

TICKETS TO ELYSIUM AT REDUCED RATES.

A meeting of the "American Systematic Beneficent Society," was held in this city, a few days ago, at which a grand scheme of relieving Sunday-School children of their coppers, was proposed. It was stated that the Society had quite given up the idea of obtaining contributions from Christian men and women, and now desired to see what could be done among the young. The wind is to be raised in this manner;—the Society constitutes itself a stock company, with a capital of "ten millions of dollars, in forty millions of shares, at twenty-five cents each." Here is a copy of the certificate:

"This certifies that _____ is the holder of _____ shares in the Sabbath-school Charity Fund. Stockholders are guaranteed to receive one hundred times as much as they put in, (Matt. xix. 29.) Those who continue to pay into the fund as much as six cents a week for three years in succession, to be Life Members of the American Systematic Beneficence Society. Those who do this for six years, to be Honorary Managers for Life. Those who do this for ten years, to be Honorary Vice Presidents for Life. Those who do this (from love to Christ) while they live, will have free admission, through the gates, into the Heavenly City, a Snow-white Robe, a Heavenly Harp, a Crown of Gold, and a seat at the right-hand of the final Judge."

From this it will be observed that the fare to heaven *via* the "Systematic Beneficent Society," is reduced to accommodate nearly all classes, except, indeed, the very poor. The price of assured salvation, is set down at the extremely low rate of \$3.12 per annum. It may be well for pew-holders and others to take this advantageous offer into consideration.

It is only just to observe that several respectable and influential Christian gentlemen, present at this meeting, objected to the proposition of levying contributions upon the Sunday-school children, or turning the schools themselves into begging shops. The idea of collecting a weekly tax from young students of the gospel, to be used nobody knows how, will be frowned down by parents generally.

L March 7-58-
See next p- ante 242-96-

EVENING BULLETIN.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1858.

THE ABUSE OF DOOR-BELLS.

Every housekeeper who is nervous on the subject of the constant ringing of door-bells, and every maid-of-all-work, whose duty it is to "answer the door," will, we are sure, agree with us in the declaration that door-bells, as an institution, are liable to so many abuses that instead of being a convenience, they are rapidly degenerating into first-class nuisances. The scribblers who ran down Pope's house, and who caused him to write the egotistical lines commencing with

"Tie up the knocker, say I'm sick, I'm dead," could not, even admitting the truthfulness of Pope's complaint, have been so great a nuisance as the repeated ringings and knockings of the army of beggars, and the legion of small dealers who each day, and almost each minute, worry and annoy every housekeeper in the city.

To be supposed to be able to assist all the needy, and willing to buy all the small articles that are offered for sale, is a penalty of living in a decent house in a respectable neighborhood, and we are only surprised that Biddy, when arranging the terms upon which she will enter upon domestic service, does not stipulate that there shall be no door-bell or knocker, or that a special pair of legs shall be provided for this service. Servants of the present generation usually bargain that there shall be hot and cold water in the kitchen, and that there shall be no children in the family; but if we were in that line of business, we are not quite certain whether we would not rather bring water from a pump half a square distant, and have as many juvenile responsibilities as the celebrated "old woman who lived in a shoe," than be com-

pelled to "answer the door" on the call of every beggar or itinerant who may think proper to offer him or herself and set the house in an uproar by the able-bodied manner in which the bell pull is jerked.

Seriously, this thing has become a serious nuisance. There is no means of knowing, when the door-bell is pulled, whether the puller is a visiter to the family, or one of the tribe of pests referred to. When the bell is thus rung, the servant, whether engaged in cooking, dressing the children, or at some other task which cannot conveniently be laid aside, is compelled to drop every thing and walk from the kitchen at the extreme rear of the house, to the front door at the other extremity, to find a beggar or some impudent dealer in patent varnishes, or some other humbug, who is not satisfied with the trouble he has already given, but he must needs insist upon seeing the "lady of the house" also.

Some of these hawkers are not content with giving one tramp to the front door for nothing; but by a refinement of trouble-giving, they hand in a specimen of writing paper, or needles, or of flash literature upon their first visit, with a card setting forth that they will call again next day for an answer, and the bored house-keeper is moreover coolly instructed to take good care of the circular or package until it is called for! The next day the bore calls again, and after the servant has been summoned to the door, she has to start upon an exploring expedition through the house in search of the parcel left by the itinerant, who gives other people more trouble in gaining his living than he gives himself.

The person who would invent some remedy for this annoying evil would be a benefactor to his race, and we suggest the subject to the notice of inventors. Door-bells are a necessary evil, as the institution is at present managed, or rather abused; but if, by some ingenious arrangement, the character and errand of the ringer could be ascertained by the maid before she leaves the kitchen, their usefulness would be unalloyed by their present liability to abuse. The nearest approach that we have seen to the attainment of this great domestic desideratum is in the fashion which prevails somewhat extensively in New York, and which has been initiated in some few instances in Philadelphia, of having glass let in the front door near the top. By means of these glazed apertures, the servant can generally discover the character of the bell-puller before opening the door, and if the beggar or botherer finds himself unable to gain admission to houses thus provided with glass panels, they will soon cease to pull their bell-knobs. Cannot some ingenious benefactor of his race, who sympathises with the perplexities of housekeepers and the troubles of weary Biddies, invent some mechanical cure for this evil; some contrivance which, while it will tend to exclude the entire tribe of front door pests, will not interfere with the convenience of ingress of visitors or of those having legitimate business at the house?

Preserving Newspapers.

What so symbolical of loss and waste as a newspaper? It is scarcely a thing of a day—the evening of its publication often finds it out of print, and money is often unable to buy a file of it. Yet it is probable that few books are better worth keeping, so far as future history is concerned, for it is almost entirely in the newspapers that future historians will make researches. In England three copies of each newspaper printed, signed by the publisher, must be sent to the stamp office, which pays full price for them. After the expiration of a year, one complete file of the Journal is transmitted to the British Museum, where they are bound in volumes, and preserved for reference. If this were done, even for the most insignificant country newspapers in the United States, it would be conferring, at small expense, a boon, for which posterity would be truly grateful. As a cotemporary remarks on the subject:—

"If a similar arrangement could be introduced in this country, by which complete files of all county papers authorised to publish legal advertisements, would be required to be placed in the Clerk's office in each county, would it not be of incalculable value as a record of transfer of lands, &c., and save much litigation? And would it not put a

stop to the humbugging and impositions practiced upon the public, by the publishers of some "official" organs, we wot of, in their weekly issues?"

It would be useful in many ways. The entire legal and social records, the names of the founders, and all the most interesting future antiquities, to say nothing of claims to property, only exist in the local paper, of which, in nine cases out of ten, no single file can be found ten years after. Who will say that every state should not pass such a law as that established in England, for the preservation of newspapers?

L March 3-58-

(For the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.)
Review of the Weather, &c., for the Second Month (February.)

	1857.	1858.
Rain during some portion of the 24 hours, 6 days 2 days		
Rain all or nearly all of the day.....	1	0
Snow.....	4	9
Cloudy without storms.....	6	4
Ordinary clear.....	11	13
	28	28

TEMPERATURES, RAINS, DEATHS, &c.

	1857.	1858.
Mean temperature of the month, at Penna. Hospital.....	41.03 deg	29.35 deg
Highest temperature during the month.....	70 deg	52 deg
Lowest temperature during the month.....	9 deg	10 deg
Rain during the month.....	0.79 inc	2.28 inc
Deaths during the month.....	994	746
Average mean temperature of second month for 69 years past.....		30.03 deg
Highest mean temperature of second month for 69 years past (1857)....		41.03 deg
Lowest mean temperature of second month for 69 years past (1815, 1836 and 1838).....		24 deg

WINTER TEMPERATURES.

Mean temperature of 3 winter months of 1856 and 1857.....	32.04 deg
Mean temperature of 3 winter months of 1857 and 1858.....	36.44 deg
Average temperature of 3 winter months for the past 68 years.....	30.99 deg
Lowest temperature of 3 winter months during the past 68 years (1814, '15, '35 and '36)....	26.66 deg
Highest temperature of 3 winter months during the past 68 years (1827, '28, '50 and '51)....	38.33 deg

The present winter having elicited considerable remark, it may not be amiss to give the following comparative statement of the mean temperature of the winter months of this and last seasons, viz:

12th Mo., 1856.....32.72 deg.	1st Mo., 1857.....22.37 deg.
12th Mo., 1857.....40.25 "	1st Mo., 1858.....39.72 "
2d Mo., 1857.....41.03 deg.	
2d Mo., 1858.....29.35 "	

From the above it will be seen that the high temperature of the winter just closed has not been unparalleled, although last January occupies that position in a comparison extending through a period of sixty-five years, with but two exceeding it during a period of sixty-nine years, four years further back.

The decrease in the number of deaths for several months past is also worthy of remark, as per following statement, viz:

12th Mo., 1856.....956	1st Mo., 1857.....1387
12th Mo., 1857.....663	1st Mo., 1858.....907
2d Mo., 1857.....994	
2d Mo., 1858.....746	

To make the comparison for First Month (January) a fair one, 248 must be deducted from the record for 1857—five weeks having there been computed; it will then stand:—For 1857, 1089, and for 1858, 907 deaths. Philad'a, Third Month 6th, 1858. J. M. E.

A LARGE TENT.—The Young Men's Christian Association have undertaken an important work. At a business meeting, held after prayers at the church of Rev. Mr. Crowell, in Penn Square, on Tuesday night, they resolved to take in charge a large tent, planned by a number of gentlemen of Norristown, to be used during the summer for preaching in destitute localities. The tent is now being constructed, and is to consist of four apartments, capable of being thrown into one, with the capacity of holding four thousand persons. It will be inaugurated about the 1st of May. Rev. John Chambers will preach the opening sermon.

L April 11-58-

EASTER MONDAY.—Easter Monday is kept to-day as a sort of semi-holiday. In days gone by, it was the fashion with a certain class, to go to Easter Hill, below the city, on Easter Monday, and roll eggs down the hill. In the progress of improvements, Easter Hill has disappeared to make way for streets and houses; but a famous old tavern in that neighborhood, which was immensely popular in its time, still stands, and the only egg-rolling done there now, is the rolling of the hen fruit down the throats of the patrons of the establishment, said eggs being mingled with milk, sugar and brandy.

L April 5-58-

Nov. 26-58-

Sale of Real Estate.—The sale of lots, made on Wednesday afternoon, by the "Associated Butchers and Drovers," of their real estate in the Twenty-fourth Ward, amounted in the aggregate to 37 acres, at an average price of \$2000 per acre. It was taken by the stockholders, in lots of from a quarter of an acre to a whole square of six acres. The bidding was very spirited and the prices realized were a little over the estimated value assessed by the Committee a few days ago.