The News.

SALISBURY, CONN.

Friday Morning, Sept. 1, 1871.

The Unfortunate.

MR. EDITOR.—I have thought since the establishment of your paper in our midst, that it might be well to ask the favor of space in your columns, in which to give briefly, the history of labors for the improvement of feeble minded children and youth, in this and other counties, and to speak with some particularity of the work in our state, We have in our corner of the state, an institution of great public importance, which has been quietly solving a problem of vast interest to all right thinking citizens. This problem is, that such an institution is a necessity in every state or large community, and that the relief afforded to families and friends, and the benefit conferred upon the individuals by training and care, is as great as that afforded any other unfortunate class which requires special means for instruction and elevation, or relief, as the Deaf and Dumb, the Blind, or Insane.

The function performed by this and kindred institutions, completes the circle of our human charities. Latest, but not least, I suppose but few are aware how recently the whip, the stocks, and the chains used to control the insane were thrown away, the homes of kindness, gentleness and love substituted in their place. The change was made about the commencement of this Century. The interest which attached to the experiments of Pinel, aroused attention to all kindred classes.

A citizen of France brought to the director of one of the large asylums a wild boy, caught in the woods subsisting upon nuts and roots, and desired his education. This boy excited a lively interest in the minds of the thinkers and philosophers, and one party pronounced him *idiotic*, and others "simply *intirely untaught*." After six years of care he had not learned to value, or willingly wear his clothing, and efforts to educate him failed.

Nearly forty years passed before any institution was established, designed especially to benefit the class represented by the wild idiot of Aveyron. In 1838 a school for them was established in Paris. In 1842 a portion of the Bicetre, one of the large hospitals for the Insane at Paris, was set apart for their instruction. In 1839 or 1840, a Swiss physician established an institution for Cretin idiots, upon the high Alps. In Germany, a school was established at Berlin in 1842, and one at Leipsic in 1846. Three schools were established in England about 1846, at Bath, Brighton, and at Lancastor. The first school in this country was established by Dr. H. B. Wilbur, in Massachusetts in 1849.

The state of Massachusetts established an *experimental* school in 1848, which resulted in founding a state institution in 1851. The state of New York next followed. Then Pennsylvania, and next in order Connecticut, Kentucky, Ohio, and Illinois. There are now more than twenty European schools for this class and eight American. Every state in this country, which has established an institution for imbeciles has enlarged it, and the principle is fully recognized that accommodations should be provided for *all* of the class who can be benefitted by training.

It is not improper in this connection to say that so far as is known, the first systematic efforts to educate an imbecile, (with the exception of those which Pinel and Itard bestowed upon the wild boy of Aveyron in 1801,) were made in our own state. In 1818 a feeble-minded child was received at the American asylum for the Deaf and Dumb at Hartford, and kept there until her death in 1824. Various others were received there, the nature of their infirmity being well understood, and intelligent efforts made to educate them, a fact of which we may well feel proud. In my next, I will give a history of the establishment of this school in Salisbury. K.

Preponderance of Young Men in State Prison.

Writing of the Iowa Penitentiary, a correspondent says:

Men of fine ability, of manly character, are easily discerned here as elsewhere. The visitor is amazed at the preponderance of young men, not unfrequently of good parentage, but more commonly of that class who have given free scope to their passions for strong drink and its associations. Its associations are necessarily and inevitably dangerous. Men of professional skill in burglary, gambling, and ill-fame, congregate at the dens of strong drink, and by their artful graces win young men (boys) to join in their hilarities, and then adroitly invite them into their little games. By this identical means forty-five young men out of sixty in the Penitentiary of Iowa assured me they had been led into the crimes for which they were incarcerated. In the Reform School are several children from nine to twelve years of age, who were instruments in the hands of expert criminals for the commission of high crimes. Their first lessons are usually learned in the schools of vice open to free access in almost every community. Their parents, if living, are either drunkards, or regardless of the consequences of drinking associations. I took an impartial record of 260 convicts in relation to their habits of drinking liquors. Of them, 219 had been drinking men; 109 attributed their incarceration to the use of liquors; 21 only had been total abstinence men. These were wholly of that class who are imprisoned for lighter crimes and short terms.

THE VALLEY ROAD.—The Connecticut Valley road was formally opened Thursday. A train of ten cars, crowded with invited ladies and gentlemen, and one platform car, on which was Stalk's band of Springfield, lett Hartford for Old Saybrook early in the forenoon, and made stoppings at all stations on the line. The excursion was of quite a festive character, winding up with the presentation of a gold watch and cane to W. R. Walkley, Esq., the president of the company.

Monday evening a young gentleman, accompanied by two young ladies, one of whom was his betrothed, went on board the New York Boat, lying at the steamboat wharf, New Haven, and in some manner was precipated from the hurricane deck into the water. Fortunately the tide was coming in, and drifted the young man toward the wheel of the steamboat, which he seized and held until help reached him. When he was taken from the water, his leg was found to be broken. His name was William Von Steinwehr, a son of the Baron Von Steinwehr.

More Appalling Disasters.

A terrible accident occurred at Revere, on the Eastern railroad in Massachusetts, last Saturday night, in which twenty four persons were killed outright and between thirty and forty wounded. An express train going at full speed, crashed into the rear of an accommodation train which was standing at the Revere station, and unmercifully slaughtered scores of the passengers. At the time of the collision the accommodation train had its red signal lights behind, and the red signal light was hoisted at the mast head of the signal post for the express to hold up, which it did at Everett, but subsequently proceeded and was under full headway, when near Revere station, the engineer evidently not being aware of the proximity of the accommodation train, until within perhaps sixty rods of it. He then whistled "down brakes," but not soon enough to prevent the calamity. Some of those in the rear part of the accommodation train heard the omnious whistle, but too late. On came the express train at great velocity, and the engine struck the rearmost car full in the center, and forced its way in telescope fashion, two-thirds of the length of the car. The smoke stack was instantly knocked off, and the boiler penetrated all of the distance named into the rear car, the rear part of the latter being smashed into a thousand splinters, the debris being thrown out on either side of the engine and tender of the rear half of the car. Not a fragment as big as a house window could be found. The front part of the engine was utterly demolished, the piston bent and its rods broken. The car was crowded with people, every seat being occupied and many standing in the aisles. In among these the engine rushed, just as the accommodation train had started, mangling in the most frightful manner. But this was not the worst visitor the unfortunate passengers had. Simultaneously with the collision, the head cap of the boiler was broken, and in an instant the sufferers were shrouded in a cloud of hissing steam and boiling water, which brought instant death to many of the wounded, and will prove fatal to others who had probably not been otherwise seriously injured. The lamps spilled their contents, and the fire here, if any there was, was undoubtedly extinguished by water and steam. Although the accommodation train was just moving when the collision took place, this motion did not prevent injury to the cars in front of the last one. The coupling between the two rear cars broke, and the platforms of all of them were jammed up together, the smoking car overlapping the baggage car, and rods and timbers were inextricably mixed and interwoven. Fortunately the entanglement was not so great, but that the passengers succeeded in getting out quite speedily. Happily was it for them they did, for the kerosene oil lamps were upset and their contents spilled upon the upholstery, and in an instant the smoking car was in a blaze. The flames traveled with great speed from one car to another, until three of them were embraced in their fiery folds. These subsequently moved up the track half a dozen rods, and left to burn until there was nothing left for the fire to feed upon.

ANOTHER.

A mail train bound west on the Philadelphia and Erie Road, collided with the Empire freight train goin East between seven and eight o'clock last Saturday morning near Westport, middle division of the Philadelphia and Erie railroad. Six persons were killed and from 15 to 20 seriously injured.

The passenger train was about an hour late in Williamsport, and running at thirty-five miles per hour. The freight train was running eighteen miles an hour. The trains meeting on a sharp curve were not visible to each other till they were only a few yards apart, and their speed not being checked, the baggage and smoking cars of the mail train were telescoped, all but a few feet. The passengers in the two cars in the rear are uninjured. Official investigation shows that the accident was caused by the neglect of the conductor and engineer of the mail train to obey the orders given them not to pass Westport until the freight train had arrived there. A copy of the order was found in the pocket of the engineer, who was believed to be fatally injured, but later intelligence reports him improving, though still unable to speak.

Another Sunday Disaster.

A STEAMBOAT BLOWN UP WHILE ON AN EXCURSION.

AT LEAST FIFTY LIVES LOST.

MOBILE, August 28.—The low pressure steamer Ocean Wave left this city Sunday morning, with about two hundred persons on board, for an excursion to Fish's river, about twenty miles from here. On her return the boat reached Point Clear at five p. m., and made fast. The band and part of the passengers went ashore, and after half an hour the whistle was blown, and all returned to the boat. They had just gone on board when the boiler exploded with great force. The forward part of her cabin was carried away, and her chimney fell upon the after cabin and crushed it. The boat almost immediately sank, and her bow lies now submerged. About sixty or seventy persons were killed or injured by the explosion. So far the bodies of nienteen dead have been found, eight of whom are women. Twenty-eight wounded persons have been brought to this city, and one of them, a girl, has since died. The scene is appalling and heartrending; wilder scenes of grief are seldom witnessed. Many of the passengers were little children, and little hats and bonnets came ashore to tell of the victims beneath the waves. Captain Eaton swam for some time with both legs broken. A boat reached him just too late and he went down. Two pilots were killed, the firemen are all killed, and the engineer and his wife severely injured. It is impossible correctly to estimate the loss of lives. By some it is supposed that at least thirty or forty persons are still buried in the debris of the wreck or at the bottom of the bay. A diver has gone to the scene of disaster. The accident has cast a gloom over the whole city and universal sadness prevails. The streets are crowded with people and the excitement is intense.

The Ocean Wave has been for some time considered an unsafe boat and has always been unlucky. Criminal responsibilitiy rests somewhere. The appearance of the boiler indicated that it had yielded through rottenness as it has been torn apart in a long seam. Had it exploded with greater violence the destruction of life would have been yet more general. The force of the explosion was directed upward and forward.

—The directors of the Fair Haven and Westville railroad have passed resolutions against running their cars Sunday. It wont pay, say they, and it is wicked, They don't say which of these objections influences them most—probably because it is unnecessary.—*Litchfield Enquirer.*

WROUGHT IRON AND STEEL LINED CANNON.

But few of the readers of the News, perhaps, are aware that the best rifled cannon in the world were made in Falls Village, by the late Horatio Ames, and I am sure but very few of them know *how* they were made. Regarding the above assertions as facts, I take the liberty of laying before them a brief description of the process, knowing that to many of them it cannot be otherwise than of interest. Mr. Ames' idea of making wrought iron guns, and the plan which he adopted, was to make them of rings, welded together, in order that the grain of the iron would run around the gun instead of lengthwise, (as it is a well known fact that there is nearly as much grain to iron, as there is to wood) and thus would be obtained the greatest strength of the iron for the purpose designed.

The rings were made of bars of iron five or six inches square, bent to a circle and welded. They were of such sizes, that three rings were put together, one inside of another; the smallest, or inside rings having an orifice of about three inches. A quantity of these rings within rings being made, they were heated and welded together by a large steam battering ram till they were of the proper length for a gun. It was then bored out, and the outside turned in mammoth lathes constructed especially for the purpose.

The welding of these rings to each other was the most difficult task to perform in the making of the gun, and a vast amount of experimenting was necessary before a perfect joint or weld, on so large surface and on the end, could be reliably and regularly effected. Three years he worked, expending an immense amount of money before he accomplished that which governments and nations had failed to do. But his success was complete, and his guns have stood the test of being loaded to the muzzle with powder and ball and fired. No guns in the world ever stood the half of the test which has been given to these.

He made three sizes of these cannon, the calibers of which were respectively five, six and four tenths and seven inches; to carry balls weighing 50; 100; and 150 pounds. After making about $400,000 worth of these guns, not content with making what was already the best gun in the world, he concluded to line a wrought iron gun made of rings, with steel. He accordingly took three of the six and four tenth inch caliber guns, and bored them out to twelve inches, and procured three cast steel shafts from England, that were tempered in oil to toughen them, and turned them to twelve and two one hundredths inches in size.

His plan to get the steel cores in the gun, was to build a furnace around it, in front of the steam battering ram, and expand it by heat sufficiently to admit the steel core, which (as stated above) was made two one hundredths of an inch larger than the bore of the gun. This was to be accomplished with the aid of the ram.

Unfortunately at this stage of the work, his health failed him, and he said to his men "wait till I can oversee it." This was not to be; his work was done; his mission on earth accomplished. In his sickness, which proved to be his last, he was almost constantly talking about those steel cores, and was anxious to see them put in, which mechanics and scientific men told him could not be done, that the pieces were too large, and too heavy to handle in the manner in which it would be necessary to handle them, but Mr. Ames *knew*, with equal positiveness that the task could be successfully accomplished. Neither himself nor Mr. H. B. Thomas who worked out his plans for him, saw it done.

After the death of Mr. Ames, in May and June of the present year, the precise plans of Mr. Ames were carried out to a successful completion. The furnace was built where he commenced it, and the steel cores weighing three tons, were placed on timbers in front of the battering ram, with one end at the door of the furnace containing the gun. Steam was raised in the boilers, and people flocked to see the great experiment. Everything was in readiness; the gun slightly red with heat; the furnace door was opened and the core was pushed to the mouth of the gun. Men stood, as it were, breathless; the ram moves, starts the core into the muzzle of the gun; it does not bind; it now goes faster! faster! and quickly with a loud crack it strikes the back end of the gun. No longer do the men remain in silence; hats go off and the old forge is made to ring with their shouts. The huge steam whistle was blown long and loud, and thus was announced to the world a success in gunnery, second to none ever attained. The opinions of the experienced mechanics, and the theory of the scientists, were dashed to the ground as worthless, quicker than the twinkling of an eye.

Nor was this success of a private character. It was a National success, and one that carries with it an importance that the government will not be slow to profit by, and without doubt the system of making all the ordnance of the nation steel lined, will eventually be adopted. The three guns, are bored out and rifled ready for the government test. The steel cuts very smoothly, and after the guns are completed, there remains of the steel in the gun a thickness of two and six tenths inches.

It is expected that these three steel lined guns will in a few weeks be tested in Falls Village, and one of them will be fired one thousand times to test its durability, as all new kinds of guns are subjected to this test. The longest range attained by the Ames wrought iron guns is seven and three fourth miles, but it is confidently thought these steel ones will throw a one hundred pound ball, with twenty pounds of powder, at least a mile farther. W. P.

Vini Vidi Vici.—I came, I saw, but had no disposition to conquer. This is what I saw, when I came to your beautiful village, I saw many improvements in the appearance of the village, since my last visit here. Among them I saw the streets lighted with gas; I saw a new railroad; I saw the press, with the editor industriously fishing for items; I saw the Lone Star B. B. C. on their way to Egremont to "flax out" the Mt Everitt boys, and I saw them do it with a score of 35 to 42, and I also saw that the Mt Everitt boys are gentlemen, as they fed heartily their guests, but for all I saw, there are many more things I would like to see, and who wouldn't? I would like to see more enterprise in building; I would like to see the villain who broke the street lamps in jail; I would like to see the village supplied with water; and last but not least, I would like to see an overwhelming list of subscribers to the NEWS. All this I expect to see when I visit the village again next summer. JENKINS.

Connecticut has 112 Masonic Lodges and 14,000 Master Masons.

Home News.

*** We shall feel greatly obliged to any of our friends in the county, or elsewhere, who will send us particulars of any occurrences of interest which may come under their notice.

New Advertisements.

O'Brien's, - - - Caravan and Menagerie.
Union Park Horse Show. - - Committee.
Extra, - - - - - - Jas. Garrehan.
For Sale, - - - - - - Cha's Humes.
Auction, - - - - Rev. J. A. Wainwright.
Wanted Immediately, - - Niver & Daniels.
Insurance, - - - - A. T. Roraback.

News.—Extra copies of the NEWS can be found at the Post office in this village, Grant & Sweet's, Lakeville, and F. C. French's Lime Rock.

Chas. Humes.—Offers for sale in another column his homestead in Chapinville. This is a good opportunity to purchase a pleasant village residence, and we think he will not be long in finding a purchaser. Read his advertisment.

New Switch.—A permanent switch for the station in this village is being built. It is to be 1300 feet long and located on the west side of the main track, commencing at a place on the road east of Mr. C. H. Glen's store, and running north.

Sold Out.—Mr. H. C. Allen of Falls Village has sold his jewelry establishment in that village to Mr. George Capron, formerly one of the proprietors of the Hubbell & Capron Turbine water wheel manufacory, between Lakeville and Sharon, who intends carrying on the jewelry business at the old stand. Mr. Allen will move out of town.

Tub Race.—A tub race created considerable excitement in North Egremont on the Winchael Pond last Saturday. There were seven entries, each man provided himself with a half hogshead tub, and two oars about the size and length of a shingle. The tubs measured 2 1-2 feet in diameter; and the distance sailed was 80 rods. The prizes were $15, $10, and $5.00. No one was ducked, but all passed off well.

Salisbury Caves.—Last week Thursday, a party of over 200 ladies and gentlemen visited these interesting caves, and quite a large number of them "caved in" and explored those subteranean vaults. A tour through them, and an examination of the peculiar limestone formations, is well worth the time and effort to do it. The next day (Friday,) a party of 80 from Canaan made them a visit.

Hay Scales.—Who will erect a set of "Hay Scales" in this village? Very soon our winter supply of coal will be coming in, and it will be very inconvenient to carry every load to the ore bed scales to be weighed, beside it is a great annoyance to Mr. Perkins at the office there, to be constantly weighing for others. A set of these scales in this village, will pay a large interest on the money invested in them.

Lightning.—During the thunder shower last Wednesday forenoon, the lightning struck a bush near the house of Simon Dewitt, on the mountain east of this village, and dodged in the open door of the house and knocking a little daughter 11 years old down, hopped around and over the stove pretty lively, breaking it more or less in pieces. The girl was completely paralized, but it is thought not so severely injured but that she will recover.

Festival.—Arrangements for a fair and festival were made by the ladies of M't Washington to have been held last Wednesday on the grounds of Mr. Tiffany, (The Milo Smith place,) to raise money to pay the debt of the Union church in that town. The summer visitors have done all in their power to make the enterprise a success, but it is to be presumed that the rain entirely prevented the successful carrying out of their programme.

Mr. Charles C. Barton.—Who has been visiting at his father's in this town for several weeks, has left here and gone to Great Barrington, Mass., where he is to take charge of the High school in that place. He was graduated at Trinity college in the class of 69 with honors, and has the reputation of being a superior scholar and popular teacher. The friends of enducation in that vicinity may congratulate themselves in securing his services.

Rail Laying.—It is thought by those who ought to be able to give a correct idea of the matter, that the construction train on the Conn. Western, laying rails between East Canaan and Norfolk, will meet the train coming east from Winsted, on the "Green" in Norfolk, a week from to-morrow (Saturday.) If "straws tell which way the wind blows," it is plainly evident that the signs of the times indicate a celebration over the event, such as is rarely indulged in by the good people of that staid old town.

Our Depot.—We learned last Tuesday from the new Superintendent of the Conn. Western, W. F. Brinsmade Esq., that our Salisbury Passenger depot will be located on the west side of the track, at about where the stone wall now is that runs to the railroad from the barn of Mr. Geo. Peet, just south of the Congregational church, or in other words it will be almost directly east of that church. The freight depot will be placed on the same side of the track, and about 500 feet north of the Passenger depot.

Dr. Halley.—Who has for the past three or four weeks, been filling the pulpit of Dr. Reid in the Congregational church in this village, returned to his home in Albany last Monday. Dr. Halley is a preacher of rare talent and ability, and his short stay among us has been one of much pleasure as well as profit to those who have listened to his able discourses. This brief rest for Dr. Reid, we hope will be of much benefit to him, and next sabbath his people will gladly welcome him again to the desk which he has for so many years occupied.

Not Paid.—In the papers of those who have not paid their subscription to the NEWS, we this week put in a letter and envelope directed to us. We hope none will be offended at this slight hint, but will come forward readily and willingly, and help us by paying for their paper. If by mistake a subscriber who has paid, gets an envelope, we trust he will treat it as an innocent error, and allow it to engender no hard feelings toward us, for what he might consider as being dunned for that which he has already paid.

Examination.—A meeting will be held in the Grove school house in this village a week from to-morrow (Saturday) for the purpose of examining teachers for the Fall and Winter terms of schools, throughout the town. A more rigid examination will be given the applicants for the schools, and it stands then in hand to come well prepared. It is to be hoped that the people will manifest more interest in the schools hereafter, and will not only attend this examination, but at all other school meetings lend their presence, and thus encourage the committee and officers in their work.

Horse Association.—The regular annual meeting of the Union Park Horse Association, will be held on Union Park in Falls Village, Thursday the 14th instant. Liberal premiums are offered to the victors in the various races, and the committee are determined that "not a stone shall remain unturned" to make this horse exhibition and entertainment replete with interest. It is generally known by horse men that this exhibition has heretofore been the best conducted, and most successful of any country fair in the state, and this season the committee have redoubled their efforts, and are assured that a better class of horses and more of them, will be there than ever before. Read their advertisement in another column.

Cemetery.—At the town meeting in this village last Saturday afternoon, the doings of the selectmen in regard to the purchase of land for the enlargement of our cemetery, were made known, and by a vote of the town were made legal. They had purchased about five and two thirds acres of land of Daniel Pratt, Esq. lying on the east and south of the present yard on the undermountain road. A committee of three was appointed to attend to the arrangement of the yard, laying it out into burial lots, with suitable carriage ways and alleys. They also voted to rescind the previous vote of the town to sequestrate the lands of Martin Decker and others for cemetery purposes. The lands purchased are very level, and no doubt will make good grounds for the purpose designed.

The Water Tank.—The tank for supplying water for locomotives in this village is now nearly completed, (with the exception of the house which is to be constructed over it,) and the water from the reservoir will soon pour into it. This doubtless will be one of the most important water stations on the road, as the supply is abundant and inexhaustible. The venerable James Pierce who has lived near the spring from which this water is taken, over ninety years, says he has never known it to be dry, or even to show the effects of the severest drouth. The water is very cold and "soft." At this spring is constructed a stone reservoir, and the water is carried to the tank in a two inch galvenized iron pipe. The ditch was left open its entire length of 144 rods, till the water was let into the pipe and it was thoroughly tested, and so well was the work done by Mr. H. P. Harris and his men, that not a drop could be discovered to be oozing from any of the numerous joints. The stream which will flow into the tank from thisspring will fill 16 large engines in 12 hours.

New Sign.—Last Monday we placed on our office a sign painted by F. R. Mallory of Lakeville. It is a perfect *fac simile* of the heading to the NEWS, and is executed in Mr. Mallory's peculiar way of doing things, most excellently. We designed from the first, that it should not be very elaborate, and was almost obliged to scold at Mr. Mallory to prevent his making more of a sign than we thought necessary, and he has got up for us one that he considers a rather ordinary job of his, but for neatness and real beauty, (which consists in its being such a perfect representation of the "CONNECTICUT WESTERN NEWS," at the head of the first page of our paper,) we challenge the section hereabouts, to exhibit its equal. Mr. Mallory is full of business in his shop in Messrs Tupper & Wood's building in Lakeville, which is, as a natural consequence, the result of work he is constantly sending out. He has had over twenty years experience at the business, and that, with his natural talent for painting signs, carriages and all manner of ornamental work, make him second to none in the execution of such work.

Cattle Show.—The regular annual Cattle show, and Fair of the Union Agricultural society, will be holden on their park in Falls Village, on the 12th and 13th of this month. The officers of this society have given much time and attention to the exhibition for this season, and it is confidently expected that there will be a better Show and Fair than ever before. We notice among the committee appointed to adjudge premiums on whatever may be exhibited at the Litchfield fair this year, several names of those who are residents of this section of our county; and of our own knowledge we know of a great many who have been, and are now more or less interested in that exhibition. This we think is all wrong. We have ample provisions for our home Cattle Show at Falls Village, and every resident of Western Litchfield county should feel it his bounden duty to give his *exclusive* patronage to it. This idea of going out of town to buy goods, or going away from any of our established home institutions, to patronize others, is absolutely suicidal. This society is gaining ground rapidly, and the state of its finances give it a more prosperous look than ever before, and all that appears to be necessary to make it an exhibition second to none in the state, is the combined effort and patronage of the inhabitants of this region. Let us all work together for our own interest.

Maple Shade.—One of the most enjoyable and heartily enjoyed entertainments of the season at this popular place of resort, was given last Monday evening at "Maple Shade." Some of the guests of Mr. Martin Harris, the proprietor, and a young friend of theirs who was spending a few days in the neighborhood, performed a series of Charades before an appreciative and delighted assemblage. The affair was almost an impromptu one, the accessories in regard to scenery and costumes, of the simplest kind, and yet from the talent, in genuity and skill of the gifted Artistes, (all amateurs,) most effective results were produced. Among the performers were Mrs. Corbett, Mrs. Sanger, Messrs. C. and H. Sanger, and Mr. W. Janes. Mrs. Debost was specially noticeable as a German woman, which character she sustained with great spirit. Mrs. Sanger was quite at home in the part of a fashionable lady, while Mrs. Corbett in some of the most prominent parts called forth universal applause. The gentlemen all acted cleverly. The words represented were Phantom, Bandbox, and Missionary; and after the performances were over, a dance filled up the measure of delight for the younger members of the company. Some very fine singing enlivened the first charade, and a burlesque representation of a man vainly endeavoring to find the key hole of his own door, filled up an interval between. The occasion for these festivities was the desire of the ladies to celebrate Mrs. Duffie's birthday in a fitting manner. Much credit is due Mrs. Corbett who was the originator of this pleasant entertainment, for the admirable manner in which she conducted it. These people from the city who annually, during the heated term, make a portion of our population, are always welcome, and during their stay among us contribute much to enliven our village. We regret that the time for their departure is drawing so rapidly near.

Tomatoes.—Mr. S. H. Dexter brought in our office last Wednesday, ten tomatoes raised in the garden of his father, Mr. N. L. Dexter of this village which we think it hard to beat. They were all very large and varied but little in size, the largest measured over 14 1-2 inches in circumference.

Base Ball.—MR. EDITOR.—In the NEWS of last week, and also in various other papers in the state, a correspondent from Falls Village has very industriously reported the game of base ball between the Red Stars of that village and the Lone Stars of Salisbury, in which he said the Red Stars were obliged to play a game, not with the Lone Stars alone, but with a combination of players from other clubs. In justice to the Salisbury club, it is proper to say that but one outside man played that day with them, and he was accepted to fill the place of one of their men who was sick. I should advise that chap to get him a better pair of leather goggles, through which he could see more accurately, and at the same time that would enable him to see that on the 4th of July, the Red Stars had an outside man to play with them against our club, and for which, we didn't think it advisable to set up a howl.

LONE STAR B. B. PLAYER.

[We inadvertently allowed the remarks of our correspondent concerning the ball match to appear in last week's NEWS, and as a consequence allow this reply; but no more of this in these columns. ED.]

Cornwall Bridge.

Your correspondent "still lives," and I rejoice that such is a fact. Having no especial news to communicate, I conducted myself in accordance with the established rules of our village viz; to keep quiet during this hot weather and let the world wag. .....Farmers have finished haying and harvesting, and those of them who have no fields of tobacco to occupy their time and attention are resting from their labors. One of our neighbors boasts that his field of tobacco is ahead of any in Litchfield county. This is a rather powerful assertion but I am not sure but that he knows fully what he is talking about.

Huntsville.

Laying as it does amid the solitude of the hills, Huntsville seems a more fit recipient of news than a giver of it, however, the new railroad is going to set that matter aright. It is already a thing to talk about, and to wonder at, considering the truly marvelous difficulties to be overcome. A man conversant with the country off Goshen way said the "darned thing will have to run up hill anyhow." Your correspondent has been one of no faith in the Shepaug Valley R. R., this end of it at least; but when everybody says it is to be, and you can't prove that it aint to be, what are you going to do?.....The Iron Works under the management of Messrs. Bradley, Yale, Wilcox and Everts, (the latter formerly of Salisbury,) is turning out iron at a fast rate. With manager and workmen, it is all system, the work is reduced to a science..... Mr. H. E. Wetherell does a large store trade this summer. He knows how to keep store and his clerk, Smith, knows how to clerk it.....Mr. J. H. Chase has removed his carriage making business to the building known as the store, which, with the landed property, and some other building, was purchased of the Canfield Iron Co., by Mr. Chase last fall.....W. H. Blodgett says he caught twenty-five woodchucks to prevent their destroying an acre of beans, in which they were making dreadful havoc, but lost a good part of the beans after all.....How about the Dog law? I am considerably exercised about the dog question just now. Voters of Canaan; Let us have a good dog law, or a bounty on the "vermin." TIBI.

Sharon.

A slight ripple of excitement has disturbed the customary tranquility of the people of this village during the past few days, and stirred up the dry bones considerably. It happened thus: Last March, one, Prentice, of New York, apparently a man of wealth, refinement and piety, and supposed to be, by the would be aristocrats, a gun of large caliber, came to this village and rented a handsomely furnished villa of Dr. Robert Smith, near his residence, agreeing to pay $400 on the 1st of August and 400 more at the end of the year. He took quiet possession about April 1st, and everything went on swimmingly for some time, his credit of course being as unlimited, as his honesty and piety was undoubted. But alas for man's credulity; the aspect of affairs began gradually to change. First to the astonishment of Dr. Smith, he found his beautiful villa turned into a boarding house, with about a score of city people, holding high revelry within its sacred walls. 2nd; Aug. 1st came and passed, but the $400 came not, and after many days a gentle reminder resulted in the astounding declaration, that he, Prentice, did not propose to pay it, giving as a reason that the Doctor had not in some minor particulars complied with the terms of the contract. This caused the scales to begin to fall from the eyes of a half score of others, who had little bills to be settled, and a kindly hint from each brought profuse promises, but little cash. So matters stood until Monday last, when it was reported that the boarders had made their monthly payment, and the creditors began arrangements for a raid. The first on the ground was an Irishman, who demanded the little sum of $30, back pay and when refused, in a sudden ebulition of rage, seized a carving knife and chased him about the house, expressing his determination to slice him up instanter, but was ejected before he could accomplish the difficult feat. Next, a procession of sombre visaged, creditors appeared, and presented their little *billet deux*, but were informed that nothing could be done for them, they then proceeded to make Rome howl until he, Prentice, promised to meet them the next morning and adjust matters, when they dispersed. At early dawn on Tuesday, the boarders not liking the turn affairs had taken, betook themselves hence, and about the same time, the creditors appeared on the field, with dim visions of coming cash, and after spending much time in gaining admission to their man, were coolly informed that nothing could be done, they must wait, and wait they did some of them the whole day, and declared their intentions of keeping him company over night, and so on indefinitely unless he paid up. At last seeing no escape he dispersed them by turning over property enough to pay off about 50 cents on the dollar. So matters stand at present, there are vague rumors abroad of tar, feathers, rails and other enjoyable appliances; and should there be further developments we will give them in our next. We, who are not financially concerned, find it rather an interesting drama, and we would most respectfully ask our victimized friends of the old village if, "All's gold that glitters?" AJAX.

Millerton.

James Silvery of Mattewan, formerly a workman on the Dutchess and Columbia railroad, was run over and instantly killed by the night express train going north, between this station and M't Riga, severing his head and one of his limbs from his body. He presented a very ghastly spectacle. It is rumored he had considerable money on his person during the day, and it is thought he might have met with some villainous person or persons, and been killed and robbed and then placed on the track to cover all suspicion. The engineer on the train did not know anthing had occurred. He was found next morning by the down express and brought to this village. His remains were taken to Mattewan, his former residence, for interment. Last Monday the authorities of this place arrested James Conlin, P. Kenney, P. Moran, S. Stillman, J. Rhinehan, and two others not known, for selling spirituous liquors without license, and started with them en route for *Po'keepsie*. I think it may prove highly beneficial to this village, to close at least one half that have been selling, as there are enough licensed places, to fully supply the demand.

CURRENTE CALIMO.

Ore Hill.

The engine Falls Village with one car attached passed through this place Tuesday afternoon with a number of persons aboard. Among the many faces, I met the eye of friend Pease on the engine, and he must have been in quest of news, but if he succeeds in finding any in this place, I hope he will inform his correspondent. Some said it must have been a kind of an excursion, but I thought it must have been a rather hard one on account of the many fences they had to let down and put up every half mile.....I have been informed a number of persons are under arrest in Millerton for selling spiritous liquors. I think the officers might find plenty of business by visiting this place, as there are more here than is absolutely necessary, and if a dozen or so were "cleaned out," our more quiet citizens would probably make no objections, and it would be well to let those that are selling know the laws in this state are equally as rigid, if put in force as in New York for the sale of "the crater." But who is the person to make the complaint? It certainly seems there ought to be enough enterprise about the citizens of this place, to enforce the laws in regard to its sale. A. F.

Chapinville.

I think it not only foolish, but cowardly for a man to carelessly flourish a pistol or revolver, when he thinks by so doing he can perhaps frighten somebody. A young chap in our village some days since, after returning from a neighboring village somewhat intoxicated, undertook to bluster around his brother, flourishing a revolver in a manner that was anything but pleasant and to add interest to the matter fired it off, without perhaps designing to injure anybody. The ball passed through the muscle between the thumb and first finger of the hand of his brother, and although the wound is not of a very serious character, it nevertheless will leave a mark that in after years may not be pleasant to carry as a *souvenir* of his brother's kindness..... Mr. John P. McNeil a few days ago lost a valuable new milk cow. He is now milking 20 cows, and sends the milk to New York.....Mr. Sylvester Woodin says he has one of the best Dexter colts in town, and I am by no means sure but that his assertion is not far from right. The colt is certainly a fine appearing animal, and if he feels a little proud of it, I think he has a very good reason to.

CARPETBAGGER.

West Cornwall.

A few weeks since in one of my items, I mentioned that the town people were making an effort to stock the Cream Hill lake with Bass, and that after the three years in which the law forbid any fishing there, we hoped to be able tell to some "fish stories" that would be *real* "fishy;" but it is not at all necessary for us to wait so long. A few days since Mr. Moses Butler of this place went out one morning and was gone from home but two hours, and returned with the finest string of Bass we ever saw. The string weighed fifteen pounds and numbered twenty one fish, some of them weighing a pound and three quarters each; but the most "*fishey*" part of the whole was, that Mr. Butler used only seven bait, and besides catching the twenty one Bass, he also took out a Carp that weighed a pound and a half, and a large Roach; making twenty three fish weighing in all eighteen pounds: Who can beat that?.....Our people are all very much engaged in getting ready to give the Sunday school union a good reception.....Our "City folks" have nearly all gone back to their homes, and our society is getting settled once more into its usual routine of daily life. These few weeks of every year, that bring so many people from the city where all is life, bustle and excitement, into the country where quietness and plainness, is the usual way of life, cannot but have a strong influence on both those from the city and those in the country, and society is benefited by the intermingling of ideas. Perhaps not so much individually but in general.....Last week the Hickory B. B. Club of this place, played a friendly game with the Adelphic B. B. Club of Cornwall Bridge. The Hickories won the game by a score of 59 to 30.

MORE ANON.

The Great Combination Show.

O'BRIEN'S CARAVAN OF WILD BEASTS AND TROUPE OF CIRCUS ATHLETICS—Are to perform here next Friday afternoon and evening. The wonderfully endowed Atalie or man of the Iron Jaw, as he is termed, gives his astonishing performances in the ring. The gymnastic and accrobatic corps attached to his company for the first time will make up a splendid programme, which those who purchase a ticket for the menagerie may witness without additional cash.

The proprietor is a wise, enterprising gentlemen and advertises as liberally as he caters to the public, which supercedes detailed local attention.

One huge old animated wonder, however, waddles out of the upper Nile to challenge our respectful admiration, and that is the impenetrably clothed and gigantically strong rhinoceros, before whose terrible horn even the lordly elephant goes down. Another glimpse at the interior marvels of central Africa is furnished in the superbly beautiful and lithesome Eland, while of that class of majestic and thoughtful quadrupeds, who always carry their trunks with them, there is a veritable herd, one member of which is of a peculiarly accommodating disposition and will give any and all of the little folks a free ride in the Hindoo Houdah. Although the doors do not open until 1 o'clock, we advise those residing out of town to start early, in order to be in time for the parade, which is a free and brilliantly gorgeous, beautiful and odd exhibition, a glimpse at which will amply repay miles of travel.

Middlebury College.

COMMENCEMENT WEEK AT MIDDLEBURY VERMONT.—As every season brings its accustomed round of events, we look forward to August as our anniversary month. To the students of our college this occasion is of peculiar interest; Alumni again visit the home of their college days and recall to memory scenes of the joyous past. The exercises of Commencement week began with the Baccalaureat, on Sabbath afternoon July 6th. President Kitchell took for his text 1st Corinthians 7, 17. He said every man is a servant of God whether he wishes it or not. If willing, he obediently and cheerfully does God's bidding, and lives for that object. Unwillingly, he unconsciously does the work God assigned him, and in a certain sense, is God's servant. He who is particularly adapted to any station in life is called of God to that position. For every sphere in life there are always some especially qualified, and better fitted for that than any other. It is every ones duty to find what his calling is and fit himself for it. In every obedient service man can serve God. If he labors cheerfully and as called of God, he helps to lift the world to a higher state. The man of humble life aids in this great work: much is done by the rank and file. On Tuesday Prof. Seeley of Amherst addressed the Phi Beta Kappa Society. His subject was "The true ground work of education." As action without ideas is useless, education is successful only as it furnishes ideal aim and inspiration. Applying this to our modern theories, the Prof. made two points, 1st, that an education to be valuable, must be of practical use. 2nd that the higher element should be introduced into our education. Rev. J. E. Rankin of Washington, D. C., addressed the Philadelphia society. His text was 2 Tim., 4 8, showing the function of Christian doctrine, he alluded to the stern purity of the Pilgrims. The present tendency is to overlook doctrine, and seek for the flower without the stalk.

Parkarian Prize Speaking occurred in the evening. Four from each of the three lower classes were competitors for a prize. On Wednesday, Prof. B. Kellogg of Brooklyn Institute addressed the Alumni. His subject was "Style is the man." The Poem was by Rev. E. P. Wild of the class of 60. He touched upon our late struggle, and in passing, paid tribute to a fallen classmate. About four in the afternoon, the people were startled by the news that J. J. Round of the coming junior class was drowned. On Thursday were Commencement exercises. At 10 A. M. the procession, headed by Gilmore's Band,—