

THE IMPROMPTU MARRIAGE.

"For heaven's sake, Susy, do be serious, if you can, for five minutes. Pray, cease this trifling which is but cruel playing with my feelings, and let us treat this subject as it deserves, soberly and seriously."

"Well, then, then!" cried the laughing, black-eyed girl to whom Charles Westley spoke. "There, then, is that grave enough? See, the corners of my mouth are duly turned down, and my eyes rolled up, and I am as sober as a patient who has caught sight of the dentist's instruments. Do I suit you so?"

"You suit me anyhow, and you know it well, you witch!" cried Charles, gazing with a smile at the pretty face puckered up in its affectation of demureness. But he was not to be driven from his point, as he resumed gravely, after a pause—"The time has come, Susy, when I feel I have a right to demand an explicit answer to my suit. You have trifled with my earnest feelings long enough. I have grown restless under your fletters."

"Shake them off, then, Charley!" interrupted the saucy girl, with a defiant toss of her head, which plainly said, "I defy you to do it."

"I cannot, Susy, and you know it," replied the hapless lover, impatiently.

"That being the case," said Susy, "take my advice—wear them gracefully and don't pull and jerk so; it only makes them hurt you."

The young man turned away, and walked silently up and down the room, evidently fretting and fuming internally. Susy, meantime, looked out of the window and yawned. Charles continued his moody walk.

"Oh! what a beautiful bird is on the lilac tree!" cried Susy, suddenly. "Do you come and see it?"

Charles mechanically approached the window and looked out.

"Don't you think, Charley," said Susy laying her hand on his arm, and looking up eagerly in his face; "don't you think you could manage to—"

"What, Susy?" asked Charles, all his tenderness awakened by her manner. "What?"

"Drop a pinch of salt on his back?" returned the provoking girl, with an affectation of simplicity; "for then, you know, you could easily catch it?"

His answer was to turn angrily away.

His walk this time was longer than before, and his cogitations were more earnest; for he did not heed any of Susy's artfully artless devices to allure his notice. At last he stepped abruptly before her, and said:

"Susy, for three long years I have been your suitor, without either confession of love or promise of marriage on your part. Often as I have demanded to know your sentiments toward me, you have always coquettishly refused me an answer. This state of things must cease. I love you better than my life; but I will no longer be your plaything. Tomorrow you are going away, to be absent for months, and if you cannot, this very day, throw aside your coquetry, and give me an honest 'yes' for my answer, I shall consider that I have received a 'no,' and act accordingly."

"And how would that be? What would you do?" asked Miss Susy, curiously.

"Begin by tearing your false and worthless image from my heart!" cried Charles, furiously.

"It would be a curious piece of business, Charley, and you would not succeed either," said Susy.

"I should and would succeed, said Charles, "as you shall see, if you wish, cruel, heartless girl!"

"But I don't wish, Charley, dear—I love dearly to have you love me," said Susy.

"Why, then," cried the foolish youth, quite won over again, "why, then, dearest, Susy, will you not consent?"

"Remember I said I liked to be loved," replied Susy; "I did not say anything about loving. But pray, how long did you say you had been courting me, in that pretty little speech of yours?"

"Three long years," replied Charles.

"Nearly and accurately quoted, Charley. But you know my cousin Rachel was only won after five years' courtship. You don't suppose I am going to rate myself any cheaper than she did, do you? Suppose we drop this tiresome subject for two years; perhaps by that time I may be able to work myself up to the falling-in-love point—there is no knowing what wonders time may effect."

"If you are not in love now, you never will be," returned Charles, "and I will have my answer now or never."

"Now or never," laughed Susy, "I had gone a step too far. I have severely tried your love."

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now too much in earnest to bear her trifling any longer.

"Never be it, then?" he cried; and seizing his hat he strode from the room.

Susy listened to his receding footsteps with dismay. Had she, indeed, by her incorrigible love of coquetry, lost him? It smote her to the soul to think so. As she heard him open the front door, impelled by a feeling of despair, she raised the window sash, and, leaning forward, whispered:

"Charles, Charley! you will be at the boat to-morrow to bid me good-bye won't you? Surely we are still friends?"

As she spoke she tore a rose from her bosom and threw it to him. It lodged on his arm, but he brushed it away as though it had been poison, and passed on without looking up.

Susy spent the remainder of the day in tears. Early the next day the bustle of departure began. Susy was going to accompany her widowed and invalid mother on a trip for her health. As they reached the wharf and descended from the carriage, Susy's eyes made themselves busy searching for a wished-for face; but it was nowhere to be seen.

The steamboat lay panting and puffing, seemingly impatient to be let loose. Susy's mother, aided by a servant man who accompanied them had already crossed the gangway which lay between the wharf and the boat, and Susy was reluctantly following, when the sound of a voice behind her—the very voice she had longed to hear—tostled her. She turned to look round, and missing her footing, fell into the water.

Another instant and Charles had thrown off his coat, and, calling out loudly, "Tell the captain not to allow the wheel to stir, and to lower me a rope!" he sprang into the water. But of her whom he was risking his life to save, he was unable to perceive any trace.

Judging that the current of the river might have carried her a little forward, he swam around the wheel but still he saw her not, and despair seized his heart as he conjectured that she might be under the boat. He strained his eyes to see through the water, and at length discerned, far below the surface, what seemed the end of a floating garment lodged between the wheel and the rounded bottom of the boat.

If this were indeed the unfortunate girl, the least movement of the wheel must inevitably crush her, and Charles, in his terror, fancied it was already beginning to turn. He dived and clutched at the garment, but missed it. He rose panting and almost exhausted; but scarcely waiting to get breath, he again plunged below. This time his efforts were rewarded with success, at least so far that he was able to bring Susy's form to the surface of the water; but she seemed totally lifeless. Charles was now so nearly exhausted that he had only sufficient presence of mind left to clasp Susy convulsively to him while he kept himself afloat by holding on to the wheel.

But this, his last hope of support, seemed also to fail him soon, as he perceived that it was now really beginning to turn slowly round. By a desperate effort he struck his foot against one of the paddles so as to push himself as far from the danger as possible. As he did so something touched his head, and his hand grasped a rope. New life seemed now infused into him. He gathered all his energies, and fastened the rope round Susy's waist—consciousness then entirely forsook him. In the meantime the witnesses of the scene, after giving Charles instructions to the captain, had watched his struggles and exertions with breathless interest. The friendly rope had been flung to him again and again, but in the excitement of his feelings, and his semi-sensibility, he had been incapable of availing himself of the proffered aid.

At last, perceiving that he was quite exhausted, and must inevitably soon let go his hold on the wheel, and then probably sink to rise no more, the captain judged it best to run the risk of moving off, so that a small boat could be sent to the rescue. The result of this hazardous experiment was successful. Susy was raised by means of the rope, and a boat reached Charles in time to save him also.

Both sufferers were taken on board the steamboat, which now moved off to make up for lost time.

And thus, when our hero regained his consciousness he found himself many miles from home. Of course his first anxious inquiry was for Susy, and when informed that she was recovering, his happiness seemed complete. He showed his contentment by falling into a deep, quiet sleep.

About sunset a message came to him that Miss B—desired to see him. He found her lying on a

sofa in the captain's stateroom, which had been given up to her. She looked very pale, and somewhat suffering, but she held out her hand to him very gratefully, while the tears stood in her eyes.

"Charles," said she, without offering a word of thanks, "I want to see a clergyman. Is there one on board?"

"I will go and see," said Charles, moving to the door; but a dreadful thought striking him, he turned, exclaiming, "Susy, you do not think that—"

"That I am going to die?" said she, anticipating him. "No, Charles; but I want to see a clergyman."

Charles went, and soon returned, accompanied by a minister.

"Thank you, sir, for coming to me," said she to the latter as he entered. "I have a strange request to make of you. Would you object, sir, in the presence, and with the consent of my mother, to unite me to that gentleman?"

If the minister was astonished at this request, Charles was infinitely more so.

"What did you say, Susy?" said he. "Did I hear aright?"

"I believe so," said Susy, smiling at his eager amazement. "Does the scheme meet your approval?"

"It was heaven-inspired," cried the poor fellow, frantic with joy—but a shade coming over his radiant face, he added, gravely, "But, Susy, have you considered? Remember, I want your love, not your gratitude. I will be satisfied with nothing less."

"Do not be concerned about that, dear Charley," replied Susy, gazing at him very tenderly through her tears; "the assured you have both, and had the first long, long before you had the last."

"But, Susy, you said only yesterday—"

"Never mind what I said yesterday," interrupted Susy, with some of her old spirit breaking out. "Just mind what I say to-day. If I was a fool once, I say that any reason I must be one always. But, indeed, Charles," she added, more softly, "I have always intended to be your wife—the only scruple I have is that I am not half good enough for you."

It is needless to say how the discussion ended. The reader has already divined that Charles continued his journey; and thus in the course of one eventful day he risked a life, saved a life, made an impromptu marriage, and set out on a most unexpected wedding trip.

Mr. Scott's Reply.

The following is the reply of Mr. Edwin J. Scott, chairman of the committee of the Tax-payers' Convention, to the presumptions of the State Treasurer. It will be seen that Mr. Scott very effectually meets the issue raised by the State Treasurer, and leaves him exposed to the public view:

COLUMBIA, August 3, 1871.

Niles G. Parker, Esq., State Treasurer.

SIR: Yours of 28th ultimo was received on the 1st instant, and I regret the necessity of replying, which might have been avoided by your declining to entertain my proposition when it was made to you in person. You refuse my application on two grounds; that it was not authorized by any body, and that your office had been sufficiently examined. I differ with you on both points; and, after stating my reasons, will leave others to judge which of us is right.

The following quotations from the proceedings of the Convention will show the authority under which we proposed to act, as also the scope and extent of our powers, and the object of our appointment. These may seem somewhat tedious, but are necessary to a full and fair understanding of the subject.

From Mr. Trenholm's report, (proceedings of Convention, page 112): "It will be seen, for example, by account 'B,' that at the end of the year the total of the sum charged to the Treasurer, by Mr. Kimpton, was \$1,007,924.54, while the sums credited to Mr. Kimpton, by the Treasurer, amounted to \$623,000; exhibiting a discrepancy or disagreement of \$384,924.54. In like manner account 'C' exhibits a disagreement of \$294,726.92. It is true these accounts were recently brought into reconciliation, or rather into conformity, with the accounts of the agency. There is added to both an account of the subsequent interest by which this was effected. Nothing appears in these accounts to impeach their correctness, but it will be seen how wide open is the door for errors and disputes, if for no graver misfortunes."

Then follows these items: "Account 'B,' fiscal year 1869, for expenses, including interest as explained to the committee, \$64,996.71. Account 'C,' fiscal year 1870, for expenses, including interest, \$24,977.42." But deducting the

above item for 1869 from the discrepancy of that year, there is still a balance of \$319,927.83; and a similar deduction for 1870, leaves a balance of \$199,749.50 not explained or accounted for to the committee.

Extract from Mr. Trenholm's report, (proceedings, page 114): "The examination of Mr. Kimpton's account in detail was found impossible, as his books of account are, necessarily, in New York. The importance of such an examination is, however, recognized in the interest of the State, and for the satisfaction of the Financial Agent, by whom it is courteously and cordially invited. The same may be said of the several officers of the State, to whom application for information was made by your committee. Mr. Neagle, the Comptroller-General, was particularly pressing in his solicitations that all his books and accounts might be thoroughly and critically examined."

I now cite that portion of Gen. Rutler's report under which our committee was appointed, to show that we were not merely to confer with the Legislative Committee, as stated by you. (Proceedings, p. 106.)

"A committee on the part of the Legislature is now in session in this city, charged with the investigation of the transactions of some of the State officials. Your committee recommend the appointment of a committee of three, by the President, whose duty it shall be, as representatives of a large body of the tax-payers of the State, to tender their services and co-operation to the Legislative Committee, in aid of the investigation now going on."

"Your committee, not having the authority of law to press their inquiry into the numerous alleged frauds and corruption to a satisfactory conclusion, and recognizing the occasion as one of too much gravity to be hastily and unwisely passed upon, have declined to be influenced in this regard by the unwarranted statements of individuals. The foregoing recommendations, however, if carried out, will test the sincerity of those who have the authority for investigation, and lead to a purification of the body politic."

In pursuance of this report, our committee was appointed; and when we tendered our services to the Legislative Committee, with an offer to act directly with them, they declined the offer for the reason that their work was too far advanced for us to practically act with them without going over the whole field of investigation. They recommended, however, and thereby authorized us, to co-operate with them by making a separate investigation, covering all the ground they had gone over, so that the reports of the two separate examining parties would prove the faithfulness of both and they aid:

"We presume, on application to the different financial officers of the State, the same facilities for a full and complete investigation of the monetary affairs of the State will be accorded to your committee as has been the Legislative Committee."

Thus we were authorized to make the application, not only by the Convention, but also by the Legislative Committee, whose authority you expressly recognize and admit. Besides this, we had the authority of Gov. Scott, who advised me to prosecute the investigation, adding, in almost the exact words of the Legislative Committee, that he presumed none of the officers would object. Add to all this the example of Comptroller Neagle, in consenting, without hesitation, to our examination of his office; and I leave the Governor, the Legislative Committee and the Comptroller to answer your question, whether "it was an unparalleled presumption on my part to ask your consent to the appointment of a committee to investigate the affairs of your office."

Surely no comment in our present condition is needed, when a public servant thus defies the authority of the Governor and the Legislature, and insults the tax-payers of the State, for daring to inquire what he has done with the public money.

In the second place, as if not satisfied with my want of authority, you undertake to prove that your office has been repeatedly examined and always found correct, leaving it to be inferred that there was really nothing for my committee to do, and to that end, you quote the law requiring you to exhibit your bank book to the Governor and the Comptroller once a month or oftener, if required, and providing for an annual examination of your accounts by a joint committee of the General Assembly, who shall report at the next session; and you refer me to the several reports of those committees for the last three years, in conformity with the law, and

highly complimentary to the administration of your office. These examinations, you declare, were "something never before done in South Carolina." Yet, strange to say, the Legislature was not satisfied with the reports and certificates of its own committees, so far as regards your office; for you go on to inform me, that "in addition to this, the Legislature, at its last regular session, appointed a committee, consisting of two on the part of the Senate, and three on the part of the House of Representatives, to make a thorough examination of all the books and vouchers of every description in the Treasury, from the date of my induction into office, and report the result to the General Assembly at its next session."

Now what does this imply, but a total want of confidence in you as an officer, and in the correctness of these annual reports? Bear in mind, too, that this Legislature is composed almost entirely of your political friends, who know you better than any one else does, and are interested in concealing your delinquencies, whilst they are at all tolerable. And if they discredit these reports by calling for a further investigation, how can you except the tax-payers to receive them as sufficient and satisfactory? Yet you offer these reports rejected and condemned by your own party, as the only information we are entitled to. After the reception that the Convention met with from you and other State officers, you can hardly conceive the disappointment of General Wallace and myself at this result. We had made up our minds that it would be more agreeable and far less expensive than going to the springs, to spend two or three months (the longer the better) in the splendidly furnished rooms at the State House, enjoying the hospitality of the Treasurer and partaking of the good things so abundant there last winter, some of which might possibly be found in the holes and hiding-places of your office. We almost imagined ourselves seated at the table, with you at the head, we on one flank, Dennis and Whittemore facing us, and Joe Crews at the other end, drinking death to the Ku Klux, and peace and prosperity to the glorious old State which we all love so much, though not exactly for the same reasons.

With our joint endorsement of the annual reports, your character would have been completely vindicated, and the ugly rumors floating on every breeze that blows from the capital, put forever at rest. But now your enemies insinuate, that by refusing, you confirm their worst suspicions and pronounce your own condemnation. Yours, respectfully,

EDWIN J. SCOTT.

P. S.—Your communication having appeared in the Union newspaper on the day it reached me, I send this to the Phoenix for publication.

From the Scientific American.

Mental Emaciation.

Messrs. Editors:—May I be permitted to make some remarks upon an article in a recent issue of your journal, and bearing the above caption?

Is it true that "the best and strongest minds are tugging at the mysteries of nature, and expending their energies in physical researches?" This assertion I connect with the following: "Ask nine out of ten, selected at random, what their religious belief, and you will find that they accept a creed they cannot comprehend or explain." This is given as an instance of mental weakness. I ask, is this true? Are there not grave errors deducible from the position you assume, notwithstanding the portion of truth underlying it? Does a man prove his mental strength by "tugging at the mysteries of nature" so that he may "explain and comprehend his religious belief?"

Allow me respectfully to say, no; and therefore to ask whether in your article you have not confused mental corpulence with mental strength? I think it can be shown that a man who tugs at the mysteries of nature and expends his energies in physical research, becomes a storer up of facts; a gatherer of knowledge; an accumulator of absolute truths. He fills out his intellectual being, and so becomes what we justly call a learned man; such as are Tyndall, Darwin, Huxley, and others. This gives him intellectual corpulence (justly distinguished by you from intellectual emaciation); what we may term mental enlargement, but not necessarily mental strength. He is learned, but not consequently wise. A man who weighs 220 pounds is not necessarily stronger than one only 140 pounds, that is, in absolute power. He will be comparatively stronger, but not relatively. In fact, the taking on flesh, in all ordinary

cases, renders one unwieldy and incapable of mental effort. It is similar in mental condition. The profoundest attainments in scientific research do not, as a necessary consequence, render their possessor strong mentally; neither is the possession of the profoundest learning a guarantee of intellectual power.

This is the true distinction between the learned and the wise man. Learning, or the accumulation of material, is mental enlargement, that is, corpulence. Wisdom, as the development of selfacting vigor and power, is mental grasp, that is, strength. The wise man does not cultivate his intellectual being by merely taking in and comparing and storing up absolute facts; but by dynamic efforts of reason, thought, and philosophic deduction, he develops that strength of mind, enabling him to grasp those greater questions to which facts are mere stepping stones. Nature and the empirical school of knowledge come in as mere tools in his hand to enable the exercise of pure reason, intellectual thought, and the dealing with questions of moral and spiritual existence, which can no more be evolved from physical knowledge than can the wondrousness of the athlete be found in a Lamb. But even if this were not so, and mental corpulence were really mental strength, and if, to tug at the mysteries of nature and find out and accumulate knowledge, really made a man stronger; is it true that to do this with the object of reaching an unattainable end, is its proof? Let us see. There are many persons tugging at the mysteries of nature, to discover the secret of perpetual motion. Is this a proof of their strength of mind? Casually do they study and toil to wring out of nature what they are convinced can be found in it. You say, and I say, it is folly; and how relentlessly have you striven to ridicule this folly! And yet, I ask, is the man who tugs at the mysteries of nature to explain his religious belief, one whit wiser than they? Do you conceive that Darwin, Huxley, and this class of naturalists generally, manifest any greater strength of mind in tugging at the mysteries of nature, to find out the hidden source of life, or demonstrate a material God? Here the old saw comes in—"The young folks think the old folks fools, but the old folks know the young folks to be fools." The perpetual motionist thinks you and I are fools, to doubt that he can discover his quest, even as the materialist thinks that the Christian philosopher is a fool to question his pursuit; but you and I know that the perpetual motionist is a fool to tug at the mysteries of nature in order to find out what is impossible, even as the Christian philosopher knows that the scientist is a fool, who is toiling, by the accumulation of knowledge, to discover the unknowable. Nothing less than this, in true philosophy, is the endeavor to "explain and comprehend a religious belief." Mental weakness alone prevents its evidence.

This is the preposterous position assumed, by many learned men of the day. Swelling in their mental corpulence, repite with the accumulation of all scientific knowledge, they venture to attack subjects which require for their treatment illimitable mental strength. They bid us accept their dicta upon topics with which their very acquisitions disqualify them to cope. They tug at the mysteries of nature as the Rosicrucians, toiling after the philosopher's stone, hoping to reach the origin of life, or attain that Utopian absurdity, expressed by you in a later issue, "When men strive to know, not in the sense of the passive acceptance of creeds or formulas thought out by others, but each thought out by themselves, then will poverty, drunkenness, crime, and most of the diseases of the human race end."

Do you wonder that to a Christian philosopher such aim in knowledge stands, an unutterable folly, and that he, recognizing in man a fallen and sinful nature, shall say to him what you would to the perpetual motionist: "Do away with gravity and its laws, and you can obtain your quest; until then your toil is weakness, not strength." So he will say, "do away with a sinful nature and moral weakness, until then your toil is folly."

New Haven, Conn.

A farmer who went to Texas to buy a farm was greatly prejudiced against the country he thought to settle in from the fact that a doctor whom he called to attend him when he was seized with a fever, began trying on his clothes immediately after writing a prescription. The fact that while the doctor was trying on his coat, the chamber maid was examining his handkerchief and the porter was struggling with his boots, let wings to the imagination, and, doubtless, had an influence in regard to his speedy exit from the State.

The Extraction of Teeth.

AN ESSAY READ BEFORE THE SALUDA DENTAL SOCIETY AT GREENVILLE, S. C., AUGUST 2, 1871, BY DR. R. S. WEALEY, OF NEWBERY, S. C.

The subject which you have imposed upon me is one of great importance in Dentistry. It is one which should excite from every member of our profession patient and scientific research. To relieve the ills of humanity as far as possible, is required at the hands of every practitioner in any of the branches of the medical department, Physicians, Surgeons or Dentists.

That portion of the human body which the Dentist has to deal with, is so intimately connected with the nerves, that when they are keenly affected; in the language of Robert Burns,

"Ghosts the tortuous gums along,
We're knowing vengeance,
Tearing the ivory side, after pang
Like racking engines."

That should incite the members of the Dental Profession to labor to become skillful operators.

It would be useless for me to go away back in the misty ages of the past, covered over with the dust of years, to describe the wild and chimerical notions of ancient practitioners. I am fully aware that gentlemen as intelligent as I see before me, are too well versed in this, and have heard it dwelt upon too often, to be any ways interested in listening to a eulogy on ancient skill, when there is so much of the practical present before us, and so much of the future with its progressive march.

Whatever the skill of the ancients might have been, they were singularly opposed to the extraction of teeth. They proposed numerous remedies. As to their virtue we can speak nothing. As to one thing, we can say, they erred; and recommended great legislation and precaution before proceeding to the extraction of teeth.

In continuing this subject it is essentially necessary that some portion of my remarks should be directed to the instruments employed for the purpose; not that I intend to dwell at length or make anything more than a few suggestions.

Said Napoleon Bonaparte to his army formed in battle array, with the Pyramids looming up before them amid the sands of Egypt, to incite them to deeds of valor:

"Follow Soldiers—To-day, forty centuries look down upon you."

And allow me to say, Brother Dentist, to-day, with the *Valsella* described by *Celsus*, to incite you to attain a higher degree of skill, both in Dentistry and instruments, twenty centuries look down upon you, and it is expected that we shall reach a greater degree of perfection.

Day after day, and year after year, since the time of *Celsus*, has brought forth improvement upon improvement. Serried ranks of instruments prevent their glittering blades, by Cartwright, Snell, Piaget, Church, Crane, Hullihen and Maynard, each one a decided improvement, until we find by "Fay's" the *adjusted Forceps*, "which is regarded as a sine qua non in the fabrication of Dental instruments."

Now Gentlemen, this is an important point: the possession of good instruments, and I am happy to know that we live in an age when every practitioner of Dentistry, if he will, can possess all these valuable improvements.

I do not deem it necessary for me to enter into an elaborate essay upon how instruments should be made or how they should be changed, when so many valuable ones are on hand, originated and conceived by men of decided mechanical genius.

In the extraction of teeth, not only is it necessary to have good instruments, but it is essentially necessary that every practitioner of Dentistry should have an intimate acquaintance with the normal and pathological condition of the teeth and their surroundings. There can be no success, gentlemen, in the extraction of teeth, without one is skillful and intelligent in his business or profession.

While the operator of Dentistry should be skillful, he should also be courteous, kind and affable, so as to gain the confidence of his patient. In the language of a writer, "All unnecessary display of instruments should be avoided, and the surroundings of such a character, as to allay the fearful apprehension of the weak and timid." When these conditions are complied with it is necessary first to select the best instruments to be obtained.

I do not pretend to assume to select instruments for other men.

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I leave it to every one to suit himself. But there are instruments which have obtained great popularity, and which, therefore, taking common sense and the propriety for a guide, must be adopted into general use. Allow me, therefore, with all due respect, to submit my views.

For the removal of the upper incisors, the instrument that I use has straight beaks. Some Dentists prefer to have the lower handle bent, but I prefer a straight handle, from the fact that it does not interfere with the chin while one is operating, but I must say, however, that I prefer the beaks being thin, as they cut the gums without requiring the use of the lancet. Allow me here to say that I object to the use of the lancet, only for the purpose of lancing abscesses; otherwise, I think it should be voted out of practice, from the fact that the adhesion of the gums is so very slight, and this the Forceps skillfully handled separates with less pain to the patient, and there is no preparatory alarm and trepidation on the part of the nervous sufferer.

For the molar teeth, I prefer the "Hawk Bill" forceps, for the reason that they are made with such points as to take the most thorough hold on the teeth or roots on which they are to be used, and such curvature of shaft as to enable them to pass most readily to the desired position. Some are so formed at the points as to embrace the root at the border of the alveolus, using the latter as a fulcrum; others to pass between the alveolus, and thus approach the root. I prefer the "Hawk Bill," from the fact that it raises the tooth without so much force, and that they are not near so apt to crush the crown of the tooth as the "Square Bill."

In regard to all ordinary cases these kind of Forceps skillfully used seldom fail to give satisfaction, both to the operator and patient.

Now the great truth and success in the extraction of teeth, is first to understand what sort of a tooth you have to deal with, and to take hold of it properly, as well as to have confidence in your powers and ability. A timid operator is never, and never can be successful. A good operator must understand his business, be confident in his powers, be sure he is right, then go ahead, and success will attend his efforts.

I have not attempted an elaborate essay. I have not, as some, wearied your patience by a lengthy recapitulation of operations in the minutest, or presented a long array of dental instruments, with their defects and the improvements that might be made. I have endeavored to show that success depends on skill, intelligence and confidence. On this depends all. When we undertake difficult operations we must be prepared and grapple and overcome them. The extraction of teeth is a nice as well as a difficult matter if done properly and rightly.

Every science has its difficulties as well as every part of that science, and Dentistry and extraction of teeth is no exception to the rule. If there was not it would not be worth much. The road to knowledge is as difficult and narrow as the path to virtue.

Do what you ought, happen what may, is a maxim applicable in every case.

Allow me, here, to impress upon you most forcibly in all the departments of Dentistry to store your minds with useful knowledge; to labor to become experts; to continue to work on with the best means at hand despite every obstacle, and rest assured that new improvements and new discoveries will continue to be made.

It is a consummation to be wished for, and which will surely come. Important discoveries and improvements in the extraction of teeth may not come to light in our lifetime, but future generations will find and enjoy the benefits thereof.

Life is short and art is long.
We can make our lives useful,
And departing leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time.
For print, be that, perchance shorter
Than the fading of the hand that wrote,
A searching and inquiring brother
May to higher skill attain.

DEATH OF WALTER BLAY, Esq.—The many friends of this old resident of Beaufort County, a gentleman well known in this and the adjoining States as a planter, will learn with regret of his death, which occurred Sunday, at his plantation on the Savannah River, from a cancer in the face. He was sixty-eight years of age, and a native of England.

In order to conform to the present fashion of diminutives—Minnie, Fannie, Lottie and the rest—it is proposed to modernize the too sacred Scriptural names—Eve, Adam, Noah, Enoch, Ezer, Boaz, Hagar, to Haggle, Job to Jobbie, and the apostles to Martie, Marlie, Lottie and Johnnie.