

WEEKLY COURIER.

C. DOANE, Publisher.

JASPER, INDIANA.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Personal and Literary.

Joaquin Miller is again in England, and a few hours after his reappearance in London received a cordial letter of welcome from Mr. Gladstone.

Poe's sweetheart, the late Sarah Helen Whitman, leaves a volume of poems that will shortly be published, along with a revision of her essay, "Poe and His Critics."

Mrs. Francis Hodgson Burnett has written a Lancashire story called *Haworth's*, which is said by those who have seen the manuscript to be as good as *That Lass o' Lowrie's*.

The Cassells, the English publishers, have set apart for the year 1878 \$3,000 out of their profits, and propose to do the same every year, for a fund for workmen who remain long in their service.

They say Bob Ingersoll made more money by lecturing last season than any other lecturer, beating Beecher and Joe Cook both. His fees as a lawyer are also said to be enormous. In the goods of this world Bob is getting rich.

Bryant remarked to a young man some years since: "One of the first objects of a literary man should be to acquire an independence; his genius never does its best so long as it is a mere drudge of his necessities."

"Mark Twain" has sent for his pastor, the Rev. Jos. H. Twitchell, of Hartford, Conn., to go over to Europe and spend some weeks with him in a pedestrian tour through Germany and Switzerland. It is not to cost Mr. Twitchell a cent.

It is a striking proof of the worldwide interest felt in Mr. Stanley's discoveries that the English edition of his "Through the Dark Continent" appears simultaneously in the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Norway, Italy, Denmark, and other countries.

Mr. Forbes, the war correspondent of the *Daily News*, is in a fair way of making a fortune. He is clearing \$500 a week by his lectures, and all the while is in receipt of a handsome salary as a kind of half-pay from the *Daily News*—no small one it may be imagined, when his present on returning from a successful campaign is \$5,500.

Eight years ago there worked as "devil" in the office of the Wytheville (Va.) *Dispatch* a boy apparently 18 years of age. He was shoeless, penniless and trouserless when he entered. Now he is a Commissioner to the Paris Exposition, chief editor of the Atlanta *Constitution*, and one of the best known humorists in the country. His name is S. W. Small, or "Old Si."

By way of a monument to Thackeray, London is to get out a superb edition of his works. It will be limited to 1,000 copies. The undertaking attracts much attention in English literary circles, as nothing like it in cost or excellence of workmanship has ever been attempted. The paper used will be made expressly for this edition, real China paper will be used for the steel and copper plates, and the very best artists, engravers and printers will lend their aid in producing the finest set of books ever published in any country.

Science and Industry.

The New Orleans mint will be used to coin money for South American countries.

Farmers in South Georgia think they have discovered a bonanza in the cultivation of the Chinese sand-pea.

Ice is regarded as a prime necessity at Bombay, and the supply is received from this country, being shipped chiefly from Boston.

A big deposit of ice has been found in the Olympic Mountains, in Washington Territory, and it can be brought to Seattle at a cost of \$5 a ton. Ice now costs \$80 a ton there.

A new enemy to the potato has appeared in West Virginia. It resembles a small grasshopper, and destroys whole patches in a single night by stinging the plant near the ground.

Three of the largest tobacco factories in Key West have closed, and the Cubans employed in them are going back to Havana Cause, a strike and interference of United States revenue officers.

Parsnips contain almost twice as much dry matter or real food as turnips, and this of a superior quality. Carrots, again, contain about as much dry substance as mangolds, but are richer in sugar and of better feeding quality.

Salt is very important for animals. Large pieces of rock salt put into the mangers and feeding-troughs are recommended. One-half the ash of animal blood consists of salt; without the latter the blood can not be in a natural or healthy state.

The railroads of the United States have in use 3,500,000 car-wheels. Those on fast passenger trains are renewed every 10 months; but freight cars use the same wheels sometimes 10 years. The average life of a wheel is 50,000 miles, and at that rate it takes 700,000 a year at a cost, less the old wheels, of \$6,000,000.

Strawberries contain 5.86 per cent. of their weight of glucose, or grape sugar, cherries 10, white currants 6.40, and hot-house grape 18.37; pineapples, on the other hand, contain 11.33 per

cent. of cane sugar, apricots, 6, and oranges 4. The sugar cane, when perfectly ripe, contains 18 per cent. of sugar; beet contains about 14 per cent. of sugar.

School and Church.

Cornell graduates a class of 70 this year, of whom seven are women.

The "Disciples," generally called Campbellites, have just opened their first chapel in Paris.

Rev. Dr. J. H. Vincent, the great American Sunday-school man, who has just gone abroad, will hold a Sunday-school Congress at Rome. It will be the first ever held on the continent of Europe.

A college has been organized at Hickman, with P. G. Halyburton as President. The faculty consists of seven chairs, and a first-class preparatory department has been established.

The colored Baptists of the South are trying to help themselves to a better education. They are making efforts to establish a school to educate their preachers in Louisville, Ky., and a theological seminary in Alabama.

The Methodists of Canada, who began their existence as a church in 1778, just 12 years after Philip Embury and Barbara Heck had introduced the faith into the United States, intend to celebrate their centennial in August or September.

—There is a report of a remarkable spread of Christianity in the district of Tinnerelly, British India, 16,000 persons having, in seven months, placed themselves "under instructions with a view to Baptism;" but the *Madras Mail* throws doubt on the report, saying that the first news of the affair came from London.

The Roman Catholic system of "retreats" has gained an acceptance in the English State Church, according to *Harper's Weekly*, which would hardly be supposed by those who do not closely watch the course of events. Twenty-four or twenty-five are announced to take place by the end of November next. Some of them are for candidates for holy orders. It is estimated that four hundred clergymen of the Establishment will go into retreat during this season.

A movement is on foot among the Methodist churches in the East to do away with the arbitrary rule which limits the time which a minister may remain in charge of one congregation to three years. Some of the strongest men in the church, it is said, favor the proposed change. It is not proposed to abolish the appointive system altogether and establish a settled ministry, but to invest bishops with discretionary power in the matter of changes in each church at least once in every three years.

Haps and Mishaps.

Peter E. Rush, a farmer living one mile east of Elkhart, Ind., was kicked to death by a horse.

A 5-year-old daughter of Reuben Reynolds of Stanford, Ky. fell into a kettle of boiling water, and was scalded dead.

Robert Cummins died at Coskey Station, Ky., on the day set for his wedding, from an overdose of morphine, mistaken for quinine.

At Waverly, O., James Funk, a painter, fell off a scaffolding, a distance of 30 feet, and was killed.

At East Davenport, Iowa, Bartimus Hansel was assisting in moving a house, when the supports gave way, dropping the sill across his breast, and crushing him to death.

Mattie Matthews, a beautiful young lady of 17, committed suicide near Denver, Col., by shooting herself with a navy pistol. She had been disgraced and ruined by a young man under promise of marriage.

Mrs. Dr. Allyne, a highly esteemed lady of Cleveland, O., in a freak of insanity, caused by fever, saturated her clothing with kerosene, set fire to it, and then inhaled the flames. She died in a few minutes from her internal injuries, but she was not badly burned externally.

A young man very respectably connected, named Robinson, residing with Capt. Jas. Morgan, in Union District, on the Kanawha River, West Va., committed suicide by taking arsenic. Cause, unrequited love. The young lady was very much prostrated over the sad affair, and fears were entertained for her life.

The foreman in a Delaware County (N. Y.) tannery had been at work in the sweat pits, and become overheated and was perspiring profusely, and while in this condition he fell into one of the vats. The poison from the liquor entered his system through the pores of the skin, resulting in death in a few days.

One of the most distressing accidents of the Fourth occurred at Baltimore, where Marcellus Keene, a 10-year-old boy, fell on a powder bottle he was carrying in his pocket, and large pieces of the glass penetrated his right thigh, severing the large blood vessels and causing death in 20 minutes.

Foreign Notes.

One of the most attractive and popular features of the Paris Exhibition is the display of the superb Pullman palace and sleeping cars in the American section.

A jeweler in the Paris Exhibition shows a necklace which purports to be a mixture of true pearls and false, and challenges any body to single out the real.

Of all the buildings in the Park of the Trocadero, the Algerian Palace is said to be the most extensive and cost-

ly. The total space covered by it is about 2,532 square meters.

—Forty years ago it was feared that the Queen of England might be deposed by the Orangemen in favor of her cousin, the ex-King of Hanover, who has just died.

The Emperor of Brazil hasn't enough of travel yet. He is going to Paris for the Exhibition, and has engaged for July the rooms in the Grand Hotel now occupied by the Shah.

The Parisian man never gives up his seat in the car to a woman. A correspondent thought one day he discovered an exception, as two men jumped up and offered their seats to two standing women. He was undeceived when one of the polite passengers remarked to the other: "Brown, do you remember that night at Wallack's?" They were Americans.

The cemetery in Munich is a sight for the visitor, for in buildings erected for the purpose may be seen dead persons waiting the lapse of three days required by law before burial. None of the gloom of the grave surrounds these remains, but they are attired in everyday costumes and placed in careless or half-reclining attitudes, amid fresh flowers. To the hand of each is attached a wire leading to a spring bell, so that an alarm may be given in case of resuscitation.

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