

ITEMS—GENERAL AND LOCAL.

There is a dog in Boston named Quota, because he never seems to be full.

The Richmond Examiner says: "This is the last year of the war, whichever wins."

In order to give our readers a list of the patients admitted from the last Flag-of-Truce boat, we publish an extra this week.

General Meade has issued an order directing the shooting, without trial, of any soldier who refuses to do duty.

A Draft for 7,456 men, to meet the deficiencies of Maryland on the last call, is ordered to take place at the earliest practicable date.

After considerable debate, the proposition to transfer the sittings of the Maryland Constitutional Convention to Baltimore, was rejected.

Seventeen editors of the Vicksburg Whig, have been shot in street fights and duels, since the establishment of that paper.

The latest style of hoop-skirts is the self-adjusting, double-back-action, bustle-etruscan, face-expansion, Piccolomini attachment, gossamer, indestructible polioctomoram. It is really a very nice thing.

The business of using Government horses by civilians came to grievous ends yesterday on many streets. About eighty gentlemen taking May day rides were dismounted by the Provost Marshal's guards and ordered to walk.—Washington Star, 2d.

A fellow contemplated in utter wonderment the multitudinous dimensions of a bystander's feet, and in a tone of astonishment said, as he surveyed the man's proportions, "You'd have been a tall man if they hadn't bent you so far up."

Nine officers of a colored regiment at Fortress Monroe, having resigned for insufficient causes at the approach of active operations, General Butler has forwarded their resignations to the President with a commendation that they be remanded to their former regiments to serve out their time as private soldiers.

The new two-cent piece which has been recommended for the sanction of Congress resembles, as much as anything can, a gold coin. On one side there is a wreath of wheat, in the centre of which are the words "United States of America." On the other side there is the shield of liberty, bearing the words "God our Trust."

The Flag-of-Truce Steamer New York arrived at our wharf on Monday morning last, from City Point, with paroled prisoners. About two hundred and seventy were admitted in this Hospital, and one hundred to Division No. 2. The most of them were in a very low, wretched condition, and several have already died. A list of those admitted to the two Hospitals, (Divisions 1 and 2,) will be found in the CRUTCH Extra.

Lieutenant Colonel ROBERT AVERY, of the 102d N. Y. Vols., who last year was a patient at this Hospital, from a gun-shot wound in the neck, received at the battle of Chancellorsville, and from which he completely recovered, has again reported here, but from a more serious wound. He received a gun-shot fracture of the right thigh at the late battle of Lookout Mountain, which rendered a very high amputation necessary. This gallant officer is undoubtedly lost for the field, but we hope that even in his crippled condition he may be allowed to be of further service to the country.

A TOUGH QUESTION AND A LUCID ANSWER.—If your mother's mother was my mother's sister's aunt, what relation would your great grand-father's uncle's nephew be, to my older brother's first cousin's nephew-in-law?

Answer—As your mother's mother is to my older brother's first cousin's son-in-law, so is my mother's sister's aunt to your great grand-father's uncle's nephew. Divide your mother's mother by my elder brother's cousin's son-in-law, and multiply my mother's sister's aunt by your great grand-father's uncle's nephew, and either add or subtract—we forget which—and you will have the answer "in the spring."

Mudsills.

Before the outbreak of the present war, when open hostilities were unknown, the grandees of the South could find no more bitter reproach for the mechanics of the North than the term "mud-sills." Senseless as the appellative was to intelligent men, it served to show the estimation in which traitors held labor and those who live by it, and was expressive of their utter scorn.

A just retribution has fallen upon these traitors to their country, for through the want of those despised "mudsills" their railroads are in ruins, their factories, such as they have, short-handed, and only worked by "Northern men with Southern principles," and their steamers, for all offensive purposes, useless. Though the fields of the South at this moment require all the cultivation that can be bestowed upon them, there are none but slaves to plant the crops or to reap them if they were sown. The North is equally shorthanded, and when men disappear from the homestead or the factory, dum assistants, supply their place, and the crops are not only gathered in cheaply, but are, or might be, increased in quantity by the employment of the useful agricultural machines which are now in market.

All other callings and trades are equally prosperous at the North, and only in the war-ridden South is the voice of labor hushed in the field, the hum of the factory replaced by solitude and ruin. The Southern journals, such as still exist, are full of demands for "mudsills;" they lament bitterly the loss of machine shops and foundries, and are inconsolable in being debarred the privilege of certain manufacturing towns which have recently been wrested from them in Georgia and Mississippi. It is, of course, the products of labor that they miss so greatly, but these products are the fruits of the skill and ingenuity of Northern "mudsills," whom they once derided, but now mourn and refuse to be comforted therefor.

Let them take this unction to their souls:—One day the Southern factories; mills and machine shops shall be busy again; and a peaceful and smiling land acknowledge with gratitude the benefits which "mudsills" confer upon them.—Scientific American.

OUR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CHARITIES.—It is a distinguishing feature of the American people that they are ever ready to contribute freely and most liberally to the alleviation of misery—that they are ever charitably inclined on a large and noble scale. We are impressed with this fact from the immense success of the great Metropolitan Fair, and the continued exertions of those who seem determined to aid the wounded soldiers. In no other country are there so many public and private charitable institutions as in this. We have asylums for the deaf, the blind, the inebriate and incurables. States, large and small towns, all alike shown the same careful attention to these matters, and make the same generous outlay. Our public schools are carried on at immense expense. We have calculated that not less than fifty millions are annually expended in the country in charities, public and private, and it is evident that these amounts are increasing during the period of warfare.—It is gratifying to observe that, if we may be taxed with extravagance, it must be added that charity keeps pace with the movement, and that in the general pursuit of show and pleasure the needy are not overlooked.

A FRIGHTENED NEGRO.—During the advance toward Bridgeport of our force, a heavy artillery skirmish was had, and negro Jim was not seen for a whole day. At night when he came up, we asked him where he had been. He rolled his large eyes in his head, and said, "Oh! massa, I heard something coming through the air, saying, 'Whar's dat nigger? whar's dat nigger?' and putty soon dat ting busted, and little debils went skirmishing all round arter dis nigger, and I run away?" Those persons who have heard shells come whizzing through the air will readily see that Jim's description of them is perfect.—Ez.

Why is faith like honey? Because it consists of bee-leavings.

A key that fits everybody's trunk—Tur-key.

Printer's Proverbs.

1.—Never inquire thou of the Editor for the news; for behold, it is his duty at the appointed time to give it unto thee without asking.

2.—When thou dost write for his paper never write lengthy articles, nor say unto him: "What thinkest thou of my piece?" for it may be the truth would offend thee.

3.—It is not fit that thou should'st ask of him who is the author of an article upon subjects of public concernment; for duty requires him to keep such things to himself.

4.—When thou dost enter into the printing-office, have a care unto thyself that thou touch not the type, for thou mayest cause much trouble.

5.—Look thou not at copy which is either in the hands of the compositor or on file, for that is not meet in the sight of the printer, and he may knock thee down with his stick.

6.—Never examine the proof-sheet, for it is not ready to meet thine eye, that thou mayest it understand.—Convalescent.

DUPPEL.—This place, which was captured by the Prussians on the 18th ult., is a Fortress, which the Danes had surrounded with a series of ingenious and novel defences. The first obstruction which its assailants met was an irregular line of masked ditches, with sharp stakes firmly fixed at the bottom to impale the unlucky man who might fall through; next came a line chevaux de frise; then another of the large man-traps; and finally a common wire fence—the latter a simple but very effective impediment to both infantry and cavalry. Not content with these lines of circumvention, the Danish engineers had crowned both scarp and counter scarp of the earthworks with palisades crested with a bristling line of sharp swords, an expedient borrowed from the French defences of the breach of Badajos. Both within and without the works were fixed planks studded with long nails, the points up, and concealed by a light covering of earth. We must add to these amenities the mines that underlaid all the assailable parts.

TURKISH IGNORANCE OF AMERICA.—A Boston correspondent gives renewed and interesting evidence of the strange notions which are rampant in the countries of the Levant, respecting American affairs. Indeed, this ignorance is not imputable to Turkey alone, but to all Europe. He writes—"A lady seeing a picture of Martha Washington, inquired if it were 'Mrs. Washington Irving.' A friend seeing a portrait of Washington in a shop, went to test the owner's knowledge. 'Who is that?' 'Washington.' 'And who is he?' 'Oh! a hero, like, like Scipio, like Hannibal. He won many wars?' 'Did he always win?' Always. He beat him,' (pointing to a picture of Napoleon which hung on the one side) 'almightily in three battles.' The man's heart was in the right place, though his facts were out of joint. I astonished a highly intelligent German by telling him that the President's salary was only \$25,000. He guessed half a million."

Not long since, an elderly woman entered a railroad car at one of the Ohio stations, and disturbed the passengers a good deal with complaints about a "most dreadful rhumatiz," that she was troubled with. A gentleman present, who had himself been a severe sufferer with the same complaint, said to her—"Did you ever try electricity, madam? I tried it and in the course of a short time it completely cured me." "Electricity," exclaimed the old lady—"y-e-s, I've tried it to my satisfaction. I was struck by lightning about a year ago, but it didn't do me a morsel of good."

A gentleman residing near Syracuse, N. Y., has a family, of one daughter and four sons. The aggregate weight of the sons is eight hundred and eighty-eight pounds! The "girl" weighs over three hundred, and the father about two hundred and sixty!

No maiden ever unlocked her heart to a lover, but a kiss was the first prisoner to fly out.