ELLICOTT CITY TIMES,
LOUIS J. & J. HARWOOD WATKINS,
Editors and Proprietors.

TERMS—$2 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

☞ ADVERTISING RATES.—One square, consisting 6 lines, $1 for one insertion, $1.50 for two insertions, and 25 cts for each subsequent insertion. All advertisements less than 6 lines charged as squares. Advertisements payable upon first insertion.

ELLICOTT CITY TI

VOL. VIII. ELLICOTT CITY, Md., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22,

Professional.

JOHN G. ROGERS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW
AND SOLICITOR IN CHANCERY,
Will Practice in Howard, Anne Arundle and the adjoining counties.
☞ Special attention given to Collections, and Remittances made promptly.
OFFICE—In the Court House, Ellicott City. [Jan 6, '72-1y.

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Can be found at the Court House, Ellicott City, on the FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH.
OFFICE—29 St. Paul St., near Lexington, Baltimore.
July 27 '72-tf.

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☞ Can be found at the Court House in Ellicott City, on the FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH.
Dec. 12 '74-tf.

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☞ Particular attention given to collection of Mercantile Claims in the lower counties of Maryland. [Jan. 29, '70-1y.

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mar.6-'75-1y.

EDWIN LINTHICUM,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
OFFICE.—Nearly opposite the Court House,
ELLICOTT CITY, Md.
Nov. 27'69-1y.

HENRY E. WOOTTON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
OFFICE—Nearly opposite the Court House,
ELLICOTT CITY, MD.
Nov. 27, '69-1y.

J. Harwood Watkins,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
ELLICOTT CITY.
☞ OFFICE—At the Court House.
Sept 12, '74-tf.

J. D. McGUIRE,
Attorney at Law,
Ellicott City, Md.
☞ Office Two Doors West of Leishear's Store.
Oct 7, '76-tf.

DR. JAMES E. SHREEVE,
DENTIST,
(*Graduate of Baltimore College of Dental Surgery*).
Having bought out the good will of Dr. E. Crabbe, I tender my professional services to his patrons and the public generally at the office formerly occupied by him,
MAIN STREET,
THREE DOORS BELOW LEISHEAR'S STORE.
April 21, '77-1y.

DR. SAMUEL A. KEENE,
ELLICOTT CITY, MD,
Having permanently located himself at Ellicott City, is prepared to practice his Profession in this City and County.
☞ He may be found at his place of business at all hours, except when professionally engaged. Night calls promptly attended to.
Oct. 7 '69-tf.

Dr. W. G. WARMAN,
Near CLARKSVILLE, Howard County
Respectfully tenders his Professional Services to the citizens of Howard County.
☞ He will be found at his office when not professionally engaged.
May 1, '69-1y.

WILLIAM B. PETER,
Notary Public,
Real Estate and Collection Agency, and
GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT,
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Estates attended to; Rents and Bills Collected. Money procured on Securities. Purchases and Sales of City and Country Property effected. Property Leased. Money Invested in Ground Rents, Mortgages, &c., &c., &c., Free of Charge. All kinds of Property Insured at Lowest Rates.
☞ MONEY TO LOAN, at Low Rates, on first Class Securities, in Sums from $1,000 of $10,000. June 24, '71-tf.

Baltimore.

PERSONAL.
NOAH WALKER & CO.,
THE CELEBRATED
CLOTHIERS
OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND,
Announce the introduction of a plan of ordering
CLOTHING & UNDERWEAR
BY LETTER,
to which they call your special attention. They will send on application their improved and accurate RULES FOR SELF-MEASUREMENT and a full line of samples from their immense stock of
CLOTHS, CASSIMERES,
COATINGS, SHIRTINGS, &C., &C.,
thus enabling parties in any part of the country to order their Clothing and Shirts direct from them, with the certainty of receiving garments of *the very Latest Styles and most Perfect Fit Attainable.*
Goods ordered will be sent by Express to any part of the country.
As is well known throughout the Southern States, they have for *forty-three years excelled* in all departments of their business, which is a substantial guarantee as to the character of the Goods they will send out. A large and well assorted stock of
READY-MADE CLOTHING
always on hand, together with a full line of FURNISHING GOODS, including all the latest Novelties in demand at POPULAR PRICES.
BOYS' & YOUTHS'
READY-MADE CLOTHING from three years up a specialty.
When goods are sent per Express C. O. D. There will be no collection charge on amount of $20 and over.
Rules for Self-Measurement, Samples of Goods and Price List sent free on application.
The attention of the Trade is invited to our WHOLESALE DEPARTMENT which is always kept up to the highest standard.
NOAH WALKER & CO.
Manufacturers and Dealers in Mens' and Boys' Clothing and Furnishing Goods, either ready-made or made to order.
165 and 167 Baltimore Street,
BALTIMORE, MD.
April 1, '70-tf.

Francis W. Plummer.
Good Wood, Smooth Work, Fine Finish!
PRICES TO SUIT ALL!
SEND FOR CATALOGUE OF
FURNITURE!
WALNUT, OAK, ASH, POPLAR!

Bookcases	$25 to $100
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49 Hanover St., Baltimore.
March 29, '73-1y.

S. S. LINTHICUM,
LUMBER DEALER,
Cor. Pratt & Green Sts.,
BALTIMORE, MD.,
KEEPS CONSTANTLY ON HAND ALL KINDS OF
BUILDING MATERIAL,
Lumber, Shingles, Palings, Laths, &c.
ALSO
DOOR FRAMES, SASH, *BLINDS, &C.,*
Furnished at Manufacturers' Prices.
☞ All orders promptly attended to, and delivered at Depot free of charge.
July 18, '74-tf.

JOHN NICKLAS,

WATCHMAKER & JEWELER
389 W. Balto. St., cor. of Paca,
BALTIMORE, Md.
PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER.
Offers for sale, at Reduced Prices, Gold and Silver American and Swiss Watches, a well selected Stock of fine Gold Jewelry, Sterling Silver Ware, Triple Plated Ware, Clocks, Table Cutlery, &c., &c.
☞ Particular attention paid to the Repairing of Watches and the Manufacture of Fine Jewelry.
April 15, '70-1y.

WHAT IS BRIC-A-BRAC?—The origin of the word answers the question accurately enough. It is a French compound phrase, a corruption of an older compound, *bric-et-broc*, derived from *bric*, which was a sort of weapon used in hunting, and from *broc*, a corruption of the low-Latin word *broca*, a kitchen spit. The original compound meant what we might call a "pick-up" meal, served quickly; and of whatever could be got at quickly. The compound now in use means, we may say, "odds and ends," old watches, clocks, pictures, weapons, ornaments, furniture, statuettes.

—"Why was I born?" exclaimed Anna Dickinson, in beginning one of her fine flights of eloquence on the equality of woman. "Why was I born?" she repeated, swelling her exultant form, stamping her foot, and looking earnestly over the audience. "Give it up," exclaimed a puzzled chap in the gallery; "ask us something easier."

—Divine service—A pretty waitress.

A DOLLAR OR TWO.

With cautious steps as we tread our way through
This intricate world, as other folks do,
May we still on our journey be able to view
The benevolent face of a dollar or two!
For an excellent thing is a dollar or two;
No friend is so true as a dollar or two;
Through country and town,
As we pass up and down,
No passports so good as a dollar or two.

Would you rend yourself out of a bachelor crew,
And the hand of a female divinity sue?
You must always be ready "the handsome" to do,
Although it should cost you a dollar or two,
Love's arrows are tipped with a dollar or two,
And affection is gained by a dollar or two,
The best aid you can meet,
In advancing your suit,
Is the eloquent clink of a dollar or two.

—*Harper's Magazine.*

Something about New-Year's Customs.

All civilized and semi-civilized races of mankind appear, as if by a natural instinct, to have adopted either ceremonials, rejoicings, or an interchange of social amenities, at the inauguration of a new year.

As the period of the demise of the old and birth of the new year is not arbitrary, but merely marks the completion of the earth's revolution around the sun from one point in its orbit back to the same point, or nearly so, the times of such so-called New-Years vary. Thus the Christian, the Jewish, the Mohammedan, and the Chinese anniversaries, occur at different times.

We have in the United States a sufficient number of the first two and of the last named, to have their respective annual celebrations brought prominently under our notice; and, speaking generally, these all make it a season of rejoicing and social reunion.

The Jewish New-Year, however, is attended by more strictly religious ceremonies, of longer duration than those of other sects, and includes on some days a partial cessation from business, and a total cessation on others. With the Israelites, visits of congratulation and compliment are secondary to the religious observances. It is unnecessary to comment upon the usual manner in which the new year is celebrated by the generality of the American people.

The Chinese, who are so numerous in the State of California, and whose noisy demonstrations involve so heavy an expenditure of gunpowder, are reputed to consider it an absolute necessity to pay all indebtedness on this occasion, and that those who are positively unable to discharge their liabilities shall be set free from them. This is the theory, but it would appear that association with outside barbarians has greatly tended to modify it in practice when abroad.

In their own native land the rule is carried out more rigidly, but such is the disgrace attendant upon New-Year insolvency that suicides among the impecunious at that time are said to be frequent, a species of high-mindedness that but ill accords with our generally-received notions of Chinese ethics.

Among the English, the festivities of New-Year's eve and day are of a very ancient date. In the feudal times, the head of the house presided at these merrymakings over a huge bowl of spiced ale somewhat strangely named "lamb's-wool." Having first drunk to the health of those assembled, he passed it around to the others. As each took the bowl to drink, he pronounced the Saxon words "Wass hael," meaning your health, and from this sprung the name "wassail-bowl." Numerous songs were sung, one of which, of Gloucestershire origin, contains the following verses:

"Wassail, wassail, over the town,
Our bread is white, our ale is brown;
Our bowl is made of the maplin tree—
We be good fellows all, I drink to thee.
Come butler, and bring us a bowl of the best,
I hope your soul in heaven may rest;
But if you do bring us a bowl of the small,
Then down shall fall butler, bowl, and all."

The poor people carried round on the last day of the year a bowl ornamented with ribbons, and begged for the wherewithal to get it filled, so that they, too, might enjoy the wassail.

At the monasteries, then so numerous in England, the abbot stood behind an enormous wassail-bowl, which was called, in their ecclesiastical language, "Poculum Caritatis," and, having drunk to all, the others drank in regular succession, the one to the other, until the wassail had gone the round of the tables.

A relic of this custom is still retained by the corporation of the city of London. A double-handled flagon of spiced wine is placed before the lady-mayoress if she be present, or, in her absence, before the presiding officer, and she or he, standing up and holding the flagon in both hands, drinks to the health of the company, as called out by the toast master. He then passes it to the person on his left hand, who, also standing, drinks to *his* left-hand neighbor, and so in turn until all have partaken. The ceremony is known as that of the "Loving Cup."

The ringing out of the old year and ringing in of the new has, among some of the methodists, given place to *singing in* the New-Year, and in Yorkshire, England, is known as the "Watch-Night Service." The congregation having assembled, and the usual services having been performed so as to terminate shortly before midnight, a psalm is sung, after which perfect silence is maintained, each person being, or supposed to be, engaged in silent prayer until the hour of twelve strikes. At the first stroke of the clock all join in the Wesleyan hymn—

"Come, let us anew
Our journey pursue,
Roll round with the year,"

etc., etc.

The introduction of religious services in connection with the advent of the new year would appear to be again gaining ground—"improving the occasion," as it is termed by some, by urging on all a resolution to amend their ways and to reflect on the past:

"He that good thinketh good may do,
And God will help him thereunto;
For never yet was good work wrought
Without beginning of good thought."

Episcopal clergymen, of some of the districts where other denominations are gaining ground, have adopted a "Watch-Night Service," probably from motives of policy, but the movement is not general with that body in England—most of the clergy of the Established Church being opposed to it, on the ground that the status of the Church demands that it should be the inaugurator of any additional observances, not the follower of such as may be introduced by other sects.

The celebration of New-Year's eve and day is much more marked in Scotland than in England, and its greater prominence may be in some sort attributed to there being no Christmas festival permissible by the Calvinistic *regime*. In this connection it may be observed that, to the same cause, operating upon the Puritan settlers of New England, may be traced the more notable celebration of the day in America.

Till within a very few years the drinking from the wassail-bowl, at the passing away of the old year prevailed in Scotland. In that country, as in some others which shall be nameless, excesses are too much the order of the day; and, so general is the custom of indulging freely, on the plea that it comes but once a year, that, by mid-day, persons of standing and position even, may not unfrequently be seen in the streets of the larger cities, whose uncertain gait betrays the depth of their potations. Nor are these cases entirely confined to the stronger sex. The police have instructions, it is presumed, to be conveniently blind, so long as the peace is preserved, so that few arrests for intoxication are made.

The custom of "first-footing" is generally prevalent in the "Land o' Cakes." Parties, generally consisting of men only, with an abundant supply of whiskey, visit the houses of their friends, as soon after midnight as may be, to wish them the compliments of the season; and the person who first enters a house for that purpose is denominated "first-foot." The toast most in vogue is, "A gude New-Year to ye, and mony may ye see." Forty years ago a rule obtained in some sort, that all ladies found out-of-doors after twelve o'clock were liable to pay the forfeit of a kiss. As many parties were given on New-Year's eve, of course numerous of the fair sex were out after that hour, and none would venture to take their departure except in carriages, and even these were stopped frequently by parties of young men, and the inmates compelled to submit to the inevitable New-Year salute. As the melancholy prince says, "It is a custom more honored in the breach than in the observance;" but young men of that day were of a different opinion. The writer remembers being one of a party which stopped the carriage of Sir Alexander Keith, of Ravelstone. As there were four horses, and as the postilions drove very rapidly, the feat was not accomplished without considerable risk, two of the undergraduates being thrown beneath the horses' feet. The carriage was stopped, however, and the old gentleman acknowledged the capture, and counselled the three ladies within to make no fuss about it, but quietly resign themselves to their fate. In this case, most of the young gentlemen were personally acquainted with the baronet's family. This habit admitted, however, of much abuse, and was the occasion of many serious broils, so that people began to set their faces against the custom, and it has, consequently, of late years fallen into disuse.

How a Woman Reads a Newspaper.

Somebody says that one who will watch a woman read a newspaper will get some new ideas on the characteristics of the gentler sex. She takes it up hurriedly, and begins to scan it over rapidly, as though she was hunting some particular thing; but she is not. She is merely taking in the obscure paragraphs, which, she half believes, were put in out-of-the-way places for the sole purpose of keeping her from seeing them. As she finishes each one, her countenance brightens with the comfortable reflection that she has outwitted the editor and the whole race of men, for she cherishes a vague belief that newspapers are the enemies of her sex, and editors its chief oppressors. She never reads the headlines, and the huge telegraph heads she never even sees. She is greedy for local news, and devours it with the keenest relish. Marriages and deaths are always interesting reading to her, and advertisements are exciting and stimulating. She cares but little for printed jokes, unless they reflect ridicule upon the men, and then she delights in them, and never forgets them. She pays particular attention to anything enclosed by quotation marks, and considers it rather better authority than anything first-handed. The columns in which the editor airs his opinions, in leaded bifaulutin, she rarely reads. Views are of no importance in her estimation, but facts are everything. She generally reads the poetry. She doesn't always care for it, but she makes a practice of reading it, because she thinks she ought to. She reads stories, and sketches, paragraphs indiscriminately, and believes every word of them. Finally, after she has read all she intends to, she lays the paper down with an air of disappointment, and a half contemptuous gesture, which says very plainly that she thinks all newspapers miserable, but is certain that if she had a chance she could make the only perfect newspaper the world had ever seen.

GOT EVEN WITH HIM.—There was one man on the Woodward avenue car the other rainy morning who felt as if the weather couldn't be abused enough.

"Don't you hate such weather as this?" he asked of a portly acquaintance opposite.

"No, sir," was the decided response; "I don't bother about the weather. If it's fair, all right; if it's foul, all right."

"But you can't like such a morning as this?"

"It's just as good for me as any other sort o' morning," was the calm reply.

"And you like to see rain and mud and slush, do you?"

"Yes; I am perfectly satisfied."

The grumbler was out of patience, but he secured revenge sooner than he hoped for. In getting off the car the fat man slipped and sprawled at full length in the mud, to the intense delight of the other, who rushed to the platform and shouted:

"Don't say a word—it's one of your kind of mornings! If it was one of mine you'd have fallen on a bed of nice, clean, soft, white, beautiful snow! Stand up, till I look at you!"

The fat man stood up. He was mud from boots to chin. He looked at himself and then at the car, and feebly said:

"I kin lick you and all the weather in the country with one hand tied behind me!"

—A good thing to put in practice—A young lawyer.

Anecdote of Jefferson.

The story I am about to tell was t[illegible] told by an English woman, Mrs. Wrig[illegible] who was cognizant of the circumstanc[illegible]

Those who know anything of Tho[illegible] Jefferson's character know that he ha[illegible] a deep disrelish of all hollow forms [illegible] etiquette. When Jefferson came to the [illegible] Presidential chair he found considerable [illegible] of these at the capital, and he at once [illegible] determined, so far as lay in his power, to preserve that sterling, easy, graceful, whole-hearted simplicity which he deemed the appropriate characteristic of a republic. One of the most annoying things that met him in the outset of his exalted career was the extreme, punctilious etiquette which the foreign ambassadors, and more especially their wives, introduced and sought to establish in his own drawing rooms. Those who would not, or could not, copy them, they treated with chilling hauteur. This evil he was resolved to nip in the bud, and deeming an example better than precept, he ordered his own carriage and conversation after a manner that must have been refreshing to the shade of Ben. Franklin.

When he rode, it was without servants or outriders, and when he visited he announced his own name at the door. At the Presidential mansion the utmost simplicity of manners prevailed. In his drawing rooms he sought to make true and hearty sociality the rule, and at his tables he made as little distinction of persons as possible. Of course there had to be exceptions, but as a rule, he placed those near him whom he deemed most worthy. The President was so pleasant, so cheerful, so kind, and so attentive to the wants and comforts of all who came near him, that no one could find a peg upon which to hang direct accusation. At length, however, the opportunity was offered, and was seized.

On a certain occasion, when the chief dignitaries of America, and of all represented nations, were assembled at the Presidential Mansion, the ambassadors from abroad seeming to feel that the dignity of their respective courts rested upon them, Jefferson received them all as nearly upon a social level as he could. The Spanish Minister was there blazing in gold and jewels, and his wife bore him company in a perfect bespanglement of diamonds, rubies, and emeralds. Jefferson did not stop to consider—perhaps he did not know—the exact relative positions which court etiquette would have given to his foreign guests, and innocently enough he placed at the dinner-table the wife of the English Secretary of Legation above the wife of the Spanish Ambassador. The kind host had only thought of seating two dear friends together—the two wives of the British Minister and his secretary.

But the wife of the Spanish Minister, as was natural, was deeply offended, and laid the case before the diplomatic *corps*. She was indignant, and eloquent, and she wielded an influence; and finally it was decided that on the morrow the ministers of France and Spain should wait upon President Jefferson together, and demand of him that in future proper respect should be paid to the rank of the European potentates.

So, at a proper hour, on the following day, the two ambassadors, in full court costume, with jeweled swords at their sides, called at the President's Mansion, and requested to see His Excellency the President. They were shown into one of the drawing-rooms, and word was conveyed to Mr. Jefferson, who was engaged in the library.

Now Jefferson had been told of what had taken place, and he quickly divined the object of this visit. Pulling on one boot, he took the other in his hand, and, in his velvet dressing-gown, proceeded to the drawing-room, and, having half opened the door, he turned to a servant behind him, and gave directions, in an easy manner, for the making ready of his horse. Then he entered the room, boot in hand, and smiled blandly upon his august visitors:

"Really, my friends, this is an unexpected pleasure. Be seated, be seated, I beg. No ceremony here. I heard of your arrival and would not keep you waiting."

And then, with a gleesome laugh, he sat down, and pulled on his remaining boot, having done which he plunged off hand into a spirited conversation upon the pleasant relations then existing between their respective countries. No man could talk more sensibly, more comprehensively, or more eloquently. By a graceful and adroit management of language he elevated the gentleman above the minister, and gave eminence to the Christian philosopher and humane heart above the frozen diplomatist. The ambassadors were at first amazed and confounded, and then interested; and very quickly the combat between republican simplicity and truth, and autocratic pomp and hollowness, was decided. The representatives of kings got away as soon as they could, and when they next met their diplomatic companions and their wives, they reported:

"It is of no use to contend. We might do it with some rulers, but not with this one. When we visit the President of the United States we may as well make up our minds to leave the royal dignity of our masters behind us."

—Oddities among the books: A short man reading Longfellow; a burglar picking at Locke; a jeweler devouring Goldsmith; an artilleryman with Shelly; an omnibus driver calling for one Moore; a nice young man going to the Dickens; a laborer at his Lever; a young woman with her Lover; Tom studying Dick's Works; a lancer learning Shakspeare; a servant looking for the Butler; a miller deep in Mill; a glazier's hour with Paine; a hedger absorbed in Hawthorne, a Dutchman interested in Holland; a bookseller trying to save his Bacon; a woman in Thiers; a lazy man's Lumas; a determined man with Kant; a corn doctor with Bupyan's Progress; a philologist contemplating Wordsworth; a minstrel reading Emerson; a Catholic at Pope; a creditor pleased with Sue; a jolly fellow laughing over Sterne.

—He had proposed to her, and now with fear and trembling waited for her answer. "Only one word," he said, "if but to keep alive the fires of hope within my bosom." She looked at him tenderly, nay, lovingly, and her lips moved in accents that went to the depth of his soul. She asked him how much he earned a week.

—It makes a great difference whether glasses are used over or under the nose.

[illegible]man.

[illegible]ct. He cannot [illegible] He invades no [illegible] of another. He [illegible] of no man's mis[illegible]. He is ashamed of innuendoes. He uses no ignoble weapons in controversy. He never stabs in the dark. He is not one thing to a man's face and another to his back. If by accident he comes into possession of his neighbor's counsels, he passes them into instant oblivion. He bears sealed packages without tampering with the wax. Papers not meant for his eye, whether they flutter in at his window, or lie open in unregarded exposure, are secret to him. He profanes no privacy of another however the sentry sleeps. Bolts and bars, locks and keys, bonds and securities, notices to trespassers, are not for him. He may be trusted out of sight—near the thinnest partition—anywhere. He buys no office, he sells none, intrigues for none. He would rather fail of his rights than win them through dishonor. He will eat honest bread. He tramples on no sentitive feelings. He insults no man. If he has a rebuke for another he is straightforward, open and manly. He cannot descend to scurrility. Billingsgate does not lie on his track. Of woman, and to her, he speaks with descency and respect. In short, whatever he judges honorable he practices toward every one. He is not always dressed in broadcloth. "Some people," says a distinguished bishop, "think a gentleman means a man of independent fortune—a man who fares sumptuously every day; a man who need not labor for his daily bread. None of these make a gentleman—not one of them—nor all of them together. I have known men of the roughest exterior who had been used all their lives to follow the plow and to look after horses, as thorough gentlemen in heart as any nobleman who ever wore a ducal coronet. I mean, I have known them as unselfish, I have known them as truthful, I have known them as sympathizing: and all these qualities go to make what I understand by the term 'a gentleman'"

"It is a noble privilege which has been sadly prostituted; and what I want to tell you is, that the humblest man who has the coarsest work to do, yet, if his heart be tender, and pure, and true, can be in the most emphatic sense of the word, a 'gentleman.'"—*The Christian Statesman.*

A Card Sharper Outwitted.

A gentleman was witness a few days ago, to a sharp trick at cards on a passenger train on one of our western railroads noted for the favor in which the three card monte men and other card sharpers hold it. A well dressed clerical looking man had attracted a crowd of gaping passengers around him by a number of ingenious and skillfully executed tricks, with a pack of playing cards, and at last shuffling the cards several times, and slapping them down upon his knee, he said: "I'll bet any man in the crowd that I can cut the jack of diamonds at the first attempt."

Every one hung back suspiciously, until a green gawky-looking individual, with hay seed in his hair, pushed his way forward. "Mister," he questioned, "may I take a squint at them keerds?" "Certainly," said the professional, as he handed them over. The countryman inspected them suspiciously, and then apparently satisfied, he returned them, but did not take the bet. "The cards are all right, aren't they?" asked the professional. "Yes, I guess they'd suit me,', the countryman replied, hesitatingly. "Why don't you take my bet, then?" "Wall I don't know; I ain't much of a betting man." The professional saw the countryman was more than half inclined to take him up, and to make sure of his game he said: "Come, I'll bet $10 to $5, $15, $20 to $5." "I'll be durned if I don't take ye," exclaimed the countryman, after a moment's hesitation, and, diving into his pocket he drew out a strip of calico (apparently a sample to show his girl), some confectionary, plug of tobacco, several horse shoe nails, and, lastly, a dyspeptic looking leather wallet, from which he extracted a greasy five dollar bill, which he placed in the hands of a bystander. The stranger speedily covered the deposit with a twenty fresh from Uncle Sam's printing bureau, and then thoroughly shuffling the cards as a prelude, he grasped the pack in one hand, producing a sharp pocket knife he actually cut every card in the pack in two. "Haven't I cut the jack of diamonds?" "I'll be eternally swallowed if you have," replied the countryman producing that veritable card from his coat sleeve, whither he had dexterously conveyed it while pretending to examine the cards. The countryman quietly pocketed the stakes and the professional slunk off into another car.

—When Adelaide Neilson, at a Manchester theatre some nights ago, was [illegible] as Juliet, a

[illegible] side, the reporter, moved to social intercourse by the brightness of the sunshine and the delirium of the sparkling wavelets in the stream, said:

"What have you in the bag?"

"One of the guests," said Mr. Hamilton.

The reporter was not displeased, and continued: "Where are you going to have the dinner?"

"In Taylor's Hotel," replied Mr. Hamilton, who was also in a talkative mood.

After some further consultation, Mr. Hamilton requested the reporter, the two being now in a room in a hotel, to get into one of the beds and roll himself up in the bed-clothes. Full of curiosity, the reporter complied. There were two beds, and the reporter being cocooned in one, Mr. Hamilton quickly blanketed himself in the other. Previously a boy had brought a crate up to the room, which had been opened, and now six rabbits were hopping about the carpet and two pairs of doves were kissing on the fender. "You look like the mummy of Sesostris," said Mr. Hamilton.

"So do you," said the reporter.

A ribbon of sunlight slipped through the window, and bathed the kissing doves with warmth. "Now, I am going to slip the anaconda," said Mr. Hamilton.

The reporter was not willing to evince any curiosity, and only smiled as if he had long since fathomed Mr. Hamilton's intentions, when the nimble hand of the latter unlocked the carpet bag with a single motion and permitted the egress of the large Aquarium anaconda. Fifteen feet of glittering and fascinating coil the serpent slowly drew from the bag. With graceful motion she moved along the Brussels carpet. Her eyes were a pair of blazing and scintillating beads. Not a sound she made. She moved toward the rabbits and kissing doves. These were still unsuspecting, but their hour had come. The anaconda ceased her forward motion and lifted her flat head three feet into the air. Fifty times in a single second her forked tongue darted forth and back. Then there was a single sharp hiss a phosphorescent flash as the serpent's head and neck cut through the air, and the anconda's fast was broken.

"Will you tell me," said the reporter shortly afterward, as Mr. Hamilton sat smoking on the torpid coils of the serpent, "why the anaconda comes so far to dine?"

"Mr. Bergh," replied Mr. Hamilton, "will not allow our anacondas (of which we have three) to eat their dinners in New York. It is the peculiarity of the anaconda that it will accept no meat which is not furnished on the hoof, but the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will not permit food to be eaten in that way. The anaconda will not eat what it cannot kill, and as it is not allowed to kill in the city of New York it comes over once a month to dine in the hospitable State of New Jersey. Do you see?

"Are there any more more courses?" said the reporter, laying his hand on his stomach, and glancing at the card of invitation.

"No," said Mr. Hamilton, "none."

He is a very singular man.—*N. Y. World.*

The Observers.

People rushing along the street on business errands have often wondered why so many citizens were to be found sitting around or leaning against walls wherever the pavers were at work. There isn't a man or boy in this city who doesn't know all the rules of paving, and yet an outside crowd is always standing around and looking on with apparent deep interest. Our reporter yesterday interviewed a large number of these people to discover the magnet of attraction.

A portly citizen said he was waiting for the car. When informed that no cars had ever yet run on that street, because no track had ever been laid, he said he was waiting for the track to be put down and the car to come along.

A citizen with pale face and consumptive look said he liked the smell of tar. When informed that tar was very cheap, and that he could sit in the house and smell of some of it poured out on a china saucer, he replied that he hadn't any china in the house.

A third citizen, who was shivering around in thin clothing, said he had been waiting there for three hours to see if the tar-kettle wouldn't catch fire. When our reporter brought forward figures and statistics to prove that tar-kettles only catch fire once in seven years on an average, he replied that he would stay the rest of the seven years out.

A fourth man explained that he was waiting to see a certain man, and [illegible] when the certain man came along [illegible] would be a fight—a fight in whic[illegible] certain man would be certain t[illegible] licked. Our reporter could inform [illegible] that the said man was at that m[illegible] asleep on a lumber pile, and in a s[illegible] did position to be stunned by a blo[illegible] the head with a club, but the citize[illegible] plied that he always fought his b[illegible] by City Hall time, and that he mu[illegible] where he could see the town clock.

A fifth citizen, who had a luxu[illegible] seat on a sand pile, explained that h[illegible] pected his girl to come along pretty [illegible] Our reporter proved to him that nin[illegible] of ten girls are faithless; that thre[illegible] of every five marriages are unhappy [illegible] house rent and provisions are lik[illegible] go up, and that it is sixty per cent [illegible] thier to sit in an arm-chair than on [illegible] of wet sand, but the man replie[illegible] agreed to sit here and I'll set!"

—A small German Baron had oc[illegible] to call on Baron Rothschild, of [illegible] fort. The great banker was w[illegible] away for very life when Baron X. w[illegible] nounced. He did not even lift his [illegible] but said, "Take a chair, sir." The [illegible] with true German touchiness ab[illegible] tles, said, "Sir, indeed! I think [illegible] Baron did not hear my name. I [illegible] baron also—the Baron X." "Ah! a[illegible] sand pardons!" said the banke[illegible] writing; "you are a baron—tak[illegible] chairs, then, if you will be so kind, t[illegible] till I have finished this letter."

—The mosquito as a public [illegible] draws well, but never gives satisf[illegible]