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BY L. F. ANDERSON.

DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, THE ARTS, AND NEWS OF THE DAY.

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TERMS.
 ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at the rate of One Dollar per square (of ten lines or less,) for the first, and Fifty Cents for every subsequent insertion. A liberal discount made to those who advertise by the year. Thirty dollars a year will be charged for half a column of Patent Medicines advertising, and some of greater length will be admitted on any terms.
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 1. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue their subscription.
 2. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their news papers, the publisher may continue to send them until all arrearages are paid.
 3. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their newspapers from the office to which they are directed, they are responsible for the same until they have notified their bills and ordered them discontinued.
 4. The Courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers from the office, or removing and leaving them uncollected for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.
 5. The United States Courts have also repeatedly decided that a Postmaster, who neglects to give reasonable notice, as required by the Post Office Department, of the refusal or refusal of a person to take from the office newspapers addressed to him, renders the Postmaster liable to the publisher for the subscription price.

ODE TO NEPTUNE.
 King of the stormy sea!
 Brother of Jove, and co-inheritor
 Of dominion: formerly before
 Thee the waves awful low. Fast, stubborn rock,
 At thy fierce torrent shrinking, doth unlock
 In deep foundations, being into foam.
 All men—in rivers lost, in the wide home
 Of thy capacious bosom ever flow.
 Thy frowns: and the Edes, say for
 Shakes to his cavern, "said the god's complaint
 Of all his race's ills." Dark clouds fast
 When, from thy diadem, a silver gleam
 Sheds over blue dominion. Thy wrath: team
 Gulls in the morning light, and coasts along
 To bring thee nearer to that golden song
 Apollo sings, while his chariot
 Whirls at the doors of heaven. Thou art not
 For vain the: his: an eagle: stern hast thou:
 And it hath: farrowed: distance: yet now
 At every come of heaven, dost thou sit
 To bleed and intert:
 Indeed: enjoy with this glad time,
 Omb: born: king: sustains:
 We lay our heads before thee evermore—
 We sing, and we adore.
 Breathe softly, flutes;
 Be tender of your strings, ye soothing lutes:
 For he the trumpet heard: O vain, O vain:
 Not lovers: holding: in: an April: vale,
 Nor: breath: a: loving: dove, nor: river's: flow:
 No, nor the: soft: air: of: the: soft: own: bow,
 Can: single: music: fit: for: the: soft: air:
 Of: golden: Cytherea:
 Yet: deep, while: Queen: of: Beauty, thy: fair: eyes
 On: our: such: sacrifice,
 Bright: winged: child:
 Who: has: her: care: when: thou: hast: smiled:
 Untroubled: on: earth, we: see: at: least
 Almonds: shadows, and: glooms: that: overcast
 Our: spirits, dressed: away: by: thy: light: pinions,
 O'ercome: essence: sweetest: of: all: pinions:
 God: of: warm: pulses, and: dishevelled: hair,
 And: passing: beams: have:
 Her: utmost: light: to: darkness: eclipses
 O'light: in: light: decisions: poison:
 Thy: remnant: goblet: will: we: quaff: until
 We: die:—we: fill:
 And: by: thy: mother's: lips:—KELZ.

The following "Lines on Woman"
 are to be read alternately, the first and
 second lines, or the first and third, as it
 may suit the taste or sentiment of the
 reader:
 The fate of him no longer can tell,
 Who to a woman doth confide;
 Who with a woman, never to dwell,
 Unpleasant evils will befall.
 They all such miserable day
 With joy and softest delight;
 Will cherish gloom and misery
 And shed poisonous words in their sight.
 They make the weary path of life
 A pleasant journey strewn with flowers;
 A dreary route of painful strife,
 They quickly change with malicious power.
 Domestic joy will not decay,
 Where female influence is not known;
 Where'er a woman holds her sway,
 A man is in perfection shown.
 Behoveth falling to sleep
 Still in his native territories;
 A host inclined to butchery,
 A woman never did possess.
 That man true dignity will find
 Who tries the matrimonial state;
 Who gains content in womanhood,
 Will never his folly when too late.

FOURTH OF MARCH.—Why Selected.
 By our readers generally know the reason
 why the Fourth of March was chosen as
 the day for the inauguration of the Presi-
 dent of the United States? It was se-
 lected because the fourth of March is ev-
 ery year, commencing from the first inau-
 guration, cannot come on Sunday far at
 least three hundred or more years.
 This fact shows the regard which the
 framers of our government had for the
 Sabbath. They arranged the matter so
 that the day for the performance of
 the inauguration of the President
 should be a Sunday for three hundred years.

[For the Houma Ceres.]
Observance of the Sabbath.
 MR. ANDERSON—Dear Sir: I was glad
 to see in a recent issue of your paper the
 item, short as it was, in which you called
 the attention of our community to the sub-
 ject of a more proper observance of the
 Sabbath day among us, and in which you
 opened your columns to such discussion of
 the subject as persons might be disposed
 to give it. The subject is one which I
 know to be of deep interest to numbers of
 most respectable citizens, and best wish-
 ers to our society; and for myself, I have
 had much desire, and much thought how
 I might bring it, most important as I deem
 it to be, to the consideration of our public.

During the short time since it has fallen
 to me to be numbered as one of this com-
 munity, I have already learned to count it
 a high pleasure to study and labor for its
 general happiness and its best welfare;
 and with such desires actuating within
 me, it has been of deep concern and grief
 to me to see how prevalent is the desec-
 ration of the holiness of the Sabbath
 among us; and yet further to see, as I am
 confident any one may, who will give ob-
 servation at all, its evil, its fatal effects
 upon society and public morals. There is
 a most striking and startling admonition
 in the Holy Scriptures in these words, "be
 sure your sin will find you out," which,
 while it holds fearfully true of every vi-
 olation of high command, is yet especially
 true of that concerning the Sabbath. No
 individual, no community, no nation have
 ever violated the sacredness of the Sab-
 bath without experiencing, in more ways
 than they now can estimate, but which
 the bright light of the future will enable
 them more perfectly to thread out in their
 thousand ramifications, the disastrous con-
 sequences of such violation; and on the
 contrary no individual, or people have
 ever been in the habitual regard of the
 Sabbath without realizing the manifold
 benefits of their obedience, just in propor-
 tion to the rigidity with which they have
 adhered to it. Thus we may most confi-
 dently assert of the Sabbath, and which
 is confirmed by all experience and history,
 whether of individuals or nations, that the
 due sanctifying of it as holy to God is
 fundamental to all morals, and all proper
 social happiness; and the violation of it
 is not more a sin against God, than it is
 against our own nature, against our own
 outward prosperity, and against our in-
 most souls.

We read of the first institution of the
 Sabbath, that when God had set the seal
 of holiness to himself upon it, that he also
 blessed it; which is, that he made it a day
 of blessings—an institution full of good
 things upon such as should reverently
 keep it; and so may we, and do we also
 read in the abundant woeful experience
 of man, that he has made it a day of sore
 heaviness, and a bitter curse every where
 upon those who desecrate it.
 Under the deepest conviction of these
 vital truths therefore, while I would use
 my every influence to wrest this holy day
 from under the feet of those who profanely
 trample upon it, I yet feel that it is no sore
 exaction which God would lay upon them,
 nor any happy privilege of which he would
 deny them; but it is in the thorough con-
 sciousness that I only plead with them for
 their own highest good, and that while
 they should honor God in his holy com-
 mand, that they would also in the same
 most richly bless themselves.

If these things be true, as I think they
 are indisputable, then it follows that no
 one can be said rightly to seek his own
 interests, or to care for those of the com-
 munity, that no one can be a good citizen
 in the proper use of the term, while he
 disregards an institution, which preemi-
 nent of all others, is fraught with good
 both upon individuals and communities;
 or while by his example and influence he
 works to undermine that which is given as
 the strongest bulwark against an over-
 flood of immorality and vice.
 It is in support of these convictions, I

propose to occupy from time to time a
 small space in your paper in the presen-
 tation of certain arguments and facts which
 I desire to commend to the consideration
 of all. I shall aim to show that it is al-
 ways best under all circumstances, that
 we should "remember the Sabbath day to
 keep it holy"—that it is never well for
 any man to sin against God by the profa-
 nation of it; and that this holds without ex-
 ception of every creature which comes
 within the comprehension of the com-
 mand—that it is not well for the master
 either to command or to permit his servant
 to do any labor or worldly occupation on
 that day—that to do so is a pernicious
 immorality upon both the body and soul
 of each—that it is not well for the planter
 that his beasts should serve to any toil
 upon that day—neither for the mechanic
 in his trade—nor for the merchant in his
 traffic—nor for the clerk at his desk—nor
 for the professional man in his calling—
 neither for the way-farer upon his journey
 —that they all have need of Sabbath rest,
 and all have need of the Sabbath blessing
 upon their six days' toil, and in the great
 Day of reckoning, when we shall stand to
 sum up the whole account of life, that then,
 if not before, we all shall find that there
 is no one of us who can well afford to
 incur the burden of the Sabbath curse.

In conclusion of this present, I would
 say that I feel intensely desirous that all
 our population would come to a due con-
 sideration of this important subject. I
 would send out an earnest voice up and
 down along our numerous bayous to their
 utmost limits, proclaiming to all who habit
 upon their fertile margins, of whatever
 tongue or blood, the sacred word, that they
 "remember the Sabbath day to keep it
 holy;" and would call upon them, that we
 return at once from our wide transgres-
 sions of this most essential command; that
 thus we remove the blight of Sabbath des-
 ecration from this fair heritage which has
 been given us—its curse from ourselves
 and our families—and its guilt from our
 souls; and that by our future faithful obe-
 dience of God we make experience that
 "in the keeping of all his precepts there
 is great reward."

V. C. OSTRON.

MR. MOISE GARLAND'S ACQUITTAL.
 The House of Representatives having re-
 quested the Attorney-General to state why
 Mr. Garland was acquitted, he has re-
 turned the following answer: The last
 resolution adopted by the House of Rep-
 resentatives, desires me, "so far as prac-
 ticable, to inform the House on what
 grounds W. H. Garland, a defaulter for
 large sums of money, was lately acquitted
 before the First District Court of New
 Orleans." I have no knowledge on this
 subject, other than that possessed by the
 House. The resolution of the House,
 passed by an unanimous vote, implies its
 conviction that Garland is "a defaulter for
 large sums of money," and I concur in
 the conviction that Garland was guilty of
 the charge of which the jury acquitted him.
 Their reasons for the verdict rendered
 have not been made public, and are not
 known to me. In my opinion, Garland's
 guilt was as clearly proved as if he had
 risen in Court and acknowledged it. The
 jury decided otherwise, and are under no
 legal responsibility for their verdict. It
 is not the first time that a jury has decided
 against law and evidence, and probably
 will not be the last. Nor am I able to
 make any suggestion of a mode to control
 the conscience of a jury.

The police in Jamaica are said to
 be very efficient. After a certain hour at
 night every person seen passing along the
 street is hailed, unless known, and his
 name and intentions are ascertained. One
 night lately a gentleman was going home
 late at night, when he was hailed by one
 of the vigilants behind a tree box, with
 "Who goes there; where have you been?"
 "I have been playing draw-poker, and
 dealing from the bottom," was the prompt
 reply. "All right," replied the vigilant,
 "you can pass."

OUR POLITENESS EXCEEDS HIS BEAUTY.
 —Mr. Spurgeon has just published a ser-
 mon pamphlet called "Turn or Burn."
 Wishing to meet the reverend gentleman
 more than half-way, Mr. Punch did both.
 He turned the second page and then
 burned the whole.

AMERICAN EXPEDITION TO SEBASTOPOL.
 An expedition from Philadelphia is about
 to undertake what the Allied army
 could not effect. It is making pre-
 parations to enter the harbor of Sebasto-
 pol, not as a destroyer, but to save national
 property from destruction. The Russians,
 during the famous assault upon that city,
 sunk in the harbor 106 vessels, including
 15 line of battle ships, 7 frigates, 15
 steamers and 10 brigs of war. The ma-
 chinery of the steamers of war, before
 being sunk, was carefully covered with a
 preparation of tallow to prevent injury
 from the water. They were scuttled by
 boring three inch auger holes near the
 water line. Mr. John E. Gowen, of Bos-
 ton, at the solicitation of a number of
 gentlemen of Philadelphia, went to Se-
 bastopol, examined the harbor, made his
 plans, and against thirty competitors from
 France and England, obtained from the
 Emperor of Russia the contract to raise
 these ships, which are valued by the Gov-
 ernment at sixty-five millions of dollars.

The expedition will consist of two ves-
 sels, one of which leaves Philadelphia on
 or about the first of April, and the second
 soon after. The number of persons en-
 gaged to accompany it from this country
 is about one hundred and fifty, and the hy-
 draulic machinery is of the most colossal
 description. The contract will take eight-
 teen months to perform, the Russian Gov-
 ernment furnishing 4,000 men to help in
 the work. At Kertch, there are also five
 of six Russian vessels sunk, which are
 included in the contract, and in the harbor
 of Sebastopol there are some \$600,000
 worth of chains and anchors, which the
 French and English threw overboard from
 inability to carry them off. This contract
 is the greatest one ever entered into, and
 an application is now before the Pennsylv-
 ania Legislature to incorporate the com-
 pany for the purpose of prosecuting the
 work successfully. John Tucker, Esq.,
 Dr. Morris S. Wickersham and Mr. Pres-
 bury, of the Girard House, are the active
 movers of the enterprise.

TRYING IT ON.—Burchard, the re-
 vivalist, was in the habit of addressing his
 congregation in this manner: "I am now
 going to pray, and I want all who desire
 to be prayed for to send up their names on
 a piece of paper."

On the occasion to which we refer,
 there was at once sent up to the desk
 quite a pile of little slips of paper with
 the names on whose behalf he was to
 "wrestle," as he said, "with the Al-
 mighty."
 A pause ensued, when he said—"Send
 'em up! I can pray for five thousand just
 as easy as I can for a dozen. Send 'em
 up. If you have't any paper, get up and
 name the friend you would have prayed
 for."

At this stage of the proceedings, a stal-
 wart man of six feet and a half in his
 stockings, a notorious unbeliever, and a
 confirmed wag to boot, rose in the midst
 of the congregation, a mark for all, and
 amidst the winks and becks and smiles of
 the auditory, said:

"Mr. Burchard, I want you to pray for
 Jim Thompson."
 The reverend petitioner saw, from the
 excitement produced in the audience, that
 Oziel was a "hard case."
 "What is your name, sir? And who is
 Mr. Thompson?"
 "It's Jim Thompson; he keeps a tav-
 ern down in Thompsonville, and I keep
 public house a little below him. He is
 an infernal scoundrel, and I want you to
 give him a lift."
 "But," said Mr. Burchard, "have you
 any faith in the efficacy of prayer? Do
 you believe in the petition?"
 "That's neither here nor there," re-
 sponded Oziel; "I want you to try it on."

**A PUNISHMENT FOR BURGLARS AND
 GARROTTERS.**—The Edinburgh Echo, of
 January 10th, says: "This day Japhet
 Crooks, alias Sir Peter Stranger, stood on
 the pillory an hour at Charing Cross, after
 which a chair was brought up, and he be-
 ing seated therein, the hangman, with a
 surgeon's instrument, somewhat resem-
 bling a sickle, cut off, pursuant to his sen-
 tence, one ear close to his head, which he
 held up for the view of an infinite number
 of spectators, and while the surgeon was
 dressing it, and stopping the blood, the
 other was cut off, and held in the same
 manner, after which the hangman, with a
 pair of scissors, slit up the nostrils, and
 seared them with a red hot iron; of those
 operations, none seemed to affect him in
 any degree like that of burning."

It is impossible to love one in
 whose truthfulness we cannot confide; or
 to slight one, whose words and purposes,
 and actions are "without dissimulation."

THE MOTH AND THE CANDLE.—There
 he stood, though all the guests had depart-
 ed! The candles burned brightly, and
 the plates and dishes, and silver orna-
 ments on the table, smiled to see him
 there. And the trifle said to the tipsy
 cake:—"What can he be idling away his
 time in that way for?" The tipsy cake
 said:—"Ib sure I dunno—brabs esdrunk."
 And the champagne bottles held them-
 selves very upright, and the decanters said
 never a word, for they had stoppers in
 their mouths. But the ices said—"It's
 very cool of him to stand like that when
 we are all waiting for him to go." For
 they intended to have a soiree when every-
 body had left. But the young man did not
 hear them. He was thinking of the cruel-
 ty of her he loved. Long had he wor-
 shipped her at a distance, for she was
 rich and noble, while he was but a poor
 poet who wrote in her praise; and some-
 times she had deigned to smile kindly and
 speak sweetly to him. That night he had
 met her—he had told her his love, and had
 met with scorn and slighting. There he
 stood, watching the door through which
 she had gone. He heard not the voices
 of the last departing guests. Presently he
 turned his eyes to the tall candle that
 stood proudly in the centre of the table.
 O! that candle was proud; it had a gold
 fringe, and it stood in a silver candlestick,
 and it said, "I am not tallow, not grease,
 not a part of overfed animals. No; not
 even a composition-candle—not of a
 mixed, degenerate race. I am a flower!"
 It forgot that since it had formed part of a
 flower, the bees had changed its nature,
 and men had altered its appearance. So
 it stood up, and thought it was a rose; and
 the prouder it grew, the faster it burned.
 But while the poet was watching it, a little
 plain brown moth came flying out of the
 conservatory which opened into the room,
 and circled about the table. It stopped to
 admire a silver spoon, but the candle was
 jealous:—"What! shall that insignificant
 little brown thing admire that spoon more
 than me?" So it burned brighter. The
 little moth flew towards it; it circled about
 it, and fanned the flames with its wings.
 The candle said never a word, but it
 burned brighter still. And the little moth
 flew into the flame. "I never gave you
 any encouragement," said the candle, as
 the little moth fell scorched and dying on
 the table. "Such is my fate!" murmured
 the young man, as he rushed from the
 room. But the plates, and forks, and
 glasses did not laugh now. There was
 no festivity in the supper-room among
 them that night. And the candle burned
 down into its socket.

(Thomas Hood, Junr.)

TURKISH TREASURY NOTES.—Mr.
 Brown, of the American Legation at Con-
 stantinople, has sent to the Mint a speci-
 men of the new Turkish Treasury Notes,
 which, from the novelty of its appearance
 and of the terms of its issue, (which consti-
 tute a new feature in State financing,) was
 recently exhibited before the American
 Philosophical Society.

The translation of the reading, which
 Mr. Brown has furnished, will explain the
 character of this security.
 (At the top and on the margin.) "A
 legal paper note, issued from the Imperial
 Privy Treasury, to circulate in the Capital,
 and in every other part of the Ottoman
 Empire, amongst all persons. Its circula-
 tion is legal; its interest shall be paid to
 the possessor of it without any tax; a de-
 claration being required of him or her at
 the Treasury. Conditional, that when
 the holder shall die without heirs, it will
 fall void of value. It is a valid Schim of
 ten purses (each 500 piastres;) and one
 purse of interest." [That is about \$215
 of our money, and 10 per cent. interest.]
 (In the centre.) "An ordinary Schim of
 the Sublime Porte, payable from the
 proceeds of the Royal Privileges and
 Mines, to be paid to the claimant without
 any *Berat*, (vouchsafer for tax paid;) its
 annual interest payable at the beginning
 of March, at the Imperial Treasury."

At the bottom are interest coupons; and
 Mr. Brown states that this bond is to be
 redeemed in six years from the date of its
 issue. (It is in blank, without seal or sig-
 nature.) He adds—"They are much in
 demand, because of their rate of interest
 and limited number. Many families collect
 and hold them for the revenue they afford."

It appears that six years ago there was
 a somewhat similar issue, to the extent of
 twelve millions of piastres, at an interest
 of 8½ per cent., with the stipulation that
 upon the payment of a *berat*, or tax, the
 holder of a bond might transfer the same;
 or in the event of his death, it should
 enure to his own children, male and female;
 but this privilege was not to extend to a
 second generation, nor to any but a lineal
 heir.