

"ARE YOU A MASON?" Rev. Mr. Magill, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Peru, Illinois, being asked the above question by a lady, responded as follows:—

I am of a band Who will faithfully stand In the bonds of affection and love; I have knocked at the door, Once wretched and poor, And there for admission I stood.

By the help of a friend, Who assistance did lend, I succeeded an entrance to gain; Was received in the West, By command from the East, But not without feeling some pain.

Here my conscience was taught With a moral quite fraught With sentiments holy and true; Then onward I travelled, To have it unravelled, What Hiram intended to do.

Very soon to the East I made known my request, And "light" by command did attend; When I perceived, In due form revealed, A Master, and Brother, and Friend.

Thus far I have stated, And simply related, What happened when I was made free, But I've "passed" since then, And was "raised" up again, To a sublimer and nobler degree.

Then onward I marched, That I might be "Arch'd," And find out the treasures long lost; When, behold! a bright flame, From the midst of which came A voice, from my ears did ascend.

Through the "veil" I then went, And succeeded at length The "Sanctum Sanctorum" to find; By the "Signet" I gained, And quickly obtained Employment, which suited my mind.

In the depths I then wrought, And most carefully sought For treasures so long hidden there; And by labor and toil, I discovered rich spoil, Which are kept by the craft with due care.

Having thus far arrived, I further contrived Among valiant Knights to appear; As a pilgrim and Knight, I stood ready to fight, Nor Saracen foe did I fear.

For the widow distressed There's a chord in my breast; For the helpless and orphan I feel; And my sword I could draw To maintain the pure law Which the duty of Masons reveal.

Thus have revealed (Yet wisely concealed) What the "free" and "accepted" well know, I am one of a band Who will faithfully stand As a brother, wherever I go.

INTERESTING FROM PARIS.

Special Paris and Continental Correspondence of "The Philadelphia Evening Telegraph." PARIS, December 3.

The Mexican Question—How Will It End? It is now every where believed that the Emperor Maximilian has decidedly quitted Mexico, and there is no doubt but that a determined effort will be made by the United States to firmly establish Juarez in the Presidency of the Mexican republic. But by what course shall the Mexican Emperor left his capital? And has he done so in order to avoid meeting Monsieur de Castenau, the special envoy of Napoleon III? How will all this end? Is the American Government to assume the formal protectorate? Is France to receive a guarantee for any portion of the expense of this ill-starred expedition? On these points no reliable information has as yet leaked out, and indefinite anxiety is felt about the next news from Mexico, which is expected to arrive very shortly via Southampton, by the steamboat Seine.

Passing the Time at Compiegne. The stay of the Court at Compiegne promises to be but brief this year, for there is talk of an unusually early assembling of the Senate and the Corps Legislatif, to enable these bodies to get through the larger portion of their deliberations before the opening of the Exhibition.

What will the sittings of the Army Commission, shooting parties, and stag hunts, the Emperor and his guests work very hard. The second series of guests leave Compiegne to-day, to make room for the third series, who will arrive to-morrow.

The Empress and Her Excursion to Rome. Many people now seriously believe in the pilgrimage to the shrine of the departing temporal power, which is intended as a proof of the confidence with which the Empress is animated, and of the profound sympathies felt in the highest quarters towards the Holy Father. It is, however, not yet known whether this visit will be undertaken with the sanction of the Emperor; but whether such be the case or not, at a juncture like the present, when the Convention of September is at its maturity, it is not strange that it should excite so much attention.

Ministerial Changes. Reports of modifications in the Ministry are now being spread about, and I think, from inquiries, that there is some basis for them. Monsieur Rouher, the Minister of State, does not at all relish the idea of seeing Count Walowski replace in the Corps Legislatif next session, for M. Rouher fancies that he is not exactly the right man in the right place. It is probable that, in compensation, the Count will take the Ministry of the Emperor's household, now held by Marshal Vaillant. If this should take place, there will be a great many changes among high personages in the Cabinet.

The Great Exhibition. The progress of the works of the Great Exhibition of Art and Industry, one of the proudest achievements of the second empire, is really striking. This immense building is almost a mile in circumference, and forms nearly a circle. The productions and manufactures exhibited are to be arranged as follows:— First. Works of art. Second. Materials and tools used in artistic labor. Third. Articles of furniture and other objects intended for the interior of dwelling-houses. Fourth. Wearing apparel of every description. Fifth. Raw material used in manufactures in different degrees of preparation. Sixth. Art processes and instruments. Seventh. Food, both in its natural state, preserved, and in different degrees of preparation and cooking. Eighth. Living specimens, both animal and vegetable, relating to agriculture. Ninth. The same, relating to horticulture. Tenth. Special exhibition of inventions for ameliorating the moral and physical condition of the people.

hydraulic machines, water and fire engines, and pumps will also take place here. The French restaurant will be under the management of M. Bouze, who has also the refreshment saloon at the opera. It will be opened in January, 1867, in order that the exhibitors, who come to see after the arrangement of their productions, may find ample refreshment without leaving the building.

At the opening of the exhibition, however, restaurants of all countries will be established—English, American, German, Italian, Russian, Chinese, all will be represented. There will be sufficient choice to please the most fastidious, and, with a little imagination, one may imagine oneself dining in any country under the sun.

Arrived outside the building, we see on our right the International Club, a very fine building, almost as large as the War Office; the same house for the foreign missions; the Theatre and Concert Hall, with its numerous outlets, and the railway station. A little further on are the massive Egyptian constructions, heavy and strange-looking, resembling the temples brought from Memphis.

On the left hand side are the pretty stone and brick church, intended to contain everything appertaining to ecclesiastical art; an immense iron lighthouse; an elegant rotunda, to be opened as a cafe, and a model dwelling-house, presented by a committee of workmen; also, a windmill, remarkable both by its height and the peculiarity of its shape; a pretty little mosque, of white marble, in which the photo-sculpture is to be exhibited; and, though last, yet by no means least, the Emperor's Algerian tent. The myriad products of ingenuity and invention, stimulated by the wants or luxuries of man, will all be replete with immense interest to the observant visitor who seeks to profit by the lessons its abundant illustrations of art and sciences will be so well adapted to inculcate.

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AN ELEGANT ASSORTMENT OF LADIES' CLOTHS. For Skating Sacques we are Selling HEAVY ST. BERNARD'S AT \$3. EXTRA HEAVY ST. BERNARDS AT \$3.50.

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A large assortment of Ladies' and Gents' Cloth Gloves; Children's Cloth Gloves; Ladies' and Gents' Hosiery. Ladies' and Gents' Merino Vests, etc.

Domestic Goods at the very lowest market Prices. Bleached and Unbleached Muslins, Canton Flannels, All-wool and Domet Flannels, heavy Saker Flannels, Red and Grey, Plain and Twisted Flannels. Just opened, 5000 yards Prins, best colors, 18 cents.

PRICE & WOOD, N. W. Corner EIGHTH and FILBERT St. N. B.—Daily receiving something new, suitable for presents.

FARIES & WARNER, No. 229 North NINTH Street, ABOVE RACE.

Just received from auction, Shaker Flannel, cotton and wool, 25 cents, a bargain. Best Canton Flannels, 22, 25, 31, and 37 cents. Bleached and Unbleached Muslins at reduced prices.

All-wool and Domet Flannels, \$1, \$2, \$3, etc. etc. Delaines, etc. etc. Ladies' Merino Vests, \$1.25, \$1.37, \$1.50, etc. Gents' Merino Shirts and Drawers, \$1.25 to \$2.50.

FANCY GOODS FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS. Fine assortment of Ladies' and Gents' Cloth Gloves. Ladies' Hemstitched and Embroidered Hdks. Gents' Colored Border Handkerchiefs, \$7, \$6, \$5, and 75 cents.

Portemonnaies, large assortment, 37 cents up. Ladies' Companions, Imported Imitations, etc. Wax Dolls, Card Presses, Ash Stands, etc. Imported Brushes, Combs, etc.

FARIES & WARNER, No. 229 North NINTH Street, above Race. N. B.—Open at night during next week.

EYRE & LANDELL, S. W. Corner of Fourth and Arch Sts. ARE OFFERING SOME FINE GOODS AT VERY LOW PRICES FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

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LEGAL NOTICES. IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA.

The Auditor appointed by the Court to audit, settle, and adjust the account of D. C. FOLWELL, Trustee of R. W. SMITH, and to report distribution of the balance in the hands of the account, will meet the parties interested for the purpose of his appointment, on MONDAY, December 24, at 11 o'clock A. M., at his office, of R. BUNNELL SMITH, Esq., No. 27 South FOURTH Street, in the city of Philadelphia. 12 14 1/2

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA. Estate of LAWRENCE H. KELLY deceased. The Auditor appointed by the Court to audit, settle, and adjust the account of ROBERT D. MORRIS, Guardian of LAWRENCE H. KELLY, and THOMAS H. GREEN, Executor of the last Will and Testament of LAWRENCE H. KELLY, deceased, and to report distribution of the balance in the hands of the account, will meet the parties interested for the purpose of his appointment, on MONDAY, December 24, at 11 o'clock P. M., at his office, No. 142 1/2 South STREET, in the city of Philadelphia. 12 14 1/2

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA. Estate of HUGH BURNETT. The Auditor appointed by the Court to audit, settle, and adjust the account of ROBERT D. MORRIS, Guardian of HUGH BURNETT,