Detroit Currency.

ONLY sixteen weeks to spring. How time flies!

IT was Tweed, after all, and if you bet it wasn't you have lost.

THE average Michigander has laid aside his straw hat and nankeens.

ONE Mr. Sims purposes toting Edward S. Stokes around the country as a lecturer. Where are the James boys?

THE Eastern ladies are wearing more red than ever, and it makes a husband turn blue to foot their bills.

THE piano-makers are going to law to see who makes the best pianos. There's music sweet for the lawyers.

IT is said that no London tailor can make a coat fit Gladstone, he being so full of curves, angles, knobs and abrupt terminations.

AN American lady can dress nicely in Paris on $300 per year, if she will be content with six pairs of stockings, a bonnet and a belt ribbon.

THERE isn't much red tape in the English army. If a soldier wants a pair of shoes his application must pass fourteen different signatures.

IT would have been worth while for Harriet Beecher Stowe to remain North until January 15th for the sake of sliding down hill on a plank.

TWEED will soon pick up his lost avoirdupois. Fried oysters three times per day and regular hours for coming home nights will do the work.

THE "Pi" man of the *Herald* announces that an eels will live twenty years. What a burning shame that eels cannot go one year more and be entitled to vote.

THE mighty Nimrods who seek the pine woods of Michigan to slaughter game generally leave from five to twenty packs of cards in their abandoned camps.

A WEEKLY paper in Wisconsin says: "Mrs. Elkhorn, of Sugar Creek, died last week, after the publication of this paper." The press always was a power in the land.

IT relieves the monotony in the midst of this returning board excitement to come across a weekly paper with its editorial page chuck-full of a county fair premium list.

MISS MARTINEZ got but fifty dollars damages from her breach of promise suit, but fifty dollars will get a red corset, a pair of striped stockings and a pile of molasses candy.

NEWSPAPERS shouldn't joke over the increased weight of A. H. Stephens. It is a sad thing when a man begins to pick up five pounds per week. Ten years from now no barn floor can hold him up.

THE exact scientists may be very smart fellows, but their efforts have all been vanity so long as the average mind fails to comprehend why a dog wags his foot when you scratch his back.—*Easton Free Press.*

A MAN walks forth with his hands in his pockets and an icicle on the end of his nose. The assuring knowledge that he isn't liable to sunstroke for at least six months sends a grateful glow along his frozen back bone.—*Philadelphia Chronicle.*

THE following has been resurrected by the Washington *Chronicle:*

There was a man who had a clock—
His name was Matthew Mears—
He wound it regular every night
For nearly twenty years.
At last his precious timepiece proved
An eight-day clock to be,
And a madder man than Mr. Mears
You would not wish to see.

Reading and Writing.

There is a large class of readers who should be very careful about what they read: namely, readers who are also writers. We have heard of a man who declared that he never read anything but the very best literature—except the very worst. There is safety in extremes—as the man said who stood in the middle of the burning bridge. For a writer, nothing is so dangerous as to be intimate with mediocracy. A friend of ours, who is now in mid-career of a successful business life—a business life whose successes have been greatly due, by the way, to what may be called applied imagination—this friend of ours, in talking one day about literary style, confessed that in his youth, after reading a lot of "Paradise Lost," he went to work and wrote page after page of blank verse that he would be hanged if you could tell from Milton's. If he had had his poetry by him at the time, he would probably have found that he was mistaken as to the supposed close resemblance of style; but in principle, he was not so far out after all. Milton, himself, would not have had such an excellent "literary style," if he had not read some very good poetry written before his day.

We have heard an artist say in looking over the sketches of Michael Angelo and Raphael—that it seemed possible to do *that*; there was a simplicity, an ease in the work which gave encouragement and hope—as well as inspiration. The workmanship of other great, though inferior masters, seemed more unattainable. The same thing is true in literature. It is not mere conceit that makes the young writer feel, when he reads Shakspeare, and Dante, and Milton, and Wordsworth, that here is something that he can do. The time will come when his limitations will close down upon him; but his flight has been farther and higher by reason of this daring, yet reverent, sense of mastery and companionship.—*Scribner.*

IMPROVEMENT IN THE MORALITY OF OUR PUBLIC MEN.—A few weeks before his death, Vice-President Wilson was dining at the same table with a well known Bishop of the Episcopal Church, who raised the question as to the degeneracy of our public men with each generation of our Republic. Mr. Wilson spoke at some length of time from his own long experience of public life, comparing the many Congresses of which he had been a member, and showing how rapidly and decidedly the moral character of their membership had risen during the recent decades of our history. Especially have drunkenness, profanity and licentiousness decreased among public men. The heroes of forty and fifty years back, and whose lives are the theme even of our Sunday-school books, and whose characters are continually held up to the admiration and imitation of our young people, were almost to a man persons whose morals would not now bear inspection. And even the confusions and disturbances which occur in the halls of Congress, though sufficiently numerous and undignified, are as nothing to the disgraceful rows which once took place there.—*Penn. Monthly*

OFFICIAL information received at the Bureau of Statistics shows that during the month of October, 1876, there arrived at the port of New York 6550 emigrants, of whom 3628 were males and 2922 females.

Brief Biography of Peter Cooper.

Peter Cooper was born in the city of New York, February 12th, 1791. His maternal grandfather, John Campbell, a resident of New York, was Deputy Quarter Master-General during the Revolutionary War, and expended a considerable private fortune in the service of his country. His father was a lieutenant in the war of the revolution, after the close of which he established a hat manufactory in which his youthful son Peter aided to the extent of his strength. This period of Mr. Cooper's life was one of great anxiety and much hard labor, as his father had a large family to provide for. He attended school only half of each day for a single year, and beyond the humble knowledge thus gained, his acquisitions are all his own. At the age of seventeen he was placed with John Woodward to learn the trade of coach-making, and served out his apprenticeship so much to the satisfaction of his master, that the latter offered to set him up in business, which Mr. Cooper declined. He for a time followed this trade; next the manufacture of patent machines for shearing cloth, which were in great demand during the war of 1812, but lost all value on the declaration of peace; then the manufacture of cabinet ware; then the grocery business in the city of New York; and finally he engaged in the manufacture of glue and isinglass, which he has carried on for more than forty years. In all these enterprises he was, with remarkable uniformity, successful. This he attributes, more than anything else, to the fact that he would never incur a debt, and had no interest to pay. On the other hand, interest or rent was always coming in to him. Mr. Cooper's attention was early called to the great resources of this country for the manufacture of iron, and in 1830 he erected extensive works at Canton, near Baltimore. Disposing of these, he erected a rolling and wire mill in the city of New York, in which he first successfully applied anthracite to the puddling of iron. In 1845 he removed the machinery to Trenton, N. J., where he erected the largest rolling mill at that time in the United States for the manufacture of railroad iron, and at which subsequently he was the first to roll wrought iron beams for fire-proof buildings. These works have grown to be very extensive, including mines, blast furnaces, and water-power, and are now carried on by Mr. Cooper's family. While in Baltimore he built, after his own designs, the first locomotive engine that was turned out on this continent, and it was operated successfully on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, thus identifying his name with the early history of railroads. In like manner he has taken great interest in the extension of the electric telegraph, in which he invested a large capital. He has served in both branches of the New York Common Council, and was a prominent advocate of the construction of the Croton aqueduct. His great object, however, has been to educate the industrial classes of the community. He early became a trustee of the Public School Society, and at the time of its being merged in the Board of Education, Mr. Cooper was its Vice President. He subsequently became a School Commissioner; but feeling that no common school system could supply a technological education, he determined to establish in his native city an institution in which the working classes could secure that instruction for which he, when young and ambitious, sought in vain. Accordingly the "Union for the Advancement of Science and Art," commonly called the "Cooper Institute," was erected in New York, at the intersection of Third and Fourth avenues, between Seventh and Eighth streets, covering the entire block, at a cost to him (including interest on the outlay, which he would have received on an ordinary investment) of about two million dollars, to which Mr. Cooper has since added an endowment of $150,000 in cash. This building is devoted by a deed of trust, with all its rents, issues, and profits, to the instruction and elevation of the working classes of the city of New York.

The plan includes regular courses of instruction at night, free to all who choose to attend, on social and political science, on the application of science to the useful occupations of life, and on such other branches of knowledge as will tend to improve and to elevate the working classes. It includes also a school of design for females, now attended by two hundred pupils; a free reading-room and library, resorted to by about one thousand five hundred readers; galleries of art, collections of models of inventions, and a polytechnic school. The evening schools are attended by two thousand pupils, mostly young mechanics, who study engineering, mining, metallurgy, analytic, and synthetic chemistry, architectural drawing, and practical building. There are also for women a school of telegraphy, which in four years, has sent out three hundred and seven operators; a school of wood-engraving, a school of photography; all of which are free, and are well attended. These schools employ upwards of thirty instructors.

The expenditures of the Institute for all these purposes, of course, must be large. For years they have considerably exceeded $50,000 annually, to meet which the rents of those parts of the building not used for the purposes of the Institute, together with the interest of the cash endowment, are appropriated; but when these fall short of the requirement—as thus far they have done, by a large amount, almost every year—recourse is had to the private purse of the liberal founder; and this has never yet been closed to the wants of this school and those who freely enjoy its advantages.—*Mercantile Journal.*

A CLOAK OF FEATHERS.—There is an industrious young lady in the country, says the Kingston (New York) *Freeman*, who is making a cloak almost entirely of partridge feathers. It will be a unique piece of clothing and very pretty and comfortable, though it requires an immense amount of labor and perseverance to put it together. In it will be at least 10,000 feathers of different sizes, the lower portion of the cloak being of the tail feathers and then ranging up, the breast feathers come next, while the variegated plumage around the neck of the bird will encircle the white throat of the lady. It will require about 100 partridges to fill out the regular course of feathers, which are placed in layers similar to the way in which they grow on the bird. When finished the cloak will be valued at $50, though in New York it would be worth probably double that amount. The birds are shot by her brother Bill, who pops them over whenever she wants them, only asking that she will nicely cook what is left for himself to make a square meal off of them.

A FLOATING debt—An unpaid-for yacht.

The Auction Sale.

BY J. T. TROWBRIDGE.

[The following scene is taken from "His Own Master," Mr. Trowbridge's new serial story in *St. Nicholas.* Jacob Fortune, a lad of fifteen and the hero of the story, suddenly finds himself heir to his aunt's small property. His friend, Professor Alphonse Pinkey, a dancing-master of the town, advises him to sell out at auction, and seek his fortune in some great city. Jacob accepts his advice, and the professor volunteers his services as auctioneer. The sale is thus described:]

Saturday afternoon arrived, and with it a goodly crowd of men, women, girls and boys. A few came out of good will to Jacob, but more to gratify their curiosity and see the fun.

[Professor Pinkey's opening speech at the auction sale is exceedingly funny.]

At the close of his speech Alphonse wiped his forehead, thumped the barrel-head, and ordered Jacob to hold up the rocking-chair.

"We shall begin, ladies and gentlemen," said he, "with the old lady's easy-chair—her arm-chair. 'I love it! I love it! And who shall dare to chide me for loving that old arm-chair?' What am I offered? Remember all the sacred associations connected with a chair like that, and give me a bid, somebody."

"Twenty-five cents," squeaked out an old lady, turning the chair around, as Jacob held it up, and scrutinizing it through her glasses.

"Twenty-five cents I am offered? Twenty-five cents for a chair well worth two dollars. Ladies and gentlemen, look at it! Why, the cushion alone is worth more than the price bid for the whole. Twenty-five, twenty-five. Don't let me insult the memory of the dead by knocking down the fine old arm-chair at that ridiculously low figure. Going at twenty-five! Who will give me fifty?"

"I'll give thirty," said a young woman with a baby in her arms.

"Thirty I am offered. Thirty thirty thirty—"

"Thirty-five!" cried the first bidder.

"Thirty-five! You will give me more than that, I know," said Alphonse to the young woman, with a persuasive smile. "What a chair that will be to rock your baby in! Forty I am offered. Fifty! Fiftyfifty fiftyfiftyfiftyfifty! Halfadollarhaliadollarhalfadollar! Going at half—a—dollar. Shall I have any more? Half a dollar—one!" Pinkey swung his hammer. "Going at half a dollar," he glanced his eye about the company, and crooked his forefinger into an interrogation point at the previous bidders. "Give me fifty-five?"

Somebody nodded.

"Fifty-five I am offered; fiftyfivefiftyfivefiftyfive!—going at fifty-five! Sixty! Sixtysixtysixtysixty!"—it is impossible to imitate the rapidity with which Pinkey repeated these words—"going at sixty cents! Will the benevolent-looking lady there in the checkered shawl say seventy? Thank you, madam. Seventyseventy seventy—going at seventy cents—one! Going—going—going at seventy cents—two! Shall I have any more? Going—going—and gone, at seventy cents, to the benevolent-looking old lady in the checkered shawl!" and Alphonse thumped the barrel head.

"We will now proceed to the most important sale of all—that of the widow's cow," said Alphonse; and as he led the way to the shed, he was pleased to see a broad-faced man waiting there, under a broad-brimmed hat. Jacob had told him that he thought Friend David would be on hand to bid for the cow.

Fortunately, others who knew the value of the animal were there, too; and the bids rose at once to twenty dollars.

"Twenty dollars!" said Alphonse, mounting upon a milking-stool and flourishing his hammer. "Only twenty dollars for a cow like that! Milk rich as cream, twenty-one quarts a day—not quite a dollar a quart! Who will give me twenty-one?" He looked at Friend David, who had not yet offered to bid. Friend David winked.

"Twenty-one I am offered! Twentyone twentyonetwentyonetwentyone — going at——"

"Twenty-two," said Deacon Jaffers.

"Only twenty-two!" exclaimed Alphonse. "Why, gentlemen, you are not going to stand quietly by and see a valuable cow sacrificed! Gentle as a lamb—never known to kick or hold up the milk. And I am offered only twenty-two dollars. Twentytwotwentytwotwentytwo! Shall I have twenty-three?"

Friend David winked again.

"Twenty-three! Going now at——"

"Twenty-four," said Deacon Jaffers.

"Twentyfourtwentyfourtwentyfour! Give me another dollar?" cried Alphonse, leaning over affectionately at Friend David. "Give me a half?"

Another wink from the Quaker.

"Half I am offered! Twentyfournaf twentyfournaftwentyfournaf!—twenty-four dollars and fifty cents. Did I understand you to bid twenty-five, Mr. Jaffers?"

The deacon had not bid twenty five; but he nodded.

"Going now at twenty-five dollars—and a half!" added Alphonse. Jacob looked on with breathless interest. "Twenty-six?"—the auctioneer crooked his finger at Jaffers. "Twentysixtwenty-sixtwentysixtwentysix—and a half I am offered. Twentysixnaftwentysixnaftwentysixnaf! Will somebody say seven? Going at twenty-six dollars and a half—one! Am I to have any more? Your last chance, gentlemen! Two! Going—going and gone, at twenty-six dollars and a half, to our worthy friend here in the broad-brimmed hat!"—and Alphonse struck a beam with his hammer.

When all was over, Deacon Jaffers reckoned up the proceeds of the sale, which amounted to the handsome sum of eighty-seven dollars.

[The subsequent adventure of Jacob with his smart friend and his eighty-seven dollars will be found to be quite out of the common line, and the readers of "His Own Master" in *St. Nicholas*, will find out something about Professor Pinkey which will certainly astonish them.]—*St. Nicholas.*

THE Chicago courts are agitating themselves over the question whether obtaining goods upon a verbal promise to pay which is not fulfilled, renders the person obtaining the goods liable to a criminal prosecution. It is claimed by the prosecution in the case wherein the question arises, that promising to pay without intending to do so, is a "false pretense" within the meaning of the criminal law, and that the failure to pay is conclusive proof of the intent. The question has been settled in most of the States, and not in favor of the doctrine claimed by the Chicago prosecutor; but it is quite possible the latter may succeed in getting his view indorsed, as the discussion took place before Judge McAllister—the hero of the Sullivan trial. If he should, Chicago will cease to be the quiet resort it has heretofore proven for the impecunious debtor.

A NEGRO woman near Vicksburg was milking the other morning when she felt some one push her, and, looking around, saw a large black bear at her side. She didn't wait to get the "strippings."

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.

Reasons Why.

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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Should enclose $2 with their receipts to Col. L. Bingham & Co., Attorneys for Claims, &c., Washington, D. C., and receive their Land Patents.

Too Much at Stake.

Steele & Price have too much at stake to put in the market anything which has not been found not only harmless, but positively beneficial. Their Dr. Price's Cream Baking Powder is the only kind made by a practical physician, with special regard to its healthfulness.

CANCER CAN BE CURED.—Dr. BOND, of Philadelphia, announces his discovery for the radical cure of Cancer. *No Knife! No Pain! No Caustic!* Remedies with full directions sent anywhere. Pamphlets and particulars sent *free.* Address with stamp, Dr. H. T. BOND, 859 North Broad st., Philadelphia, Pa.

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Surpasses any Toilet or Cologne Water ever made. A rich, fresh, flowery odor. For the handkerchief, the toilet and the bath—permanent and delightfully fragrant. For the sick room—reviving and gratefully refreshing.

BRIGHT'S disease, diabetes, gravel, and all diseases of the bladder and kidneys cured by KEARNEY'S EXTRACT BUCHU. It is safe, efficacious and reliable. Sold by druggists everywhere.

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Heart Disease! SURE CURE. $1.00 per Bottle. Address Dr. Oyster, Paola, Kan.

GOLD MEDAL

AWARDED TO PALMER'S EDGE TOOLS, by the Mechanics' Institute Fair, 1875. Manufactory, Berry st., between 4th and 5th, San Francisco.

50 BRISTOL CARDS, or 25 ASSORTED Snowflake, Embossed, etc., with your name printed on them for 20 cts. *Agents Wanted.* 11 samples for stamp. No postals answered. D. F. COOLEY, BROCKTON, MASS.

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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 27th. 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 $15 per share. The shares are now paying regular monthly dividends of 3 per cent.

INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, 824 and 826 Kearny St., San Francisco. $1 50 and $2 00 PER DAY. H. C. PATRIDGE, PROPRIETOR. Two Concord Coaches, with the name of the Hotel on, will always be in waiting at the landing to convey passengers to the Hotel free. ☞ Be sure you get into the right Coach; if you do not, they will charge you.

COMMERCIAL HOTEL, MONTGOMERY AVENUE AND KEARNY ST., San Francisco. A new and commodious four-story Hotel, with 175 first-class light rooms, elegantly furnished, and a steam elevator. Free Coach and Carriages to the House from all points. Charges, $2.00 per day. JOHN KELLY, Jr., Manager, (For 26 years Proprietor of the BROOKLYN HOTEL, S. F.)

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FOR SALE! A HALF INTEREST IN A WELL-ESTABLISHED business, on Sansome street, San Francisco, Cal. Parties desirous of entering into a first-class business are invited to investigate. *No Agents need apply.* Address M., P. O. Box 2171, S. F., Cal.

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VERDICT ALWAYS FOR THE DAVIS VERTICAL FEED SEWING MACHINE.

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The Report of the Centennial Commission says: "The DAVIS is awarded the GRAND GOLD MEDAL OF HONOR and DIPLOMA OF MERIT for excellent material and construction, adapted to the greatest range of work."

WE CLAIM SALES UNPRECEDENTED AND satisfaction UNIVERSAL. In its construction it differs from ALL others, and is equaled by none. As an EARNEST of what is here claimed, the Manufacturers CHALLENGE all others for a friendly contest, either for amusement or a more SUBSTANTIAL CONSIDERATION. The Family Machine is light running and easily comprehended; has an ingenious device "to take up" lost motion or wear, which to a machinist is positive proof of durability. We are pleased to refer to machines in manufacturing establishments here, where they have been in constant use for nearly three years, to verify the above. Has received more medals and complimentary testimonials than any other in the same length of time. ☞ We invite the especial attention of manufacturers to our new No. 1 just out.

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MARK SHELDON, General Agent for Pacific Coast, 130 POST STREET, - - - SAN FRANCISCO.

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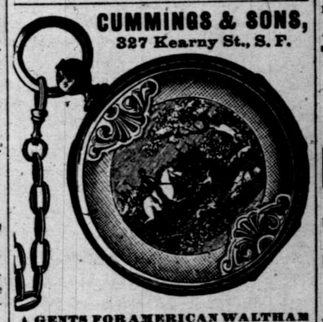

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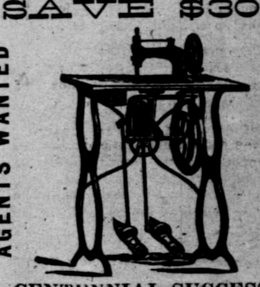

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