three of his nephews having participated in the conflict, and one of them, the lamented Colonel Shaw, a young man of the brightest promise for the future, having been slain in battle.

Three Cambridge gentlemen, old and tried friends of his, who had with him formed a whist club, found that for some time he had been making unusual efforts to be present at the game of which he was so fond, and learning that it was at the expense of his failing health, this, the last social enjoyment he indulged in, was given up. His life at Elmwood had been almost devoid of incident. One or two friends have dropped in from day to day, his studies have been pursued whenever possible, and his geniality and lightness of spirit even when suffering have been remarkable. A complete revision of his works in prose and verse was undertaken and completed, a task in itself of considerable magnitude, and which undoubtedly made a decided strain upon his impaired vitality. He had also written a charming introduction to "Isaak Walton's Works," and contributed a few pieces of verse to "The Atlantic."

Mr. Lowell had a period of literary inactivity after the death of his first wife: but the outbreak of hostilities between the States broke up his lethargy of sorrow. The same thing happened after the death of the second wife. The bereaved husband was for a long time inconsolable. During this season of sorrow many feared for his health, and there were some, indeed, who dreaded the result to the sensitive mind of the stricken man.

SKETCH OF MR. LOWELL'S LIFE.

James Russell Lowell was born at Cambridge, Mass., on Washington's Birthday 1819. These patriotic associations alone ought to have made him a typical American, and there was, moreover, the best colonial blood of New-England in his veins. Percival Lowell emigrated from Bristol, England, in 1639, and settled in Newburg, Mass., and his descendents were men of mark in the annals of New-England for two centuries. One of them, John Lowell, the poet's grandfather, inserted in the constitution of Massachusetts the words "All men are created free and equal"; and when the clause was adopted he demonstrated so successfully the unconstitutionality of holding men in bondage under these terms that slavery was abolished in that State. The Rev. Charles Lowell, the father of this eminent American man of letters, was for many years pastor of the West Church, Boston, and was endowed with robust intellectual qualities. The mother was remarkable for refinement of taste and vividness of imagination. The birthplace of the poet was a colonial mansion near Mount Auburn Cemetery, built before 1767. It had been the home of Elbridge Gerry, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The Boston pastor purchased it and greatly improved it, surrounding it with elms and pines. It commanded a view of the river Charles, which is often referred to in Mr. Lowell's verse. The poet died in the house where he was born with all the tender associations of his boyhood's home sweetening and mellowing his old age. The youngest of a family of five, he was the pet of a happy household, conspicuous for homely virtues, contentment and animation of spirits. The quiet dignity, measured conversation, and studious habits of his father contrasted strongly with the keen wit and sprightly talk of the mother, who had a strain of genuine Celtic blood. Mr. Lowell in his mature years always spoke most affectionately of his mother, to whom he was largely indebted for his own store of imagination and wit. In her later years her intellectual qualities were seriously impaired, and one of his best poems, "The Darkened Room," is filled with the pathos of her affliction.

Mr. Lowell was educated at Harvard College, where he took a high rank in literary studies, being also the class poet when he was graduated at the age of nineteen. This class poem was illuminated by flashes of brilliant wit and satire. In consequence of his indolence at college he was subjected to a brief period of rustication, and was sent to Concord, where he made the acquaintance of Emerson and the transcendentalists. Some of the social vagaries of that brilliant group pleased his fancy and the class poem was devoted to the humorous aspects of the movement. This was the future Hosea Biglow's introduction to academic scenes. There was better satire than verse in this juvenile work; but in later years the poet honored his alma mater with his noblest work, the inspiring "Commemoration Ode." The class-poem was not read in consequence of his suspension from college, but it was printed and served to stimulate his aspirations for success in a literary career. Among his schoolmates at the Wells Classical School in Cambridge and his friends at college were William Story, T. W. Higginson, Charles Devens, Rufus King, G. B. Loring and E. A. Washburn.

The career which Mr. Lowell prematurely marked out for himself was not one for which he was intellectually fitted. This was the law. He entered the Harvard Law School and was admitted to the bar in 1840. He opened an office in Boston, and afterward compiled a record of his brief practice in a story, "My First Client." He married a woman of genius in 1844, Maria White, through whose influence he abandoned his profession and devoted himself to literature and to the Abolition cause. His first volume of poems, published in 1841, was entitled "A Year's Life," and was filled with premonitions of undeveloped genius. He made a futile attempt to establish a magazine, known as "The Pioneer," Robert Carter being his associate. Only three numbers were published, although Mrs. Browning, Hawthorne, Whittier and Poe contributed to it. In 1844 appeared a second volume of poems, "A Legend of Brittany," with sonnets to Wendell Phillips and Giddings, and unmistakable evidence of interest in the Anti-Slavery cause. In the next year he established his reputation by writing "The Vision of Sir Launfal," in what has been described as a frenzy of creative impulse. This exquisite poem was the product of forty-eight hours of continuous labor and imaginative excitement, during which he could neither eat nor sleep. It remains to this day perhaps the most popular of his poems, instinct with genius and refinement of delicacy, although severer critics must always prefer the majestic movement and grandeur of thought of the "Commemoration Ode."

In literary criticism, of which he was to become one of the great masters in the English tongue, Mr. Lowell's earliest work was a series of papers begun in "The Pioneer" and subsequently published under the title of "Conversations With Some of the Old Poets." It formed the groundwork for his lectures before the Lowell Institute during the winter of 1854 and of his lectures in Harvard University, where he was appointed Professor of Modern Languages and Belles-Lettres in 1855 as the successor of Longfellow. He qualified himself for this academic work by two years' study abroad, mastering Italian, French and Spanish, and becoming one of the greatest authorities in Provencal poetry. This was a second journey, his first prolonged residence abroad being in 1851, when he made a profound study of Dante and Italian literature. His wife died in 1853, during the interval between these journeys.

The death of Mrs. Lowell, occurring almost simultaneously with a birth in Longfellow's family, inspired the older poet's beautiful verses entitled "The Two Angels." Her influence over her husband had been strongly exerted in directing his devotion to literary studies and invigorating his political opinions. By nature he was both indolent and conservative. He had his father's indisposition to take the issues of life and politics with undue seriousness. His wife had sat at the feet of Margaret Fuller and was fairly aflame with reformatory zeal. Her beauty and gentleness had inspired his earliest verses when he was studying Blackstone. Her interest in his youthful poems increased his ardor and ambition, and after marriage her own radicalism was leaven acting upon the conservatism of his character. In the earlier editions of his poems her verses were coupled with his own, and were both graceful in form and strong and womanly in tone.

Mr. Lowell's work as a satirist was begun in the interest of anti-slavery. Both he and his wife were contributors as early as 1848 to "Liberty Bell," and subsequently to "The Anti-Slavery Standard." The first series of the "Biglow Papers" appeared in "The Boston Courier," and ranked from the outset as the most powerful literature directed against slavery. Written in the Yankee dialect and edited ostensibly by "Homer Wilbur, A. M., of Jaalam," these papers satirized the Mexican war and all the cant and servility of the debased and cringing politics of a time-serving generation. Unrivalled in wit and sarcasm, the "Biglow Papers" elevated the intellectual standard of the Abolition cause, and were the armory of the most destructive weapons used in the fight against slavery. The Kansas struggle tempted the satirist to make a journey to the scene of political agitation and to produce on the ground a new series of dialect studies smacking directly of the soil: but the project was abandoned on account of the pressure of literary work.

The outbreak of the Civil War brought quaint Hosea Biglow with his merciless wit again into the field. The second series was published in "The Atlantic Monthly," and was received with the highest evidences of public appreciation in the North. In "Jonathan to John" he gave adequate expression to American feeling in one of the crises of the Nation's history. It was after the Trent affair. Mason and Slidell had been seized in wanton disregard of neutrality law. International justice, as well as diplomatic expediency, required that the Confederate negotiators should be given up, but every instinct of American patriotism had been cruelly outraged by England's offensive hostility and cynical indifference to the American cause. "Jonathan to John" expressed what was in every overwrought American heart on the Union side. It bristled with contempt for a mercenary greed that was trafficking in the misfortunes of a liberty-loving branch of the English-speaking race. It rang out in scornful detestation of the hypocrisy which, with canting tongue, was making a virtue out of befriending slaveowners. It embodied a conviction that inexorable justice would at last make all things even. It was inspired with profound faith in the triumph of a righteous cause and in the manifest destiny of the American people. The country was quivering with indignation when Mr. Lowell gave that defiant, if satirical, answer to England, and it greeted him with every sign of grateful appreciation for so characteristic an expression of all that was best in American feeling.

The "Biglow Papers" determined not only Mr. Lowell's commanding position among American Unionists, but also the essential originality of his work. His earliest poems had borne the impress of Keats; and his riper work had not been unlike that of Arnold, with touches here and there of Wordsworth; but the homely Yankee dialect, and quaint, practical shrewdness of Hosea Biglow were unique. If the satire be more grim in the second series than in the first, the whole work is symmetrical and unrivalled in English literature, Hudibras being feeble and commonplace beside it. Among these papers belongs properly "The Courtin'," one of the most original and charming idylls of New-England life.

Mr. Lowell's literary work had been continued during these busy years with unabated ardor. In 1848 appeared his third volume of poems, with many anti-slavery pieces. "Fable for Critics" was a keen and racy satire at the expense of American poets. In 1849 a revised edition of his poems was issued. From 1857 to 1862 he was a constant contributor to "The Atlantic Monthly," of which he was the first editor; and in 1863 he became with Charles Eliot Norton an associate editor of "The North American Review." Among the volumes of this period of literary activity were "Under the Willows," "Among my Books," "My Study Windows" and "The Commemoration Ode." In 1872 he made a third European journey and upon his return wrote the three best odes of the centennial period. Among his later works were "The Cathedral," "Democracy and Other Addresses," "Heartsease and Rue" and "Political Essays." Perhaps the best of his critical work is to be found in "My Study Windows" and "Among My Books." "Fireside Travels" was one of the most charming of his writings. His prose was remarkable for lucidity of style, refinement of analysis and resources of scholarship. His later poems were characterized by exquisite finish, richness of imagination, refinement of method and sustained moral purpose. In his great ode the memory of Lincoln, "Our Martyr Chief," is embalmed in melodious strophes with matchless art; and there are few poems in the language so replete with Wordsworth's own intimations of immortality as "In the Twilight."

In 1877 Mr. Lowell's diplomatic career opened with his appointment to the Spanish Mission, from which he was transferred to London, where he became a most popular speaker and the idol of English society. It has been said of him that he taught the English the art of making after-dinner speeches; and certainly his success as a graceful orator was as remarkable as his previous achievements in literature. No great diplomatic work was done by him, either in Madrid or in London, but his services in winning the friendship and commanding the respect of Europeans were very great. During his residence in England he was elected rector of the University of St. Andrew's. Both the English universities had previously conferred upon him their highest degrees. Mr. Lowell's residence in London was clouded by the death of his second wife, Frances Dunlap, whom he had married in 1857. After his retirement from diplomatic duties in 1885 he resumed his lectures at Cambridge, and in 1887 delivered a course of lectures before the Lowell Institute. His last years have been passed at Southboro, Mass., and in Cambridge, and he has made short journeys in England. His literary activity has continued almost to the end. With his familiar figure disappearing in Boston and in London, the greatest American man of letters since Longfellow vanishes from the workaday world; but the refining influence of his exquisite taste, his classical culture and his perfection of literary form and finish remain. Great alike as poet, critic, satirist and orator, he will be remembered by patriots with affection and profound respect for an Americanism that, to use his own words, "smacked of the soil," in "Jonathan to John" and that noblest of poems, "The Commemoration Ode."

Professor Dowden, in writing of Mr. Lowell's rank in literature, has remarked that, taken as a whole, his works do not mirror the life, the thoughts and passions of the Nation. "They are works," he adds, "as it were, of an English poet who has become a naturalized citizen of the United States; who admires the institutions and has faith in the ideas of America, but who cannot throw off his allegiance to the old country and its authorities." In his own country during his closing years, Mr. Lowell was often accused of having sacrificed his American feeling in his social successes in England. It was perhaps in response to these criticisms that he delivered at Birmingham in 1884 a remarkable address on "Democracy," in which the tendencies of popular government were discussed with a keen discernment of the movement of the best forces of American opinion. Culture and scholarship undoubtedly deepened the natural conservatism of his character, but he remained to the end of his career essentially American in instinct and feeling.

Mr. Lowell was a man of middle stature, of impressive bearing and with handsome features and a strong intellectual face. Since his last return from Europe he had resided mainly with his only surviving daughter, Mrs. Burnett, at Deerfoot Farm, but recently returned with her to his old home. His habits of literary labor were retained to the end. The last book which occupied him was a biography of Hawthorne, one of his earliest literary friends. Among the few contemporaries of his prime who survive him are Dr. Holmes and Whittier, each of whom contributed their best work to "The Atlantic Monthly" under his management. Mr. Lowell refused to accept the responsibility of founding that literary enterprise in 1857 unless Dr. Holmes would agree to support him by frequent contributions. As the series of "Autocrat" papers determined the success of the venture, Mr. Lowell was wont to say that Dr. Holmes was the real father of the child. There never was a more brilliant and influential magazine than the "Atlantic" during the war period, and Mr. Lowell and Dr. Holmes, most generous and self-sacrificing of competitors, made it what it was.

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Stop at Riker's, 6th-ave. and 22d-st., and refresh yourself with a glass of perfect soda water.

A POET'S TRIBUTE TO LOWELL.

GREATEST OF AMERICA'S LITERARY CRITICS.

WORDS OF PRAISE FROM EDMUND C. STEDMAN—HIS PLENTIFUL AND ORIGINAL GENIUS.

Edmund C. Stedman, who is well known as the "poet-banker," was closely associated with Mr. Lowell in working for the passage of the Copyright law. Mr. Lowell was the president of the Copyright Association, and Mr. Stedman was the first vice-president. He now becomes the officer in charge.

In Mr. Stedman's volume on the "Poets of America" he gave an elaborate criticism of the works of Mr. Lowell. Probably there is no one who is more able to estimate the works of Mr. Lowell and his character than is Mr. Stedman. He was seen by a Tribune reporter last evening at the Century Club, and when asked to say something about Mr. Lowell he said:

"His death came as a shock to me. I did not learn of it until noon to-day. I came back from the country, and found a Boston man in the office who told me Mr. Lowell was dead.

"Mr. Lowell was unquestionably the head of the literary profession in America, and when you say he was at the head in America, as an all-round man of letters, I think you will have to include Great Britain also. When he went abroad as our diplomatic representative, every writer and scholar felt that he was as much the minister of the American literary guild as he was of the Nation.

"Lowell's governing instinct was literary. Any one who knew him in his home life at Cambridge associates him with shelves of rare books, early folios and all things suggestive of scholarship and literary investigation. At the same time he also had the genuine New-England character, and never could be contented to figure as a mere bookworm. He took the greatest interest in human life, and was born to touch life at all points. You might say that he was born with convictions to which he continually added through life, and it seems to me that the phrase which he applied in 'Fable for Critics' to Emerson applies, of all men in the world, to himself: he had 'a Greek head on right Yankee shoulders.' Hence he was in a state, I would not say of conflict, but of perpetual change between his ethical bent, which took on a polemic form, and his taste and love of beauty. This you can see constantly in his poetry and other aesthetical work.

"The fine thing about Lowell," added Mr. Stedman, "was his plentiful and original genius. This was so rich that he never was compelled, like many writers, to hoard his thoughts, or be miserly with his bright sayings. When warmed by companionship and in talk, he gave full play to this spontaneity, and said enough witty and epigrammatic and poetic things to set up a dozen small talkers or writers. In this particular he presented a strong contrast to Mr. Longfellow, for example.

"If Lowell had been poor and provincial, away from scholarly influences and the centre of things, he still would have been a genius and perhaps a more indomitable worker, though no one could have risen to a higher position than his in his profession.

"Perhaps the only Englishman of modern times between whom and Lowell you could draw a parallel after the Plutarchian method was Matthew Arnold. Each consciously or unconsciously became the leader to the younger members of his craft, and perhaps Arnold was regarded with more devotion by his younger associates, not to say pupils, than was Lowell, but Lowell's genius was far more original and at command. Arnold had wit, and so had Lowell, but Lowell in addition had a never failing humor, and if humor is strength's richest superfluity, he was by so much the superior. There is not a trace of humor in Arnold's poetry, but it is always flashing out in Lowell's from the first to the last, and even enhancing rather than injuring its ideality.

"I want to say that both men were in dead earnest so far as their convictions were concerned. Each was the best critic of his generation and country, but Lowell was more various in his interests and in his gifts. In courtesy, tact, conversational equality and personal charm the American was the superior.

"No one can speedily take his place at the head of English men of letters in the universal sense. Without doubt he was the greatest literary critic this country has ever produced. He was a well-equipped scholar in the branches of learning to which he was devoted; in modern languages, of course, and especially in old English, early English literature, and both the curious and standard literature of many tongues.

"As a poet, while very unequal, owing to the constant injection of his opinions on things local and temporal, as well as things eternal, into his verse, it is noteworthy that he produced the best poems of several classes we have had. His 'Biglow Papers,' first and second series, placed him easily at the head of all dialect poets of his and younger generations. There is no such mingling of pathos, humor, wit and intellectual force in any modern work of their kind. Again his 'Commemoration Ode' is, on the whole, the most noble and massive of American lyrics. And in such minor lyrics as 'In the Twilight,' he reaches a music of dithyrambic quality almost unapproachable. I should say at the same time, no single volume of his poems, as a whole, equalled the first book of poems put forth by Emerson, as long ago as 1846.

"Probably as many young Americans have been inspired by Lowell to devotion to letters as were influenced in character and methods of thought by Emerson.

"I should be an ingrate if I refused to talk about Lowell at this time, for I owe more to his influence upon myself years ago, direct and indirect, than to any other teacher. It was a peculiarity of Lowell's character that he judged men entirely for themselves. He was not governed by conventional standards or by acquired reputations in the least.

"I can tell you the first time I was ever privileged to meet him. As I have said, he was perfectly unconventional in his likings for men, and would much sooner have been on good terms with an Adirondack guide than with a Philistine of established reputation. Years ago, when he was editing "The North American Review," I put forth a little book of poems which attracted his attention, and received an appreciative and discriminating notice from his hands. Soon after he was visiting New-York and looked me up of his own accord. I was living in modest lodgings, but he soon made himself and me perfectly at ease. I remember bringing out my decanter of wine, upon which he asked me if I had any wine of the country, and when I brought out some whiskey he said he preferred the American drink. I then offered him a cigar, and he said, 'Haven't you any pipes and tobacco?' I produced them and we were soon blowing clouds together.

"'Now,' said he, 'if you ever own a pound of cigars, weigh them out against a pound of Virginia tobacco. I will engage that the latter is as much better an article as it is cheaper, weight for weight.'

"In my book I had one or two elaborate pieces on classical themes, upon which I had expended a good deal of skill and upon which I [illegible] great store. He had heartily praised a few of my distinctively American lyrics, but said not a word about my ambitious 'new antiques.' I ventured to ask him what he thought of the latter. He said:

"'Oh, they are very well done, but do you think you can do these things any better than they have been done by Keats, Tennyson and Landor? When you write American ballads you are on your own ground, breathing your own air, and have a touch of your own.'

"He said many other wise things which I have never forgotten, nor shall I ever forget the zest and hope which his voluntary visit left with me.

"I want to say, if I have detected in myself since I have grown older what Burns would call a 'sneakin' kindness' for almost any literary youngster that seemed to have the root of the matter in him, it is largely because I felt bound to pay off in this way the debt which I owed to Mr. Lowell. However, I want to say that I have about paid the debt off, and shall not submit to be drawn upon on sight any longer.

"I am more touched by Mr. Lowell's death because I associated him with the generation of great ones to whom the gods had awarded the gifts of years. Two years ago, when I last saw him, he had still the perpetual youthfulness, the old-time vivacity, the old-time charm. In fact, he was ten years younger than Mr. Whittier and Dr. Holmes. If I remember correctly, he was born in the same year—1819—with Charles A. Dana, Walt Whitman, Mrs. Howe, Dr. Holland—yes, and Queen Victoria—and the first words that come to my lips are, 'He should have died hereafter.'

"It was to Mr. Lowell that all, in spite of the hard work of other advocates, of the success of the final copyright campaign was due. From the first Mr. Lowell advocated international copyright purely as a matter of National honor and justice to foreign authors. My own feeling in the matter was largely a sense of the wrong done to American authors and American literature by a perpetual competition with stolen goods. But this wrong had ceased to be effective when piracy became unprofitable some years before our final victory. During the recent campaign then we had no valid argument in behalf of international copyright except the moral one, and the law was finally passed upon ground held by Mr. Lowell.

"Mr. Lowell was subjected to a good deal of criticism as a latter-day Mugwump in politics. My feeling as a Republican has never blunted me to the fact that Mr. Lowell was always a Mugwump. He was a typical New-England protestant. The early 'Biglow Papers' were a protest against the Mexican war, and he was at that time, and in the later anti-slavery campaign, more bitterly criticised and more unpopular with the masses than at any later period of his life. He was by nature with the minority, and truth to say, the National opinion has changed more from time to time than Mr. Lowell. Possibly an aristocrat by birth and breeding, he was for the greater part of his life a radical by conviction, and at times was viewed with distrust by both classes. But his detection of a false note in professors of conservatism or revolt either in literature or politics was instinctive.

"To conclude, Mr. Lowell must be measured and remembered by his highest gift: that of the poet. And if he had devoted himself more exclusively to poetry, to paraphrase his own words,

The world had not lacked a poet
Such as it had
In the ages glad
Long ago!"

LOWELL'S LAST POEM.

The last poem of Mr. Lowell's which was published in an American journal is his "My Brook." It appeared in "The New-York Ledger's" Christmas issue, December 13, 1890, in a four-page souvenir appendix, and was illustrated with four large cuts from drawings by Wilson de Meza. Mr. Lowell wrote the poem while he was in England in the summer of 1890, and subsequently revised it on seeing the proofs. The amount paid for it was $1,000. The poem excited varying opinions among critics, but all praised it for its music, its polish and graceful diction. Oliver Dyer, of Mount Vernon, read it before the Lotos Club last December. The poem is given in part below:

MY BROOK.

It was far up the valley we first plighted troth,
When the hours were so many, the duties so few;
Earth's burthen weighs wearily now on us both—
But I've not forgotten those dear days; have you?

Each was first-born of Eden, a morn without mate,
And the bees and the birds and the butterflies thought
'Twas the one perfect day ever fashioned by fate,
Nor dreamed the sweet wonder for us two was wrought.

I loitered beside you the whole summer long,
I gave you a life from the waste-flow of mine;
And whether you babbled or crooned me a song,
I listened and looked till my pulses ran wine.

'Twas but shutting my eyes; I could see, I could hear,
How you danced there, my nautch-girl, 'mid flag-root and fern,
While the flashing tomauns tinkled joyous and clear
On the slim wrists and ankles that flashed in their turn.

Ah, that was so long ago! Ages, it seems,
And, now I return sad with life and its lore,
Will they flee my gray presence, the light-footed dreams,
And Will-o'-wisp light me his lantern no more?

. . . . .

The life that I dreamed of was never to be,
For I with my tribe into bondage was sold,
And the sungleams and moongleams, your elf-gifts to me,
The miller transmutes into work-a-day gold.

What you mint for the miller will soon melt away;
It is earthy, and earthy good only it buys,
But the shekels you tost me are safe from decay;
They were coined of the sun and the moment that flies.

Break loose from your thraldom! 'Tis only a leap;
Your eyes 'tis but shutting, just holding your breath;
Escape to the old days, the days that will keep,
If there's peace in the mill-pond, so is there in death.

. . . . .

You are mine and no other's; with life of my life
I made you a Naiad, that were but a stream;
In the moon are brave dreams yet, and chances are rife
For the passion that ventures its all on a dream.

Leapt bravely! Now down through the meadows we'll go
To the Land of Lost Days, whither all the birds wing,
Where the dials move backward and asphodels blow;
Come flash your tomauns again, dance again, sing!

Yes, flash them and clash them on ankle and wrist,
For we're pilgrims to Dreamland, O Daughter of Dream!
There we find again all that we wasted or mist,
And Fancy—poor fool!—with her bauble's supreme.

As the Moors in their exile the keys treasured still
Of their castles in Spain, so have I; and no fear
But the doors will fly open, whenever we will,
To the prime of the Past and the sweet of the year.

A TRIBUTE FROM BRET HARTE.

London, Aug. 12.—Bret Harte has written concerning the death of James Russell Lowell as follows:

"To my pride, as an American, in the frank admiration and living appreciation shown of Lowell's intellect and character personally here, I have to add my own expression of sorrow at the loss of one of the most fastidious and cultivated professors in my calling, and one of its gentlest, yet manliest, critics."

THE HON. PLATT POTTER.

Schenectady, N. Y., Aug. 12.—The Hon. Platt Potter, one of the oldest residents of this city, died at his home here last evening. Judge Potter was born in Galway, Saratoga County, April 6, 1800. Having been admitted to the bar in 1824, he practiced for a time in Minorville, but in 1833 he removed to Schenectady, where he was for a few years in partnership with Alonzo C. Paige, with whom he had studied law. Of his three years' service in the Legislature, one of the best remembered incidents was his speech against imprisonment for debt. He was District-Attorney for Schenectady County from 1839 to 1847, and also Master and Examiner in Chancery until that office was abolished by law. In November, 1857, he was elected a justice of the State Supreme Court, being re-elected in 1865, at which time he was designated to serve also as a judge of the Court of Appeals. Judge Potter was a man of fine legal attainments, and his decisions were highly esteemed in judicial circles. He was the author of several important law-books, among them "Equity Jurisprudence," and "Potter on Corporations." For twenty years he was a trustee of Union College, which conferred upon him the title of Doctor of Laws.

HENRY WRIGHT SHELTON.

Henry Wright Shelton died on Tuesday night at his home, No. 28 East Twenty-second-st. He retired from business four years ago, on account of ill-health, and has been gradually sinking since. He went abroad for his health last winter, but gained only temporary relief. He was born at Pelham, Westchester County, N. Y., in 1838, and was educated at Heidelberg, in Germany. He married abroad and then came to New-York. He lived on Staten Island for a time, but afterward settled permanently in this city. For a number of years he was engaged in the insurance business, but was obliged to retire on account of his health.

Mr. Shelton was a member of Holland Lodge of Masons, in this city. He leaves a wife and two daughters. The funeral will be at 10:30 o'clock this morning, at St. George's Church, Stuyvesant Square. The burial will be at Greenwood.

DR. ISRAEL BIDAMAN.

Dr. Israel Bidaman, a specialist, who lived at No. 47 Sands-st., Brooklyn, was found dead in his bed yesterday morning by his wife. He was forty-five years old and had lived in Brooklyn for ten years. Formerly he had an office in Washington-st. He ate freely of watermelon on Tuesday night and afterward complained of feeling ill.

PHINEAS J. STONE.

Boston, Aug. 12 (Special).—Ex-Mayor Phineas J. Stone, of Charlestown, died to-day, aged eighty-two. For the last twenty-five years he was president of the City Savings Bank of Charlestown. He was also vice-president of the Charlestown Gas Company, and many years ago was United States Assessor. Mr. Stone and his brother, who were enthusiastic supporters of the Government during the war, equipped and uniformed a full company, known as the "Stone Guards," and sent them to the front. Mr. Stone was Mayor of Charlestown in 1862-'64, while it was then a separate municipality. He leaves one son.

GEORGE W. HOOPER.

Baltimore, Aug. 12.—George W. Hooper, proprietor of the St. Charles Hotel, died to-day of Bright's disease and heart trouble. He had been seriously ill only a few days, and was in his sixty-sixth year.

Mr. Hooper was born in New-York, and came to Baltimore about ten years ago, establishing a hotel and restaurant on Baltimore-st. He conducted this place for six years before taking charge of the St. Charles. He was a widower, and leaves no children. He has a niece and nephew here, the latter, H. J. Conway, of the Saratoga Hotel.

MRS. RANDOLPH ROGERS.

London, Aug. 12.—A private letter from Rome brings news of the death of Mrs. Rosa G. Rogers, wife of Randolph Rogers, the American sculptor. She died late in July from rheumatic fever. Mrs. Rogers was one of the oldest and most highly respected of the American colony in Rome.

COLONEL G. A. WOOD.

Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 12.—Colonel G. A. Wood died at Chattanooga yesterday of a complication of diseases. Colonel Wood led in the battle of Mission Ridge a Federal brigade, composed of the 15th Indiana (his own regiment, the 57th and 47th Indiana, the 92d Ohio and the 54th Illinois, ex-Governor Foraker being under his command with three companies of the 15th Indiana. Colonel Wood led the attack after nightfall, when several pieces of artillery were recaptured from the enemy. Sheridan in his memoirs graphically describes this after-battle, and at the time recommended Colonel Wood for promotion. The latter has practised law in this city since the war.

CAPTAIN A. W. HARVEY.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Aug. 12.—Captain A. W. Harvey, Commander of Meriden, Conn., Post, No. 8, G. A. R., who was compelled by illness to remain behind after the recent visit of that post to this city, died in his rooms at the Morton House at 8:50 to-night.

OBITUARY NOTES.

Chicago, Aug. 12 (Special).—George S. Haskell, for many years president of the State Board of Agriculture, and lately a member of the Illinois World's Fair Commission, died at his home at Rockford to-day.

Dunkirk, N. Y., Aug. 12.—The Rev. Father John Hillip Baudinelli, brother of the Rev. Father John Baptist Baudinelli, rector of St. Mary's Church in this city, died of congestion of the lungs at the Monastery yesterday, surrounded by the priests and brothers of the order resident in this retreat.

FOR A NEW CENTRAL UNION.

"BUSINESS, NOT POLITICS," THE MOTTO.

THE CAKEBAKERS' AND THE GARMENT-MAKERS' UNIONS AT THE HEAD OF THE MOVEMENT—A CALL ISSUED.

The world of union labor was startled last night by a document sent out under the auspices of Confectioners and Cakebakers' Union No. 7 and the United Garment Workers of America, through Clothing Cutters' Union No. 4. This document is addressed to all trade and labor organizations in this city which are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and asks them to send delegates to a meeting for the purpose of organizing a central labor council, with the object of uniting the trade interests of the various unions. The motto of the new organization will be "Business, not Politics."

The United Garment Workers' Union has over 13,000 members in good standing and sixteen local unions in this city, while the International Bakers' Union has eight local unions and over 2,000 members. Other unions which will probably send delegates to the new council are Typographical Unions Nos. 6 and 274, the Brotherhood of Carpenters and the painters' unions.

Henry Weismann, one of the leaders in the new movement, said one object of the council would be to eliminate from the field of labor all "snide" unions. The Knights of Labor have not been asked to join the movement. On the contrary, these unions will be fought principally, it is said, because the Knights are too much mixed up in politics. The principal clause of the call is as follows:

A central body can be formed based upon sound business and democratic principles. A central assembly that would be perfectly independent of party politics, while at the same time teaching the supreme importance of the political power and the study of economics. A central body that would further prevent all disruption by being fully impartial in the various shades of political, religious and social convictions, and attending strictly to the building up and fortifying of the Trade Union movement of this city.

STRIKING WITH AN UNUSUAL OBJECT.

A strike began yesterday morning on the Church of Our Lady of Good Council, Ninetieth-st., near Second-ave. All the ornamental plasterers stopped work to force the contractor to join the Master Plasterers' Association. In May an agreement was signed by the Plasterers' Union and the Master Plasterers' Association, by which the union agreed to work only for bosses who belonged to the association and in return the bosses would employ only union men. In this case the Stereo-Relief Decorative Company, of No 229 East Forty-first-st., is doing extensive work on the Church of Our Lady of Good Council, and employs a large force of men at the union rate of wages and hours. But the firm is not represented in the Plasterers' Association, and it is to force them to join it that the strike began.

PRESSMEN END THEIR CONVENTION.

The convention of pressmen ended with the election of officers late Tuesday night. The officers elected were J. Henzel, of Albeny, president, and M McBride vice-president. A dinner was given the visiting delegates by the New-York association at the Knickerbocker Cottage last night.

STRIKING COOKS AND WAITERS SUPPLANTED.

Asbury Park, N. J., Aug. 12 (Special).—The places of the striking cooks and waiters of the Norwood Inn, at Avon-by-the-Sea, were all filled to-day by servants secured from New-York and Philadelphia, and this afternoon everything was running smoothly.

BALTIMORE GLASS FACTORIES NOT TO START.

Baltimore, Aug. 12 (Special).—None of the Baltimore glass manufacturers have yet signed the new scale of the workmen and the factories here will not start in September. A leading manufacturer says that no factories in the West and but one in the East, Whitehall, Tatum & Co., of Millville N. J., have signed the scale. The Manufacturers' Association have placed the matter with their wage committee and no factory employing union men will sign the scale until a settlement is reached by this committee.

REUNION OF THE HOLCOMB FAMILY.

Lambertsville, N. J., Aug. 12.—Nearly 3,000 persons were at dinner to-day at the reunion of the Holcomb family at Mount Ary. There were music and addresses by prominent members of the family. Among those present were Colonel Ferdinand F. Holcomb, of Mount Ary; Judson Holcomb, Tonnawanda; Thomas Holcomb, Newcastle; William B. Holcomb, Philadelphia; Augustus S. Landis, Holadaysburg; Dr. W. T. Holcomb, New-York; President W. F. Holcomb, of Swarthmore College; Dr. W. D. Wolverton, Fort Douglas, Utah; George L. Holcomb, ex-Mayor of New-Haven, Conn., and the Rev. Asa Dills, Fairfield.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE DIRECTORS MEET.

Washington, Aug. 12.—The opening session of the fifth annual convention of the Association of American Agricultural College and Experiment Stations was held this morning in the Columbian University building. The meeting was largely taken up with reports of commissioners and other routine matters. Major H. E. Alvord read the Executive Committee's report.

How's Your Liver?

A very unnecessary question to ask a man whose skin and eyeballs are saffron-tinted. Of course his tongue, too, is furred, bowels constipated, head bothered with aches, right rib region plagued with constant uneasy sensations. These you may take for granted, although he may not particularize them, because they are among the invariable accompaniments of liver trouble. Are they chronic? If so, you may be sure he does not, as he ought to do, take Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, the leading regulator of livers that are out of order. Commend it to him as highly as you please, you can't say a word too much in its behalf. Sick headaches, constipation, nausea, dyspepsia and the yellow hue of the skin speedily depart when this reliable corrective is resorted to. Malaria, rheumatism, and la grippe are also among maladies which it remedies and prevents. A wineglassful three times a day confers appetite and digestion.

A Varied Programme.

PARSIFAL—VORSPIEL	*Wagner*
SELECTIONS—POOR JONATHAN	*Millocker*
GRANDE VALSE—OP. 42	*Chopin*
SONG—THE LOVE OF OLD	*Lane*
MOONLIGHT SONATA—OP. 27	*Beethoven*
WALTZ—THE GONDOLIERS	*Sullivan*
FINALE—AIDA, ACT 2D	*Verdi*

You could play all the above selections with a week's practice if you had an Æolian.

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Only concern in our line having its own foundries. Buy of the maker. Established over 40 years. No old stock. Everything made satisfactory.

RAILROAD INTERESTS.

FOR UNION PACIFIC'S RELIEF.

THE DIRECTORS ASSERT THAT SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

Plans for the relief of the Union Pacific Railroad are being actively pushed by the directors of the company, though it is said by some that the syndicate scheme, as originally proposed, has been radically modified, if not entirely changed. Those most largely interested in the company assert that measures of relief have been adopted, and that the details of the plan will be given out to-night or to-morrow morning.

A conference of Union Pacific directors was held yesterday. President Sidney Dillon, Russell Sage, George Gould and the Boston representatives were in attendance. What was determined on at the conference could not be learned, the directors contenting themselves with the assurance that everything was "satisfactorily arranged."

Naturally the Street was full of rumors at the outcome of the Union Pacific negotiations, and the company's stock was the centre of speculative dealings. It was reported that in place of the proposed syndicate scheme an arrangement had been adopted, similar to the one adopted by the Atchison company two years ago, whereby the large creditors of the company agree to extend maturing obligations for two or three years, the eventual payment being guaranteed by a syndicate.

Another report that was confidently sent out was that the syndicate, as proposed, had actually been formed, and that Drexel, Morgan & Co. would be largely interested in it.

The apparently favorable turn caused heavy buying orders for Union Pacific stock, and the price advanced almost 3 per cent from Tuesday's figures, the highest point touched being 36, and the closing 35 1-8.

CHICAGO ALDERMEN THREATEN LAKE SHORE.

Chicago, Aug. 12 (Special).—Numerous Chicago Aldermen have rushed into print in interviews threatening serious retaliation on the Lake Shore Railroad because of alleged "lack of courtesies." These discomfited Aldermen failed to secure transportation for their Eastern junket, and now threaten to rescind ordinances granting the company certain privileges. One of these privileges, it is said, is that which gives the company the tracks along Sherman-st. The Aldermen aver that if it be found that the company has an ordinance for the tracks, it will be rescinded, because "it was passed surreptitiously."

HARVEST EXCURSIONS TO FLORIDA.

Cincinnati, Aug. 12.—The Queen and Crescent and the Louisville and Nashville railway systems have made common cause in running harvest excursions to all points of Florida from St. Louis, Evansville, Louisville, Cincinnati and Lexington. The dates fixed for excursions are September 9 and 23, and October 14 and 28. The tickets are sold for one fare for the round trip. These roads have just issued an announcement of these dates and rates, both of which are a defiance of the Western Passenger Association. The Mobile and Ohio is reported here as having given notice that it will take similar action.

A NEW LINE TO GETTYSBURG.

Carlisle, Penn., Aug. 12 (Special).—A party of surveyors, said to be in the interest of the Cumberland Valley Railroad Company, have been making a tour through Cumberland, York and Adams counties during the last few days, surveying a new line to Gettysburg in opposition to the Philadelphia and Reading's new lines. It will connect with the Cumberland Valley near White Hill, two miles west of Harrisburg. It will take in Lewisberry, Manchester and other points not at present touched by any other railroad, and will be a more direct route to the battlefield.

RAILROAD EARNINGS.

Boston, Aug. 12.—Union Pacific statement for June, whole system, is as follows: Gross earnings $3,447,785, decrease $346,076; net earnings $1,127,466, decrease $389,239. For six months to June 30: Gross earnings $18,915,805, decrease $965,944; net earnings $5,766,772, decrease $131,403.

The report of the New-York and New-England road for the quarter ended June 30 shows a balance after paying charges of $37,800, a decrease of $10,536 as compared with 1890. For the year ended June 30 the balance is $222,553, a decrease of $157,765.

MR. CHARLTON LOSES HIS TEMPER.

Chicago, Aug. 12.—People are beginning to wonder whether there will be an end to the quarrel between General Passenger Agent Charlton, of the Chicago and Alton, and Chairman Finley, of the Western Passenger Association. They are still exchanging letters. Mr. Charlton wrote to Mr. Finley August 4, asking why he continued to call for the Alton's vote on applications for reduced rates, and desiring to know if the Alton's vote had any weight in settling such questions. Under the agreement a single member of the association may defeat a proposition by a negative vote, and Charlton wanted to know if his company still had that right. Chairman Finley waited until August 10 before replying, and then said in substance that the object in collecting the Alton's vote was simply to let the other roads know how it stood in order that they might change their own place if they so desired.

This made Charlton angry, and he wrote another letter to Mr. Finley to-day, scoring him for taking so much time to answer a simple question, and recalling a similar case of two months ago when the chairman had sought to delay the hearing of the Alton's appeal for protection. "The circuitous manner in which you have replied," wrote the official, "conveys the impression that you were on your defence, and that you sadly stand in need of a better one than you have been able to make after the long retreat which you have taken to think about it. My question was a simple one and was in plain words, and could have been answered at once and in one sentence. Then all this time, under the pretence of collecting our vote, you have been merely soliciting an opinion to be used as you please. You are well aware that if we had known this no vote would have been given by us. It is not necessary for me to characterize this as it deserves. It is something of which I hope you are ashamed."

WESTERN TRAFFIC ASSOCIATION.

Chicago, Aug. 12.—There was not a quorum at to-day's session of the commissioners of the Western Traffic Association, the absentees being Midgely, Faithorn and Smith. The matter docketed for consideration was the question of whether an appeal may be taken from the Western Passenger Association to the Western Traffic Association when a member of the former proposes to meet the rates of an outside line. All the interested roads were represented, but of course there could be nothing more than an informal discussion of the subject. The Rock Island was the only one that argued in favor of the right of appeal, the others contending that Chairman Finley was right in ruling that the provision of the Western Passenger Association agreement must govern in such cases.

ADVANCING RATES ON IRON.

Chicago, Aug. 12.—A resolution adopted by the Central Traffic Association, March 11, provided that the special iron tariffs, which became effective March 30, would not extend beyond August 3 1891. Chairman Blanchard has just issued a circular amending the rates on pig iron and kindred articles, that will go into effect September 1. From Buffalo and Pittsburg the rate will be $2 50 per ton to Chicago and $3 to East St. Louis. From Mahoning Valley, Shenango, Hocking Valley and common points, the rate will be $2 20 and $2 50 to East St. Louis. The rates from other points will be correspondingly advanced.

TO EXTEND THE CHICAGO AND NEW-ORLEANS.

Shelbyville, Ill., Aug. 12 (Special).—The Chicago and New-Orleans Railroad intends to extend its road from Paducah, Ky., to this city at once. It was said that it will have a Chicago outlet over the Chicago and Eastern Railroad that is now nearly ready for the iron from here to Tuscola, Ill. The grading has already been completed as far north as Iuka, Marion County. The survey runs from Shelbyville to Altamont in the Vandalia Railroad.

THE SECRETARY OF WAR GOES A-FISHING.

Marblehead, Mass., Aug 12.—Secretary Proctor, while on a fishing trip yesterday, captured a thirty-pound codfish, which was "high line."

STOP OF PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD CO.'S LIMITED EXPRESS AT NEWARK, N. J.

Commencing at once and continuing until the closing of the Mountain House (Cresson, Penn., the Pennsylvania Limited will stop at Newark, N. J., at 10:27 a. m. to take on passengers for that point, and returning the Limited will stop at Newark, N. J., to let off passengers from Cresson.