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THE WEEKLY JOURNAL is published THE WEEKLY JOURNAL is published avery Thursday at \$1.50 per annum. Notices of Marriages or Deaths not to exceed ten lines will be inserted free. All additional matter will be charged 5 ets. per line. Payments for transient advertisements must be made in advance. Regular advertisements will be collected promptly at the end of each month.

Communications containing news of sufficient public interest are solicited. No communication must be expected to be published that contains objectionable personalities, or withholds the name of the author. Articles longer than half column must be paid for.

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the author by application at this office and thowing wherein the grievance exists.

THE JOURNAL.

E. E. HARPER, - - . Proprietor. C. T. HANCOCK, - Local Reporter.

Entered at the Postoffice at New Berns. W. C., as second-class matter.

FIFTEEN years ago a depositor in the Second National Bank of Monmouth, Ill., drew some money, and as the teller soon afterwards missed a \$100 bill, it was suspected that the depositor had been overpaid. He denied the accusation, but suspicion attached to him until the other day, when a carpenter, tearing apart an old counter in the bank, found a mouse's nest, and in it the missing bill only a little mutilated.

A SAVANNAH banker says that in the western part of North Carolina there are several counties amid almost inaccessible mountains of which there is as little known to the outside world as there is of Central Africa. No railroads penetrate this region. The natives have no idea of morality, live in a manner little above the lowest brutes and have absolutely no knowledge of the world outside their own communities. Polygamy is practiced with shameless openness and marriage coremonies are rare.

THE pupils of American schools will shudder at the thought of Bismarck's period of study, when, as he said recently, that he had at school to work thirteen hours a day. It gave him no time to keep up his music, though he was and is, he declares, fond of it "above everything, especially Beethoven. It is true I am not the man to take a ticket in order to sit and listen to music on a narrow seat, but I have always liked music at home. Up to my thirties, when I made the acquaintance of my very musical life, I always regretted that I could not keep the music hour in my plan of lessons.

A GENTLEMAN from the West, spending a few days in Washington, called on his Congressman, who is also his townsman. The conversation turning upon home matters and home people, the constituent asked if it was true that Mr. -, a department clerk from their county, was going to marry an heiress. The Congressman said the engagement had been announced. it a love-match?" asked the constituent; "or is he going to marry her for money?" "Going to marry her for her money, of course," answered the Congressman; "and he makes no secret of it, either. I heard him speak of her as his financee right out in a crowd the other day."

"I've often thought of you newspaper editors," said a well-known Detroit clergyman, "when some day not feeling especially in the mood, I found it exceedingly difficult to evolve my sermon. It has been and is still something of a mystery how on so short a notice as often happens, an editor will turn out a clear, emphatic, and efficacions editorial which has the merit also of brevity and elegance. I know, by experience, that it is fairly easy to write acceptably when not limited by space, but what puzzles me is how editors set their ideas down so well and so completely in from two to six inches of space. I suppose it's all a matter of training and natural selection."

MANY years ago, a French gentleman was invited to 5-o'clock tea at Bath, where the guests sat around the room in a stiff circle, holding their teacups in their left hands and eating hot-buttered waffles and chipped smoked venison with the fingers of their right, from plates in their laps. Waiters handed about tea and coffee, and the French gentleman, unaware that the position of the teaspoon in the empty cup returned to the waiter indicated whether or not it was to be replenished, politely drank fourteen cups of tea, and then, in despair, pocketed the cup and saucer, until the general rising of the company enabled him to rid himself of

WHEN a young man, the late Charles Bradlaugh was a strong believer in Christianity, and a member of a Bible class in the parish Sunday school. While thus studying the Bible, he came across one or two apparent contradictions, and went to the rector for light. But the rector was a stern man of the old school, and, instead of helping the young man out of his difficulty. rebuked him severely for daring to find any difficulty in God's book, and advised him to believe everything he read in it without asking any questions. The advice was well meant, but it was the worst that could have been given in this particular case. The young man at once quit studying the Bible or believing in it, and the rest of his career is known to the world.

THE BLUE LAWS.

Choice Morsels From Ancient Colonial Codes.

There has been some sense and a great deal of nonsense written about the "Blue Laws" of Connecticut, which some writers say were borrowed from the colony of Massachusetts Bay, the laws of the colony being "blue" enough for any use. Most of these laws were enacted prior to 1640, a fact which will, to some extent, help to mitigate their severity. Below will be found some of the choice morsels from this old code: "No woman shall kiss her children on the Subbath or upon fasting days. No one shal run on the Sabbath day, or walk, except reverently to and fro in his garden. No one shall buy or sell land without permission of the Selectmen. A debtor in prison swearing he has no estate, shall be let and sold to make satisfaction. Whosoever sett tha fire in the woods and that fire burns a house, shall be put to death for the crime. Whosoever shall bring cards or dice into this dominion the same shall be fined £5. No one can be a freeman or vote unless he be converted and a member in full connection with a church. No food or shelter shall be offered a Quaker, Adamite or other here-No Catholic priest shall be allowed to abide in this dominion. No one shall cross a river with anyone but an authorized ferryman,"

The following selections are from the Colonial records of Massachusetts, all of them being laws enacted prior to the establishment of the "Body of Liber-

ties" in 1640: "October, 1632-It is ordered : That noe person shall take tobacco publiquely under penalty of 2s. 6d. nor privately in his own house, or the house of another, before strangers, and that two or more shall not take it together, anywhere, undor the aforesaid penalty for every offense.

In November, 1637, the records decreed that "all former laws against tobacco are repealed, and tobacco set at liberty." After it was "set at liberty" the people seem to have overindulged in the soothing weed, for the next year we read in the order of the General Court that "finding that since the repeal of the laws against tobacco it is more abused than before, the court therefore orders that no man shall take any tobacco in the fields, except on a journey, or at meal times, under a paine of a fine of 12d. for every offence; nor shall he take any tobacco in or near any dwelling house, barne, corne or hay-rick as may likely endanger the firing thereof; nor shall be take tobacco while stopping at any inn where the master thereof may take offence

at the same. Swearing also had its drawbacks in those good old days, as may be seen from the following, taken from the Massachusetts Records of September, 1636: "Robt. Shrotehose, for swearing 'by the bloud of God,' was sentenced to have his tongue put in a clyft stick and to stande so by the space of haulfe an hour."

Virginia, not to be outdone in the "Blue Law" line, enacted a few of her own. Here is a sample taken at raudom:

"What man or woman soever who shall rob any garden, being set to weed the same, or willfully pluck up any root, herb or flower, to spoil, waste or steal the same, or shall pluck grapes or steal ears of corn growing in the field, the same shall be punished with death."-St. Louis Republic.

Concerning Coal.

"The power of a nation in this age of steam depends on two mineral products within its national Loundaries," Prof. Bickmore said, "and those minerals are not the precious gold and silver, but the common iron and coal. The United States is blessed in this particular. It has 190,000 square miles of coal beds, of which 120,000 square miles may be easily worked. To get an idea of the probably inexhaustible supply, compare America with England. Some years ago an investigation was made to ascertain how long the supply of coal would last in that country. The drain upon the mines there is not alone for the manufacturing in Sheffield, Manchester, London, and the other cities, but English coal is exported to far-away countries.

'In 1874 the output of the mines of the world was 260,000,000 tons, of which England furnished 125,000,000 tons, or about one-half. Investigation showed that the supply, within 4,000 feet of the surface which was available, was so great that at this average of 125,000,000 tons a year it would not be exhausted for 1,120 years. England has a coal area of 12,-000 square miles, while in the United States the area is 120,000, or ten times as great. Consequently, if one-half the output for the world were to come from mines in this country, at the rate of consumption when the investigation was made, the supply would last 11,200 years. But it has been found that as the world grows the consumption of coal increases in a geometric ratio, so that this period cannot be counted on as the time when the supply will be exhausted. It is enough to say that the supply in the United States is practically inexhaustible, and that as a coal-producing country the United States is without a rival."-[New York Times.

"It Cannot Be."

The following is from the pen of George D. Prentice: "It cannot be that carth is man's abiding place. It cannot be that our life is a mere bubble, cast up by eternity to float a moment on its waves and then sink into nothingness. Else why is it that the glorious aspirations which leap like angels from the temple of one's heart are ever wandering unsatisfied? Why is it the stars which hold their festival around the midnight throng are set above the grasp of our limited faculties, forever mocking us with their unapproachable glory? And, finally, why is it that bright forms of human beauty presented to our view are taken from us, leaving the thousand streams of affection to flow back in Alpine torrents upon our hearts? There is a realm where the rainbow never fades; where the stars will be spread out before us like the islands that slumber in the ocean; and where the beautiful beings which pass before us like shadows will stay in our presence

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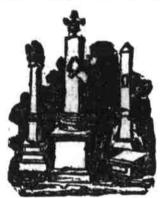
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L. H. CUTLER,

"I am almost ashamed to tell people I belong to the profession, there has been so much said and written about the 'fair typewriters,'" said a stenographer to a New York Herald reporter. The comic papers make pictures of them and in the newspapers nearly every day there appears some squib reflecting on women who get their hving as stenographers and typewriters. From my experience, and I have had considerable, most of this is mere trash. Men who hire stenographers usually have plenty for them to do, and I have never seen a man yet who brought any woman nonsense in conflict with his business.

I know quite a number of girls who are

doing this work, and their experience is

Truth About Stenographers.

just like mine. "I ouce lost a good job because the wife of the man who wanted a stenographer had made him promise he would not employ a lady. She had been reading all this rot in the newspapers, and had naturally come to the conclusion that we formed a dangerous class. A woman with a husband like that ought to chain him up so she will know where he is. Men in active business life as a rule subordinate everything else to their business. Any disposition of a female employe to encourage flirtation on the part of himself or his clerks, or even his office boy, would meet with a pretty prompt dismissal. On the other hand, a woman who works hard and earns

whatever salary she gets is usually too

independent to tolerate any familiarity

on the part of those with whom she is

thrown in business contact "

A Nice Ethical Question. '1 The doctor troubles himself very little, I imagine, about the relative deserts of his two patients. Each is a "case" to be treated on its merits. But all the same there is a striking difference between the two uses to which the science of medicine is put. The physician pre-scribes equally for the hard-pressed, poor man who seeks strength in order that he may support his family, and for the self-indulgent free liver, who comes to be cured so that he may take up a fresh course of dissipation. I once heard a heated discussion between a doctor and a lawyer as to the relative dignity of their respective calling, in which the latter declared, as his profession one of the chief uses of which was to enable the man who had eaten and drank too much to eat and drink still more -Boston Post,

The Verdict of Experienca.

"Remember, Tommy," said his father, addressing the youth after the failure of one method of discipline, there are more ways than one to kill a

"'Corse!" replied Tommy; "there has ter be, reise she wouldn' be killed."

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