

Miscellaneous.

Prison Barbarity.

How Jersey's Convicts Suffer—Investigating Their Inhuman Treatment—Men Gagged and Suspended by the Walls—Cut the Flesh Out With the Cord—The Alcohol Punishment.

From the New York Times. THE JURY, Feb. 6.—The joint committee appointed to investigate the charges of inhuman treatment of prisoners in our State prison, on the part of General Mott, keeper, and by W. L. Phillips, physician of the same, met in the Senate chamber this evening at 8 o'clock. Patrick H. Lavery, Sheriff of Madison county, was the first witness sworn. He referred to Frelander, a convict from Hudson county, and said: "This man was arrested in Hoboken and convicted and sentenced to the State prison."

Alexander H. Warner testified as follows: I was Chaplain of the prison nine years and five months; left on the 31st of last August; was Chaplain for seventeen months while General Mott was keeper; knew very little about the punishment because I was afraid to speak; saw a man punished by his hands for one time with a cell one time; could not tell whether his feet touched the floor or not; merely cast my eyes in; I have seen them in the cells at other times by the walls, but not suspended; had to keep my eyes straight before me or I would get in trouble; the gag in the mouth is a common and a severe punishment; I saw a gag in the mouth of the man in the cell, and saw the gag in their mouths; that punishment was never used before General Mott's time; some of the prisoners, whose convicts were broken down, could not keep up with their work, and they were then punished: saw a scar on a man's thigh, which was said to be the effect of the alcohol; he was lying naked in a cell, and was said to be degraded; only one man pulled up by a pulley in his cell; I found there was a great deal of austerity in General Mott, and there was very little intercourse between us; I left there out of self respect; Mott treated me with indignity.

John Bates testified:—I was employed by a shoe company, a shoemaker, testified that he had been reported for not having put heels on shoes right.

Felix McGuire, deputy keeper, and Anthony K. Perry, marshal in the prison, testified that the gag, stretcher and hose had been used. Perry also said that a convict named Snooks had been found dead in his dungeon and the stretcher had been used on him there.

A Country without Neighbors. The Southern Confederacy was a country without neighbors, a pugilist without backs. History furnishes no instance of a more effective blockade. Landward, except where Mexican robbers and Indians held the frontier, lay the whole country of the foe, and seaward, within hail of each other, from Virginia to Texas, the vessels of the United States Navy shut in the besieged states from the world, and shut the world out from them.

women were then so proud. The prettiest homemade cloth of the Confederacy was a mixture of silk and cotton. For this black silk too much worn to be used in any other way, was cut into bits and picked into lines mixed with more or less cotton and spun and woven for the dress. The process is painfully tedious, as from a pound and a half to two pounds of picked silk was required; and not a few girls who set out to accomplish a dress stopped, short at enough silk to knit a pair of gloves. The statement made in a former article in our contemporary make shifts, published in Harper's Magazine, to the effect that the Confederate women did not know what was the fashion, was the occasion of some incredulous comments. Not only did they not know, but many of them did not care. They wore what they had or could get, and were satisfied.

A Word about Editors. Editor McGuire, of the Dardanelle Arkansasian, declines to have his name used for governor, and emphatically declares he would not exchange his independent manhood and his old-calc editorial independence for the laurels and official chair without a bottom in all the politicians' gift. Right. Manly words well spoken. An honest, fearless, high-souled editor, wearing no party dog collar, and trotting along with his tail between his legs under no one horse political country-wagon, is far greater and more useful than any score of average governors or senators. They are made and unmade, by the overbearing breath of a mob, often of the basest materials that wear human shape while libeling it. He holds his patent of nobility from God alone, and all his work is for his country, the people and the right.

The free press is a richer heritage to our people than their blood-bought, almost forfeited legacy of free government, and should be guarded in its high character by the editor, who should ever take rank with the wisest and bravest men of every where, and establishing a universal despotism of ignorance, degradation and crime. Religion, morality, legislation and the public administration of justice are all powerfully molded and influenced by it. It is in this country the great estate of the people, mightier than parties and politicians, mightier than the government itself, in the good of the world.

The Tramp Question in New York. The Legislature of New York has taken a vigorous action in regard to the vagrants act prepared by the State Charities Aid Association, has been submitted to that body. Its main provisions are that persons arrested for vagrancy shall be sent to the workhouse immediately, to be managed by a special set of officers, and operate for special purposes. On the first conviction for vagrancy a prisoner shall be sent to the workhouse for a period of ninety days to six months. The second conviction renders them liable to imprisonment for six months, but not more than a year, and on the third conviction the time of imprisonment is indefinite.

A Masonic Lodge Censured. Contrary to the usual course of Masonic matters, the action of the Grand Master of the State of New Jersey in censuring one of the lodges at Paterson has been made public, and is causing considerable excitement among the fraternity. As the world at large has known for a long time, no man is considered a fit candidate for initiation into the rites of Freemasonry who is not physically perfect, completely unimpaired, and his rule or custom has been rigidly enforced against applicants who have lost any important member of the body, like a leg, arm, or hand; but not against those having slight disfigurements. It appears that the Paterson Lodge in question accepted a well known citizen as a candidate who had lost the thumb of his right hand by amputation, and duly commenced to initiate him. The Grand Master of New Jersey heard of this, and informed the Lodge that he would be present on Tuesday evening of this week, when he proceeded to censure the lodge for its action in accepting the "imperfect" candidate, and suspended the Master of the lodge for the remainder of the year for his non-observance of Masonic rules and customs.

The Future of Cotton in the Carolinas. The cultivation of cotton in the Carolinas for several years past, has been attended with little profit. Instances may be cited where individuals have been successful but these instances are rare. Generally the cultivation has been carried on under a high pressure system by use of expensive fertilizers and by perilling the landed and personal property of the farmer. Too little attention has been paid to the permanent improvement of the soil. The natural condition of the soil is becoming exhausted by this expensive and hazardous tillage. A disastrous crop year brings ruin to thousands of farmers. Credit has become so impaired in farming communities that those farmers who have accumulated money, deposit it in banks where the use of it is enjoyed almost exclusively by merchants. The only way in which farmers are benefited by the capital of the country is in supplies advanced by their factories at high rates of interest. Homesteads and personal exemptions have rendered necessary the enactment of laws for the protection of factors who make advances. The credit of the farmer who mortgages his crop is necessarily confined to his factors. One of the main objects of a crop lien, is generally hazardous, and the rate of interest charged is necessarily high. We venture the opinion that nine tenths of the farmers are opposed to paying more than eight per cent for the loan of money. It is among this class that many laws find their stoutest defenders, yet farmers' necessitating contract debts for supplies at higher rates of interest than are paid by any other class of people. The farmer, perhaps unwittingly, pays from twenty to twenty-five per cent for credit on advances made on his crop, while he would refuse to pay more than eight per cent for loan of money.

Facts and Fun. The snores of Mrs Alfonso are so charming that they are to be set to music.—Buffalo Express. The man who has a pretty, scolding wife doesn't have any difficulty in understanding how a thing of beauty may be a joy forever.—Worcester Press. A young lady in Wisconsin, refused an offer of marriage on the ground that her father was not able to support a larger family. Love is an intoxication.—Cincinnati Commercial. Yes, but a year of matrimony will sober you up.—Franklin Patriot. Caleb Cushing is the worst and Mr. Waddell, of North Carolina, is the best dressed man in Washington. Ben Butler leads in button hole bouquets. Old Ben Franklin sometimes said a good thing—for example—"If a man empies his purse into his head, no man can take it from him."

The Confidence Man. A solitary lady was going up on a Case and looking for a pair of shoes, as if she believed all the world at once, when a man with a handkerchief bound around his head got aboard and set opposite her. He doubtless felt that some explanation should be made for his appearance, and he modestly said: "Madam, I was not run over by a horse."

A Glowing Tribute to the Democracy. Washington was never in so good a moral condition as at the present time. The Senate and House of Representatives have in them more men whose cheek and eye indicate good habits than I have ever seen before. In both Houses the moral tone, judging from appearance and utterance, is better. The bad old politicians that sat in the councils of the Nation are nearly all dead. I am happy to say they were beyond reformation, and a new race of men have taken possession. Many of those old ones died of delirium tremens, their obituary styling it "exhaustion from public service," the red monument on the end of their noses giving way to the white marble shaft that tells their virtues to the skies. There is as much talent in the majority of Congress as there ever was, notwithstanding all the cant heard here on this subject in the opposite direction. Once in a while now a member murders the King's English, but it used to amount to a massacre! Many of the old members used to write the pronouns "I" with a small letter dotted, not through any overwhelming modesty at their magnificence, but because they thought it accurate, and it took one of my friends, now a retired stenographer, until after midnight to quell the riot of adverbs, participles, adjectives and verbs in many of the harangues of celebrated members; and he made his fortune by mending broken speeches. In our Senate and House of Representatives to-day there are men as profoundly learned, as severely logical, as magnificently eloquent as were ever seen there since the Government was founded. Let the comparatively youthful men of our National Legislature become as old as their predecessors, and they will be as famous.

FAMILY SECRETS.—The boy should be known better at his age than to let out family secrets, but he felt grateful to the other boy for the use of his name, and softly remarked "Father wasn't home all last night, and he hasn't come home yet."

"Gone off?" queried the owner of the stiffs. "He's down town somewhere, we expect, and ma says she aint going to run after him if he don't come home for a month."

MARY THE WOMAN.—Some men marry dumpy, some eyes, a few ears; the mouth, too, is occasionally married; and so goes ahead. They don't come out until they are in love with a braid. He was so far gone that he became engaged to her before she was fully dressed. After having been adopted by his fiancée, the charn was dissolved and never renewed. What do you men marry?—Why they marry those and scraps of a wife, instead of a true woman. And then after the wedding, they are surprised to find that although they married they have no wives. He that would have a wife must marry a woman.

Take Notice. A APPLICATION will be made to the Board of Commissioners for Mecklenburg county, on the first Monday in March, 1878, to change the line dividing the townships of Dewees and Long Creek, so as to leave the town of Huntersville, all in Dewees township. J. S. HOLTON, feb 24

FLORAL ITEMS.—Belle de Chateaux is the name of a new double white violet. Camellia flower best in a cool room. The buds are less likely to drop, and the blossoms last longer. When they begin to grow place them in a warm window. Window plants should be thoroughly watered weekly. When the weather will allow they may be set out of doors, otherwise in a bath tub, and copiously watered to remove dust. Frozen plants will sometimes revive if placed in an apartment where the temperature is just above the freezing point. They will thaw gradually. Never put frozen plants in a warm room.

Extraordinarily cold nights, heating appliances rarely keep apartments warm enough to prevent freezing, at least the window. During such weather place plants in the center of the room and cover with newspapers securely. Tea roses to succeed properly should be lifted in the autumn, potted, and placed in a cool pit or cellar during winter.

Catching Cold.—The season of the year is now upon us when people everywhere will be taking cold, and in many cases they will suffer much and die. A little care often prevents it. In the first place, as one of the means to prevent a cold, the daily bath in a warm room, with much friction, is very important. In no case should the body be chilled. Use much friction over the chest and throat, and snuff into the nostrils a little of the water warmed to a comfortable temperature. Next, after the bath, take a little exercise in the open air, neither too much nor too little; exposing the body some what to the cold and sun for a short time, but never exhausting it. One chief danger from cold is the exhausted state of the body that first occurs, so it is not able to resist unfavorable influences. People who are not very vigorous should avoid over exertion and keep the strength up to the highest point. It will help those prone to a cold to sleep all they can. Another cause of colds is eating too heartily after a day's work, when there are not forces enough to digest the food and keep up the circulation. Eat moderately at night if you would avoid a cold. A cold in its early stages may be broken by hot foot-baths, warmth to the body, especially a hot pack or a hot bath in the middle of the day, with much friction and quiet in a comfortable room. It is not advisable to take a hot bath at night in such cases. When you have a cold don't eat much or work much unless you have great physical strength, when a huge breakfast may be a good thing to equalize the circulation and restore the action to the skin, which always suffers when one takes cold.—Herald of Health.

FIGHT BETWEEN A SNAKE AND A HEN HAWK.—On Tuesday, the 22nd instant, the weather was mild and bright, and the sun appeared to have withdrawn from a summer day and planted itself in the middle of January. This being the case, a tremendous snake, known as the "Coo Sucker," came from his hiding place of the farm of Mr. Edward Woodall, near the Royal Oak, and no doubt was basking in the sunshine when a huge hawk espied him and thinking it rare chum for a heavy meal he would demolish Mr. Snake at a single swoop. But Mr. Snake was not to be tri'd-d with thusly. The hawk went for its prey when the snake embraced him with a death-like grip. The hawk flapped and squeaked, but the snake held him fast and a moment later Mr. Woodall's employ was attracted by the noise. The hawk was held fast until killed, and of course the snake afterwards shared a like fate, as it appears to be the duty of every one to kill a snake when in reach.—Easton (Md.) Gazette.

THE RISING SUN'S ATTRACTIONS. THE EARTH HELD IN ITS ORBIT BY THE ATTRACTIVE POWERS OF THE SUN.

Trustee's Notice. PERSONS indebted to the firm of F. Searr & Co., will take notice that the notes and accounts belonging to said firm have been transferred to the undersigned as Trustee. All persons indebted must make immediate payment to me, at the store of Smith & Foran. All notes and accounts not paid within a reasonable time will be placed in the hands of an attorney for collection. W. McSMITH, Trustee. feb 4

Wanted. A MILCH COW. Would exchange a fine Devon for a common one in full milk. feb 10 R. BARRINGER.

Another Dissolution. AND ANOTHER SLAUGHTERING OF PRICES!!

No Sham, Goods Must be Sold

READY MADE CLOTHING, Boots, Shoes, and Gent's Furnishing Goods.

A Landmark Gone.

Wittkowsky & Rintels.

WE SELL THE CHEMICALS FOR MAKING "HARRIS' EMPIRE COMPOSTS," THE BEST FERTILIZER NOW IN USE.

Furniture Dealer.

Burgess Nichols, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in All Kinds of Furniture, Bedding, Cheap Bedsteads, Lounges, Parlor and Chamber Suits.

REMOVAL.

H. T. BUTLER.

NATIONAL CLOTHING HALL.

Pay Full Price for CLOTHING.

Trustee's Notice.

Wanted.

Take Notice.

Trustee's Notice.