WEEK IN WASHINGTON.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 13.—Although not officially admitted, it is generally understood in Administration circles that the Spanish Government has yielded to the demands of the United States that the Competitor prisoners be given the benefit of a trial by a civil court. It is said that the Spanish authorities reached this conclusion some time ago, but that its action will not be formally communicated to this Government until after the adjournment of the Cortes. In this way, it is said, the Government hopes to minimize the effect of its action and prevent a scene in the Cortes. From the first Secretary Olney has insisted that the men were irregularly tried, and in violation of treaty obligations. He requested a retrial before a properly-constituted civil tribunal, not as a special act of comity, but as a right under existing treaties between Spain and the United States.

MONDAY, SEPT. 14.—The monthly comparative statement of the imports and exports of merchandise during August and during the eight months ending Aug. 31, which was issued by the Bureau of Statistics, shows as follows: Domestic merchandise exported during August, 1896, $66,732,452; August, 1895, $54,821,159; for the last eight months, $567,259,457; for the same period in 1895, $489,360,551. Imports of merchandise during last August, $49,458,325, of which $20,644,871 was free of duty; imports during August, 1895, $71,111,943, of which about one-half was free of duty. Imports during the last eight months, $471,222,434, of which $214,263,671 was duty free. For the same period in 1895 the total was $535,737,819, of which $254,469,427 was free of duty.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 15.—Hon. W. P. Brownlow, Republican candidate for Congress from the First Tennessee District, denied that he had come out for free silver. Such a story concerning him was given wide publicity. He wrote to the Republican Congressional Committee, in this city, that the reported interview, given by him to the press, expressing himself as favoring free silver, is untrue and without any foundation whatever. He says: "I indorse and stand with my party on the platform of principles adopted by our last convention at St. Louis, and am an ardent supporter of Hon. William McKinley for President, Hon. George N. Tillman for Governor, and of all other nominees of the Republican party." This information has satisfied the officials at the Republican Congressional Headquarters, and Mr. Brownlow receives their full indorsement.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16.—Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Maxwell made his annual report to the Postmaster-General for the year ended June 30, 1896. The report shows that the total number of postoffices in operation in the United States is 70,360. Of these 66,725 are fourth-class offices, and 3,636 Presidential, being an increase over the last fiscal year of 296. During the year 2,046 postoffices were established and 1,750 discontinued. The total number of appointments for the year was 12,090, and the total number of cases acted upon, 15,532. Under instructions from the Postmaster-General 141 fourth-class and 32 Presidential offices have been consolidated with larger ones during the past four years for the purpose of giving the patrons of the smaller offices better mail facilities. Of these 173 offices, 60 were in Illinois, 28 in Maryland, 25 in New York, and 12 in Massachusetts.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17.—The personal letter from the Emperor of China to President Cleveland, which formed the credentials of Li Hung Chang, was placed on exhibition in the library of the Department of State. The letter is written on a scroll of lemon-colored parchment paper about five feet in length by a foot and a half in width, a portion being in ancient Chinese and another part in modern Chinese characters, with the royal red seal and the Emperor's autograph in the center. The envelope is unique, being a great sheet of yellow satin, embroidered in gold and silver of exquisite workmanship, with five large Chinese double dragons.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 18.—The preparations for the annual Encampment of the Union Veteran Legion in October are progressing satisfactorily. Col. Levi P. Wright, Chairman of the Citizens' Executive Committee to arrange for the Union Veteran Legion Encampment, to-day received a letter from Geo. C. James, of Cincinnati, National Commander, in which he says that a rate of one and a third fare for the round trip is the best that can be obtained from the trunk lines. An order conveying that information to the various Encampments will soon be issued. The Citizens' Executive Committee has secured the Builders' Exchange, 719 and 721 Thirteenth street northwest, as the place where the business sessions of the Union Veteran Legion will be held. This hall is but two squares from National Headquarters, in the Riggs House, and is in every way suitable for the purpose. It has a seating capacity of 600 people.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19.—The Daughters of the American Revolution celebrated the centennial of the issuing of Washington's Farewell Address, by suitable exercises, including the reading of the document. A committee of which the Historian-General, Elizabeth B. Johnston, was Chairman, had the matter in charge.

CHAT OF THE CORRIDORS.

Gen. Ruger, Assistant Secretary Rockhill, and Mrs. Carlisle were all the recipients of superb gifts from the Chinese Viceroy while in Washington. They consisted of a very elegant roll of silk and an inlaid chest of tea, each being sent in a box and wrapped about with a beautiful banner inscribed with the design of a palace in a peculiar style of embroidery, which is supposed to be the palace in which Li Hung Chang lives. This banner accompanied every gift that the Viceroy bestowed while in this country. Some of the tea found its way into the home of a friend of one of the fortunate recipients of the gift, the package being wrapped around with what was supposed to be a Chinese newspaper. Very greatly mystified as to the import of the characters on the paper, one of the family took the same to a Chinese laundryman in the vicinity of his home, and found that the paper was an advertisement of a certain brand of tea, and that it cost $24 a pound.

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At Republican Headquarters they say a canvass of two rooms in the Treasury Department was made a few days ago, which gave a good showing for McKinley. Among the actual voters there were one for Bryan, four for Palmer, and five for McKinley. In 1892 six of the same men voted for Cleveland and four for Harrison. There are nine woman clerks in these two rooms, who are anti-Bryan because they have savings-bank deposits, and believe their savings might be affected. No Harrison man or woman in 1892 among the number is for Bryan, and of nine Cleveland men and women in 1892, only one is for Bryan.

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The latest convert to bicycling in Washington is Cardinal Satolli. While he does not appear on the street, he takes occasional spins about the house. Last week a manufacturing firm presented the Cardinal with a wheel. On the first floor of the legation, in the rear of the parlors, is a large ballroom. Since the house has been occupied by the papal delegate, no balls have been given here, but at one end a billiard table has been set up. This occupies but a small portion of the room, and leaves an abundance of space for a private riding-school. By riding from one end to the other and turning the corners carefully, it is possible to ride around the table, thus giving a lap of about 50 to the mile. Cardinal Satolli is quite pleased with his new wheel, and has taken several lessons in the old ballroom. The clergy generally in Washington have taken very kindly to the "bike."

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Lord Chief Justice Charles Russell, the eminent English jurist, and his party made a brief visit to the National Capital last week. They were received at the railroad station by Attorney-General Harmon and Mr. Calderon Carlisle, one of the counsellors of the British Legation, and driven to the Arlington, where apartments had been secured for them. Accompanying the Chief Justice are Mrs. Russell, their daughter, Miss Russell, and Mr. Fox, an English barrister. The time during the visit was spent in seeing the sights of the city. Lord Russell is not a stranger in Washington, as he was here in 1883, with his predecessor, the late Chief Justice Coleridge. On that trip he visited the leading cities of the United States. Lord Russell is now 63 years old. His ancestry on his mother's side is Irish, and being a Catholic her children were educated in that faith. Taking his degree at Trinity he read law and began to practice at Belfast. He toiled years in poverty, aided bravely by his wife, the daughter of the Irish poet, James Mulholland. His success at the bar has been due to his breadth of scholarship and general versatility. He is regarded as one of the greatest cross-examiners that ever practiced at the English bar. His defense of Parnell and his associates in the London *Times* case gave him great popularity with the English as well as the Irish people. In person Lord Charles is a stout, ruddy-faced man of medium hight. A thin fringe of beard adorns his chin; his eyes beam kindly upon all whom he meets.

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Washington is to be enriched by two relics of national importance. These relics are the log cabin which was built by Lincoln and his father, and the McLean house at Appomattox, Va., the place in which Lee and Grant met and signed the terms of surrender. The Lincoln log cabin is now in Chicago, but it is a question of only a short while before it will be brought on and erected in Washington. The McLean house will stand in the same lot, and both will comprise part of a museum which will be the property of patriotic Washington gentlemen, prominent among them being Col. M. E. Dunlap, to whose energies is due the preservation of these souvenirs of the most memorable epoch of American history. Col. Dunlap, who fought under Gen. Banks, is the owner of the McLean house, the title of the cabin being with the rest of the gentlemen who are organized under the name of the National War Museum Company.

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The McLean house is still at Appomattox, but it is not standing, as some years ago it was carefully taken down, with the view of moving it to Washington. Just at that time the financial panic came on, and the project was postponed; but it is certain that it will now be successfully carried out. Prior to the dismantling of the place, Col. Dunlap had a series of photographs taken, as well as a great many blue prints, showing the exact appearance of the rooms, and each bit of boarding is numbered, so that the house will be just as it was before it was torn down. Even the plastering has been preserved and stored in barrels, so that it can be again mixed and used in mortaring the bricks. These bricks now lie in a heap, but are closely guarded, so as to prevent the depredations of relic-hunters. When brought to Washington, the house will be rebuilt exactly as it was on the day on which the articles of surrender were signed. Much of the old furniture has been secured, and as far as possible the rooms will look just as they did 30 years ago.

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"I do not know whether it is superstition or fun, but there is at least one in every six of the men who walk on the slab pavement on the north side of the Treasury," said the policeman on duty at the corner of Fifteenth street and Pennsylvania avenue, "who religiously refuse to step on a crack between the slabs. Sometimes to clear a crack they have to take a hop, skip and a jump motion, which is very amusing to observe. Some men have told me that they have never knowingly stepped on a crack. They cannot explain why they do not, but they do not just the same. Now, with ladies it is entirely different. They never seem to to pick out their steps, and everything, crack or slab, goes with them.

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Lafayette Park has an interesting feature in the way of a "wishing tree," which is a handsome chestnut standing on the west of the Jackson statue. "The 'wishing tree' is just now much asked for," said one of the employes of Lafayette Park, "and to us, as well as others, this tree has a peculiar influence. Now, I do not mean to say that every wish made under it comes true. Far from it. But it is a fact that many persons, especially ladies and young girls, find not only pleasure, but absolute satisfaction in making their wishes under it. Some refrain from going up to it, and make their wish from a distance, though in sight of the tree, but the majority go up under its foliage, and place their hands in the hole near the body of the tree. They are more liable, they say, to get their wish if they do this. Colored people, especially the nurse girls, are the greatest believers in it, but only this afternoon I saw a couple of the most fashionable young ladies of the West End go under it. Tourists who have heard of the wishing tree often ask me to point it out to them."

BRYAN IN WASHINGTON.

William J. Bryan visited Washington last Saturday, spoke at Capitol Park to about 8,000 people, and had to stop on account of a sudden violent rain and wind storm. Notwithstanding this the Democratic and Populist clubs turned out in large numbers with brass bands and things, and yelled themselves hoarse before their eloquent candidate had opened his mouth.

Bryan arrived in the afternoon, and was met by part of a special committee of local politicians—J. F. Kelley, Lawrence Gardner, H. L. Biscoe, Col. Wm. Dickson, J. E. Willard, and James L. Norris. Quite a crowd was at the depot, the curiosity to see this man being great.

After dinner he was conducted to the park, where a grandstand was crowded with people and numerous others stood on the ground. The park easily held all who attended. While waiting for Bryan the bands played, the big Democrats spoke, and the President, Col. J. G. Berret, read a list of 30 or 40 Vice-Presidents of the meeting. Every Free Silver Democrat who could get his name on that list did so.

Then Bryan arrived, and everybody who did not come purely out of curiosity yelled with all his lungs. Bryan's speech was mainly on the platform, picking out the features from which he could make application to District matters. Referring to that part saying, "We are opposed to life tenure in the public services," he said:

"My friends, we are in favor of the Civil Service reforms that mean something, and not a Civil Service law that permits the President to suspend the Civil Service law until he can get his friends into office and permits another President to extend the service just as he is going out to keep his friends in. [Applause.] We believe in appointments based upon merit, and such a method of appointment as will open the offices to those of 'ascertained fitness.' [Applause.] We are in favor of fixed terms of office in the civil department of the Government. We want it so that when a man gets in he will know how long he is going to stay, and when he is going out."

As there were a great many present who were Democratic Department clerks, the part about "going out" was not relished, and someone suggested that Bryan was making a bid for the votes of those who were out of office and wanted to get in.

Bryan criticized Secretary Carlisle, and said that according to the doctrine laid down by his recent public letter, one cannot stop the drain of gold from the Treasury until all the silver dollars and silver certificates are retired and nothing left but gold as the money of this country.

"I denounce the policy as more cruel and heartless than political dominations of a foreign power," said the candidate. "I would rather, as some one has said, I would rather put our Army in the hands of a foreign General, or our Navy in command of a foreign Admiral, than to put the Treasury Department in the hands of a Secretary who would barter it away. I would resist such a financial policy with as much earnestness as I would resist the progress of an invading army coming to attack our homes.

"Does the Administration know now that when it starts to redeem silver dollars in gold that it will start another endless chain that will drain the Treasury indefinitely, and increase the bonded debt without limit until they retire all the silver dollars and substitute bonds in their place? If they do not know, my friends, they must confess themselves ignorant of the finances of this country, and if they do know, and will not tell the people, then we have a right to distrust their candor and frankness when they deal with the people of this country."

Bryan left the city on an evening train after the exercises at the park had been broken up by the rain.

DEPARTMENT OF POTOMAC, W.R.C.

Its Pleasant Journey to St. Paul.

The Department of Potomac, W.R.C., went to St. Paul in a special train over the Chesapeake & Ohio, in company with the Department of the G.A.R. The trip was a delightful one, and both Departments were hospitably welcomed on their arrival, Headquarters being at the Hotel Ryan. Department Commander John McElroy, Editor of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, was accompanied by his staff and a considerable delegation of veterans. Department President Mrs. Anna W. Johnson was accompanied by Department Secretary Mrs. Ida M. Chase, Junior Vice-President Mrs. Georgiana Chambers, Department Treasurer Miss Anna V. Tompkins, Past Department President Mrs. Ida V. Hendricks, and Mrs. Hannah De Voe. Delegate-at-large Mrs. Downey and Delegate Mrs. Isabel Worrell Ball met the party in St. Paul. Others of the Department who were there were Miss Mattie McClure, Past Department Treasurer, and Mrs. M. M. North.

At Indianapolis the Potomac special was honored by a call from Capt. Wallace Foster, who came to pay his respects to Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Ball, and to bring them some beautiful flowers, in fragrant recognition of the patriotic work done in the Department of Potomac during the past year, in which Comrade Foster is especially interested.

A joint reception was given at the Hotel Ryan on Wednesday evening, Commander McElroy and Department President Mrs. Johnson acting host and hostess, assisted by all their staff officers. It was a good-sized "crush," as were most of the receptions at the Ryan, attended by all the National officers and many other notables.

While the Potomac W.R.C. carried home no official plums, it was much delighted that the husband of the Department President, Dr. A. E. Johnson, a physician of long standing, and an Army Surgeon, now Medical Director of the Department of Potomac, G.A.R., was elected Surgeon-General of the National organization. Both Dr. and Mrs. Johnson are devoted to the work for the old soldier and his dependent ones, and the Department of Potomac has never had more faithful and efficient officers.

The Department has been much honored in the past year in the way of appointive officers. Besides the Aids, Inspectors, etc., the National Press Committee has had two members from the District of Columbia, Mrs. M. M. North, of Anacostia, and Isabel Worrell Ball, of the Washington *Star*, also Press Correspondent of the Department. Mrs. Ball, who is Chairman of the Department Committee on Patriotic Teaching, was also honored with a place on the National Committee, and the Department President was called to serve on Committees in the National Convention.

The Ins and Outs of It.

If you get best wear out of a coat, best work must have gone into it. You can't get good bread out of poor flour.

Moral: You can't get the best out of anything, unless the best is in it; and the best has to be put in before it can be taken out. Now, we have a rule to test those sarsaparillas with a big "best" on the bottle. "Tell us what's put in you and we'll decide for ourselves about the best." That's fair. But these modest sarsaparillas say: "Oh! we can't tell. It's a secret. Have faith in the label." . . . Stop! There's one exception; one sarsaparilla that has no secret to hide. It's Ayer's. If you want to know what goes into Ayer's Sarsaparilla, ask your doctor to write for the formula. Then you can satisfy yourself that you get the best of the sarsaparilla argument when you get Ayer's.

Any doubt left? Get the "Curebook."
It kills doubts but cures doubters.
Address: J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

REUNION OF BLUE AND GRAY.

Exercises preliminary to the unveiling of the monument erected by the Philadelphia Brigde Association at Antietam were held at Central Hall, Sept. 16. A Reunion of the Blue and Gray was the purpose of the occasion.

The representatives of the Second Brigade arrived here from Philadelphia, accompanied by 40 members of the Common Council of Philadelphia, Gov. Hastings, Gen. Beaver, Charles Emory Smith, and other distinguished Pennsylvanians and survivors of the famous brigade—in all about 200. Pickett Camp of Confederate Veterans, of Richmond, also arrived. Among them were Commander Winston, Col. C. S. Loehr, Maj. Charles Pickett, and many others. Washington Camp was also present.

The audience at the meeting in Central Hall included Grand Army men, members of other patriotic societies, local Confederate veterans, and ladies.

Commissioner George Truesdell made a welcome address, Gen. J. W. Frazier, of the Philadelphia Brigade, spoke cordially of the Confederate veterans, and other speakers were Gen. J. A. Beaver, Gen. Wm. Aylett, of Virginia, and Archbishop Ryan. A Campfire was held at night, which was largely attended.

The monument dedicated was built of Vermont granite, and cost $15,000. It is 75 feet high, 14 feet wide at the base, with a die 6 feet square and 6½ feet high. A beautiful shaft, 53 feet in hight, rises from the base. It is on the Hagerstown turnpike, 200 yards from the historic old Dunkard Church, and is erected to the memory of the 545 men of the old Philadelphia Brigade who fell at Antietam.

SURGEON-GENERAL HONORED.

A reception was tendered Dr. A. E. Johnson, the new Surgeon-General of the G.A.R., on Friday of last week at Grand Army Hall by his comrades of the Department of the Potomac and the ladies of the local W.R.C., who are all proud of having managed to secure one of the general offices of the Order for a Washington man. Commander John McElroy presided. All the Posts and the Corps ladies of the Loyal Legion were well represented in the audience. Chaplain Swallow invoked divine blessing, and then Maj. McElroy referred to the fact that, although numerically small and limited in extent, the Department had been honored by having a Commander-in-Chief, two Adjutants-General, a Judge-Advocate General, and two Surgeons-General. He paid a tribute to Comrade Johnson's past record in the Department.

After the Grand Army Musical Union had rendered a patriotic song, Comrade Anderson was introduced. He told how the electioneering at the National Encampment for the Surgeon-General's office had all been done by direction of a steering committee of the comrades themselves, who made it their work to capture all the delegations possible. Comrade Nathan Bickford spoke in a similar strain, saying that the veterans of the Department could point with pride to the man whose self-sacrifice and devotion were well known among the old soldiers here.

Ex-Gov. Fletcher, of Missouri; Capt. J. M. Edgar, W. W. Chambers, of the Council of Administration, also spoke.

Dr. Johnson replied in a feeling way.

During the exercises Comrade Lillebridge, the well-known soloist, rendered some selections.

ARMY AND NAVY.

A party of prominent citizens of Indiana in New York this week presented a silver service and library to the United States battle-ship Indiana, now lying off Tompkinsville, Staten Island, under the command of Capt. Robley D. Evans, better known by the cognomen of "Fighting Bob." The party consisted of ex-President and Mrs. Harrison, Gov. and Mrs. Matthews, Miss Matthews, and Miss McMachan; Mayor Thomas Taggart, of Indianapolis, and Mrs. and Miss Taggart; Adj't-Gen. and Mrs. Robbins, Brig.-Gen. and Mrs. McKee, Col. Jas. B. Curtis, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. J. H. Murphy, Capt. H. T. Condee, and others. The silver service was formally presented by Gov. Matthews to Capt. Evans, but it will be received by Assistant Secretary of the Navy McAdoo.

The long-expected transfer of troops has been ordered by the War Department. The 15th Inf., now at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, is ordered to relieve the 24th Inf., now at Fort Bayard and other points in New Mexico and Arizona. The 24th Inf. will relieve the 16th Inf., which is at Fort Douglass, Utah. The 16th Inf. will relieve the 4th Inf., which is scattered among Forts Sherman, Idaho, Spokane, Washington and Boise barracks, Idaho. The 4th goes to Chicago, taking the place of the 15th Inf. at Fort Sheridan. The 3d Art., with headquarters at St. Francis barracks, Florida, and scattered along the Southern Atlantic Coast at Barrancas, Fla., Fortress Monroe, Va., and Washington barracks, has been ordered to exchange places with the 5th Art., which is located in San Francisco Harbor, with headquarters at the Presidio, and partly along the Northwest Coast and a small portion at Fortress Monroe, Va.

The subject of coast defenses is receiving a great deal of attention just now from the scientific departments of the Army. Large contracts, involving the expenditure of five or six million dollars, are to be awarded soon for the furnishing of gun forgings, the manufacture of a number of rifles under private contract and the purchase of material with which to begin the preparation of the various sites for the batteries determined upon. Land for the emplacements in the majority of cases has already been purchased, and where it has not condemnatory proceedings are being taken to secure it. The entire plan for the defenses of the more important cities has been completed and approved by the Department, but so careful is it not to permit outsiders to learn of the character or strength of the fortifications that it will not be until most of them are nearly completed that the cities they are designed to protect will know the actual number of guns manned. The allotment of $12,000,000 appropriated by the last Congress has been made with a view to protecting the larger and more exposed cities from sea attack and to set aside sufficient money for the smaller towns for the purchase of land. It is quite certain that all the larger fortifications will include in their armament a number of 16-inch rifles, by far the heaviest type of gun ever attempted in this country and of which there are but few abroad. Recently the War Department has purchased forgings to begin a trial gun of this caliber, and if it proves successful 20 will be manufactured for the larger cities.

Mrs. Hudnut makes a liberal offer to Invalid Ladies on page 6. Be sure and read it.

Soldiers' Monument at Knoxville.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: The Grand Army will lay the corner stone of the State Soldiers and Sailors' Monument, Oct. 15. The monument is to be built of Tennessee marble, and will be located in the National Cemetery at Knoxville. The cost will be between $15,000 and $20,000. The monument is in commemoration of the devotion of the loyal sons of Tennessee who went forth to battle for the Union in its hour of peril.—W. R. CARTER, Member of the Monument Committee, Knoxville, Tenn.

A Physician's Novel Device.

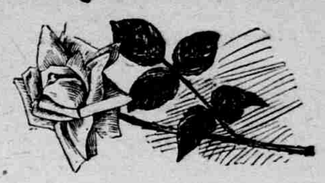
[*London Globe.*]

The carrier pigeon has been put to many uses, such, for instance, as making known the results of races and elections to people living at a distance. But a doctor in Scotland has extended its utility in a remarkable way. He has a large and scattered practice, and we gather from the *Medical Press and Circular* that when he goes on long rounds he carries a number of pigeons with him. If he finds that some of his patients require medicine at once he writes out prescriptions, and by means of the pigeons forwards them to his surgery. Here an assistant gets the messages, prepares the prescriptions and dispatches the medicine. If, after visiting a patient, the doctor thinks he will be required later in the day, he simply leaves a pigeon, which is employed to summon him if necessary. To this enterprising physician the keeping of carrier pigeons means a saving of time, expense and labor.

Who Knew Serg't Wilson?

Will some comrade who has a knowledge of the same kindly furnish the company and regiment to which Serg't Miles Wilson, who was killed in battle, belonged. He belonged to one of the colored regiments raised in the South, and was stationed at Vicksburg in 1864, '65. This information is desired by his daughter and only child—REBECCA M. SHERIDAN, 639 South Carolina avenue s. e., Washington, D. C.

The "Better-Half."



CANTON, PA., September the Nineteenth Day.

It is Fair Week here, and a most busy season. Almost everybody has "company to the Fair," and almost every house has sent something in competition—the young lady's crayon portraits or water colors, her mamma's embroideries, or the tiny tot's patchwork. The housewives send samples of their best jellies, cakes, rolls, pickles, candies, and of all sorts of good things, in good-humored, neighborly rivalry. Besides, there are the great exhibits of the Fair—the farmer's fine chickens, ducks, turkeys, cows, horses, pigs, pumpkins, potatoes, and many things else. Crowds come and go—farmers with their wives and rosy-cheeked daughters, groups of noisy schoolboys and excited girls, merchants from the village, the village ladies, commercial travelers, all spick and span, and little children galore—all assembled to do honor to the evidences of the art, skill, and industry of the neighborhood.

* * *

That the Fair is a useful institution many sweethearts will testify. It seems to be a super-excellent place and time for courting pretty girls. Probably many a bashful farmer-boy has had the courage here to put the question to his lass. To many of the visitors this is a great social event—a big reception—where they not only meet all their neighbors, but also their neighbors' folks, who come from the next Township. Tales of gossip, of accident, birth, death, marriage, of travel and sickness, fly fast through the air. Recipes are exchanged, household troubles confided and condoled, and the news of all the country round about is exchanged.

* * *

The fakirs at the Fair were highly amusing. One man, who was shouting for an elaborate allegorical clock, declared that his was the only show on the grounds especially designed for the "brain-workers"—the only show that was an education in itself. No thinking person could afford to miss it. A moral show, too—one that you need never hesitate to bring your children to. A show that any Christian might be glad to see. In the midst of his harangue he suddenly dropped his highly moral, educational tone. His audience had dwindled to two stout, coquettish dames—and my obscure self. He assumed a beguiling smile and smooth tones. "Just the show for the two handsomest ladies on the grounds to see—just the show for two handsome, stylish ladies—and you're them." They blushed and made some laughing reply, and turned away without seeing his show, but in happy possession of the compliments.

* * *

"Right here, right here!" shouted a man who sold whips, watches, brushes, bread-knives, and Jove knows what else. "'In time of peace, prepare for war,' some great orator said that, 'In time of peace, prepare for war.' Your hair may not need brushing now, but the time will come, and here comes a brush for a quarter. Wait a minute (as he notes a restlessness in his audience). Here comes a comb, too—a big horn one,—for the old woman to comb her frizzes with. And wait a minute. I guess I can find a comb for the old man, for Sundays, and here's one for the children. Nice present for your wife," he said, singling out a bashful young farmer on the edge of the crowd, who, abashed by his gaze, was too shy to refuse the purchase. He walked off sheepishly, putting the combs in the brush and taking them out again. Like fakirs the world over, these at the fair have an elaborate method, made up of bows, compliments, personalities, jokes and general impertinence, with which they wheedle the people.

* * *

It was a noisy place. The base-ball boys insisted on frequent declarations, in no gentle tones, that they were "all right." Six or eight pretty girls, in their best ribbons and feathers, were taking in all the sights, in a long, swaying row, arms linked and nodding heads. They coquetted and giggled and shrieked, and sang a tormented monotonous song of "A Fly on the Wall," a song exceedingly hard on an audience, though the singers went into gales of glee over its monotony. This was better than some of the other songs. The "popular songs" were about as unpretty as one could imagine, and seemed utterly unfit for such pretty girls to be singing. There is an abundance of pretty, sweet, "catchy" songs in the world, without resorting to those that are even a trifle coarse, but the songs at the Fair would not have stood even a moderate test for refinement.

* * *

The Art Exhibit was very good. There is a great deal of fun poked at our minor art efforts, but here were oil paintings, crayons, water-colors, china decorations, pastels, exhibited in profusion, and not more than a half-dozen that could be called "daubs" with any honesty. It is true one might lament that so much of the work was clever copying of "studies," but there was a good deal of honest, original work, too—a few odd little landscapes from scenes round-about, some graceful flower studies, and fine work on china.

* * *

In a hurried glance over the needle-work, a centerpiece embroidered in pear blossoms caught my attention. It had a pretty effect. The piece was of fine white linen; the pattern, thickly scattered pear blossoms, making a wide border. The flowers were stemless, and were worked with white silk, with yellow for the centers. The petals were only half-filled in. The edge of the centerpiece was buttonholed with the white silk. There was elaborate sewing there, and undergarments were made fanciful with tiny puffs, tucks, and insertion. The tucks and insertions are all right, but puffs are an abomination—to the laundress, and also to the lover of pretty fineries. Puffs are difficult and unsightly to iron, and for this reason. The French underwear rarely has them, and the French can make the daintiest known combinations of fine lawn, tucks, frills, laces, and embroideries.

* * *

Of course there were many people at the fair—among the farmer-folk and among the villagers—who had read much, traveled much and seen much, but there were also many who have lived year in and year out, in the same place and whose interests never extend beyond the neighborhood affairs. But among them one could find counterparts of one's city acquaintances. That long-chinned, long-faced woman, with long teeth might be Congressman So-and-so's wife's sister—so alike are their features; give that big-shouldered, heavy-jawed, red-haired young farmer a college education or two, and he will be remarkably like a young lawyer we know in the city. It's true this fellow eats with a loud noise and his knife and caps the horrors with a toothpick; but he has exactly the same build, the same kind of a face, and even the same tones in his voice, as the elegant and scholarly city fellow. Nature seems to use one pattern for several people and then she scatters them in widely different conditions, social and geographical, and we are amazed at the resemblances we find. It is exceedingly interesting to hunt out these typical faces—to duplicate here the people one meets at a big reception in Washington. We are liable to strain our imaginations occasionally to see resemblances to complete a list we start out to see, but we find so many startling likenesses that we have excuse for our efforts. The faces are apt to be less nervous and sensitive here, also less bored and less conventional.

* * *

All in all the fair is not unlike a big "tea"—only more interesting perhaps—but everyone to his taste.

ELSIE POMEROY MCELROY.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria.
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria.
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

LEADING SOUTHERNERS.

They Regard the Election of Bryan as Sure to Produce Measureless Disaster.

The Manufacturers' Record, of Baltimore, a non-partisan, business magazine, sent out inquiries to all the manufacturers and business men of the South, asking their views as to the effect of the results of the political campaign. It says with reference to the answers it has received, and which it publishes:

"The replies received are startling in the dire forebodings of a very large majority of overwhelming disaster should free silver win. Out of 151 replies, 124 are unqualifiedly against free silver, and regard it as a menace to all business interests, 15 are in favor of silver and 12 are non-committal. Running through many of these letters is the idea that 'should free silver win, we will have the worst panic ever known.' These are not the views of theorists; they are not the predictions of men who can foolishly be charged with trying to create a panic; they are not the statements of Wall street, nor of professional politicians. On the contrary, they are the sober fears of hundreds of the foremost manufacturers of the South—the men who have been leading that section toward activity and prosperity; of men who have been furnishing employment for tens of thousands of laborers; of men who, in most cases, are going to change their life-long political associations in order to vote against what they believe would be a great calamity. *The Manufacturers' Record* begs the people of the South to study these letters, to study their meaning and to realize how the business men of this section regard free silver."

"Children Teething."

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP should always be used for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhœa. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

Settling in the South.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I wish to caution all old comrades against settling in the low lands of the South. Only the platteaus and higher altitudes are healthy for Northern people. Old Lookout cannot be excelled for advantages for old comrades with limited means. Good railroad facilities, as healthy a climate as can be found anywhere, good water, and plenty of it; an abundance of timber, a fertile soil, when farmed like it is in the older States north; excellent for fruits and vegetables of all kinds; a free range for cattle, hogs, and sheep, which do finely.

Mentone is situated on the west brow of Lookout Mountain, two miles from Valley Head, which is situated on the A. & S. Railroad, which is 11 miles north of Fort Payne, and 40 miles south from Chattanooga. This is fast becoming a Northern community, and all are well pleased. We invite those seeking homes in the South to come and look for themselves. I am an invalid and don't desire correspondence, but will answer a limited number if they mean business and inclose stamp. So will Comrade E. J. Gates, late of South Dakota, and Comrade William Divan, late of Ohio.—C. N. MXYWELL, Co. F, 3d Me., Mentone, Ala.

The Best Friend the Soldiers Have.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: Go on in your good work. I believe that THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE is the best and strongest friend that we old soldiers have now or ever had.—W. J. ADAMS, Commander of Post 53, Mason, Mich.

East Tennessee Solid.

EDITOR NATIONAL TRIBUNE: The Union ex-soldiers of East Tennessee are almost solid for our comrade, Wm. McKinley, and Garret A. Hobart.—W. R. CARTER, Knoxville, Tenn.

OH! WHAT A RELIEF.

"I suffered with terrible pains in my left ovary and womb. My back ached all the time.

"I had kidney trouble badly. Doctors prescribed for me, and I followed their advice, but found no relief until I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Oh! what a relief it is, not to have that tired feeling day after day, in the morning as much as at night after a hard day's work, and to be free from all pains caused by Ovarian and Womb troubles. I cannot express my gratitude. I hope and pray that other suffering women will realize the truth and importance of my statement, and accept the relief that is sure to attend the use of the Pinkham Medicine."—MRS. JAMES PARRISH, 2501 Marshall St., N. E., Minneapolis, Minn.

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