

## MISCELLANY.

**SPECULATIONS ON THE COMET.**  
I took notice of an Irishman, with a loaded hod on his shoulder. He repeatedly and devoutly crossed himself; then looked to the top of the building, which he was about to ascend with a fearful and dubious air. He had got one foot on the first round of the ladder, and made sundry motions to raise the other; but seemed at every new trial to be arrested, and, as it were, pulled back by some unseen hand. As I stood watching his motions and his countenance he withdrew his eyes from the top of the building, and, fixing them on me, said—

"Do ye think it'll come now?"

"What will come?" said I.

"Why, the comic to-be-sure."

"The comet I suppose you mean?"

"Why yes, I suppose it's all one and the same crathur—that great, big fiery, body that's comin to burn the world all up to nothin, and all the peple that's in it, besides men, women and chilfers, and drown all the rest in the middle of the sea. Oh, the cruel, bloody-minded crathur, to destroy every body, and not spare the poor babes themselves, nor their poor fathers that work hard every day to ate'm and drink 'em. Do you think it'll come now, Misher?"

"Now!" said I.

"Why, yes, if you please—now, or soon—to-day or to morrow, or next summer, that is to be?"

"I don't know," returned I; "I'm not in the secrets of the comet; but I understand very strange calculations are made respecting it."

"Are ye sure," said he, looking to the top of the building once more, "that it wont come to-day?"

"Why, really, Pat," said I, "that's more than I could positively answer. These comets are very eccentric beings, and there's no knowing what might happen."

"The devil trust 'em for me," said Pat, "the barbarous crathurs! They wouldn't mind brushing down an Irishman from the top of a house any more nor I should mind brushing a fly from the end of me nose. And then I'm informed they're so hot they'll burn the flesh off iv ye, and roast your skin to the very bone, without any compunction as it were. You see Misher, this house is very high now, even to the very top iv it, as far as it goes; and if the comic should happen to kitch me there on the top, I don't know what would become iv me. I've got a wife and seven small chilfers, two iv whom are under the sod at swate Ireland, and all dependent on me this very moment for ivy mouthful iv atin, and drinkin, and food, and clothin, that they wear on their backs, poor crathurs, and that's what makes me afraid to mount this lather."

"You needn't be afraid of the comet to-day, Pat," said I.

"Needn't I now?" said he, suddenly brightening up; "bless your honor's soul for that word. I've been afraid to go up to the top iv this same buildin, for fear the bloody comic should come along afore I could get down again, and destroy me root and branch, and burn the clothes and the skin off iv me, and kill me clane dead as a door-nail, and brush me down with the end iv his tail, to the great danger and destruction iv me life and all the rest iv me bones. And do ye rally think now, Misher that it wont come to-day, that bloody comic?"

"I'll insure you for sixpence, Pat."

"Well, now, that's kind iv ye; but the devil a sixpence have I got.—Wouldn't your honor thrus me till night?"

"Ay, Pat, I'll trust you till the comet comes."

"Will you now? Then, Misher you shall have all me insurin. But afore I go up, you'll plase to give me a bit iv within to show that I'm insured."

"A policy you mean?"

"Ay, would be thre policy that; for then you saa I could show it to the comic, and let him know that I'm insured."

"Never mind the policy, Pat; I'll insure you by word of mouth."

Being satisfied with this the Irishman mounted the ladder, and emptied his hod. While up there I could perceive that he turned his face to every point of the compass, as though looking for the approach of the dreaded visiter. He presently descended and told me the insurance worked well, "for the devil a bit," said he, "did the comic dare to show his ugly face."

"But, Pat," said I, "the comets seldom show themselves in the day-time."

"Oh, the thieves iv the world!" exclaimed he, "to come prowlin in the night like another blackguard who has'n an honest face to show. But I dont care a fig for him, that same comic, in the night; because why? I slape down seller me and me wife, and all the chilfers; and the devil a bit can he find us there, the thief!"

"But," said I, "if the world should be burnt up, you'll likely to go with it."

"Ah! there it is now; there's no safety for an Irishman at all at all.—He's persecuted in Ireland, and burnt to death with a vagabond of a comic in Ameriky; and he's no where to hide his head out iv sight on the top iv the wide world. And then if this tarraqueous globe is desthroyed, and all the pape in it, where shall a poor body find employmen? There'll be no houses to build nor the people to build 'em; and then what will a poor hod-carrier do?—Blessed St. Patrick! what'll become iv me?"

"Never fear, Pat," said I, "trust in your patron saint; be honest, industrious, and temperate; and, let the comet come when it will, it will never hurt you."

"Bless your honor's soul for that word," said Pat; and seeing him mount the ladder with renewed hope and fresh courage, I turned again to look about me.

*From the Exeter News-Letter.*

### OLDEN TIMES.

We lately gave to the public some extracts from the early Judicial records of Massachusetts, or, as the gentlemen of the Bar would say—reports of cases decided in that province. There are sundry early decisions of our own Courts equally deserving attention; among which, perhaps, may be classed the following.

1654. The Court doth order that Jane Berry is to acknowledge that she hath dun good-man Abbit wrong in dealing without witness.

Sarah Abbit is to acknowledge that she hath dun goodwife Berry wrong in evil speeches.

1655. The Grand Jury do present Thomas Furson for swearing 'by God,' and cursing his wife in saying 'pox take her.' Sentence to pay ten shillings and to be bound unto his good behaviour in a bond of ten pounds.

The grand Jury do present the wife of Mathew Giles for swearing, and reviling the Constable when he came for the rates, and likewise railing on the prudenshall men and their wives. Sentenced to be whipped seven stripes, or to be redeemed with forty shillings, and to be bound to her good behaviour in a bond of ten pounds.

The Jury do present Jane Berry for telling a lie.

The Grand Jury do present Jane Canney, the wife of Thomas Canney, for beating her son in law, Jeremy Tibbets, and his wife; and likewise for striking her husband in a canoe, and giving him reviling speeches. Admonished by the Court, and to pay two shillings and sixpence.

The Grand Jury do present Philip Edgerly for threatening his wife to break her neck if she would not go out of doors; that for fear she came into goodman Beard's house in the night on the Lord's day, as she complained to William Beard the next morning. Sentenced to be bound to his good behaviour in a bond of forty pounds.

Philip Edgerly for giving out reprehensible speeches against the Worshipful Captain Weggen, is sentenced by the court to make a public acknowledgment, three several public days, the first day in the head of the train band: the other two days are to be the most public meeting days in Dover, when Oyster river people shall be there present; which is to be done within four months after this present day: and in case he dose not perform as aforesaid, he is to be whipped not exceeding ten stripes, and to be fined five pounds to the county.

1656. James Rollins being presented for neglect of coming unto the public meeting is admonished by the Court, and to pay the fees of the Court—two shillings and sixpence.

1657. Thomas Crawlie and Mathew Layn presented for drinking 14 pints of wine at one time. Fined three shillings and four pence, and fees two and sixpence.

Thomas Crawlie presented for calling Constable Alt, Constable rogue, is admonished and to pay fees two shillings and sixpence.

Jane Walford being brought to this Court [June 27, 1656] upon suspicion of witchcraft, is to continue bound until the next Court at Dover, to be responsible. Jeremy Walford [her son] is bound in a bond of twenty pounds for her appearance.

1657, July 2. Jane Walford is discharged from her bond by three times proclamation in this Court.

*The Comet.*—The New-York American mentions a letter received in London from Gibraltar, which says that the comet has there made its appearance. The letter says, "a considerable portion of the tail of the comet was visible to the inhabitants in these parts. The comet itself was not seen, but its direction was found to be northwardly, so that we may soon expect this celestial visitor." If the comet is coming tail foremost there can be no doubt of its hostile intentions. The American further says, that the comet which has hitherto come nearest to the earth has shortened the year by two days, and this may take off at least a week. Truly this is news! We wonder how the year now exceeds 365 days as it always has done, after two days has been lost. Alas! for Pope Gregory.

*Georgetown Gazette.*

### BETTER FED THAN TAUGHT.

*A YORKSHIRE TALE.*

A Yorkshire clown, a sad and unlucky dog, As e're put hand to plough, or drain'd a bog, The parish parson chanced one day to meet, But fail'd to 'doff his hat,' the priest to greet, Whereat the churchman looking mighty big, Addressed him thus, and awful shook his wig;

'An't you a pretty fellow, Sirrah? hey?' 'Yes, zur,' cries Hodge, 'so all the lasses say,' Rascal,' exclaims the priest, to phrenzy wrought,

'You saucy knave, you're better fed than taught.' That's true,' says Hodge, 'as any fool may tell,

'Because you teach me, but I feeds myself.'

**ORIGINAL ANECDOTE.**—A member of the Massachusetts Legislature, from one of the interior towns, from the cares of business at home, grew thin and poor in the Calvin Edson sense of the word. On his arrival at the metropolis, the good fare of a good Boston Landlord, and the relaxation from business, (every body knows it is no great affair to say *yea or nay* in the House of Representatives,) caused him to grow fleshy and corpulent to such a degree as almost to excite the surprise of his brother legislators. Surprise turned to laughter is the most exciting of all laughter; and it was so in this case, when some incorrigible wag wrote with chalk upon the back of the member's overcoat, "Fatted at the expense of the State." This brief explanation of his sudden rotundity of countenance and figure the honorable member in question unconsciously carried with him nearly a whole day—much to the amusement of his brethren—"at the expense of the State."

*Lowell Journ.*

**ORIGINAL ANECDOTE.**—The Portland Advertiser says: When the report reached Brunswick College, that the Cholera was in Topsham, a student in the Freshman class observed, that he knew "the Cholera would get here, but he hoped he should be a senior when it arrived, as he understood it only attacked the *lower classes*."

In 1816, Daniel Webster was decidedly opposed to and voted against the Charter of the United States Bank. Now he is one of its most enthusiastic advocates. "Oh, what a world of vile, ill-natured faults, "Look handsome in three thousand pounds a year."

**Mrs. Royall** is hauling the members of Congress over the coals. She says, "their whole time (at least nine tenths of them who are not sick) while here is divided, between temperance meetings, missionary meetings, Jackson meetings, Clay meetings, oyster meetings, champagne meetings, and last, though not least, *lady* meetings."

### LIST OF LETTERS

**REMAINING** in the Post-Office at Lawrenceburg, Indiana, on the 1st day of April, 1832; which if not taken out in three months, will be sent to the General Post-Office as dead letters.

Armstrong Walter 3 Jackson Enoch  
Adams Joseph Kenworthy Thos.  
Angevine James Lewis Jonah  
Archabald Wm. Ludlow Stephen  
Bostick James Lathrop Isaac  
Bateman Aaron Littell Elias  
Birdzell Caroline Lathan Charles A  
Berk John Linch James  
Baker Maria Miller George  
Bonner Henry M'Caslin Ann  
Beach Marcus Murray Geo.  
Clark Ruth 2 Murray James & Geo.  
Callahan James Noyes Benjamin  
Carbery Catharine Northam Pathom  
Coulter James Oldrieve Robert  
Cobb John Oglesby Joseph Rev.  
Crouz John D. Oglevie John  
Davidson John Osborn Mary  
Daniel John Owen James  
Dils Major Porter Thos. Capt.  
Dill James Pollock James T.  
Dils Alford Patterson Thos. Dr.  
Dazey Samuel B. Pate Solomon  
Daniel James Pratt Edwin G.  
Diggs Mary Piesch Abraham  
Eddy John Percival John S.  
Eads Mary Mrs. Rogers A. B.  
Elisbury Jacob Ross Philander or  
Filbrook Jonathan Abraham Grant  
Garrison Elijah Swailes Mrs. Geo. 2  
Hill Eli Shepard or Wheeler  
Howard Ephraim or Polly Shopwell  
Holloway Edward Stroud Jos. or Joshua  
Hill Eli Statler Jos.  
Hubert Nehemiah Smith Dan'l  
Hamilton Wm. Smith I. H. or S. H.  
Houghton John Taylor Isaac  
Harper Sally Uitz John F.  
Hobson Seth Weaver Geo.  
Hunt Jesse Watts Lavina  
Hill John Wright Samuel B.  
Johnson Geo. Winchel Eunice  
James William Woods John.

JAMES W. HUNTER, p. m.  
April 14, 1832. 13—3w.

P. S. Those who call for letters must have the money to pay, or they may not receive them. J. W. H.

To *Canal Contractors!*

SEALED proposals will be received, by the Commissioners of the Wabash and Erie Canal, from the 20th of May to the 1st of June next, at Fort Wayne, for the construction of a number of miles of the middle division of said Canal; during which time, the Plans and Estimates of the Engineer will be open for the inspection of any person wishing to become a contractor; and any information relating to the kinds of work to be done, the terms of payment, or the particular sections of the Canal line, which will be put under contract, will be given, on application to the subscriber.

D. BURK, Com'r of Contracts.  
March 16th, 1832. 13—2mo.

### Notice of Co-partnership.

THE subscribers having associated themselves as partners in trade, will transact business at the old stand of George Tousey under the firm of Tousey and Dunn. A share of public patronage is respectfully solicited.

GEORGE TOUSEY,  
JACOB P. DUNN.

March 29, 1832. 11—1f.

### A FARM FOR SALE.

THE subscriber wishes to sell his farm consisting of 70 Acres, about 20 under good improvements. It is separated into six different fields; the balance is well timbered, consisting of walnut, blue and gray ash, locust, sugar trees, &c.; lying nine miles from Lawrenceburg, and three miles from Harrison. For further particulars call and view the premises, at which place the subscriber will generally be found.

WM. PARVIN.

April 10th, 1832. 13—6w.

### PROPOSALS

#### FOR AN EXTRA GLOBE.

A severe political conflict is approaching. A "New Coalition" of factious men are managing at Washington to accomplish their selfish ends at the hazard of their country's peace, prosperity, and honor. Extremes have met. The Champion of an unreasonable Tariff and the Author of Nullification, having no principle in common but a restless ambition, are found united in their efforts to baffle the President in his foreign negotiations, kindle faction in our halls of legislation, and fill our country with discontent and anarchy.

*It is time for the people to take the alarm!*

The causeless rejection of our Minister to Great Britain was but the first overt act of this "Holy Alliance" against every thing that is pure in our government and patriotic in its administration. It will soon be followed by others equally hostile to the interests of the people and insulting to the President of their choice. Instead of devoting themselves to the promotion of justice, harmony and peace, a band of political managers in Congress are spending sleepless nights and anxious days in devising means to array against the President all the selfish, avaricious, corrupt and corrupting influences which pervade the Republic. With these they hope to vanquish the conqueror of Europe's bravest armies, and close in obloquy and disgrace, the public career of him who "filled the measures of his country's glory."

What are we to expect from the success of this "New Coalition?" Will our foreign relations be better managed? Will our laws be executed with more fidelity and energy at home? Will our agriculture, commerce and manufactures flourish more? Will our national debt be sooner paid? Is there hope that the train of public affairs in general will progress better or so well? No; it is not for the benefit of the country that the "New Coalition" has been formed; nor is any improvement in the public prosperity expected from its success. The struggle is for *power for place*, for *the public treasure*.

Men who want foreign missions, judgeships and other valuable offices, unable to swerve

from the stern integrity of Andrew Jackson and to him their influence and support have

united with other aspirants to the Presi-

dency in all sorts of combinations to de-

stroy his popularity and defeat his re-elec-

tion, that his place may be occupied by one

with whom they may *bargain for promotion*.

It is these men only—men who prefer "war,

famine and pestilence, or any other scourge,"

to their own exclusion from power—that

are seeking to fill the country with com-

plaints and factions.

It is the interest and desire of the people

to preserve the administration of their gov-

ernment in honest hands. To effect this

object, it is only necessary that they guard

against deception, and take steps to procure

correct information in relation to the admini-

stration. They will find ANDREW

JACKSON as true to his country *now*, as

he was when he put to hazard fortune, fame,

and life, in repelling our invaders. They