

BALLADS OF TO-DAY.

THE INCOME TAX.

What is the size of your income? Give us the figures, pray! And don't you be modest about it, for shyness won't do you any good.

Where is your cash invested? Open your coffers wide. The Bogie-man of the Treasury is standing at your side.

He's been on the "roof" at the opera, and has evaded you down in your box.

THE DOGWOOD-TREE. "I can always tell a dogwood-tree when I walk in a country park."

THREE QUESTIONS. Yes, I think I meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance.

There are some things of which we need to be constantly reminded, for like a footprint on the seashore, the waves of care and business are apt to wash them out of our memories.

A few simple truths which are acknowledged by everybody to be self-evident, and which therefore need not be discussed, lie at the foundation of every noble character.

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There was there, and when the smoke had cleared away and the dead and dying had ceased, they found him lying under the bullet-ridden flag.

Only once more he spoke and that just before he died. A smile passed over his countenance as he whispered, "tell my mother I am home."

Only yesterday he rode down the lane and he is coming home to-morrow. And as this simple golden rule is carried on over the past, so may it draw us upward from the conflicts of this life to the heaven of peace above.

Mary and Her Little Pain. Mary has a little pain; Comes from torpid liver; It follows her wherever she goes; Spite of all that give her.

Like Mary's lamb, we'll turn it out. Ensuring quick recovery. Give your Dr. Richard's Golden Medical Discovery!

Sure cure for biliousness, torpid liver, constipation, dyspepsia, scrofula, and all blood, skin and scalp affections. Only medicine so sure in curative action as this.

From the Baltimore Sun, Jan. 21st. The Value of Prayer. Dr. Harcourt says it does not change the Purpose of the Almighty.

At Grace Methodist Episcopal church Rev. Dr. Richard Harcourt preached last night on "The Terrible Tragedies of the Week."

The text was taken from the Book of Job, 21st chapter and 15th verse: "What profit should we have if we pray unto Him?"

"A few weeks ago," said Dr. Harcourt, "I preached a sermon from the text 'And as He prayed the form of His countenance was changed.' My subject was the transforming power of prayer."

"The report sent you of the sermon on the transforming power of prayer delivered on December 13, was correct. God is perfect. Change implies ignorance, weakness, imperfection. Therefore God is unchangeable and unchanging by prayer."

"In changing the death of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Whitridge by falling from a ladder while trying to escape from their burning home, 13 West Ely street, last Tuesday morning, and telling of the prayer which Mrs. Whitridge offered before her death, Dr. Harcourt said that prayer would not prevent her death, it gave the calmness and coolness. He added:

"I say prayer is profitable. It lengthens the vision, brightens the heart, wastes our time here we handicap ourselves hereafter. God never pays the lazy or indifferent the wages which they receive. Every man of the road must be travelled, and no miracle either before death or after it will shorten the journey. You are the only one of the Lord if you think you can take the coin of an ignoble life and purchase with it eternal bliss. You cannot fill your soul with the selfishness or sensual indulgence and then drop through the grave into heaven."

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that ever lived. There is a something produced by fish which does not cause caries but which you may use for your foundations deep, you may build your arch along the lines of beauty and symmetry, but unless you bind the structure with a capstone it will never remain unfinished and insecure. Faith in matrimony is the capstone in life's triumphal arch.

These three questions answered, there is nothing for fear. You are prepared for the present and you are ready for the future. The sun rises, and your day's work begins; the sun stands directly overhead, and your tasks are finished. The sun will rise to-morrow and dissipate the darkness of the night; you, too, will rise to-morrow, after the night of death has spent itself.

When? What for? Whither? You may rest now when you have found the answer to these questions.—New York Herald.

An Old Man's Observations. A golden cord, soft and silken, bound together with what was once a thread of deepest blue.

Another golden cord, soft and silken, bound together with what was once a thread of deepest blue. Mother, (I always call her mother because she is old) had a little girl with trembling hands, and she had her forehead, as he pushed back his cap and stood before her, his boyish face glowing with the joy of his long years ago! No, no, why it was just yesterday that he galloped off to the old farm house, his curls (like this one) flying away and his eyes like stars as he waved a sad goodbye, and then disappeared over the hill at the end of the lane.

Mother and I stood by the gate and watched him until the cap held high above his head went out of sight, then and only then did I see the last we saw of him. Delicate, blue-eyed boy! (Why mother, not crying over a bit of a curly?) Well, we heard from him and his letters were filled with cheer and comfort for the old father and mother, and finally came saying that he had been promised a furnished house and was coming home in ten days "to eat some of mother's good biscuits"—he always thought she made the best. Poor boy, he was hungry for some one to pet him and caress him and call him her own brave boy. He was homesick, for there were no more of his kind.

He wanted to sleep in his little room again and be a boy once more. All of this we read with tearful eyes, between the lines.

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No Power to Give Bounties. The Supreme Court of the District of Columbia has just concurred in a decision of the lower court denying the application of the sugar bounty claimants for a manumission of the United States Secretary of the Treasury to pay them. In the decision the court says:

"The Court thinks that authorities cited establish beyond question that the power of taxation, in all free Governments, like other powers, is limited to objects and purposes governmental in their nature. No amount of incidental public good or benefit will render valid a tax levied for the purpose of raising revenue to be derived therefrom, for a private purpose. If it may be for the benefit of the welfare of the community, it may be taken by the most delicate and with absolute certainty of benefit. For nursing mothers and all delicate infants, or 'run down' women, it is the most effective restorative tonic to build them up. To those about to become mothers, it is a prophylactic, and it shortens the pains and perils of childbirth, shortens labor, promotes the secretion of an abundance of nourishment for the infant, and shortens the period of confinement."

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THE WALTON LAW.—A case has been made up in Brunswick county to test the Constitutionality of the Walton election law. However decided in the lower court it will be taken to the Court of Appeals for final determination, and, it is hoped, it will reach that court speedily.

Gen. J. B. Gordon has issued orders announcing that the next annual camp of the United Confederate Veterans will be held at Houston, Tex., on May 23, 24 and 25.

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Additional local trains leave Staunton as follows: Except Sunday—1:34 p. m. arrives Clinton Forge 4:10 p. m. 7:51 p. m. arrives Goshen, 8:50 p. m.

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