

## THE MAIL

A PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

P. S. WESTFALL,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TERRE HAUTE, - - AUG. 9, 1879

It cost England twenty-two million dollars to whip the Zulus. Rather an expensive luxury.

The people of this country pay \$700,000,000 a year for spirituous and fermented liquors, and only \$95,000,000 for educational purposes.

Old topers have cause for alarm in the statement of a scientist that when the human blood contains five percent of alcohol, death must ensue.

It is to be understood that the exodus of negroes from the South is not yet ended, as it is stated the emigration this fall will only be limited by the ability of the colored people to get away.

The phosphorescent property of sulfide of calcium has been applied to photography, a picture being produced that is scarcely visible by daylight, but which stands out in startling relief in the dark. Some stunning effects might be worked up by this process in the making up of spirit pictures down at Pence's Hall.

In New York a woman has brought suit for divorce from her husband after they had lived together for fifty years and had celebrated their golden wedding. The parties are about seventy years of age. The husband says that the first intimation he had of any trouble in his home was the summons in the suit. There are curious people in the world.

Instead of the exceptional sickly summer which was predicted, the present season has so far been unusually healthy. The death rate in New York has not been so low for ten years past, with the single exception of 1871, and the number of deaths of children is comparatively small. Of course there is time yet for a large mortality, but so far the summer has shown itself entitled to a good character.

The poet Tennyson was seventy years old last Tuesday. He published his first poems when nineteen years old and was so harshly criticised that he did not appear before the public again for twelve years, when he was at once recognized as the coming poet, and eight years later, on the death of Wordsworth, was created poet laureate. For forty years he has reigned as the prince of English poets.

A. OAKLEY HALL, after having been a prominent and successful lawyer, and filled various high official positions, among them being the Mayoralty of New York, is said to be achieving his greatest success as city editor of the New York World, a position which he has filled for some time past. He is reported to be very devoted to his work, pursuing it with the zeal and patience of a young enthusiast.

CAPTAIN EADS is very sanguine that a ship railroad, instead of a canal, is what is wanted across the Isthmus. He says the cost will be three-fourths less than that of the proposed canal, and believes that by means of it loaded ships can be transferred from one ocean to the other in twenty-four hours. He is in Washington talking the project up, and will remain there until his plan has been brought to the attention of the government.

REV. "ADIRONDACK" MURRAY is "embarrassed" financially. In addition to preaching the Gospel, he was engaged in running a fancy stock farm, publishing a newspaper, writing books and prosecuting other lines of business. Only one result could follow, and the other day, while Mr. Murray was on his vacation in the Adirondacks, the sheriff levied on all his personal property that could be found, including twenty-five horses and \$40,000 worth of buckboard wagon stock. Mr. Murray ought to feel grateful that somebody has relieved him of a part of the heavy loan he was trying to carry.

THE Boston Express is concerned to know how long salmon and lobsters are going to last at the present rate of consumption. It finds that the size and quality of the lobster is constantly depreciating, nine-tenths of the modern product being two-thirds shell and one-third meat, and fears the luscious mollusk will ere long be only a delicacy of the past. With salmon the outlook is not quite so gloomy, but is bad enough. They can be cultivated in lakes, ponds and rivers, but they have not the fine qualities of the sea-bred species. Still they will do. But lobsters, it seems, can't be cultivated—or at least are not. Well, as long as the land dows with other varieties of milk and honey it is quite possible to get along without lobsters.

We have heretofore called attention to the remarkable verisimilitude which (according to the gospel of spiritualism) exists between this mundane sphere and the land of spirits. The Bible teaches all the time that the next world will be different from this in almost every important particular, while the teachers instruct the people from small dark boxes in dimly lighted rooms keep telling us that things in the spirit land "are just as you have in your

world," etc. Not long ago there was a wedding and it was a perfect fac simile of such events in modern society, even down to the conventional button-hole bouquet, and still later there was a divorce in the land beyond the river and behind the veracious medium informs us that "we have laws, courts, justices etc., in your world and the processes are the same," and so on. Just as if the creator of the universe could not build a world without making it an exact copy of the work of feeble and insignificant mortal man! Come, brethren, give us something with as much invention as an ordinary snake story at least.

The East far excels the West in providing cheap excursions for the people. Excursions by water and rail go from Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore at prices ranging from 15 cents to \$1.00, and on Sundays the boats and trains are thronged with the multitudes who seek a day's recreation outside the city. The supply of bathing resorts is still deficient, and a new one is to be opened up on the south side of Long Island at an enormous expense, \$2,500,000 having already been spent in the purchase of 700 acres of ground. As much more is to be spent in making the required improvements.

An exchange suggests an ingenious method of curing female folks of the habit of borrowing newspapers. The way to do it is to cut some item from your paper—no matter what—so it be neatly and carefully done. When the borrower discovers that something is cut from the paper she will at once send down street and procure a perfect copy, and by the time the clipped paper has circulated round among all the female borrowers the streets will be lively with boys hurrying to the printing office for new papers. By this means the revenue of the newspaper will be largely increased and the habit of borrowing will presently be broken up.

The law is a queer profession in more ways than one. While one newspaper is telling its readers that no such enormous fees were ever heard of as American lawyers are extorting from their unfortunate clients—fees which range all the way from \$15,000 to \$250,000 in a single case—another newspaper, in Chicago, is asserting as a fact that the members of the profession in that city are unable to make a respectable living, and proving by argument that this is exactly what might be expected; that there is less litigation than there formerly was and the profession is sadly overcrowded (a statement which is not hard to believe). All of which perhaps only shows how little the newspapers know concerning the inscrutable and mysterious profession.

The iron trade is a good commercial barometer, for when the iron trade is good nearly all kinds of business are prosperous. After the panic of 1873 the iron industries were prostrated almost more than any others. The furnaces were shut down and the rolling mills stood idle. The prices of iron and steel went down and down until it seemed as if the bottom would never be reached. For some time past, however, the iron business has been steadily improving. Prices have advanced and there is a great increase in orders. Furnaces that have been idle for five years are being put in blast, while the rolling mills have all they can do, and in some localities are running night and day. A leading firm in Cincinnati reports larger sales for July than for any previous three months in the history of their business. There is really an iron "boom"—a thing which three or four years ago seemed an utter impossibility. The fact can no longer be disguised that the country is in a fine state of prosperity—a prosperity which is not feverish and temporary, but permanent and healthy.

An eastern journal makes a good point on the question of cheaper fares on the railroads, founding its argument on the extraordinary development of passenger travel by the cheap rates on the roads leading from Philadelphia to the seashore. While wages and the prices of all kinds of commodities have declined fifty per cent since the close of the war, the cost of travel on the railroads remains substantially what it was during the war. In other words, the farmer has to pay as many cents per mile to travel when his wheat brings him one dollar a bushel as he paid when it brought him two dollars. This virtually makes travel twice as expensive now as it was in war times. The argument of the journal alluded to is that most travel is a luxury which people can dispense with, and that cheaper fares would have the effect of stimulating travel, so that the increase of passengers would more than make up the loss suffered by the reduction and the revenue of the railroads would not in the end be diminished. There is some logic in the argument, and it is supported by experience. Every railroad must run a certain number of trains, and if it can increase the number of passengers in those trains by fifty or a hundred per cent, the fares these additional passengers pay will be almost clear profit.

AN ESSAY ON JOURNALISM. Quincy Modern Arg.

Greeley said the way to resume was to resume. It is something that way with editing a newspaper. The way to edit is to edit. That is all there is of it. If a man can't edit, why he can't, and that is the end of it. His paper and enterprise must sink. No man these days can float a paper successfully, either in a moneyed point of view, or in the sense of making a good paper without some fitness for the place.

## IMPROVEMENT.

At last it seems to be safe to declare that there is a real and permanent improvement in the business affairs of the country. There has been a time during each year since 1873, when there was a little flurry in business seeming to indicate that the worst was over. But each year this passed and the depression deepened. But during all the seven months of the present year there has been a steady improvement. Business men are hopeful and cheerful. They are not making money as rapidly as in the flush times before the panic, and, what is better, they do not expect it. They have come to see that those were times of unnatural excitement which resulted necessarily in the hard times which followed. Business has resumed the safe basis of economy in management, small profits and careful savings. And, while wages have not greatly increased, yet there are comparatively few laboring men out of employment. There has been a vast improvement in this respect within the past year. There has been no time since the panic when there has been so little suffering from lack of employment. And it is an indication of real improvement that in some departments of business, especially the shoe business, the strikes have been successful. This simply means that the manufacturers cannot afford to have their factories idle. Then there is the fact, to which allusion has several times been made in the news department of The Mail, that the railroads find it difficult to get cars enough for their business. Lively railroad business means life in other departments of business. When crops are good, when people are buying and selling rapidly, when manufacturers are busy, then cars are in demand, the railroads are busy, and railroad stock increases in value. And just at this point there is one of the strongest indications of permanent improvement in business. The stock of the great carrier companies of the country has increased in value since the first of January from twenty to eighty percent. The following figures are worth studying as something more than a straw. They contain the strongest evidence of a real and permanent improvement in the business and financial condition of the country:

	Dec. 31, 1878.	July 31, 1879.
Chicago & Northwest.....	50%	74%
Chicago & W. P. preferred.....	75%	99%
Milwaukee & St. P. ....	37%	64%
Chicago & St. P. preferred.....	65%	75%
Delaware & Lackawanna.....	42%	52%
Morris & Essex.....	75%	78%
New Jersey Central.....	38%	54%
New York Central.....	22%	38%
B. & M. ....	22%	28%
Eric, preferred.....	38%	52%
Michigan Central.....	73%	83%
Lake Shore.....	68%	82%
Wabash.....	21%	37%
Union Pacific.....	66%	77%

It must be evident to all who are not blinded by the influence of their croakings in the past and the failure of their bidding, or a desire to make political capital out of a continuance of hard times, that the day of renewed prosperity not only dawned, but passed on beyond the morning twilight. Croakers and demagogues may make the return of full prosperity slower than it would be but for their efforts to destroy confidence, but if their hands are kept off, if they are not allowed to meddle with the legislation, it is very little that they can do to harm the country or themselves. Count every croaker an enemy of prosperity, a wilful or an ignorant enemy, or one who puts his own selfish interests before the public good. There is improvement, and the sooner everybody recognizes the fact, rejoices in it, and expresses confidence in its permanence, the sooner and more rapid will the improvement increase.

SIFTED.

Almost any man, or woman either, with very little instruction, could keep a ship on its course at mid ocean in fair weather, and yet not be entitled to much credit as a sailor. It is the storms, and breakers, and harbors, that require the skill and experience of the trained seaman. It requires little business skill to buy and sell at a profit on a rising or a steady market. And a large portion of the business men of the country, all the younger ones, had only had experience in a steady or rising market until 1873. For thirteen years it had been generally very plain sailing in business. As a consequence a goodly number of persons with very little business skill had come to reckon themselves, and had been reckoned, very skilful. These fair weather sailors have gone down in the storm. It is true that many old and good business firms have also gone down. The storm has been too severe to be weathered by many an excellent sailor. But these fair weather sailors are nearly all sunk or stranded, and they will never rise again, or get off the rocks or shoals. There is, in fact, a very large class in the country which is greatly to be pitied, and they are the men who thought, and still think, they knew how to manage business, because they made money, when the fact is they made money in spite of lack of skill, and not in consequence of their skill. And these men still think that they are going to succeed again. They think they have been simply unfortunate with a great many others, and that soon they will get hold of some enterprise that will put them all right. But they will not. Their loose methods of business, their rashness, their too sanguine temperaments, make it impossible for them to succeed.

Young lady to friend from the country, just arrived: "And how many parasols have you brought, my dear?" "Parasols? One to be sure!" "Oh! that won't do at all. I've twenty, one for each costume. We'll look over your dresses in the morning and then send to the city. Indeed my dear, it would be no use to stay here otherwise."

THE PARASOL MANIA.

Cape May Letters.

Young lady to friend from the country, just arrived: "And how many parasols have you brought, my dear?" "Parasols? One to be sure!" "Oh! that won't do at all. I've twenty, one for each costume. We'll look over your dresses in the morning and then send to the city. Indeed my dear, it would be no use to stay here otherwise."

have failed have not lacked business ability, yet very many have, and now they are in danger of becoming Micawbers, waiting in vain for something to turn up that will put them all right. The sooner this vain hope is dispelled the sooner will they settle down to some steady, useful employment at fair remuneration. They are sifted out, and cannot get back again into the ranks of business men.

## THE SUICIDAL MANIA.

The heat of midsummer appears to increase the suicidal mania, and the growing frequency of this species of crime is appalling. The ordinary and unescapable burdens of life are undoubtedly harder to bear in the torrid heat and dust of summer, and many become so depressed and discouraged that they voluntarily give up the struggle and lie down in the sleep of death. They perhaps persuade themselves that life is not worth living—that it is a fraud and a cheat—a struggle for peace and happiness that never comes—and rather than endure the ills they have chosen to fly to others they know not of. They are willing to take the risk of making their fortune harder than it is.

There are two moral sins which the suicide is guilty of—cowardice and selfishness. It is a cowardly thing for one to put an end to his life. By doing so he proclaims his lack of courage to meet and withstand the difficulties of life. A brave spirit will fight to the end and never give up while life lasts. It will hope for a better day, and work and struggle for it, becoming braver and stronger by the struggle. As Burroughs beautifully expresses it: "It is generally some obstacle or hindrance that makes a deep place in the creek, as in a brave life." But the feeble heart gives away and suffers itself to be crushed and conquered.

It is selfish, too, to put an end to one's life. It is an acknowledgement that the suicide was living but for himself, and as soon as he became convinced that his sufferings exceeded his enjoyments he was ready to give up the contest. Every life should rest on a broader and nobler foundation than this. Even though a man or woman should become so dissatisfied with life as to be willing to throw it away, the thought of others should restrain them. There is always some one else to live for, to encourage, to help, to care for. And yet it often happens that the suicide leaves a helpless mother with little ones. How shockingly devoid of all sense of duty must a man be when he thus robs those who should be nearest and dearest to him of their natural protector. It is a cowardly and wicked thing to throw away one's life, and no conceivable state of misery and hardship can justify the act of committing suicide.

## MANY MEN OF MANY MINDS.

Col. Robert G. Ingersoll says: "Let me prophesy: In five years from to-day no man of intelligence in the United States will preach the infamous doctrine of eternal punishment.

Gladstone writes as follows in answer to a total abstinence appeal: "I am opposed to coffee-palaces, as I believe they are more deteriorating than beer shops. The stimulating properties of tea or coffee are greater and more injurious than those of malt liquors."

The Rev. Samuel Davies, Baptist, of Boston, holds that the country's danger lies in infidelity. "They want us," he declares, "to close our churches, and to open their rum shops, gambling dens, and beer gardens; and all this they call for in the name of American liberty."

Count Schouvaloff is quoted as lately saying to Lord Beaconsfield: "Confess, Milord, that there are only two things worth living for—politics and pretty women."

The Rev. Dr. Phillips Brooks says that almost any company of clergymen gathering together and talking freely to each other will express opinions which would greatly surprise the congregations who ordinarily listen to those ministers.

Frank Davidson, a Missouri condemned murderer, remarked: "Well, I'm not the first man ever hung, and it's only a matter of a minute or two, anyhow. I'm dead certain of going to Heaven."

Dr. George M. Beard says: "No religion on the globe is strong enough to bear the shock of its own demonstration. A religion proved dead as a religion, and becomes a scientific fact, and would take its place side by side with astronomy and chemistry, with physics and geology, in the organized knowledge of men."

William J. Marshall wrote as follows, before committing suicide, at Grand Rapids: "I made up my mind several weeks ago to enjoy life as best I could for a while; and I have done so, you bet! I came here, having made up my mind to have one old rouser, and then shuffle off this mortal coil. My passions are simply uncontrollable, and it is nonsense for me to jog on longer. If there is a future state, I will do my best, if it is in my power, to let you know it; but my impression is, that when a man leaves this world his goose is cooked."

Buy your lace of the one priced house of

FOSTER BROTHERS.

A Good, Safe Family Horse, A. G. Austin will sell cheap.

Why is there such a great demand for the "Prairie City Cook Stove"?

## AMERICAN INDUSTRIES.

Maine packs five million cans of corn every year.

The oil wells of Pennsylvania pour out altogether about 50,000 barrels of oil daily.

Our American plate-glass manufacturers are driving their French rivals out of the market.

In 1854 all the table cutlery in this country was imported from England. To-day only small parcels can be found in the American market.

Since paper napkins were introduced by a manufacturing firm in Wisconsin, about a year ago, one Boston firm alone has sold 250,000 of them.

The flouring mill industry in the U. S. employs 90,000 men in 25,000 mills, turning out yearly about 50,000,000 barrels of flour, of which 4,000,000 are exported to foreign countries.

The proprietor of the Pullman car invention reports that paper wheels have run 400,000 miles under his cars without repairing, while the average running power of an ordinary wheel is from 50,000 to 60,000 miles.

The proprie

## A CARD.

To the Editor of The Mail.

I want to thank some unknown friends who have been kindly remembering my family in my absence. Will you help me out through The Mail. I don't know how to make my acknowledgements reach them in any other manner.

Heartily yours,

S. S. MARTYN.

Milldale, Conn., Aug. 6, 1879.

Died.

WINTERMUTE.—Mrs. Marietta Wintermute, wife of J. R. Wintermute, at six o'clock Thursday evening.

Funeral will take place to-morrow (Sunday) afternoon at three o'clock, at the residence, 209 South Fifth street. Friends of the family are invited to attend without further notice.

## THIS WEEK

—AT—

HOBERG,  
ROOT & CO'S

## NEW LAWNS

At 8, 10, 12<sup>3</sup>, and 15<sup>c</sup>.

## NEW WHITE GOODS.

Piques, Lace Stripe Piques, Organzies, Rainsooks, Victoria Lawns, Paris Muslins, Tarletons, Swiss, Tus