From the Wilmington, Del. Republican . A Letter from Barnum the Re-

BE WADES INTO THE PREACHEDS THE DOOR STILL OPEN FOR THEM TO COME-HE HAS NEITHER HORNS NOR HOOFS

NOR HOOPS.

Editors. Republican:—The Rev. Mr. Caldwell of St. Paul's M. E. Church, who condemns me un heard, is an object of pity. He has my sympathy for permitting unfounded prejudice to prevent him from seeing the most carefully arranged, moral, in-tructive and extensive display of nature's marvels that he probably ever before had an opportunity of beholding at one time.

Of course, by shutting his eyes, he may believe it dark, and he may by shutting his understand-ing, avoid the great sin of looking ing, avoid the great sin of looking on my proface giraffee, my drunk-en sea-lions, my swindling came's, my gambling rhinoceros, theying moneys, debauched antelopes and Liamas, degraded lions, tigers and leopards, slanderous ostriches, hy-pocritical vultures, heretical golden pocritical vultures, heretical golden pldgeons, irreligious parrots and cantankerous cockatoos. He will, by the same proce, s., te spared the humiliation of associating with my vulgar "Temperance Family," life size, in wax. He won't even risk his precious soul by beholding the Behemoth, the giants, the dwarfs the tateod Greek nobleman, for the moving model of the famous S'rashurg Anostolia clock, with. The moving model of the famous Srasburg Apostolic clock; neither will his salvation be jeepardized by looking on tamed elephants, unregenerate riding bears; frisky, dancing ponies, athletic men and educated horses.

educated horses.

And then these holy Methodist clergymen, who, I understand, seriously resolved not to accept Barnum's complimentary tickets, What a narrow escape they had!

Oh, if they had lived to see one of serialists. my stallions leap over half a dozen elephants, old "Nick" would have had their souls. Be careful, gen-tlemen, don't smile, for that is too

wicked!
Seriously, my reverend friends, before condemning me, you should have learned that I have nearly revolutionized public entertainments and especially travelling shows, by compelling their proprietors to abolish I'quor selling, gambling and vulgarity. I have made it a rule never to offer any exhibition that a Christian mother and daugher, yes, and her clerywing if the contraction of t ter, yes, and her clergyman (if he had good sense), could not witness without approval.

without approval.

The religious world north, east and west, who know me (as you do not), and who recognize healthful recreation as necessary alike to body and mind, are among my very bost patrons. As it is difficult to procure comfortable seats for all my recreations. cuit to procure comfortable seats for all my parons, the arm-chairs, which I charitably intended for these clergymen, will be occupied by respectable ladies and children—by parents who, in this generation, are not apt to be driven to caves and dungeons, lest the light of the sun may shine on them.

I will venture to affirm that

I will venture to affirm that a good, ringing innocent laugh and good ringing innocent laugh and a cheerful face are more acceptable before the heavenly throne, than the groans and sighs caused by mole-yed, self-righteous Pharisaism, which, hypocritically or ignorantly, exclaims, "Stand by; and holier than thon." This is loogus christianity. I will forgive these clerical gentlemon for trying to injure my business, and if, on reflection, they see their error in time for the big show the door is still open. I will overlook the misdoings, and give them one more chance to see "the greatest show on earth."

They may, at the same time, discover that its proprietor has neither horns nor boofs, and that he is as anxious as themselves to make the world better for his having lived in it. P. T. BARNUM. Philadelphia, April 23, 1878.

THE FIRST STEP .- There is no step so long as the first step in any direction, especially a wrong one. Having once taken it, you are likely to go further. One who steals a will remember it when he thinks of stealing a sovereign first, when he is tempted by thousands when he is tempted by thousands he will remember he is already a thief. A perfectly innocent person dreads the soil of any sin upon his soul, but after the slightest smirch he cannot say, "I am clean." The vulgar proverh: "One might as well be hung for a sheep as for a lamb," means a great deal. Often the lamb was stolen years before, and now why not take the sheep? An idle word, half-cach, half-exclamation, leads the boy to swearing. Once having sworn, he will swear Once having sworn, he will swear again. The first step may not be much in itself, but in its relation to our lives it is a giant's stride. It is well to remember it.

The Elmira Cenetery Company should rather call it a bone us. N. Y. News. The profits were divided probably.—Torch. We rather think they were soul-ed from the body.—Governda Enterprise. Now, who would have thought that Enterprise would Go-wander-ing off in this fashion?—N. Y. News. The company probably had re-hearse als quite often .- Danielsonville Senti-

An exchange remarks that Mr. Cole is a fluent and ready speaker. No doubt of it; it is from coal that we get all our gas.—Toronto Lance.

TRANSIT OF MERCURY .- The Quebec Mercury going to its subscri bers .- Grip.

Delinquent subscribers should not permit their daughters to wear this paper for a bustle. There is so much due on it there is danger of their taking cold.—Auburn Independent.

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