

# Princeton Union.

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Square fingers show great reasoning powers, order and regularity. They are often found on the hands of lawyers.

A wealthy American, anxious to occupy a grand mansion in London, has leased Arlington house at a rental of \$10,000. Only a silver king, a pork butcher or a plumber could afford to pay so much rent.

Millionaire Bookwalter, the flying machine enthusiast of Ohio, isn't discouraged because he has had to spend so much money on impractical schemes of balloon navigation. He has another model under way.

One hundred tons of cats' tails were recently sold at once for the purpose of ornamenting ladies' wearing apparel. This means that, assuming an average cat's tail to weigh two ounces, no fewer than 1,792,000 pussies had to be killed.

One of the peculiarities of the coconut palm is that it never stands upright. A Malayan saying has it that: "He who has looked upon a dead monkey; he who has found the nest of a paddy-bird; he who hath beheld a straight coconut, or has fathomed the deceitful heart of a woman, will live forever."

A discussion concerning the longest words used in the English language has recalled to one of the participants that "disestablishmentarianism" was used by many English and Irish newspapers at the time of the disestablishment of the Irish church, about 1871, and found its way into the house of commons.

A singular illustration of the persistence with which the Japanese adhere to their family vocations is seen in an announcement in a Japanese newspaper that a certain celebrated dancing master was to hold a service in honor of the 1,000th anniversary of the death of his ancestor, who was the first of the family to take up the profession.

Tramps who honor the town of Birmingham, Ala., with their presence have a new scheme for securing money. They put caustic on their arms, thus making a sore which presents a terrible appearance; then the injured member is bandaged up and the tramp goes on a begging tour. It is said that a death had already occurred from this barbarous scheme.

There is a falling off in the value of both the imports and exports of France during the last year. The imports were to the value of 4,412,390,000 francs, against 4,767,867,000 francs in 1901, and the exports 3,562,909,000 francs, as compared with 3,569,737,000 francs in 1901.

In many countries the rainbow is spoken of as being a great bent pump or syphon tube, drawing water from the earth by mechanical means. In parts of Russia, in the Don country, and also in Moscow and vicinity, it is known by a name which is equivalent to "the bent water pipe."

It is quite possible to make sugar from carrots; and, indeed, carrot juice contains more than 90 per cent of saccharine matter. As carrots are expensive abroad, foreign sugar manufacturers prefer beet roots. Very few people know that cow's milk contains about 5 per cent of sugar.

Von Bulow, the insane pianist, is a man of small physique and testy temper, and has the manner of a disciplinarian. He wears a heavy mustache and a pointed brown beard. He is said to be most averse to meeting strangers, and he has a violent dislike of hotels. He is a fine Greek scholar and bears the degree of Ph. D. given him by Johns in 1863.

The chalk under London can no longer be looked upon as a source of great additional supplies of water. This is already utilized by upward of 200 wells, and while at the commencement of the century the water, when tapped, rose in many places to the surface, it stands now at a level of about forty feet below Trinity high water mark. It is considered that the rate of depression now varies from one to two feet per annum.

A lady writing to the London newspapers from a fashionable west end address urges society dames to abstain from drinking champagne during Lent and give the money thus saved to the poor. The appeal is a curious one, and the assumption upon which it is confidently based is scarcely flattering to the rich women of England.

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## THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL.

DIGEST OF THE NEWS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

All Important Occurrences of the Past Week, Brought Down and Arranged for Rapid Reading.

### Washington.

Josiah Quincy of Massachusetts will be assistant secretary of state.

There will be no extra session of congress, it seems.

Sixty-one naval officers will be retired during Cleveland's term.

There were thirty-six nominations by President Harrison that were not confirmed by the senate, among them that of Judge Hanchett to the United States circuit court.

The United States supreme court has sustained St. Louis in its claim to the right to charge the Western Union Telegraph company for the use of streets in stringing wires.

The treasury department is informed that numerous fraudulent papers have been presented by Chinese upon the Pacific coast and Canadian border claiming to be merchants with right to domicile in the United States. In view of this state of affairs Assistant Secretary Spaulding has instructed collectors of customs to disregard all such papers and refuse entry unless it is proven satisfactorily that the persons presenting them have the right to land.

### Accidental Happenings.

Two towns in Georgia were wiped out by a cyclone and several persons were killed.

The works of the Kirkham Art, Tile and Pottery company at Barborton, Ohio, were destroyed by fire. Loss, \$240,000; insurance, \$165,000.

Fire in the Colonial flats at New York did damage amounting to \$50,000. Many women and children were carried from the building by the firemen.

A seven-year-old son of Henry Cook of East Selkirk, Man., hanged himself while at play. When the child's mother found the dead life was extinct.

H. V. Temple, president of the First National bank of Lexington, Neb., and his wife are in a dying condition from eating meat on which one of the children had spread rough on rats.

A fire, in which Mary Miller, a dissolute woman, was burned to death, occurred at Newcastle, Wyo. The origin of the fire is not positively known, but it is supposed to be from an overturned lamp.

### Personal Mention.

Congressman M. D. Hartner has announced that he could not accept the nomination for governor of Ohio.

Col. Weber, superintendent of emigration at New York, has sent his resignation to Secretary Carlisle.

Mrs. Cleveland is the latest addition to the opponents of crinoline, and declares that she will never wear or countenance it.

A dark-skinned young man in New York, who says he is a Long Island Indian named Nactansee, is about to make his stage debut as Othello.

One of the oldest of British noblemen is the duke of Northumberland, who is nearly ninety. He has been a member of five cabinets, and sat in parliament twenty years before he secured his title.

Four years ago Grover Cleveland rode to the capital sitting on the right of Benjamin Harrison. This time Mr. Harrison sat on the right of Mr. Cleveland during the ride.

Gen. Horace Porter, president of the Grant Monument association, says that money enough has been raised to finish the monument, and that work will be resumed at once.

Neal Dow, the veteran prohibitionist, is strongly opposed to the bill now pending in the Maine legislature which provides for the treatment of habitual drunkards at the expense of the state. Mr. Dow's idea is millions for prevention, but not a cent for cure.

### Among the Wicked.

Frank La Page of Corry, Pa., suicided by shooting at Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Charles Crona, last of the La Fittes freebooters, died in Chambers county, Tex.

The residence of Gov. Stone of Missouri was robbed of several articles of jewelry and a small sum of money.

F. C. Lucas, a prominent business man of Los Angeles, Cal., committed suicide by throwing himself in front of a locomotive.

Jesse Jackson, who led the gang that robbed a train at Wharton, I. T., last November, was arrested near Euflala, I. T.

During a fight between the Morrison and Ross factions at Whitwell, Tenn., Roy Morrison, Taylor Morrison and Will Ross were fatally stabbed.

Mr. Solomon is under arrest at Lincoln, Ill., for selling postage stamps to business men. He had a large quantity in his possession, and it is believed they were stolen.

Oliver Johnson, colored, thirteen years old, murdered Stanley Hott, white, aged five, and threw the body into the Scioto river at Columbus, Ohio. Johnson was arrested and confessed.

W. C. Jones, a well known horseman, was arrested at Nashville, Tenn., charged with larceny in securing horses in Chautauqua county, N. Y., under false pretenses.

In a hand-to-hand fight at Sedalia, Mo., between W. H. Hogg, a clerk, and P. H. Haley, a traveling salesman, both were badly wounded. A pistol was used, each securing possession of it alternately. Haley's wife was the cause of the trouble.

H. H. Nash, farm instructor on the Piegian Indian reserve, fifteen miles west of MacLeod, Man., heard a disturbance among the horses and went out to investigate. He saw two Indians, who walked up to him, and when within arm's length one pointed a revolver at him and fired. Nash threw up his arms, and lost the middle finger of his right hand.

The body of T. O'Brien, a pack pedler, who mysteriously disappeared from Havana, Ill., last November, has been washed up from the Illinois river, at the bridge at Havana. The body was not badly decomposed, but the neck was

broken and a deep gash was found on one side of the neck. It is believed that O'Brien was murdered.

Lewis Furman has been arrested at Birmingham, N. Y., for the murder of Richard Foote, on Friday, Oct. 30, 1891. At the recent trial of Mrs. Foote, who was charged with the crime of murdering her husband with an ax and burning his body in the barn, the fact was developed that the crime was committed by Furman.

At Chicago Frank Eck, formerly a fireman at Wichita, Kan., murdered his wife by cutting her throat, and then committed suicide by slashing himself from ear to ear. Mrs. Eck had for two weeks been employed as a chambermaid at Stafford's hotel, having come from Wichita to escape from her husband, who, she said, was so insanely jealous of her that it was impossible to live with him.

### Gossip of the Sports.

Pitcher Duryea wants another trial with the Washingtons.

Mark Baldwin's resigning with Cincinnati suggests that the Homestead real estate market has received a chill.

President Young has decided to give ex-Pitcher Eddie Seward a chance, at least, as substitute on the league umpire staff.

### Labor Items.

A 10 per cent reduction in wages is announced by the American Tebe and Iron company of Youngstown, Ohio, employing 600 men.

Dominick McCaffrey intends to re-enter the ring if he should lose his position as instructor at the Manhattan club. Charley Mitchell is the man he wants to fight. He will also fight Mike Donovan for \$5,000 a side.

Elmer E. Stutcliffe, for many years a professional ball player, having played with the St. Louis, Chicago, Omaha, Kansas City, and last season with the Baltimore, died at his home in Illinois Feb. 15.

Oliver S. Campbell of Brooklyn, who has won the lawn tennis championship of America in the singles for the past three seasons, will not defend his title at Newport next August owing to the pressure of private business.

An organization to be known as the Newark Athletic club has been formed in Newark, N. J., for the purposes of giving professional boxing matches. A purse of \$2,500 is offered by the club for a fight between Bill Plummer and Danny McBride.

Football has been resumed under very favorable auspices at Oxford and Cambridge. At Oxford success attended each team, the association players beating the Royal Arsenal, while the Rugby players defeated Royston Park team. The Cambridge teams were equally successful in annexing their games with the Old Etonian and East Shoon players.

### Railroad Items.

The Vanderbilts have secured possession of the New York & Northern railroad.

It is announced that S. H. H. Clark will resign the presidency of the Union Pacific and will return to the Missouri Pacific.

Vice President Reinhart, of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, has been chosen to succeed the late President Marvel.

### From Other Shores.

Favorable news from America was received with great enthusiasm at Hawaii.

Landslides wrecked many houses at Sandgate, Eng.

Taine, the celebrated French writer, is dead.

The senate of Dublin university voted to petition parliament to defeat the Irish home rule bill.

Signor Agazzi, cashier of the Bank of Rome, was arrested for having embezzled 100,000 francs two years ago.

M. Collet, an accountant for a firm which owns collieries at Charleroi, Belgium, committed suicide at Brussels by shooting himself with a revolver.

Dynamiters are still operating in Rome. Two dynamite bombs were discovered in the house of Signor Brin, minister of foreign affairs. Another bomb was found in front of a local prison.

Queen Regent Christina of Spain has conferred upon Rear Admiral Stephen H. Luce, U. S. N., the order of naval merit in recognition of his services as United States commissioner at the Columbian exposition.

Irish embroidery and lace to be sent to the Chicago world's fair were exhibited recently at the house of the earl of Aberdeen. The work on vestments for Roman Catholic prelates in the United States is especially fine.

The trial of ex-Minister and Deputy Antoine Pruse, Deputy Duge du La Fauconnerie, Senator Berat, ex-Deputy Gobron and M. Blondin, charged with corruption in connection with the Panama lottery bonds bill has been commenced at Paris.

### Miscellaneous Items.

E. C. Campbell, president of the Gilbert Car company, died at Troy, N. Y.

C. P. Wallbridge is the Republican nominee for mayor of St. Louis.

O. Overholt, grain and lumber, failed at Assumption, Ill., owing \$30,000.

The Akron, Ohio, Queensware Pottery company failed, owing \$25,000, and with \$50,000 assets.

Two chattel mortgages amounting to \$420,471.92 have been given locomotive builders by the Reading to secure claims.

James Gibson, a church deacon of Bloomsburg, Pa., lost \$4,000 in a gambling game.

The funeral of Vicar General Brady at St. Louis was attended by several thousand Catholics.

A solid gold cube worth \$300,000 will be exhibited at the world's fair by Black Hills mine owners.

The New Jersey senate confirmed the nomination of ex-Gov. Abbott as associate judge of the supreme court.

The Keystone brewery at Reading, Pa., has failed. The assets are \$70,000, and the liabilities about the same.

A movement is on foot to raise a fund in Maine by subscription for the erection of a statue of James G. Blaine at Augusta.

The Rev. George Tompkins, who was dismissed from Calvary Baptist church at New York, owes his former congregation for \$200,000 damages.

## THE PERIODS OF LIFE.

A SERMON FOR YOUNG, MIDDLE-AGED AND OLD FOLKS.

The Plans of the Twenties, the Disappointments of the Thirties, the Discoveries of the Forties, and the Harvest of the Fifties.

Brooklyn, N. Y., Special.—Dr. Talnage's subject was "From Twenty to Seventy." The text selected was Psalm xc, 10: "The days of our years are three score and ten."

The seventieth milestone of life is here placed as at the end of the journey. A few beyond it; multitudes never reach it. The oldest person of modern times expired at 139 years. A Greek, by the name of Stravardie, lived to 132 years. An Englishman by the name of Thomas Parr lived 152 years. Before the time of Moses people lived 150 years, and if you go far enough back they lived 500 years. Well, that was necessary, because the story of the world must come down by tradition, and it needed long life safely to transmit the news of the past. If the generations had been short lived, the story would so often have changed lips that it might have got all astray. But after Moses began to write it down, and the parchment told it from century to century, it was not necessary that people live so long in order to authenticate the events of the past. If, in our time, people lived only twenty-five years, they would not affect history, since it is put in print and is no longer dependent on tradition. Whatever your age, I will today directly address you, and I shall speak to those who are in the twenties, the thirties, the forties, the fifties, the sixties, and to those who are in the seventies and beyond.

First, then, I accost those of you who are in the twenties. You are full of expectation. You are ambitious—that is, if you amount to anything—for some kind of success, commercial, or mechanical, or professional, or literary, or agricultural, or social, or moral. If I find some one in the twenties expecting any sort of ambition, I feel like saying: "My friend, you have got on the wrong planet. This is not the world for you. You are going to be in the way. Have you made your choice of poor houses? You will not be able to pay for your cradle. Who is going to settle for your board? There is a mistake about the fact that you were born at all." But supposing you have ambition, let me say to all the twenties, expect everything through divine manipulation, and then you will get all you want or something better. Are you looking for wealth? Well, remember that God controls the money markets, the harvest, the droughts, the caterpillars, the locusts, the sunshine, the storm, the land, the sea, and you will get wealth. Perhaps not that which is stored up in banks, in safe deposits, in United States securities, in houses and lands, but your clothing and board and shelter, and that is about all you can appropriate, anyhow. You cost the lord a great deal. To feed and clothe and shelter you for a lifetime requires a big sum of money, and if you get nothing more than the absolute necessities you get an enormous amount of supply. Expect as much as you will of any kind of success, if you expect it from the Lord you are safe. Depend on any other resource and you may be badly chagrined, but depend on God and all will be well. It is God who controls the life of life to have a man of large means back you up. It is a good thing to have a moneyed institution stand behind you in your undertaking. But it is a mightier thing to have the God of heaven and earth your condutor, and you may have him. I am so glad that I meet you while you are in the twenties. You are laying out your plans and all your life in this world of work for 500,000 years of your existence will be affected by those plans. It is about 8 o'clock in the morning of your life, and you are just starting out. Which way are you going to start? Oh, the twenties!

"Twenty" is a great word in the Bible. Joseph was sold for twenty pieces of silver. Samson judged Israel twenty years. Solomon gave Hiram twenty cities. The flying roll that Zechariah saw was twenty cubits. When the sailors of the ship on which Paul sailed sounded the Mediterranean sea it was twenty fathoms. What mighty things have been done in the twenties! Romulus founded Rome when he was twenty. Keats finished life at twenty-five. Lafayette was a world renowned soldier at twenty-three. Oberlin accomplished his chief work by twenty-seven. Bonaparte was victor over Italy by twenty-six. Pitt was prime minister of England at twenty-two. Calvin had completed his immortal "Institutes" by the time he was twenty-six. Grotius was attorney general at twenty-four. Some of the mightiest things for God and eternity have been done in the twenties. As long as you can put the figure "2" before the other figure that helps to define your age, I have high hopes about you. Look out for that figure "2." Watch its continuance with as much earnestness as you ever watched anything that promised you salvation or threatened you demolition. What a critical time, the twenties! While they continue you decide your occupation and the principles by which you are guided. You make your most abiding friendships. You arrange your home life. You fix your habits. Lord God Almighty, for Jesus Christ's sake, have mercy on all the men and women in the twenties!

Next I accost those in the thirties. You are at an age when you find what a tough thing it is to get recognized and established in your occupation or profession. Ten years ago you thought all that was necessary for success was to put on your shutter the sign of physician or dentist or attorney or broker or agent, and you would have plenty of business. How many hours you sat and waited for business and waited in vain; three persons only know—God, your wife and yourself. In commercial life you have not had the promotion and the increase in salary you anticipated, or the place you expected to occupy in the firm has not been vacated. The produce of the farm, with which you expected to support yourself and those depending on you, and to pay the interest on the mortgage, has been far less than you anticipated, or the prices were down, or special expenses for sickness made draughts on your resources that you

could not have expected. In some respects the hardest decade of life is in the thirties, because the results are generally so far behind the anticipations. It is very rare indeed that a young man does as did the young man last Sunday night when he came to me and said: "I have been so marvellously prospered since I came to this country that I feel, as a matter of gratitude, that I ought to dedicate myself to God." Nine-tenths of the poetry of life has been knocked out of you since you came into the thirties. Men in the different professions and occupations saw that you were rising and they must put an stopper on you or you might somehow stand in the way. They think you must be suppressed! From thirty to forty is an especially hard time for young doctors, young lawyers, young merchants, young farmers, young mechanics, young ministers. The struggle of the thirties is for honest and helpful and remunerative recognition.

Next I accost the forties. Yours is the decade of discovery. I do not mean the discovery of the outside, but the discovery of yourself. No man knows himself until he is forty. He overestimates himself. By that time he has learned what he can do, or what he cannot do. He thought he had commercial genius enough to become a millionaire, but now is satisfied to make a comfortable living. He thought he had rhetorical power that would bring him into the United States senate; now he is content if he can successfully argue a common case before a petit jury. He thought he had medical skill that would make him a Mott or a Grosse or a Willard Parker or a Sims; now he finds his sphere is that of a family physician, prescribing for the ordinary ailments that affect our race. He was sailing on in fog and could not take a reckoning, but now it clears up enough to allow him to find out his real latitude and longitude. He has been climbing, but now he has got to the top of the mountain and he takes a long breath. He is half-way through the journey at least, and he is in a position to look backward or forward. He has more good sense than he ever had. He knows human nature, for he has been cheated often enough to see the bad side of it, and he has met so many gracious and kindly and splendid souls he also knows the good side of it. Now, calm yourself. Thank God for the past, and deliberately set your compass for another voyage. You have chased enough shipwrecks. You have blown enough soap bubbles. You have seen the unsatisfying nature of all earthly things. Open a new chapter with God and the world. This decade of the forties ought to eclipse all its predecessors in worship, in usefulness and in happiness. "Forty" is a great word in the Bible. God's ancient people were forty years in the wilderness. David and Solomon and Jehoshaphat reigned forty years. When Joseph visited his brethren he was forty years old. Oh, this mountain top of the forties! You have now the character you will probably have for all time and all eternity. God, by his grace, sometimes changes a man after the forties, but after that a man never changes himself. Tell me, oh men and women who are in the forties, your habits of thought and life, and I will tell you what you will forever be. I might make a mistake once in a thousand times, but no more than that in proportion.

My sermon next accosts the fifties. How queer it looks when, in writing your age, you make the first of the two figures a "5." This is the decade which shows what the other decades have been. If a young man has sown wild oats, and he has lived to this time, he reaps the harvest of his sins, or if by necessity he was compelled to overtroll in honest directions he is called to settle up with exacting nature sometime during the fifties. Many have it so hard in early life that they are octogenarians at fifty. Sciaticas and rheumatisms and neuralgias and vertigos and insomnias have their playground in the fifties. A man's hair begins to whiten, and, although, he may have worn spectacles before, now he asks the optician for No. 14, or No. 12, or No. 10. When he gets a cough and is almost cured, he hacks and clears his throat a good while afterward. Oh, ye who are in the fifties think of it! A half century of blessing to be thankful for, and a half century subtracted from an existence which, in the most marked case of longevity, hardly ever reaches a whole century. By this time you ought to be eminent for piety. You have been in so many battles you ought to be a brave soldier. You have made so many voyages you ought to be a good sailor. So long protected and blessed, you ought to have a soul full of doxology.

My sermon next accosts the sixties. The beginning of that decade is more startling than any other. In its chronological journey the man rides rather smoothly over the figures "2" and "3" and "4" and "5," but the figure "6" gives him a big jolt. He says: "I can not be that I am sixty. Let me examine the old family record. I guess they made a mistake. They got my name down wrong in the roll of births." But no, the older brothers and sisters remember the time of his advent, and there is some relative a year older and another relative a year younger, and the fact is established beyond all disputation. Sixty! Now your great danger is the temptation to fold up your faculties and quit. You will feel a tendency to reminisce. If you do not look out you will begin almost everything with the words, "When I was a boy." But you ought to make the sixties more memorable for God and the truth than the fifties or the forties or the thirties. You ought to do more during the next ten years than you did in any thirty years of your life, because of all the experience you have had. You have committed enough mistakes in life to make you wise above your juniors. Now, under the accumulated light of your past experimenting, go to work for God as never before. When a man in the sixties folds up his energy and feels that he has done enough, it is the devil of indolence to which he is surrendering, and God generally takes the man at his word and lets him die right away. His brain, that under the tension of hard work was active, now suddenly shrivels. Men, whether they retire from secular or religious work, generally retire to the grave. No well man has a right to retire. The world was made for work. There remained a rest for the people of God, but it is a sphere beyond the reach of telescopes. The military charge that decided one of the greatest battles of the ages—the battle of Waterloo—was

not made until 8 o'clock in the evening, but some of you propose to go into camp at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

My subject next accosts those in the seventies and beyond. My word to them is congratulation. You have got nearly, if not quite, through. You have safely crossed the sea of life and are about to enter the harbor. You have fought at Gettysburg and the war is over. Here and there a skirmish with the remaining sin of your own heart and the sin of the world, but I guess you are about done. There may be some work for you yet on small or large scale. Bismarck of Germany, vigorous in the eighties; the prime minister of England strong at eighty-four; Haydn composing his oratorio, "The Creation," at seventy years of age; Isocrates doing some of his best work at seventy-four; Plato busy thinking for all succeeding centuries at eighty-one; Noah Webster, after making his world-renowned dictionary, hard at work until eighty-five years old; Rev. Daniel Waldo played in my pulpit at 100 years of age; Humboldt producing the immortal "Cosmos" at seventy-six years; William Blake at sixty-seven years; William C. Bryant, at eighty-five; William C. Bryant, without spectacles, reading in my house "Thanatopsis" at eighty-three years of age. Christian men and women in all departments serving God after becoming septuagenarians and octogenarians and nonagenarians, prove that there are possibilities of work for the old, but I think you who are past the seventies are near being through. How do you feel about it?

A man got up in a New York prayer meeting and said: "God is my partner. I did business without him for twenty years, and failed every two or three years. I have been doing business with him for twenty years, and have not failed once." Oh, take note of this! I had such an evidence of the goodness of God in temporal things when I entered active life, I must testify. Called to preach at lovely Belleville, in New Jersey, I entered upon my work. But there stood the empty parsonage, and not a cent had I with which to furnish it. After preaching three or four weeks I called officers of my church asked me if I did not want to take two or three weeks' vacation. I said: "Yes, but I had preached about all I knew, but I feared they must be getting tired of me. When I returned to the village after the brief vacation, they handed me the key of the parsonage and asked me if I did not want to go and look at it. Not suspecting anything had happened, I opened it, and there was the hall completely furnished with carpet and pictures and hat rack, and I turned into the parlors, and they were furnished, the softest sofas I ever sat on, and into the study, and found it furnished with book cases, and I went to the bed rooms, and they were furnished with every culinary article, and the spice boxes were filled and a flour barrel stood there ready to be opened, and I went down into the dining room and the table was set and beautifully furnished, and into the kitchen, and the stove was full of fuel, and a match lay on top of the stove, and all I had to do in starting housekeeping was to strike the match. God inspired the whole thing, and if I ever doubt his goodness, all up and down the world, call me an ingrate. I testify that I have been in many tight places, and God always got me out, and he will always get you out of the tight places.

But the most of this audience will never reach the eighties or the seventies or the sixties or the forties. He who passes into the forties has gone far beyond the average of human life. Amid the uncertainties take God through Jesus Christ as your present and eternal safety. The longest life is only a small fragment of the great eternity. We will all of us soon be there.

Eternity! how near it rolls, Count the vast value of your souls. Beware and count the awful cost! What they have gained, whose souls are lost.

### RAPID READER.

Men Who Could Gather the Meaning of a Page at a Glance.

The death of Justice Lamar recalls a trait or faculty which he possessed in a remarkable degree. It has been said of him that he was able to read a newspaper article or a page of a book at what seemed to the observer to be but a glance. Manifestly this faculty or capacity gave him great advantage over ordinary men. He was able to devour books as if he were a literary glutton, with the difference that his powerful memory enabled him to digest at leisure what he had absorbed in haste.

Macaulay possessed the same faculty, perhaps in a yet higher degree. He would take up a volume for an evening's intellectual enjoyment, and before he had retired had the contents fully impressed upon his marvellous mind. Dickens was another of those remarkably rapid readers. George Eliot's "Adam Bede" came to him one day. Before his ordinary bedtime he had read it, and had pronounced this remarkable dictum: "That book was written by a woman." Others required days of leisure to read it, and the question of authorship was the riddle at the time in literary circles. Charles Sumner was another man who possessed this happy faculty.

A book, whether it was a volume of law or diplomatic correspondence, or a work of fiction, passed under his eyes as if by a quick succession of glances. It was the same with Daniel Webster, who himself stated to a friend that, when in college he read "Don Quixote" in a single night. In the case of both these distinguished men what they read in this way reappeared in a new dress in their speeches and in their writings. Of course a retentive memory was necessary to render the results of this rapid reading available, but it is plain that in their capacity to read rapidly they possessed an enormous advantage over their fellow men, and the question arises, is it possible to develop this faculty and make it more generally useful in the vast multitude of books?—Augusta Chronicle.