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J. D. CAMERON, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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Applications are constantly made for copies of THE OBSERVER containing the articles in regard to the conduct of North Carolina troops at Gettysburg. The number of requests for these, from the Northern States especially, has latterly become so great that, being unable to supply them otherwise, it has been determined to publish them in book form.

The papers on the subject, on both sides, will be reprinted just as they appeared in THE OBSERVER, and will make a volume of some two hundred pages.

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DIERSION OF TRADE FROM NEW YORK.

The New York Times says business men assert that the dry goods jobbing trade is fast being taken away from New York city by the establishment of jobbing houses in Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Louisville, Toledo, Buffalo and other interior cities. The sales of Field, Leiter & Co; of Chicago, last year amounted to over \$12,000,000, an increase over the previous year of \$7,000,000, and those of other houses in the cities mentioned have been in like proportion. Many new houses have recently sprung up in those places and are doing well, and A. T. Stewart & Co. have thought it worth their while to establish a branch in Chicago. A large proportion of this business is drawn from New York city. On the other hand, since January 1 no less than eight important New York concerns have gone out of business, the last being Adriaens, Robbins & Co; who failed on Wednesday with liabilities estimated at \$200,000; and James Lashy, general jobber and importer of woolen goods, who failed on the same day with liabilities amounting to \$130,000.

TOO OLD TO BE CAUGHT WITH CHAFF.

Considerable amusement was created in one of our stores the other day, by the antics of an old lady in a filled cap and spectacles, over what she considered a strong exhibition of the marvelous. A gardener friend of the shop-keeper had recently presented him with a small-mouthed bottle containing a large cucumber—quite a curiosity to those ignorant of how it is produced, but, like many other mysteries, simple enough when explained. The bottle is of course placed over the embryo pickle when it is small and allowed to remain beside the vine until the growth is completed. The old lady had never seen or heard of anything of the kind, and she stood before it utterly dazed and bewildered with astonishment. First she would get on one side, plant her spectacles firmly, take a long look and then draw a deep breath. She would then remove her glasses, give them a thorough wiping and try it again, remarking in a high key, with much emphasis: "Nobd'y in the world kin ever make me believe that is a ginoome cucumber in that bottle—it's jist some kind of a scam you've cast over my eyes!"

Then she would get over on the other side, readjust her spectacles, wink several time, with both eyes in the drooldest manner to dispel the delusion, and then take aim at the bottle again, closing first one eye and then the other, with the same result as before, when she would repeat the remark, and shake her head with incredulity as she slowly expressed her doubts as to the reality of the spectacle.

"I mind of being to a slight-o'-hand show when I was a gal, she went on to say, 'an' a feller come out an' pretended to be eatin' cotton, belchin' fire, an' spinnin' ribbons, besides fryin' eggs in a hat, an' a lot more mis-mouse an' tomfoolery, not to speak of his gittin' live chickens out'n a loaf of bread he had found in the man's overcoat pocket; but then as had seen such things before, an' knowed how it was, all said it wasn't more nor less nor a sham, an' all he had done was to put a scam over people's eyes, when he could make 'em believe a free-load was a bird of paradise, if he wanted to. An' that's jist exactly what I think about that cucumber. Take away the 'scell' from off'n my eyes, an' I des-say the bottle will turn out to be empty. It's real eaterrtainin', though, an' I s'pose there's heaps of folks jist foible enough to believe it's all as real as it 'pears to be, but I'm too old a bird to git 'choked on chaff, Mr. Sanders, an' you can't fool me worth a cent."

So saying she gathered up her parcels and departed with many knowing nods of satisfaction.—*Cincinnati Breakfast Table.*

A MYSTERIOUS DEVELOPMENT.

About two weeks ago, says the Sedalia (Mo.) Democrat, Capt. R. H. Moses, County Clerk, took an old daguerrotype to Latour's gallery to be copied. Mr. Latour was very busy and the Captain merely asked him if he could reproduce the picture in a photograph. Being informed in the affirmative, the Captain laid the daguerrotype on a table, and ordering a half dozen copies thereof, passed out without informing Mr. Latour as to whom the pictures were intended to represent. Some days after, when Mr. Latour was preparing for a print, he took up the daguerrotype left by Captain Moses and took a good look at it without being able to recognize the features of either of the faces (there were two) on the old picture. A negative was taken of the daguerrotype, and Mr. Latour went to his dark room to develop it. While applying the acids he would look through the plate from time to time to watch the development of the picture. When it was nearly finished he looked through it, holding it up between his eyes and the lamp, and to his utter astonishment beheld between and just over the two faces transferred from the daguerrotype a perfect picture of Captain Moses, as he appears to-day. The nervous system of Mr. Latour received quite a shock, and he came very near dropping the plate, but he finally calmed down and finished up the negative, from which he printed the half-dozen photographs. The face of Capt. Moses, dimly outlined, even appears on the photographs.

The strangest part of this whole affair transpired when Captain Moses called for the photographs, when Mr. Latour secreted for the first time the parties who set for the old picture. It was Captain Moses and his brother Atson, who was killed by desperadoes in this city in 1860 while acting as one of a marshal's posse attempting to effect their arrest. The daguerrotype was taken about twenty years ago and no one would be able to recognize in the picture. Intended for Captain Moses then, one familiar feature as he looks to-day.

By what agency was his face produced? The plate upon which the negative was

perfectly clean, as it has to be before it can be used. The Captain was not in the gallery from the time he left the daguerrotype until he called for the photographs. It is one of those strange freaks calculated to suggest the agency of something not mortal, but this is a question for scientific men, and not local reporters, who are supposed to know nothing about spirits or anything of that kind. The facts are given and can be substantiated by a visit to Latour's gallery, where the negative and the original daguerrotype can be seen.

FACTS ABOUT THE STARS.

If the dignity of a science is to be measured by the inability of the human mind to comprehend its teachings, Astronomy is certainly the noblest of all. We very much doubt if any man really has a clear idea of all that is implied when the distances of the planets from the sun are started; and it is hardly less difficult to understand all that has been discovered in relation to the sun itself. How much can we comprehend about a place where the diameter of the earth would be a convenient measure with which to ascertain the height of flames? Have we any just conception of the intensity of heat sufficient to vaporize iron? It is, however, when we in imagination, leave the Solar System, and start on a journey to the stars, that we begin to understand how insignificant our earth really is. It might serve to measure the diameters of the stars, but for the distance of the very nearest star known to us, Alpha Centauri, we must take another measure—i. e. the distance of the earth from the sun. Alpha Centauri is more than 200,000 times the distance, and if the reader wishes to test his powers of comprehension let him attempt to grasp the import of this statement. He may be aided by comparing it with things familiar to us. Fifty miles an hour is very fast time for an express train; but at this speed the journey to that star would take over forty millions of years! The velocity of light is over 190,000 miles a second; and it requires over three years for the light of the nearest star to reach us. The brightest star visible to us is Sirius, which is at five times as great a distance from us as Alpha Centauri. It has been calculated that this star gives out 300 times as much light as the sun. Now, we have no means of knowing the size of Sirius; but if the light of that star is equal in intensity to that of the sun, its diameter must be nearly 18 times, and its mass over 2,200 times as great. It is possible that its light is more intense than this, but even if twice as bright as the sun, it must be 12 times as great in diameter.—Even this diameter, over ten millions of miles, is beyond anything of which we have an actual idea. An express train, at 50 miles an hour, would require more than seventy years to complete the circuit of such a sphere.

The next star to Sirius in brightness, as seen from the earth, is Canopus a star which cannot be seen further North than the most southerly portions of the United States. This star is between one-half and three quarters as bright as Sirius; it shows no displacement from the annual motion of the earth, we are forced to the conclusion that it must be larger than Sirius—perhaps many times as large. The distances of only about ten stars have been estimated, and of the others visible, we can not even guess at their distances or sizes. All we can safely say is that they must be bodies of enormous size in comparison with the planets. Doubtless many of them are far larger than the sun. Even the stars, seen only through the most powerful telescopes, must be large as compared with the earth. They may appear faint from being really small, but it would seem more reasonable to suppose that they are, as a rule, comparable to our sun, and that they are faint merely from the effect of distance.—*Ex.*

A SOLDIER OF THE CROSS ON A FURLONG.

Colonel George W. Fowler was standing in the square at Watertown the other day, when he spied a farmer who, some weeks ago, had sold him some very "crooked" hay. The party in question is an active professor of religion, and a most zealous worker for his own pocket. The man's profession being in such marked contrast, caused the Colonel to eye him with dislike. When he came up the Colonel charged him with deception in the matter of hay. The skinflint stoutly denied the charge. The Colonel drew himself up to his full height, and disdainfully observed: "I am a soldier, sir—not a liar!" "So am I a soldier," whined the promoter of "crooked" hay. "You! ejaculated the Colonel, in a tone of disgust; 'what kind of a soldier are you? I'm a soldier of the cross," said the skinflint, with a detestable flourish of the hand. "That may be," said the Colonel dryly, "but you've been on a furlong ever since I knew you.

It's a bad religion, that makes us hate the religion of others.

WHAT SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED

We do not understand the distinction made by Mr. Potter as to what frauds should be investigated, to mean anything more than a distinction between frauds committed and frauds attempted. "Suppose" it is said that in a certain State a great fraud was planned, was attempted, but was never consummated. What of it? Why investigate it? It was defeated, and that is enough. The moral guilt of the parties concerned may be just as great; but it produced no effect upon the rights of others. It would seem to be a purposeless waste of time and money for Congress to pursue such investigations.

We understand, now, however, our esteemed contemporary, the New York Times to charge that the State of Mississippi was carried for Mr. Tilden by fraud. We do not hesitate to say that if such an accusation is seriously made, and based upon sufficient legal evidence, the truth should be fished for, no matter how deep the well at the bottom of which it lies.

Frauds already defeated are already well disposed of. Frauds temporarily successful should be investigated to the end that their triumph may be rendered short-lived, and that they may now be defeated.

The Republicans are only at boys' play in trying to load down Potter's resolution, with unmeaning amendments but if there are any consummated frauds charged anywhere which they seriously desire to have investigated, let them have investigation to their hearts' content, and upon the first asking.—*New York Sun.*

The aged Alexander H. Stephens, upon whom Hayes has lavished political attentions, and who was among the first to do homage to apparently successful Fraud, professes to think Potter's resolution a mistake, and has written an impudent letter of remonstrance and dissension to the Representative whose name is associated with it. But the day is past when Alexander H. Stephens's approval or disapproval was a matter about which an honest man had any excuse for concerning himself. An old Whig, a professedly firm adherent to the Union, he grabbed at the proffered Vice-Presidency of the Southern Confederacy, and proclaimed that the corner stone of the new Government was human slavery. It is a part of the fitness of things that a man with this record should be found in the fore-front of the hypocritical defenders of Fraud. Anywhere else Alexander H. Stephens would be out of place.—*New York Sun.*

MORE RUSSIANS COMING.

A Philadelphia correspondent of the New York Herald says: "That two more vessels of the same character as the Cimbric are to be sent to this country by the Russian government. They are both German merchant steamers, and one of them should now be near these shores, as she is already overdue. This one, which should now be looking for every day, is the Thuringia. She contains a large number of passengers, consisting of officers and sailors from the Russian navy, who are brought here for the same purpose as those on the Cimbric—namely, to be transferred to the vessels purchased in this country by the Russian government in the event of war with England. The other German steamer will also arrive on the coast of the United States in a short time, and will also be under the orders of the Russian government, by whom she is chartered, and will bring a body of seamen from which to draft crews for the Russian cruisers or privateers. Capt. Schmetchin is correct in stating that Russia is purchasing vessels in this country, not chartering them. Russia is chartering vessels from Germany, but in the United States she is purchasing them."

SALMON IN CHEESAPEAKE BAY.

The Smithsonian institution received on Monday last a fine Atlantic salmon, weighing 19½ pounds caught on the preceding Sunday in a drift net near Spesutia island, in Chesapeake Bay, nearly opposite Elk river. Numerous cases have been recorded during the present season of the capture of salmon in the Merrimac, the Connecticut, the Hudson, and the Delaware. The salmon now received is the first to indicate the return from the sea of the salmon planted in the Susquehanna several years ago. Every-point points to the probability of the triumphant success, on the part of the fish commissions of the general government and of the several states, in their endeavor to propagate this most valuable of all the fishes.—*Wash. Star.*

AN EDITOR KILLS HIS MAN.

Washington, Mo.; was thrown into quite an excitement last Friday from the shooting affray between Col. John Coleman, lawyer, and Thomas P. Diggs, editor of the Franklin county Observer, which resulted in the death of Colonel Coleman, while Diggs is in quite a precarious condition. The encounter was caused by public remarks on one side and personal articles on the other.

Feetling is a sort of religious meeting at troubles.

What Miss would ruin any man? Miss management.

Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands disappear.

WOMAN'S WOUNDED AFFECTIONS.

As the dove will clap its wings to its side and cover and conceal the arrow that is preying on its vitals, so it is the nature of woman to hide from the world the pang of wounded affection. With her the desire of the heart has failed. The great charm of existence is at end. She neglects all the cheerful exercises that gladden the spirits, quicken the pulse and send the tide of life in healthful currents through the veins. Her rest is broken; the sweet refreshment of sleep is poisoned by melancholy dreams; dry sorrow drips her blood, until her feeble frame sinks under the last external assault. Look for her after a little while and you find friendship weeping over her untimely grave and wondering that one who but lately glowed with all the radiance of health and beauty, should now be brought down to darkness and the worm. You will be told of some wintry chill, some slight indisposition that laid her low; but no one knows the mental misery that previously sapped her strength and made her so easy a prey to the spoiler.

IT IS LIKE ALL THESE THINGS?

Love is like the devil because it torments us; like heaven because it wraps the soul in bliss; like salt, because it is refreshed; like pepper, because it often acts us on fire; like sugar, because it is sweet; like a rope, because it is often the death of a man; like a prison, because it makes one miserable; like wine, because it makes us happy; like a man, because it is here to-day and gone to-morrow; like a woman, because there is no getting rid of it; like a beacon, because it guides one to the wished for port; like a will-o-the-wisp, because it often leads one into a bog; like a Seren counter, because it often runs away with one; like a puppy, because it sables nicely with one; like the bite of a mad dog or the kiss of a pretty woman, because they both make a man run mad; like a goose, because it is silly; like a rabbit, because there is nothing like it; in a word, it is like a ghost, because it is like everything and like nothing—often talked about, but never seen, touched or understood.

THE USE OF TOBACCO.

The use of tobacco is doing more to shatter the nerves and undermine the constitution of the American people to-day than all other causes combined. Thousands become drunkards by attempting to quiet the "tickling in the throat," caused by the use of tobacco.

Never tell your secrets in a corn field, for it has a thousand ears.

What is an old maid? A woman that has been made for a long time.

When you dispute with a fool, he is very certain to be similarly employed.

Every other sin hath some pleasure annexed to it, or if addit of some excuse, but envy wants both.

Show me a land that has mountains without valleys, and I will show you a man who has joys without sorrows.

A man telling his wife about 'a club with home comforts,' which she sighed: 'Ah! I had a home with club comforts.'

A mob hanged a horse thief in Kansas, and pinned the inscription on his back: 'This man was not the noblest work of God.'

The young man who used to sing so demurely,