

No Sabbaths.

In a prize essay on the Sabbaths, written by a journeyman printer, in Scotland, which, for singular power of language and beauty of expression, has never been surpassed, there occurs the following passage. Read it, and then reflect, for a while, what a dreary and desolate page would this life present, if the Sabbath were blotted out from our curriculum;

"Yoke-fellow I think how the abstraction of the Sabbath would hopelessly enslave the working classes with whom we are identified. Think of labor thus going on, in our monotonous and eternal cycle, limbs forever wracked, the fingers forever straining, the feet forever plodding, the brain forever throbbing, the shoulders forever drooping, the loins forever aching, the mind forever restless—forever scheming.

Think of the beauty it would efface, the merry-heartedness it would extinguish, of the giant strength it would tame, of the resources of nature it would crush, of the sickness it would breed, of the projects it would wreck, of the groans it would extort, of the lives it would make immolate, and of the cheerless graves it would prematurely dig!

See them toiling and moiling, sweating and fretting, grinding and hewing, weaving and spinning, sewing and gathering, mowing and reaping, raising and building, digging and planting, striving and struggling—in the garden and in the field, in the granary and in the barn, in the factory and in the mill, in the warehouse and in the shop, on the mountain and in the ditch, on the roadside and in the wood, in the city and in the country, out at sea and on shore, in the days of brightness and in the nights of gloominess. What a picture would the world present, if we had no Sabbath!"

Esquimaux Marriages.

The marriage ceremony is performed curiously by the Esquimaux. When a boy kills a polar bear it is considered sufficient proof of his ability to maintain a family; he is therefore told to go and catch a wife. Watching his opportunity at night, he pounces upon a victim and attempts to carry her off; she however, struggles and shrieks until she has collected round her a group of sympathizers. She then turns upon her captor, and bites and scratches until he is compelled to release her; then she darts into the crowd and attempts to escape. The expectant bridegroom follows her, but not unmolested. All the old women take scourges of dried seal skin and flagellate him unmercifully as he passes, making at the same time every effort to arrest him in his course. If, despite these little impediments to matrimonial bliss, he should catch his victim, the biting and scratching scene is renewed, and in all probability he is compelled to release her, and the chase, with its attendant discomforts, is renewed. Should he overcome all obstacles, the third capture prove effectual, and the victim, ceasing her struggles, is led away amid the acclamations and rejoicings of the assembled multitude.

It is a remarkable and most interesting fact that the very first use to which the discovery of printing was applied was the production of the Holy Bible. This was accomplished at Mentz between the years 1450 and 1455. Of the first printed Bible eighteen copies are now known to be in existence, four of which are printed on vellum.

Quality, not quantity, is the best security of a Masonic Lodge.

In the Proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Missouri, an amusing account is given of the furniture of one Chapter that had been officially visited. An axe box was found among the ruins, and brought up, with the names of the merchant who sold it and the manufacturers who made it, thereon. But the G. H. Priest proved himself to be fully equal to the emergency. He found no key necessary, as all the characters were plain, and, we infer, were not effaced, or nearly so, by time. The merchant's name was decided and explained to the candidate to be a tetragrammaton; IXL upon it stood in the interpretation given for 3,000; Pittsburgh was held to be a Jewish town, &c. The humor of the account is racy, but it occurs to us that just here it was somewhat out of place, and that the work ought to have been arrested, even at the expense of the joke. But the Grand Chapter afterwards properly resolved against all this, and ruled that all the Chapters must provide themselves with the furniture necessary to give effect to the solemn and impressive ceremonies of the Chapter degrees.—*Keystone.*

Condensed Eggs.

The prejudices against condensed milk have hardly been overcome when a Bavarian firm puts condensed eggs on the market. The *British Trade Journal*, in noticing this new article of diet, says that it is prepared from fresh raw eggs by a process of desiccation which, while effectual in removing all traces of moisture, leaves the natural properties of the egg unimpaired. It is only necessary to add a due proportion of water to the egg powder to make it fit for cooking. The "active constituents" (are they young chickens?) of a dozen eggs are put up in a small tin can, and the *Trade Journal* thinks that when the people get the better of "a perhaps not altogether inexcusable prejudice," they will admit condensed eggs to be a valuable addition to the line of concentrated natural aliments.

A CRITICAL PERIOD.—A dwelling house on Clifford street took fire in one of the chambers the other day from an exploding kerosene lamp. The flames were extinguished after a sharp struggle by the woman of the house, who had her hands badly burned. She was relating her adventures to a neighbor next morning, and the woman asked:

"Why didn't you raise an alarm—where was Bessie?"

"Bessie and her beau were courting in the parlor," was the calm reply.

"And you never called them?"

"Not a word. I have known of cases when a sudden alarm has upset a young man just as he was about to propose, and changed the whole future of two lives.—*Detroit Free Press.*

Bishop Keener of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, has sailed for Vera Cruz on a visit to the mission of that church in Mexico.

Masonry is intended to elevate the character of man. How careful ought the committees of investigation to be to see that nothing which will degrade is ever permitted to pass the outer door. Lodges have been ruined by allowing the evil disposed to creep in through the negligent action of a committee whose research has been so lax of one of the first principles of Masonry—Prudence. See that the outer courts are securely guarded at all times, then Masons will always feel proud to take the hand of those who have trod the same path with themselves, and do so without hesitation or distrust.

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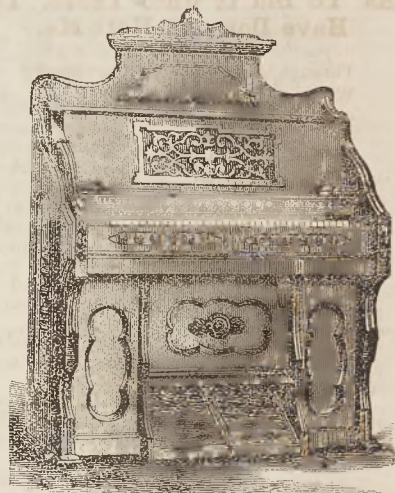
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