

# National Banner.

THE MOST SINGULAR WILL CASE ON RECORD.

The Columbus (Ohio) Journal of the 22d ult. says:

Yesterday we heard of and read part of the most singular will on record. The maker of the will is represented to be a shrewd, successful business man, who has accumulated quite a large fortune. He exhibits no other signs of insanity than may be derived from the extreme eccentricity of his will, although it is probable that the courts will, in due course, be called upon to determine the question whether the testator was of sound and disposing mind.

The will disinherits all the natural heirs of the maker of it, and devises the entire property in trust for the establishment of an Infirmary for Cats! A most elaborate architectural plan for the necessary buildings is attached to and made part of the will. It provides areas for that sweet amatory converse so dear to the feline heart, and rat holes of the most ravishing nature, to be kept well stocked. The most ingenious contrivances are provided for securing to the rats a chance of escape, so that the cats may not lose the pleasures of the chase by finding their prey come too easily. High walls are to be built with gently sloping roofs, for the moonlight promenade and other nocturnal amusements of the cats.

The trustees are directed to select the grounds for this novel infirmary in the most populous part of some American city, and the devisees are to be protected by a competent force of nurses from the ravages of men and dogs. No person of the male sex is ever to be admitted within the walls, and no female who has children or is under thirty years old. There are hundreds of minute directions which we have no time to record.

One would suppose that in the foregoing provisions the testator had exhausted all the eccentricities of one man, however unique his nature; but the last provision of the will seems more courageously bizarre than any that go before.—Says the devisor: "I have all my life been taught to believe that anything in about man was intended to be useful, and that it was man's duty, as lord of animals, to protect all the lesser species, even as God protects and watches over him. For these two combined reasons—first, that my body, even after death, may continue to be made useful; and secondly, that it may be made instrumental, as far as possible, in furnishing a substitute for the protection of the bodies of my dear friends, the cats—I do hereby devise and bequeath the intestines of my body to be made up in fiddle-strings, the proceeds to be devoted to the purchase of an accordion, which shall be played in the auditorium of the Cat Infirmary by one of the regular nurses to be selected for that purpose exclusively—the playing to be kept up forever and ever, without cessation day or night, in order that the cats may have the privilege of always hearing and enjoying that instrument, which is the nearest approach to their natural voice.

## Yankee Fanaticism.

The radicals of Massachusetts have recently enacted by a legislative major, a liquor law so extremely stringent as to prohibit the sale of malt liquors, which appears to have been expressly intended to harass, humiliate and annoy the Germans. All the principal hotels of Boston, selling the heaviest of liquors, are spared by the officers, while the lager beer saloons are visited, the stock seized, the inmates dispersed, and the proprietors arrested.

There is no doubt that the Germans have been specially singled out as objects of persecution by the Radical law-makers of Massachusetts, let him note that dozens of kegs of lager beer are seized and forfeited where there is one of whiskey, gin, or rum, and cider is exempted by law.—Now, cider, as everybody that ever drank it knows is more tipping than lager beer. By exposing it to a freezing temperature, and drawing all that remains unfrozen, lager beer is then and the thermometer so ambitious that it is getting almost "figgers," it is easy enough to tell a man to "keep cool," but how can he? Listen to advice salubrious from the "Sensible American":

"Be sparing in your diet, which should consist principally of fruits, berries, and vegetables. Avoid everything of a gross nature; also spices, condiments, and sweets. Drink nothing but water. Chew nothing but food; chew that well but do not chew too much of it. Excess in eating is one of the principal causes of that ill health which is so prevalent among us. Eat less, and relax the body; especially warm any time, immerse the hands or feet, or both, in cold water for a short time, or let a stream of cold water run upon the wrists and ankles. This will cool the whole body in a short time."

BOILING WELL.—Mr. G. W. Eby, of Locke township, has an extensive manufacturing establishment, propelled by steam, for the manufacture of being supplied from a well some twenty feet in depth. For a few weeks past the water in the well has been growing warm, until it has reached over one hundred and fifty degrees in temperature, being nearly scalding hot.

The annual cost of running our Southern State Prison at Jeffersonville, with 424 convicts, is \$65,598. The institution earns \$54,270, leaving a deficiency to be made up by the State. The contract system is said to result favorably this year. Last year there was a deficiency of \$20,000. It is yet impossible to educate the convicts as the law of the State requires. In the North Prison, at Michigan City, the deficiency is \$7,740.

An Iowa paper says: "To illustrate how towns spring up in Iowa, we give an example. Last fourth of July the town of Dexter, a State capital, did not exist. Not a house had been found on the spot to be named 'city.' Even the roads blacksmith shop was not there, and the tavern was in the mystic future. This year the editor of the *State Register* went to Dexter to attend a fourth of July celebration. He found about one hundred and fifty houses there, many of them substantial buildings, with stores that had already filled with goods to the amount of two hundred thousand dollars. What is more just outside of the town, the number of improvement is going on. The town of Perry, on the Des Moines Valley Railroad, had last March three houses in it. Now there are fifty-five houses and nearly three hundred inhabitants, and yet the railroad only reached here last week."

The four ordinary secrets of health are early rising, exercise, personal cleanliness, and rising from the table with the stomach unoppressed. There might be sorrows in despite of these, but they will be less with them, and nobody can be truly comfortable without them.

Health or Disease—Which shall we prepare for?

A case of cholera is reported already, in New York, and it is highly probable, says the *Indianapolis Journal*, that we may be visited with that scourge in the West again this season. It is, at least, very likely that some epidemic will prevail during the latter part of the summer and fall. Thus far, the season has been a remarkably healthy one, but with the very abundant rains which have fallen, producing rank vegetation, and followed as it has been by very hot weather, nothing else than a sickly season could reasonably be expected. Indeed, such diseases as are prevailing now, are understood to be highly malignant in their character, and citizens are cautioned not to permit attacks of cholera morbus and similar complaints, especially among children, to pass by without immediate medical attention. In this connection, we desire to call the attention of the proper authorities to the fact that the city is not clean, and that, permitting it to remain in its present condition, we shall surely invite sickness. The exact situation can not be understood from merely passing along the streets—although some of them are bad enough—but the alleys and back premises should be thoroughly explored, and proper cleanliness enforced. And this should be done at once, if it is not too late already, for it is far better that nothing should be done at all than that the reeking filth should be stirred up by an attempt at renovation after the disease has made its appearance. We have no disposition to act as alarmists, and frighten our readers, but we do desire to impress upon everybody the necessity of immediately putting their premises in order, and thereby keep health rather than disease. The proper way to avoid a panic in case an epidemic should threaten, is to make everybody feel secure, and this feeling of security can only be brought about in one way. That; we have pointed out.

FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.—The Government has just issued a new and very neat-looking twenty-five cent postal note, and the new issue is beginning to make its appearance in small quantities. The new issue is timely, as the notes of the old issue are sadly worn, and many of them are refused by dealers because they will not be received in exchange. In issuing a new series of fractional notes, the regulations adopted by the Treasury Department will be of interest to our readers. Defaced fractional notes, if whole, are not considered as mutilated when presented for redemption, nor is an evidently accidental diminution reducing the note one-tenth of its size regarded as a mutilation.

1. Fragments of a note will not be redeemed, unless it shall be clearly evident that they constitute one-half or more of one original note, in which case a note, however mutilated, will be redeemed in proportion to the whole note, reckoning by fifths, except three-cent notes, which will be reckoned by thirds.

2. Mutilation less than one-tenth will be disregarded, unless fraudulent; but any mutilation which destroys more than one-tenth of the original note will reduce the redemption value of the note by one-fifth of its face value, or, if a three-cent note, by one-third of its original value.

3. Fragments of a three-cent note will not be redeemed, unless such fragments constitute fully two-thirds of the note in its original form.

4. Mutilated notes presented for redemption must be in sums not less than three dollars of their original value.

Mutilated currency is now redeemable by the Treasurer of the United States at Washington, and by no other officer. This is in accordance with the regulations just issued.

Keep cool.—About this time when the heat is so exasperating, and the thermometer so ambitious that it is getting almost "figgers," it is easy enough to tell a man to "keep cool," but how can he? Listen to advice salubrious from the "Sensible American":

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children, and for the use of all who

want to have a good book to read."

WHO ARE BLESSED.

MATT. V. 9-12.

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

They are the heirs of heavenly day;

Blessed are the humble mourners,

God is near them;

Blessed are the meek and lowly,

They shall inherit the earth;

Blessed are the merciful,

They shall have mercy shown to them;

Blessed are the pure in heart,

They shall see God;

Blessed are the peacemakers,

They shall be called sons of God;

Blessed are the persecuted,

For the sake of truth and right;

They shall have a crown of glory;

Blessed are the meek and lowly,

They shall inherit the earth;

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