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TERMS OF THE TRIBUNE.

DAILY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, $10 per annum.
SEMI-WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, $3 per an.
WEEKLY TRIBUNE, Mail Subscribers, $2 per annum.

New-York Daily Tribune.

FOUNDED BY HORACE GREELEY.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1873.

TRIPLE SHEET.

The Virginius and surviving passengers are to be surrendered to the United States simultaneously at Bahia Honda; the prisoners will arrive at that port to-day. The U. S. steamer Despatch is to take charge of the Virginius. President Grant has refused to accept the resignation of Gen. Sickles. ==== Republican candidates have been successful in the French elections ==== Fatal diseases have prevailed among the British forces on the Gold Coast of Africa. ==== Marshal Bazaine has written a letter to President MacMahon thanking him for his course in commuting the sentence of the Court-Martial.

Great alarm has been caused by the discovery of the embarrassed condition of the National Treasury. ==== A meeting of the Mississippi Valley Representatives in Congress was held Saturday night in Washington, to discuss the subject of cheap and rapid transportation. ==== It is alleged that ex-Senator Pomeroy has paid a large sum to secure the quashing of the bribery indictment against him. ==== Ulderzook has been sentenced to death, the motion for a new trial being denied. ==== Prof. Agassiz died at 10:15 last night, at Cambridge. ==== The Rev. Mr. Cheney was consecrated yesterday, at Chicago, a bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church. ==== The Illinois State Grange and the Elgin, Ill., Farmers' Club have adopted declarations of principles; the Iowa State Grange received a significant report on education.

It was stated that the trial of Treasurer Sprague of Brooklyn would be conducted by the Attorney-General, and that civil and criminal suits would be pressed against Tax Collector Badeau. District-Attorney Britton was rigidly cross-examined before Commissioner Speir in regard to the falsification of the records of a public office. ==== The Rev. Drs. Adams, Crosby, Schaff, and others paid tributes at a memorial meeting of the American Evangelical Alliance to two of the delegates who were recently drowned. ==== Wendell Phillips lectured on "Glimpses Abroad," and Prof. Winchell on "Geology." ==== Gold, 109⅝, 109⅞, 110⅛. Thermometer, 29°, 34°, 39°.

The death of Prof. Louis Agassiz, elsewhere announced, although not unexpected, will come to thousands of people in both hemispheres with a pang of personal bereavement. His name is identified with modern science. His fame is of the world. America claims the largest share in his scientific activities, and will honor his memory.

Nobody will be sorry to learn that the so-called Cheap Transportation meeting in Washington, last Saturday, was a failure. It seems to have been a skillful attempt to use a useful and genuine organization to make capital for canal jobs. It failed, as it ought; there can be no enthusiasm manufactured now for great Government schemes of internal improvement. Debt and taxation are uncomfortably near an increase; cheaper transportation is needed, but this is not a good time to build United States highways for trade.

It appears from an official statement that the National City Bank of Brooklyn has paid Isaac Badeau, ex-Tax Collector, over $31,000 as interest on deposits of City money. There is no question that Mr. Badeau should be sued by the City of Brooklyn for the recovery of this sum, and such suit has been begun. There is little doubt that Mr. Badeau should be criminally indicted and tried for this violation of law, and we hope he will be. But in view of the peculiar phraseology of the law, which makes the briber and the bribed equally responsible, why should the Bank officers be exempted except on the ground that they "only gave Badeau the money?"

As might be expected, the Louisiana case in the Senate is proving a very knotty one. Our Washington dispatches say that the friends of Pinchback—who are also friends of the Kellogg government—claim chiefly under the President's recognition of the Kellogg rule. That is to say, the President, by virtue of certain extraordinary powers, may decide which of the two claimants for the Governorship of a State is legally entitled to that office; and the same is true of contending rival Legislatures. In this instance, to be sure, a decision of a State Court is held to reënforce that of the President. Whether this view of the case be right or not, Congress may bear in mind that the President gave warning that if that body did not take some steps to settle the Louisiana dispute, he should; and this unfortunate complication is what comes of his zealous interference.

The Vienna Exposition having afforded exceptional facilities for observing the progress of the iron industry, Prof. William P. Blake prepared a report on the subject for THE TRIBUNE, the first part of which was published Nov. 17—the remainder we give to-day. Prof. Blake finds scant evidence of progress in China, Japan, or British India, although the mineral resources of those countries are great. In Russia and Middle Europe the iron industry is prosperous and progressive, being unsurpassed in the excellence and diversity of its products. England and France maintain their position among iron-producing nations. The new inventions described in this report merit the attention of all American ironmasters. Seller's puddler, Büttgenbach's furnace, Siemen's direct process for producing refined iron and steel, and the novel applications of iron to railroad building, are all full of interest to iron-producers, who are gradually abandoning old and wasteful methods.

A dispatch boat has sailed from Key West with a picked crew from the Worcester and the Pawnee, to receive the Virginius from the Spaniards, at Bahia Honda. The survivors of her passengers and crew are to arrive there to-day in a Spanish man of war. A profound disgust seems to have settled upon the Volunteers at Havana as they saw the prize, in whose honor so much Valdepeñas had been drunk and so many cigarritos burned, sailing out of the harbor to be restored to the Yankees. Their spirits were certainly not raised by a rumor current there yesterday, that the Cubans had captured Bayamo and Guimaro, and the favorite volunteer regiment of Valmaseda Chasseurs. This may be only one of the many rumors of the hour, but if it is confirmed the Creoles will have made a great step forward in the direction of that recognition which they so much desire, and which the great majority of Americans wish to see them earn.

The letter from Paris which we print this morning gives in few words the position of the Government of France in relation to the Assembly and the country. The MacMahon Cabinet could properly be designated as a conspiracy against the Republic, if its hostility were not so open and sincere. Both the Marshal-President and the Duke-Premier have frankly informed the majority in the Assembly that they propose to rule France in accordance with their wishes, and without any regard to the minority which represents a vast preponderance of the voters of the country. The Republicans, who, whenever they have a chance at the polls, elect their candidates by overwhelming majorities, are merely regarded by MacMahon and Broglie as dangerous and insolent enemies, whose only object in life is to throw vitriol upon religion and order, and who merit nothing less than extermination. M. Thiers and M. de Rémusat are no better in the eyes of the Government than Pyat and Rigault. It will require the utmost patience and fortitude for the Republic to succeed against this malignant hostility in its guardians. If it does succeed, it will deserve perpetuity.

Our special dispatches from the West indicate a season of great activity among the Granges. They asserted themselves so strongly in the late elections that they are naturally seeking to lay the foundations for organized political action in future, and their preliminary manifestations take the familiar form of resolutions and platforms. As might have been expected, they have not yet attained to perfect harmony in their utterances. The Iowa Granges denounce the purchase of Illinois agricultural implements and order their own members to subscribe to an Iowa paper. There are also divergences between the different organizations on the subject of internal improvements and finance. But in most essential things they are more coherent than either of the two political parties of the country. They want legislation for the benefit of one class, and denounce it when it is used for the advantage of any other class. They have some rather vague and we think injurious ideas about the functions of the Government and the questions of revenue. But their notions about the preservation of timber, the education of farmers, the reform of the Civil Service, the necessity of honesty in office, and the duty of Congress in reference to recent flagrant cases of corruption, are sound and wholesome, and cannot be too earnestly pressed upon the serious consideration of the masses of the people.

FROM BAD TO WORSE.

If there is anything in which mere partisanship should be avoided, it is certainly in questions of public money. We appeal to thoughtful citizens of all parties, and to all honest Congressmen, however classified, to consider dispassionately the present alarming deficiency in the revenues of the United States Treasury. The temporary depression in our foreign imports produced by the panic has undoubtedly diminished the revenue, but the extravagant appropriations of the Forty-second Congress would have produced a deficiency without the aid of the panic. Certain it is that the expenditures of the current fiscal year will exceed those of the last by several million dollars, and yet the ordinary expenditures of the last fiscal year are without precedent in the history of the country. Why should the Army expenditures be nearly three times greater than they were in 1860? Why should the cost of the Navy have more than doubled in the same time? Why should it still cost six per cent to collect the Internal Revenue?

The fiscal year 1868 was the last complete year of Johnson's administration. Since then it has been claimed that the Government has grown economical. We should like to see in what branch of the public expenditure this economy can be found. The Public Debt has decreased, and therefore the interest account is less burdensome than it was six years ago. Six years ago the Army was larger than it is now, and vast sums were distributed about that time in bounties to the soldiers. These two items of extraordinary expense have naturally ceased to exist. But the Navy costs as much and amounts to as little as ever. The chief remaining items of public expenditure, so far as the Secretary of the Treasury furnishes information upon which a comparison can be based, compare as follows:

Civil.	1868.	1873.
Congress	$3,609,135	$7,251,832
Executive	6,757,402	6,896,507
Judiciary	2,491,737	3,826,132
Sub-Treasuries	259,114	340,531
Mints and Assay Offices	112,960	125,421
Miscellaneous.		
Mint establishment	694,683	1,082,341
Coast Survey	455,701	852,829
Light-house establishment	2,613,739	2,906,289
Collecting customs and revenue cutter service	7,615,675	8,075,052
Public buildings, and repairs of same	1,799,062	10,603,648
Post-Office deficiencies	4,104,477	4,705,475
Refunding proceeds of captured and abandoned property	642,949	1,960,679
Indians	3,988,354	7,951,705
Forts and fortifications, and improvement of rivers and harbors	5,334,897	9,319,470
Foreign intercourse—salaries of Ministers, Consuls, &c.	1,291,344	1,571,363
Steamship subsidies	191,667	725,000
Marine hospital establishment	566,842	460,703
Surveys of public lands	429,436	1,128,060
Total	$43,097,231	$68,833,093

Here is shown an increase in eighteen items of over fifty per cent in five years. Congress grows expensive in the same ratio that it grows contemptible. As the Judiciary sinks in public estimation the administration of justice rises in cost. Public buildings call for five times as much as they did five years ago. Indian affairs require double the amount they did in 1868, but what percentages go to the Indians and what to the agents we cannot say. In every item there is an increase, except in the solitary instance of the Marine Hospital establishment. Observe, too, that the current fiscal year is destined to show a large advance on the disbursements of the last. In the year ended June 30, 1865, the last year of the war, the expenses of the Government, after deducting the interest on the Debt, drawbacks, pensions and the cost of the Army and Navy, were only $34,015,358 56. The same expenses last year were $75,791,125 05, or several millions more than double. In 1868 they were $51,688,501 74. The responsibility for the rapid increase of the public expenditures cannot be saddled on the panic or on Gen. Burriel. The taxes must at no distant time be increased, and the reasons why an increase of taxes is necessary must be sought in the reckless infidelity of those in power, both in and out of Congress. Shall it continue unchecked, and unrebuked?

It is not surprising, therefore, that Congressmen, alarmed at the yawning emptiness of the public chest, hesitate to replace the abolished taxes. Our Washington dispatches give a vivid picture of the dismay which has been caused by the reluctant admissions of Secretary Richardson. It is pointed out that thirty millions of appropriations are practically in the reach of members of the Cabinet, and may be returned by them to the available funds of the Treasury. Retrenchment is vigorously called for, and we are assured that the Chairmen of the various committees in charge of the revenues and appropriations are in full accord upon this all important subject. These virtuous resolutions in favor of economy are mournfully late; but nothing else remains; the country is in a poor state to endure increased taxation. Every possible retrenchment must be insisted upon; and we shall be heartily glad if Congress and the Secretary can show how the expenses of the Government are to be met without a further imposition of taxes.

THE LATE JUSTICE NELSON.

Samuel Nelson was one of the most illustrious jurists of an era which is fast departing. He was raised to the bench at an early age, not in reward for partisan service nor through the bargaining and scheming of a political caucus, but because his fitness for the dignity was universally recognized by the bar and the public. During twenty-two years he presided over the courts of this State, first as Circuit Judge, then as Associate and finally Chief-Justice of the Supreme Court. He brought to the duties of his high calling a thorough knowledge of the law, a clear and comprehensive mind, a wonderful memory, a sturdy common sense and a scrupulous conscience. It would be but faint praise to say that he was honest and impartial; those qualities were not so rare in former days as they afterward became; but he bestowed upon the causes which came before him an amount of patient study which very few of his associates thought it necessary to expend upon their duties. Hence his learning every day grew richer and more varied. His decisions commanded universal respect, and the Supreme Court of New-York was quoted as high authority not only all over the United States but also in Great Britain. He was one of the last of the great magistrates who adorned the bench of the State. The Convention of 1846, which introduced the experiment of an elective judiciary, struck a blow at the character of the Supreme Court from which it may never recover. For more than a quarter of a century the bench and the bar have been going down in company, until we have seen our Supreme Court the scandal of the English speaking world, and our ablest lawyers shun an office which can hardly be attained without degradation.

It was just before the decline in our State tribunals began that Judge Nelson was promoted to the Supreme Bench of the United States. The honorable position which he maintained for twenty-seven years in that distinguished place, where Story was for a short time one of his associates, and Taney and Chase were successively his chiefs, will long be a precious memory to his countrymen. No Judge in our time has left a brighter record of integrity and strict judicial uprightness, or a finer reputation for prudence and scholarship. When he retired, in the full vigor of his intellect, to the enjoyment of that repose which he had so well earned, the bar of his native State united in a remarkable tribute of spontaneous respect to one who combined all the virtues that adorn the ermine. Wise, impartial, incorruptible, industrious, experienced, dignified, and invariably courteous, he was a model for his profession as well as an honor to his country.

As the retirement of Judge Nelson from the Supreme Bench of New-York marks the era of decline in the judiciary of the State, so we fear it may come to be thought hereafter that his resignation of the Justiceship of the Supreme Court of the United States corresponded with the beginning of a similar decay in the highest tribunal of the nation. There are illustrious lawyers now who would reflect as much glory upon the judicial dignity as Samuel Nelson did during his half century of service; but it is not from among them that judges now-a-days are selected. Petty politicians are thought good enough for the seat to which the best men of the nation were once proud to aspire, and a partisan and friend of the President, with little repute in his profession, without the respect of the bar or the confidence of the public, is deemed worthy to succeed Chase, and Marshall, and Jay. Let us show all the honor we can to the memory of Samuel Nelson. We shall not be much troubled to honor the new tribe of judges.

CHARITY AND COMMON SENSE.

There is no doubt more suffering among the poor this Winter than we have known for many years before. The stagnation in business is not so general as it threatened to be some weeks ago, and in many departments of industry there is a remarkable revival; but after we have taken all alleviating circumstances into consideration the fact remains clear that thousands of workingmen and women are now hungry and ragged, with no immediate prospect of employment. They meet us at every step. They besiege our shops, our offices, and our homes. Wistful and haggard faces accost us in the streets. Throngs of respectable-looking men stand idle and expectant around the public offices and public works. Those who have never eaten the bread of charity before now watch for the opening of the "soup-houses," and take the dole with blushes and thanks.

If the demands upon the benevolent are louder than usual, it must be admitted that the need of caution in giving is correspondingly increased. All that private beneficence is likely to accomplish this Winter will go but a little way towards the relief of the city's poor, and while so many deserving persons are in want through no fault of their own we should be especially cautious that our means are not wasted on the unworthy. Every one who has taken the trouble to investigate the stories of the beggars who come to his door knows that a great majority of the street-mendicants are impostors, who make a comfortable living by the kindness and credulity of the public; and those who have had much to do with charitable societies are but too well aware that even the best organizations for relief do not always succeed in reaching the suffering which they are intended to alleviate. Societies as well as individuals are the victims of vicious and lazy beggars, who draw aid simultaneously from three or four associations, and manage to deceive them all.

For this reason we look upon the new scheme of a "Clearing-house for Charities" with great interest. It will enable the officers of the scores of societies now acting independently of each other to arrange their operations in concert, to divide their work better, and to distribute their gifts more equitably among the needy. It will enable them to keep a general register of all persons receiving aid, and to guard much better than they do now against imposition. In the admirable report presented to the Central Bureau Friday night by the Rev. Dr. Hall, it is stated that the number of men out of employment is much less than is generally supposed, and that some 20,000 people are now receiving charity in some form who are not entitled to it. This fact is in itself a justification of the establishment of this central Clearing-house, which will give to the officers of the various associations a better understanding of the real needs of the time, and enable them by comparing notes to determine what pressing necessity there may be for extraordinary measures of relief. What is not less important, it will test the value of the societies themselves. There are some associations, and there seems to be a popular apprehension that there are many of them, which waste their resources on salaries and other expenses of administration, and accomplish nothing which could not be much better done by other and better known societies. These should not be allowed to squander the money of the benevolent, and an inquiry into their condition—what they are doing and what they cost—is certainly in order. At all events the more thoroughly the charities of the city are organized the more they will accomplish, and the movement for coöperation seems eminently sensible and timely.

GLANCES ALL ABROAD.

Mr. Wendell Phillips last Saturday night, after enumerating various indispensable changes, which will possibly not be made, said that if they failed to come, "the boy is "born to-day who shall write the Decline and "Fall of the American Republic." We do not share in the apprehensions of this "silver-"snarling" orator, but we are oppressed by a foreboding, that if the boy is not yet born who shall write the decline and fall of Mr. Phillips, it will be because, on the whole, the next generation will not care to read anything about him. He is not one whom distance will make venerable. Other orators live in their speeches; Mr. Phillips's strength is in his speaking. He is always effective and imposing to his audience. His studied and memorized discourse sounds so precisely like improvisation that people are moved and thrilled by a spectacle which looks like genius in the very act of creation. They do not judge him by ordinary standards. He talks nonsense with such calm and Olympian assurance that it ceases to appear absurd, until the audience recur to it the next day, and then it seems so ridiculous that modest people prefer to think their own memories at fault. They say to themselves that no one could talk nonsense so serenely.

But the printed letter is an unprejudiced witness, and it tells us, year after year, that Mr. Phillips, finding his old lectures growing flat, has got into a habit of peppering them with crude extravagances to bring down the trusting house at proper intervals. He has adopted as his leading bogey "Mr. "Tom Scott," whom he calls a greater power than the Church of England, and says "the sweep of his coat-tails "as he goes from San Francisco to Phila-"delphia knocks down all the legislatures in his "path." When he says this, the audience applaud, but when men read it the next day they think there is something wrong with the types. Though he fears Mr. Scott so much, he is still devoted to the system which makes Mr. Scotts possible. He wants to reëlect Gen. Grant for a third term, and to give the Government unlimited power to issue irredeemable currency. It is impossible to caricature the crazy language in which he announces his financial scheme. "We have the best currency in the world "now," he says. "God forbid that we should "ever return to that delusion of specie pay-"ments." "I look forward to a currency "double in volume, resting only on the "credit of the Government"—and at this point we are informed there was applause—"with no check and balance of "commodity, wheat or gold, to disturb the "natural relation of its volume." Is it permitted for a citizen to be so recklessly ignorant as this—unless his name is Richardson? He is not always so absurd. Sometimes in striving to be lively he is merely silly, as where he says, "We say we have 30,000,000 "souls. It is not so. We have not more than "15,000,000, for only about half of us have "souls. In the time of our forefathers "nearly every man had a soul. They have not "got it now." Is there any trace of Wendell Phillips in these dreary puerilities? This is the point to which a few years of subordination to the strong and vulgarizing influence of Benjamin F. Butler have brought this sensitive spirit.

His reasoning faculty was never especially strong, but it seems to have lost what little "grip" it had. He says the war taught North and South to understand each other, but wants a few more terms of Grant because they do not understand each other. He says that "America is at the head of "civilization to-day because women are "nearer equality here than anywhere else." Five minutes afterward he said Europe was ahead of us, because there the negro enjoyed social equality. To a man of Mr. Phillips's habit of mind twenty-four hours of consistency would probably be fatal—but is not five minutes rather a limited space to change the face of civilization in?

OUR OLD FRIEND.

And so our old friend Pub. Doc. is coming back! The House Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads has devised a plan for the indirect revival of the franking privilege, the chief feature of which is the unlimited free circulation of public documents through the mails. Any member of Congress is to be at liberty to frank anything that by a stretch of conscience he can call a public document, and when the clerk has put his *visé* upon the wrapper, as a certificate that the signature is genuine, the book, or speech, or letter, or report, or parcel of dirty linen, or whatever it may be, is thereupon entitled to free transmission. Of course the result is easily foreseen. Anything upon which the honorable member does not want to pay postage becomes for the nonce a public document. The speech which he never made but asked leave to print; the newspaper which contains a flattering sketch of his life and public services; the volume of "Our Leading Statesmen" adorned with his portrait on steel (for which he bound himself to take five copies of the book at one hundred dollars a piece); the business circulars of the most influential men of the party in his district; the appeals of the Central Committee for voluntary contributions from clerks toward campaign expenses; the Agricultural Report with the picture of his namesake the prize ram,—all these things and many more will be heaped into the capacious mail bags, and again as of old the Post-Offices will be choked and the railways burdened with tons of rubbish for which there is no use upon earth except to kindle fires and wipe razors.

It is idle to pretend that the new regulation, applying the franking privilege only to public documents, is not liable to the same abuses as the old. Under the former law the privilege of Congressmen was very strictly limited—on the statute books. It covered nothing whatever except their correspondence, printed matter issued by authority of Congress and proceedings in Congress; and the frank was required in all cases to be written by the Congressman's own hand. In practice all these restrictions were disregarded. Everything was correspondence. Circulars, business cards, campaign documents, were franked by the wholesale; and it is said that one member sent several large packing cases full of household effects all the way across the continent as registered letters. In busy seasons half the franks were forged by the members' clerks, under orders from their employers. The scandalous manner in which the law was violated in this regard at Washington just before the last Presidential election will not soon be forgotten. If the franking privilege is revived all these abuses will certainly be revived with it. Then the bags were filled with fictitious correspondence; now they will be filled with fictitious documents. It will be the same matter only with a slight change of name.

This is not all. It was one of the blessings of repeal that it checked the growing extravagance of the business of public printing. Those tons of useless and ridiculous books which no man ever read, those mountains of voluminous, verbose reports, and huge piles of ancient statistics, were the direct fruits of the franking privilege. There was no reason for their existence except that Congressmen might flatter a constituent by sending him volumes that he did not want, as a token that his representatives had not forgotten him. When the facilities for distributing this rubbish at the public expense were taken away the temptation for making it was taken away too. If the reform can be allowed to stand we shall perhaps arrive in time at the common-sense plan of printing nothing that is not worth its cost; and the title of Pub. Doc. applied to a book will cease to be a term of opprobrium.

The "Sorosis" Association has effectually outlived all ill-natured criticism by keeping about its work with diligence and self-respect. The ladies composing it have demonstrated their capacity to organize a club of women which has most of the advantages, with scarcely any of the drawbacks, of the clubs of men now in existence. It has been free from wrangling; politics have not disturbed it; no one has been hurt by it and many have been benefited. It has just issued a brief programme for the coming year, announcing the purpose and scope of the work it intends to undertake. It proposes to assist women in combining their efforts in various branches of intellectual activity, such as literature, art, music, science, the drama, social progress, education, and business. Each of these branches has a committee of its own, and the organization of the year's work is just beginning.

The laboring men of the country seem to find it hard to resist the temptation to put forth incendiary resolutions and demands. Our own unemployed workmen gave us a taste a few days since of their unreasoning method of meeting such a crisis as the present, and on Saturday a meeting of Cincinnati laboring men reiterated the recent Cooper Union resolutions, with the terse and peremptory amendment: "Give us work or a remission of three months' rent." We believe, however, that very few will be found to seriously meditate any forcible throwing off of the burdens which in such times as these press heavily on the capitalist as well as the workman.

Mr. Wilkie Collins begins this week in *The Fireside Companion* the publication of his first American story, under the puzzling title of "The Dead Alive." The scene is a farm-house not far from New-York, and the personages of the romance, even in the first installment, are such as to inspire interest and pique curiosity.

PROF. LOUIS AGASSIZ.

In all America there is no private citizen whose death will touch the chord of sorrow in so many hearts as will mourn Prof. Agassiz, who died at Cambridge, Mass., at 10:15 last night. A grand simplicity of character, and an earnest warmth of feeling which the severe studies of his life never abated, would have made him a man not easily forgotten by those who have known him, if well-earned and widespread fame had not waited upon his labors. Even those who have only formed their notions respecting him from his writings have been impressed by the depth and solemn fervor of his words, when he stepped aside for a moment from the drier details of science to its broader generalities. At the lecture desk, though handling themes that rarely interest any but professional students, and speaking with what might rather be termed a foreign enunciation than an accent, he never failed to kindle in others the enthusiasm that glowed within him. Some friends prepared a social reception for him one evening at Washington. He was asked to hold himself in readiness. "You will not ask me to make a speech?" he inquired. "Oh, no!" was the reply; "we only want you to come and beam upon us." The reception was a great success. "Agassiz," said the hostess afterward, "merely shook hands. There was nothing formal; but he beamed on everybody with such a pleasant smile that it seemed as if he was diffusing happiness through the whole company."

The secret of the great personal influence exerted by Prof. Agassiz, and which enabled him to secure from wealth the assistance that his extensive scientific undertakings required, lay principally in his singleness of soul. He had but one object over in view, and other matters were not merely subsidiary, they were all but forgotten. To science he was not only an humble student, a ministering priest—he was a self-abandoning devotee. One expression indicating this characteristic has been often quoted. A business man was urging him to become a partner in some commercial undertaking in which the technical knowledge of Prof. Agassiz was to be regarded as an equivalent for the capital and mercantile experience of the other members of the firm.

"You would make any amount of money in the business," said the man of dollars.

"I have no time to make money," replied the man of science.

Somewhat similar is another incident which he mentioned in private conversation, with the request that it should not be repeated with names. A publishing firm wrote to him urging him to write a book on natural history for use in schools, and offering him a large pecuniary inducement. "I wrote them," said he, and his eyes sparkled with indignation, "that I was not the man to do this sort of work. And I told them too, that the less of this work was done, the better. It is not school books that we want, it is students. The book of nature is always open. All that I can write and say shall be to make them study that book and not pin their faith to any other." The self-denial of Prof. Agassiz may be better appreciated when the fact is mentioned that the salary of his professorship was only $1,500 per year.

His love for truth in science was only equaled by his antipathy to shams and falsehood. In the rare instances where he thought imposition was practiced, it called forth from him a fierce wrath that astonished those who had only seen the gentler side of his nature. Some friends made an arrangement when a noted exhibition of "spiritualists" was in progress, to have a scientific investigation of the alleged "phenomena," and invited Prof. Agassiz to make one of the party. He turned his back upon his friends, pointing them to the open door in almost speechless anger, and only adverted to it afterward in expressions of surprise that anybody who knew him should insult him by asking him thus to waste his time.

Prof. Agassiz was simple in dress and mode of living. His figure was somewhat under the medium hight. His massive head, slightly inclined forward, rested on a thick-set and sturdy frame. The natural expression of his face was of cordiality and good humor. His large eyes of bluish-gray were ever ready to brighten with kindly interest when a student was seeking information or telling of what might, perhaps, be a new discovery. But whether the thought presented was new or old, Prof. Agassiz rarely failed to bring forth from the storehouse of his memory some illustrative or cognate fact, investing the subject with a broader significance. His lectures and public addresses were, with few exceptions, extemporaneous, or at all events largely dependent upon the inspiration of the moment for their form of words. He was a fluent speaker, using English, though evidently not a vernacular tongue, with ease and accuracy, hesitating, or rather pausing, sometimes for a moment, not as if there was any deficiency of thought or words, but as if he was in doubt which to select from a throng of ideas presenting themselves.

We have but space for a brief account of the crowded labors of his life. Louis John Rudolph Agassiz was of Huguenot descent, born at Motiers, Switzerland, May 28, 1807. His lineal ancestors for six generations were clergymen, his father being pastor of the Protestant parish of St. Imier. His mother, the daughter of a physician, superintended his education in early youth, and for many years his studies had in view the medical profession. After leaving the college at Lausanne, he went to the medical school at Zurich and afterward to the University of Heidelberg, where he studied anatomy and physiology under Tiedemann, zoölogy under Leuckart, and botany under Bischoff. At the age of 20 he entered the University of Munich. Already his studies were especially advanced in the direction in which he subsequently became a leader, and with Dollinger, at whose house he lived, he made special investigations in the embryology of animals. Wagler, Oken, and Martius are named among the distinguished naturalists from whom he obtained instruction. Rapid progress was made by the students of Munich under such tuition; his companions like himself were absorbed in scientific researches, and he began at that time the publication of brief treatises on special subjects. Upon the return of the scientific exploring expedition from Brazil, Agassiz was called upon to compile for publication the discoveries relating to fishes, and it was while engaged in this work that his destiny as a naturalist was determined, and he relinquished the study of the healing art, after graduating as Doctor of Medicine at Munich, having in the same year obtained the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Erlangen.

In his researches in the museums of Europe while engaged in the study of fossil fishes, he obtained the acquaintance and friendship of Cuvier, then in the zenith of his fame and surrounded by a bevy of pupils, most of whom have long since become famous. Among them were Owen, the great comparative anatomist of England; Milne-Edwards, the distinguished French zoölogist; Rudolph Wagner, and Johannes Müller, German physiologists, the last-named one of the most eminent men of the present century and the not unsuccessful antagonist, in a great scientific controversy, of Baron von Liebig. The influence of Cuvier upon Agassiz is traced by many in the views with which the latter is identified, and it has been said, not without good cause, that the mantle of Cuvier has fallen upon him.

The science of fossil ichthyology is almost wholly due to the labors of Agassiz; he laid its foundations and built upon them a vast amount of erudite information. Aided by the liberality of Baron von Humbolt, he was enabled to publish this great work on this subject; it is in five volumes, with a folio atlas containing 311 plates, about 1,000 species being completely and 700 partially described and figured. A new order of classification was brought forward as a result of these investigations, which was far in advance of anything previously attempted. On this work his fame as a naturalist rested securely; but it was destined to receive a great accession from his studies during his vacations which he spent in the Alps. Thirty-seven years ago he began to unfold the glacial theory, meeting on every hand the most violent opposition. But as years have rolled on and proof after proof has been brought forward of the