes for twenty minutes, at the end of which time, if not before, the pain will have disappeared. Instead of common water, camphor water or mint water may be used."