# Saint Mary's Beacon

VOL. X — LEONARDTOWN, MD., THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 13, 1873 — NO. 20



## ST. MARY'S BEACON

IS PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY

J. F. KING & JAMES S. DOWNS.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—$2.00 per annum to be paid within six months. No subscription will be received for a shorter period than six months and no paper to be discontinued until all arrearages are paid except at the option of the publisher.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—75 cents per square for the first insertion, and 50 cents for every subsequent insertion. Eight lines or less constitute a square. If the number of insertions be not marked on the advertisement, it will be published until forbid, and charged accordingly. A liberal deduction made to those who advertise by the year.

Communications of a personal character will be charged, at the same rates as advertisements; obituaries over ten lines in length will be charged at the rate of 50 cents per square.

All communications for publication must be accompanied with the real name of the author, or no attention will be paid to them. The real name of the author will not be published unless desired, but we cannot consent to insert communications unless we know the writer.



*THE ILLUSTRATED*

Phrenological Journal,

*VOLUME FIFTY-SIX*, 1873.

The Science of mind is the central point around which revolves the whole circle of the sciences. It is the key to universal knowledge, and self-knowledge is the key to the Science of Mind.

Phrenology, the basis of Mental Philosophy. Shows how human character and capacity are related to the universal laws; and how humanity is harmonized with Divinity.

"Know Thyself"—Since the Grecian sage inscribed the immortal words on the Temple of Delphi, the world has struggled toward a solution of the problems of human existence.

The Origin of Races, involving the Origin of Life, earnestly discussed by Ethnologists and Physiologists, cannot fail to interest the truth-seeker.

Physiology and Psychology are prominent features, embracing the subjects of Soul, Mind, Bodily Structures and Functions, Social Relations, Education, Religion, Criminal Jurisprudence, etc.

Physiognomy and Temperaments, Signs of Character, Peculiarities of Organization considered, with illustrations from life.

Self-Improvement—All the gains of Science and Art should be applied to perfecting ourselves and improving the race.

Happy Homes are the result of a normal education and development, and a life according to the laws of life.

The Phrenological Journal for 1873—will keep pace with the march of events, scientific, social, and political, and seek to declare the good and true.

TERMS.—Monthly, at $3 a year, in advance. Single numbers, 30 cts. Clubs of ten or more, $2 each. And the

ANXIOUS MOTHER,

a splendid Oil Chromo, price $5, given to every subscriber. Phrenological Journal, $3; Science of Health, $2 and the Chromo $5, all for $4.50. Our Chromo is now ready for delivery. If sent by mail, mounted and varnished, ready for framing, 50 cents extra required. Agents wanted. Cash commissions given. Address S. R. WELLS, Publisher, 389 Broadway, N. Y.

Feb 20, 1873.

*THE SCIENCE OF HEALTH.*

The Science of Health having been sustained altogether beyond our expectations, we are prepared to respond more fully to the popular demand for an honest and independent Hygienic Organ. We shall publish:—

Popular Physiology, Illustrated, a complete explanation of the structures and functions, of the human system; succinct and clear expositions, illustrated, of various diseases, with advice for their cure.

All Medical Systems, giving a history of all medical theories that have prevailed in all ages of the world.

Domestic Economy, Household Affairs, Hygienic Cookery, the Selection and Preservation of Food etc.

The Economy of Health.—By adopting the Hygienic system, people would prevent the enormous waste caused by sickness and improper living.

The Labor Problem.—Correct habits will insure the worker Health and Strength, pre-requisites for his independence.

Health is Happiness.—Health reform is the basis of all reform. What is more valuable than a sound mind in a sound body?

Terms—$2 a year; single numbers, 20 cts.; ten copies, $15, and an extra copy to agent.—The

ANXIOUS MOTHER,

a splendid Oil Chromo, price $5, given to every new subscriber. Our Chromos are now ready for delivery. If sent by mail mounted and varnished, ready for framing, 30 cts. extra must be sent for each picture.

Premiums.—Besides Club Rates, we are offering liberal premiums, a list of which will be sent on application. Local Agents wanted everywhere, and cash commissions given. Send P. O. Orders; or, registered Letter. Address all letters to S. R. WELLS, Publisher, 389 Broadway, New York.

Feb 20, 1873—

## Dental Notice.

I respectfully offer my services to those who may desire them. All operations performed upon the teeth known to the profession of Dentistry.—Persons desiring my services at their homes will meet with prompt attention by dropping me a note at Leonardtown. Teeth inserted in any manner desired, and at reasonable prices. Office and residence in Leonardtown, St. Mary's county, Md. Very Respectfully,

PAGE EDMUNDS.

Dec 14, 1871—tf.

## PUMPS! PUMPS!!

BLATCHLEY'S CUCUMBER WOOD PUMPS for sale for any depth of well at reduced prices. Every pump guaranteed and fixed ready for the well. Call and examine or address

J. T. ballenger,
Mechanicsville,
St. Mary's co., Md.

Aug 8, 1872—tf.

## The American Farmer.

This old standard monthly journal of agriculture begins a new volume January 1st.—Special attention is paid—besides that given the staple crops—to STOCK BREEDING, FRUIT GROWING, THE DAIRY, &c. Some of the most successful of American agriculturists contribute to its pages. It is PRACTICAL, SUBSTANTIAL, RELIABLE! Subscription $1.50 a year. To clubs of five or more, only $1 each. Very handsome premiums for clubs. Specimen Nos. free.

SAML. SANDS & SON, Publishers, Balt. Md.

Jan 16, 1873—2t.


(Written for the Beacon.)

### TO MARY.

Oft at eve upon the Wye,
Where waves are flowing sweetly by,
I pause to hear the gentle breeze
That sighs among the leafless trees.
I view the scene on every side—
The forest oaks there waving wide—
Where oft with thee, within the grove,
Upon the hill, or winding cove,
Mid falling leaves and fading flowers
We whiled away those happy hours.
The trees then clothed in gold and red,
By Autumn winds their leaves are shed.
No more in music now is heard
Thy voice of glee, nor song of bird,
And not a sound that echoes there
Above the waters bright and clear,
But brings to memory something dear,
Yet sweet to me may it appear,
As when in the skiff upon the tide
With thee at eve I loved to glide,
And gazing thro' the crystal wave
Thine image to the waters gave
A dye of pure and brighter glow
Than all the gems there hid below.
I saw it then, I see it now,
Thy graceful form and pensive brow,
In fancy, yet how sweet the dream!
Oh wake my harp a sweeter theme!
Not as a meteor streaming high
That spangles brightly through the sky,
But like those rays so soft and bright,
That burns with pure unceasing light,
As like the star that dawns at day
And guides the wanderer on his way.
Such as my star of love would be
Whose light is gone and lost to me.

(From the Port Tobacco Times.)

### MARYLAND MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF BALTIMORE

MR WELLS:—*Dear Sir*,—I wish to say a few words in reference to the above Insurance Company, and of insurance companies generally.

This Company started some four years ago, on the mutual plan, and of course had no capital. It had to be built up by policy holders, as all do on the mutual plan. The company solicited members through its agents, and whilst it has done tolerably well, it has not done a fourth part of what it should. The note capital is now fifty odd thousand dollars, when it should have been at least two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and had its operations been in any other part of the State except in the lower counties, it would have been.

Now, I do not think our people fairly understand our position with regard to insurance companies. There is not another mutual insurance company in the State of Maryland that will insure a dollar's worth of property for the citizens of the lower counties. I speak advisedly of this matter. The President of the Montgomery County Mutual Fire Insurance Company, the venerable Edward Stabler, was solicited in person to try and induce his company to extend their risks to Charles and St. Mary's counties, and he promised to use his influence with the directors for that purpose, and did so, but they positively refused to do it, saying that the company was large, and of course wealthy, and could get more risks than they wanted nearer home.

This company started just as the Maryland did, without a dollar of capital, and it has been in operation twenty-five years; has paid all its losses and expenses, and now has a note capital of some eight hundred thousand dollars, and has a cash income of some thirty-five or forty thousand dollars annually, with only interest on the premium notes at 4 per cent, and until the last two years the interest was but 3 per cent; but, like most every company in the United States, its losses has been great the last few years, and it was deemed necessary to increase the interest. I am not able to say whether this company has ever found it necessary in its infancy to assess its premium notes. There are a few persons in this county who were insured in this company many years ago, and I do know that they have been refused any new risks on any property not heretofore insured. So much for the Montgomery.

The Baltimore County Mutual Fire Insurance Company started some sixteen or eighteen years ago, and sent an agent through the lower counties soliciting members, and got quite a large number, and among the rest, the writer of this. Well, like the Maryland, it was unfortunate in the lower counties; in our own county, in a very short space of time its losses were very heavy, having to pay for the dwellings of Mrs. Crain, Mrs. Robertson, Hon. F. Stone and the late Judge Burgess, and there may have been others. This so alarmed the company that it made a deduction of 25 per cent. on all its risks in the lower counties, and in a short time thereafter cancelled all its policies and withdrew its protection entirely from us, which I think, was a great outrage on our people; but the company grew rich and did not need us. The writer of this has several times solicited this company to insure his property as a special favor and they have always refused. So much for the Baltimore County Company.

The Maryland Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Baltimore was started expressly for the benefit of the lower counties of Maryland, officered in part by our own citizens—our county having two directors, Judge Brent and George P. Jenkins, Esq., and George Combs, Esq., of St. Mary's county, being three out of the eight directors; and these gentlemen are men of high integrity and business qualifications, and would not be parties to any transaction that was not highly honorable.

Now, it is clearly shown that we have but this company to look to, and if we would do for it as the Baltimore company and the Montgomery company has been done by—that is, for *all* our people to insure in this company, and for the present members to come forward promptly and pay their interest and assessment, without complaint, and to insist on and induce their neighbors to insure, in a very short time this company would stand as the companies of other counties do, and instead of having to be assessed, their premium would be reduced.

This can never be accomplished by its members complaining of the assessment, and in many cases withdrawing. It is clearly shown by the annual statement of the executive committee, that the relative rates of this company with stock companies, and with the assessment added to the interest, it is in favor of the mutual company by over a fifth; and if our people would only take hold of this matter as they should, we would in all probability never have to be assessed again. As regards the expense of this company, I do not think it at all large—$2 000 is certainly a very small expense for an insurance company paying a president and clerk, directors, office rent, agents' fees, printing, stationery, postage, etc, etc.—It is evident that you cannot get men to devote their time and talents unless they get paid, and it would be wrong to wish it. I do not know what the president's salary is, but it cannot be large, when so many other expenses have to come out of the $2,000—he also acting as secretary and treasurer; but I do not know that he devotes his entire time to his office. I have had considerable business relations with this officer, and must say, that in an experience of twenty-five or thirty years, I have never met with a more prompt business man; and he is always willing and ready to show to the smallest policy holder in the company the condition and workings of the same, and in fact he takes great pleasure in so doing. Now, about our losses: they have been nearly $12,000, in the last two years. Who were the loosers and got paid—men that we never heard of? Not at all; but parties right amongst us—men known to us; and our county has received its full share, Mr. John Hamilton receiving $5,000; Mr. Daniel Payne at Budd's Creek, St. Mary's county, receiving $2,400, Mr. Franklin Ching, also at Budd's Creek, receiving $1,000, Mr. Wm. Briscoe, at St. Clement's Bay, receiving some $600 or $700, and the other persons receiving the balance I do not know. Who knows who may be the next to lose? and those who have been benefited by the company would have to pay their part. This company made a great mistake, I think, in the start, by taking the risks at too small a premium; it should have been at least 8 per cent., and then as it grew in strength to have been reduced, and it should not have taken more than $2,500 in any one risk.

This company can be made a success, if the people so see fit. They should send to the different agents and request them to come and insure their property at once, instead of the agents having to beg and beseech and entreat them to do so, and then to refuse. It is not the object of this company to make money, but purely for one neighbor to protect another by forming themselves into a *mutual benefit company*, and if the people will insure, as they should do, there will be no more assessments. If any part of the State needs the protection of insurance companies all experience shows that lower Maryland does. In regard to Mr. John Hamilton's connection with the company, I would here state that he is the largest policy holder and pays more revenue (save one) than any other member, and has always paid interest and assessment without a murmur, and he has always been one of the company's greatest advocates.

A MEMBER OF THE
MD. MUTUAL FIRE IN CO. OF BALT.


### HOWE.

*How* to do it? is the question
Everybody has to ask,
*How* with weary hearts and fingers
To perform the heavy task.

*How* in time to raise the money
For the notes becoming due,
*How* to carry the election,
*How* to put each pet scheme through.

"*How* to finish all my sewing?"
Asks the housewife in despair,
When you ask it you have said it,
*Howe's* the one to help you there.

HOWE'S MACHINE will do your sewing,
Hemming, braiding, quilting, too,
Cording, tucking, felling, ruffling;
It is just the thing for you.

Take one on trial and see *how* you like it. The Agent, Mr. G. A. Simms, Leonardtown, will spare no pains to have it give perfect satisfaction.


☞ A friend of ours, visiting in a minister's family, where the parents were very strict in regard to the children's Sabbath deportment, was confidently informed by one of the little girls that 'she would like to be a minister.'

'Why?' inquired our friend, rather puzzled to understand what had given the child so sudden an admiration for that calling. She was enlightened by the prompt reply:—

'So I could *holler on Sunday*.'

Men, like types, need justification to make them presentable.

### TALLEYRAND.

In *Temple Bar* we find the story:—

Talleyrand could neither love [illegible] he was a passionless man; he [illegible] mitted a cruel or vindictive [illegible] never a purely motiveless ge[illegible] Every thought, feeling, plan [illegible] revolved round one great [illegible] He could not, as a great st[illegible] created a broad, comprehe[illegible] of Government; his own pe[illegible] dwarfed his ideas. In him the [illegible] faculty was largely developed; [illegible] inative not at all; he trusted to [illegible] tions, to no speculations [illegible] idly derived from his own personal experiences; hence his views, although wonderfully correct, were never all-comprehensive. He understood mankind sectionally; he could almost infallibly foresee how each section would act singly; but of that "touch of nature that makes the whole world kin"—of those subtle links that can mass mankind as a whole, and by which all great rulers have swayed their worlds, he knew nothing. Because no process of mathematical reasoning, no experience, however extended, can deduce them; their existence can only be the inspiration of those creative faculties of the mind that revealed to Shakspeare a Macbeth and a Hamlet. He worked for the greatness of France, because upon the greatness of France depended the greatness of Talleyrand.

He was purely a cynic—the well-being of mankind never for a moment entered into his calculations. To him the world was a chess-board—mankind the pieces; he ranged his kings and his queen, his bishops and his generals, and played them one against the other; when the game was exhausted, and the sovereign was encompassed by enemies beyond all hope of escape, he cried 'Checkmate,' and began the game afresh. It was said of him, "Like a cat, he always falls upon his feet; cats do not follow their masters, they are faithful to—the house." His vices were those of the age in which he was educated; his licentiousness, his cynicism, his scepticism, his selfish contempt for mankind, were learned in the boudoir of DuBarry. In reason and in action he was of the nineteenth century; in thought and in feeling he was of the ancient *regime*. His liberalism had been learned in the school of Voltaire; he accepted the advance of political ideas as a necessity, but with no sympathy.

"The thoughts," he said, "of the greatest number of intelligent persons in any age or country are sure, with few more or less fluctuations, to become in the end the public opinion of their age and community," and he always yielded to public opinion. While attached to any Government, he served it faithfully and zealously; and in all his tergiversations he scrupulously retained the outward forms of decency, reserving to himself a respectable excuse for his defection. "I have never kept fealty to anyone longer than he has himself been obedient to common sense," he said. The most brilliant of his talents was a marvellous and most prophetic foresight, in proof of which I extract the two following quotations from his writing.

The prophesy contained in the first is rapidly coming to pass; that contained in the second has just been wonderfully fulfilled: "Upon the side of America, Europe should always keep her eyes open, and furnish no pretence for recrimination or reprisals. America grows each day. She will become a colossal power, and the time may arrive when, brought into closer communication with Europe by means of new discoveries, she will desire to have her say in our affairs, and put in her hand as well. Political prudence then imposes upon the Government of the Old World to scrupulously watch that no pretext is given her for such an interference. The day that America sets her foot in Europe peace and surety will be banished for many years." Do not let us deceive ourselves; the European balance that was established by the Congress of Vienna will not last forever. It will be overturned some day, but it promises us some years of peace. The greatest danger that threatens in the future are aspirations that are growing universal in Central Germany. The necessities of self-defense and a common peril have prepared all minds for Germanic unity. That idea will continue to develop until some day one of the great Powers who make part of the Confederation will desire to realize that unity for its own profit. Austria is not to be feared, being composed of pieces that have no unity among themselves. It is then Prussia who ought to be watched, she will try, and if she succeeds, all the conditions of the balance of power will be changed; it will be necessary to seek for Europe new bases and new organization.

☞ Our life is a sermon. Our birth is the text from which we start. Youth is the introduction to the discourse. During our manhood we lay down a few propositions and prove them. Some of the passages are dull, others sprightly. Then come inference and applications. At seventy years we say: 'Fifthly and lastly.' The doxology is sung. The book is closed. It is getting cold. Frost on the window pane. Audience gone. Shut up the Church. Sexton goes home with the key on his shoulder.

"I have a great love for old hymns," said a pretty girl to her masculine companion. "I am much fonder of young hers," was the reply.

Right is uppermost, when God judges.

### "DIED POOR."

'It was a sad funeral to me,' said the speaker; 'the saddest that I have attended for many years.'

'That of Edmondson?'

'Yes.'

'How did he die?'

'Poor—poor as poverty. His life was one long struggle with the world, and at every disadvantage. Fortune mocked him all the while with golden promises that were destined never to know fulfillment.'

'Yet he was patient and enduring,' remarked one of the company.

'Patient and enduring as a martyr,' was answered.

'Poor man,' echoed another. 'He was worthy of a better fate. He ought to have succeeded, for he deserved success.'

'Did he not succeed?' questioned the one who had spoken of his patience and endurance.

'No, sir. He died poor, just as I have stated. Nothing that he put his hand to ever succeeded. A very strange fatality seemed to attend every enterprise.'

'I was with him in his last moments,' said the other, 'and thought he died rich.'

'No, he has left nothing behind,' was replied. 'The heirs will have no concern as to the administration of his estate.'

'He left a good name,' said one, 'and that is something.'

'And a legacy of noble deeds that were done in the name of humanity,' remarked another.

'And precious examples,' remarked a third.

'Lessons of patience in suffering; of hope in adversity; of heavenly confidence when no sunbeams fell upon his bewildering path,' was the testimony of another.

'And high truths, manly courage, heroic fortitude.'

'Then he died rich,' was the emphatic declaration. 'Richer than the millionaire who went to his long home on the same day, miserable in all but gold. A sad funeral, did you say? No, my friend, it was a triumphant procession! Not the burial of a human clod, but the ceremonies attendant on the translation of an angel. Did not succeed! Why, his whole life was a series of successes! In every conflict he came off the victor, and now the victor's crown is on his brow. Any grasping, soulless selfish man, with a moderate share of brains, may gather in money and learn the art of keeping it, but not one in a hundred can conquer bravely in the battle of life, as Edmondson has conquered and step forth from the ranks of men a Christian hero. No, no; he did not die poor but rich—rich in neighborly love, and rich in celestial affections. And his heirs have an interest in the administration of his affairs. A large property has been left, and let them see to it that they do not lose precious things through false estimates and ignorant depreciations.'

'You have a new way of estimating the wealth of a man,' said the one who had first expressed sympathy for the deceased.

'Is it not the right way?' was answered. 'There are higher things to gain in this world than wealth that perishes.—Riches of princely value ever reward the true merchant who trades for wisdom, buying it with the silver of truth and the gold of love. He dies rich who can take his treasure with him to the new land where he is to abide forever, and he who has to leave all behind on which he placed his affection, dies poor indeed. Our friend Edmondson died richer than a Girard or an Astor, his monument is built of good deeds and noble examples. It will last forever.

HISTORY OF THE CREDIT MOBILIER.—The Company called the Credit Mobilier of America, was incorporated by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and in 1864 the control of its charter and franchises had been obtained by certain persons, interested in the Union Pacific Railroad Company, for the purpose of using it as a construction company to build the Union Pacific Road. In September, 1864, a contract was entered into between the Union Pacific Company and H. W. Hoxie for the building by said Hoxie of 100 miles of said road from Omaha west. This contract was at once assigned by Hoxie to the Credit Mobilier Company, as it was expected to be when made. Under this contract and extensions of some 200 or 300 miles of road were built by the Credit Mobilier Company, but no considerable profit appears to have been realized therefrom. The enterprise of building a railroad to the Pacific was of such vast magnitude, and was beset by so many hazards and risks, that the capitalists of the country were generally averse to investing in it, and notwithstanding the liberal aid granted by the Government, it seemed likely to fail of completion. In 1865 or 1866, Mr. Oakes Ames, a member of the House from the State of Massachusetts, and his brother, Oliver Ames, became interested in the Union Pacific Company, and also in the Credit Mobilier Company, as the agents for the construction of the road.

In the Spring of 1867, the Credit Mobilier Company voted to add 50 per cent. to their capital stock, which was then $2,500,000 and, to cause it to be readily taken, each subscriber to it was entitled to receive as a bonus an equal amount of first mortgage bonds of the Union Pacific Company. The old stockholders were entitled to take this increase, but even the favorable terms offered did not induce all the old stockholders to take it, and the stock of the Credit Mobilier Company was never considered worth its par value until after the execution of the Oakes Ames' contract hereinafter mentioned.

On the 16th day of August, 1867, a contract was executed between the Union Pacific Railroad and Oakes Ames, by which Mr. Ames contracted to build 667 miles of the Union Pacific Road at prices ranging from $42,000 to $96,000 per mile, amounting in the aggregate to $47,000,000. Before the contract was entered into, it was understood that Mr. Ames was to transfer it to seven trustees who were to execute it, and the profits of the contract were to be divided among the stockholders in the Credit Mobilier Company, who should comply with certain conditions set out in the instrument transferring the contract to the trustees. The Ames contract and the transfer to trustees are incorporated in the evidence submitted, and, therefore, further recital of their terms is not deemed necessary. Subsequently, all the stockholders of the Credit Mobilier Company complied with the conditions named in the transfer, and thus became entitled to share in any profits said trustees might make in executing the contract. All the large stockholders in the Union Pacific were also stockholders in the Credit Mobilier, and the Ames contract and its transfer to trustees were ratified by the Union Pacific and received the assent of the great body of stockholders, but not of all. After the Ames contract had been executed, it was expected by those interested that, by reason of the enormous prices agreed to be paid for the work, very large profits would be derived from building the road, and very soon the stock of the Credit Mobilier was understood to be worth much more than its par value. The stock was not in the market, and had no fixed market value, but the holders of it, in December, 1867, considered it worth at least double the par value, and in January or February, 1868, three or four times the par value; but it does not appear that these facts were generally or publicly known, or that the holders of the stock desired they should be.

LEADING CHILDREN TO GOD.—A mother, sitting at work in her parlor, overheard her child, whom an elder sister was dressing in an adjoining bed-room, say repeatedly as if in answer to his sister:

'No, I don't want to say my prayers and I won't say them.'

'How many church-members in good standing,' thought the mother to herself, 'often say the same thing in heart, though they conceal even from themselves the feeling.

'Mother,' said the child, appearing in a minute or two at the parlor door; the tone and look implied that it was his morning salutation.

'Good morning, my child.'

'I am going out to get my breakfast.'

'Stop a minute; I want you to come and see me first.'

The mother laid down her work in the next chair, as he ran towards her. She took him up. He kneeled in her lap, and laid his face down upon her shoulder, his cheek against her ear. The mother rocked her chair slowly backwards and forwards.

'Are you pretty well this morning?' said she in a gentle tone.

'Yes, mother; I am very well.'

'I am glad you are well. I am very well too; and when I waked up this morning, and found that I was well, I thanked God for taking care of me through the night.'

'Did you?' said the boy in a low tone. He paused after it. Conscience was at work

'Did you ever feel my pulse?' asked the mother, after a minute of silence, at the same time taking him down and setting him in her lap, and placing his fingers on her wrist.

'No, but I have felt mine.'

'Well, don't you feel mine now? How goes it, beating?'

'Yes.'

'If it should stop beating I should die.'

'Should you?'

'Yes, and I can't keep it beating.'

'Who can?'

'God.'

A silent pause.

'You have a pulse, too, which beats in your bosom here, and in your arms, and all over you, and I cannot keep it beating, nor can you. Nobody can but God.'

'If he did not take care of you, who could?'

'I don't know,' said the child with a look of anxiety.

Another pause ensued

'So when I waked up this morning, I thought I would ask God to take care of me. I hope he will take care of me, and all of us.'

'Did you ask him to take care of me and sister?'

'No.'

'Why not?'

'Because I thought you would ask him yourselves; God likes to have us ask for ourselves.'

A long pause ensued. The deeply thoughtful and almost anxious expression of countenance showed that the heart was reached.

'Don't you think that you had better ask him for yourself?'

'Yes,' said the boy, readily.

He kneeled again in his mother's lap, and uttered in his simple and broken language, a prayer for the protection and blessing of Heaven.

A young man writes to us to know how much money he should have to get married. It depends a good deal on circumstances, but five dollars is about the average price. That's what we paid.

UNLETTERED ORATORS.—A contributor to the New York *Independent* recalls some pleasant reminiscences of Southern pulpit eloquence:

When I first went South, forty years since, I used frequently on a Sabbath morning to ride several miles in the country to attend the 'Piney woods churches.' The audience was mostly composed of the poor white population, many of whom could neither read nor write. It was pleasing to see them collect for worship. In fact, these stated monthly meetings were the only opportunities they ever had for exchanging words of sympathy and kindness, and they were always anticipated with much pleasure.

They did not have an educated ministry, for they did not require it. They were honest, faithful men, and preached the saving doctrines of Christianity with much fervor and boldness. To one who had been brought up in New England, under the puritanical precision and sanctity of that age, some of their sermons, remarks and exhortations were extremely ludicrous and shocking, a volume of which I have laid away in memory, and which have often been as good an antidote to dyspepsia as is Mark Twain's 'Innocents Abroad' or his description of a 'Mexican Plug.' I will cite a few instances of my first experience. One of them, after announcing the text, requested the strictest attention, as 'he intended to preach in a manner so plain that even the women and niggers could understand.'

Another, as an introduction to his discourse, said that 'his critter had died that week, that his children had been sick, that his crop was in the grass, and he had not been able to give a moment's thought to the sermon. Consequently, he would be compelled to depend entirely on the teachings of the Sperit, and he expected it would be pretty poor stuff. In the closing prayer he besought the Lord 'to wake them all up to a sense of duty, and right then and there to come down upon them with all His ponderosity.'

A class meeting followed the sermon and other exercises. One old lady was asked if she felt that she loved the Lord Jesus Christ. 'Well, brother,' said she, 'I don't know that I have anything agin him. An old man, apparently near the end of life's journey, was asked if he was willing to die. He said: 'As he never took to strangers, and was acquainted here, he would rather stay, if he could.'

A preacher who had recently lost his wife, after commenting upon her great moral worth, concluded with the following pathetic remarks:

'My dear brethren and sisters, for six long months before my poor wife's death she suffered from divers diseases and torments. If she tuck medicine for one ailment it was sure to interflict with another, and the last case was worse than the first. But rheumaty pains and a codicil of the brain tuck her off. But, thank God, she had breath to the very last, and went a shouting clear through to glory. My brethren, I've lost sheep and I've lost cows, but I tell you the death of my wife was the worst lick I ever got. I still feel like an olphin, and for one whole month after I put her away I felt like I could fall down and go to sleep anywhere.'

Another ministerial brother, who married rather sooner after the death of his wife than some of his sisters thought proper and becoming, excused himself as follows:

'My dear brethren and sisters, my grief was greater than I could bear. I turned every way for peace and comfort, but none come. I sarched the Scripters from Ginisee to Rivilations, and found plenty of promises to the widder, but nary one to the widderer. And so I took it that the good Lord didn't waste sympathy on a man when it was in his power to comfort himself; and having a first rate chance to marry in the Lord, I did so, and would do the same thing again. Besides, my brethren, I considered that poor Patsey was just as dead as she could ever be.'

'ALL RIGHTEE'—The Vallejo Independent tells the following good story:

A very laughable incident occurred one evening recently, on the up train to Sacramento. There were two seats in the car turned so as to face each other. One was occupied by a lady, and the other by a Chinaman. Evidently the lady did not relish the presence of the Chinaman, and set her wits to work to oust him. She succeeded about as follows:

Motioning the Chinaman to rise, she explained to him that she wanted to take the cushions and their frames, and place them lengthwise across from seat to seat. John said 'all rightee,' and got out in the aisle while she placed the seats as above described, and then proceeded to lie down on the bed thus improvised, with her head resting on her valise.

She supposed that the Chinaman would at once take the hint that the lady wanted to take a little rest, in the space usually occupied by four persons. But *John* had not heard of the woman's right movement, and at once proceeded to crawl in and stretch himself by her side, with his head on a bundle of his own. The Chinese are an imitative race, and like to do as others do, you know.

The lady, as soon as she discovered that she had a bedfellow, got up a little wildly, and started for the next car, to the infinite amusement of the passengers who had been watching the little scene with interest. John took no notice of the fun he had created, but went to sleep with the whole bed to himself.

'Love,' says an amorous writer, 'is an internal transport. The same might be said of a canal boat.