PERSONAL.

SENATOR-ELECT TELLER, of Colorado, is a great railroad lawyer, and a warm Methodist.

THE Republicans of Boston nominated a candidate for mayor who is eighty-six years old.

JOHN B. GOUGH has reduced the number of his lecture engagements on account of ill-health.

SINCE the death of Cardinal Antonelli, the Pope has been confined to his room through ill health.

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS wears a velvet skull-cap, when he sits in the House of Representatives.

RICHARD HENRY DANA, the poet, celebrated the eighty-ninth anniversary of his birthday last week.

THE first patient of the Chicago institution for the cure of inebriates has become a Supreme Court Judge.

THE London *Times* says that Cardinal Antonelli belonged to a race almost extinct—the great ecclesiastics having been also great statesmen.

MR. H. L. SOLACE, the only Vermont postmaster known to fame, is a brother-in-law of SAXE, the poet; but they are not on the same side in politics.

MISS JEAN INGELOW is shortly described as a somewhat stout, a middle-aged, and agreeable woman, with a good and intelligent but not beautiful face.

MR. MOODY does not believe in church fairs and festivals; says they should be cleaned out like a nest of unclean birds—which is a speech rather too sweeping.

CORBIN, Senator-elect from South Carolina, is a Northern man, and was a prominent soldier. During the war he was in Libby Prison, and has had a varied experience since.

GENERAL HAWLEY, president of the Centennial Commission, has consented to deliver an address on the "Results of the International Exhibition," in Steinway Hall, December 4th.

WM. M. EVARTS, Charles Francis Adams, Wendell Phillips, and other distinguished alumni of the Boston Latin School, were present at the late centenary dinner of that institution.

THE St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, presuming that Mr. Hayes has been elected and will be inaugurated President, makes him out a Cabinet, in which General Grant is mentioned as Secretary of War.

JAMES ROBINSON, the veteran Boston arithmetician and teacher, has reached the age of ninety-five, and the school committee has voted him a salary of $1,000, on which he is dependent for support.

HENRY ASTOR, a son of John Jacob Astor, for maltreatment of a little girl named Josephine Ash, of Rhinebeck, New York, has had a verdict of guilty brought against him, the jury awarding the girl $20,000 damages.

THE "American Humorists" are busy. Mr. Bret Harte and Mr. Mark Twain are said to be writing a play together. The rumor that Mr. Josh Billings and Mr. Eli Perkins are also to be called in as collaborateurs is not yet authenticated.

SPOTTED TAIL is described by a recent guest as a manly-looking creature, with small hands and feet and an agreeable countenance; while Man-afraid-of-his-horses is as wild as a hawk, and looks as if he were afraid of his own shadow.

MISS MARY FLETCHER, of Burlington, Vt., has bestowed upon herself a piece of happiness. She has given that city $150,000 for the establishment of a public hospital which is to bear her name. It will be the only institution of the kind in Vermont.

OF George Eliot, one of the most distinguished of her masculine contemporaries privately says that she is a woman of such high moral sense that to converse with her for an hour makes a man feel as if he were on top of a mountain; the air is too rarified and it fatigues him.

AN old negro man from Henrico county was approached yesterday on the street here by one of his own race with the question how he had voted at the recent presidential election. "Well, I tell you what 'tis; I ain't voted yet, and I ain't gwine to vote till I see who is 'lected."

MR. HORACE DAVIS, the newly-elected Republican member of Congress from San Francisco, is a son of the late John Davis, of Worcester, Mass. He recently married the only daughter of the late Starr King. He is brother of our minister to Berlin, and nephew of George Bancroft, the historian.

THE New Orleans *Bulletin* says Capt. John Wilson, who, in 1859, saved 601 persons from the burning British steamship *Connaught*, is now living in that city, blind, and in abject poverty, having been compelled to sell or pawn the gold watch presented by the British Government, and other testimonials of his gallant act.

TIMOTHY DWIGHT, the father of President Dwight, of Yale College, is six feet four inches high. His wife, who is the daughter of Jonathan Edwards, was so small that he sometimes carried her around the room on his open palm, held at arm's length. On one occasion he seized a cart drawn by a yoke of oxen and stopped it.

GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT offered himself to Miss Maria Mayo, of Richmond, Virginia, when he was a captain, and was promptly refused. He repeated the offer when a major, and was again dismissed. When he became a general the fair lady yielded, declaring that she fully appreciated the difference between Captain Scott and General Scott.

ATHENÆUM:—"It is only too common to divide the inhabitants of European Turkey broadly into Turks and Christians. We seem, however, to recognize three distinct classes of Turks—the agricultural Turk, who possesses all sorts of primitive virtues in perfection; the official Turk, who plunders; and the bashi-bazouk, who murders."

GEN. WASHINGTON, while at Valley Forge, his troops being in desperate need, dispatched young Thomas Lamb, lieutenant, to obtain supplies. While giving the order he unfastened his own spurs and handed them to his officer. The spurs have always been preserved in the Lamb family, and have just been placed on exhibition in the old South. That was a very pleasant thing to do, and worthy of Warrington's Col. George.

MRS. BELVA A. LOCKWOOD recently applied for admission to practice as an attorney and counsellor in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia. The Chief-Justice denied the petition as contrary to the immemorial custom of courts of justice in England, and the usage in this country. Mrs. Lockwood had been a practitioner at the bar of the Supreme Court of the District for more than three years, and was, therefore, brought within the rule of the Court in that respect.

The Boys of My Childhood.

The boys of the generation to which I belonged—that is to say, who were born in the last years of the last century, or the earliest of this—were brought up under a system of discipline which put a far greater distance between parents and their children than now exists. The parents seemed to think this necessary in order to secure obedience. They were believers in the old maxim that familiarity breeds contempt. My own parents lived in the house with my grandfather on the mother's side. My grandfather was a disciplinarian of the stricter sort, and I can hardly find words to express the awe in which I stood of him—an awe so great as almost to prevent anything like affection on my part, although he was in the main kind, and certainly never thought of being severe beyond what was necessary to maintain a proper degree of order in the family.

The other boys in that part of the country, my school-mates and play-fellows, were educated on the same system. Yet there were at that time some indications that this very severe discipline was beginning to relax. With my father and mother I was on much easier terms than with my grandfather. If a favor was to be asked of my grandfather, it was asked with fear and trembling; the request was postponed to the last moment, and then made with hesitation and blushes and a confused utterance.

One of the means of keeping the boys of that generation in order was a bundle of birchen rods, bound together by a small cord, and generally suspended on a nail against the wall in the kitchen. This was esteemed as much a part of the necessary furniture as the crane that hung in the kitchen fire-place, or the shovel and tongs. It sometimes happened that the boy suffered a fate similar to that of the eagle in the fable, wounded by an arrow fledged with a feather from his own wing; in other words, the boy was made to gather the twigs intended for his own castigation.

It has never been quite clear to me why the birch was chosen above all other trees of the wood to yield its twigs for this purpose. The beech of our forests produces sprays as slender, as flexible, and as tough; and farmers, whenever the beech is common, cut its long and pliant branches for driving oxen. Yet the use of birchen rods for the correction of children is of very great antiquity. In his "Discourse on Forest Trees," written three hundred years ago, Evelyn speaks of birchen twigs as an implement of the school-master; and Loudon, in his "Arboretum," goes yet farther back. He says: "The birch has been used as the instrument of correction in schools from the earliest ages." The English poets of the last century make frequent mention of this use of birchen twigs; but in Loudon's time, whose book was published thirty years since, he remarks that the use of these rods, both in schools and private families, was fast passing away—a change on which the boys both of England and the United States may well be congratulated—for the birchen rod was, in my time, even more freely used in the school than in the household.—*William Cullen Bryant, in St. Nicholas.*

A Singular Character.

Among the recent deaths I have to note the demise of M. Gagne, one of the most singular characters of the century. He was a crazy man, and yet there was a great deal of good sense in him. Having a fortune and a fine chateau, M. Gagne began to write for humanity. Everything that he wrote was in verse—machine poetry. His letters to the journals were written in what is called poetry—that is, there was some jingle and an occasional rhyme. He wrote a poem of ten thousand lines, called the "Unitiede," and I remember only that he said that journalism was corruption and rascality and all the journalists criminals of the deepest dye. Yet for forty years M. Gagne sent his *pomes* to the press, averaging one a day during the period, though he frequently sent off four or five a day. He pretended to write in verse as rapidly as in prose, and addressed all the journals; but, of course, his verses were rarely published. Now and then a few lines would be picked out and put in print. But up to the last he continued the habit of sending his verses to all the papers, as regularly as if they gave them publicity. Some ten years ago he took it in his head to write a "universal grammar." The idea was this: Take the word "have"—German, *haben*; French, *avoir*. Now, the root of this word in nearly all languages was "av," according to M. Gagne, and "av" was "have" in the universal language. Being a man of large fortune, M. Gagne was only laughed at in a mild way; but he would have been sent to Charenton had he been poor. He was charitable, kindly, and eminently Christian in his sentiments, and he did so many good works toward the last that people stopped laughing at M. Gagne. His last idea was to write the history of philosophy in verse, embracing a million of rhymes.—*Cor. N. Y. Times.*

INDIAN COURIERS.—It is wonderful how rapidly news is transmitted among the Indians, and it is in the accomplishment of this work they show the most wonderful power of endurance. News is received that is important which should go to some distant tribe or village, and one or more Indians prepare for the work. A feast is made, and they eat and dance, eating as much as a dozen white men would eat. They call on their neighbors and eat again, and continue dancing and eating until nature, exhausted, forces sleep. After sleeping a few hours they eat again, and are then ready for business. They mount the fleetest ponies in the camp, and then start off, riding day and night, without food, for five days sometimes. Arriving at their destination, they state the news, and another round of feasting and dancing commences, to be followed perhaps by a tramp of several hundred miles more in another direction with the news to another tribe. By these couriers every movement of the United States army is reported, and long before any command reaches their vicinity all the tribes of Indians will be apprised, not only of the approach of the army, but also of its strength.

AN Australian has taught a canary bird to sing "Home, Sweet Home," by suspending it before a mirror near which was a music-box that played the air. Supposing the bird in the glass was making the music, the canary finally caught the notes, and now warbles the whole tune.

FIVE hundred respectable gentlemen are pressing their claims to be aldermen of Boston and will be mad unless they get the office.

A Wedding Experience.

He was of Quaker extraction and education. But during the border troubles he had "fallen from the grace" of non-resistance, and had been "dropped from the roll." He was therefore no longer in "good and regular standing" in that communion—if that can be called a "communion" where they do not observe the communion. He retained, however, very much of the plainness and bluntness and downright honesty for which that people are proverbial. Everybody knew him and everybody respected him, as an industrious, plain-spoken, honest man. He owned a fine farm three miles from town, where he lived with a family who helped him to carry it on. His farm was devoted mostly to the dairy business. He also had an ice-house, and supplied the heated denizens of the city with that luxury. He was a bachelor, and it was the general opinion that whatever else he fell from he would surely illustrate the "perseverance of the saints" in this. But his friends were reckoning without their host in this matter, or rather without their hostess. In fact, they did not know that there was a hostess to be counted in.

One day he drove up to my door on his way home. He wanted to know "if I still kept up my Sabbath afternoon appointment at the school-house west of his place, and, if so, at what time I should pass his house on my way home." I replied that "I still kept up the appointment, and should return past his house about five o'clock." "He did not want to put me to any trouble, but if I could as well as not, he wished I would call in as I passed. They had a little job they wanted me to do." I guessed at once what was wanted, and told him I would surely call.

So the next Sabbath, about five o'clock, I turned up the lane that led to his house, tied my horse to the fence, and went to the door. I was admitted by the housekeeper and seated. The house-work was going on just as usual!—just as in any farm-house—and I was received just as any stranger would be. There were evidently no unusual preparations going on. I asked for my friend. "He was out in the yard milking. Should they call him?" I replied "I could wait, but I wanted to see him." I began to feel a little cheap about the blunder I had made in supposing it was a wedding I was called to. Had it been some men, I should have suspected it was a hoax. But I knew my friend had too much respect for me to play a joke on me in such a matter, so I supposed it must be something he wanted to consult me about, and I had entirely misunderstood him. In a few minutes he came in. He was in his shirt sleeves and overalls, and was carrying a brimming pail of milk into the pantry, and the "women folks" proceeded to strain it. He greeted me very heartily, "was sorry to detain me, but would soon be ready." He then introduced me to a bright-looking young woman whom I had noticed before, and presented her as the expectant bride.

With that they, too, disappeared in different directions, and I was alone again. In a few minutes they returned, neatly dressed, and announced themselves as "ready." I stripped the ceremony of all needless ornament, and made it as business-like as possible, so as to correspond with the surroundings.

The house was quiet during the service, but there was no gathering of the family in the room, and the interruption to the regular course of affairs was very brief indeed. I caught the business-like spirit of the occasion, and excused myself and departed. As I mounted my horse and turned down the lane I saw the new-made bridegroom emerge from the house, reclad in the overalls before mentioned, and carrying the aforesaid milk-pail, and going out toward the barn to finish, "that milking." The cows had probably never known such an interruption before. They had been kept waiting not less than twenty minutes. No doubt they wanted "dreadfully" to ask him what the matter was. But I doubt if ever there was a wedding is which less precious time was wasted, and where the regular course of events was less disturbed.

The coolest part of the proceedings is yet to be mentioned. After the ceremony the bridegroom came up, and in a frank, business-like way, spoke of the fee. He said "if it would be just as satisfactory to me, *he would like to give me my summer's ice.*" This *was* "perfectly satisfactory to me," as it was quite a liberal sum, and the coolness of the operation was quite refreshing. No artist could have finished the picture better. There would have been an incompleteness without this final touch. With this added, the whole scene seems like an inspiration of genius.—*A "Frontier Missionary," in Christian Union.*

PROPOSED TELEGRAPH ACROSS AFRICA.—It is proposed to carry a wire, says the London *Iron*, to the Cape across the African continent. There is at present telegraphic communication from Alexandria to Khartoum, a distance of 1,100 miles, and surveys have already been made for its continuance to Gondokoro. From Khartoum to Delagoa Bay, where the South African lines terminate northward, is only about 2,600 miles—shorter than existing lines on the other three continents. The route would lead under the Victoria Nyassa and Tanganyika Lakes, and thence down the Shire and Zambesi Rivers to the sea, where a short ocean line would connect it with Delagoa Bay or Port Natal. A branch would go from Ujiji to Zanzibar.

Of the 1,500 miles or so of serial line it is suggested that much might be erected without the expense of poles by taking advantage of the trees over thickly wooded tracts, which are frequent in tropical Africa. The difficulty would be to keep the natives from utilizing the wire in regions where iron is scarce and valuable, but this might be got over. The undertaking, if it could be established and kept in working order, would be exceedingly lucrative, and would in many ways aid in opening up Africa to commerce and civilization.

A PARTY of English bloods, says the Omaha *Herald*, are expected here in a few days to hunt buffalo; and this recalls the story of the London cockney, who, having suddenly inherited wealth, came to this country in winter. Immediately after landing, wishing to take a drive, he so informed the hotel clerk. The latter ordered a stylish cutter and told the Briton that he should have a genuine American sleigh ride. Then, thinking the cockney might need another robe, he asked: "By the way, shall I put in an extra buffalo?" "Couldn't you let me 'ave a 'horse, you know? Er-er-rather not drive a buffalo first time, you know."

THE richest man in England is the Duke of Westminster.

Percheron Horses.

We take pleasure in calling the attention of stock breeders to the fact that Mr. A. Sackrider, the enterprising importer of Norman or Percheron horses, is again in San Francisco with six stallions of that wonderful race of horses, a portion of which are for sale. The name Percheron is derived from the fact that they are mainly bred and reared in the ancient province of La Perche, a district situated to the south and west of Paris. The history of this race of horses is somewhat obscure, but it is generally conceded that they sprung from a cross between the fine Barb and Arab steeds, introduced into the country by the Saracens, under the famous chief Abderame, and the large, strong native mares of that region. The return of the crusaders, bringing with them some of the finest of Arabian stallions, made another infusion of oriental blood to the already splendid stock of La Perche. Let their pedigree be what it may, the Percheron is undeniably the finest specimen of the horse kind for beauty, strength, endurance and speed combined that the world has ever seen. Mr. Sackrider's horses are at the Record Stables on Market street, opposite Seventh, S. F.

An Old Friend in a New Place.

We take pleasure in calling the attention of visitors to San Francisco to the fact that John Kelly, formerly of the Brooklyn Hotel, has assumed the management of the Commercial Hotel, corner of Montgomery avenue and Kearny streets, where he will be happy to see his old customers and friends. The Commercial is a new and elegantly furnished house, with all of the modern appliances for the comfort of guests usually found in a first-class hotel, including a steam elevator. The house, under Mr. Kelly's popular management, is rapidly filling up, and will, doubtless, ere long enjoy the same enviable popularity that was the favored lot of the Brooklyn under Mr. Kelly's supervision.

Yerba Buena Bitters.

The popularity that this medicine has achieved in the comparatively short time that it has been before the public justifies us in calling the attention of our readers to it as a family medicine. No household should be without it. As a cathartic and regulator it is unequalled. So great has been the demand for it that the proprietors, H. Williams & Co., of San Francisco, have not been able to supply it. We congratulate them upon their good fortune in being able to furnish a remedy so every way adapted to the wants of humanity and which will ere long amply repay all of the industry and energy of the proprietors in introducing it to the public.

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The reasons why Dr. Price's Flavoring Extracts, Lemon, Vanilla, etc., are superior to all others is because they are prepared from choice selected fruits and aromatics without coloring or poisonous oils, all the flavoring principles are retained unchanged by chemical action; highly concentrated, requiring less to flavor.

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DIVIDEND NOTICES.

DIVIDEND NOTICE, NO. 3.—COLLATERAL Loan and Savings Bank has declared a dividend of Two per cent. for November, payable December 5th to stockholders of record November 25th. F. S. CARTER, Sec'y.

COLLATERAL LOAN AND SAVINGS BANK, corner Post and Kearny sts., S. F. The shares of this bank are offered for subscription at $12 per share during the month of December. In January the price will be advanced to $13 per share. The shares are now paying regular monthly dividends of 1 per cent.

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