

The sun hath set on the 1 year; twilight had faded; midnight was drawing nigh; sat alone in her chamber; leaning in one hand; in the a picture, on which her eyes the expression of her face its gliding brightness, told of trial, of a present without dusk-clock had struck eleven half an hour ago. It chimed time it was a quarter to minute hurried past, rapid a few moments more and the C be ore. Through those still moments the girl sat there. What was she thinking of? have had those brighter still of a happy youth, the promise happiness, well for was voice of prophecy to a ly car on her musings to Year Eve, and show her the she shared it, but as it was of the death, had gone for get O'Connell was near at hand her that she knew it, or she kept her in her solitude to a vision of her life dispelled. well.

It might those solemn mo ment; counted the pulses of year; we stood upon the threshold. Whether those seconds in privacy of our chamber pleasant companionship of the loved, it can hardly be but wanted awe came stealing in for a while from t evils of the passing hour, waded back to the past on future. And if so, on what d did? Was it, like her of a spirit, on the joys of life, the pleasure, the expected bliss; that wings of hope, did not the coming year with a gladness?

lose probably, far more pro al to such of us as have pass hirs of youth, and whose feet in the drearier pathway of e the thought of life's sorre the is a vacant chair of her copy the heart of the for- our life itself would be a will phers we thought of this as year-evening flitted by, an remembered that never mor them, would the New Year lightly as of old. Or perhaps ward to the months before us the lengthening spring days brightness, and the calm of remembered that through all th by day, and hour by hour, id at noon-day, and at even, i ut go on; the hard battle uborn hill, and the longing y gather fresh power from our st it. Or perhaps there is an of our eyes, and the de cart, struggled for, prayed for, an still, and to be witholder, ourselves; we cannot but bel through the days of our pilgrim death. It is more to us than reasure ought to be; and looki coming year, and seeing no sign to presence spread on life's horizon but feel our heart sink with our courage fail.

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It that awful moment, when all life, whether of joy or sorrow, a dream, we shall stand face to face in terrible reality. If we w

Arrival of the "Europa" Halifax, N.S. Capt. Moodie, at New Brunswick, Dec. 21. The ship arrived at 10.30 P.M. and passengers will sail at 11. No shipping or specie to be sent to BRITAIN.

Newspaper comments on the "Europa" are unanimous. "Shipping" was ordered to that was steamer "Europa" after visiting New York leave Halifax, and the squadron at Bermuda to join Admiral Milne's squadron. This force of Admiral Milne's squadron in the localities in which the recently reported outrages on British shipping by Federal cruizers have been perpetrated. With knowledge that there is force at hand capable of protecting British vessel, and with instructions to do so, Gazette thinks that even Wilkes would hardly venture on further molestation or violations in neutral territory.

The recently formed London Emancipation Society has issued Circulars to Ministers of all denominations urging them to give prominence to the subject of Negro Emancipation from their pulpits, in view of the inauguration of Lincoln's Emancipation Policy of the New Year. "Star" says that a most enthusiastic meeting has been held at Lambeth to express sympathy with Anti-Slavery policy in America; about 3000 persons were present.

Return shows that during the present year 45 American ships had been registered in Liverpool under British names. Special general meeting of the Atlantic Telegraph Co., held at London 12th. Hon. James Stewart Wortley presided, and stated the terms on which it was proposed to raise £600,000 of new capital as already published. He announced that within three days that 75,000 had in response to circular, been subscribed. A resolution was carried to raise the new capital in shares of £5 each for laying down new cable. Meeting was regarded as encouraging and successful. "Daily News," "Star," and other journals warmly advocate the claims of the company that no undertaking for laying cable has been formed with Continental support and will shortly be introduced.

FRANCE. There are again rumors in Paris of unfavorable news from Mexico and urgent calls for reinforcements which it is said will be sent under device of establishing a reserve at Martinique. Cardinal Archbishop of Paris has gone to Rome, rumored in name of Emperor to explain to the Pope the Emperor's views in order to concessions necessary on part of the Pontifical Government. Dec. 21 70.

PARLIAMENT. Parliament re-assembled on the 14th. Mr. Stansfeld explained his policy; promising administrative reforms based upon system of decentralization, and development of constitutional liberties; enlisting army for having under painful trial, re-established the authority of the law. He said: "With unshaken confidence in the accomplishment of Italian Unity, we sustain from making compromises which might not be followed by immediate effects; and a strict course of reformation without flinching and without discouragement. We shall be careful to maintain alliance whilst preserving the independence of the country." He concluded by appealing for Italian concord, which is personified in the King.

In the duel between Garibaldi's eldest son and Colonel Pallavicini who captured Garibaldi; the young man is said to have received a mortal wound in the side and the Colonel was seriously hurt. STAIN. General Fremont's lengthy explanations in the Court of his conduct in Mexico, and read confidentially addressed to him by Admiral La Graviere containing strange details in relation to the Mexican expedition. According to these letters Almonte declared he was authorized by Napoleon and Arch Duke Maximilian himself to put forward the candidature of the latter, and that the French troops would guarantee the throne of Mexico to the Arch Duke. Fremont also read letters by O'Donnell and Colantoni recommending strict execution of Treaty of London. He said that the English representative made similar declarations to him, and that under the circumstances he deemed it wise to embark for Spain. In conclusion he expressed the opinion that the French expedition will not have the desired effect.

MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES. The approaching marriage of His Royal Highness is an event in which British colonists, as well as his own countrymen, must feel the deepest interest. None other has happened or can happen to himself by which his own personal habits will be either increased or lessened. That the Royal household may find in their union all the happiness which can fall to the lot of mortals in his world is the fervent wish of thousands. The marriage is to be solemnized at the Chapel Royal, St. George's, Windsor, in the month of April next. Our lady readers will be interested in hearing that the galls of the Redoubt Room of King's Drawing Room at Windsor castle, have lately been hung with a rich crimson figured satin, the pattern being the Royal Arms. The Council Chamber has been hung with crimson damask satin—a wealth of laurels round the Royal crown is the design.

We read in an English paper that at a banquet given at Wick, in Scotland, recently, the Rev. Mr. Cuthbert read two extracts from the "Europa" which he had just received from the Rev. Mr. W. G. Ketchum, and he returned to me these thanks to Lady Cathness and your- selves here to day or good wishes, and I assure you, I shall be very happy to be the future life and to be content. I feel deeply happy in the thought that my approaching marriage is one which has the approval of the nation, and I only trust that I may not disappoint the expectations that have been formed of me."

FROM THE STATES.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 24. General Foster in additional despatch says he learns Confederates are advancing twenty-five thousand strong to drive him from Goldsboro; believes himself strong enough to hold out till reinforcements arrive.

Movement of Federal troops from Richmond, Ky., reported which will relieve Eastern Kentucky from threatened invasion by Floyd and Marshall from Western Virginia. Richmond Examiner reports Gen. Clarkson routed Federal force at Petersburg Ky., capturing 85 prisoners; also next day, 8th, Floyd routed Federals near Picketon capturing 100 prisoners, several hundred pack mules, seventeen hundred stand of arms and large supplies of ammunition.

The late Confederate raid in Tennessee consisted of a full brigade with 6 pieces of artillery defeating Federals; on their march they approached within seven miles of Columbus and then commenced to retreat. Dec. 26. Movement of army near Fredericksburg nor any indications of immediate renewal of hostilities.

The Federal right is reported insecurely guarded and Confederate demonstration is expected in that quarter. "Tribune" says the President declares he would not withhold his Emancipation proclamation if he could, and could not if he would. "Tribune" says negro soldiers employed to guard banks of Mississippi, garrison forts below New Orleans and enforce the proclamation of freedom to their brethren.

The "Herald's" despatch intimates that the President will veto bill admitting Western Virginia. Gen. Foster arrived at Washington from North Carolina and received an assurance of all needed reinforcements. President arrested assessments on Missouri disloyalists in view of recent manifestations of willingness to adopt Emancipation policy.

Fortress Monroe advances mention warm skirmish on Blackwater at Joiner's Bridge. Federals captured several and withdrew from superior force. Col. Keyes moved from Romney and took possession of Winchester on Tuesday. Confederate force occupying the place week previous, had left going towards Staunton.

Ship Waymouth from Hong Kong for San Francisco with a cargo of over two millions of tea, belonging to China merchants, lost. Special information has reached Washington of critical condition of French army in Mexico. Ranks thinned by sickness and lack of wholesome food.

President Davis issued retaliatory proclamation on Gen. Butler, and reference to Lincoln's emancipation proclamation declaring Butler and commissioned officers under him felon, and ordering summary execution upon their capture; also suspending telegraph of all Federal officers on parole before exchange, until Butler shall have been dealt with.

From the South.

We have as yet no detail report of the great battle from any Southern pen. Gen. Lee on the 14th telegraphed to Richmond as follows: "Nine o'clock Saturday morning the enemy attacked our right wing, and as the fog lifted the battle raged along the line from right to left until 5 P.M., the enemy being repulsed at all points—thanks be to God. As usual we have to mourn the loss of many brave men. I expect the battle will be renewed to-morrow morning.

General Hampton reports that he entered Dumfries and captured twenty wagons with stores and fifty prisoners. Gen. Sigel is expected at Dumfries to-morrow. (Signed) R. E. LEE." A second despatch to Richmond says: "Passengers reported the enemy driven back two miles yesterday. Our troops occupied the battle field this morning. Our loss is variously stated, probably not more than 500 killed and 2500 wounded. The body of Gen. Tom Cob was brought down this evening. The enemy's loss is reported to be immense; 1000 lay dead in one field. Gen. Hooker, Union, is reported killed.

A private dispatch from General Stuart, says: "We have had a great fight and repulsed the enemy at all points. We have lost many good men. Passengers report that we have 1,500 prisoners. A TERRIBLE IMPLEMENT OF DESTRUCTION.—Those who are interested in naval warfare in Washington are much excited, it seems, with respect to a new invention of First Assistant Engineer James Whittaker, which, it is said, will destroy the most impregnable of iron-ships yet constructed with

as much ease as a 500 pound shot would wooden vessel. The apparatus is now under trial by permission of the Secretary of the Navy, who, it is reported, has given liberty to the inventor to board the iron-clad war steamer Osark, building on the Ohio. No one knows what the invention is like—whether it is a gun, projectile or ram—but even the wisest men in the service, it is asserted, do not doubt that its effect on naval matters will be of the most revolutionary character.

DEATH FROM A FLECK.—Some weeks since a felon made its appearance on the band Rev. I. O. P. Baker of Pleasant Unity Lutheran Church, Westmoreland county, Pa., and notwithstanding medical treatment, mortification supervened. On last Sunday two weeks the finger was amputated, but with out avail, Mr. Baker's death taking place on the ensuing day.

A barn was burned down on the "new line of road," near Sussex, on Monday night, and a number of cattle, a quantity of hay, straw, &c., were burnt. The fire was caused by the proprietor accidentally dropping a lighted candle which ignited the straw; before anything could be done towards putting it out the fire had made such headway as to render all efforts unavailing.

MELANCHOLY DISASTER.—Captain Hadley, of the Guysboro Packet Isabella, reports that on Tuesday he spoke an American fishing vessel, the master of which informed him that the day previous he fell in with the schooner Ocean Bell, from Casco to Halifax. She was on her side, and some of the fish which she was laden were floating about her. She was heaved, and in the cabin was discovered the dead bodies of a man and woman. From the appearance the wreck presented the Captain of the American fishing craft conjectured that the vessel had been washed ashore and subsequent floated off. Her boat was smashed, and judging from the state of the schooner the Captain thought that it probable all on board had perished. We learn that the vessel was consigned to B. Wier & Co., and R. I. & W. Hart, and that there was no insurance on the cargo. We believe that a vessel has been dispatched to tow the wreck into a port.—(Halifax Chron.)

Not having received a supply of paper, we are again reluctantly obliged to publish a half sheet. It is useless, however, to indulge in vain regrets—"half a loaf is better than no bread"—and we hope to begin the New Year with a full sized sheet. The advance in the price of paper, is a great tax upon us, and we trust that our punctual paying subscribers will remember it, for we have not advanced our price, although we might do so, with as much justice as the merchant advances the price of his supplies according to their cost.

The Standard.

ST. ANDREWS, DEC. 31, 1862.

Most heartily do wish our readers "a happy New Year"—with the compliments of the season.

With this day closes the year 1862, and what an eventful one has it been—what a variety of events have transpired—what changes have taken place—how many who were in good health at the beginning of it are now no more—how many happy homes have been rendered cheerless and desolate by the death of some loved ones—upon how many has "fortune smiled deceitfully"—the well conceived plans have been frustrated and themselves met with unlooked for disappointments. How suggestive are these facts of the uncertainty of all things human, and the necessity of preparing for that great change which awaits all.

How much there is to be thankful for in these Provinces; they have enjoyed the blessings of peace, under that noble Government which it is our privilege to live—the labors of the husbandman have been blessed by the Supreme Being "who doeth all things well"—the crops were abundant, and the year crowned with plenty. New manufactories have sprung up, an impetus given to trade, and ere long we shall be united with the sister colonies not by the "silken bands" of matrimony—but the stronger material bands of iron rails.

In our own County, although our trade has been affected by the civil War which has been and is still raging in the States, we have great cause for thankfulness; our crops yielded well, and realized remunerative prices—an impetus has been given to ship-building—business prospects are reviving—our Railway trains arrive punctually to time, the business on the line is increasing, no accidents occur, and everything connected with the trains moves on with regularity. Let us then be content, and hope if spared that the next year will find us not only wiser and better, but also more grateful for the blessings and mercies vouchsafed to us.

THE INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY is now reported to be "a fixed fact." The hon. Mr. Tilley came passenger from England in the steamer Europa, and arrived at St. John on Saturday evening last. From our St. John contemporaries we learn, that the terms agreed upon at Quebec by the Colonial Delegates is the basis. We summarize from the articles upon this important subject: the Colonial Governments are to build the road by Commissioners. Before operations are commenced the British Government will appoint one Surveyor, and Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, two Surveyors, to examine and fix upon the most feasible route; so that vexed question is not yet decided. The money (£3,000,000) to be raised by the British Government, which will effect a large saving in commissions and per centages to the Provinces. The interest upon debentures will be made payable at the British Treasury semi-annually. The saving to the Colonies will be about £1050 annually. The loan to be repaid as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Amount, Term. £250,000 in 10 years, 500,000 in 20 years, 1,000,000 in 30 years, 1,250,000 in 40 years.

The sinking fund is not to commence until 10 years after the road is commenced. The hon. Mr. Tilley has acted his part nobly and will without doubt receive the thanks of the people, and be sustained by the Legislature. The Provincial Parliaments will be called early together and the measure submitted to them for approval, after which the Surveyors will be ordered to make trial surveys for the British Government and the measure will then be laid before the Imperial Parliament, where it will be carried through.

C. C. GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The usual Christmas examination of the school was held, according to notice given, on Tuesday the 23rd, when the pupils were examined in the following subjects: Orthography, Dictation, English Grammar, Synonyms, Decimal Arithmetic, Geography, English History Roman History, Chemistry, Astronomy, Arnold's Latin Exercise, Caesar, Virgil. The answering of the scholars was exceedingly prompt and correct, and gave perfect satisfaction to the examiners. The English History, a junior class, attracted attention by the readiness displayed, and general knowledge of the subject. The Latin class, both in translation and parsing, did very well. The writing also gave satisfaction. In fact, it is difficult to particularize, when all acquitted themselves so well.

The President expressed himself as very well pleased with the day's exhibition, and thought that it was the best examination he had witnessed in the school. He said that the boys stood up with confidence, as if they were aware that they were masters of their subject. He also remarked upon the good discipline and conduct which he observed in the school, and hoped that by midsummer they would strive to do even better than they had done on that day.

The school room was tastefully decorated by the boys, with wreaths of spruce, and appropriate mottoes. We are sorry that more persons did not attend as visitors on the occasion, as they would have been gratified.

The Rev. Mr. Ketchum, and Rev. Mr. Smith, Master, presented four prizes for "Good Conduct," "General Progress" and "Writing," as follows: 1st Good Conduct James Haddock, 2nd Good Conduct Francis Bradley, General Progress William Whitlock, Best Writing Leo Buck.

We wish that there had been more prizes as there were many others who well deserved them. The proceedings were closed with prayer, and the blessing. The school will be re-opened on Monday, January 12th, 1863. We would take this opportunity of remarking that the Grammar School belongs to all denominations, and that no interference whatever is made in matters of Creed. And that, while those intending to pursue their studies farther by entering College, can be made qualified for matriculation; those that desire a good, sound, English, or classical education, have an excellent opportunity afforded them.

THE MASONIC TIE.—The Washington Chronicle says there are strong grounds for believing that the reason why the Alabama permitted the Tonawanda to continue her voyage to Europe, on giving a bond of \$60,000 as ransom, was that the commander of the privateer and merchantman had known each other as Free Masons. When Captain Julius reminded Captain Semmes of this, he let the vessel go ransomed by the bond, instead of destroying it.

We are requested by the High Sheriff, to acknowledge, with his grateful thanks, the receipt of \$392 94 sent to him, by the undersigned Clergymen of the County, being the amount of collections taken up by them, in their respective places of worship, in aid of the fund for the relief of the distressed operatives in the cotton manufacturing districts of Great Britain; and to state that this sum of \$392.94 was forwarded by mail on the 24th inst., to William Thomson,

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. The Rev. Mr. W. G. Ketchum \$75, R. Vereker do 24, Wm. Smith do 12, J. Ross do 30, Dr. Thomson St. Stephens 40, Mr. E. Dunphy do 17, R. Temple do 32, T. Angerin do 8, Philbrick do 24, W. Elder do 25, J. McOiver St. George 37, Vaughan do 32, J. McGivern Pennfield 5, J. S. Thomson St. David 12, Geo. B. Payson do 2, J. S. Williams Campbell 12.

The Committee of the Cotton Districts Relief Fund has to acknowledge with thanks a remittance from Thomas Jones, Esq. High Sheriff, \$392 94, being amount collected in Charlotte County in aid of the distressed operatives in Great Britain. Wm. Thomson, St. John, 26th Dec. 1862, Treasurer.

The Steamship Etna, arrived off Cape Race, on the 27th inst., with Liverpool dates to the 17th inst. Political news unimportant.

A friend writing to the "Telegraph" from Campbellton, New Brunswick, under date of the 19th says: "We have had a heavy storm and very high tide. Not much damage done here or in Dalhousie, but down the other side of the Bay parties have lost heavily. Two farms are reported to have lost £5,000 worth of property; two vessels (schooners of brigantine) have gone adrift. Another concern lost 40 chests (tea, besides flour, &c. Full particulars not yet received. The schooner 'Belinda' from Quebec for this port was sent away at 'St. Anne de Merou' five passengers and two of the crew were lost. Four of the passengers were women. Winney has now quite set in here—last for some years."

On the 22nd inst. a fire occurred in Calais. It originated in the office over the Telegraph Office, occupied as a store room by Messrs. Huse and Lowell. The block owned by Mr. John Todd, was nearly destroyed, the fire having gained headway before the engines got on the ground. The Telegraph Office was destroyed and nearly all the instruments and materials. The books were saved and two instruments somewhat damaged. The loss of Messrs. Huse & Lowell is severe, they were insured for \$3000. Loss estimated at \$6000. The stock in the Telegraph Office was insured in the Etna. The Dry Goods Store of Mr. Wm. Woods underwent destruction. A portion of the goods was saved, but the stock was seriously damaged. Mr. W.'s loss is partly covered by insurance. Mr. Todd, the owner of the building, is insured in the Penobscot Mutual for \$3000. The building is a total wreck.

There is now serving in the Peninsular and Oriental steamer Ceylon a fine old sailor named Cracker, who entered the Royal navy in 1800, and fought under Nelson at Copenhagen and Trafalgar. Although 77 years of age, Cracker is one of the best look out men in the ship.

At St. Stephen, on the 25th inst., by the Rev. R. Temple, Mr. George Berry of St. Andrews, Louisa Henrietta Hanson, daughter of Mr. Israel Hanson, of St. Stephen.

At Bech Hill, St. Andrews, on the 28th inst., Susan Laura, aged 2 years and 5 months, infant daughter of B. P. Gilbert, Esq., of Burton, Sanbury Co.

NEW BRUNSWICK. HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The following was adopted as one of the Standing Rules of the House in the Session of 1862: "That no Bill of a private nature shall be received by the House after the fourth day from the opening of the Session, both inclusive; and that the Clerk of this House, one month previous to the meeting of the Legislature, cause fifty copies of this Rule to be sent to each of the Clerks of the Peace in several Counties, for distribution, and cause the same to be inserted in the Royal Gazette, and two Newspapers in each County where Newspapers are published." CHAS. P. WELMORE, Clerk.

DEC. 31st, 1862. Molasses, Tobacco, &c. Just Received, Ex "Oliver" from B. 5 Boxes Tobacco 10. To arrive. Per U.S. 12 HIGHS Muscovado Molasses 20 Chests Coughing Tea 20 Boxes Layer Raisins 5 Boxes Tobacco. JAMES W. STEWART & CO.

A beautiful collection of Preserved Birds will be disposed of by the Subscriber, Wm. Henry Street, on the 31st inst. at 7 P.M. Tickets \$1 each. Birds and Wild Animals stuffed is the best style. HENRY STENFORD.

The St. Andrews Standard.

PUBLISHED BY A. W. SMITH.]

3 VARIIS SEMENDUK REY OTTUMUK.—Cic.

[12s 6d. PER ANN. IN ADVANCE]

No 1.]

SAINT ANDREWS, N. B. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1863.

Vol 30.

Thoughts for New Year's Day.

The sun hath set on the last day of the year; twilight had faded into darkness; midnight was drawing nigh. A young girl sat alone in her chamber; her head was leaning on one hand; in the other she held a picture, on which her eyes were fixed. The expression of her face was beaming in its girlish brightness, told of a past without trial, of a present without care. The clock struck eleven more than half an hour ago. It chimed for the third time it was a quarter to twelve. The minute hurried past, rapid and noiseless; a few seconds more and the Old Year would be over. Through those still and solemn moments the girl sat there immovable. What was she thinking of? If we could have had there thought but sunshine, bright hopes, brighter still, the record of a happy youth, the promise of a yet more happy manhood. Well for her that there was no voice of prophecy to mar her bliss, to ear on her musings to another New Year's Eve, and show her the future, not as she pictured it, but as it was to be. Already the summons, had gone forth; the Angel of Death was near at hand. Well for her that she knew it, or she would have kept her in her solitude to see the bright vision of her life dispelled. Yet, was it well?

At night those solemn moments came to us; we counted the pulses of the expiring year; we stood upon the threshold of the new. Whether those seconds were passed in the privacy of our chamber, or in the pleasant companionship of the loving and loved, it can hardly be but that a feeling of woe came stealing over us that, lingering for a while from the immediate exits of the passing hour, our thoughts wandered back to the past, onward to the future. And if so, on what did they chiefly dwell? Was it, like her of whom we have spoken, on the joys of life, the remembered pleasures, the expected bliss? Soaring on abstract wings of hope, did we go forth to meet the coming year with a song of earthly gladness?

More probably, far more probably, especially to such of us as have passed the sunny hours of youth, and whose feet are traversing the drearier pathway of maturer age, came the thought of life's sorrows. Perhaps the vacant chair by our own fireside, copy the hearth of those for the sake of whom life itself would be a willing sacrifice. Perhaps we thought of this as the hours of yearning flitted by, and sighed as we remembered that never more for us, or them, would the New Year dawn as brightly as of old. Or perhaps we looked forward to the months before us, and thought of the lengthening spring days, and the sun's brightness, and the calm of autumn, and remembered that through all those seasons, by day, and hour by hour, at morning, at noon-day, and at even, the struggle went on; the hard battle against the upborn hill, and the longing which seems to gather fresh power from our efforts to resist it. Or perhaps there is an object, the right of our eyes, and the desire of our heart, struggled for, prayed for, yet withheld from us still, and to be withheld, in spite of ourselves; we cannot but believe it, all through the days of our pilgrimage, even unto death. It is more to us than any earthly treasure ought to be; and looking on to the coming year, and seeing no slightest token of its presence spread on life's horizon, we cannot but feel our heart sink within us, and our courage fail.

But whether last night our musings were of joy or of sorrow, the moments passed by, and they return no more. If they were wasted in fruitless despondency or idle dreaming, let us rouse ourselves now to a more vigorous combat, and let the remembrance of former slothfulness awaken in us increased energy of thought and deed. Happy those who thus seek to atone on New Year's morning for the failings of New Year's eve. But happier they who spent that evening as He whose eye upon us would have us spend it. There is no sin in the remembrance of the gladness or the sorrow of our lives; but if religion do not sanctify these feelings to us, they can have over us no influence for good. And after all, they are, in one sense, but shadows, resting as the mist that passes away, and the last great day, when the dead arise from their graves, and stand before God, what will it matter to us whether we have laughed or wept? There are other questions which will concern us all more nearly than, and surely they must be more fitting subjects of consideration for the dying and the dying year. Our sins and our duties, it were well for us to remember them.

In that awful moment, when all the things of life, whether of joy or sorrow, appear but as a dream, we shall stand face to face with Him in terrible reality. If we would learn

to view them now, so that their remembrance then shall have for us no terrors, kneeling at the foot of the Cross, we must ask pardon for the sins, strength to fulfil the duties. Then mindful still of those occasions where we have fallen, yet cheered by the hope of forgiveness, and strengthened by belief in a protecting Hand, we shall go forward day by day, and year by year, with renewed and a firmer will to strive and to achieve.

Brother or sister, whoever you are whose eyes are resting on the lines I have traced, I wish you, from my heart, a happy new year, and a good, untroubled life, but I wish you more earnestly, and on bended knees I pray to Heaven to grant you an inheritance in that tearless land where night will no longer succeed to day, no year to year, and where no element of its unutterable bliss will surely be the consciousness that there can be for us no possibility of change, save perchance a wider knowledge and a deeper love.

To know that we ourselves and all who are dear to us, are safe, and for ever: we can hardly realize the blessedness of that thought.

The happiest life on earth must yet be darkened by many clouds; and even were it not so, death would still come, and the joy would cease. Death would come, as it will come, most surely to each and all of us; it may be soon, before this year is past; it may be that the sentence is already uttered; for it may be that many years must come and go before it is pronounced. We know not the day or hour of the summons; but this we know, that only in the path of duty can we await it safely. If death finds us there, it will not take away joy, but give it.

The gloomiest light that any Christian is leading here on earth may be cheered, may even rendered bright and joyous, by two sources of consolation; both are great, but one infinitely greater than the other, which, indeed, derives from it its charm.

This one is belief in the Communion of Saints; the other, the Thought of Love, the Love of God.

Surely, we may trust our earthly future undoubtedly to Him who has so loved us, who has added to all His other blessings, this holy Communion of the Saints. Only can we be certain that our earthly course is acceptable in His sight, if year by year our hearts glow more warmly with love to those for whom Christ died; above all, with love to Him who sanctifies our joys, and teaches us to bear our sorrows; who pardons our sins and strengthens us for the performance of our duties who has promised to be with us always, as we pass over the waves of this troublesome world; and to bring us purified, forgiven, to the land where He dwells.—[D. F. in the Penny Post.

THE AGE OF OUR EARTH.—Among the astounding discoveries of modern science is that of the immense periods that have passed in the gradual formation of the earth.—So vast were the cycles of the time preceding even the appearance of man on the surface of our globe, that our own period seems as yesterday when compared with the epochs that have gone before it. Had we only the evidence of the deposits of rocks heaped above each other in regular strata; by the slow accumulation of materials, they alone would convince us of the long and slow maturing of God's work on earth; but when we add to these the successive populations of whose life this world has been the theatre, and whose remains are hidden in the rocks into which the mud or sand or soil or whatever like which they lived has hardened in the course of time—or the enormous chains of mountains whose upheaval divided this period of quiet accumulation by great convulsions—or the changes of a different nature in the configuration of our globe, as the sinking of land beneath the ocean, or the gradual rising of continents and islands above; or the slow growth of the coral reefs, those wonderful sea-walks, raised by the little ocean architects whose own bodies furnish both the building stones and cement that binds them together, and who have worked so busily during the long centuries, mountain chains, islands, and long lines of coast, consisting solely of their remains—or the countless forests that have grown up, flourished, died, and decayed to fill the storehouses of coal that feed the fires of the human race—if we consider all these records of the past, the intellect fails to grasp a chronology for which our experience furnishes no data, and time that lies behind us seems as much an eternity to our conception as the future stretches indefinitely before us.—[Agassiz.

DEATH ON THE WEDDING DAY.—The Providence Press gives the following mournful paragraph, under its New Year's head: "One of those rare and sad instances has

recently occurred here, in which a young lady was buried on the day appointed for her bridal. The person alluded to, Miss S., had been in feeble health for several months, but the disease was consumption, that most deceptive of all diseases, and her immediate friends, as well as her self, flattered themselves that youth and medical skill combined would prevail, and the object of their affections be spared to them for many years.—All the arrangements had been made for her bridal, but when the appointed day arrived, death, the grave, claimed her for his own, and in her last sleep she was arrayed in what was to have been her bridal attire.

HOW TO DRESS FOR SKATING.

The New York Evening Post in article on skating affords some valuable suggestions to the ladies as to the mode of dressing for the proper enjoyment of skating. Some of the hints given might well be taken into consideration by the St. John fair, and we therefore reproduce them:—

"In the first place dress warmly, and have besides a cloak or an overcoat, to be thrown off when skating and put on again when resting from the exercise. Skating itself will not give any one a cold, but there is danger of standing on the ice while perspiring after skating. Pilot cloth makes the best shading costume for gentlemen. Ladies should wear close fitting cloaks (except for extra services, to be used when not skating) are very much in the way, and apt to impede progress. Ladies who skate much should wear dresses without hoops, and with short skirts, and if the Bloomer costume were not stigmatized by fashionable society, it would prove the best kind of skating dress. The Polish and Dutch, and Russian women, who go much on the ice wear short dresses. In skating scenes at the Paris opera and ballets, the short dresses are always worn, as much from their propriety for the scene as from stage conventionalism. What would an opera-goer think if, in the skating in the 'Propheete,' the performers wore long dresses and hoops!

"The English ladies' dress, worn so much at present well adapted for skating. It includes a rather tight dress, not reaching below the ankles—which are hidden by laced up boots—light cloak, and the pork pie hat, with its jaunty feather. A woman skating in a sky scraper bonnet is a shocking inconsistency, and appears as much out of place with such an article on her head as would a lady on horseback. Ladies have riding habits, which they can wear only on horseback, and they should also have skating dresses which they would expect to wear only on the ice. As to the extra expense, that is very slight; because a stout serviceable dress would last several seasons, while the ordinary dress—with its long skirts and wide expanse of crinoline—is sure to suffer from the collisions inevitable on a skating pond; and a lady skater in ordinary costume generally finds some work for her needle before her evening or afternoon on skates is over. The skating pond is intended as a scene of salubrious enjoyment, and funeral black or dull gray by no means enhances this effect, which by the way, must depend upon the ladies. A gentleman would look very absurd with light blue trousers or a crimson coat; but ladies can wear their brilliant colors with propriety.—Ribbons tell well in skating. They stream out from a skating cap with a very pretty effect. Muffs look pretty, but should only be used by experienced lady skaters, as others use their hands to balance themselves with. Of course these remarks are principally intended for the ladies, who, graceful anywhere, look doubly fascinating when, appropriately dressed, they skim along the ice. As to the skater's sex, there are few hints about dress, which it is worth while to give to them, as they are awkward and ungainly everywhere; and we would only remind them that the chief duty of man during the coming season will be to accompany with or his own or somebody else's skates to skating ponds, and administer to the necessities of those fair charmers who wish to indulge in our national amusement."

FRANCE ALFRED AT ATHENS.—A QUEEN BUILT.—Miss Frederica Bremer visited Athens in 1859, and while there moved in the highest circles of Grecian society, having been the guest of Prince Otto and his Queen on several occasions. We make an extract from her Journal:—

"November 14th.—England's young Prince Alfred makes sunshine at Athens. Yesterday a great ball was given for him at the Palace. I also was amongst the guests, in consequence of an invitation from Her Majesty. I had already seen the young Prince in Malta, but I was very willing to see a Royal ball at Athens; and at eight in

the evening I accordingly went to the Palace. The Prince had grown since I saw him last—now a year since—but had still the same charming characteristic, the unpretending boy united to the gentleman in bearing and fine tact. It was beautiful to see the graceful, simple lad, out of uniform, and without the slightest distinguishing ornament, leading in the polonaise, which always here opens the ball, the Queen of Greece, resplendent with jewels and good humor, a real Semiramis, a queenly figure, captivating all eyes. This evening, however, perhaps the greatest number were captivated by the unpretending son of Queen Victoria. * * * Amongst the men I became acquainted with some Pelicans from the time of the War of Independence, who were here, it was said, merely to see the young English Prince."

ROTHSCHILD AND THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

An amusing adventure is related as having happened to the Bank of England, which had committed the great disrespect of refusing to discount a bill of large amount drawn by Asselin Rothschild, of Frankfurt, on Nathan Rothschild, of London. The bank had haughtily replied—"that they discounted only their own bills, and not those of private persons." But they had to do with one stronger than the Bank. "Private persons," exclaimed Nathan Rothschild, when they reported to him the fact. "Private persons! I will make those gentlemen see what sort of private persons we are!" Three weeks afterwards Nathan Rothschild—who had employed the interval in gathering all the £5 notes he could procure in England and on the Continent! presented himself at the Bank at the opening of the office. He drew from his pocket-book a £5 note, and they naturally counted out five sovereigns at the same time looking quite astonished that the Baron Rothschild should have personally troubled himself for such a trifle. The Baron examined one by one the coins, put them into a little envasse bag, then drawing out another note, a third, a fourth, a hundredth he never put the pieces into the bag without scrupulously examining them, and in some instances trying them in the balance, as he said, "the law gave him the right to do." The first pocket book being emptied, and the first bag full, he passed them to his clerk, and received a second, and thus continued till the close of the Bank. The Baron had employed seven hours to employ £21,000. But as he had nine employees of his house engaged in the same manner, it resulted that the house of Rothschild had drawn £210,000 in gold from the Bank, and that he had so occupied the tellers that no other person could change a single note. Everything which bears the stamp of eccentricity has always pleased the English. They were, therefore, the first day, very much amused at the little piece of Baron Rothschild. They however laughed less when they saw him return the next day at the opening of the bank, flanked by his nine clerks, and followed, this time by many drags, destined to carry away the specie. They laughed no longer when the king of bankers said with ironic simplicity: "These men refuse to pay my bills I have sworn not to keep them." "At their leisure—only I notify them that I have enough to employ them for two months!" "For two months!" "Eleven millions in gold drawn from the Bank of England which they have never possessed!" The bank took alarm. There was something to be done. The next morning, notice appeared in the journals that henceforth the Bank would pay Rothschild's bills the same as its own.

Tobacco a Foo to Matrimony.

One of our exchanges inquires, with much alarm, "how is it that there are so many nice young girls in our cities unmarried, and likely to remain so?" Our answer is comprised in one word—Tobacco. In old times when you could approach a young man within whispering distance without being nauseated by his breath, he used—when his day's work was over—to spend his evenings with some good girl or girls, either around the family hearth, or in pleasant walks, or at some innocent place of amusement. The young man of the present day takes his solitary pipe and puffs away all his vitality, till he is as stupid as an oyster, and then goes to some saloon to quench the thirst created by smoking; and such crocodile tears every time his stockings are out at the toes—"that the girls now-a-days are so extravagant, a fellow can't afford to get married."—Nine young men out of ten deliberately give up respectable female society to indulge the solitary, enervating habit of smoking, until their broken down constitutions clamor for careful nursing; then they coolly ask some nice young girl to exchange her health, strength, beauty and un-

impaired intellect for their yellow face, tainted blood and breath, and irritable temper and mental imbecility. Women may well hate smoking and smokers. We have known the most gentle and refined men grow harsh in temper and uncleanly in their personal habits under the thralldom of a tyrannical habit which they had not love nor respect enough for women to break through.—[American Paper.

SMOKY CHIMNEYS.—A correspondent of the London builder gives the following cure for a great and common evil—"A smoking chimney and a scolding wife are two of the worst evils of domestic life, says the old proverb, and to obviate the first ingenuity is ever racking its brain. Hence, Regent street and every part of the metropolis has its house tops bristling with pipes and deformed by cowls in every conceivable and inconceivable variety. Now, I have built many chimneys, and have found one simple plan every where succeed, the secret being only to construct the throat of the chimney, or the part just above the fireplace, so small that a man or boy can barely pass through. Immediately above, the chimney should be enlarged to double its width, like a purse, to the extent of about two feet in height, and then diminished again to the usual proportions. No chimney that I ever constructed thus smoked.

LIABILITY OF SUBSCRIBERS.

A recent case tried before the Supreme Court, shows the liability of Subscribers.—The Publishers recovered the amount of their claim, and the delinquent Subscriber was obliged to pay upwards of two hundred dollars costs. Alluding to this case, a contemporary observes:—

"It is surprising that so few subscribers fully understand their responsibilities to publishers of Newspapers. The law which governs in this decision is a law of Congress, and therefore applicable to every State in the Union. Many subscribers seem to regard the bill for a newspaper, the last to be settled, especially the last which the law will enforce. Responsible men, even, under trifling whims, refuse to take six papers from the P. O., regardless of the payment in the arrears, and when half a dozen more years have been added to the arrears at the time of stopping, think it hard to pay the increased bill with interest and cost of collection.

The law holding subscribers to a rigid responsibility is a wise one, and essential for the protection of the publisher. His dues are in small sums scattered so widely, that positive and decisive law is absolutely necessary in his behalf. People sometimes complain that they find a great deal of trouble in stopping newspapers. This arises in nineteen cases out of twenty from a failure to pay what is justly due the publisher.—No man who sends \$2 at the end of the year with the request to stop when \$2.50 is due, has any reason to complain because his paper is discontinued.

FROM THE STATES.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 30.

Reported Federal brigade captured Knoxville, Tenn., destroying 4 bridges and portion of railroad.

Rosecrans driven Confederates into Murfreesboro.

Supposed Morgan is leaving State.

Reported 7,000 Confederates detached from Fredericksburg army, was approach Gloucester Court House, to assist Gen. Wise.

Federals awaiting attack.

Emancipationists triumphant in Missouri Legislature.

Gen. Grant and Heron moved over Boston Mountains and advanced to Van Buren, drove enemy across Arkansas River, captured 8 steamboats, 100 prisoners and a quantity of stores.

Rumors current of attack made by Stonewall Jackson on Sigel's forces near Stafford Court House and being repulsed, drew portion of Sigel's force into ambush, capturing large number of prisoners.

Secretary Chase reported will issue notes of the \$200,000,000 treasury notes.

Dec. 31.

Intelligence from Alexandria represents that Stewart's Cavalry force with artillery, were encamped within twelve miles of there on Monday.

Governor of Missouri congratulates the State has nearly 40,000 men engaged in the war for the Union. He advocates substitution of free for slave labor, and recommends measures for gradual emancipation.

New Madrid is to be re-occupied.

Wells, Fargo & Co. will charge eight (8) per cent. for shipping gold from San Francisco to New York by next steamer.

Anticipated shipment to New York will be light, the bulk going on British steamers from Aspinwall.

