

States to be eclipsed by the moon, under circumstances the most favorable to observation. A phenomenon which, it is hoped will not be permitted to pass unnoticed. The immersion will take place on the dark, and the emersion on the enlightened side of the moon.—*Western Recorder*

The Poles have at length been entirely defeated; and likewise the English Reform Bill. Among the singular coincidences which frequently become matters of history, it is worthy of remark, that the 8th of September, the day of England's greatest hilarity and proudest splendor, which tended to promote the permanence of their government—that same day witnessed the bier of Polish liberty borne to the tomb, while the earth drank up the blood of her fairest, bravest and best warriors, cut down in the defence of their capital, during the devastation of the 6th and 7th. It has been also remarked, that on the 7th, the same day on which the citizens of Boston assembled to dedicate standards to the Polish patriots, as presents in token of their esteem—that unhappy people were struggling with the last conflict in defence of the heart of their independent government.

#### TEMPERANCE MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the Hamilton Temperance Society, will be held at the Methodist Chapel in this town, on Monday evening, the 26th instant, at half past 9 o'clock, P. M. By order of the President. FRANCIS LEONARD, Sec'y.

A general attendance is requested.

#### NATURAL HISTORY.

"All are but parts of that stupendous whole,  
Whose body Nature is, and God the soul."

From a late London paper.

#### THE NEW VOLCANO.

The Philomel brig of war, which left Malta harbour on Tuesday afternoon, the 19th July, with the masters of the St. Vincent and Granges, to ascertain the correct particulars, &c, of the New Volcano Island, forming off Sciaccio, in Sicily, discovered the object at 1 A. M., on Thursday the 21st. At six they observed a thick smoke issuing apparently from the sea, the spot bearing N. W. 3/4 W.; and, on steering in that direction, fell in with the Hind cutter at 9, which vessel had left Malta on Sunday the 17th, but had not yet reached the New Volcano, owing to calms. The island then bore N. W. by W., six or eight miles distant; at 9 deg. 45 min the Philomel hove to, three miles windward. Capt. Smith, with the two masters and Col. Bathurst, a passenger, left the vessel in boats, for the purpose of taking soundings as near as they could approach with safety, but had scarcely got one mile away, when the volcano burst out with a tremendous explosion, resembling the noise of a very heavy thunder storm, and flames of fire, like flashes of lightning. The boats were covered with black cinders, which also fell on board

the vessel, and all around, to a distance of (at least) three miles from the volcano. The eruption in all its fury, lasted seven minutes, and when the smoke had somewhat cleared away the island had increased in size two fold.

The volcano bursts out regularly at about every two hours, and emits all around it a suffocating sulphureous stench. On first making it, at a long distance, it resembles a cluster or grove of cypress trees. The English brig *Boote*, of Liverpool, an American, and one or two foreign vessels were off the place.

Its precise latitude is 37 11 North, and longitude 12 44 East; the soundings in the vicinity, say 80 yards off the island, bearing N. E. are 70 to 75 fathoms; West, a quarter of a mile, 75 to 76 fathoms. At five and six miles distance they vary from 70 to 80 fathoms. The volcano appears composed mostly of cinders of a rusty black colour, having only a sprinkling of lava, of an oblong shape, and the island, as last seen on Friday, the 23d, was not less than three quarters of a mile in circumference. The N. W. point is the highest, say about ten feet above the level of the sea, and lower towards the southern extremity. The S. E. side of the crater has fallen in to the level of the sea. The sea is drawn in with a very loud noise, and occasions an immense volume of white vapour to rise up in the air, curling and spreading wide; then succeeds rapidly the eruption of cinders and lava, thrown to the height of from 400 to 500 feet, and on some occasions to 1000 feet, forking and branching out in all directions in its ascent, and afterwards falling and pouring down in stupendous masses, with such violence as to cause a noise like heavy thunder, and making the sea for a considerable distance around, one entire sheet of foam—altogether a sight not to be imagined.

#### THE GOLDEN-WINGED WOODPECKER.

It is generally agreeable to be in the company of individuals who are naturally animated and pleasant. For this reason, nothing can be more gratifying than the society of woodpeckers in the forest. No sooner has the spring called them to the pleasant duty of making love, than their voice which by the way, is not at all disagreeable to the ear of man, is heard from the tops of high decayed trees, proclaiming with delight the opening of the welcome season. Their note, at this period is merriment itself, as it imitates a prolonged and jovial laugh, heard at a considerable distance. Several males pursue a female, reach her, and, to prove the force and truth of their love, bow their heads, spread their tail, and move sidewise, backwards, and forwards, performing such antics as might induce any one witnessing them, if not of a most morose temper, to join his laugh to theirs. The female flies to another tree, where she is closely followed by one, two or even half-a-dozen of these gay suitors, and where again the same ceremonies are gone through. No fightings occur, no

jealousies seem to exist among these beaux until a marked preference is shown to some individual, when the rejected proceed in search of another female. In this manner all the Golden-winged woodpeckers are happily mated. Each pair immediately proceeds to excavate the trunk of a tree and finish a hole in it sufficient to contain themselves and their young. They both work with great industry and apparent pleasure. Should the male, for instance, be employed the female is close to him, and congratulates him on the removal of every chip which his bill sends through the air. While he rests, he appears to be speaking to her on the most tender subjects, and when fatigued, is at once assisted by her. In this manner, by the alternate exertions of each, the hole is dug and finished. They cuss each other on the branches, climb about and around the tree with apparent delight—rattle with their bill against the tops of the dead branches,—chase all their cousins, the Red-head—defy the Purple—Grackles to enter their nest—fry plentifully on ants, beetles, and larvae, cackling at intervals, and are two weeks have elapsed the female lays either four or six eggs, the whiteness and transparency of which are doubtless the delight of her heart. If to raise a numerous progeny may contribute to happiness, these Woodpeckers are in this respect happy enough; for they have two broods each season; and as this might induce you to imagine Woodpeckers extremely abundant in America, I may tell you at once that they are so.—*Audubon's American Ornithology.*

SAGAACITY OF A GREYHOUND AND POINTER.—A gentleman in the county of Stirling, kept a greyhound and pointer, and, being fond of coursing, the pointer was accustomed to find the hares, and the greyhound to catch them. When the season was over, it was found that the dogs were in the habit of going out by themselves, and killing the hares for their own amusement. To prevent this, a large iron ring was fastened to the pointer's neck by a leather collar, and hung down, so as to prevent the dog from running or jumping over dykes &c. The animals, however, continued to stroll out to the fields together; and one day the gentleman, suspecting that all was not right, resolved to watch them, and, to his surprise, found that the moment they thought they were unobserved, the greyhound took up the iron ring in his mouth, and, carrying it, they set off to the hills, and began to search for hares as usual. They were followed, and it was observed that whenever the pointer scented the hare, the ring was dropped, and the greyhound stood ready to pounce upon poor puss the moment the other drove her from her form, but he uniformly returned to assist his companion when he had accomplished his object.