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COMMUNICATIONS.

Has Literature Attained its Perfection?

BY GEO. RICE.

It appears singular that with the rapid advancement in all spheres of progression that characterizes the age, that there should be a corresponding deterioration in one of the greatest motive powers that present civilization can boast. A Russian mathematician has lately presented what he terms the "atomic theory of the universe." He surrounds the powers of old mother earth with a monstrous array of figures, and digs a deep mathematical ditch round the future. In the years that have always been regarded by us as holding illimitable stores of new ideas and evidences, he finds a place where earthly forces reach their highest sphere and circle backward to the starting point. To him the ages of the world are but the degrees of a circle of repetitions. Its high-peaked mountain tops and sloping valleys, its undulating surface and smooth extended plains, are but prophetic metaphors of the rise, decline, and fall of human institutions.

Laying aside any attempts to prove or disprove the truth of this theory, it must be acknowledged that not a few great accomplishments have either passed entirely from the province of man, or lost the rigor and perfection that characterized them in an earlier period of existence. Like some missing steamer vanishing in the depths of mid ocean the ages have snatched from the grasp of science and art, some of their grandest features. We know them only as the "Lost Arts." Born in ages half barbaric, great periods and accomplishments naturally invested their foremost actors and inventors with a wierd power that surrounding superstition and ignorance deemed more potent and best preserved if screened with a veil of mystery and illusion. Hence arts have been lost, great accomplishments have glimmered in the surrounding darkness like a taper in a gloomy vault, and flickered out of existence.

But in cases of this kind it is plain that the causes of destruction and decay lay in the ignorance that was unable to preserve and adapt the boon that circumstances had developed. But in this era of the world's progress, when high traits and phases of its civilization displays, as it is claimed, marked evidences of deterioration, the causes seem less clear. It is claimed by men of vast and varied knowledge of what they affirm, that in literature this latter half of the nineteenth century has not only in a comparative view of preceding accomplishments been unusually meagre in its creation, but in what has been done, displayed very few evidences of pure genius.

To trace this phase of the world of letters to its relative cause to ascertain why that, when the growing bud of civilization seems about to blossom, that literature, its primal essence, should lose its fragrance, and the perfume from which all the world has scented its ideal fancy, should smell of decay and death, is not my purpose; for it is plain that no definite and satisfactory conclusion of the comparative merits of our literature, in the earliest and present states of existence, can be arrived at.

In view of the contradictory aspect of existing facts, if we thoroughly consider the moral and social aspects of the present and the past, the attainments and perfections of literature are directly contrary to the surrounding conditions of civilization. The different phases of enlightenment have had an effect towards elevating English literature in a measure corresponding to their degredation and immorality. The darker the surrounding atmosphere the brighter the literature of the age seems to have shone. We find the first shapely forms of our literature in the fourteenth century, and history tells plainly what the political and moral condition of affairs were during the reign of King Edward the Third, and his successor, Charles. Says a prominent historian, "These ages can never be adduced to show a high state of humanity." The human mind had scarcely begun to think boldly; intellectual independence was just emerging from the gloom of its surroundings; the distance between the state of the masses and that of scholarly intellectual development was immense. The promotion of free inquiry is the natural tendency of literature.

To permit the growth of this trait was to aid in creating a reformation both social and religious. Inquiry of any sort was detrimental to both the theory and practice of papacy. Hence literature stood in opposition to one of strongest powers of the monarchy. The age was turbulent and chaotic, the rich arrogant and oppressive, the poor ignorant and demoralized, society tottered on the extremes of voluptuousness and degradation, whilst the Church, on the altar of spiritual worship, blended the corruption of temporal affairs. The crusades had scarcely ended, and relics of the barbaric grandeur that had buried the bones of five million men in the interests of "Christianity" still clung to the court. The "dark ages" hung like a blackened pall and shadowed everything. But there was a latent intellectual force, the grand power of a few scholarly minds, that, when Europe seemed dashing over the same precipice over which Rome had fallen, flashed in her eyes a light that drew its brightness from the very gloom. And from the turbulent elements of human strife there was heard at last a melodious birth song to the praise of Him who overrules disastrous changes for the good of man.

At a period of deep ignorance and corruption, we find, strange as it is, a state of literature so fraught with intellectaal wealth, that Lord in his introductory essay to Frissiart terms it "the most wonderful intellectual activity since the age of Pericles." Such was the state when the most grand creations of our language had their birth. But as time progressed and human knowledge grew more perfect in all its combinations, the literary productions sank to the other extreme. In view of the civilization of the age, there seemed to be no further need of the great literary power, that had illumined the gloom of the preceding centuries with a light that increased in brilliancy with the lenghtening of time. It is therefore the general opinion that our literature has deteriorated, grown weak and placid. That there's a marked difference between the authors of the past, and those of to-day, can but be plainly evident to the most careless observer. But giving due consideration to the increased scope and power of knowledge which the present holds in sway, and admitting that it is almost impossible for public opinion to be radically wrong, in its judgment of a matter that has reared for its memory so many noble monuments of the past, may not the question be asked do not the unchangeable laws of nature, that base human excellence on human forethought, knowledge, and wisdom, permit us to question the correctness of the public belief, that out of the depths of human ignorance we find accomplishments in literature that can never be equaled? Our civilization has its phases, and so has our literature. If we would be consistent with our enlightenment it is but reasonable, just, and natural, to suppose that the literature of to-day is like that of the past, but one of the many necessary phases of the world of letters required for the construction of a perfect and systematic whole.

Charles Dickens.

DR. BELLOWS, of New York, at the conclusion of his sermon thus alluded to the death of the great English novelist:

Rarely have the genius and gifts of the individual soul been so emphasized as in the world-wide interest and sorrow felt in the extinction of that shining lamp suddenly dashed from the altar of literature—Charles Dickens. The burning coal at which a million hearts ignited their dull fancies is quenched. He that made long succession of Chritmases merry for all English-speaking people has heard his last chime! He that wrote more and better than any novelist of his time, who had the dangerous field of the comic for his peculiar sphere, yet never penned a line that dying he could wish to blot, can add nothing to the inexhaustible store of his creations, can body forth no new offspring of his teaming fancy, coin no new exaggeration and stamp it with reality, put no fresh extravagance upon its feet and make it seem alive and human! What a place he has filled in the expectations of his race as they have waited month on month, and year after year—not knowing what his genius might bring forth—yet never disappointed in its fruit. This is not the time and place to characterize that genius. He was the possessor of a wit and invention that might have superseded labor, to which labor lent its painstaking support and economy. His humor had the ease of carelessness and the correctness of study. His exaggerations, the boldest that have escaped caricature, and impossible in fact, were made as human and real as if they might have worn flesh and blood. The greatest master of details, microscopic in observation, and an encyclopædia of small facts, he worked with a brush as fine as camels' hair, and produced effects as broad as the scene-painter. He never forgot the great outlines in the small finish.

Artful in his plots, careful in his means, and knowing his own purpose from the start, he was always master of the subject and of himself—a true artist that owes nothing to chance or trick—everything to a clear-seeing purpose, and a conspiracy of all his powers upon his aim. That aim was always pure and generous and high; to exalt integrity and truth, to abase falsehood, cruelty and hypocrisy, and to do it by stealing upon universal sympathies, and leaguing all the fun-loving and pathetic sensibilities of the soul in the service of a common humanity. He enlisted ordinary universal man in his cause. Whom profound moralists, Christian preachers, could not reach, he touched and ruled. His spiritual knife was so sharp and so sheathed that its edge was neither seen nor felt while it did its surgical work. He wrought, doubtless, many a substantial conversion from the purpose of crime, or folly, or cruelty, by a dose of laughter, whose tears are oftener more purifying than those of sorrow. He made hypocrisy, selfishness, and sentimentality absurd and contemptible, when it would have been of no avail simply to prove them sinful and wrong. But, after all, what I envy him most for is not what the world recognizes as his usefulness—his potent assaults on public wrongs and scandals, the work-house, the boarding-school, the Chancery Court—great as these services were; but the immeasurable sum of great, unadulterated pleasure he has given the world, the countless hours of amused and absorbed gratification he has brought into all sorts of homes in both hemispheres.

Ah! what a God-like thing it is to shed so much self-forgetfulness and balm into the sore and tried heart of humanity! Who has given so much pleasure as he, amused so many weary hours, raised so much innocent fun, sweetened so much toil, drawn so many delicious tears, evoked so much unrepenting laughter—and all with so little, aye, nothing for morality to abate—nothing to inflame, tarnish, or sour the imagination and hearts of men! God bless such a benefactor. And he was blessed; for no man perhaps ever lived who received in his own person and in his own day so full a measure of the appreciation and reward of his literary genius. It is the only unpropitious augury of his horoscope that posterity has no part of our debt to pay him, and cannot give him a reputation greater than he lived to enjoy. One almost sees hanging over his glory the warning, "Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime received thy good things." Future generations may abate from his fame, for humor in masquerade, convulsing for the moment, does not last like humor in plain clothes; and exaggeration, however skillful and artistic, has a certain touch of decay and forgetfulness in its very noise and glitter. But, however that may be, Mr. Dickens drained the cup of immediate fame to the bottom, and found no dregs in it. His genius survives him in a reputedly completed but only half-published work, which promises to be his best. Happy in his sudden death as in his steady and growing reputation, he is the greatest example the world has perhaps ever had of an utterly and permanently prosperous author reaping his full harvest himself, and leaving enough for his children and future generations to reap to excite the certain admiration of all future times.

Should we not bless God for giving such gifts unto men? Does not our common humanity glow with his splendor? Is not the ordinary human soul enlarged and elevated by his genius? And who has done more to show how great a little child may be, how small a reputed saint? All his triumphs were tributes to the essential glory of our common humanity, when true to ordinary opportunities, humble talents and the lowest social spheres. As a vindicator of the intrinsic worth of all human souls, Dickens, not a professed moralist has excelled all the professed moralists, and preachers and teachers of his day. If he was not a Christian, he was a glorious instrument of God's providence, and may shame, at the great account, many whose Christianity is unquestioned, but whose usefulness and worth are taken on trust. Let us be cautious how we raise questions about the Christianity of men like Washington, Lincoln, or even Dickens, lest the profane should say, "What is the use of a Christianity which such men could do without?" The sword of bigotry has two edges, and often cuts off the bigot's own head when aimed at the victim of his self-righteousness. We can well leave such men to Christ's own judgment seat, while we try to emulate their usefulness and bounty of life and character.

A SMALL-POX REMEDY.—A correspondent of the Stockton, California, *Herald* writes as follows:

I herewith append a receipt which has been used to my knowledge in hundreds of cases. It will prevent or cure the small-pox though the pittings are filling. When Jenner discovered the cow-pox in England the world of science hurled an avalanche of fame upon his head, but when the most scientific school of medicine in the world—that of Paris—published this recipe as a penacea for small-pox, it passed unheeded. It is as unfailing as fate, and conquers in every instance. It is harmless when taken by a well person. It will also cure scarlet fever. Here is the receipe as I have used it, and cured my children of scarlet fever; here it is as I have used it to cure the small-pox—when learned physicians said the patient must die it cured: Sulphate of zinc one grain, foxglove (digitalis) one grain, half a teaspoonful of sugar; mix with two tablespoonfuls of water. When mixed add four ounces of water. Take a tablespoonful every hour. Either disease will disappear in twelve hours. For a child smaller doses according to age. If counties would compel their physicians to use this there would be no need of pesthouses. If you value advice and experience, use this for that terrible disease.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

The present Presbyterian General Assembly the first of the reunited body, represents of Synods, 256 presbyteries, 4,731 churches, over 430,000 communicants, and at least 4,000,000 Presbyterian people. The Committee on Foreign Missions submitted a report with reference to the new relations that are likely to be sustained towards the American Board, stating that after a conference with the Prudential Committee of the Board, they were of opinion that a fair proportion of the missions of the Board should now be transferred to the Presbyterian Church, allowing to missionaries, however, liberty to sustain ecclesiastical relations to either body as they choose. The missions mentioned as likely to be thus transferred are the Syrian, Nestorian, Gaboon, and those to our own Indian tribes. These four fields now furnish employment to about twenty-five missionaries, of whom four-fifths are Presbyterians.

The General Assembly now has gathered in five years $96,000 for the support of disabled clergymen, and the amount is being increased every year. In 1865, 40 churches contributed $3,128 to it; in 1870, 335 churches contributed $38,879. It has a ready permanent fund of $34,720. Last year thirty-four ministers, thirty-nine widows, and five families of orphans were aided from this fund. The whole number of persons aided by the appropriations during the the last year was two hundred and twenty-five. Of the ministers aided six are between eighty-two and ninety; fifteen between seventy and seventy-nine years old; six are between sixty-three and seventy. The remaining seven ministers are sixty years of age or under, having failed in health, with no prospect of being able again to perform pulpit duties.

The committee have announced the programme for the grand ten days' conference of the Evangelical Alliance at New York. Such a meeting was never seen on our shores before. The European delegation will number one hundred and fifty. Papers are promised from Profs. Tholuck—of Halle, Hodge, Schaff, Dorner—of Berlin, Phelps, Fisher, Hovey, Nelson, and Dwight, Pres. Hopkins, the Earl of Shaftesbury, Henry Ward Beecher, Geo. H. Stuart, Pres. Woolsey, Hon. W. M. Evarts, Rev. Dr. Pressense, of Paris, Dean Alvord, Bishops McIlvaine, Simpson, and Cummins, Drs. Bushnell, McCosh, Hall, Patton, Storrs, and Anderson, Count de Gasparia, etc., etc.

The Old and New School Presbyterians raised last year about $1,100,000 for missionary and benevolent purposes, of which $382,000 were for foreign and $300,727 for domestic missions.

A Jew in Monterey has bought for $5,000 gold one of the finest Jesuit churches in Monterey, and given it to the Protestants worshiping there.

The Northern Methodists have a white membership in the South of between 150,000 and 160,000, mainly in West Virginia, Georgia, Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

The Santa Barbara (Cal.) Congregational church advertises that there will be no begging at the dedication of their new house of worship.

Here are some interesting statistics about Congregational churches in New England: The richest congregation is the Centre church, Hartford, estimated at $12,000,000. The Park street church, Boston, and the Centre church, New Haven, have the largest average congregations, from 1,200 to 1,400 each Sunday. The largest annual contributions are collected in the Snawmut church, Boston, and the Centre church, New Haven; average, $12,000. The pastor's salaries vary from $2,000 to $6,000 in these cities.

Recent advices from Japan say the persecution of native Christians there has come to an end, but it is because no more victims can be found. The great powers seem never to have uttered a remonstrance at the barbarity that has been practiced in Japan, though hundreds of the Christian converts have been imprisoned, scourged, and executed, and many thousands have been exiled and reduced to slavery by the pagan authorities, and probably a protest from the treaty power would have put an end to the persecution at once.

At the recent anniversaries in Boston, an attempt was made by Rev. Messrs. Hepworth, Robert Colyer, and Mayo to secure the adoption of a creed for the denomination, but it was opposed, to the surprise of many, by Rev. Dr. Bellows and by the whole body of Free Religionists, and defeated ignominously. An attempt to put women into the Board of Directors of the National Associations was also knocked in the head.

Rev. Mr. Muirhead, in his "China and the Gospel," says the English societies have 93 missionaries in China, the American 78, and the German and Swiss 18, making a total of 189: of whom 143 are ordained, 23 are laymen, and 23 females, exclusive of wives of missionaries. These figures differ somewhat from those given in August last in the Chinese *Recorder*, which figures up 129 ordained missionaries, 23 lay, 129 missionary ladies, and 19 ordained natives.

The Methodists have a Metropolitan church in Washington that has cost them $200,000. The Congregationalists have one equally large, but less expensive. The Universalists are engaged in raising $100,000 for a centenary church. The Lutherans and the Christians are believed to have similar projects in hand, and the Unitarians propose to raise $50,000 outside of the city for a similar enterprise.

Rev. J. W. E. Bennett, of Frome, England, a leading ritualist, lately celebrated a mass for the repose of the soul of the late Bishop of Bath and Wells. In accordance with the Roman Catholic custom in masses for the dead, Mr. Bennett was the only one to partake (we can hardly say communicate) at the sacrament.

Bishop Thompson says that there are now 86 missionaries societies and 40,000 missionaries in the field; the Word of God is preached in 15,000 localities in the heathen world; $5,000,000 are annually collected to sustain them; 687,000 converts are enrolled in Africa, and 713,000 in Asia.

The Orthodox society in Stoughton, Mass; has voted to tender the use of their church to the Universalist society, whose house of worship is repairing. The Methodist society held a meeting on the same subject; but so much opposition was manifested that no vote was taken.

Dr. H. M. Scudder has closed the fifth year of his pastorate of the Howard Presbyterian church of San Francisco. When he went there the congregation was small, weak, and discouraged, with a poor edifice. Now they have the best arranged church building and the largest Protestant congregation in San Francisco.

The Catholic papers of this country are not more brotherly than the Protestant. The Catholic, of Pittsburg, is severe on the Freeman's Journal; and the New York Tablet charges the Brooklyn Register with fomenting divisions. Differences on infallibility makes the trouble.

The Pacific Theological Seminary (Congregational) has ended its first year of existence. At the anniversary the four students gave addresses and recited passages of Scripture in Greek, Hebrew, Latin, and Welsh. The institution has two professors and $50,000 of property, of which Dr. Stone collected $25,000 in Boston.

In the "Narrative of the State of Religion," presented by Dr. Cuyler to the Presbyterian Assembly, Dr. Cuyler mentioned that several churches had tried with satisfaction the plan of making the eldership rotary rather than permanent. As this is an innovation of a few churches, mainly New School, the Assembly voted to expunge the paragraph.

The fine new church occupied by the First Congregational church of Chicago, E. P. Goodwin, D.D., pastor, was dedicated last Sabbath. It will hold 2,000 in the audience room and 1,000 in the lecture room. They announce that 200 pews will be let for $10 a year, so as to bring the privileges of the sanctuary within the reach of all. The cost is $180,000. Dr. Goodwin has just returned improved by his Eastern trip.

The proposition made at the Jubilee meeting in Chicago to complete the Congregational organization by an annual or triennial national conference is meeting with general favor. It is the natural complement of the system of local and state conferences, representing churches as well as pastors, which are rapidly taking the place of the old ministerial associations.

The Established Church of Scotland last year supported 263 schools, besides having supervision of 1,017 parochial and 1,414 non-parochial schools. Of the 2,415 teachers in Scotland connected with the Privy Council, 1,532 belong to the Church, 709 to the Free Church, 99 to the Episcopal Church, and 75 are Roman Catholics.

The Catholic authorities of Upton, Lower Canada, have resolved to build a church, costing $25,000. The whole property of the place is $110,000; and, rather than pay the bills, 26 Catholics have seceded, representing half the property, and it is believed that the others will also leave the Catholic Church.

Christian work reports $3,297,350 raised in England last year for foreign missions by 13 societies, $1,177,690 for home missions by 12 societies, $304,000 for Jewish missions, $235,630 for colonial and continental missions, and $821,715 for educational societies, (including fees.) The largest receipts are $911,325 for the Bible Society, (including sales,) after which come the large missionary societies in the following order: Wesleyan Missionary, Church Missionary, Propagation Society, and London Missionary.

Chicago is to be a centre of theological learning. Since the Congregationalists preempted the name of Chicago Theological Seminary for their school of the prophets, the Baptists, Presbyterians, and Methodists have established kindred institutions; and now the Unitarians have purchased for $50,000 the Soldiers' Home for their divinity school.

The Baptist now have 3 societies: the Missionary Union, for foreign work; the Home Missionary Society, for domestic church extension; and the Bible and Publication Society, formed by the amalgamation of the (Baptist) Bible Society and the Publication Society. The former must not be confounded with the Bible Union, which publishes the New England version of Dr. Conant and other scholars associated with him.

Mason and Dixon's Line.

A few years ago Mason and Dixon's line was a familiar politico-geographical phrase. It is now almost forgotten, but, says the Louisville C. Journal, it may be well for us to remember that this boundary was so termed from the names of Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, the gentlemen appointed to run unfinished lines in 1761 between Pennsylvania and Maryland, on the territories subject to the heirs of Penn and Lord Baltimore. A temporary line had been run in 1739, but had not given satisfaction to the disputing parties, although it resulted from an agreement in 1739 between themselves. A decree had been made in 1613, by King James, delineating the boundaries between the lands given by charter to the first Lord Baltimore and those who adjudged to his Majesty (afterwards to William Penn), which divided the tract between the Delaware Bay and the Eastern sea on one side and the Chesapeake on the other, by a line equally intersecting it, drawn from Cape Henlopen to the fourth degree of north latitude. A decree in chancery rendered the king's decree imperative. But the situation of Henlopen became long a subject of serious, protracted, and expensive litigation, particularly after the death of Penn, in 1713, and of Lord Baltimore in 1714, till John and Richard and Thomas Penn, (who had become the sole proprietors of the American possessions of their father, William,) and Cecilius Lord Baltimore, grandson of Charles, and great-grandson of Cecilius, the original patantee, entered into an agreement on the 10th of May, 1772. To this agreement a chart was appended which ascertained the site of Cape Henlopen, and delineated a division by an east and west line running westward from that cape to the exact middle of the peninsula. Lord Baltimore became dissatisfied with the agreement, and he endeavored to invalidate it. Chancery suits, kingly decrees, and proprietary arguments followed, which eventually produced the appointment of commissioners to run the temporary line. This was effected in 1739. But the cause in chancery being decided in 1759, new commissioners were appointed, who could not, however, agree, and the question remained open till 1761, when the line was run by Messrs. Mason and Dixon.

Arrival of Coolies in North Adams, Massachusetts.

NORTH ADAMS, June 14.—A party of seventy-five Chinese emigrants, brought here by Mr. Calvin T. Sampson, an enterprising shoe manufacturer, arrived here last evening. They run the gauntlet of a mob of angry white "Crispins," and took up their quarters in lodgings fitted up for them. When the strangers arrived a large crowd assembled at the depot, hooting, throwing stones, and threatening worse violence, but the Chinamen took it very coolly. The local police showed a firm front, and only one or two slight assaults were made, the perpetrators of which were promptly arrested and fined. The "Crispins" are still in great excitement, however, and are holding a meeting to-night to consult as to measures of defense against these cheaply-working celestials.

The outside community receive the event with genuine pleasure, and Mr. Sampson is overwhelmed with congratulations as to his pluck and enterprise. The Chinamen have generally spent the day in fitting up their bunks, and bathing and resting after their journey, but some have tried their hands in the workshop, and have astonished all spectators by their readiness in learning what is an entirely new trade to them. They are mostly young men, seem to be very intelligent and eager to learn, and appear to be greatly pleased with their first glimpses of New England scenery and manners. They have a foreman of their own race, and work for $23 a month and lodging and fuel, they boarding themselves in their own fashion, and Mr. Sampson furnishing two Chinese cooks. The establishment is strongly guarded on account of Crispin threats of blowing up, but no violence is seriously apprehended, though no Chinaman will venture off the grounds for the present.

Favorable Reports from the Southern Corn and Cotton Crops.

The weather during the week has been warm and clear, with showers to sprinkle over several sections hereabouts, just enough to refresh growing fields and make farmers happy. In every quarter from Georgia to Texas the crops are reported excellent. On the Gulf coast the long dry spell is said to have retarded cotton and corn, but the timely showers of last week have brought them out beautifully. In this neighborhood squares are forming on all early plantings of cotton, and a sample of green stalks now lies on our table, raised above here on Island 40, over eighteeu inches high, and with ten well formed squares on each stalk, while the plant looks fresh and vigorous enough to branch out and make fifty squares before the season wanes. This is a fair sample of the whole field, and similar to several exhibited to us during the past week. When a square forms there will be a boll, and ten well matured bolls on stalks three feet apart will produce half a bale to the acre. From this it will be apparent that beyond doubt we are to have a large yield this year, even should the future prove unpropitious, which at present is not likely. There is no cause for complaint anywhere, that we have yet heard from.—*Memphis Appeal.*

In "Passages from the English Note-Book of Nathaniel Hawthorne," lately issued by Fields, Osgood & Co., stands the following entry: "Mr. Milnes told me that he owns the land of Yorkshire, whence some of the Pilgrims of the Mayflower emigrated to Plymouth, and that Elder Brewster was the postmaster of the village. * * * * * He also said that in the next voyage of the Mayflower, after she carried the Pilgrims, she was employed in transporting a cargo of slaves from Africa—to the West Indies, I suppose. This is a queer fact, and would be nuts for the Southerns."

Scriptural Revision in England.

The important task of revising the Scriptures has been commenced by the committee appointed last month by the Convocation of Canterbury, in accordance with the report accepted by the Convocation at its last session. At its first meeting, on the 25th ult., the committee adopted the following resolutions and rules as the fundamental principles on which the revision is to be conducted:

I. That the Committee appointed by the Convocation of Canterbury at its last session separate itself into two companies, the one for the revision of the authorized version of the Old Testament; the other for the revision of the authorized version of the New Testament.

II. That the company for the revision of the authorized version of the Old Testament consist of the Bishops of St. Davids, Llandaff, Ely, Lincoln, and Bath and Wells; and of the following members from the Lower House: Archdeacon Rose, Canon Selwyn, Dr. Jebb, and Dr. Kay.

III. That the company for the revision of the authorized version of the New Testament consist of the Bishops of Winchester, Gloucester and Bristol, and Salisbury, and of the following members from the Lower House: The Prolocutor, the Deans of Canterbury and Westminster, and Canon Blakesly.

IV. That the first portion of the work to be undertaken by the Old Testament Company be the revision of the authorized version of the Pentateuch.

V. That the first portion of the work to be undertaken by the New Testament Company be the revision of the authorized version of the Synoptical Gospels.

VI. That the following scholars and divines be invited to join the Old Testament Company: Dr. W. L. Alexander, Prof. Chinnery, Canon Cook, Prof. A. B. Davidson, Dr. B. Davies, Prof. Fairbairn, the Rev. F. Field, Dr. Ginsburg, Dr. Gotch, Archdeacon Harrison, Prof. Leathes, Prof. M'Gill, Canon Payne Smith, Prof. J. H. Perowne, Prof. Plumtre, Canon Pusey, Dr. Wright (British Museum,) W. A. Wright (Cambridge.)

VII. That the following scholars and divines be invited to join the New Testament Company: Dr. Angus, the Arbhbishop of Dublin, Dr. Eadie, the Rev. F. J. A. Hort, the Rev. W. G. Humphry, Canon Kennedy, Archdeacon Lee, Dr. Lightfoot, Prof. Milligan, Prof. Moulton, Dr. J. H. Newman, Prof. Newth, Dr. A. Roberts, the Rev. G. Vance Smith, Dr. Scott (Baliol College), the Rev. F. Scrivener, Dr. Vaughan, and Canon Westcott.

VIII. That the general principles to be followed by both companies be as follows:

1. To introduce as few alterations as possible into the text of the authorized version consistently with faithfulness.

2. To limit, as far as possible, the expression of such alterations to the language of the authorized and earlier English versions.

3. Each company to go twice over the portion to be revised, once provisionally, the second time finally, and on principles of voting as hereinafter is provided.

4. That the text to be adopted be that for which the evidence is decidedly preponderating; and that when the text so adopted differs from that from which the authorized version was made, the alteration be indicated in the margin.

5. To make or retain no change in the text on the second final revision by each company, except two-thirds of those present approve of the same, but on the first revision to decide by simple majorities.

6. In every case of proposed alteration that may have given rise to discussion, to defer the voting thereupon till the next meeting, whensoever the same shall be required by one-third of those present at the meeting, such intended vote to be announced in the notice for the next meeting.

7. To revise the headings of chapters, pages, paragraphs, italics, and punctuation.

8. To refer, on the part of each company, when considered desirable, to divines, scholars, and literary men, whether at home or abroad, for their opinions.

IX. That the work of each company be communicated to the other as it is completed, in order that there may be as little deviation from uniformity in language as possible.

X. That the special or by rules for each company be as follows:

1. To make all corrections in writing previous to the meeting.

2. To place all the corrections due to textual considerations on the left hand margin, and all other corrections on the right-hand margin.

3. To transmit to the Chairman, in case of being unable to attend, the corrections proposed in the portion agreed upon for consideration.

S. WINTON, Chairman.

May 25, 1870.

The New Testament Company will meet on June 22 and 23, at the Jerusalem Chamber, Cloisters, Westminster.

TARIFF SENTIMENT IN PENNSYLVANIA.—In the report of a "tariff reform" meeting recently held in Detroit, the name of a Mr. C. H. Schreiner, of Pennsylvania, figures extensively. This gentleman, who calls himself, no doubt, a disinterested advocate of free trade, while drawing a regular salary from the association of New York importers and British manufacturers, banded together to break down American industry, after indulging in the usual platitudes about free trade and revenue reform, made several slanderous assertions regarding Pennsylvania and her public men. One of these is as follows: "Things have come to such a pass there (Pennsylvania) that few men dare assert free trade ideas. These are so unpopular that the utterer of them is at once a marked man, and he will be crushed out, if possible, by the great monopolists." To prove the falsity of this charge it is only necessary to instance the nomination for Governor of the Commonwealth by the Democracy of an avowed free-trader, and to point to the votes of the representatives of the same party in Congress on the Tariff bill. While the people of Pennsylvania—the workshop of the nation—are overwhelmingly in favor of protection, we have never heard of them attempting to crush out any one among them entertaining opposite views.—*Philadelphia Press.*

MORE SHOOTING.—From a letter written from Columbus, we learn that a scion of chivalry by the name of Halstead, who has something to do with a livery stable there, in the most deliberate manner shot a colored man who was employed in the stable. Just like a cowardly rebel, he set up the plea that the negro threw a brick at him, and the Ku-Klux police, ready to seize any excuse to justify such outrages, arrested the wounded and bleeding negro and put him in the calaboose. And yet we are told with the greatest coolness that these fiends are the negro's best friends. Some negroes are found who are shallow enough to swallow this oft-repeated absurdity, and publicly announce themselves as "Democrats." Well, time will show them what asses they are making of themselves. If the negroes of Columbus would only organize, and, since there is no protection for them before the courts, retaliate for these horrible outrages against them, rebels would soon learn to have respect for them. The more they submit to being killed, the more they will be killed, and the more they ought to be killed.—*Macon (Ga.) Union.*

BLASPHEMY REBUKED—A JUST PUNISHMENT.—Charles R. Thomas was arraigned on an indictment charging him with grand larceny, before Recorder Hackett, in the Court of General Sessions yesterday. It appeared that the accused met an errand boy named Henry Schiller, of No. 87 Prince street, on Broadway, while the latter was carrying two boxes of lace collars, of the value of $142, to a customer. He offered the boy a small sum of money to take a letter for him to a place in the vicinity, saying that he would hold his goods while he was gone. After the boy had got out of sight he decamped with the laces. He was convicted, after which, on being asked what he had to say, he claimed that he was innocent, adding, "I hope Christ may paralyze me before I leave this Court if I took those things." The Recorder remarked that if he at any previous time had a doubt of the prisoner's guilt, it was now entirely removed. He sent him to State Prison for three years and six months.—*New York Times, June 1.*

Alexander H. Stephens on the Rebellion.

The Augusta Constitutionalist gives an epitome of Alexander H. Stephen's second volume on the "War Between the States," which possesses a special interest. We quote:

"Jefferson Davis was looked upon by all as an eminently conservative man. Toombs was to have been chosen President, but failed through a singular misapprehension on the part of representatives of other States, who had understood that he refused to have his name put forward. There was some misunderstanding likewise concerning Howell Cobb being the choice of Georgia. By accidental complications Mississippi had the first choice, and chose Jefferson, Davis which resulted in the Vice Presidency of Mr. Stephens.

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"The responsibility for the failure to advance after the battle of Manassas is referred to President Davis. Mr. Stephens affirms that there never was any personal feud between him and Mr. Davis, though they differed widely on many questions of public policy. Mr. Davis is alluded to throughout in the kindest manner, and warmly defended against the aspersions of his enemies at home and abroad. Mr. Stephens believed that diplomacy could honorably stop the war in 1863. He proposed a mission to Washington for that purpose, when the military status was most favorable to both parties. Mr. Davis did not concur until too late, until, in fact, the military status had rendered such a course impossible. Lee's invasion of the North was a great blunder, politically and in a military sense, but chargeable, in the main, to the Richmond Cabinet. Gettysburg and Vicksburg turned the tide in favor of the North. But the vital blow struck at Southern success was in the mistaken policy of finance and conscription, the latter especially. The people's spirits were broken by it, and it was as unconstitutional as unnecessary.

The people were willing to fight for liberty, but were not willing to be compelled to do so. If compulsion had been necessary, the war ought to have been abandoned; for no people are worthy of liberty, or capable of preserving it, who have to be driven into battle. Even in the early part of 1865 Mr. Stephens had hopes, in case the policy of the administration changed. It did not change, and so conscription, impressment, the suspension of *habeas corpus*, and prodigal waste of lives and property were the causes of Southern despair and defeat. Much light is thrown upon the Hampton Roads conference. There seems to be little doubt a scheme was concocted to terminate the war by a diversion of the question to another channel and a joint movement of both armies against the French in Mexico. To have been successful the preliminaries to a military convention demanded the utmost secrecy. Mr. Stephens proposed that Mr. Davis should meet Mr. Lincoln. He refused and suggested three commissioners. Mr. Stephens advised that three able men should be appointed whose absence would not be detected or observed. Mr. Davis, however, insisted upon appointing just the very trio whose absence from Richmond would have been remarked at once. In consequence the matter became common public rumor, and the whole business was thus defeated from the start. Nobody was more disappointed at the result than Mr. Davis, who subsequently seemed to lose his good judgment. Mr. Stephens descants upon the future destiny of the United States. He holds that the South is powerless at this time to shape or control events. The judiciary department, though sadly brow-beaten, may still be a bulwark of liberty. So far, however, the cause lost at Appomattox was not the Federal principle, but the maintenance of that principle by arms."

THERE is a world of good sense in the following views expressed by the Demopolis Republican:

"The Republican State Executive Committee have issued their call for a State Convention, to be held in Selma on Tuesday, the 30th day of August. We trust that the several counties will not hold their conventions before the middle of August, and that they will give due notice, so that all parts of every county may be fairly represented. If any faction, in any county, attempts to take snap judgment by privately calling a few men together and going through with the farce of electing delegates, they will have their trouble for nothing, as the delegates from a regularly called convention would be admitted to the State Convention in case there were two sets from any county. The 20th of August is soon enough for any county to call a convention.

"We hope that Republicans will lay aside personal prejudices and jealousies and work together in this business of selecting delegates. It is a highly important matter, and the action of one county may change the entire nominations on the State ticket."

If the primary meetings of the party are fully attended, the people may be relied upon to send good and true men to the Convention. Individuals may err, wilfully or ignorantly, but the masses are pure and honest, and their instincts will lead them right, where the intelligence of the wisest men would fail to point the way.

BARBARISM IN KENTUCKY.—The spirit of barbarism has not yet died out in Kentucky. A gentleman of Virginian birth, a slaveholder until the manumission of his slaves, took charge of a freedmen's school in Belleview, Christian County, Ky. The school building also served as a place of worship for the colored people. His own residence was a few yards distant, and the space between was fenced. He was recently absent for a few days in attendance as a delegate to a Baptist Convention, and left his wife in charge of affairs. Shortly after his departure, at night, while the wind was blowing towards his house, some miscreants set fire to the school-house. The lady was restrained by the colored people from going out to direct measures to prevent the spread of the fire, as her life would not have been safe if exposed while the wretches who applied the torch hovered around. Neighbors lent no assistance. A change in the direction of the wind occurred barely in time to save her dwelling; but the school-house was entirely destroyed. Already, however, have the freedmen acquired more enlightenment within the precincts that are now blackened ruins than the white mob of Christian County.

THE WONDERFUL SILVER SPRING IN FLORIDA.—The Key West Dispatch says this grand and natural curiosity bursts forth in the midst of the most fertile county in the State. It bubbles up in a basin near 100 feet deep, and about an acre in extent, and sending from it a stream 60 to 100 feet wide, and extending six or eight miles to the Ocklawaha river. In the spring itself, fifty boats may lie at anchor—quite a fleet. The spring thus forms a natural inland port, to which three steamers now run regularly from the St. Johns, making close connections with the ocean steamers at Palatka.

The clearness of the water is truly wonderful. It seems even more transparent than air: you see on the bottom, eighty feet below, the bottom of your boat, the exact form of the smallest pebble, the outline and color of the leaf that has sunk, and all the prismatic colors of the rainbow are reflected. Large fish swim in it, every scale visible and every movement distinctly seen. If you go over the spring in a boat you will see the fissures in the rocks, from which the river pours upward like an inverted cataract.

SPEED OF ELECTRIC SIGNALS.—Professor Gould has found that the velocity of the electric waves through the Atlantic cables is from 7,000 to 8,000 miles per second, and depends somewhat upon whether the circuit is formed by the two cables or by one cable and the earth.

Telegraph wires upon poles in the air conduct the waves with a velocity a little more than double this, and it is remarked, as a curious fact, that the rapidity of the transmission increases with the distance between the wire and the earth, or the hight of the support. Wires buried in the earth likewise transmit slowly, like submarine cables. Wires placed upon poles, but slightly elevated, transmit signals with a velocity of 12,000 miles per second, while those at a considerable hight give a velocity of 16,000 or 20,000 miles.—*Journal des Telegraph.*

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Commerce of the World.

France exports wine, brandies, silks, fancy articles, furniture, jewelry, clocks, watches, paper, perfumery, and fancy goods generally.

Italy exports corn, oil, flax, wines, essences, dye stuffs, drugs, fine marble, soap, paintings, engravings, mosaics, and salt.

Prussia exports linens, woolens, zinc, articles of iron, copper, and brass, indigo, wax, hams, musical instruments, tobacco, wine, and porcelain.

Germany exports wool, woolen goods, linens, rags, corn, timber, iron, lead, tin, flax, hemp, wine, wax, tallow, and cattle.

Austria exports mineral, raw and manufactured silk thread, glass, wax, tar, nut gull, wine, honey, and mathematical instruments.

England exports cottons, woolens, glass, hardware, earthenware, cutlery, iron, metalic wares, salt, coal, watches, tin, silks, and linens.

Russia exports tallow, flax, hemp, flour, iron, copper, linseed, lard, hide, wax, duck, cordage, bristles, furs, potash, and tar.

Spain exports wine, brandy, oil, fresh and dried fruits, quicksilver, sulphur, salt, cork, saffron, anchovies, silks, and woolens.

China exports tea, rhubarb, musk, ginger, borax, zinc, silks, cassia, filagree work, ivory ware, lacquered ware, and porcelain.

Turkey exports coffee, opium, silks, drugs, gums, dried fruits, tobacco, wines, camel's hair, carpets, shawls, camlets, and morocco.

Hindoostan exports gold and silver, cochineal, indigo, sarsaparilla, vanilla, jalap, fustic, Campeachy wood, pimento, drugs, and dye stuffs.

Brazil exports coffee, indigo, sugar, rice, hides, dried meats, tallow, gold, diamonds, and other precious stones, gums, mahogany, and India rubber.

West Indies export sugar, molasses, rum, tobacco, cigars, mahogany, dye wood, coffee, pimento, fresh fruits, and preserves, wax, ginger, and other spices.

Switzerland exports cattle, cheese, butter, tallow, dried fruit, linens, silks, velvets, lace, jewelry, paper, and gunpowder.

East India exports cloves, nutmegs, mace, pepper, rice, indigo, gold dust, camphor, benzine, sulphur, ivory, rattans, sandal wood, zinc, and nuts.

United States export principally agricultural produce, cotton, tobacco, flour, provisions of all kinds, lumber, turpentine, and wearing apparel.

Red Cloud Defines His Position.

Red Cloud made his promised speech in the Cooper Institute, New York, on Thursday last in which he told what brought him to Washington, what his wishes are, and deferred his position. After denying that the reports of the doings of the Indians which had been so generally published, he continued:

There is some good in us, although you are told we are murderers and thieves. We have given you all the land we had, but now we have no more. My dear friends, we want you to help us with the Government. The Great Spirit made us poor and ignorant, and made you rich and wise. We have children to raise like you, and we want you to help us raise them. In 1853, The Great Father made a treaty with us that we should keep our country open for fifty-five years. We respected the treaty. We never committed depredations until troops were sent and killed our people. Goods were sent us frequently, but reached us only once. Soon after, the Government took away Colonel Fitzpatrick, the only good man we ever had. The Government said we should go to farming. Some of our people went to Fort Laramie, but got very poor. We only want peace and justice, and we went to Washington for that purpose, and that is the reason we are here now. In 1868, we signed treaties brought by men, and as we were ignorant, we did not know their contents. When we went to Washington the Great Father told me what the treaty was, and what we had signed. I then said that I had been deceived, and that the interpreters had deceived me.

VICTORIA'S RUMORED MARRIAGE.—A London correspondent says: One cannot approach so delicate a subject without hesitation—but the rumor lately revived in London is supported upon such high authority that it cannot quite be dismissed as mere idle gossip. It is reported that Queen Victoria is about to bestow her hand on a Prince of the House of Schleswig-Holstein. A near relative of Prince Christian is mentioned as the favored suitor. The Queen's partiality to Prince Christian is well known. Indeed, it is said that it was the hand of Her Majesty, and not her daughter, Prince Christian sought, and the Queen, in refusing him, bade him transfer his affections to her favorite daughter. Be it remembered that Prince Christian's years were far more suited to a union with the mother. At all events, the Queen overwhelmed the Prince with marks of distinction, and greatly excited her English subjects by conferring upon him the title of "Royal Highness," and farther roused their indignation by placing him in a position of equality with the highest officers of the English army, where the English think the German Prince has no right to any footing whatever. But to return to Her Majesty's prospective marriage. We have not yet heard the name of the mysterious individual who solicits and is, they say, likely to win the soft, white hand of Queen Victoria, but there is but little doubt that England would rejoice over any event which drew her from her long and persistent seclusion.

PROSPERITY UNDER REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION.—An excellent indication of the thrift that prevails among the industrial classes of this country is found in the number of savings banks established in various States and the vast sums deposited in them. In New York full $150,000,000 is deposited in the savings institutions by about 500,000 depositers. In Massachusetts there were one hundred and thirty-one savings banks, having deposits to the amount of $114,000,000. This is equal to all the value of all the corporate capital invested in cotton, woolen, iron and textile manufacturers; nearly double the appraised value of all the railways, and exceeding by $35,000,000 the capital of all the banks of discount in that State last year. In New York and New England it is estimated that about $330,000,000 are deposited by over $1,000,000 depositors. In the Western States savings banks are flourishing and will in due time compare favorably with those of the older States.

THE RED RIVER EXPEDITION.—The Toronto Globe's Northwestern correspondent from St. Cloud, dated June 2, says that Riel is dissatisfied with the Manitoba bill, because it does not provide for a general amnesty, and he intends resisting the Red River expedition. He has two hundred men at Fort Garry, and eight hundred on the prairies. A battle is expected near the Lake of the Woods.

A large band of half breeds have been sent out as scouts, for the purpose of watching the expedition. The Fenians and half breeds are said to be on bad terms.

The above report is from a friend of Riel. Another dispatch to the same paper states that Riel is robbing the Winnepeg mails, in order to provide himself with funds, previous to his departure for the United States.

THE CASE OF MRS. GAINES.—Justice Bradley of the United States Circuit Court of New Orleans, has rendered an opinion in the case of Myra Clarke Gaines agt. The City of New Orleans et al., carrying out the decree of the Supreme Court of the United States in her favor, and ordered that she be placed in possession of the property described in the decree so as to embrace only the lands in possession of the city at the time of filing the bills.

The Times, commenting on the decision, says: "The result is quite a disappointment to the plaintiff and a great victory for the city, as it only adjudges right and title for vacant squares. The large claim to property sold by the city in 1836, the principal basis of Mrs. Gaines's demands and expectations, is still in dispute."