

# THE OPELOUSAS COURIER.

Opelousas, Louisiana.

**CONDITIONS.**  
Subscription—Three Dollars per year, payable in advance.  
Advertisements—Fifty Cents per square for the first insertion and Twenty-Five Cents for each subsequent insertion. Eight lines or less constitute a square.  
All advertisements sent in for publication will be inserted in English and French (unless otherwise ordered) until the publisher judges it consistent to discontinue.  
Candidates for public office will pay Fifteen Dollars each, in advance, if they wish to be announced. Obituary Notices, Cards of Thanks, etc., will be published in the Opeloousas Courier at the rate of twenty cents per line, in advance.

## LATE NEWS SUMMARY.

### WEST.

Within the past twelve months Illinois railroads have killed 227 persons and maimed 404.  
There are said to be more idle miners among the coal regions of Ohio than at any time since the panic.  
A dispatch from Tucson says very rich gold mines have been discovered in Sonora, on the Miguel River. The claims cover a surface of 6 miles square.

Eight warriors, thirty-nine squaws and papooses, and sixty-two ponies, belonging to the Medicine Water band of Cheyennes, surrendered unconditionally at Cheyenne agency on the 20th inst. Two white women are now with Stone Hill, who is said to have two hundred lodges on the Medicine Water. Two messengers have arrived, asking for peace. Word has been sent him that he can surrender unconditionally, and a demand was made for the white women.

The latest newspapers received from California represent the mining share excitement as increasing in intensity under the stimulus of the recent discoveries of ore in Nevada. Ophir shares, which within the month have sold for less than \$100, sold on Saturday, Dec. 19, at \$125, and before the close closed on the following Monday reached \$150, which is equivalent to an increase between the boards of \$5,000,000 on the whole capital stock. On the last named day California shares showed a gain of \$175, and Consolidated Virginia a gain of \$105 over the prices of the previous Saturday, which carries these mines to a nominal value of \$50,000,000 each. These are big figures, and the market breaks hundreds of the speculators who were ruined, while the large operators who have engineered the whole thing will in the meantime have retired from the field with enormous spoils.

**EAST.**  
Diphtheria has a firm hold in New York. For the week ending December 19, there were 154 deaths from that disease against 129 the week previous. Small-pox increased from 54 to 94 fatal cases, and scarlet fever from 35 to 50.

A drought has been prevailing for some time in New England, and large sections are suffering serious inconvenience from the lack of water. Many mills have expanded, and in some localities farmers find it quite difficult to get water enough for their stock.

Statistics of the working of the prohibitory system in Maine during the past year, show that fines to the amount of \$50,000 were imposed and collected for violations of the law. There have been 276 convictions in the supreme court for selling liquor, and forty-one offenders have been committed to jail; a larger number than in any previous year. It is claimed that this rigorous enforcement of the law has resulted in a decrease of crime, the number of convictions being twenty-five per cent. less than ten years ago.

**SOUTH.**  
In a quarrel at Chelsea stockyards, Memphis, Friday night, Matt. Rice shot and fatally wounded Dave Scott, both colored.

An incendiary fire at Okemond, Ark., early Thursday morning, destroyed property to the amount of \$50,000.

Richard Barnum, his wife and two children were burned to death at Shannon, Miss., Saturday night.

The Blythe post mortem shows that ex-Gov. Warrenton inflicted six wounds on his assistant, five of which were necessarily fatal.

The cotton exports of Savannah amounted to 735 bales in 1896, and for only three months of the present current year to 40,780 bales.

The supreme court of Georgia, in the cases brought by certain bill-holders against the Mechanics' bank of Augusta and its stockholders, decides that the bill-holders are entitled to recover.

Reports from Montgomery, Ala., state that the negroes are rapidly contracting with planters for next year's work. There is less talk of going west, and a better feeling prevails than for years.

At Lamar, Barlow county, Missouri, Sunday night, an unknown man rode up to the country jail, and through one of the windows shot and killed Hiramson, the murderer of Col. Morris, and fatally wounded his accomplice, Dixon, and then escaped.

Two notorious horse-thieves named Tony Cox and George Alexander, who murdered a Mr. White at Springfield, Mo., last October, were killed last week near Okemond, Indian territory, by Detective York of Springfield, and another outlaw named Finch West was mortally wounded.

The sheriff of Osage county, Tennessee, Healey Overton, died from a pistol shot which he received last week while in the discharge of his official duties, in arresting a man named Leland. The sheriff also shot his prisoner, who fell upon Overton, and died immediately. Both men were of respectable families.

A dispatch from Helena, Arkansas, says the steamer John B. Mandr struck an old sunken barge last night about midnight, while near or at what is known as O. E. Lankling, forty miles above Helena, and stuck in about five feet of water. No lives were lost. It is believed the barge and cargo will not prove a total loss, but the river is rising so fast that she is in great danger unless speedily raised.

Two men were killed at Columbus, Ga., Saturday. M. W. Murphy, the chief of police, while attempting to arrest some drunken desperadoes, from Georgia, Ala., was mortally wounded. Missed by a bullet, one of the desperadoes who attacked the chief, died on Sunday morning. The friends of the assassinated, having threatened to break open the jail and rescue Dan Bayley, the outraged citizens were determined to kill Murphy with the surviving murderer. The sheriff called on the military for assistance; they responded and remained on duty all Sunday night, thus preserving the peace.

A report comes from Versailles, Ky., of a violent affray at that place between white men and negroes. It appears that a party of boys engaged with a party of negroes in throwing stones at each other. The sports were hilarious and not harmful, until a negro appeared upon the scene, who revealed the members thrown by the negroes by firing his revolver at them. The negroes returned the fire, shooting into the party of white men, and at once a riotous commotion, resulting in the killing of two negroes outright, and the wounding of others, and the perhaps, mortal

wounding of two white men. The negroes were driven for refuge into a house, which was encircled and set fire to. The negroes, finding that they were about to be burned out, surrendered, and were placed in jail.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**  
News comes from New York that Malleo has a successor in the person of Wm. A. Potter, son of Bishop Potter.  
Lieut. Frederick Collins, commanding the United States surveying expedition, leaves Washington to muster his forces and equip them for the expedition. He will sail in the first Pacific mail steamer in January for Antwerp, thence to proceed in the United States vessel Cananiguda to Atrato.

### FROM WASHINGTON.

Four hundred men and women were Saturday discharged from the Engraving and Printing Bureau of the treasury, in consequence of a large part of the work of the bureau having been transferred to New York.

The total amount of mutilated currency received from the treasurer and comptroller since the passage of the act of June 30 last, is \$41,068,805, nearly the whole amount of which has already been issued in new national bank notes.

The commissioner of Indian affairs has received an urgent petition from Red Cloud to be allowed to come on to Washington, with some forty Sioux adherents, and settle up all troubles at the Black Hill reservation and hunting on the Platte river. Commissioner Smith replied that on account of a want of funds to pay the expenses of the bands of negotiators, their proposition must be declined.

A Cleveland detective named Gilbert S. Perkins, has filed with the secretary of the treasury a claim for \$5,000 for the arrest of Tom Ballard. He was considered the most dangerous counterfeiter loose. It will be remembered that he made a proposition that, if his crime was condoned, he would give the government a secret which would render the successful counterfeiting of notes impossible. His offer was rejected by Secretary Brewster.

The receipts from internal revenue for the month ending Dec. 31st, were \$8,984,630, and for the fiscal year to date, \$33,275,430. The amount of national bank notes for redemption Dec. 31st was \$987,440. The total receipts for the six months ending Dec. 31st are \$26,072,070. The customs receipts for the week ending Dec. 26, are as follows: New York, \$1,081,309; Boston, \$1,055,249; Philadelphia, \$84,909; Baltimore, \$87,118; New Orleans, for week ending Dec. 18, \$50,469; San Francisco, \$100,260.

A careful canvass of the finance committee of both houses about that the passage of the bill restoring the tax upon tea and coffee is very probable, and that consequently, there is little prospect of any increase of the tax on whisky. It is expected that the restoration of the tea and coffee tax will provide for all necessary additional revenue without changing the whisky tax. It is the desire of both finance committees not to change the whisky tax if sufficient revenue can be obtained by other means. The little tariff bill, which will doubtless pass, will slightly increase the revenue.

### FOREIGN.

A report comes from Havana that Gen. Jordana is to return to Cuba and take command of the insurgent forces.

Herr Pestel, councillor of the delegation at Paris, has been appointed minister for the Netherlands at Washington.

The Mark Lane express says the wheat crop of Great Britain is above the average.

The shipments of bullion from Utah during the past year are estimated at \$7,000,000.

Yon Armin takes an appeal from the decision of the lower court to the supreme court of the empire.

Sixty thousand colliers in South Wales are on a strike in consequence of a reduction of wages.

An explosion occurred in Bagin Hall colliery, North Staffordshire. Twenty miners were killed. Thirteen bodies have been taken out.

Since the famine set in in Asia Minor 50,000 persons have migrated from various parts of the country to the city of Adana, half of whom have succumbed to disease.

Owing to recent fires in Havana, foreign insurance companies have raised their premiums about forty per cent., and adopted uniform rates of premiums.

The Grand Duke Nicholas, son of the emperor, has been declared insane and placed under the guardianship of his brother. He was associated with the diamond scandal a few months ago.

Duchesse Pascolet, the man who signed the letter to a French Archbishop offering to kill Prince Bismarck for \$12,000, asserts that the alleged conspiracy was only a little joke, and that he wrote the letter while intoxicated.

Dispatches from Spain state that Gen. Darregay has laid down his arms, and that other prominent Carlist leaders are about to give in their adhesion to the king. The republican armies in Catalonia and Saragossa have accepted Don Alfonso as king. Capt. Gen. Concha has issued a proclamation announcing the accession of Prince Alfonso to the Spanish crown.

A London letter says her majesty's ship Benitez, has just returned to England after a commission of nearly four years, and brings with her a large archipelago of islands has been discovered in the neighborhood of New Guinea, and two mountains in this region, each about eleven thousand feet high, have been named Mount Gladstone and Mount Disraeli.

Further details of the Cospatrick disaster have been received. When the vessel was discovered to be on fire, eighty persons, mostly women, rushed into one of the boats, which was capsized and all in her drowned. Soon after, all the men, both killing many of the passengers. An explosion subsequently occurred in the stern of the vessel, completing her destruction. The total number of lives lost is now estimated at 474.

A telegram has been received from London stating that three of the crew of the Cospatrick, from London for New York, had arrived at St. Helena, and reported the Cospatrick burned at sea. Only three persons are at present known to survive—namely, the second mate and two seamen. These were picked up by the British ship *Seppia*, after having been ten days in an open boat, subsisting part of the time on the flesh and blood of others who died whilst in the boat. The Cospatrick was burned on November 17, off the Cape of Good Hope. The ship Cospatrick has from London for Auckland, New Zealand. She sailed September 11. It is now estimated that four hundred and sixty-five lives were lost by the disaster.

of the holy see. He did not pass through Paris, but has gone to Spain direct. He will disembark either at Cadix or Valencia. Additional dispatches from Spain state that Prince Alfonso has been invited to visit the army of the north. The ships in the harbor of Santander have hoisted the royal flag. Marshal Serrano acquiesces. The minister of the interior has sent the following dispatch to the governors of provinces: "Alfonso XII. has been unanimously proclaimed king by the nation, the army and the ministry. A regency has been formed under the presidency of Conovas del Castillo without portfolio. We hope your patriotism will induce you to firmly maintain the great interests confided to you." The Alfonsoists consider that Carlism has received its death-blow. Er-Queen Isabella has received the following dispatches: "All the towns have responded enthusiastically to the proclamation."  
"PRIMO DE RIVERA, Captain-General of Madrid."  
"We pray your majesty to transmit the news to your son." "We congratulate you on this grand triumph, achieved without bloodshed." This telegram is signed by Gen. Primo de Rivera and Conovas del Castillo.

**ABOUT MINKS.**  
A Short Dip Into Natural History.  
One sunny morning in summer, down the pathway, still sparkling with the dewy moisture, came stealthily moving the long, lithe form of a mink. Her fur looked warm and rusty when the sunlight struck her as she skulked between the tussocks of grass. Occasionally she halted to look about her, alert for anything eye could see or ear could hear; but hearing nothing but the sweet notes of a song-sparrow and the complaining cry of a cat-bird among the alders, she again moved on. As she reached the muddy edge of the brook, she trod more daintily, then, winding among the pickerel-weeds, swam down stream, hardly disturbing the water, only making a long, wedge-shaped wake as she stole into the shadowy edge of the brook. Suddenly she came up, struggling with something that swayed and pulled her about, disturbing the quiet stream, and sending a mud-diness down with the current. But she bore the almost unmanageable wriggling eel (for this it was) to the stone wall, and drawing herself and burden up out of the water on the large stone, readied herself to devour the creature.

She laid her head on the creature back of the head. Then, breaking herself to suck the blood, the thrashing, struggling eel grew gradually weaker and weaker, until it looked perfectly limp and lifeless. Then she jumped from the wall, dragging the eel along with herself, up through the grass, taking a different and more concealed way than the one by which she came, and some small shiners, near by, springing in the thick-banked wall over, and on the hillside she had her young; and after they grew large enough to require something more substantial than nature's first provision, the mother used to bring them fish of different kinds—eels, ducks and like prey. So slyly and stealthily did she keep herself, that she was not seen until the young were half grown, and looked like little fawn-colored weasels, when she dragged herself by bringing this food, which impeded her movements. By traveling the same way so many times she grew bold.

These mink are very destructive to fish; and when the brook is low they can be tracked for a long distance by the dead eels, pickerel, shiners and sometimes trout, lying along the bank, the mink only sucking the blood and leaving the fish unutilized. One autumn some small shiners, meant for a bait in pickerel fishing that day, were kept in an old tub set in the brook near the brook, and one night all these fish were killed by a mink, who left them laid in a row on the ground. They looked precisely as if some person had so arranged them. But through the back of each fish, near the head, were four tooth-marks, this being frequently the only mark the mink makes on his victim.—*Old and New.*

### Contested Seats in the House.

In the house of the forty-third congress the following are the contested seats, so far as known:

State.	Rep.	Candidate Held by	Seat Contested by
Alabama	1	Harrison, (R.)	Bromberg, (D.)
Alabama	4	Hayes, (R.)	Jones, (D.)
Florida	1	Harrison, (R.)	Henderson, (D.)
Georgia	1	Harrison, (R.)	Whitely, (R.)
Georgia	2	Harrison, (R.)	Whitely, (R.)
Illinois	2	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	3	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	4	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	5	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	6	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	7	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	8	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	9	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	10	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	11	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	12	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	13	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	14	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	15	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	16	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	17	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	18	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	19	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	20	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	21	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	22	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	23	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	24	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	25	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	26	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	27	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	28	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	29	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	30	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	31	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	32	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	33	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	34	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	35	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	36	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	37	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	38	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	39	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	40	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	41	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	42	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	43	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	44	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	45	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	46	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	47	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	48	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	49	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	50	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	51	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	52	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	53	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	54	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	55	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	56	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	57	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	58	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	59	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	60	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	61	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	62	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	63	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	64	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	65	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	66	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	67	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	68	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	69	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	70	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	71	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	72	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	73	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	74	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	75	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	76	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	77	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	78	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	79	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	80	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	81	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	82	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	83	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	84	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	85	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	86	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	87	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	88	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	89	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	90	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	91	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	92	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	93	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	94	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	95	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	96	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	97	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	98	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	99	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)
Illinois	100	Harrison, (R.)	Mills, (D.)

Total: 100. Republicans, 53. Democrats, 47.

To the above number of twenty-eight seats must be added several, perhaps all, of the Louisiana seats, and possibly others of which there are, as yet, no advices of a contest. On the other hand, some of the above mentioned contests, now spoken of in the press, may not be brought before the house.

### A Mother of Criminals.

Some of the most curious and remarkable criminal statistics ever obtained have just been given to the public by Dr. Harris of New York. His attention was called, some time since, to a county on the upper Hudson which showed a remarkable proportion of crime and poverty to the whole population—480 of its 40,000 inhabitants being in the almshouse—and upon looking into the records a little, he found certain names continually appearing. Becoming interested in the subject, he concluded to search the genealogies of these families, and, after a thorough investigation, he discovered that from a young girl named "Margaret," who was left an orphan, nobody remembers how, in a village of the county, 70 years ago, and in the presence of an almshouse, was left to grow up as best she could, have descended two hundred criminals. As an illustration of this remarkable record, in one single generation of her unhappy line there were twenty children; of these, three died in infancy, and seventeen survived to maturity. Of the seventeen, nine served in the state prisons for high crimes an aggregate term of fifty years, while the others were frequent inmates of jails and penitentiaries and almshouses. The whole number of this girl's descendants, through six generations, is nine hundred, and besides the two hundred who are on record as criminals, a large number have been idiots, imbeciles, drunkards, lunatics, prostitutes and paupers. A stronger argument for careful treatment of pauper children than these figures could hardly be found.

Dr. Mary Walker's life is one continual struggle to keep her pants hitched up without the aid of suspenders.

### THE PEASANT BOY.

BY CHARLOTTE CUSHMAN.

There's poetry, boy, in that step of thine,  
Thou tread'st it pace thy foot so rest;  
And the locks that over thy temples shine  
Flow wild in the wind of the soft south-west.

One looks not, boy, in that laughing eye,  
Thou frowns creases thy forehead's brow;  
And the mellow tint of thy cheeks, my sky,  
Lead to thy cheek an eloquent glow.

Thy hair is pure, unbroken gold,  
A cheerful heart to endure thy toil;  
Which innocence stings to the lips of gold,  
Thou canst sturdily fight from the grateful soil.

With the lark's first song thou art up and away,  
Brushing the dew from the glistening gold,  
And chanting the simple roundelay,  
Which innocence stings to the lips of gold.

From the ardent sun of cloudless noon,  
Thou seekest the shade of a sheltered nook,  
Where the ring-dove murmurs its amorous tune  
To the answering sound of the gnat's low croak.

There, resting thy limbs on the mossy brink,  
Thou takest thy peace thy foot so rest,  
Bending thy flexible lips to drink  
From the wave that glistens so cool and fast.

Then to labor again, till the waning sun,  
Faded away in the western sky,  
And the birds nestle low in the covert high,  
While the birds nestle low in the covert high.

They are coming to meet thee, the peasant band,  
The fair-haired girl and tawny boy,  
While the baby prattles clasps thy hand,  
And breathes thy name in the happy joy.

To the cottage away! to thy mother's knee,  
To thy father's side—thou art welcome there;  
And that father gives thee his warmest prayer,  
And that mother gives thee his warmest prayer.

And thou shalt rest in slumber sweet,  
And thou shalt rest in slumber sweet,  
While the summer winds stir the grassy lea,  
And the night winds stir the woodbine lea.

There's poetry, boy, in that form of thine,  
Thou tread'st it pace thy foot so rest;  
And the locks that over thy temples shine  
Flow wild in the wind of the soft south-west.

There's poetry, boy, in that form of thine,  
Thou tread'st it pace thy foot so rest;  
And the locks that over thy temples shine  
Flow wild in the wind of the soft south-west.

There's poetry, boy, in that form of thine,  
Thou tread'st it pace thy foot so rest;  
And the locks that over thy temples shine  
Flow wild in the wind of the soft south-west.

There's poetry, boy, in that form of thine,  
Thou tread'st it pace thy foot so rest;  
And the locks that over thy temples shine  
Flow wild in the wind of the soft south-west.

There's poetry, boy, in that form of thine,  
Thou tread'st it pace thy foot so rest;  
And the locks that over thy temples shine  
Flow wild in the wind of the soft south-west.

There's poetry, boy, in that form of thine,  
Thou tread'st it pace thy foot so rest;  
And the locks that over thy temples shine  
Flow wild in the wind of the soft south-west.

There's poetry, boy, in that form of thine,  
Thou tread'st it pace thy foot so rest;  
And the locks that over thy temples shine  
Flow wild in the wind of the soft south-west.

sun from her roscud of a face. The doctor had a lurking fear that Nancy was rustic and ignorant, but ah! she was so pretty!  
How far they rode in this lazy way, wholly wrapped in conversation, is not known. How far they would have ridden is not certain, if Nancy had not seen a mischievous glaze straight into the gray eyes, and inquired:  
"Why, where does that patient of yours live?"

The doctor laughed frankly, coloring nevertheless.  
"I see you understand the 'ways that are dark and the tricks that are vain,' pretty well, Miss Nancy. And now I don't dare to tell you what I was going to before you spoke."

"What was it?" queried Nancy, around and conscious.  
"It was," said the doctor, bending his own face closer to the curl shaded one at his side, "that I wish I had the right to keep you with me always. Miss Nancy, well, look at me—will you let me?"

It was well that the doctor did not guess why, amid Nancy's bright blushes, her lips quivered and her eyes filled with tears. She had made up her mind to accept the doctor, but in this decisive moment the thought of John Armitage sent a pang, cruel in intensity through her heart. Then came the memory of her yesterday's quarrel, and Nancy faltered with a struggling smile.  
"—I—I don't know."

She did know, when in the late twilight she and the doctor walked together into the dusky sitting-room at home, where her father was dozing and her mother knitting, to ask their consent and their blessing.  
"Dear me," said the good father, rubbing his eyes. "Two such pieces of news in one day! My dear Nancy, I heard only an hour since that Johnnie Armitage is going to Texas to farm on his own account. I sorter thought, 'lo! he an' Nancy fancied each other, but here she's wantin' to marry another. It's cur'se!'"

Nancy had taken her hand from the doctor's arm and had sat down in the window. She heard mistily comments and congratulations, laughed at jokes. She walked down to the gate with the doctor when he left and stood there under the lilacs, waiting for him to reply to his tender talk; but when he was gone, leaving a farewell kiss on her lips, she rushed up-stairs and threw herself on the bed in a perfect