

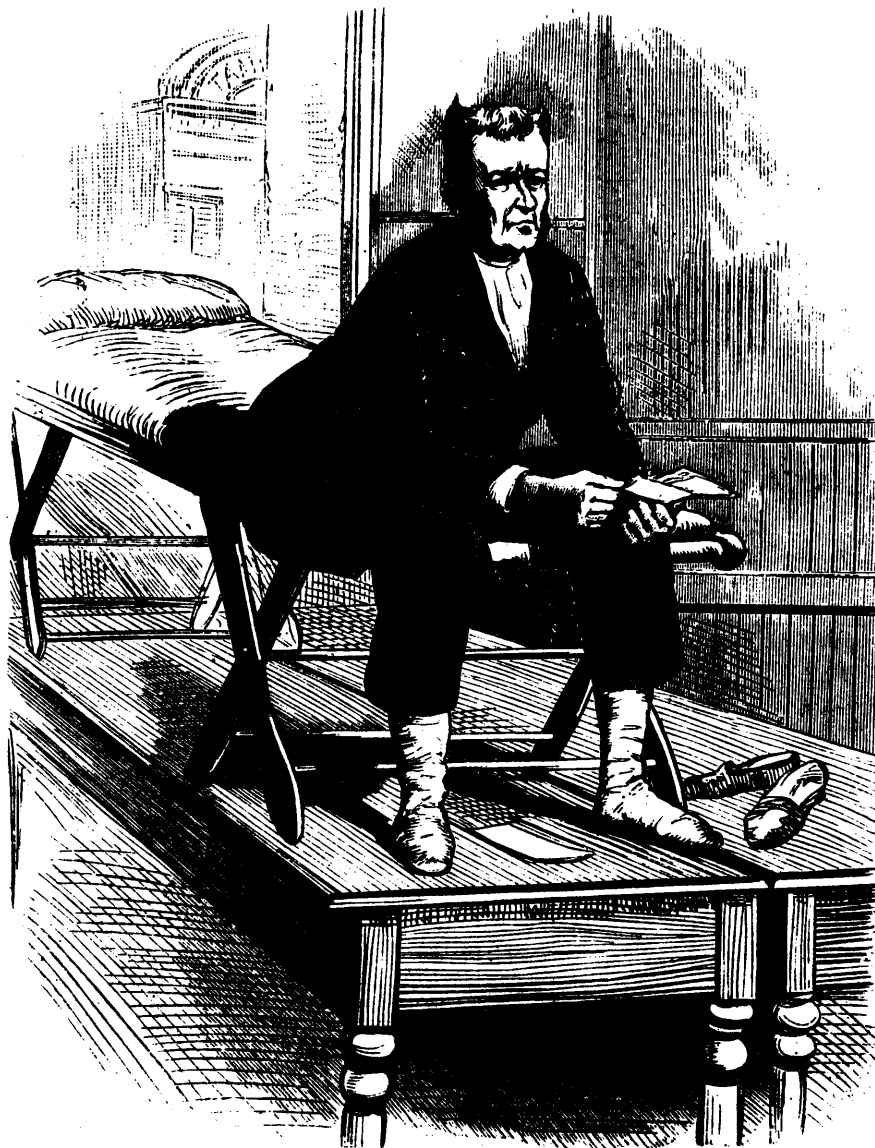
A FORTY DAYS' FAST.

At noon, on Monday, June 28th, Dr. Henry S. Tanner, of Minneapolis, Minn., began an attempt to abstain from food and drink for forty days and nights, in a hall in New York City. He claims to have fasted for a period of forty-two days, but as almost everybody discredited him, he made up his mind to prove his assertion by repeating the experiment, subject to the constant surveillance of watchers, those watchers to be medical men. Each watcher is obliged to make oath that he watched diligently, and that the fasting man took no food during his (the watcher's) vigil. The watchers are under the supervision of the New York Neurological Society.

At present the faster is wearing a cool suit of dark clothes, white socks and slippers. He carries a fan, but uses it very little. Since the beginning of the present fast his keen gray eyes have become slightly dimmed, the top of his head, which is thinly covered with gray hair, has become as white as milk, and he has lost ten and a half pounds in weight. The outlines of his regular, well-cut features stand out more clearly, and his firm lips close more tightly.

During the first two days Dr. Tanner drank eighty ounces of water, in doses ranging from six to eight ounces each. Since then, in lieu of drinking, he simply gargles his mouth about once an hour with a couple of ounces of water, which he then ejects into a spittoon. He spends the time reclining on his cot, or sitting up in a chair, or coming forward to the border of his enclosure and talking intelligently and earnestly with his watchers. He reads the newspapers morning and evening, and is very fond of sitting on a chair and elevating his feet to the top of his little writing-table. At bedtime he takes a sponge bath. He is then rubbed down with coarse towels, after which he puts on his night dress and gets between the sheets. Before he dresses in the morning, his clothes are examined to ascertain that there is no food concealed in them. His pulse and temperature are frequently taken, and his weight every day. He has already passed the time when, according to medical opinion, he should exhibit delirium and other evidences of insanity, but as yet no dangerous symptoms have been observed.

A GENTLEMAN in the North of Ireland lately obtained what is believed to be the oldest of franks. It is by Thurloe, the Secretary of Protector Cromwell, and addressed to Henry Cromwell.



DR. TANNER, OF NEW YORK, IN THE SECOND WEEK OF HIS FASTING.

PRINCE LEOPOLD is fond of writing poetry.

THE Italian Government, still unsatisfied, is preparing plans for heavier ships than the *Duilio*.

TWENTY-TWO Concord (Mass.) women, who drank tea together last week, were between 70 and 88 years old.

ON the Bernai palace at Rome there has been recently affixed a tablet recording the fact that Sir Walter Scott dwelt in it in 1832.

WESTCHESTER county, New York, is preparing for a big celebration of the centennial of Maj. Andre's capture, September 25.

TEXAS postmasters refuse to register packages containing live rattlesnakes on the ground that they cannot tell whether they are male matter or not.

MR. JAMES GORDON BENNETT has changed his mind on the subject of racing, and has given up the idea of keeping a large stud at Newmarket.

THE lower jaw of an antediluvian mammoth was recently fished out of the river Dnieper by Russian fishermen; it is as black as a coal and weighs seventy-five pounds.

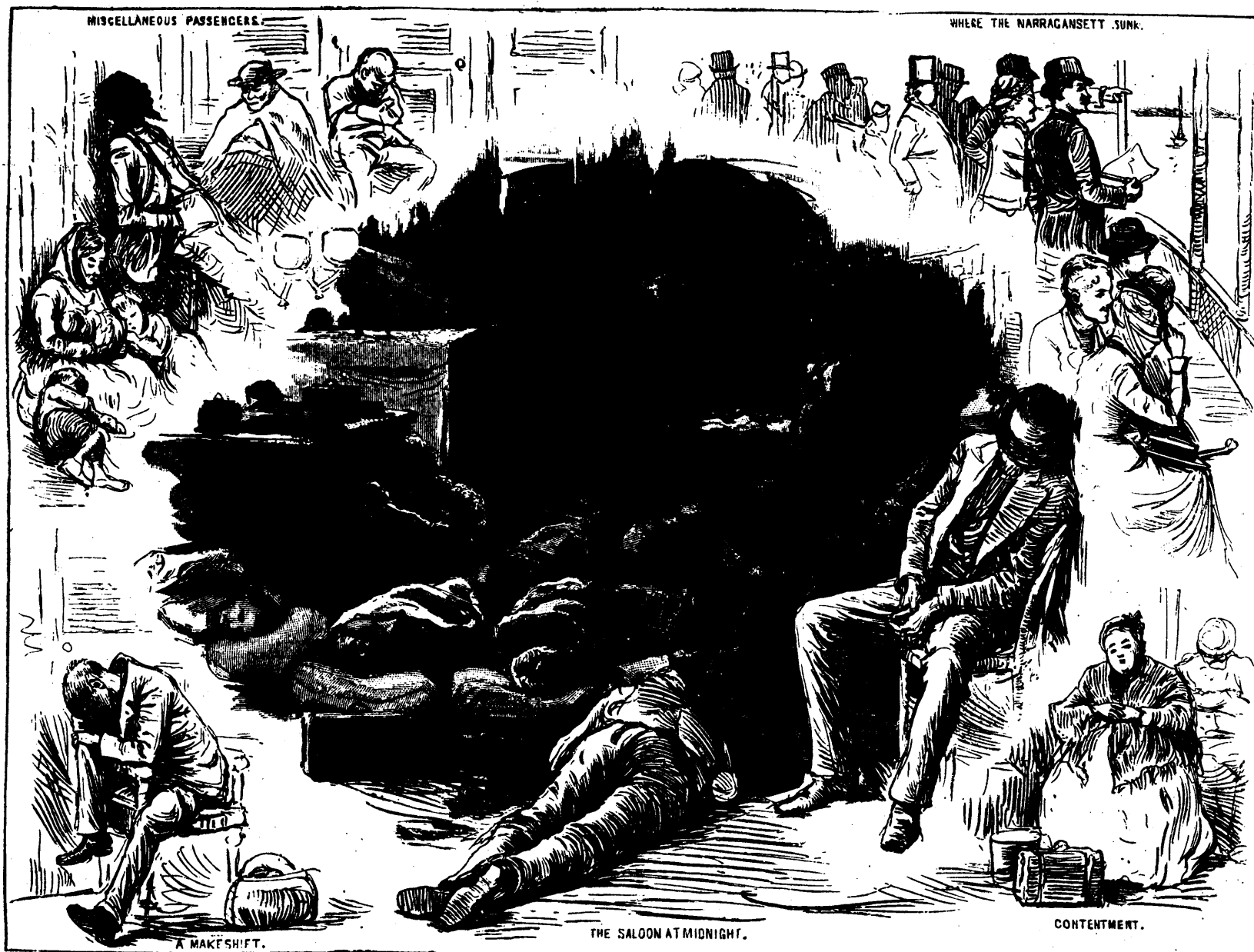
W. H. VANDERBILT, it is announced authoritatively, pays for bringing the Alexandrian obelisk over. He stipulated that it should not cost over \$75,000.

WM. BANKS, a noted Liverpool ship-builder, has left \$300,000 to his granddaughter, Susan Meyers, the wife of a labourer at Greenpoint, opposite New York city.

THE Empress Eugenie proceeded on foot into the South African valley where her son's body was found, following precisely the track taken by the officers who went in search of the corpse.

PIGEONS have been so thick in Northern Michigan that they could be knocked down with fish-poles. Fish have at the same time been so wild that they had to be killed with shot-guns.

THE Dumas family has always been remarkable for strength and address. One night at the play Gen. Dumas, the grandfather of Dumas the younger, flung a man out of a stage box on to the stage. Dumas the elder was of Herculean strength, and Dumas the younger excels in all games of strength and skill. He is a master juggler, and he can put a frame of knives round a human head leaning against a board with the most consummate surety of hand. George Sand was a brilliant pupil of Dumas the younger, and in her later years she used to amuse herself for days with this perilous pastime.



THE PLEASURES OF AN EXCURSION TRIP.