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Mollison & Dowdle,
Fire, Lake, Canal & Life
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COAL. COAL. COAL.
MOLLISON and DOWDLE,
DEALERS IN THE
Celebrated Lackawanna Coal.

All coal screened and promptly delivered to any part of the city at the following prices:

	1 Ton	3/4	1/2	1/4
GRATE,	\$5.05	\$3.90	\$2.70	\$1.45
EGG,	5.15	4.00	2.75	1.50
STOVE,	5.40	4.20	2.85	1.55
CHESNUT,	4.90	3.80	2.60	1.40

OFFICE:
Cor. West Bridge and Water Sts.
(Under Western Union Telegraph Office.)

OSWEGO, N. Y.
PHYSICIANS.

H. C. SHARP & Co.,
Drugs and Medicines, Nos. 19 East Bridge St., 91 East First St.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE CO.
Assets, 35,000,000. Every desirable form of Policy issued.
L. E. GOULDING, AGT.,
Oswego City Savings Bank.

THE
Central Union Telegraph Co.
EDWIN ALLEN, Pres.
FREDERICK B. LATHROP, Treas.
JOS. OWEN, Sec'y & Gen'l Supt.
Messages promptly transmitted.
A share of business solicited.
Office, City Savings Bank Building, West First Street.
Office 68 East First Street.
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AUCTION.
Millinery and Fancy Goods, commencing Thursday evening, Dec. 19. Private sales during the day. Auction will continue till the entire stock is sold.

MRS. J. R. WARTS,
West First St., Oswego, N. Y.

"Adam Bede" and "Ionia" at the U. T. K. dec20-1f

Cardigan Jackets, at Neal's. 21d8t

100 useful presents to make a Merry Christmas, at Neal's. 21d8t

Call at Mead's for Drugs and Medicines, large stock for sale cheap.

Latest styles Linen Collars, at Neal's. 21d8t

New line of Ties, just received, at Neal's. 21d8t

Silk Handkerchiefs of the best, at Neal's. 21d8t

All grades of Underwear, at Neal's. 21d8t

GOLD PENS AND PENCILS,
Just received, at Oliphant's.

Christmas Presents, at Neal's. 21d8t

Oliphant is selling stationery cheaper than it was ever offered in the city.

Another invoice of choice **HOLIDAY GOODS!** received this morning, at **OLIPHANT'S.**

HOLIDAY GOODS at the

U. T. K. CLOTHING STORE.
Kid Mittens,
Kid Gloves (all shades),
Silk Handkerchiefs,
Suspenders,
Neck Wear,
Collars and Cuffs, &c., &c.,
4 and 5 Arcade. dec20-1f

Linen Shirts, at Neal's. 21d8t

Men's and Boy's Mufflers, at Neal's. 21d8t

A case of Men's Jewelry, just received, at Neal's. 21d8t

THE "RAWLINS COLLARS" at the U. T. K. dec20-1f

KNITTING DONE TO ORDER.
Stockings, Mittens and Leggings of all sizes knit to order for 25 cents a pair, at the U. T. K. Store, No. 50 East Bridge street.

Oswego Morning Herald.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1879.
TO THE PUBLIC.

As there is a demand for a paper like the **HERALD**—a free and independent sheet untrammelled by party and devoted to the people—and confident that it will receive the patronage it deserves, I have concluded to publish the same from this time forth. As it is much easier to make promises than to keep them I will refrain from mapping out my line of action. But I will say that I hope to make the paper so indispensable before another year rolls round that business will compel its enlargement. As in the past it will continue to be bright, fresh and newsy, and the best medium for merchants to make known their wares. I trust that my efforts to meet the demands of the public may be appreciated and that the **HERALD** may grow in strength and power and become the people's journal. R. J. OLIPHANT.

NEW YEAR'S.

Another year is added to those that are past. How many have glided by since Adam was a little boy no man knoweth. 1878 had its events, less remarkable than those of some of its predecessors perhaps, but noteworthy to those who have time and space to chronicle them. We leave it with its joys and sorrows.

"Hark! the peal has ceased to roll:
Silence reigns but now a toll
Breaks upon the startled ear—
Gone forever, is the year!"

When Louis XIV. died the Chamberlain broke his wand of office, exclaiming, "The King is dead!" and grasping another waved it with the proclamation, "Long live the King!" So Time does for the dead and living year.

For centuries there was no harmony in regard to the period at which the year should begin. The Jews have always reckoned two—the ecclesiastical and the civil. The former commences in the spring at Passover, the latter about the first of September, sometimes styled the Judgment Day. From East to West variety in competition prevailed. The early church regarded the vernal equinox as the natural and proper beginning of the year. Afterwards Christmas succeeded to the honor. At last the world adopted the first of January—the day on which some people fondly supposed the world had been created. But we think the exact time of the creation is one of those things which, as Dunderbary says, "a fellow never can find out." Hence we shall postpone the consideration of the question until another new year, which like the present, will be a *dies non*, and so the postponement will be to the Greek Kalends and relieve us of the vexed question.

Ecclesiastically, New Year's day is the feast of the Circumcision, the anniversary of the "eighth day" and falls near the middle of the holiday season. Many old and curious customs are in vogue on this day among our progenitors. Some rites may be traced to the Druids. The Saxons wassailed, the Scotch had cakes and ale, and the Dutch indulged in cookies and schnapps. The cookies have not disappeared from New York, but they are not as good as they were in the olden time. Of the schnapps it will not do to speak in these degenerate days, when bad whisky beats mankind.

Everyone knows New Year's as visiting day—one in which old scores can be paid, or a great many birds killed with one stone. The custom comes from Gotham, and extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is a gratifying evidence of the Metropolitan power of New York that she impresses one of her own local customs upon the whole country. In itself, the usage is a pleasant one. It savors of good feeling and good taste; to begin the year with an interchange of social courtesies. Let it be kept up forever.

May the present year of grace be a happy one to all our readers, and may it renew their strength for the enjoyment of years to come.

He paused upon the upper step and she beamed down upon him from the door sill. The moon had sunk to rest and all about reigned inky darkness. "Farewell" he echoed, his entranced eyes glued to her dimly outlined form. "Fare-w-h-h" he shriekingly added, as he lost his balance and toppled heavily off the step. And all the next day her mother wondered how the cow could have wandered into the yard and lain down in the snow.

Miss Bessie Turner, of Tilton-Beecher memory, is a member of the company now playing "A Celebrated Case" at the Opera House, Indianapolis. The other night she attended the play and from one of the boxes witnessed Miss Bessie's act. Doubtless his thoughts reverted to another celebrated case.

All the fine schemes for building railroad and telegraph lines across the Mexican States have crumbled into nothingness. The Mexican Congress, looking at the multitudinous projects of this kind with the same scrutiny a bank president gives a long note with doubtful collaterals, could not see its way clear to grant the charters desired.

The price of a wife among the Sioux Indians is twenty ponies. And when the young brave has won the girl and got her father's consent at ruling rates, and the only thing that remains is to plank down the ponies, he sits down and sometimes occupies a whole night, thinking whether he had better steal the ponies from his own father, or the girl's. He generally steals them from his prospective father-in-law.

"Your daughter has treated me very curt,"—and the young man was lifted by the parental hoof from the door of his girl's house to the middle of the horse car tracks. He arose as quick as he could and mildly explained that he hadn't finished the word, which was "courteously;" and Alphonso was taken under the inhospitable roof once more, had his pants mended, was done up in salve and then sent home to his ma in a hack. This is true greatness rewarded and impetuously rebuked.

A noteworthy instance of commercial morality is announced in a Liverpool paper by Peter Bancroft, of Apsley Buildings, Oldham street. One day lately he received an unsigned letter, in which was enclosed a bank note for \$1,000. The only information vouchsafed by the sender was that the bank note was the amount of on old debt and accumulated interest, which he was sorry not to have been in a position to forward Mr. Bancroft's before. Mr. Bancroft has not the slightest idea from whom he has received this conscience money.

Eleven inches of snow at Denver—a great snow in the Black Hills—in fact, the whole West and Northwest is enveloped with a snowy covering. It has been a generation since such universal good sleighing was reported. Its good effect upon business is everywhere felt as a blessing. With the thermometer from six to ten degrees below zero, however, and the snow singing under each foot-step, the people of the West with bundles and red noses and covered ears, did but little gossiping upon the streets yesterday.

The Russian student is nothing if not persistent and explosive, and he gives the government a great deal of trouble. The recent disturbances in St. Petersburg called out the address to the Czarowitz asking him to act as mediator, and explaining how far the student societies desired to go. This may lead to a settlement of the troubles, the students defining their position and the government making concessions. The protest is not against an individual act of the government so much as against the entire policy of the government, and the question is likely to assume new importance as the discussion widens.

There are not so many genuine statesmen in this country whom the independent press can stand by and behold wantonly defamed without remonstrance. Some republican journals have suddenly opened an unprovoked and indiscriminate warfare upon Senator Bayard, of Delaware, and, on the other hand, some democratic journals have taken occasion with the mention of the name of Elihu B. Washburne, of Illinois, in connection with the mission to Germany, to attack him with almost equal virulence. Apparently the hide-bound partisans on each side are afraid that the other will make too respectable a nomination for President in 1880.

The King of Sweden has been made an honorary member of G's Arcadi Romani, a literary society created in 1660 at Rome, with the object of continuing the literary and scientific researches commenced by Queen Christina of Sweden, the daughter of the great Gustavus Adolphus, during her residence in the Eternal City. The symbol of the society is the flute of Pan surrounded by wreaths of laurel. On his nomination as a member everybody receives a new name, and the King of Sweden has been christened under the name of Poliandro Samto. Other Kings of Sweden have been named Anassan and XIII. was named Ari.

The Hartford Post recommends each of the candidates for Governor in Maine to prepare a Message for the Legislature, and so not let the successful one run the risk of keeping that body waiting while he writes as it happened in Connecticut in 1850. Thomas H. Seymour was elected by the Legislature, as the result of a trade between the democrats and free-soilers, the State offices being divided between the two parties. A committee sent to notify Colonel Seymour of his election, found him in the back yard in the act of repairing a dilapidated barrel, and the military escort had to wait an hour or while he prepared the short message which he delivered to the Assembly on taking the oath.

Among the worst features of a badly minded laughter we would first single out indolence, or, to use the rough and more expressive word, laziness. A lazy, soft-lolling, lie-a-bed-late-in-the-morning young woman is an affront to her sex, and in her own family more a curse than a blessing to her mother. She is a burden, and to her father an object of contempt. She is also a great promoter of domestic strife, and is a shocking example to her younger sisters. Such a being crawls instead of walking with tripping alacrity through life. She dawdles instead of works, her speech is vulgar and, altogether her ways are very bad indeed, and to add to her misdeeds her health suffers through her folly, and thus she wantonly imposes a grievous tax on the purse and patience of her parents. For a girl to be idle in the flush of her youth is to invite any and all kinds of calamities to befall her with blistering anguish, and depend upon it, the downward career of most afflicted women may be primarily traced to this early and wicked habit, for it is nothing else, it being as easy for a young woman to be industrious as the reverse.

Marrying His Grandmother.

Colonel Thornton, of the East India service, tells thus the romance of his youth: One clear starlight evening in June Helen and I were walking on the terrace among flower beds that were cut in the soft green turf. Inspired by the stillness and odorless influence of the air, I told her my heart's secret, with all hopes and fears. She looked up at me wonderingly, and tears glistened in her beautiful eyes as she said: "Ah, Captain Thornton, are you sure? Do you—do you love me? It cannot be. No never." "Why," I cried, impetuously pressing my suit, "you love another." "Sir," she said, almost sharply, "do you know who I am?" "The loveliest girl in England." "No, sir; I am not. Great heavens, Captain Thornton, I am your grandmother." "My grandmother?" I talk of sudden shocks after that, "won't you?" I tried to speak, but my voice failed me. I reached out my hand and touched her. Yes, she was there, real enough, and I was not dreaming. "Tell me all," I gasped. "And standing there, by the broad stone coping, she told me all. How her parents had died when she was little more than an infant, and Sir John, her guardian and my grandfather, had watched over her with jealous care, always keeping her at school, however, until he brought her home—a young lady. "Then, while I was in India, the poor old man fell suddenly ill and on his dying bed persuaded his young ward to marry him, just in order to inherit his vast estate, which she refused as a legacy. "And, believe," said Miss Helen, "I did it only to keep it for you, the rightful heir, whose wickedness had temporarily provoked the old gentleman."

American Wines Abroad.

The *Egalite* (Marseilles), speaking of the prospects of American vintages, says that the wines produced in North America have generally been made from the grape of the V. Labrusca, the least valuable of all American vines, and that their remarkable flavor has prevented them from gaining any position in the estimation of connoisseurs. The wine of South America however, promise much better results. That produced from the variety or family known as *Aestivalis* has lately improved greatly in quality, and is likely to enter into general consumption. The *Cordifolia* has produced good wine; the *Elvira* is declared to be "equal to the best *vin ordinaire* of French vineyards;" the Cunningham is a white wine which, with special care, may be made as good as the best white Roussillon. The Jacquez, Black July, and Cynthia yield a wine of ordinary quality, of deep color, and free from any peculiar flavor. The Herbe-mont is a light, alcoholic, wine, which will make an excellent dinner wine. The Clinton has less delicacy and a strange flavor, which may, however, be cured by careful fermentation and by cultivation. All American wines are said to be improved by mixing several kinds of grapes, and, though French vintages are said to be beyond reach of any serious competition from this quarter, it is admitted that wines produced on the other side of the Atlantic will, with careful preparation, one day merit a high place among wines for ordinary consumption. The coarse Labrusca wines sell in the United States for 200¢ to 250¢ (80 to 110) per hectolitre (twenty-two gallons), and the production is about 600,000 hectolitres, half of which is grown in California.—*London Times.*

Political Gossip.

Senator Conkling is said to work eighteen hours a day.
Among the duties of the next North Carolina Legislature will be the election of about 1,000 magistrates.
—General R. L. T. Beale is brought forward as a candidate for the seat in Congress made vacant by the death of Hon. Beverly B. Douglas, of Virginia.

—A Virginia "colored man and taxpayer" advises the nomination of Allen G. Thurman, of Ohio, for President, and John L. Mayre, of Virginia, for Vice-President, by the Democrats in 1880.

—Sam Cary writes to Warren, Pa., that he does not think "the Nationals did their duty, but still they broke up the Democratic party anyhow," and also intimates that he would accept an engagement to lecture at \$75 per night.

—There is a feeling among the members of the Delaware Legislature for an investigation of the fee system that holds in the State. It is claimed by the advocates of investigation that enough money can be saved to the State each year to pay the current expenses of the State government.

—The Democratic Legislature of Arkansas convenes January 13, and the second Monday thereafter proceeds to elect a successor to the United States Senator Dorsey. Candidates are as plenty as huckleberries in in harvest but J. D. Walker a leading and popular lawyer, is thought to head the list. Among his more prominent competitors are the venerable Robert W. Johnson, ex-governor Henry M. Rector, M. L. Bell, General G. D. Boyston and J. F. Jones.

Personal Gossip.

—General Burnside is the best dressed man in the United States Senate.

—Ex-Governor Cooke, of the District of Columbia, is said to have made a fortune recently from Colorado mines.

—London *Truth* says it takes six hours merely to read Tennyson's new play, and hopes it may be contracted if it is ever acted.

—Archbishop Purcell is seventy-nine years old, and begun his labors in Cincinnati when there was but one Catholic church in the city.

—The famous French actress Croizette, in playing in "Le Sphinx," wears a novel costume in the shape of a sealskin dress that cost \$5,000.

—Subscriptions to the fund to supply some memorial to the late Earl Russell are being received at the Mansion House in London. The maximum limit of a subscription is \$50.

—About the Princess Louise.—Mr. Dunbar, a Rhode Island artist, is at Ottawa, to obtain a sitting for a bust. Her Royal Highness has expressed disapproval of the photographs and pictures of her which are in circulation, and has promised a Montreal photographer a sitting.

—The Master of the Rolls, in England, has granted an injunction applied for by the mistress of a girl's school against a bill sticker who posted opposite her door "playcards, some of which bore sketches of articles of gentlemen's attire." What the dreadful articles were is not known.

—Mr. Spurgeon continues to be a martyr to rheumatism and unable to resume his pastoral duties. He recently wrote to his congregation:—"I cannot stand for even five minutes. During the night I have been fiercely attracted by rheumatism in the back and loins, and I now feel quite prostrate. How I long to speak again in the name of the Lord! Accept my hearty love. May God bless the two brethren who so kindly fill my place. Pray for me, and let nothing flag."

Gas-Lit Buoys.

That the buoys which mark channels and wrecks are sometimes destroyed or displaced by vessels running along the coast on dark nights is well known. After two trials of lighted buoys, therefore, the Trinity Board have resolved upon sending a buoy of which the lantern can be kept continuously burning, to a station off Dundee. The first of these trials took place in August last at the Trinity Wharf, when the light lasted uninterruptedly for twenty-eight days. Water was pumped upon it from a steam engine, to see what would be the effect of the shock and drenching, and no harm was done. The buoy was then sent down to the Nore, and there burned steadily for twenty-four days. The same buoy has now left London for its appointed place near Dundee. Provision has been made for keeping it alight without any interference for thirty-four days. It is a buoy of most awkward construction; but this does not lessen its usefulness, and others are being more skillfully made to receive the same illuminating apparatus. This is a modification of what is known as Pintch's compressed gas system, which was first brought out in Germany. It is proposed to make the buoy itself the receptacle for containing the compressed gas, with its regulator (which is one of the most important points of the invention), and the lantern at the top of a short conducting tube. A buoy of ordinary size will burn about three months night and day with only one filling, and the light is visible at a distance of about four miles. There is, however, in existence an electric lighting apparatus which might be employed, so that the light could be extinguished at sunrise and restored at night, giving, of course, a much longer duration to the working of the buoy. It will be interesting to see the result of this experiment, as the success of the scheme would be a boon to navigation.

