

THE STAR.

The safest place he tells us is the middle of the room, unless a chandelier be suspended there.

It seems to have been established that if a thunder-storm is in progress, a building is in more danger of being struck when many persons are crowded within it, than when few are present. This points to the danger of the course sometimes followed by the inmates of a house during a thunder storm. They appear to think that there is safety in society, and crowd into one or two rooms, that they may try, by conversation and mutual encouragement, to shake off the feeling of danger that oppresses them. They are in reality adding, and that sensibly, to any danger there may be. "There is," says Arago, "a source of danger where large assemblies of men or animals are present, in the ascending currents of vapor caused by their perspiration." Like water, moist air is a good conductor of electricity and lightning is attracted in the same way, though not of course to the same extent, by an ascending column of vapor, as by a regular lightning conductor. It is on this account, probably, that flocks of sheep are so frequently struck and so many of them killed by a single stroke. Barns containing grain which has been housed before it is quite dry are more commonly struck by lightning than other buildings, the ascending column of moist air being probably the attracting cause in this case as in the former. When we are overtaken by a thunder-storm in the open air precaution is more necessary than within a house. It is well to know, especially when no shelter is near what is the most prudent course to adopt.

It has been stated that there is danger in running against the wind during a thunder storm, and that it is better to walk with than against the wind. A man running against the wind "leaves a space behind him in which the air is comparatively speaking rarified." Lightning would be more likely to seek such a place for its track than a region in which the air is more dense. An instance is recorded in which, during a gale, lightning actually left a conductor which passed from the mast of a ship to her windward side, in order to traverse the space of rarified air on the ship's larboard side!

It is quite certain that trees are very likely to be struck by lightning, and, therefore, that it is an exceedingly dangerous thing to stand under trees in a storm. No consideration of shelter should induce any one to adopt so dangerous a course. The danger, in fact, is very much greater when heavy rain is falling, since the tree, loaded with moisture becomes an efficient lightning conductor. For similar reasons, it is dangerous to seek the shelter of a lofty building (not protected by a lightning conductor) in a thunder-storm. One of the most terrible catastrophes known in the history of thunder-storms occurred to a crowd of persons who stood in the porch of a village church waiting till a thunder shower should have passed away.

In the open air when a heavy thunder storm is progressing, and no shelter near, the best course is to place one's self at a moderate distance from some tall trees. Franklin considered a distance of about fifteen or twenty feet the best.

The reader need hardly be reminded, perhaps, that the necessity for taking these precautions only exists when the storm is really raging close at hand.

Capture of a United States Fishing Schooner.

By late Halifax advices, we learn that a telegram has been received by the Department of Marine and Fisheries, June 20, reporting the capture of the United States fishing schooner *James Bliss* near Anticosti island, close in shore, whilst fishing for halibut. The captain of the vessel making the seizure has asked for instructions with a view to bring his prize to Quebec, and to return to deliver the remaining light-house supplies at Magdalen Island and Cape Ray.

English Music.

English music in its simplest form is, it seems, to owe the advantage of not dying out to Italian singers. There are so many English young ladies who, while joyfully risking themselves amid the difficulties of elaborate Italian cavatinas, would scorn to sing anything so vulgar as an English, Scotch, or Irish ballad, that it is quite refreshing and slightly amusing to think of "Kathleen Mavourneen" and "Home, Sweet Home," having been sung by Mme. Adelina Patti, and "John Anderson my Jo" and "Robin Adair" by Mlle. Albani at last Saturday's Floral Hall Concert. The hint offered is not likely to be taken; and there is, after all, some advantage in our national ballads being neglected by our own countrymen if from their undeserved obscurity they are now and then brought into such light as was shed upon them last Saturday by the vocalists just mentioned.

The washerwomen of Surbiton and Kingston-on-Thames have struck for 3s. a day and beer, and have sent the town crier round to announce they will not work for less.

A great grandson of Tippoo Sahib has been admitted a member of the English bar during Trinity Term, his intention being to practice in the Indian courts.

England on the Treaty.

The Treaty's done! We're glad it's done!
And, Gladstone, you're glad too!
For William Ewart's w e.
And w e, of course, is we,
So you are we and we are you,
And if you and we are one,
You and we are Gladit'sdone!
We're Gladit'sdone! You're Gladit'sdone!
But mark the omen! 'Tis no fun!
Don't you spy the d and i
That make "Gladstone" "Gladit'sdone?"
Hark and hark the mystic cry!
Gladit'sdone is Gladstone die!
Die Gladstone! not by axe or rope,
But drop from those dear benches there.
In the sure and certain hope
Of rising t'other side the chair!

In yonder place of yours we want a man
Whose eyes don't always see just what they wish,
Who knows at glance, let knaves do what they can,

The scales of Justice from the scales of Fish;
Whom summons of no Summoner can slant
One moment from his British perpendicular;
Whose logic tells him that a General Grant
Could never grant us anything particular;
And who, being sure that, even on a throne,
A mob's a mob, has courage to be quite,
As sure that all the wash in Washington
Is not enough to keep the White House white.

Die, Gladstone, die! yet not to Dilke or Dizzie!
A PREMIER's what we want; but gods, where is he?

THE STAR.

HARBOR GRACE, JULY 19, 1872.

MASONIC VISITATION.

Arrival of the S. S. "Tiger," with a Deputation from the Grand Lodge.

Yesterday forenoon the S. S. "Tiger" arrived here, after a pretty rough time; more especially in rounding the Cape. A Deputation of Freemasons from the Grand Lodge, accompanied by numerous passengers, swelled up the number to about one hundred and fifty; and on their landing were received and heartily welcomed to our town. We also observed several lady passengers, and feel sure they could not but enjoy their short sojourn in Harbor Grace, the weather being exceedingly fine. At high noon the brethren of the various Lodges assembled in Lodge No. 476 (Harbor Grace), legalized by the Grand Lodge of Scotland, where the ordinary duties of the occasion were gone through, to the entire satisfaction of the fraternity, the meeting breaking up about 2 P. M.

The weather continuing fine, numbers of our St. John's friends spent the afternoon in driving about the several places of interest, and apparently enjoying the exhilarating exercise of "Jehu." During the afternoon the "Minnie," one of the Fire Company's splendid six-oared gigs, might be seen efficiently manned on the harbour; numbers of our St. John's visitors watching the rowing of the crew with great interest. It is satisfactory to note the general good conduct existing in town throughout the day. Several of the Masonic Body and a few friends dined excellently in "Toussaint's," where, as has always been the case, the best only is obtainable. Mr. Bennett's brass band paraded the town, their soul-inspiring music stirring the lovers of it to almost dancing frenzy. It is indeed rare to hear such efficiency in the art performed on our streets, and, moreover, the expectation of the treat caused many of the children to frolic as they never did before. The "Tiger" left again about 7 P. M. We found nothing worth remarking to complain of, the excitement of the day having roused only a few to the "pitch that is harmless." During the time allowed for passengers to get aboard, the band played several lively airs, and when about leaving, struck up that tune of world-wide favor, "Auld Lang Syne," which was taken in chorus by the multitude. This was truly touching, and brought tears to many an eye. Cheers, hearty and loud, were given for St. John's and Harbor Grace, and may God bless them, as they were unmistakably from the heart. The steamer was gaily decorated with bunting, as also was the shipping in the harbor. May such friendly meetings and greetings occur oftener!

The Labrador mail steamer "Osprey," will leave St. John's, for this port, at 10 a.m. to-morrow. She may be expected here about 6 p.m.

We learn that an Eleven of St. John's have challenged the cricket players of Conception Bay to a friendly contest, either in St. John's or here. We have not yet learned what our Conception Bay friends will do about the same.

Digby Boat Race.

THE following particulars of the great sculling race, which took place at Digby, N. S., on the 12th inst., have been received by telegraph:—

At 31 minutes and 25 seconds past 7 o'clock the word go was given by the starter, Mr. Pryor, and the two boats got away in fine style, both Brown and Fulton rowing very quick. Brown took the lead at once and maintained it without difficulty; at the pier about a mile and a half from the start, Brown was three lengths ahead, and rowing with an ease that satisfied his friends that the race was won. Pulling easy, 32 strokes a minute, he steadily improved his lead while Fulton laboured hard at 39 or 40 strokes. Brown's friends now offered large odds, as high as 5 to 1 on him, but found no takers. The men who had so enthusiastically backed Fulton a few minutes before, were astonished at finding Brown leading so handsomely at such an early stage of the race; and fully realized the power of the Halifax oarsman, wisely declining to make any more bets if further assurance of Brown's success were inspired. It was given each succeeding minute by the increasing distance between his boat and that of his opponent. At 56 minutes and 5 seconds past 7, Brown reached the winning point, his time being 29 minutes and 40 seconds. If the course was full four miles, as it was to be, the time was remarkably quick, making allowance for the fact that there was a strong favourable tide, it, I think, has seldom been beaten. Fulton reached the winning point about 25 seconds or 5 boats length after Brown. The victor and the vanquished immediately rowed down to their boat-house near the pier, and were warmly received by their friends, Brown's as a matter of course were most enthusiastic. They gathered around their champion, cheered him, shook his hands, and would have carried him on their shoulders had he not resisted them. Cheers were given for Mr. Fulton, Mr. Pryor, Mr. Barton and others.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[TO THE EDITORS OF THE STAR.]

DEAR SIRS,—
I don't see the reason why I should agree with your correspondents "Barnum Burnam" or "Auld Reekie" on the great necessity we have for shows. Our friend "Auld Reekie" states that a half dozen all shaved at one time, with "one towel for the lot, six perforations made for the necks of the culprits, and the barber swinging the lather from the cheek of one to that of the other, would be a very good show. I have no doubt it would; but at the same time I wonder what kind of a show would our friend "Auld Reekie" make if he were one of the unfortunate victims of our skillful barber, whom he speaks of; no doubt he would require to be pretty skillful to lather, shave and use one towel on six countenances at one time. I think he would require a healthier looking saloon, and instruments of torture in better order than some of our barbers at the present day. Touching the circus question, I think our friend "Auld Reekie" would make a splendid view in one of the small side shows, imitating the bagpipes, while displaying his art on one of those English concertinas. I hope these few remarks won't take any effect on "Auld Reekie's" temper, for I'm sure he would be very hasty and vicious.

Yours, truly,
MUSTARD.

Kisses.

BY "AULD REEKIE."

I stood up this morning to write an epitaph for a friend's headstone, (provided he lives long enough to afford one.) Having changed my mind, I think the above subject is more suitable, seeing that your correspondent, "A. A. E." in last issue, gave an essay on their music. Well I must say he is rather a scientific cove, he deals with musical kisses as if they were with him an every day occurrence. He says "people are to be met with every day who have no ear for music;" that is true, but show me any one who knows not the "music of a kiss." He urges an awakening to more enterprise in the matter of kissing, and wonders if any one can forget the first they can record. I can't. I remember it well, because it was early in the morning at the foot of the stairs, and my brother Bob, had caught Jessie Sweet and attempted to kiss her; I heard a great scuffle, and running down, saw her give him a smarting smack on the auriculars, something like the clap of one hand against another, and ran off with a giggling laugh, leaving poor Bob, scratching his ears as if they had been bitten by misquitos. That is what I call the music of a kiss. Another kind of music proceeds from the same graceful meeting of the lips (*alias* cherries), namely an apparent breaking up of an empty molasses puncheon. I would not say this had I not heard two niggers produce the sound after

taking fifteen years to effect it. "Auld Reekie" himself has had wondrous experience in that line, and if A. A. E. objects to foregoing, may give him a "fat one."

[TO THE EDITORS OF THE STAR.]

DEAR SIRS,—
My attention was called to "the leading article" of last Wednesday's *Standard*, and certainly the cool effrontery of the editor of that paper, in viewing Chief Justice Keogh's decision in the Galway election case almost took my breath away. Why, what does he mean? Condemning Chief Justice Keogh in a matter that he can know nothing about; and if he depends on such prints as the *London Telegraph*, he will very soon be sorry for his blindness. A friend proposes that this community should get up an address to the Queen, recommending that the editor of the *Standard* take Chief Justice Keogh's seat when it is vacant.

I am inclined to think that an enemy of the editor must have done this; he took a nap on Tuesday last, and some busy body, who takes an interest in Irish politics, took his editorial chair for a short time. The *Newfoundlander* was regretting a few days ago the dearth of local subjects for news paper editorials, but I don't see what the people have to do with the Galway election! It was not to be expected that court decisions would please all parties, and not to be wondered at that people who are found fault with should run into print. Ask the editor of the *Standard* to be sure and send a copy to Cardinal Cullen of his able advocacy of this matter; and he will, no doubt, be suitably rewarded; if not, he should pause before he is made a tool of any longer. The *Standard* of the previous week had an article of the same parentage.

Yours, truly,
O. P. Q.

July 19.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Sporting News—St. John's Challenged Harbor Grace for a Four-oared Gig Race.

We understand St. John's has challenged Harbor Grace for a four-oar Gig Race, to take place on Quidi Vidi Lake on the 30th July. We believe the challenge is to row without coxswains, as there are only two four-oared Gigs in St. John's, and both row without coxswains. We hope the Harbor Grace oarsmen will take up this challenge, and bring over their best four-oared gig to take part in the coming Regatta, as we shall be glad to witness their prowess on our waters.—*Times of Wednesday.*

The *Hawk*, arrived from the Westward yesterday noon, brought information respecting the fishery, to the effect that hence as far as Burin the voyage had so far been very unsuccessful. Beyond Burin there had been three weeks of fair fishing, but latterly not so good.

An arrival from Battle Harbor to Messrs. Baine, Johnston & Co., yesterday, reports Revenue Cruiser at that place, on Sunday last, having just returned from down the coast. She reports the fishery bad from Battle Harbor down, nothing of any consequence having been done.—*Chronicle of to-day.*

His Honor the Administrator of the Government, in Council, has been pleased to appoint Messrs. John Roberts and John B. Blanford, respectively, to be Members of the Board of Road Commission at Twillingate, in the room of the late Richard Hodder, deceased, and Dr. Sterling, resigned.
Secretary's Office, St. John's, 16th July, 1872.
—*Gazette.*

Hon. R. Thorburn, of the firm of Messrs. Walter Grieve & Co., performed a very kindly and graceful act in donating the use of the steamer *Tiger* to the Provincial Grand Lodge of Masons for their trip to Harbor Grace. The generous lending of the steamer means the gift of something like Five-and-Twenty Pounds to the Tasker Educational fund, one of the most excellent institutions in the country.
—*Ibid*, July 17.

The Tichborne Claimant.

The "Claimant" is still on his tour in the provinces. On Tuesday, the 11th ult., about 3,000 persons assembled in the Church Congress Hall, Southampton, to meet him. Mr. Alderman Tucker presided, and Mr. Whalley, M. P., spoke in defence of the Claimant.

The Captain, the staff-commander, and the lieutenant of the watch of the "Royal Alfred" have been tried by court-martial at Bermuda for getting the ship on shore on one of the Bahama shoals. The first two were severely reprimanded, and the last acquitted.

The Royal Geographical Society are taking steps to press upon Government the importance of an expedition to the North Pole, by way of Smith's Sound.

It is expected that Prince Bismarck will shortly visit the Isle of Wight for sea bathing.

Latest

The verdict of the late railway disaster was occasioned by of fracture unknown.

The Orangemen's yesterday at Ontario.

It is rumored that North Shore Railway.

Storms yesterday Midland and the sea places the crops were Lightning killed dria, Egypt.

Butler, United tary, Wadleigh, Generals Loring, bell. Shots were was wounded.

The vote in the amendment, rejected, stood 219 10 to 360 as income.

On Thursday tion still created sailles, and the As last evening. The hostile demonstra the Left cheered

The *Observer* an to be made by will be obliged to damages, although fall several million mate.

The English an bitrators have a session will continue four sittings each newspaper correspond remove the seal of ings of the board.

Stokes' jury dis Stokes was remain The Mayor's a city debt is \$12,7 \$30,437,000, beside

The jury in the court on Sunday and the judge di further consider t Sunday it was all of returning a ver slaughter in the t quittal.

A destructive Mic, on Friday n and several other loss estimated at ed to \$70,000; fo and two others w Senator Summe himself to the sup

The *Herald* has a history of his tr ingstone, and the plorations. Living waters of the Nil Livingstone desti ed by his men. He weighs about 180 gan to organize points which he months, when he Gold 1144.

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Yesterday mor Rev. Mr. Combe dence of William wood, Esq., of St. of the late Capt.

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PORT OF

July 16—Maiden privisions—Pur

July 18—Breadal —Paterson & F

PORT

July 12—Leander & Co.

Choice, Dakin, Ne Heron, Morrison, Sons.

13—Elma, Doddd Boyd.

Mary Jane, Hoska