



The Sabbath Recorder.

Wednesday, July 11, 1867. GEORGE B. UTTER, EDITOR.

COMMENCEMENT WEEK AT ALFRED.

The Anniversary Exercises of Alfred University, for the year just closed, have been attended throughout by large and apparently interested audiences. The year has been one of great success, and the general expectation of a good time at the close has been fully met.

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in its commencement, but improved to the end. The Valedictory, by A. Waffle, was well written and well spoken. We felt at the close, that the evening's entertainment, although an hour too long, had been entirely creditable to the Society, and one which the others would find hard to beat.

The Alfredian Lyceum, Tuesday morning, July 2. The large chapel was again well filled with a waiting audience. The music of this session was performed by the members of the Society, and the opening piece was composed for them by Prof. Stillman. The Salutatory was spoken by Eusebia York, and was good in its simplicity.

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explanations of a shoddy religion as well as upon his other points. We were left in doubt as to his real sentiments. We also wanted to hear, since the address was to students, of a sham education. Mr. Whipple is quite an ordinary speaker, but a good writer. The richness of his thoughts, and the sharpness of his hits, interested and satisfied the audience, notwithstanding the uncountness of his delivery and gestulation, furnishing another illustration of the fallacy of the oft-repeated idea, that a "pleasing address" is of more account to an audience than the subject-matter.

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ronage is less, but that its scholarship is more. A young college can only graduate numbers by hurrying through those who are not entitled to it. This degrades the reputation of a school, wrongs those who have earned their diplomas, and even injures those who have unjustly received them. As a friend of the school, then, we were glad to learn of the small number of the graduates, and also to learn, that while the course of study had been greatly strengthened, these had gone through it all. We heard no fault-finding, as in some other years, that some were graduated by "special favor," though only academic students or new-fledged collegians. Of the graduates, Mr. Burdick goes to Rockville, R. I., as pastor of the church there; Mr. Lewis to Hopkinton, to take charge of the Academy, while Mr. Waterbury is engaged as Teacher in the Normal Department of his Alma Mater. We think they will all reflect honor upon the school. We were informed that they were all engaged long ago, showing the increasing call for men. Whether Miss Waterbury was engaged, we were not advised, but should not wonder, since the demand for women seems about equal to that for men.

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tion, presented and read the corresponding letter of that body, and made a statement of the proceedings of the Association, referring particularly to their efforts in the cause of Education and Sabbath-schools. On motion of Thos. E. Babcock, Bro. Clarke was cordially invited to participate in the deliberations of this Association.

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their pastor; also stating that they were thankful for past favors shown them with regard to missionary labor, and that they should appreciate like favors in the future. At a meeting held on the 10th of October, 1866, it was voted to assist the New Auburn Church in supporting their pastor to the amount of \$100.00 for the year ending September 1, 1867.

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The Seventh-day Baptist North-Western Association, in account with Zina Gilbert, Treasurer. Missionary Funds Received. Amount received of churches, \$150 31. June 24, 1866, Collection taken at the Association, 31 00.

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on the understanding that the subject presented would be discussed in a Sabbath School Convention, which would follow the Association. The fifth resolution, after remarks made by Varnum Hull, William C. Whitford, D. E. Maxson, Leman Andrus, A. H. Lewis, and Joshua Clarke, A. B. Prentice, J. W. Stillman, A. H. Lewis, C. M. Lewis, and James Bailey, was on motion of James Bailey, laid upon the table.

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Miscellaneous

GORILLAS AT LARGE.

An extraordinary scene occurred in the town of Bolper, in Derbyshire, England, not long ago. Three gorillas escaped from a menagerie, frightened the people of the town, and then took a walk on the road. The affair is described by a local journal.

Mr. Manders immediately detached a messenger to the various lodgings of the keepers, grooms, &c., attached to the menagerie, and on their arrival were devised for the recapture of the gorillas. This was much more easily arranged than carried out.

But if the Arctic night can be endured with little strain upon the physical, it is, nevertheless, a severe trial both to the moral and the intellectual faculties. The darkness which so long clothes nature, unfolds to the senses a new world, and the senses accommodate themselves to that world but poorly.

And yet there is in the Arctic night much that is attractive to the lover of nature. There is in the flashing Aurora, in the play of the moonlight upon the hills and icebergs, in the wonderful clearness of the starlight, in the broad expanse of the icefields, in the lofty grandeur of the mountains and glaciers, in the naked ferocity of the storms, much that is both sublime and beautiful.

Nature is here exposed to a gigantic scale. Out of the glassy sea the cliffs rear their dark fronts, and from grimly over the desolate waste of ice-cold waters. The mountain peaks, glittering in the clear, cold atmosphere, pierce the very heavens, their heads hazy with unnumbered ages.

person, and we may add, that a new flooring of a more substantial character having been laid down in the caravan, the three runaways were consigned to their old quarters, and the menagerie left Belper in the course of the same evening.

WALTER SCOTT.

Scott has done more for Edinburgh than all her great men put together. Burns has hardly left a trace of himself in the northern capital. During his residence there, his spirit was soared, and he was taught to drink whisky punch—obligations which he repaid by addressing "Edinburgh, Scotia's darling seat," in a copy of his latest verses. Scott discovered that the city was beautiful—the whole of the dens were properly fastened, and a night watchman, as usual, left in charge.

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Arctic winter, she has wrapped the world in a winding-sheet, and thrown her web and woof over the very face of Nature.

I have wandered away to some distant valley, where all sounds were hushed, and the very air was still and solemn as the tomb. And it is here that the Arctic night is most impressive, where its true spirit is revealed, where its wonders are unveiled to sport and play with the mind's vague imaginings.

HARVESTING IN JAPAN.

By the middle of May, the rape, wheat, and barley fields, begin to turn, and under the warm sun this ripening is rapidly perfected. Harvesting begins about the 25th of May, and lasts through June. These dates are particularly for the country about the Yeddo Bay.

FASHION AS A RULER.

Fashion rules the world; and a most tyrannical mistress she is—compelling people to submit to the most inconvenient things imaginable, for her sake.

She pinches our feet with tight shoes, or chokes with a tight neckerchief, or squeezes the breath out of our body by tight lacing.

She makes people sit up by night, when they ought to be in bed; and keeps them in bed in the morning, when they ought to be up and doing.

She ruins health, and produces sickness; destroys life, and occasions premature death. She makes fools of parents, invalids of children, and servants of all.

good authorities say after five years, the age of a horse can only be conjectured. But the teeth gradually change their form, the incisors becoming round, oval, and then triangular. Dealers sometimes bishop the teeth of old horses; that is, scoop them out to imitate the mark; but this can be known by the absence of the white edge of enamel which always surrounds the real mark, by the shape of the teeth and other marks of age about the animal.

AN AIR GUN.

The following is a description of an air gun as usually made now-a-days, and which was the incident of a murder at Brooklyn a few days ago.

LESSONS OF THE WAR.

It is a singular instance of ignorance of our own resources in naval warfare, that while the Monitor's 15-inch guns were used originally with only thirty-five pounds of powder, since the war a charge of one hundred pounds has been safely used, while at the recent trial of the 20-inch gun at Fort Hamilton, the charges were gradually raised from 125 pounds of mamoeth-gum powder at the first shot to 200 pounds at the fourth shot.

ODDS AND ENDS.

A remarkable confession, for a newspaper to make, is found in a late number of the Atlanta News-Free. The editor says: "If the Era this morning is less spicy than usual, it is because we received but few exchanges yesterday, and they were rather bare of news. We give no editorial, for the simple reason that we have nothing to write about. When we have anything to say, our readers will be sure to find it out."

There is a German parambulating in England, named Herr Ernst Schultz, who obtains a handsome living by making faces. At his exhibitions he amuses the audience by depicting, by changes of countenance, the different passions which are wont to agitate by turns the human breast.

At the Royal Palace in Berlin, forty thousand wax candles are instantaneously lighted with a single match. The wicks are previously conjoined by a thread run from gun cotton, on lighting one of which all the candles are lighted simultaneously, and thus the whole of the seven hundred apartments were illuminated at once.

Mrs. S. Leonard, of Blackington, Adams, received a visit recently from a brother whom she had not heard from in twenty years, and had supposed to be dead. He had been living all the time at St. Johnsville, N. Y., less than a day's journey away, had been married twice, and raised a family.

thereupon. This impels the sap into the two buds next below the cluster, which soon push strongly and produce another cluster of flowers each. When these are visible, the branch to which they belong is also topped down to their level; and this is done five times successively. By this means the plants become stout dwarf bushes, not above eighteen inches high. In order to prevent their falling over, sticks or strings are stretched horizontally along the rows, so as to keep the plants erect. In addition to this, all the laterals that have no flowers, and, after the fifth topping, all laterals whatsoever, are nipped off. In this way the ripe sap is directed into the fruit, which acquires a beauty, size, and excellence unattainable by other means.

It requires time to make it, and is simply a tube of about three feet in length, hollow throughout, and made of highly wrought iron. It is divided into two nearly equal lengths, the upper part toward the head forming the air-chamber, and the lower half the barrel from which the projectile is discharged. The two sections are screwed together, and when united fit so closely that the seam is not apparent, except upon the closest examination. When it is to be prepared, for use the sections are separated, and by means of a pump, which, for the time being, is attached to the upper end of the tube, the chamber is filled with compressed air. This operation completed, the pump is removed, a tight fitting cap is screwed upon the open end, the barrel is attached, and the weapon is then, so far as the motive power is concerned, ready for use. The bullet known to the trade as "size No. 140," or about twice as large as a common pea, is then passed into the barrel and "rammed home," where it remains until discharged by an ingenious contrivance. Upon one side of the barrel, just below the joint of the two sections, is a small hole, into which a key is fitted, and turned so that the steel knob is forced to stand out from the opposite side of the barrel. The key is then withdrawn, and the bullet is to be sent upon its destructive mission, the weapon is raised, aim is taken by means of eight-pieces on the barrel, the knob is pressed by the index finger of the left hand, a valve in the air-chamber is thereby opened, and so strong air is released to discharge the bullet. The air-chamber once filled, thirty bullets may be discharged without replenishing, but not more than the tenth one may be relied upon to penetrate the object. The distance at which the weapon is effective, is from 50 to 125 feet. Many of the air guns of English manufacture have rifle barrels, and are loaded at the breach. In an experiment made a short time since, in a shooting-gallery in New York, bullets were driven from an air gun cane, through a German white-wax plank an inch and a half in diameter, and that at the average distance of thirty yards. The noise which accompanies the discharge of the weapon is hardly perceptible, the report being similar to the snapping of a small whip-lash. This fact makes the air gun an exceedingly dangerous instrument in the hands of an assassin. In the Brooklyn murder referred to, had not the police officer been in close proximity to the scene at the time, and observed the fall of the victim and the flight of the murderer, the deed might have remained forever an insoluble mystery.

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TRAINS GOING EAST.

From Buffalo, will leave by New York from depot on Exchange and Michigan at 12:30 P.M. New York City Express, leaving Buffalo at 12:30 P.M., arrives in New York at 10:30 P.M., connects at Grand Central with Delaware and Hudson, and Westchester and Albany.

TRAINS GOING WEST.

From New York, will leave by Buffalo from depot on Exchange and Michigan at 12:30 P.M. Buffalo Express, leaving New York at 12:30 P.M., arrives in Buffalo at 10:00 A.M., connects at Buffalo with Delaware and Hudson, and Westchester and Albany.