

ST. CLOUD DEMOCRAT.

JANE G. SWISHELM,

"Speak unto the children of Israel that they go forward."—EXODUS, CHAP. XIV, VERSE 15.

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

VOL. I.

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NO. 25.

ST. CLOUD DEMOCRAT

OFFICE ON THE WESTERN BANK OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER,

99 MILES ABOVE THE FALLS OF

ST. ANTHONY,

OPPOSITE THE STEAMBOAT LANDING.

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POETRY.

CHICADEE.

The song-sparrow has a joyous note,
The brown thrush whistles bold and free;
But my little singing-bird at home
Sings a sweeter song to me.

The cat-bird, at morn or evening, sings
With liquid tones like gurgling water;
But sweeter by far, to my fond ear,
Is the voice of my little daughter.

Four years and a half since she was born,
The blackcaps piping cheerily,—
And so, as she came in winter with them,
She is called our Chicadee.

She sings to her dolls, she sings alone,
And singing round the house she sings,—
Out-doors or within, her happy heart
With a childlike song o'erflows.

With mingled pride and pleasure listening,
And thank the inspiring Giver of songs,
While a tear in our eye is glistening.

Oh! many a bird of sweetest song
I hear, when in the woods or meads I roam;
But sweeter, by far than all, to me,
Is my Chicadee at home.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Man

A Lecture delivered before "The Ladies St. Cloud Temperance Social Circle" by JANE G. SWISHELM.

Mrs President and Ladies of the St. Cloud Temperance Social Circle:

For ages, nay so far as the records of the race extend, back into the mists of unlettered night, it is evident that man has been most unremitting in his attentions to woman. He has written about her in prose, poetry and blank verse, in tragedy, comedy and farces, in history and prophecy, in rhyme and out of reason, in time and out of season. He has labored and legislated for and against her, he has speecified at her, to her and about her, he has lectured her and others for her benefit, he has told her how to behave and how not to behave, how to walk and how to stop walking, how to dress and when to stop dressing, how to talk and when to stop talking, how to eat and sleep and drink and think, how to wink and when she should gently droop the eyelashes.— He has decided for her a great many hundreds of thousands of times, when and how and why and what about she should shed tears, and upon what occasions smiles were indispensable.

In short it would be somewhat beyond the power of reflection to conceive of a subject which could be connected with woman, that her gallant neighbor has not made the special object of his unremitting attention, belaboring her with words, even more profusely than he has blackened her with blows. He has multiplied words about this all-important subject, until, if they were written down on a page of foolscap, of the ordinary breadth, and lengthened out to suit the occasion, we should have a paper ribband, long enough to reach around this little world of ours and tie it, in graceful festooning links, belting each and every one of the planets and satellites of our system, to the centre orb of day; and after spanning its circumference, to reach away and encircle all the systems, yet dreamed of by astronomers, and then tie in a double bow knot with streamers at the back of her ladyship—the most remote fixed star. He has defined and marked out "woman's sphere" until the whole creation, did it retain the marks, would be like a clay bed where a troop of old hens had been scratching for worms; and for all these favours shall we forget to be grateful? The spirit of womanhood

forbid. In your first meeting, held after the organization of your society, one gentleman stated that he understood this circle to have been formed for the benefit of man, as woman does not herself require any great effort to keep sober. This was one of the rare instances in which a man happened to be right; and as you have thus undertaken to show your sense of the infinite obligations heaped upon you by his unwearied labors for your benefit, it appears highly proper that the first lecture delivered before you should be upon that subject which called your "circle" into existence.

Man—what is he? The question was asked some thousands of years ago by David the great king of Israel; but he did not undertake to answer it; and of course I cannot hope to give any very satisfactory answer to so important a query. But, it is a conceded point that the Great First Cause which has brought everything into existence, has marked indelibly upon every part of his creation the exact use for which it was intended. Every single article in the great storehouse of Nature has its label fixed in its essential form; and the slightest change in the substance, must, per force, produce a corresponding change in the external appearance.

If men do not put new wine into old bottles, neither does God put any spirit into a habitation unsuited to its wants; and the uses for which it was intended.— All the mistakes we ever make in estimating the character and quality of any person or thing are caused by our ignorance of, or partial acquaintance with God's handwriting in His labels. He never puts the spirit of a lamb into the form of a lion. He never arms the ox with a tiger's claws, or furnishes the dove with an eagle's beak. The external form of every living creature is an exact indication of the spirit that dwells within; and the external form of every inanimate substance is the unerring test of the nature of that substance, and the uses to which it ought to be applied. Thus by outward indication, or form we have a full answer to David's important question; but we are only able to decipher it imperfectly. I shall in due time, try by my key to read the hieroglyphic; but,

The history of creation is another way of ascertaining the intended use of any object. All things were created in their proper order, from the least even unto the greatest. It is a maxim of wisdom to make only such things as are required for some specific use; and to make them at the proper time; and have them in the proper place; and he is deemed most wise who makes that which is needed in the time it is required. A locomotive would have been a useless piece of lumber prior to the building of railroads; and telegraph wires would have been worse than useless before the taming of the lightning. A wise man when he purposes to make any important piece of machinery must know some use to which he intends applying it; and must prepare a place in which it can be preserved for use. When he intends to acquire anything valuable, he prepares every thing necessary to its preservation. In other words, he gets the cage before he goes to catch the bird.

Applying these acknowledged rules of wisdom to the history of creation, it would appear that the All Wise had intended, from all eternity, to create, in the fullness of time, an order of intelligences closely resembling, yet differing from the angels which were then in heaven; and from which He might draw a stream of emigration to the upper realms. The first care was to prepare a habitation and suitable surroundings for one stage of the existence of the new order; and he made the world, then clothed it with verdure and beauty; just as a wise man preparing a habitation for a favored tenant, first builds the house and then furnishes it.

The chandeliers were hung, the sun and moon made, the earth brought forth fruit and flowers, the sea teemed with fishes, the air and the pastures with birds, insects and animals. The cellar, the larder, the pantry were stored with all good things which might minister to the comfort and innocent pleasure of the expected proprietor, the horses were in the stable and Brindle in the stall, the watchdog at the door, the kitten on the rug, the aviary was peopled, the dove cot a scene of cooing life, the rabbit warren dotted over with pink eyes; and the whole establishment waited for the steward to come and take possession. He was made for the occasion and the Creator called him Man.— After he had looked about and become familiarized with his charge, the mistress of the establishment arrived and took possession.

Thus by the order of creation, it appears that man is the link between woman and what we call the merely animal kingdom, just as the animals are the links between him and the vegetable world; and according to the law which governs every other part of that

—mighty chain of being
Lessening down from infinite perfection,
to the brink
Of dreary nothing."

he must unite in his nature the properties of the links on either side of him. In other words, one part of his being must be womanly, the other merely animal; and as the law of progress is upward, it is according to the eternal order of things that woman should use her influence to make him more like herself, and less like the beasts of the field, who know no law but appetite. She ought to labor for the advancement of the link, which binds her to its next door neighbor—the elephant, the horse, the whale, the dog or the monkey whichever it is that is highest in the merely animal scale.

For the truth of the assertion, that man's progress toward perfection lies through his advance in womanly qualities, we need only instance the highest type of manhood that has yet appeared on earth—the Saviour. His whole nature overflowed with the highest ideal of womanly virtues. Not one trace about him of the qualities men, in all ages have set up, as the standard of manly excellence. He never led an army, never conquered a State, never performed herculean feats of physical strength, never prided himself on his bones being like those of an ox, or his power to invent engines of destruction.— He never boasted of his right to swallow fire; and his capacity for containing more bottles of wine than others. He never exchanged shots with any one in defence of his honor, never knocked any one down for insulting him.

On the contrary his whole life was full of those acts which man's instinct has led him to assign to woman. He comforted the afflicted, wept with the distressed, fed the hungry, caressed the children; and was quite as disinterested and self sacrificing as every man thinks his wife ought to be.— He exhibited, in perfection, that patience under injury, that power of endurance, and passive courage in which woman is expected not to fail; and in which it has long been conceded she does greatly excel the other sex. He, in short, was more womanly than any woman has ever been, for he had no touch of the selfishness and sensuality of which men are apt to boast themselves, but which they know is degrading to woman.

The spirit which hath appeared unto all, teaches that a drunken or unclean woman is a horror; but most people feel that a man may wallow in moral pollution, without travelling far out of his "proper sphere." Thus, it is conceded that man is a lower order of intelligence than woman. Of him is expected and required, the qualities which enable him to grapple with rude, inanimate and animal nature; while of her it is expected that she shall approach the standard of infinite perfection, of infinite purity, infinite compassion, infinite patience, infinite love. In the midst of all the wrongs which man, in the power of his animal strength, has inflicted upon woman, let her never cease to thank him for this. It is hard to be robbed of her natural inheritance—of her wages, of her right to the custody of her own children. It is hard to be compelled, by brute force, to submit to laws made by an inferior order of intelligences; but thank them, and thank God, that they have not robbed you of their inward sense and outward acknowledgement, of your right to be better, purer, holier, more like God, than they are.

If any further proof is required of the truth of our position—that man is the link between woman and the animal world—we have this proof in his outward form. His bones, muscles, and physical strength, approach much nearer to those of an ox than yours do. The upper, and better, portion of his face is smooth, as is the face of no creature on earth, except woman; and as inspired poets and artists always represent the face of an angel; while the lower portion of his physiognomy is clothed with hair, like the faces of the cat and monkey. This fits him for exposure to the atmosphere; and with his larger and stronger frame, proves, that it is his business to do the world's rough, heavy work—to stand between woman and rude contact with animals—to save her from the necessity of managing horses and killing beasts of prey, of felling timber, blasting rock, building houses, holding the plow, and all other labor requiring great physical strength.

As mind corresponds to its surrounding matter, or, rather, as the outward form is the sign of the inward substance, there is, and must be, a class of mind labors in which man must excel woman; as there is a class of mental or intellectual processes in which, she must ever surpass him. As to the dividing line, we may hope to find it when we discover the partition between the violet and the blue, in coloring of the rainbow. From the infinite varieties presented by the individuals of each sex, their fields of labor must always blend, and lose themselves in each other, just as the one color in the prism order of the original seven, is blent with that which adjoins.

Pride, haughtiness or boasting is ever the mark of littleness and meanness of spirit; but every one should seek to estimate him or herself aright, to count all

the talents committed to him or her, in order to be ready for the reckoning, when the Master shall call for an account; and there can be no doubt that He has committed to man a sufficient capital, in his unconscious appreciation of the Moral law, to make him, if properly improved, as much better than woman now is, as she is better than he, and much more so; while she might pass the highest ideal she has ever formed of human excellence. Is it not strange that any one of us should be content to crawl and wallow, or even to limp and stagger, when we might arise to soar and sing?

It appears incomprehensible that the children of the Heavenly King should devote any part of their little probation here, to nights of debauchery, or days of frivolity; that they should be fogged, cloud, and debase that part of their being which unites them to the Eternal Excellence, to gratify that other portion, which makes them the brother and sister of the worm.

The why and the wherefore that some men seek to be beasts, and some women butterflies, is a problem difficult to explain—that any one conscious or expectant of an immortal destiny, should blur the Godlike in his nature by the stupefactions of tobacco, rum, gambling excitements, and their kindred vices, is as unaccountable, as the fact that women, in a great measure, unfit themselves for their business of leading the way upward, by their devotion to flounces and turbulences.

You have all heard good Christians return thanks that they were born in a land of gospel light. This is no sign of vain glory, or of triumphing over those less highly favored. So should every woman, without pride of place, but with deep humility for the little improvement she has made of her advantages—to kneel every day and thank God that she was not born to be a man; and have folks get up societies to prevent her growing downward into a brute.

Many philosophers have held that men have no souls; and it is generally allowed that the higher a man rises in intellectual culture, the more likely he is to embrace this opinion. So much does the pursuit of philosophical research tend to skepticism on this point, that religious teachers generally discourage the pursuit of truth through the realms of speculation, protest against any attempt to be "wise above what is written," and prescribe faith, as the only sure remedy for the inborn conviction of thousands of men, that they, in no material sense, differ from the monkey.

I say inborn sense; for it must be that it is an inward consciousness of vacuity in the region where the better portion of their nature teaches them, a soul ought to be located, which forces the conclusion of its non existence, upon so many strong masculine intellects. The fact, that depth of research is apt to lead them to infidelity, proves that materialism belongs to the thinking faculty of man in greater proportion, than it does to that of woman; even as his physical form is of coarser earth than her's. It is only as woman's intellect approaches the masculine type, that she is inclined to infidelity; and the world recognizes her as the true woman, who most pertinaciously clings to the belief and hope of her own immortal destiny.

As to the fact of man's immortality, a long, patient, and impartial investigation of the subject, leads me to believe that, notwithstanding the great earthliness of his nature, there is something, in a large majority of them, which the Creator will not finally resolve into clay. It appears to me, that souls have been distributed amongst them, at the rate of about ten to the dozen; and that in every twelve, there are not more than two who are totally lacking.

Some of the souls portioned out to them are very clever souls; and must, per force, command our profound admiration. The majority, of course, are medium size; while some are rather smallish; and there are those who could find ample accommodations—chamber, dressing-room, drawing and dining rooms, with space for a wood shed, all suited to their several wants—within the excavated walls of a midge's eye.

Folks are apt to look down with contempt on this class of souls; but this is very wrong. No other class of motive powers do so large an amount of work, according to the force employed. It is not uncommon for one of these infinitesimal engines to protect, from putrefaction, some hundred and eighty, or even two weight of flesh and bones, for the space of four-score years and ten. Instead, then, of feeling contempt for these nice little souls, it is right and proper they should command your sympathy and aid, in restraining the great burden of animal appetites with which they have to contend.

which they have to contend; and thus try to repay some small portion of the debt of gratitude due to the burly sex for its indefatigable attentions of four thousand years.

Memorial.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

The undersigned citizens of Minnesota, respectfully represent to the Congress of the United States, that a semi-weekly mail service to the navigable waters of the Columbia River, and to Puget Sound, from some point central to the western limits of the Great Lakes, can be accomplished in eighteen days, provided the same encouragement is given by the Government to the enterprise which has been extended to the line from St. Louis and Memphis to San Francisco.

The object of this memorial is, to ask from Congress that the requisite encouragement shall be extended to the Northwestern route.

Of the vast extent of American territory between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean, the principal portion lies north of the fortieth parallel of latitude.— As guardian of the public domain and the proprietor of immature States, therefore, the General Government is interested in a postal connection, which, while indispensable to the people of Oregon and Washington, would encourage speedy settlements in the valleys of the Upper Missouri River and of the Rocky Mountains, and in the transmontane basin of the Columbia. We look in vain, over more southern areas, for geographical and hydrographical relations so commanding as are presented by the limits of navigation on the Lakes and the Mississippi, and by the channels of the Missouri and Columbia rivers. Regarded as a question of Internal Policy alone, the Overland Route from the Northern Lakes to Puget Sound challenges the favorable consideration of the Government.

South of latitude 40, the Federal Government now expends \$2,230,698 annually for the transportation of the mails to the Pacific coast, as follows:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Semi monthly ocean service, via Panama to California and Oregon, | \$738,250 |
| Semi monthly overland mail from San Antonio, Texas, to San Diego, California, | 196,448 |
| Semi weekly overland mail from Memphis and St. Louis, via El Paso to San Francisco, | 600,000 |
| Weekly overland mail from St. Joseph, Missouri and thence to Placerville, California, | 320,000 |
| Monthly route from Kansas City, via Albuquerque and Tejon Pass to Stockton, | 90,000 |
| Semi monthly mail from New Orleans to Tehuantepec, | 250,000 |
| | \$2,194,698 |
| Add \$36,000 for the Tehuantepec Route when the contractors choose to carry mails to San Francisco. | 36,000 |
| Total, | \$2,230,698 |

The Ocean service by the Isthmus of Panama, starts from York York and New Orleans, and communicates with Oregon as well as California, and is not exclusively local in its character. Deducting, therefore the sum first above stated, and also the payment on account of the Tehuantepec route (which would be an aggregate of \$1,024,250), and it leaves a total expenditure for Mail Service over American Territory between latitudes 31 deg. and 40 deg. of \$1,196,448, while the area between latitudes 40 deg. and 49 deg. is without any Overland Mail Service whatever.

These facts warrant the present application to Congress, for the establishment of an Overland Semi-Weekly Mail on or near the forty-seventh parallel of north latitude, and that the same legislative and other provision in its behalf shall be made, which now exists in favor of the Overland Route near the Southern frontier. More, the citizens of the Lake States are not disposed to ask—so much the Government should be prompt to concede.

The annual report of the Postmaster General contains a favorable intimation on this subject. In regard to the "overland connection with California and the other Pacific States and Territories," that officer remarks; "except one other route, commonly called the Northern route, from St. Paul in Minnesota, to Seattle, in Washington Territory, no other is now thought of as being likely to become necessary." In a schedule of contracts, for which the Post Office department has invited proposals, a semi-monthly mail service between the points named above, was advertised. But a semi-monthly mail is entirely inadequate to meet the public emergency, while the necessary expenditure for stock, vehicles, stations, facilities of transit, and protection to the employed, will be nearly the same under a semi-monthly as a semi-weekly contract. No proposition, which responsible and competent

parties would tender, is likely to be accepted, without the intervention of Congress. Hence bills have already presented at Washington by Hon. H. M. Rice, Senator from Minnesota, and by Hon. E. B. Washburn, Representative from Illinois, either of which, if enacted by Congress, would be satisfactory to the memorialists.— We repeat and urge the request, that one of these bills may speedily become a law.

The preceding statements of the current expenditures for Pacific mail service, is produced with no invidious motive. We disclaim all sectional prejudice on this subject. The transit of Central America and an overland connection of the Gulf of Mexico with the Pacific, are objects of such importance political and commercial, as fully to justify the appropriation in question. The citizens of Minnesota are accustomed to regard the debouché of the Mississippi upon the Gulf of Mexico; the junction of the Ohio and Missouri in mid-channel of the Mississippi, and the head of navigation upon the Mississippi, as the prominent points of departure and distribution to the great plains of the continent; and they will advocate in behalf of routes from New Orleans to San Diego, and from St. Louis to San Francisco, the identical measure which they ask for an Overland Mail Route from Minnesota to Oregon and Washington. Safe and speedy communications between the Gulfs of Mexico and California should be and have been established, but why not join, by similar enterprise the converging Mediterranean of the Northern Lakes? Not a subscriber to this memorial, but would rejoice, if at the present session of Congress, three millions per annum were appropriated to open three great post routes as already delineated—an expenditure, which, in connection with the extinction of Indian titles along the lines, a corresponding extension of land surveys and pre-emptions, and some aid in the construction of roads and bridges, would accomplish more to advance the Pacific Railway interest, than the passage of any of the measures now pending at Washington. Indeed, any or all of the routes of a Pacific Railroad must be opened in their whole extent to settlement—must be made accessible to emigrants—must be transferred to the postal and political protection of the Government, as completely as the settled districts of Minnesota, before any substantial progress is made upon the question of a Pacific Railroad.

The undersigned need not enlarge upon recent events, which have made it impossible for an American statesman longer to ignore the importance of the Overland Route to the North Pacific. The discovery of the extensive Gold Fields upon Frazer and Thompson rivers—the organization of British Columbia—the withdrawal of the Hudson's Bay Company, to the Districts of British America north of latitude 55°—the abundant evidence, that there is an inhabitable district, North-West of Minnesota and beyond the international frontier, fertile, rich in coal and minerals, and which, including Vancouver Island and British Columbia, has an area of five hundred thousand square miles—the late treaties with Japan and China, opening to the commerce and manufactures (even to the lumber region of Oregon,) an illimitable market—the rising power of Russia in Asia with the well known friendly disposition to the people of the United States—the annexation by Russia of the navigable Amoor river, with its tributary valleys fully, three hundred thousand square miles in extent, and constituting a most attractive field of adventure and speculation—the arrangements, made and making, by Russia and England to cover the North Pacific with war and postal steamers—the British scheme of a Pacific naval station at Victoria on Vancouver Island—a similar scheme of Russian aggrandisement upon the sea of Japan—a project believed eminently practicable for telegraph and perhaps railway extension from Moscow to Japan, and a telegraph thence by the Aleutian Islands across the North Pacific to Sitka in Russian America—these, and other events of no less significance have transpired within the half year closed, almost within the Congressional recess. Certainly, Senators and Representatives cannot be insensible to the importance of a direct connection between the leading Atlantic cities and the scenes of such imposing events.

Passing from the topics thus enumerated, and whose relation to the immediate subject may seem rather remote, we urge upon the attention of Congress some additional considerations in favor of a semi-weekly Mail on the proposed route.

1st. The southern boundary of Minnesota is in latitude 43 degrees and 30 minutes. Extend that parallel to the Pacific, and the belt of the territory enclosed by the British boundary on the north, would be traversed by the Mail Route under consideration. The river systems revealed by the maps within these limits afford the best evidence, that the entire area has a fall of water, ample for all purposes of agriculture. With this important fact fully considered, the basins of the Colum-