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pure of the case. Indianapolis must have pure water, and plenty of it, and it is the duty of the officers of the city, and to the Council, to whatever may be necessary to secure it. It is not a matter to be trifled with, or to have any unnecessary delay about. Let the truth be known, the whole truth, but nothing but the truth; and then we make no doubt that the municipal authorities, as well as the water-works company itself, will speedily provide the necessary remedy. Duty to the public, and the lowest considerations of self-interest alike, demand and will impel such action.

SCHOOLS AND THEIR IMPROVEMENT. It is as true now as ever that there is no royal road to learning, but there can be no question that the path of knowledge which the youngsters of this generation climb is a smooth thoroughfare in comparison with that which their fathers and grandfathers had to go so toilsome. It is but few years since school-houses became the places of comfort and comparative luxury which they now are. The old-fashioned building, with its rattling windows, its bare walls, its uncomfortable benches, and general unattractiveness within and without, would form a striking contrast with the substantial, handsome structure of to-day, if set down beside it. Then the physical welfare of the pupils was, apparently, the last consideration of the builders; now it is the first; then it was expected that the children would suffer from hardships—these were accepted as a part of the cost of education; now it is considered essential that attendance shall involve no privations, but that their surroundings while in school shall have a part in their esthetic education. Where once they were forbidding places, the public school-rooms are now often more attractive and cheerful than the homes of many of the pupils. The contrast is not greater, however, than in the methods of instruction. It is common to talk now of the cramming process to which children are subjected, but as a matter of fact, the "cramming" that was done in the days of the log school-house would fill the modern educator with horror. The school year then did not consist of nine months, but of six at most, often three or four. Even then the attendance of boys and girls, particularly the former, was irregular. The getting of an education was only an incidental part of the boy's life. Work began early, and must be done, though the school-house be left empty. He could not count upon a prolonged attendance of years, but must snatch what learning he might when opportunity offered. As a consequence, the ambitious boy made the most of his time. His lessons were not given in homoeopathic doses, nor knotty facts concealed in a coating of treachery. He did not spend seven years, for instance, in the study of arithmetic, but absorbed in one or two brief terms a sufficient knowledge of the science to serve his purposes in after life. Geography, grammar, and even more advanced studies, were disposed of in like manner. There was not the thoroughness of the present deliberative system, perhaps, but the education, such as it was, proved to be the foundation on which great reputations were built. Many a man whose name occupies a proud place in American history had a school education of less than half a dozen terms. They were less highly favored than the children now; were less thoroughly grounded, possibly, in the few studies they pursued, and had a smaller fund of general information than the public-school pupil of to-day, who knows a little of a great many things. Doubtless, too, they often felt themselves hampered in after life by the lack of training now afforded. Such men and women as these who consider the deprivations of their early years as the ones to appreciate the privileges of their descendants in having the road to wisdom made easy. It is doubtful, however, if the youngsters themselves have a realizing sense of their advantages, or because of them will turn this week with less reluctance from their vacation enjoyments to begin the new school year. Perhaps, indeed, the elaborate school system which is such an advance upon old methods will be still further improved until in future years the children of to-day will benefit their own lack of opportunity and limited privileges. Improvement is rapid in this age, and educational processes may be revised or new ones invented until the system now the pride of the educators will seem crude and the machinery clumsy and defective.

AN ELBET LADY. The news that the life of Harriet Beecher Stowe is very near its end, will cause widespread regret. Some will mourn her as one of the leading literary women of the century; some as the last of the "great Beechers"; all will think of her as the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin"; but only those who have a knowledge of the condition of public sentiment when that work was produced will realize the debt of gratitude due her from the country she served, or can measure her real contribution to the greatest epoch of history. She had gone from New England filled with the ideas of freedom which were planted in that soil by the Pilgrims, and had taken up abode upon the borders of a slave State. The term "Abolitionist" then was one of reproach even in the region she came from; to discuss the question of slavery was to find oneself shunned as a lawless agitator or a dangerous character, even by those in no personal sympathy with the system. Slavery existed, and the long course of political and social intimidation by the Southern element had begotten a feeling of timid conservatism which depressed agitation and urged that existing institutions be left undisturbed. There was an abundance of latent opposition to the enslaving of human creatures, but it needed to be aroused. The public mind was apathetic and needed to be stirred from its dulness. Mrs. Stowe came, and with her wonderful book belted away this apathy, excited the latent anti-slavery sentiment, and put in motion a train of events that ended in the Emancipation Proclamation and the abolition of African slavery.

These were, however, too strong to be so dominated. She came into contact with a system of whose workings she had hitherto understood but vaguely. She saw the fugitive slaves and heard their stories; she saw them pursued by their "owners," and carried back to captivity and to savage punishment, if the threats of the captors were carried out; she saw these helpless creatures hunted by Northern men, who sought to carry away with them Southern neighbors. She went into Kentucky, and the lowest considerations of self-interest alike, demand and will impel such action.

Measured by artistic canons, "Uncle Tom's Cabin" has flaws; but it was a book, that because of its purpose, was above literary criticism. It accomplished the author's aim and ten thousand fold more, and in such case critics may stand aside. It is related that since Mrs. Stowe's illness she was approached by an old man who thanked her for the book she had written, and she replied to him that she did not write it, that God wrote it. When the result wrought in consideration, is it not easy to believe that she worked under divine inspiration as well as the writers of old?

Other books written by Mrs. Stowe would give her rank as one of America's leading literary women. She had a great intellect and marked individuality, and would have made an impression upon her time had she not been so early and so long dead. Having produced that, she occupies a place of her own. The Nation's debt to her is great. Statesmen, and soldiers, and heroes, have arisen and filled their places in the country's history, and have been duly honored; but where is one among them who, alone and unaided, has rendered so great a service to the cause of liberty?

MINOR MENTION.

The garbage question is one that must confront the Indianapolis public as natural gas comes into general use. It is the practice in many, if not the majority of households, to burn the bulk of the kitchen refuse in the range. Potato peels, table scraps, and other accumulations, go into the fire, and are reduced to ashes as the easiest way of disposing of them. It is not altogether a satisfactory way, since the order of burning bones or fragments of meat is not to permeate the surrounding atmosphere and float in open windows. The desire to meet the strict orders of the Board of Health, that open lots and alleys shall be kept free from such refuse, and, above all, the difficulty of securing its removal from the premises, has led to the custom referred to. With gas as fuel, however, this method must be abandoned, and some other means devised for the disposal of the garbage. It is a problem which all cities have to consider, and in no place has it been solved to entire satisfaction. The latest plan, and one which several communities have adopted, is the establishment of garbage cars, with arrangements for collecting and carrying the refuse to them. They are under the management of local boards of health, and it is probable that the Indianapolis board will be compelled to take the matter in hand here.

The "little local demonstration" of the Republicans on Thursday night brought joy to the hearts of all beholders. The desired Democratic inquiry; but it lacked one thing, and that was music. Brass bands were too few and far between. Drum corps were numerous, but they hardly filled the want. Drums are well enough in their way, and serve to keep the parade's feet in order, but the public wants music. One can hear "music by the band" at any time, it is true, but seldom, save in political campaigns, is it regaled with certain tunes for which it has a special fancy. It wants "Rally 'round the Flag," "The Red, White and Blue," "The Star-spangled Banner," and a dozen more, not classified, but dear to the hearts of the patriots. "Marching through Georgia" still has its fond admirers. One trouble, or cause, in such a local affair is that local bands are few; but next time an effort should be made to secure music from neighboring towns.

Mrs. MARY A. LIVERMORE is making third party speeches in Massachusetts, but spends the greater part of her time in availing to her headquarters for having left the Republican party. The principal reason for having done so which she offers is that the leaders are a different set of men from those who founded it. They are, but did Mrs. Livermore expect Lincoln, and Sumner, and Chase and the rest to live forever? These men belong to the party, but the party was greater than they, and when they departed, others arose to carry on its work, and others who will be equal to the emergencies that may confront them, as the first leaders were in their time. Will Mrs. Livermore desert the third party when St. John and Rev. Brooks are allied hence?

When the equal-suffrage element of the third party succeeded in getting a woman suffrage plank incorporated in the national platform, great was the rejoicing of the sisters who desire to be enfranchised. In the light of later events their jubilation seems to have been misplaced. The leading orators of the party carefully avoid reference to the subject unless aware of their audiences, and, even then, are far from enthusiastic. To any other than the female mind, bent on securing the ballot as an end, an issue of which the party leaders are apparently ashamed, and which they privately declare is an issue of no importance, could hardly seem to be a great step gained.

The Democratic managers may be elumps, but they are not fools enough to arrest General Howe. That story was set afloat for gaudious. The Republicans will contribute handsomely if the Democrats will arrest the Republican candidate.

SCHOOL "takes up" to-morrow. The streets will be lined with the little people, dressed in best bib and tucker. The Journal deffers its hat to the marching army of the future.

The brethren in the Baltimore conference of the African Church took a good thing when they see it. At the conference being held in Louisville a resolution was passed "votologizing the reappointment of Bishop Lomax to this

episcopal district, and a handsome sum was contributed toward the purchase of a fall overcoat for the Bishop." We congratulate the Bishop. These be times when a fall overcoat is a desirable thing.

GOVERNOR GRAY will commend himself to the good people of Crawford county by his assertion that the White Caps there are undoubtedly "leading citizens."

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: I did not see the Democrats in their national platform in 1864 declare that not another man nor another dollar should be contributed "to carry on this impious war." If so, please give the citation at read. 2. How many private pension bills has Mr. Cleveland signed since he became President, and how many has he vetoed?

The Democratic platform of 1864 declared the war a failure and demanded an immediate cessation of hostilities, but did not use the language you quote. It originated with Daniel W. Voorhees and was used by him at a speech delivered at Greencastle during the war.

For answer to your second question see article from Utica Herald in Daily Journal of 6th inst.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: Please tell me if you know of a prominent public man who gave \$25 to Charleston earthquake sufferers, and more recently donated \$10,000 for campaign purposes. I would like to know what a husband ought to take his wife and children with him wherever he goes, and trust God with the result. I am a married man, and I do not know the climate, it is not the best, but it is He who sends the bread, for wife purposes of His own. I am a married man, and I do not know the climate, it is not the best, but it is He who sends the bread, for wife purposes of His own.

Mrs. ANNE RIVES CHAMBERLAIN says in regard to her literary work: "I think out my plots, but I don't know what my characters will say until I take up the pen. 'Herod and Mariamne' was written a year ago, and I have not had a month's rest. I had the plot in my mind two years before, but had not put it to paper, and so you see, I am a married man, and I do not know the climate, it is not the best, but it is He who sends the bread, for wife purposes of His own."

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: Please state time and place that old Bandanna stated in a speech that the negro is a prolific animal. I am a married man, and I do not know the climate, it is not the best, but it is He who sends the bread, for wife purposes of His own.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: Please give the author and regular features. "Of all words of tongue or pen The saddest are these, it might have been" GOSNELL, III., Sept. 6. A SUBSCRIBER.

The lines are found in Whittier's "Mead Miller." The meaning could scarcely be made plainer than in the lines themselves. Read the poem.

BREAKFAST-TABLE CHAT.

ALEXANDER DUMAS is said to be engaged on a new comedy, in which he will satirize the journalistic world.

Mrs. JOHN V. L. PRUDY, of Albany, the widow of the late Chancellor of the University, is the owner of a precious MS.—the original draft of Burr's "Wild Lang Syne."

FRANK LAYTON, a bright young man at Harrow-on-the-Hill, one of a row of small cottages occupied by workmen. The floors are uncarpeted, but everything is neat and clean.

QUEEN NATALIE is mentioned as gorgeously handsome, the owner of splendid dark hair inclined to curl in rich waves, splendid dark eyes, and a smile that is like a sun.

ANNA DICKINSON says Fred Douglas has what is rare in men, an absolutely perfect hand. Anna is no poker player. How does she know what kind of a hand he has?—Washington Critic.

PERHAPS with a view to save his voice, Mr. Gladstone has quite recently acquired a habit of speaking rapidly—very different from the measured tones in which he used to address an audience.

Mrs. FRANK LESLIE is reported as undertaking to put the American Exchange in London into sound working condition again, with her old friend Mr. Gillig in charge of the rehabilitated plant.

The Mikado of Japan is a fine subject for the labors of the professional prohibitionists. His Japanese Majesty rets publicly and hypocritically drunk in broad daylight, and swagers around his palace just like a common everyday drinker.

LORD DEFFERN, Viceroy of India, is now dependent upon an amnesia. The tendons of both his hands have contracted, and he is unable to use a pen. The tendons have been cut, but it will be impossible for the noted diplomat to write his own name.

The Empress of Japan is rapidly becoming one of the best-informed women of her time. She is a hard student of German, Russian, French and Italian, and it is said that her Majesty has done more thoroughly than any other woman in the world.

Mrs. FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE is now a confirmed invalid and patient at St. Thomas's hospital, London. Her services during the Crimean war injured her spine, and she has never since been able to recover therefrom. Her tireless philanthropy is nearly sixty-nine years old.

"My beloved brethren," said a Dakota preacher from his pulpit, "on looking over the collection of last Sabbath morning, you can imagine my pleased surprise to discover there was a kishp. Our dear brother, Deacon Dewitt, kindly cashed it in. The Lord loveth a cheerful giver."

While Harriet Beecher Stowe has enough of this world's goods to support her comfortably, she has nothing like the fortune she might have had if she had not sold her copyright of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" for a song. Her husband, however, made a fortune out of the story on the stage has brought her nothing.

It is said that General Butler never looked better than when he stepped on the platform of Tremont Temple, Boston, the other night to be greeted by the cheering throngs of patriots and dress suit, with the indispensable button on his coat lapel, and a perfect roar of applause greeted him as he stepped on the platform.

"I did not like the Americans," says Mr. Ruskin, "until recently. What made me think more of them was the character of those I met. Perhaps Miss Alexander inclined me toward them. I met her at the Congress when she was the society of Dr. Holmes. But my friend is professor Charles Eliot Norton, a charming man, and I have no doubt that he is more than ever before—a cheerful, sunny energy."

"Quida" has really become religious. It was rumored some time ago that she was veering towards republicanism, and now it is learned that she spends her days in reading pious books and making long prayers. She even refuses to associate with worldly people. She is not devoted to any special denomination, but seems to be slowly forming a cult of her own.

CONGRESSMAN THOMAS C. CAWLEY is fond of the phrase, "There's no flies on me," and tells a story which proves that not every Washington lady understands the United States language. At a dinner to which he was a guest, he remarked to the hostess: "An elegant dinner, Mr. Marm. No flies on that dinner." "No, indeed," Mr. Congressman, returned the hostess, all unconscious of his meaning. "I had the kitchen windows washed for two days, and there were no flies on that dinner."

A ROMANTIC story is that of Mr. John Farmer, the musician and organist of Harrow School, England. Mr. Farmer was his career in a large measure to the energy of his mother, who, discerning the boy's ability, insisted that he should be sent to Germany for a course of study. He was very ambitious, and he was not content with all the encouragement that he desired from his father, he determined to return to Germany. Funds, however, were wanting for his trip, and he was saved from being applied by the generosity of his sisters, who

clubbed their pocket-money for the purpose. But the amount was inadequate, and poor John had to tramp the long and weary journey. He arrived at Leipzig. It was on the afternoon of a concert that was to be given by some of his acquaintances in the city. He had a great deal to do, and he eagerly seized the chance of going to it. He sang so well that the audience was delighted, and one lady was so pleased that she sent her daughter with a present of money to the English lad. That was John Farmer's first acquaintance with his future wife, who is now becoming an exceedingly charming woman.

DR. TALMAGE was paid \$500 and expenses for one lecture at Chautauque and charged nothing for his sermon. George R. Wendling got \$300 and expenses for three lectures. Professor De Motte \$250 and expenses for two people for four lectures. Mr. Young received \$100 and expenses for one reading. John DeWitt Miller \$200 and expenses for four. Dr. Henson \$150 and expenses for two. These were about the figures all the way through at Chautauque. The Mexican band cost about \$1,200 a week, the Glee club about \$500.

THOMAS BOW, an Americanized and Christianized Chinaman of Brooklyn, proposes to marry Miss Annie Tuttle, of the same city. She is about twenty-eight and he about the same age. First a landlady, he afterward became a missionary, and he went into the ministry and will return to China, where, in Canton, there is a Presbyterian church. The young couple were married Sunday, but their friends interfered and prevented them from going to China for a two years' absence.

Now that they are discussing in England the question of marriage, the words of "Chinese" Gordon on the subject are appropriately recalled. "I think that husband and wife are a husband ought to take his wife and children with him wherever he goes, and trust God with the result. I am a married man, and I do not know the climate, it is not the best, but it is He who sends the bread, for wife purposes of His own."

MR. HERBERT WARD, the African explorer, met Mr. Stanley and his followers as they were setting out on their present expedition. "I never," he says, "in my life was so struck with any sight as with Stanley's caravan on the march. Egyptians, Soudanese, Somali, Zizi, and all others, nine hundred strong. It took me two hours to pass them. I had then the second in command, Major Bartlett, a young fellow, burnt very dark, with a masher collar fast on a dinner table, and a white turban. He was carrying a large bucket that some fellow had abandoned. 'I am Ward,' I said, 'and I now beg to say to you that I am a married man, and I do not know the climate, it is not the best, but it is He who sends the bread, for wife purposes of His own.'"

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