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By Alfred S. Horsley. COLUMBIA, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1869. VOL. XV.—NO. 18.

POETRY.

ON THE OTHER SIDE.

We go our ways in life too much alone;
We hold ourselves too far from all our kind;
Too often we are deaf to sigh and moan;
Too often to the weak and helpless blind;
Too often, where distress and want abide,
We turn and pass upon the other side.

The other side is trodden smooth, and worn
By footsteps passing idly all the day;
Where lie the bruised ones who faint and mourn
Is seldom more than an untrodden way.
Our selfish hearts are for our feet the guide;
They lead us all upon the other side.

It should be ours the oil and wine to pour
Into the bleeding wounds of stricken ones;
To take the smitten, and the sick and sore,
And bear them where the stream of blessing runs;
Instead, we look about, the way is wide,
And so we pass by on the other side.

Oh, friends and brothers, gliding down the years,
Humanity is calling each and all
In tender accents, born of grief and tears!
I pray you listen to the thrilling call!
You can not, in your selfish pride,
Pass guiltless on the other side.

FEMALE PLEASANTRIES.

"I heard it!"
"Who told you?"
"Her friend." (?)
"You don't say!"
"'Tis dreadful!"
"Yes, awful!"
"Don't tell it, I pray!"

"Good gracious!"
"Who'd think it?"
"Well, well, well!"
"Dear me!"
"I've had my Suspicions!"
"And I, too, you see!"

"Lord help us!"
"Poor creetur!"
"So artful!"
"So sly!"
"No beauty!"
"Quite thirty!"
"Between you and I!"

"I'm going!"
"Do stay, love!"
"I can't!"
"I'm forlorn!"
"Farewell dear!"
"Good-bye sweet!"
"*I'm so glad she's gone!*"

MISCELLANEOUS.

Chasing Railroad Trains.

The Rev. J. Hyatt Smith describes as follows his experience in trying to take a train in time:

"We stopped at Syracuse, N. Y., for dinner. You remember the railroad depot, centrally situated, with its eastern and western entrances exactly alike—as much so as the two ends of a car. After we had dined the depot master informed us that we had seventeen minutes to spare before the departure of the eastern train. This, thought I, will give me an opportunity to see the city and a glorious chance for a smoke, provided a clergyman could be tempted into such a piece of worldly and wasteful amusement. I sauntered forth, and after an absence of exactly thirteen minutes, having enjoyed a delightful and soothing stroll, I was returning, watch in hand, when, to my astonishment, I beheld the train slowly gliding out of the other end of the depot, and increasing its speed at every puff of its gigantic locomotive. Here, indeed, was a "call" that admitted neither correspondence nor delay; there was no time for "taking it into consideration." So, without conferring with flesh or blood, I put off like a sky-rocket with a double fuse. For a moment I thought I had it all my own way; I thought I was gaining ground, although I knew I was losing wind. I was encouraged in the race by sundry helpful fellows who kept crying out as I passed, "Go it gaiters!" "plucky boy!" "he aint left, O, no!" and other well meaning and benignant exhortations. Though they intended, perhaps, helping me over the course, I found that the more they shouted the less inclined I was to run, and the more decidedly did the locomotive make terrible headway against me. To give up the chase; to submit to the chagrin of being left; to lose my party and my passage; to meet with disappointment and not to meet with friends, all this was bad enough; but the thought of encountering, all the way back to the depot, that line of interested individuals who with their cheering exclamations had so feelingly encouraged me on my outward journey, this was the bitterest pill in this unexpected dose. But it must be done, so tapering off gradually I gave up the contest and turned back to meet my fate, and—if I could find him—the depot master whose blundering statements were the cause of all my trouble. Without search that individual advanced to greet me with the bland recognition of a fact that no one could well deny, "Well, you got left, did you?" I replied only with a resentment of a "silencing eye." If I looked as I tried to look, my photograph taken at that instant would hardly be chosen to grace an album gallery of "eminent divines." Several bystanders seeking information, asked, with a show of confidential interest in my case, on what wise the thing had happened? and others wishing "to point a moral," advised me to "be on hand a little earlier next time." With returning breath relief and words came together, and I squarely charged the railroad official with all the time. I spoke of his incompetency, in no measured terms, recalling how that after I had placed my party in the car he had assured me that there were full seventeen minutes to spare before the train went out: "while here," said I, with a triumphant exhibition of my watch, the "seventeen minutes are even now barely up, and yet the train is gone and out of sight." After no little hot shot cast back and forth, with the usual variations and final perorations of "you did and you didn't," "you're another," etc., I asked him whether I would be risking another chance of being left if I depended upon him to give me the exact hour of the departure of the *next* Eastern train. "Eastern!" exclaimed he. "Yes, *Eastern*," replied I, with a decided upward and sarcastic inflection. "Why," quoth he "the train you've just been chasing with such poor luck wasn't an Eastern train, but the *Western* Express!" With much and increasing confusion and excitement I stammered out, "Then where in Joppa *is* the Eastern train?" "Why, there it is," replied he, "just getting under way at the other end of the depot. Leg it, or you'll lose *that*." If ever I did make Dexter time I made it then. I passed right through that depot like the wind. I felt as if I was all legs. One glance, however, at the rear door of the last car as I was nearing it, came near being too much for me. I discovered the group of my long lost friends, whose forms and faces seemed bursting with poorly suppressed and ill-timed mirth. As I reached safely the platform, the fire that opened upon me could only be equalled for its merciless effect by the fire in the rear, from which I had providentially fled. I heard jibes, and jokes, and jeers; I heard the hoarse laughter of full-chested men, the hysterical efforts of mirth-exhausted women. They had all witnessed my chase after the wrong train; now fearful lest indeed I should overtake it, and then rejoiced at my evident lack of what jockeys call "bottom," as my speed began to slacken and my chances with the locomotive began to grow "small" by degrees and beautifully less. They had witnessed the "blowing up" administered the depot master, the strange procrastination in starting for the right train, until at length it had actually started and I had entered upon a second "stern chase." Then they feared I was left again, as they looked with breathless interest at the unequal contest of legs *versus* a locomotive. They had witnessed my final triumph, but how gracefully I was welcomed, and with what feelings I recived their peculiar congratulations, I leave my hearers to imagine.

—The Utica (N. Y.) *Herald* tells the following story: "Two maiden sisters, Polly and Sally Reed, aged 85 and 83, who have lived alone in scanty circumstances in Brookfield, Madison county, were found by a neighbor on the morning of the 12th instant, Polly dead on the floor, and Sally lying on the bed in a helpless condition. The latter died on Saturday. They were both terribly mutilated about the head and face. They had often before had frequent quarrels on the most trivial provocations. The weapons used were a pair of tongs and a stick of wood. No inquest was held."

—The following letter was received at the Washington, D. C., post-office, not long since.

"WASHINGTON, D. C., '69.
"To God who lives in Heaven:
"DEAR GOD: O, how I wish I could see you and tell you what I want, I want some new shoes and some clothes to wear to sundy school wont you by me some and a new dress for mamma and a new toy for the baby. Good by.
"A LITTLE BEGGAR BOY TOMMY."

—It is said that $7,000,000 of Northern capital is being expended this year in improvements in Georgia.

President's Message.

WASHINGTON, December 6.

The following is the Message of the President of the United States, delivered to Congress at noon to-day:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

In coming before you for the first time as Chief Magistrate of this nation, it is with gratitude to the Giver of All Good for the many benefits we enjoy. We are blessed with peace at home, and are without entangling alliances abroad to forbode trouble. With a territory unsurpassed in fertility, of an area equal to the abundant support of five hundred millions of people, and abounding in every variety of useful minerals, in quantity sufficient to supply the world for generations; with luxuriant crops, with a variety of climate adapted to the production of every species of earth's rishes, and suited to the habits, tastes and requirements of every living thing, with a population of forty millions of free people, all speaking one language; with facilities for every mortal to acquire an education; with institutions closing to none the avenues to fame or any blessing of fortune that may be coveted; with freedom of the pulpit, the press and the schools; with a revenue flowing into the national Treasury beyond the requirements of the Government supply; harmony is being rapidly restored within our own borders. Manufactures hitherto unknown in our country are springing up in all directions, producing a degree of national independence unequaled by that of any other power. These blessings and countless others are entrusted to your care, and mine, and for safe keeping for the brief period of our tenure-of-office. In a short time we must, each of us, return to the ranks of the people who have conferred upon us our honors, and account to them for our stewardship. I earnestly desire that neither you nor I may be condemned by a free and enlightened constituency, nor by our own consciences.

Emerging from a rebellion of gigantic magnitude, aided, as it was, by the sympathy and assistance of nations with whom we were at peace, eleven States of the Union were four years ago left without legal State Governments; a debt had been contracted; American commerce was almost driven from the seas; the industry of one-half the country had been taken from the control of the capitalist, and placed where all labor rightfully belongs, in the keeping of the laborer. The work of restoring the State Governments loyal to the Union, of protecting and fostering free labor and providing means for paying the interest on the public debt, has received ample attention from Congress. Although your efforts have not met with the success in all particulars that might have been desired, yet, on the whole, they have been more successful than could have been reasonably anticipated. Seven States which passed ordinances of secession, have been fully restored to their places in the Union. The eighth (Georgia) held an election, at which she ratified her Constitution, republican in form, elected a Governor, members of Congress, a State Legislature, and all other officers required. The Governor was duly installed, and the Legislature met and performed all the acts required of them by the reconstruction acts of Congress. Subsequently, however, in violation of the Constitution which they had just ratified, as since decided by the Supreme Court of the State, they unseated the colored members of the Legislature and admitted to seats some members who are disqualified by the third clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution—an article which they themselves had contributed to ratify. Under these circumstances I would submit to you whether it would not be wise, without delay, to enact a law authorising the Governor of Georgia to convene the members originally elected to the Legislature, requiring each member to take the oath prescribed by the Reconstruction act, and none to be admitted who are ineligible under the third clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

The freedmen, under the protection which they have received, are making rapid progress in learning, and no complaints are heard of a lack of industry on their part when they receive fair remuneration for their labor.

The means provided for paying the interest on the public debt, with all the other expenses, of the Government, are more than ample. The loss of our commerce is the only result of the late rebellion which has not received sufficient attention from you. To this subject I call your earnest attention. I will not now suggest plans by which this object may be effected, but will, if necessary, make it the subject of a special message during the session of Congress.

At the March term, Congress, by joint resolution, authorized the Executive to order an election in the States of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas, submitting the constitutions, which each had previously, in Covention, framed and submitted, the constitutions, either entire or in separate parts, to be voted upon at the discretion of the Executive. Under this authority the elections were called. In Virginia the election took place on the 6th of July, 1869. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor elected have been installed. The Legislature met and did all required by this resolution and by all the reconstruction acts of Congress, and abstained from all doubtful authority. I recommend that her Senators and Representatives be admitted, and that the State be fully restored to its place in the family of States. Elections were called in Mississippi and Texas, to commence on the 30th of November, 1869, and to last two days in Mississippi and four days in Texas. The elections have taken place, but the result is not known. It is to be hoped that the acts of the Legislatures of these States, when they meet, will be such as to receive your approbation, and thus close the work of reconstruction.

Among the evils growing out of the rebellion, and not yet referred to, is that of an irredeemable currency. It is an evil which I hope will receive your most earnest attention. It is a duty, and one of the highest duties of the Government, to secure to the citizens a medium of exchange of fixed unvarying value. This implies its return to a specie basis, and no substitute for it can be devised. It should be commenced now and reached at the earliest practicable moment consistent with a fair regard to the interest of the debtor class. Immediate resumption, if practicable, would not be desirable. It would compel the debtor class to pay beyond their contracts, the premium on gold at the date of their purchase, and would bring bankruptcy and ruin to thousands. Fluctuations, however, in the paper value of the measure of all values—gold—is detrimental to the interests of trade. It makes the man of business an involuntary gambler, for in all sales when the future payment is to be made, both parties speculate as to what will be the value of the currency to be paid and received. I earnestly recommend to you, then, such legislation as will insure a gradual return to specie payments, and put an immediate stop to fluctuations in the value of the currency. The methods to secure either of these results are as numerous as are the speculators on political economy. To secure the latter, I see but one way, and that is to authorize the Treasury to redeem its own paper at a fixed price whenever presented; to withhold from circulation all such currency redeemed until sold again for gold. The vast resources of the nation, both developed and undeveloped, ought to make our credit the best on earth. With a less burden of taxation than the citizen has endured for six years past the entire public debt could be paid in ten years, but it is not desirable that the people should be taxed to pay it in that time. Year by year the ability to pay increases in a rapid ratio, but the burden of interest ought to be reduced as rapidly as can be done without the violation of contract. The public debt is represented in a great part by bonds, having from five to twenty and from ten to forty years to run, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent. and five per cent. respectively. It is optional with the Government to pay these bonds at any period after the expiration of the least time mentioned upon their face. The time has already expired when a good part of them may be taken up. The time is rapidly approaching when all may be. It is believed that all which are now due may be replaced by bonds bearing a rate of interest not exceeding four and a half per cent. and as rapidly as the remainder becomes due that they may be replaced in the same way. To accomplish this it may be necessary to authorize the interest to be paid at either of the three or four of the money centres of Europe, or by any Assistant Treasurer of the United States, at the option of the holder of the bond. I suggest this subject for the consideration of Congress; also simultaneously with this, the propriety of redeeming our currency as before suggested, at its market value, at the time the law goes into effect, increasing the rate at which the currency will be bought and sold from day to day or week to week at the same rate of interest as the Government pays upon its bonds.

The subject of the tariff and internal taxation will necessarily receive your attention. The revenues of the country are greater than the requirements, and may with safety be reduced, but as the funding of the debt in a four or a four and a half per cent. loan would reduce the annual current expense largely, thus, after funding justifying a greater reduction of taxation than would be now expedient, I suggest a postponement of this question until the next meeting of Congress. It may be advisable to modify taxation and tariff in instances where unjust or burdensome discriminations are made by the present laws, but a general revision of the laws regulating this subject, I recommend the postponement of for the present.

I also suggest the renewal of the tax on incomes, but at a reduced rate, say of 3 per cent., and this tax to expire in three years, with the funding of the national debt, as here suggested.

I feel safe in saying that the taxes and revenue from imports may be reduced safely from sixty to eighty millions per annum at once, and be still further reduced from year to year, as the resources of the country are developed.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury shows the receipts of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, to be $370,943,747, and the expenditures, including interest, etc., to be $321,490,597. The estimates for the ensuing year are more favorable to the government, and will, no doubt, show a large decrease of the public debt. The receipts in the Treasury beyond expenditures have exceeded the amount necessary to place to the credit of the sinking fund, as provided by law. To lock up the surplus in the Treasury, and withhold it from circulation, would lead to such a contraction of the currency as to cripple trade and seriously affect the prosperity of the country. Under these circumstances the Secretary of the Treasury and myself heartily concurred in the propriety of using all surplus currency in the Treasury in the purchase of government bonds, thus reducing the interest-bearing debt of the country, and of submitting to Congress the question of the disposition to be made of the bonds so purchased. The bonds now held by the Treasury amount to about $75,000,000, including those belonging to the sinking fund. I recommend that the whole be placed to the credit of the sinking fund.

Your attention is respectfully invited to the recommendations of the Secretary of the Treasury for the creating of the office of Commissioner of Customs Revenue; for the increase of salary to certain classes of officials; and the substitution of increased national bond circulation to replace the outstanding 3 per cent. certificates, and more especially to his recommendation for the repeal of laws allowing shares of fines, penalties, forfeitures, etc., to officers of the government, or to informers.

The office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue is one of the most arduous and responsible under the government. It falls but little, if any, short of a Cabinet position in its importance and responsibilities. I would ask for it, therefore, such legislation as, in your judgment, will place the office on a footing of dignity commensurate with its importance, and with a character and qualifications of the class of men required to fill it properly.

As the United States is the freest of all nations, so, too, its people sympathise with all people struggling for liberty and self government; but while so sympathising, it is due to our honor that we should abstain from enforcing our views upon unwilling nations, and from taking an interested part, without invitation, in the quarrels between different nations or between governments and their subjects. Our course should always be in conformity with strict justice and law, international and local. Such has been the policy of the administration in dealing with these questions. For more than a year a valuable province of Spain and a near neighbor of ours, in whom all our people cannot but feel a deep interest, has been struggling for independence and freedom.

The people and government of the United States entertain the same warm feelings and sympathies for the people of Cuba in their pending struggle that they manifested throughout the previous struggles between Spain and former colonies in behalf of the latter; but the contest at no time assumed the conditions which amount to war in the senses of international law, or which would show the existence of a *de facto* political organization of the insurgents, sufficient to justify a recognition of belligerency. The principle is maintained, however, that this nation is its own judge when to accord the rights of belligerency either to people struggling to free themselves from a government that they believe to be oppressive, or to independent nations at war with each other. The United States have no disposition to interfere with the existing relations of Spain to her colonial possessions on this continent. They believe that in due time Spain and other European Powers will find their interest in terminating those relations and establishing their present dependencies as independent Powers—members of the family of nations. These dependencies are no longer regarded as subject to transfer from one European power to another. When the present relation of colonies cease, they are to become independent powers, exercising the right of choice and of self-control in the determination of their future condition and relations with other powers. The United States in order to put a stop to bloodshed in Cuba, and in the interest of neighboring people, proffered their good offices to bring the existing contest to a termination. The offer not being accepted by Spain on a basis which we believed could be received by Cuba, it was withdrawn. It is hoped that the good offices of the United States may yet prove advantageous for the settlement of this unhappy strife. Meanwhile a number of illegal expeditions against Cuba have been broken up. It has been the endeavor of the Administration to execute the neutrality laws in good faith, no matter how unpleasant the task, made so by the suffering we have endured from lack of like good faith toward us by other nations. The United States schooner Lizzie Major was arrested on the high seas by a Spanish frigate, and two passengers taken from it and carried as prisoners to Cuba. Representations of these facts were made to the Spanish Government as soon as official information of them reached Washington. The two passengers were set at liberty, and the Spanish Government assured the United States that the Captain of the frigate, in making the capture, had acted without law—that he had been reprimanded for the irregularity of his conduct, and that the Spanish authorities in Cuba would not sanction any act that would violate the right, or treat with disrespect the sovereignty of this nation.

The question of the seizure of the brig Mary Lowell, at one of the Bahama Islands, by the Spanish authorities, is now the subject of correspondence between this Government and those of Spain and Great Britain. The Captain General of Cuba, about May last, issued a proclamation authorizing search to be made of vessels on the high seas. Immediate remonstrance was made against this, whereupon the Captain General issued a new proclamation, limiting the right of search of vessels belonging to the United States so far as authorized under the treaty of 1795. This proclamation, however, was immediately withdrawn.

I have always felt that the most intimate relations should be cultivated between the Republic of the United States and all independent nations on this continent. It may be well worth considering whether the treaties between the United States and them may not be profitably entered into, to secure more intimate relations, friendly commercial intercourse, and otherwise.

The subject of an inter-oceanic canal to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans through the Isthmus of Darien is one in which commerce is greatly interested. Instructions have been given to our Minister to the Republic of the United States of Columbia to endeavor to obtain authority for a survey by this Government in order to determine the practicability of such an undertaking, and a charter for the right of way to build by private enterprise such work, if the survey proves it to be practicable.

In order to comply with the agreement of the United States as to a mixed commission at Lima, for the adjustment of the claims, it became necessary to send a Commissioner to Lima in August last. No appropriation having been made for this purpose, it is now asked that one be made covering the past and future expenses of the Commission.

The good offices of the United States, to bring about a peace between Spain and the South American Republics, with which she is at war, having been accepted by Spain, Peru and Chili, a congress has been invited to be held in Washington during the present winter.

A grant has been given the Europeans of an exclusive right of transit over the territory of Nicaragua, to which Costa Rica has given its assent, which, it is alleged, conflicts with vested rights of citizens of the United States. The Department of State has now this subject under consideration.

The Minister of Peru having made representations that there was a state of war between Peru and Spain, and that Spain was constructing in and near New York thirty gunboats, which might be used by Spain in such a way as to relieve the naval force at Cuba so as to operate against Peru, orders were given to prevent their departure. No further steps having been taken by the representatives of the Peruvian Government to prevent the departure of these vessels, and I not feeling authorized to detain the property of a nation with which we are at peace on a mere Executive order, the matter has been referred to the courts to decide.

The conduct of the war between the allies and the Republic of Paraguay has made the intercourse with that country so difficult that it has been deemed advisable to withdraw our representative from there.

Toward the close of the last Administration a convention was signed at London for the settlement of all outstanding claims between Great Britain and the United States, which failed to receive the advice and consent of the Senate to its ratification. The time and the circumstances attending the negotiation of the treaty were unfavorable to its acceptance by the people of the United States, and its provisions were wholly inadequate for the settlement of the gross wrongs that had been sustained by this Government, as well as by its citizens. The injuries resulting to the United States, by reason of the course adopted by Great Britain during our late civil war, in increased rates of insurance, in the diminution of exports and imports, and other obstructions to domestic industry and production, in its effect upon the foreign commerce of the country, in the decrease and transfer to Great Britain of our commercial marine, in the prolongation of war and increased cost, both in treasure and in lives, of its suppression, could not be adjusted and satisfied as ordinary commercial claims which continually arise between commercial nations, and yet the Convention treated them simply as such ordinary claims, from which they differ more widely in the gravity of their character than in the magnitude of their amount. Great even as is that difference, not a word was found in the treaty and not an inference could be drawn from it, to remove the sense of the unfriendliness of the course of Great Britain in our struggle for existence, which had so deeply and universally impressed itself upon the people of this country. Believing that a convention thus misconstrued in its scope and made quite different in its provisions would not have produced the hearty, cordial settlement of the pending questions which alone is consistent with the relations which I desire to have established between the United States and Great Britian, I regarded the action of the Senate, in rejecting the treaty, to have been wisely taken in the interest of peace, and as a necessary step in the direction of a perfect and cordial friendship between the two countries. A sensitive people, conscious of their power, are more at ease under a great wrong wholly unatoned than under the restraint of a settlement which satisfies neither their ideas of justice nor their grave sense of the grievance they have sustained. The rejection of the treaty was followed by a state of public feeling on both sides, which I thought not favorable to an immediate attempt at renewing negotiation. I accordingly so instructed the Minister of the United States to Great Britain, and found that my views in this regard were shared by her Majesty's Minister. I hope that the time may soon arrive when the two Governments can approach the solution of this momentous question with an assurance of what is due to the rights, dignity and honor of each, and with the determination, not only to remove the causes of complaint in the past, but to lay the foundation of a broad principle of public law, which will prevent future differences, and tend to a firm and continued peace and friendship. This is now the only grave question which the United States have with any foreign nation.

The question of a treaty for Reciprocity between the United States and the British Provinces, on this continent has not been favorably considered by the Administration. The advantage of such a treaty would be wholly in favor of the British producer, except possibly a few engaged in the trade between the two sections. No citizen of the United States would be benefited by reciprocity. Our internal taxation would prove a protection to the British producer almost equal to the protection which our manufacturers now receive from the tariff. Some arrangement, however, for the regulation of commercial intercourse between the United States and the Dominion of Canada may be desirable.

The commission for adjusting the claims of the Hudson Bay and Puget's Sound Agricultural Company upon the United States has terminated its labors. The award of $650,000 has been made and all the rights and titles of the company on the territory of the United States have been extinguished. The deeds for the property of the company have been received. An appropriation by Congress to meet this sum is asked.

The Commissioners for determining the Northwestern land boundary between the United States and the British Possessions, under the treaty of 1856, have completed their labors, and the Commission has dissolved. In conformity with the recommendation of Congress, a proposition was early made to the British Government to abolish the mixed courts created under the treaty of April 7, 1862, for the suppression of the slave trade. The subject is still under negotiation.

It having come to my knowledge that a corporate company, organized under British laws, proposed to land upon the shores of the United States, and to operate there, a submarine cable, under a concession from His Majesty, the Emperor of the French, of an exclusive right for 20 years of telegraphic communication between the shores of France and the United States, with the very objectionable feature of subjecting all messages conveyed thereby to the sovereignty and control of the French Government, I caused the French and British Legations at Washington to be made aquainted with the probable policy of Congress on the subject, as foreshadowed by the bill which passed the Senate in March last. This drew from the representatives of the company an agreement to accept, as the basis of their operations, the provisions of the bill, or of such other enactment of the subject as might be passed during the approaching session of Congress; also, to use their influence to secure from the French Government a modification of their concession, so as to permit the landing upon French soil of any cable belonging to any company incorporated by the authority of the United States, or of any State in the Union, and on their part not to oppose the establishment of any such cable. In consideration of this agreement, I directed the withdrawal of all opposition by the United States authorities to the landing of the cable and to the working of it until the meeting of Congress. I regret to say that there has been no modification made in the company's concession, nor, so far as I can learn, have they attempted to secure one. Their concession excludes the capital and the citizens of the United States from competition upon the shores of France. I recommend legislation to protect the rights of the citizens of the United States, as well as the dignity and sovereignty of the nation, against such an assumption. It should also endeavor to secure, by negotiation, an abandonment of the principle of monopolies in ocean telegraphic cables. Copies of this correspondence is herewith furnished.

The unsettled political condition of other countries less fortunate than our own sometimes induces their citizens to come to the United States for the sole purpose of becoming naturalized. Having secured this they return to their native country and reside there without disclosing their change of allegiance. They accept official positions of trust or honor which can only be held by citizens of their native land. They journey under passports describing them as such citizens, and it is only when civil discord, after, perhaps, years of quiet, threatens them, or threatens their persons or their property, or when their native State drafts them into its military service, that the fact of their change of allegiance is made known. They reside permanently from the United States. They contribute nothing to its resources. They avoid the duties of its citizenship, and they only make themselves known by a claim of protection. I have directed diplomatic and consular officers of the United States to scrutinize carefully all such claims of protection. The citizen of the United States, whether native or adopted, who discharges his duty to his country, is entitled to its complete protection. While I have a voice in the direction of affairs, I shall not consent to infringe the sacred right by conferring it upon fictitious or fraudulent claimants.

On the accession of the present Administration, it was found that the Minister for North Germany had made propositions for the negotiation of a convention for the protection of emigrant passengers, to which no response had been given. It was concluded that, to be effectual, all the maritime powers engaged in the trade should join in such a measure. Invitations have been extended to the Cabinets of London, Paris, Florence, Berlin, Brussels, the Hague, Copenhagen and Stockholm, to empower their representatives at Washington to simultaneously enter into negotiations and to conclude with the United States a convention, identical in form, making uniform regulations as to the construction of the parts of vessels to be devoted to the use of immigrant passengers; as to the quality and quantity of food; as to the medical treatment of the sick; as to the rules to be observed during the voyage, in order to secure ventilation, promote health, and prevent intrusion, and to protect the females, and providing for the establishment of tribunals in the several countries for enforcing such regulations by summary process.

Your attention is respectfully called to the law regulating the tariff on Russian hemp, and to the question whether to fix the charges on this article higher than they are fixed upon manilla, is not a violation of our treaty with Russia, placing her products upon the same footing with those of the most favored nations.

Our manufactures are increasing with wonderful rapidity, under the encouragement which they now receive, with the improvements in machinery already effected and still increasing, causing machinery to take the place of skilled labor to a large extent. Our imports of many articles must fall off largely within a very few years. Fortunately too many manufactures are not confined to a few localities, as formerly, and it is to be hoped they will become more and more diffused, making the interest in them equal in all sections. They give employment and support to hundreds of thousands of people at home, and retain with us the means which otherwise would be shipped abroad. The extension of railroads in Europe and the East is bringing into competition with our agricultural products, like products of other countries; self-interest, if not self-preservation, therefore, dictates caution against disturbing any industrial interest of the country. It teaches us also the necessity of looking to other markets for the sale of our surplus. Our neighbors south of us and China and Japan should receive our special attention. It will be the endeavor of the administration to cultivate such relations with all these nations as to entitle us to their confidence, and make it their interest as well as ours to establish better commercial relations.

Through the agency of a more enlightened policy than that heretofore pursued toward China (largely due to the sagacity and efforts of one of our own distinguished citizens), the world is about to commence largely increased relations with that populous and hitherto exclusive nation. As the United States have taken the initiatory in the new policy, so they should be the most earnest in showing their good faith in making it a success. In this connection I advise such legislation as will forever preclude the enslavement of Chinese upon our soil under the name of Coolies, and also prevent American vessels from engaging in the transportation of Coolies to any country tolerating the system. I also recommend that the mission to China be raised to one of the first class.

On my assuming the responsibilities of Chief Magistrate of the United States, it was with the conviction that three things were essential to its peace, prosperity and fullest development. First among these is strict integrity in fulfilling all our obligations. Second, To secure protection to the person and property of our common country, wherever he may choose to roam without reference to original nationality, religion, color, or politics, demanding of him only obedience to the laws and proper respect for the rights of others. Third, A union of all the States with equal rights indestructible by any unconstitutional means.

To secure the first of these Congress has taken two essential steps. First, in declaring by joint resolution that the public debt should be paid principal and interest in coin. Second, by providing means for paying. These measures, however, could not secure the object desired without proper administration of the laws for collection of the revenues and economical disbursement of them. To this subject the administration has most earnestly addressed itself, with results, I believe, satisfactory to the country. There has been no hesitation in changing officials in order to secure the efficient execution of the laws; sometimes, too, where in a mere party view undesirable political results were likely to follow for any hesitation in sustaining efficient officials against remonstrances wholly political. It may be well to mention here embarrassments possible to arise from leaving on the statute books the so-called Tenure-of-Office act, and to earnestly recommend its total repeal. It could not have been the intention of the framers of the Constitution, when providing that appointments made by the President should receive the consent of the Senate, that the latter should have the power to retain in office persons placed their by Federal appointments against the will of the President. The law is inconsistent with a faithful and efficient administration of the government. What faith can the Executive put in officials forced upon him, and those, too, whom he has suspended for reason? How will such officials serve an administration which they know does not trust them? For the second requisite to our growth and prosperity, time and experience will affirm; but a humane administration of existing laws, amended from time to time, as they may prove ineffective, or prove harsh and unnecessary, are probably all that are required. The third cannot be attained by special legislation. but must be regarded as fixed by the Constitution itself, and gradually acquiesced in by force of public opinion.

From the foundation of the Government to the present, the management of the original inhabitants of this continent, the Indians, has been the subject of embarrassment and expense, and has been attended with continuous robberies, murders and wars. From my own experience upon the frontiers and Indian countries, I do not hold either legislation or the conduct of the whites who come most in contact with Indians blameless for their hostilities. The last, however, cannot be undone, and the question must be met as we now find it. I have adopted a new policy toward these wards of the nation—they cannot be regarded in any other light than as wards—with fair results so far as tried, and which I hope will be attended ultimately with great success. The society of Friends is well known as having succeeded in living in peace with the Indians in the early settlement of Pennsylvania, when their white neighbors of other sects in other sections were constantly embroiled. They are also known for their opposition to all strife, violence and war, and are generally noted for their strict integrity and fair dealings. These considerations induced me to give the management of a few reservations of Indians to them, and to throw the burden of the selection of agents upon the society itself, and the result has proven most satisfactory. It will be found more fully set forth in the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. For Superintendents and Indian agents not on reservations, officers of the army were selected. The reasons for this are numerous. When Indian agents are sent there or near there, troops must be sent also. The agent and the commander of the troops are independent of each other, and are subject to orders from the different departments of the government. The army officer holds a position for life, the agent one at the will of the President. The former is personally interested in living in harmony with the Indian and the establishment of permanent peace, to the end that some portion of his life may be spent within the limits of a civilized section; the latter has no such personal interest. Another reason is an economic one, and still another hold which the government has upon a life officer to secure a faithful discharge of duties in carrying out a given policy. The building of railroads and the access thereby given to all the agricultural and mineral regions of their country is rapidly bringing civilized settlements in contact with all tribes of Indians. No matter what ought to be the relations between such settlements and the aborigines, the fact is they do not harmonize well, and one or the other has to give way in the end. A system which looks to the extermination of a race is too horrible for a nation to adopt without entailing upon itself the wrath of all Christendom and engendering in the citizen a disregard for human life and the rights of others dangerous to society. I see no substitute for such a system except in placing all the Indians on large reservations as rapidly as can be done, and giving them absolute protection there as soon as they are fitted for it. They should be induced to take their lands in general and to set up territorial governments for their own protection. For full details on this subject I call your special attention to the reports of the Secretary of Interior and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

The report of the Secretary of War shows the expenditures of the War Department for the year ending the 30th of June, 1869, to be $80,644,042, of which $23,882,301 was disbursed in the payment of debts contracted during the war, and is not chargeable to the current army expenses. The estimate of $34,531,031 for the expenses of the army for the next fiscal year is as low as it is believed can be relied on. The estimates of Bureau officers have been carefully scrutinized and reduced wherever it has been demed practicable. If, however, the condition of the country should be such by the beginning of the next fiscal year as to admit of a greater concentration of troops, the appropriation asked for will not be expended.

The appropriation estimate for river and harbor improvements and for fortifications, are submitted separately. Whatever amount Congress may deem proper to appropriate for these purposes will be expended. The recommendation of the General of the Army that appropriations be made for the forts at Boston, Portland, New York, Philadelphia, New Orleans and San Francisco, if for no other, is concurred in. I also ask your special attention to the recommendation of the General commanding the military division of the Pacific for the sale of the seal islands of St. Paul and St. George, Alaska Territory, and suggest that it either be complied with, or that legislation be had for the protection of the seal fisheries, from which a revenue should be derived.

The report of the Secretary of War contains a synopsis of the heads of bureaus of the commanders of military divisions, and of the districts of Virginia, Mississippi and Texas, and the report of the General of the Army in full. The recommendations therein contained have been well considered, and are submitted for your action. I, however, call special attention to the recommendation of the Chief of Ordnance for the sale of arsenals and lands no longer of use to the government; also to the recommendation of the Secretary of War that the act of the 3d of March, 1869, prohibiting the promotions and appointment of staff corps of the army, be repealed. The extent of country to be garrisoned and the number of military posts to be occupied, is the same with a reduced army as with a large one. The number of staff officers required is more dependent upon the latter than upon the former condition.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy accompanying this shows the condition of the navy when this administration came into office, and the changes made since.

Strenuous efforts have been made to place as many vessels in commission or render them fit for service, if required, as soon as possible, and to substitute the sail for steam while cruising, thus reducing the expenses of the navy and adding greatly to its efficiency, and looking to our future, I recommend a liberal though not an extravagant policy toward this branch of the public service.

The report of the Postmaster General furnishes a clear and comprehensive exhibit of the operations of the postal service, and of the financial condition of this part of the Post-office department. The ordinary postal revenues for the year ending the 30th of June, 1869, amounted to $18,344,510, and the expenditures to $23,683,131, showing an excess of expenditures over receipts of $5,352,620. The excess of expenditures over receipts for the previous year amounted to $6,437,992; the increase of revenues for 1869 over those of 1868 was $2,051,909, and the increase of expenditures was $967,538. The increased revenue in 1869 exceeds the increased revenue in 1868 by $967,336, and the increase of expenditures in 1869 was $2,527,570 less than the increased expenditures in 1867, showing by comparison this gratifying feature of improvement that while the increase of expenditures over the increase of receipts in 1868 was $2,439,535, the increase of receipts over the increase of expenditures in 1869 was $1,084,371. Your attention is respectfully called to recomendations made by the Postmaster General for authority to change the rate of compensation to the main trunk railroad lines for their services in carrying the mails, for having post route maps executed, for re-organizing and increasing the efficiency of special agents, for an increase of the mail service on the Pacific, and for establishing mail service under the flag of the Union on the Atlantic; and most especially do I call your attention to his recommendation for the total abolition of the franking privilege; this is an abuse from which no one receives a commensurate advantage. It reduces the receipts for postal service from twenty-five to thirty per cent. and largely increases the service to be performed.

The method by which postage should be paid upon public matter is set forth fully in the report of the Postmaster General.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior shows that the quantity of public lands disposed of during the year ending the 30th of June, 1869, was 7,666,152 acres, exceeding that of the preceding year by 1,010,409 acres. Of this amount 2,899,544 acres were sold for cash, and 2,737,365 acres under the homestead laws. The remainder was granted to aid in the construction of works of internal improvement approved to the States as swamp land, and located by warrants and scrip. The cash receipts from all sources were $4,472,886, exceeding those of the previous year, $2,840,140.

During the last fiscal year, 23,106 names were added to the pension rolls, and 4,876 dropped therefrom, leaving at its close, 187,963. The amount paid to pensioners, including the compensation of disbursing agents, was, $28,422,884, an increase of $441,192 on that of the previous year. The munificence of Congress has been conspicuously manifested in its legislation for the soldiers and sailors who suffered in the recent struggle to maintain that unity of government which makes us one people. The addition to the pension rolls of each successive year since the conclusion of hostilities result in a great degree from the repeated amendments of the act of the 14th of July, 1862, which extended its provisions to cases not falling within its original scope. The large outlay which is thus occasioned is further increased by the more liberal allowance bestowed since that date upon those who, in the line of duty, where wholly or permanently disabled.

Public opinion has given an emphatic sanction to these measures of Congress, and it will be conceded that no part of our public burden is more cheerfully borne than that which is imposed by this branch of the service. It necessitates an outlay for the next fiscal year, in addition to the amount justly chargeable to the naval pension fund, an appropriation of $30,000,000.

During the year ending September 30th, 1869, the Patent Office issued 13,762 patents, and its receipts were $686,389, being $213,926 more than the expenditures.

I would respectfully call your attention to the recommendations of the Secretary of the Interior for uniting the duties of supervising the education of freedmen with the other duties devolving upon the Commissioner of Education. If it is the desire of Congress to make the census, which must be taken during the year 1870 more complete and perfect than hereto fore, I would suggest early action upon any plan that may be agreed upon. As Congress, at the last session, appointed a committee to take into consideration such measures as might be deemed proper in reference to the census, and to report a plan, I desist from saying more.

I recommend to your favorable consideration the claims of the Agricultural Bureau for liberal appropriation. In a country so diversified in climate and soil as ours, and with a population so largely dependent upon agriculture, the benefits that can be conferred by properly fostering this bureau are incalculable.

I desire respectfully to call the attention of Congress to the inadequate salaries of a number of the most important officers of the government. In this message I will not enumerate them, but will specify only the Justices of the Supreme Court; no change has been made in their salaries for fifteen years. Within that time the labors of the Court have largely increased, and the expenses of living have at least doubled; during the same time Congress has twice found it necessary to increase largely the compensation of its members, and the duty which it owes to another department of the government deserves, and will undoubtedly receive its due consideration.

There are many subjects not alluded to in this message which might with propriety be introduced; but I abstain, believing your patriotism and statesmanship will suggest the topics and legislation most conducive to the interests of the whole people. On my part, I promise a rigid adherence to the laws and their strict enforcement.

(Signed) U. S. GRANT.

Inventive Genius National.

So MUCH has the idea of the inventive faculty become identified with New England, that it is almost impossible to think of any new notion without the name Yankee being connected with it. Yet, in no one thing does the American nation show its cosmopolitan character more clearly than the wide distribution among its peoples of the inventive talent.

The proportion of inventions coming from various sections of the country, on which, in its past history, the patent office has issued papers, is about two-thirds to the Eastern States, and the one-third balance nearly equally divided between the West and South. This relative proportion is gradually changing in favor of the North-West; and no section of the Union shows a greater ratio of inventive talent and productions than the city of Chicago and its vicinity.

For thirty years we have watched with great interest the many new and valuable developments of genius from the American mind. The early struggles of Bigelow, Goodyear, Howe, and others, whose names are now immortal, were well known to us as matters identified with our personal history. These and others lived to see their labors crowned with success; while more we could name, sick with hope deferred, lack of appreciation, and poverty, sank into a welcome grave before they received reward.

Ordinarily, the inventor is little versed in the knowledge requisite to make his discoveries valuable to himself or available to the public; and the more worthy the achievement, the more has he to encounter in the effort to secure the result of his labors. And, even when his "parchment" is in his hands, his enterprise is in constant danger of death by suits at law, commenced by a class of professional harpies, on the lookout for every birth of inventive genius. Unfortunately, also, it often is the case that, when the inventor has obtained the advice and aid of a competent party to protect his claims, he will find his agent has given counsel to others in the same line of effort, who, selfish to secure his fees from all, thus renders valueless the production of the entire party.

These difficulties that beset the steps of the inventor are well known to the capitalist to whom he applies for aid; and so, want of capital denied him on the one hand, and the want of honesty on the other, he loses heart and hope. Just here comes into view the value of competent, honest counsel to the inventor.

The proper wording and presentation of an application for a patent, so as to make secure his claim, is as important to the party making it as the invention itself. Our laws for the protection, and office for the examination of patents, are the best in the world; yet both show human imperfection. It is often as needful that the party making application should be informed as to what he might have granted him, did he request it, that he has *not* claimed, as to secure to him what he *does* ask for; therefore the necessity of a carefully-worded patent upon an invention, drawn up from examination by a competent party. And this verdict the applicant should secure before he goes or sends to Washington.—*Chicago Bureau.*

Postal Decision.

We observe that some of our contemporaries are still publishing an incorrect statement to the effect that a newspaper one side of which is printed outside the county where published, is not entitled to the usual exemption from postage within that county. This matter has been definitely settled in favor of such publishers by a recent decision of the Postmaster General, which we find in the November issue of the *United States Mail*, to wit:

"A newspaper having a known office of publication, notwithstanding one side of the same is printed in another county or State, is entitled to the same privileges as though both sides were printed at the said office of publication."

—Dip well-seasoned shingles in a lime wash, and dry them before laying, and they will last much longer and not become covered with moss.

Love will Banish Care.

A tired woman hushed to sleep her babe. Beauty once made her face radiant, perhaps, but all that beauty is gone now. The blue eye is dim and faded—the pale brow is covered with lines of care. Perhaps, with that far-off look of hers, she sees three little graves, green with as many summers.

Her home is very humble. All day she had toiled, and the fainting spirit almost surrenders to fatigue—the downcast eyes trembling with tears—she is so weary. And every nerve tingles when these boys come hungry from school—some with a tale of sorrow, that mother must hear.

And after they are hushed with kisses or chidings, it is time to get supper for seven hungry mouths, and the accustomed never-endings of putting away and clearing up, till the worn-out creature wonders, with a sigh, if there really will come rest to her—an eternal rest.

At last she can seat her wearied limbs in the old corner rocking chair.

The babe, whose eyes close fitfully to the low lullaby, lies in its father's lap

He is a plain man, that good father, with an honest face and a great heart, that would take in all the care and sorrow of the household.

The babe sleeps. With a rude gentleness he lays it upon its mother's bosom, and as the ruddy firelight plays over her careworn features, he looks upon her with eyes suddenly grown lustrous and beautiful. He lifts his great hand softly, till it rests on her shoulders, as he says:

"I love you, dear Mary!"

How the poor heart leaps into love, light and rest. How vanish the cares that trod upon her weary soul! She no more remembers the toilsome washing. She reflects not now that the pretty babe with flushed cheeks against her breast has worn her patience treadbare with its constant tears and unrest. She forgets that the fire would smoke, the broth burn, that the children teased her, that the line broke and that every limb in her frame ached with fatigue.

What were those in comparison with the steadfast love that had burned for eighteen years, in the sunlight of happiness, through the clouds of despair, when beauty made her winning, and when her charms of loveliness had gone and freshness of youth departed forever? What cared she for aught outside her home, though she had many sorrows, while such words thrilled her whole being:

"I love you, dear Mary."

Twice Mistaken.

Captain A——, of Missouri, is known all the way on the Mississippi from New Orleans to Dubuque, as a big-hearted, jovial fellow, who does not stand on the ceremony of an introduction before commencing an acquaintance. The Captain is fond of a drink, and moreover he does not like to drink alone. It so happened that business called him to Washington, and he had as a *compagnon de voyage*, a stout, thick set man, well up in years, who wore a wig, and who presented a striking resemblance to the late Lewis Cass. To beguile the tedium of the voyage, they chatted together and they drank together.

Captain A——, one evening after his arrival, thought he spied his companion in the densely-crowded office of Brown's Hotel, and stepping up to him, he briskly slapped him on the back, and remarked, "Come, old fellow, let's take a drink."

"You mistake your man," replied the other with great gravity. "My name is Cass, Senator Cass, from Michigan."

The Captain, it is hardly necessary to say, was greatly disconcerted, and slunk away.

In the course of the evening, however, he was certain that he spied his man, and rushing up to him, broke out with great glee, "Well, I've got you at last. He! he! he! Capital joke to tell you. He! he! he! Don't you think, met old Cass, and took him for you. He! he! he! Clapped the old fellow on the back, he! he! he! and, says I, come, let's take a drink, he! he! he! and when he told me I mistook my man, didn't I slope, he! he! he!" The Captain observed, however, that his companion did not appear to appreciate the joke, but for a time preserved a rigid countenance, and then broke in upon him, "I, sir, am Lewis Cass, as I told you before, and I cannot allow you to indulge further in these familiarities."

The Captain made no further attempts to hunt up his former companion. He is yet hale and jovial, but he is *not* fond of boasting how he made the acquaintance of the late distinguished Senator from Michigan.—*Western Monthly.*

The Day After.

I do not think anybody ever accurately realizes anything, either joy or sorrow, until the day after. Do you know what it is to wake up in the morning and know there is a something, you cannot exactly tell what it is, on your mind, and suddenly it comes to you with a painful gust of sorrow or a pleasurable flow of joy, as the case may be? Supposing now, for instance, you had met some one very nice, very nice indeed, at a party last night. Your name has been connected with this some one a good deal lately; wherever she was seen you were sure to be somewhere in the neighborhood. People have said they knew there was something in it, and they knew what would come to pass at last. You always found yourself seated by this young lady's side, and by some extraordinary law of attraction she invariably fell to your lot to take into supper, or as partner in more round dances than was consistent with the strict etiquette of the ball-room. Well, last night you did not dance so much as usual, you "sat out" a great many dances, you found a cosy place behind the orange trees in the conservatory where you talked a great deal in whispers. At last you did not talk so much; you "looked" more than you talked. You sat very close to her. I think you know something about encircling a slender bodice, and you were aware of the sensation of pressing a soft passive little hand. But when you awake on the day after! You think can it be possible? "What did I say? Yes, there's no doubt about it. I have done it at last, there's no backing out of it this time." You were as free as possible yesterday, your hat covered all your responsibilities, and now on the day after, your being is changed altogether; you will have to think of house-rent, of coals, of rates and taxes, and have some indefinite vision of being appointed a churchwarden or undertaking any idiotic office that grave respectability may dictate. Take another phase of this matter. The day after a violent quarrel with an old friend, wherein the friendship of a lifetime has been sacrificed for the anger of a minute, is particularly painful. It was bad enough yesterday, but then the excitement bore you along and you did feel it so much, but now the whole affair comes up before you with a painful reality. You think of it seriously, and the consequences it will bring, you were always seen together, you were mutually acquainted with so many people that you tremble to think what people will say or think. This is bad enough; but when it is a serious quarrel with the girl of one's heart—and I suppose we all of us, even the worst of us, have had a girl of our heart at some time or another—it is terrible. I do not mean the ordinary lovers' quarrels, but the *amantium iræ* of which there is no renewing of love afterwards. It is all very well when you are busy being indignant, when you are giving proud answer to proud speech; when you both know that your pride will bring misery to both, yet neither will give way an inch. It is all very well when you are sending back her letters, her little gloves, her locks of hair, her pretty little presents, and the fifty thousand reminiscences of an earnest, trustful, girlish love—when you feel indignant, and glory in being scornful. But when all that is over, when your dead love is buried, it is sad, sad work to face the world manfully on the day after.

—A sailor at the Brooklyn Navy Yard explained to a curious landsman the other day how prize money is divided. "It is sifted through a ladder," he said. "What falls through goes to the officers; what sticks, the sailors get."

YOUTHS' DEPARTMENT

LOOK SHARP.

A JOLLY old fellow, whose hair is snow white,
And whose little bright eyes are blue,
Will be making his visits on Christmas night:
Perhaps he will call upon you.

A funny old name has this funny old man
(You can tell what it is, no doubt):
He creeps down the chimney as fast as he can,
And then just as swiftly creeps out.

His plump cheeks are rosy as red cherries ripe;
His nose, too, is red as can be:
You may smell now and then the smoke of his pipe,
But his face you never may see.

He carries a bag full of sweetmeats and toys,
And leaves them wherever he goes
For the good little girls and good little boys:
So hang up your little white hose!
—*The Nursery.*

The Wanderer's Prayer.

ON a cold, dreary evening in autumn, a small boy, poorly clad, yet cleanly and tidy, with a pack upon his back, knocked at the door of an old Quaker in the town of S——. "Was Mr. Lanman at home?" "Yes." The boy wished to see him, and he was speedily ushered into the host's presence.

Friend Lanman was one of the wealthiest men in the county, and President of the L—— Valley Railroad. The boy had come to see if he could obtain a situation on the road. He said he was an orphan—his mother had been dead only two months, and he was now a homeless wanderer. But the lad was too small for the filling of any place within the Quaker's gift, and he was forced to deny him. Still he liked the looks of the boy, and said to him;

"Thee may stop in my house to-night, and on the morrow I will give thee names of two or three good men in Philadelphia, to whom thee may apply with assurance of kind reception at least. I am sorry I have no employment for thee."

Later in the evening the old Quaker went the rounds of his spacious mansion, lantern in hand, as was his wont, to see that all was safe, before retiring for the night. As he passed the door of the little chamber where the poor wandering orphan had been placed to sleep, he heard a voice. He stopped and listened, and distinguished the tones of a simple earnest prayer. He bent his ear nearer, and heard these words from the boy's lips:

"O, Good Father in Heaven! help me to help myself. Watch over me as I watch over my own conduct; and care for me as my deeds merit! Bless the good man in whose house I am sheltered, and spare him long, that he may continue his bounty to other suffering and needy ones. Amen!"

And the Quaker responded another Amen as he moved on; and as he went he meditated. The boy had a true idea of the duties of life, and possessed a warm, grateful heart. "I verily think the lad will be a treasure to his employer!" was his concluding reflection.

When the morning came the old Quaker had changed his mind concerning his answer to the boy's application.

"Who learned thee to pray?" asked Friend L.

"My mother, sir," was the soft reply. And the rich brown eyes grew moist.

"And thee will not forget thy mother's counsels?"

"I cannot; for I know that my success in life is dependent upon them."

"My boy, thee mayest stay here in my house; and very soon I will take thee to my office. Go now, and get thy breakfast."

Friend L. was gathered to the spirit harvest shortly after the breaking out of the war at the South; but he lived to see the poor boy he had adopted rise, step by step, until he finally assumed the responsible office which the failing guardian could no longer hold. And to-day there is no man more honored and respected by his friends, and none more feared by gamblers and evil-minded speculators in irresponsible stock, than is the once poor wanderer—now President of the best managed and most productive railways in the United States.

Making Collections.

MANY boys and girls take a fancy to make a collection of something. Some collect postage stamps, others coins, and we have seen very large collections of buttons in which there were no two alike. The desire to make as large a collection as possible, without regard to anything else, we do not approve of; but it is very pleasing to see young people collecting specimens which shall teach them something. A collection of postage stamps made for the sake of getting the greatest possible number, is of no more use than so many pieces of newspaper; but if one will read about the country to which each stamp belongs, then something interesting and useful may come of this postage stamp mania. So with coins—collections of which, at least the foreign ones, very few young people are able to make. These can lead to historical studies. After all, we prefer much to see young folks take to collecting natural objects. Those of you who live in the country can find an abundance of things more interesting than postage stamps, or even coins. We once saw a large collection—we have forgotten how many specimens—of all the different kinds of beans—a dozen or so of each kind put in a neat little paper tray, and correctly named. A nice collection would be all the different kinds of wheat—indeed, we should much like to have such a collection ourselves. Then how interesting it would be to have specimens of the seeds of every kind of troublesome weed. The eye having become accustomed to the appearance of these seeds, would be able to detect them at once among seed grain, or other kinds of seeds. Another collection we would suggest to the older boys, is one of all the native woods of the farm, or the neighborhood; very few people know any but the larger kinds of wood. A collection with specimens to show the bark, the end of the wood and the grain would be something worth looking at. Then there are the insects which are injurious to crops, which would make not only a useful but a really handsome collection, and would lead to a study and close observation of the habits of the insects. Of course, one will take a fancy to one thing and one to another, and in a family of several boys and girls, a museum may be formed which will be worth something to show others. Those who are old enough to study plants, minerals, insects, etc., will, of course, make collections of specimens to illustrate these studies. Our object was to suggest something that seemed to us better worth doing than accumulating postage stamps or buttons.—*American Agriculturist.*

The Deacon and the Wasp.

A worthy deacon in a town of Maine was remarkable for the facility with which he quoted scripture on all occasions. The divine word was ever at his tongue's end, and all the trivial as well as important occurrences of life furnished occasions for quoting the language of the Bible. What was better, however, the exemplary man always made his quotations the standard of action.

One hot day he was engaged in mowing with his hired man, who was leading off, the deacon following in his swath, conning his apt quotations, when the man suddenly sprang from his place, leaving the swath just in time to escape from a wasp's nest.

"What is the matter?" hurriedly inquired the deacon.

"Wasps," was the laconic reply.

"Pooh!" said the deacon, "'the wicked flee when no man pursueth, but the righteous are bold as a lion;'" and, taking the workman's swath, he moved but a step when a swarm of brisk insects settled about his ears, and he was forced to retreat with many a painful sting, and a great discomfiture.

"Ah!" shouted the other, with a chuckle, "'the prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself, but the simple pass on and are punished.'"

The good deacon had found his equal in making applications of the sacred writings, and thereafter was not known to quote scripture in a mowing field.

—As an evidence of the coldness of the weather in Laramie, Wyoming, a paper at that place says: "An estimable young lady of this town got choked two days ago, while drinking a glass of water, by a piece of ice sticking in her throat, where it still remains. A council of eminent physicians decided that nothing could be done to remove the obstruction before next spring."

"You never saw such a happy lot of people as we had here yesterday," said a landlady in a Western State to a newly-arrived guest; "there were thirteen couples of 'em." "What! thirteen couples just married?" "Oh, no, sir; thirteen couples just divorced!"

GRACE DARLING'S only brother has recently died.