AID FOR THE SOUTH.

MEETING AT COOPER INSTITUTE—ADDRESSES OF HENRY WARD BEECHER, HORACE GREELEY, AND OTHERS.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held last evening at the Cooper Institute, to organize a Southern Relief Association to devise means to assist the destitute and suffering poor of the South. Stirring and eloquent speeches were made by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Horace Greeley, Dr. Bright, the Rev. Dr. Kendrick, and Major-Gen. Anderson, the defender of Fort Sumter. The large hall was filled with an intelligent audience, among whom were a number of ladies. On the platform were some fifty or more of our prominent citizens. The following were elected officers of the meeting.

PRESIDENT.—The Hon. PETER COOPER.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

James Brown, George Opdyke, Hamilton Fish, E. C. Cousins, Moses Taylor, E. H. McCurdy, Wm. B. Astor, George Bancroft, William Adams, D. D., Wm. A. Booth, John T. Hoffman, Stewart Brown, Edward Pright, Johnes Brandles, Paul Spofford, Smith Sheldon, Le Grand Cannon, Wm. Waithen, Fred. O. Foster, Stephen H. Tyng, D. D., A. L. Wetmore, W. T. Coleman, C. H. Lockington, Archbishop McCloskey, Richard Warren, C. M. Talbot, John C. Green, Wm. T. Blodget, John A. Stevens, Lewis Roberts, Samuel Wetmore, Henry Clews, Wm. H. Fogg, Edward Minturn, Geo. C. Ward, Wm. Phelps, William E. Strong, T. D. Aldrich, W. H. Nelson, Chas. K. Robert, Samuel S. Constant, Samuel B. Reggies, John D. Weil, David Lane, Wm. A. Rigelow, John Steward,

Nath'l Nayden, David Grosbeck, Seth B. Hunt, Wm. E. Dodge, Jr., Joseph W. Alsop, Nathan Bishop, F. A. Conklin, H. B. Claflin, R. A. Witthaus, Alex. W. Bradford, Wm. V. Brady, Geo. S. Presbrey, D. D., Wm. M. Evarts, James Gallatin, H. W. Bellows, D. D., S. B. Chittenden, S. B. Babcock, Samuel Sloan, David Hoadley, Waldo Hutchins, A. V. Stout, A. H. Vinton, D. D., Thomas Denny, E. H. Chapin, D. D., Daniel Drew, Geo. W. Curtis, Francis S. Shaw, Thos. F. Dale, Hiram Walleridge, Frank E. Howe, C. P. Kirkland, J. J. Trevor, J. F. D. Lanier, Wm. H. Lee, J. P. Durbin, D. D., Francis Lieber, Wm. A. Haines, John E. Williams, George R. Butler, Eleazer Parmelee, F. Marquand, David Dows, H. P. Getty, S. L. M. Barlow, N. L. McCready, Henry A. Smythe,

Wm. H. Appleton, Jackson Shultz, John Jacob Astor, Jr., James W. Beekman, James M. Bruce, Jr., James T. Brady, John T. Johnston, Jonathan Sturges, Wm. H. Aspinwall, Cornelius Vanderbilt, F. S. Winston, Wm. Allen Butler, Edwin Hoit, Benj. W. Bonner, J. H. Kendrick, D. D., Charles Butler, Wm. M. Vermilye, Newman Hall, Cyrus W. Field, Leving Andrews, Royal Phelps, Leonard W. Jerome, Marshall O. Roberts, Edwards Pierrepont, James Wadsworth, C. K. Garrison, John Harper, J. P. Morton, Isaac Sherman, Francis Skiddy, Wm. H. Webb, Theodore Roosevelt, Moses H. Grinnell, August Belmont, R. M. Blatchford, S. P. Shonnard, S. V. Harrison, J. Pierrepont Morgan, Howard Potter, Jas. Gordon Bennett, W. E. Dodge, Jr., Robert Bonner, Archibald Russell, A. S. Hewitt, A. C. Richards, Alfred Edwards,

SECRETARIES.

Richard A. McCurdy, Chas. Anderson, Osborn E. Bright, Seth B. Masters, Wm. Harrison Brown, Chas. H. Marshall, Fletcher Westray, Lloyd Aspinwall, John J. Draper, Frank W. Ballard, Clarence S. Brown, William C. Church, Frank Moore, J. H. Ulrich, J. H. Alsop, Joshua N. Cornell, William B. Cabbe, George A. Robbins.

The following gentlemen were appointed the

SOUTHERN RELIEF COMMISSION.

Wm. A. Booth, Nathan Bishop, Wm. E. Dodge, Jr., John Taylor Johnston, James M. Brown, E. C. Cousins, S. B. Babcock, David Hoadley, Theodore Roosevelt, Howard Potter, Samuel S. Constant, Wm. M. Vermilye, George Cabell Ward, Leonard W. Jerome, David Crawford, Frederick L. Ograsted, R. H. McCurdy, W. T. Coleman, Edw. Hoight, Robert L. Kennedy, Cornelius Agnew, Archibald Russell, Frank Butler, Frederick E. Foster, James M. Bruce, Jr., J. Pierrepont Morgan, Wm. H. Guinese, Seth B. Hunt, Nelson Hutchins, Robert B. Minturn, Robert Potter.

Mr. PETER COOPER called the meeting to order, and explained the object for which it had assembled to be to inaugurate measures that would, he trusted, save thousands of our Southern brethren from starvation and death. Many of them who were now suffering so terribly were the same ones who were formerly trying to work out the destruction of our National Union. He thanked God and our noble band of patriots for its preservation. The people of the North, East, and West are now determined to show to our Southern neighbors that we never were, or never shall be, their enemies. We are resolved to do them all the good we can by giving food to the hungry and clothes to the naked. And then we want them to adopt every form of guaranty that will secure our nation from further dissensions. Mr. Cooper then introduced to the meeting Dr. BRIGHT, editor of *The Examiner and Chronicle*, who said:

I have had a little sympathy with the spirit and principles of the South, before and during and since the war, as any other man. But, Sir, I remember that God has said, "Vengeance is mine;" and that the same supreme authority has also said, "If thine enemy hunger feed him—for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head"—a law, the import and scope and beneficence of which will, I doubt not, be made luminous—radiant—by the eloquence we shall this evening hear from one of its great masters. Somebody's money put one of these coals on the head of a Southern wife and mother whom the war had bereaved and impoverished; and that coal so warmed and melted her heart that it filled her eyes with tears. "My God," she exclaimed, "has it come to this, that the people whom I have hated are trying to keep me and my children from death?" And a colonel of the Confederate army, on hearing of what had been done, and how it had transformed the woman's feelings, said to the friend who put the coal on her head, "If you keep on in this business, there won't be a man or woman left in all the South to curse the Yankees." Ah, Sir, who knows that the same hand that flooded and scorched so many Southern fields, is not now opening God's own policy of Reconstruction? and that this new "Valley of Achor" is not to be our "door of hope" through which we shall pass to reconciliations and a brotherhood worth a thousandfold more than all that the most munificent giving can bestow.

The following resolutions were then read and adopted:

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the intelligence which reaches us of the suffering brought upon large sections of the Southern States by the almost total failure of crops, in addition to the devastations of war, appeals with irresistible force to Northern men and women to come promptly and generously to their relief, and that in this meeting the claims of this appeal the People of the North will perform a service hallowed by Christian principle, comprehensive philanthropy and elevated patriotism.

Resolved, That a Southern Relief Commission be appointed, consisting of thirty men, with power to add to their numbers, and to elect their officers, together with an Executive Committee; and that it be the duty of this Commission to do all that they shall believe to be necessary in raising contributions and in distributing supplies among the destitute without respect of race or opinion.

Resolved, That the history of the last six years has proved, in a thousand forms of patient and heroic endeavor, how invaluable is the help of women in alleviating human suffering, and that their cooperation with our Southern Relief Commission will be one of the best assurances of its largest success.

Resolved, That the philanthropic men and women of other cities and communities throughout the North be respectfully and earnestly invited to share the responsibilities and the blessings of a work that calls for universal sympathy and effort.

The Rev. HENRY WARD BEECHER was then introduced to the meeting and spoke as follows:

REMARKS OF HENRY WARD BEECHER.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have, during my life for the last 19 years, been present on very many occasions in which the citizens of New-York were convened to take into consideration the state of the country, and especially as affected by the relations subsisting between the North and the South. The earliest that I remember was at Castle Garden, where a Union-Saving Committee was appointed—at which I was not present—whose results were not peculiarly in accordance with my views. It was after the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law, which at that time was supposed to be a medicine for all our ills. I think I may say that that great public meeting represented one extreme. I mean by that, extreme subserviency, of perfect humiliation. It was the time when the spirit of liberty seemed almost extinct, and the spirit of evil domination culminated. That great wheel which God turns has made a complete revolution; and to-night we see a meeting convened for purposes not only, but under circumstances that represent the supremacy of the views of the nation, of liberty, and the utter waste and destruction of Slavery in all its forms. [Applause.] So great have been the changes that men scarcely know themselves, and hardly can maintain their identity if they go back for 15 or 16 years; but the change which has taken place in individuals is certainly not greater in its kind than the changes that have befallen the whole community. Old precedents are gone: no use in raking them up. Ideas are changed—changed just as blossoms change to germs, and germs change to green fruit, and green fruit change to ripe. The country has changed its views; not one man, but all men; and not only that, the change of one thing, but reasoning by deep moral instrumentalities that touched the very vitals of life; and when there did come that change of public sentiment by which the nation at last became true to its own principles, and was willing to stand up before God and swear its fealty to these the natural rights of man, without distinctions, God, like a smith, thrust it into the fires of war, and drew it out hard as steel, with an edge that could be turned. [Applause.] It is impossible that a war, running through more than four years, in such a nation as this, should end where it stopped. [Sensation.] Its sequences still are upon the land. Those battles that were fought years ago are still working out their ultimate moral results; and those physical mischiefs which war brings in its train have not all spent themselves, and this great war for the National unity, for National liberty—this great war spreads out its penalties and inflicts them; for I hold, as firmly as I hold any conviction in my soul, that this whole nation was guilty of a sin than which none could be more atrocious, considering our history and our principles—the sin of Slavery. The South was guilty as the holder and the North was guilty as the abetter. I remember very well that at the time when I came upon the stage here, the moral influence of the North, if not in favor of Slavery, refused to array itself against it. I remember perfectly well that the whole political force of the North was in collusion with Slavery. I remember perfectly well that the commercial forces of the North were actively in favor of Slavery; and though we did not hold slaves, the public sentiment of the North during many years had been corrupted and degraded to such a condition as that it might be said, not to have drawn the note, but to have indorsed it. And when war came it was a punishment that God sent—a punishment, I believe, of the sin of Slavery, than which, I believe, no sin can be more massive, more ugly, more infernal. [Applause.] And now, we have been punished, and they have been punished. I hear men speaking about the punishment of rebellion. That which made it was worse than the thing made. It was a bad thing for communities to break the laws of a nation, but not so bad as it was for them to have broken the laws of God and of Nature before. [Applause.] It was a wickedness—a wickedness in which the half of these people were implicated; and I regard the blood, the maiming, the deaths, the mournings and inconvenience, the changes that have taken place, of a grievous and painful character, not only as our part mervifully lessened, was not to measure our desert, but yet as our part of that great chastisement by which God says to the people, "I do govern, and I do maintain a moral government, which discriminates between right and wrong in the affairs of men and of nations." And the South, punished also for the same great crime, are being punished still. When, therefore, men say to me, "I believe that these sufferings of the Southern people are God's punishment and his witness against rebellion; I dare not step in between Providence and its victims, to alleviate the stroke; when God has punished them enough He will lift up His hand; I would not stand between the judge and the culprit." I say to them, "You are culprits too," and that God has been punishing both North and South, if not in equal measure, yet certainly He has been punishing us all. One nation we are and have been; undivided in guilt, undivided in penalties; and the South, if they have suffered more than we, are still suffering for the same sin which we are ourselves having a dividend upon. I feel, therefore, that in urging a Northern community to a consideration of the suffering that is taking place in the South, we are but helping our brethren in another sense in which the word is usually employed. Many have an impression that such a help as now is needed in the South in some way will touch upon or imply some remission of political principles. Not at all. I do not profess to be wise, nor to say what are to be the courses of legislation. That there is to be some reconstructive legislation, all men know. All men feel that there is a great work, even though they may not be able to agree with many modes proposed, or to say what should be proposed. There is to be an institutional and legislative work. But all, I suppose, will agree with you and I that that alone can never settle our troubles, and that, when you have made your metes and bounds of legislation, when you have fixed, by law certain great policies, as the banks and channels in which the national life shall run—(would it could be soon done!)—then the moral and social reconstruction are indispensable, and this nation is never going to be reconstructed by task. Sympathy again, confidence again, affection again, the interplay of interests again, mutual respect at last ripening, after a long intermission, into mutual love—this is reconstruction—when hearts beat together again, when old enthusiasms come up again under the old flag. [Cheers.] And I most heartily responded to that sentiment of Doctor Bright, where he declared that these would go far—these reliefs, these merciful remedial agencies would go far toward this part of the reconstruction policy of the country. Justice! let it do its work, but oh, let it be done quickly, that mercy may do its work. And this seems to me to touch the very question of brotherhood, and put us to the test whether or not we do love our enemies. Admit that the South being in arms was to have been accounted an enemy, and still an enemy, admit that under the influence of ignorance and of prejudice they still hate the North—it is not surprising to those who understand human nature—it would be surprising to those who understand the Christian spirit if that should be an excuse among us why we should not relieve their pressing wants. We are to pray for those who despitefully use us—not pray at them, but for them. We are to heap these coals of fire which have been spoken of upon their heads; we are by love, by forbearance, by mercy to plead with them; and as if God meant that we should have an invocation to the exercise of this large Christian disposition, behold his providence that has cast down these men, blood of our blood, bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh, into the utmost necessity, that we may now repay them with bread, with clothing, with every remedy and relief for their sickness and for their trials. Do you remember that parable that will never be done having fresh application, where a certain man went down to Jericho and fell among thieves, and how a priest came that way and did not think it necessary even to go and see what was the matter. He went past on the other side because it was evident he was not a priest, if he had been of the priest class he would have looked after him. He held that a man ought to take care of his own class or profession. And then came down a Levite, who when he came where the man was, more merciful than the priest, he did look at him but passed on, because the man was not a Levite either and he was not bound to relieve him. Next there came down a Samaritan that way, who not belonging to the aristocratic sect, and being a poor democrat who had no connection with men except that they were his brethren, when he came where this man was, picked him up, poured oil and wine into his wounds, set him upon his horse, while he walked and took him to the nearest inn. The parable was spoken in answer to the question: "Who is my neighbor?" Neighbor! Suppose the question who is my fellow-citizen, who is my brother? God stands saying to us to-night, who is your brother? Is he not the man who needs? If it was in the North that this suffering was experienced, you would have no doubt or hesitation. If it was among those who never sought to injure you or themselves, you would have no doubt. You have no doubt now that they would. The same hearts, the same sympathies, the same sensibility to suffering you have, they have, and God says to you to-night, go where they are, pour oil and wine into their wounds, pick them up. [Applause.] Whatever there may be hereafter there can be no question that such acts on our part now will prepare the way for a more easy, cordial, efficient and permanent reunion in time to come. It is indeed a good way to avenge ourselves. I believe in revenge. It is a mean man who will suffer wrong, and won't show any spirit. [Laughter and applause.] There is a natural principle down deep in a man's heart that if a man wrongs you, you are to give him as good as he sends. I believe in it and preach it, and I try, in a humble way, to practice it. Make a man just as uncomfortable as you can if he has made you uncomfortable, only you are not at liberty to choose your method. You are to do it by Christian retaliation. [Laughter and applause.] If he hates you give it back to him in the shape of love; if he persecutes you, see what you can do in spite of him that will improve his circumstances and make him well off; if he reviles you, stick all you hear that is against him, and tell all the good things you hear about him; if he datests you, pray for him. If we would expend more time praying for men we did not like, and less time in reviling them, if we would refuse to hear what was said against them, I think it would do them and us great good. There is old Massachusetts, a plucky old State. [Loud applause.] The very back-bone of Puritanism is supposed to run through that State. [Renewed applause.] Now, Massachusetts is a vengeful State. There were so many of her men who perished at Belle Isle, so many of her boys who died in Libby Prison and the other slaughter-pens of the South, that her Christian soldiers who came back determined that they would have a monument to their dead comrades. They formed a society, and after consultation determined to go down to Richmond, take the buildings in the nearest vicinity of Libby Prison and open schools for the children of the very men who had persecuted their boys in blue. They have opened these schools, they have provided teachers and from 400 to 500 boys are daily taught there, the sons of the very men who carried the knife and the pistol to murder their comrades. In this way they are taking their revenge. [Applause.] I would, if I could, build on every place, at Andersonville, at Milne, and every other place of hideous memory, an institution where Christ and his love of humanity should be taught, and where should be gathered in the children of those who were accomplices in these great mischiefs. That is revenge that becomes a christian North. [Applause.] And now has the South wronged the flag, has the South wronged the North? Has she slain your son or your husband who is buried there, never again to see you. Do you mourn yet over his unaltered? Here is a Christian revenge to which God calls you. They are suffering. The bread they would not give our boys in prison their own lips crave for. Give them the loaf—give them the loaf. [Applause.] The raiment they took from our boys, leaving them in the chilly Winter to shake and die for cold, as long as your looms are fruitful spin off the yards, don't stop to count, send the clothes for their shivering limbs. Against this there can be no opposition. Let them that revile the North learn that know the North determines a thing is right in politics or in religion, when they have discussed it and made up their mind it is so they will stand as long as Mount Zion stands for principle. [Applause.] Let it be understood that when the North have made up their mind to go into a fight for principle they will spend the last dollar and give the last man to the last moment of time to uphold that principle, but when war has passed, the conflict is over and the North beholds that the time for humanity and mercy has come they will give half of every loaf, half of every bushel, aye more—if need be their fields, their homes, their stores, their shops are held in brotherhood, and I think I have a right to say to all the South to-day that the Abolitionists [applause] who urged and advocated the war, who sent our sons, and who vehemently inspired the people to maintain what we thought and now think are the principles of safety, justice and rectitude, now that it is all passed, we are the very men who, more than anybody else, feel for them, would heal their wounds, would take away their poverty and would restore them upon the new basis of liberty to that prosperity which before was treacherous, but which now, when it comes to them, will be as lasting as the granite hills. [Applause.] Do I, then, misinterpret the spirit of this meeting? Are we not all agreed to-night upon this great cause? There is but one thing that I feel in the slightest degree ashamed; it is that I should seem to be pleading. I know the feeling of the North needs no pleading. There may be some who might urge policy, and say that this would be an intuitive kindness; some who are afraid of political records, but all that is out of the way, and the question brought before us on its merits, shall there be an organization in the length and breadth of the North to supply food to the starving, raiment to the shivering and dying? Shall there be such an organization as that? I do not believe that if you put it to a vote in Maine you could get one dissenting vote, nor in New-Hampshire, nor in Vermont, or Massachusetts, or Rhode Island, or Connecticut, and in New-York the vote would be one thunder-roll from the ocean to the lakes. The whole North is of one mind. We are not malignant, we do not lay up anger, we have no grudges we want to have avenged upon the South. We are sure of the country. We are sure that these Ideas that originally fashioned our country are in the ascendency, and are going to fashion our policy. We know that the sun will sooner go back on its course than that these things will change now. Then let us surrender every amnesty, let our anger quell, our indignation sleep. We have no grudges, no revenges. They are our brethren, whether we are theirs or not. [Applause.] It may be that they do not like us. In a large and Christian charity we love them. They may call us the detested Yankees; we shall still say before God and man they are our brethren. They may say that we are cruel and arrogant. We shall repay it by sending them bread and clothing. This is the feeling of the North. [Applause.] I believe that when the North is convinced that the channels opened to supply the wants of the South are safe, and that what is contributed will go directly to the place where it is needed, there will be an undivided sentiment at the North to feed them, clothe them, heal them. [Applause.] One word more. In the great operations of Providence, this is one of the most marvelous things to me why does not God make apple-trees have just as many blossoms as apples? but He makes 800 blossoms where He is going to have five apples; and when the germ sets after the blossom falls, you would think there would only be as many set as were going to ripen, but they do not; five fall to the ground, little withered buds, where one takes branch and ripens. Why should not children, when they take the trouble to be born, go on and live? but half the human race die in infancy. As an inscription on a child's tombstone in a country village put it in homely phrase:

"If you was so soon to be done for,
I wonder what you was begun for."

[Laughter.]

Apothecaries weigh and measure with exactitude, mechanics cut and fit to an entire nicety, wasting the least possible material; so the goldsmith works in gold, the silversmith works in silver, and the lapidary works in polishing precious stones. Is there anything so precious in gold, or silver, or precious stones as in human life? And why is it no great change takes place in the affairs of men without the squandering of generations? How is it that God is a father, and men, children and divine love fills the face of the universe, and yet we see the world is elevated from one degree of civilization to another by such enormous wastes. Yet so it is. We cannot pierce the mystery, and this leads me to say that though I mourn at the great cost, yet such is the way in which God advances communities, and I am glad that the South suffers. I am glad she is hungered, I am glad she is cold. The great want which Slavery bred, was the want of the love of work. Nothing would have persuaded men to work in the South in the way of inducement before; it was the stripe from behind that had to do it. Nothing short of sickness, nothing short of anguish and bereavements, nothing short of that last turn and pressure that brings one to the point of choosing work or death, would have produced that moral change. Old-time laziness has gone away, and new time-work has come in. I stand here to-night to hail a new South, with free labor, free schools, free papers, free in conscience and free in understanding. No need of darkness any longer. No need of shackles or whips; but, animated with the Divine spirit of truly Christian liberty, and bound in the bonds of a common brotherhood, advance and march forward in the future full of prosperity! In the hour when they are suffering, believe them, and do not think you are going down to the pit as if they were in their dearly loved and dreaded. It is a very Gethsemane but there is before them a resurrection and a glorification and the day will come when South Carolina will shake hands with Massachusetts, not for political effect, but because they love one another. [Applause.] The day will come when New-York and Alabama will know no difference between each other, the day will come when there will be no more warring of States, but this Nation will be one, and your kindness and your mercy will have helped bring on and confirm that glorious day. [Applause.]

Mr. GREELEY was then introduced and was received with loud cheers. He said:

SPEECH OF MR. GREELEY.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: There are so many things that it is wise not to say on an occasion like this, that I appear before you exceedingly embarrassed. Indeed, I greatly fear that what we may say here in perfect truth and perfect charity may seem to wear a Pharisaic and self-righteous aspect, unless we are exceedingly careful. So far as I am concerned, I do not desire, then, to reopen any questions of political or of social differences which have divided and alienated in times past the North and the South. I would look solely at the one question of human suffering; for I know that New-York, whatever its shortcomings, whatever its sins, never was deficient in the quality of mercy, nor failed to turn a generous ear to every appeal in behalf of suffering, and hunger, and thirst, and humanity. I will endeavor, then, so far as possible, to keep this question especially before you, lest in giving charity we might accompany it with words which would seem to convey something of bitterness, where we mean only to be kind. Some statements have been made here to-night which came home to me more than to many others, because I have been specially called upon to trace thoroughly and carefully the history of this great and sad struggle. In the first place, there are to-day, I think, a quarter of a million of orphan white children in the South, and widows whom this great war has made—women and children who were not accustomed to earn their livelihood. They are not unwilling, they are very willing and anxious to work for a living; but the means of doing it do not rightly present themselves. Again, there are a quarter of a million and more in the South, of maimed and crippled men, most of them heads of families—families whom they once were able to support—but who, because of their afflictions, because of the maiming, the mutilation which they received during the war, are no longer a help to their families, but rather burdens upon them. The soldiers of the Union—those of them maimed and crippled by the war—have very properly been given pensions, and something has been done to mitigate the suffering of their families. Again, the sufferings of our people were nothing compared with those of the South—nothing at all. The seat of the war was substantially in the South, very little of it in the North. The war passed over Southern fields and Southern homes. Now, unless you have carefully scanned this, you cannot realize how weighty is the difference it makes whether the war is upon your fireside, whether it tramples down your fields, or whether it is a thousand miles away. You cannot realize the difference. An army marches, and the country is stripped of all sustenance. Animals, waving fields, are necessarily consumed, destroyed—trampled down, eaten up—and the country behind the army is left with scarcely anything to sustain life. The army rests for the night in camp, and the fences, miles in extent every way, are burnt up by the soldiers making their meager fires. Necessarily, they cannot lie and shiver there from the cold. They must take such dry wood as comes handiest to them. They have no time to procure coal, or to seek wood in the forest. No matter how orderly the men, considering the condition in which they find themselves, where an army marches there must be desolation. But in this case there was an unusual desolation; because, wherever there was a factory where corn was ground or woolen goods manufactured, wherever there was an iron foundery, those factories and founderies were necessarily contributors to the support of the Rebellion, and they were burned or destroyed by our armies as a means of putting down the Rebellion. And thus, at every place, women and children were turned out of those establishments wherein they were earning, of course, humble pay, but earning their living; and the means upon which they lived have not been replaced. The cotton, the principal wealth of the country, was burned by one army, and burned by the other; and where it was not burned, it was generally stolen by some means or other. [Laughter.] No matter by what means it was disposed of, the people got nothing from it. The South stood out unreasonably long, I think; long after any hope of success remained; stood out until the last possible resistance was overcome, when nearly every foot of the South excepting the State of Texas had been traversed by our armies, trampling, devouring, devastating, destroying, until there was scarcely anything left but the naked country, with a people nearly all of whom, the whites especially, had been dragged into the armies and a very large portion of them killed or maimed, so that the physical possibility of largely producing had departed when the Rebellion was over. The people (I speak of the the whites only now) (laughter), nearly half their ability to work had been destroyed by the war. All their fences, to a large extent, had gone; and even in the one poor last necessity of man—seed to plant—there were millions and millions of dollars lost to the South last year, because the seed they put into the ground, the only seed they had to plant, being several years old, was so miserable that nothing could be produced from it. If there had been sound seed to put into the ground where seed was wanted, all over the South, the necessity of the South to-day would not be one-half what it is. If the South had had the men at home in strength and vigor as they were when the war began, simply for want of implements and draft animals it would not have been possible to have produced more than half a crop at the South; but now you are told, and very correctly told, that there were terrible floods in the Spring over a large portion of the country, and after this there was an unprecedented drouth that swept over probably half the entire South. All this is very true, but the want of the means to plow the earth to any proper depth, and cultivate the crop properly, aggravated the effect of this drouth to four times what it would have been under ordinary circumstances. Now here is the fact. They are people of all kinds—not of one kind, but of different races, different politics, and different views, and they are all alike suffering throughout all the States which were formerly in rebellion, except perhaps Texas. From Mississippi up to the Potomac there is one universal cry of distress. There is not to-day in the hands of the poor the seed which they need very soon to begin to plant the little ground they have. They have not the food to give to them the strength wherewith to make a crop, and they have none of the materials, the means whereby labor especially in one day is rendered efficient. Now, then, if the Northern people could look at this, if it were possible to look at it in the light of narrow self-interest, I say ten millions of dollars diffused through the South immediately in the form of food, and seed, and implements, would return a hundred millions in the amount of the crop of the present year—[applause]—and thereby largely contribute to the wealth and the prosperity of Northern industry and Northern commerce, as well as that of the South. It has pleased God to make us one people for all these purposes, not only politically, but commercially and socially; and it is not possible that there should be prosperity at the North—real, genuine, hearty prosperity—while there is prostration, and want, and suffering, and incapacity at the South. [Applause.] We are bound for our own sake, if for nothing else, to take hold to-day and so aid the South that she may be encouraged to produce at least as large a crop as possible in the year 1867. It will be small enough at best. You cannot replace the animals they need there, and cannot seasonably replace even the implements the poor need—and some who were rich a few years ago are as poor as the poorest. You cannot any more than just help them to make a little more than half a crop this year. They did not make half a crop of food last year. They made nearly half a crop of cotton, by turning their energies to that one thing; but there needs to be a complete reconstruction of the society, manufacturing, mechanical, as well as agricultural, to my mind, very much more than any political reconstruction. [Applause.] That the industry of the South shall be revived and reconstructed, and if it is only said that the North will try to help the South, tens of thousands will be encouraged to help themselves and help each other, by the mere fact that we here are putting forth exertions to help them. A few bushels of corn in a neighborhood, and of useful seed, is what they need to plant and need now and at once—a few dollars will give to the poor the implements they need. Let the North say to the South, "Try to help yourselves, and we will give what help we can," and there will be a revival of national prosperity and brotherhood which will be twenty times the value of all it will cost us. I do believe then that, apart from all questions that I would sink as subordinate; all politics, all past differences, it is the present pressing necessity of the North to say to the South, "Do your very best to make a crop this year and trust to us to help." Soon, I trust, the manufactories will be rebuilt that the war destroyed, and hundreds and thousands of women and children will be employed there who could not be effectively employed in cultivating the soil. Friends of New-York, I beseech men, without any thought of party or past differences, to give their energies to this work. I believe that New-York City can well afford to commence with a subscription of $1,000,000 for this purpose. [Applause.] I am sure if she does this, she will stimulate Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, Chicago, Cincinnati, and all the Western cities and the smaller towns, to imitate her example. Let us say to the South, be of good cheer, the dark hours have passed away, and the very fact of saying that word to her will give the assurance that those hours shall pass away. She needs to be cheered, she needs to be encouraged, she needs to feel that suffering is not her eternal inheritance, that there are better days come, and that there are cheerful words spoken to her by the people of the North. Friends and neighbors, in behalf of your whole country, in behalf of the North and of the prosperity and growth of this great and I think this generous commercial emporium, I beseech you speak to your friends and neighbors and make a great beginning for this work in the City of New-York. [Great applause.]

One of the audience called on Major-Gen. Anderson.

Gen. ANDERSON came forward and said that they certainly did not expect a speech from him; but he would say that this was a great work, and he hoped they would all do everything they could to relieve the sufferings of the South. He was sure they could not do too much.

Mr. GREELEY offered a resolution that the clergymen of this city be formally requested to present the question to their respective congregations on Sunday next, or at the earliest period convenient. Which was carried.

The Rev. Dr. HENDRICK was next introduced, and made a few touching remarks in reference to the condition of some of his acquaintances in the South.

The meeting then adjourned.

The Committee of Arrangements are requested to meet at the Chamber of Commerce to-day at 3 o'clock p. m.

CITY ITEMS.

SALE OF AN ART LIBRARY.—The library of Mr. S. P. Avery, consisting of a collection of illustrated books, most of them in splendid London editions, is announced for sale at auction by Messrs. Bangs, Merwin & Co., beginning on Wednesday of next week. A rare chance for amateurs.

SUNKEN VESSEL.—Under head of shipping intelligence will be found a report of a sunken vessel off Sandy Hook, thought to be the Danish bark Christiane.

[Announcements.]

The best House in New-York can be protected invisibly, and without damage, by the BURGLAR ALARM TELEGRAPH which is the only thing in the world that has never been broken through by burglars. E. HOLMES, No. 291 Broadway.

To encounter a snow drift or ice embargo successfully, first fortify the system with KENT'S EAST INDIA COMPOUND, then advance in good order. For sale by all grocers, at 25 cents per pound. Depot, No. 124 Reade-st., near Greenwich.

THE TRIBUNE ALMANAC FOR 1867 IS NOW READY. Price 30 cents. See advertisement under head of City Publications.

"The Pen is Mightier than the Sword."

THE GOLD PEN—BEST AND CHEAPEST OF PENS.

MORTON'S GOLD PENS,

THE BEST PENS IN THE WORLD.

For sale at No. 25 MAIDEN-LANE, New-York, and by every duly-appointed Agent at the same prices.

Morton makes no Pens stamped with the Name or Trade-mark of any other; therefore, where an Agency is established, the public will be best suited, and at the same prices, by calling on the Agent; in all other places those wishing the Morton Pen, must send to Headquarters, where their orders will receive prompt attention, if accompanied with the cash.

WHO MAKES THE BEST AND CHEAPEST GOLD PENS?

MORTON'S GOLD PENS.—Mr. Morton, who is an old friend of TRIBUNE readers, makes his appearance again this morning in our advertising columns. Our opinion of his pens has been too often expressed to be doubtful, but we take a pleasure in saying once more that we know of no gold pens in the world equal to those manufactured by Mr. Morton. We have used them for more years than we care to remember, and we have sent many thousands of them to friends who were extending our circulation. There never was but one testimony about them. They write with unequaled ease and rapidity, with almost, or, if you choose, with quite the elasticity of a quill, and their durability is as remarkable as the nicety of their workmanship. There is a reason for this perfection. Mr. Morton's pens are made by machinery of his own invention, of the most costly and delicate construction, which enable him to make pens at once better and cheaper than can be fabricated by hand. They have superseded steel pens with all who study excellence and economy, and in the same way are rapidly superseding other gold pens. Mr. Morton now sells by agents as well as at his own store, No. 25 Maiden-lane, and his advertisement gives, in an interesting way, all needful information to purchasers. [N. Y. Tribune, Jan. 4, 1867.

NATION OFFICE, NEW-YORK, Jan. 19, 1867.

DEAR SIR: I see that you are publishing letters from various persons who have evidently become very partial to the pens of your manufacture. It occurs to me that you would produce a greater effect by reprinting the letters of those whom your pens have failed to satisfy, besides economizing a great deal of space in your advertisement, for I think a *quarter* of a column of *The Tribune* would hold them all.

But if you are fixed in your present policy, please feel at liberty to refer to me, as one prepared to say, not that your pen is the best in the market, (for I have made no comparison), but so good, so thoroughly well made, so adaptable to every hand, and so durable even under the most trying abuse, that he must be, who would seek a better, a much more fastidious writer than I; and he who wearies himself with steel pens while yours are procurable at much less cost, must either be more conservative, or more industrious, or of greater means than Your's gratefully,

WENDELL P. GARRISON.

A. MORTON, ESQ.

OFFICE OF THE PRESS, PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 10, 1867.

A. MORTON, *esq.*

DEAR SIR: Five years ago I began to use a gold pen of your manufacture, and have written with it ever since, say, at least 12 to 15 pages of foolscap every day. It has continued in good condition, as you may imagine, when I tell you that I am now using it, to write this note. I have found it as elastic as a quill pen, never cutting the paper, never spattering the ink, and, above all, durable. Few single pens have had so steady work. Thinking you ought to know this, I tell it to you, and am, yours truly,

R. SHELTON MACKENZIE.

OFFICE OF THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, No. 37 PARK-ROW, NEW-YORK, June 26, 1865.

I am acquainted with the manufacture of Gold Pens, and have no hesitation in saying that the Machines invented and Patented by Mr. Morton, and employed in his business, enable him to manufacture the best Gold Pens in the world. ROBERT MACFARLANE, Editor Scientific American.

Morton has put his skill, his capital, his labor, and his genius to work, and by means of patented machinery, produces a pen which satisfies everybody. * * * We have been in the habit of using these Gold Pens for a long time, and have always found them the best instruments of the kind that have fallen in our way.—[N. Y. Evening Post.

We think Morton's Gold Pens decidedly the best of any in the market.—[Boston Traveller.

The cheapest pens in the market are Morton's Gold Pens.—[Boston Post.

Our Jewel of a Gold Pen was manufactured by A. Morton, and we shall be surprised if, even with the hard work we put it to, it does not keep in good condition for years.—[The Press, Philadelphia.

Six months' writing will wear out more Steel Pens than a Gold one will cost, while the latter will last a good part of a lifetime. * * * Morton's Gold Pens are cheaper and better than any in the market.—[N. Y. Independent.

Morton's Gold Pens are the very best we have ever met with.—[The Methodist, N. Y. City.

Get the best. The testimony of all who are well informed upon the subject is, that there is no gold or metallic pen manufactured in the world that equals A. Morton's. [Evening Express, Rochester, N. Y.

Morton is the "Nestor" in pen making in this country. I never had a perfect pen till I had one of his.—[The Christian Times, Chicago.

Morton's Pens are known the world over to be as standard as gold dollars. * * * We have used one for two years, writing with it every day. They are the best.—[Daily Democrat, Davenport, Iowa.

Morton has brought the art of Gold Pen making to the highest point of perfection. A Gold Pen is not only the most beautiful and tasteful, but the best and the most economical that can be used.—[The Christian Chronicle, Philadelphia.

Morton's Pens are known to the trade, and to those who use pens, far and wide, as the best in the world.—[Daily Union and Advertiser, Rochester, N. Y.

Morton's Gold Pens.— * * * No better pen than this is made.—[American Agriculturist.

With long experience, and Patented Machinery, Mr. Morton is enabled to manufacture a Gold Pen that, in our opinion, has no equal. Try them. * * * They are incomparably the best pen made.—[St. Cloud Democrat, Minn.

MORTON'S FIRST QUALITY.
(WARRANTED.)

These Pens are 16 carats fine, and are pointed with the very best Iridosmin Points, carefully selected, and none of this quality is sold with the slightest imperfection which skill and the closest scrutiny can detect.

Every Pen is stamped "A. Morton, First Quality," and numbered.

The Points are warranted for six months, except against accident.

The Cases are made of Coin Silver, and for this quality are extra heavy and strong.

PRICES OF PENS; AND PENS IN SILVER EXTENSION CASES WITH PENCILS.

No. 1 Pen	$1 25	with Pencil Case	$2 00
No. 2 Pen	1 50	with Pencil Case	2 50
No. 3 Pen	2 00	with Pencil Case	3 00
No. 4 Pen	2 25	with Pencil Case	3 75
No. 5 Pen	2 75	with Pencil Case	4 50
No. 6 Pen	3 50	with Pencil Case	5 75

The Numbers indicate size only, No. 1 being the smallest, and No. 10 the largest.

PRICES OF PENS WITH SILVER-MOUNTED DESK-HOLDERS.

No. 4 Pen	$2 25	with holder	$