NIGHTFALL.

BY W. W. ELLSWORTH.

Alone I stand;
On either hand
In gathering gloom stretch sea and land;
Beneath my feet,
With ceaseless beat,
The waters murmur low and sweet.

Now falls the night;
The tender light
Of stars grows brighter and more bright;
The lingering ray
Of dying day
Sinks deeper down and fades away.

Now fast, now slow,
The south winds blow,
And softly whisper, breathing low;
With gentle grace
They kiss my face,
Or fold me in their cool embrace.

Where one pale star,
O'er waters far,
Droops down to touch the harbor bar,
A faint light gleams,
A light that seems
To grow and grow till nature teems

With mellow haze;
And to my gaze
Comes proudly rising, with its rays
No longer dim,
The moon; its rim
In splendor gilds the billowy brim.

I watch it gain
The heavenly plain;
Behind it trails a starry train,—
While low and sweet
The wavelets beat
Their murmuring music at my feet.

Fair night of June!
Yon silver moon
Gleams pale and still. The tender tune,
Faint-floating, plays,
In moon-lit lays,
A melody of other days.

'Tis sacred ground;
A peace profound
Comes o'er my soul. I hear no sound,
Save at my feet
The ceaseless beat
Of waters murmuring low and sweet.

—*Scribner for July.*

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

The Men Who Signed the Declaration—A Brief Biography of Each and Every One of Them—The Patriots Who Ran the Risk of Being Hung.

JOHN HANCOCK.

John Hancock, who was the President of the Congress, was one of the most distinguished personages of the war of independence. He was born near the village of Quincy, in Massachusetts, in the year 1737. His father died while John was an infant, and left him to the care of a paternal uncle. This relative was a merchant in Boston, who had amassed a large fortune, and, after having given John a collegiate education at Harvard College, he took him into his counting-room as clerk. His abilities proved such that in 1760 he sent him on a business mission to England, where he was present at the funeral rites of George II., and the coronation ceremonies of George III. Soon after his return to America his uncle died, and left him, at the age of twenty-six, in possession of a princely fortune—one of the largest in the province of Massachusetts.

He soon relinquished his commercial pursuits and became an active politician, always taking sides with those whose sentiments were liberal and democratic. In 1766 he was chosen a representative for Boston in the General Provincial Assembly. He was chosen a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1774, and was re-elected to the same station in 1775. When Peyton Randolph left the presidential chair of that body, John Hancock was elected to the station. In that office he labored arduously, and filled that chair on the ever memorable Fourth of July, 1776. As President he first signed the Declaration of Independence, and his bold signature has always excited the admiration of the beholder.

New Hampshire.

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

Josiah was born in Amesbury, in Massachusetts, in November, 1729. In 1776 he was appointed a member of the Committee of Safety of his State. He was soon elected a member of the Continental Congress. In August, 1775, he was chosen delegate to the Continental Congress, and was again re-elected in 1776. He warmly supported the proposition for independence, and when, on the 2d of August, 1776, the members of Congress signed the Declaration, Dr. Bartlett was the first who affixed his signature, New Hampshire being the first State called.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

William Whipple was born at Kittery, in New Hampshire (that portion which is now the State of Maine), in the year 1730. In January, 1776, he was chosen a delegate to the Continental Congress, and was among those who, on the Fourth of July of that year, voted for the Declaration of Independence. He remained in Congress until 1777.

MATTHEW THORNTON.

Matthew Thornton was born in Ireland, in 1714, and was brought to this country by his father when he was between two and three years of age. Matthew studied medicine and settled at Londonderry, N. H., and in 1745 was appointed surgeon of the New Hampshire troops, and accompanied them in the expedition against Louisburg. In September, 1776, he was appointed a delegate to the Continental Congress for one year, and was permitted to sign his name to the Declaration of Independence when he took his seat in November.

Massachusetts.

SAMUEL ADAMS.

This distinguished patriot of the Revolution was born in Boston on the 22d of September, 1722. Adams was among those who secretly matured the plan of proposing a general Congress, and appointing delegates thereto, in spite of the opposition of Gov. Gage. The Governor, hearing of the movement in the General Assembly, then sitting at Salem, sent his secretary to dissolve them, but he found the door locked, and the key was safely lodged in Samuel Adams' pocket. Mr. Adams was one of the five delegates appointed to Congress, and he took his seat in that body on the 5th of September, 1774. He continued an active member of Congress until 1781.

JOHN ADAMS.

John Adams was born at Braintree (now Quincy), in Massachusetts, on the 30th of October, 1735. Having chosen the law as a profession, he entered upon the study of it with an eminent barrister in Worcester by the name of Putnam. He was admitted to the bar in 1758 and commenced practice in Braintree.

Adams took his seat in the first Continental Congress, convened in Philadelphia on the 5th of September, 1774. He was again elected a delegate in 1775, and through his influence George Washington, of Virginia, was elected commander-in-chief of all the forces of the united colonies.

He was appointed one of the committee to draft the Declaration of Independence, and he placed his signature to that document on the 2d of August, 1776. His eminent services throughout the Revolution and afterwards are well known. President himself, he lived to see his son in the same position. He died on the 4th of July, 1826, aged ninety-two. On the very same day, and at nearly the same hour, his fellow committee-man in drawing up the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson, also died. It was on the fiftieth anniversary of that glorious act; and the coincidence made a deep impression on the public mind.

ROBERT TREAT PAYNE.

This distinguished patriot was born in Boston, Mass., in 1731. He entered Harvard College at the age of 14 years, and graduated with the usual honors. He was active in politics, and was a member of the first Congress, and was re-elected to that of '76. He voted for the Declaration of Independence, and was one of its signers.

ELBRIDGE GERRY.

Elbridge Gerry was born in Marblehead, Mass., on the 17th of July, 1744. He was well educated, being a graduate of Harvard. In January, 1776, Mr. Gerry was elected a delegate to the Continental Congress. There his commercial knowledge proved very useful, and he was put upon many committees where such knowledge was needed. He was a warm supporter of the resolution of Mr. Lee, declaring the United States free and independent, and he signed his name to the Declaration on the 2d of August, following its adoption.

Rhode Island.

STEPHEN HOPKINS.

Stephen Hopkins was born in the town of Providence, R. I., on the 7th of March, 1707. He was a member of the first Congress, and was re-elected in 1776, and had the privilege of signing the Declaration of Independence. He was chosen a delegate to the General Congress for the last time in 1778, and was one of the committee who drafted the Articles of Confederation for the government of the States. Notwithstanding he was then over 70 years, he was exceedingly active, and was almost constantly a member of some important committee. He died on the 19th of July, 1785, in the seventy-eighth year of his age.

WILLIAM ELLERY.

William Ellery, the colleague of Stephen Hopkins, of Rhode Island, in the Continental Congress of 1776, was born at Newport on the 22d of December 1827. Mr. Ellery was a very active member of Congress, and on the 2d day of August, 1776, he signed the Declaration of Independence.

Connecticut.

ROGER SHERMAN.

One of the most remarkable men of the Revolution was Roger Sherman. He was born in Newton, Mass., on the 19th of April, 1721. He was elected a delegate from Connecticut to the Continental Congress, in 1774, and was present at the opening on the 5th of September. He was one of the most active members of that body, and was appointed one of the committee to prepare a draft of a Declaration of Independence, a document to which he affixed his signature with hearty, good will after it was adopted by Congress. For two years after the organization of the Government under the Constitution he was a member of the United States House of Representatives. He was then promoted to the Senate, which office he filled at the time of his death, which took place on the 23d of July, 1793, in the seventy-third year of his age.

SAMUEL HUNTINGTON.

Samuel Huntington was born in Windham, Conn. He was appointed Associate Judge of the Superior Court in 1774, and in 1775 he was appointed one of the delegates from Connecticut in the General Congress. The following year he had the glorious privilege of voting for and signing the Declaration of Independence. He was a member of Congress nearly five successive years, and was esteemed as one of the most active men there. His integrity and patriotism were stern and unbending, and so conspicuous became his sound judgment and untiring industry, that in 1779 he was appointed President of Congress, then the highest office in the nation.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS.

This patriot was born at Lebanon, Conn., in 1721. At the age of twenty-five he was chosen a member of the Connecticut Assembly, and for forty-five years he held a seat there. He was always present at its sessions, except when attending to his duties in the General Congress, to which body he was elected a delegate in 1775. He was an ardent supporter of the proposition for independence, and cheerfully signed the Declaration when it was adopted.

OLIVER WOLCOTT.

The subject of the sketch was born at Windsor, Ct., in 1726. Toward the close of 1775, Mr. Wolcott was elected a delegate to the second General Congress, and took his seat in January, 1776. He took a prominent part in the debates respecting the independence of the colonies, and voted for and signed the Declaration.

New York.

PHILLIP LIVINGSTON.

Among the bright names of the Revolution era is that of Livingston. Phillip was born at Albany on the 15th of January, 1716.

Mr. Livingston first entered upon public life in 1754. In 1774 Mr. Livingston was elected a delegate to the first Continental Congress, and was on the committee that prepared the address to the people of Great Britain.

In 1778, although his health was in a precarious state, occasioned by dropsy in the chest, he obeyed the calls of duty and took his seat in Congress, to which he had been elected. He died on the 12th of June following.

WILLIAM FLOYD,

a General, died Aug. 4, 1821, aged eighty-six. He was born Dec. 17, 1735. He was a delegate to the Congress of 1774, and continued a member till after the Declaration of Independence. When the British took possession of Long Island his family fled for safety to Connecticut, his house was occupied by troops, and for nearly seven years he was an exile from his dwelling, and derived no benefit from his landed estate. In October, 1778, he was again a member of Congress, and was frequently a member of the Legislature of the State.

FRANCIS LEWIS.

Francis Lewis died Dec. 30, 1803, aged ninety. He was born in Landaff, South Wales, in 1713.

In April, 1775, he was elected a member of Congress; the next year he signed the Declaration of Independence. In 1775 he removed to Long Island; in the autumn of 1776 his house was plundered by the British. In his last days he lived in comparative poverty.

LEWIS MORRIS,

a Major General, grandson of Gov. Lewis Morris, died Jan. 22, 1798, aged seventy-one. He was born at the manor of Morrisania, N. Y., in 1726.

New Jersey.

RICHARD STOCKTON.

The subject of this memoir was born upon the Stockton manor, on the 1st of October, 1730.

The Provincial Congress of New Jersey elected him a delegate to the General Congress in 1776, and he took his seat in time to take part in the debate upon the proposition for independence. At first he seemed doubtful of the expediency of an immediate declaration of independence, but after hearing the sentiments of nearly all, and the conclusive arguments of John Adams, he voted in favor of the measure and cheerfully signed the Declaration.

JOHN WITHERSPOON.

John Witherspoon was born in the parish of Yester, near Edinburgh, Scotland, on the 5th of February, 1722. He was a lineal descendant of the great reformer, John Knox. He graduated at Edinburgh. He went through a regular theological course of study, and at the age of twenty-two years he graduated a licensed preacher. He took a conspicuous part in both military and financial matters, and his colleagues were astonished at the versatility of his knowledge.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON.

This old revolutionary star, though ardent in his patriotism, and keenly alive to the stirring events of that time, was not known as a powerful debater, yet still he had an immense amount of true genius. He was born in Philadelphia in 1837, and at the age of fourteen was left to battle with the world for himself. He was in the fifty-third year of his age when he died, a by no means small term of life for a man who had experienced the terrors of our war for liberty.

JOHN HART.

This patriot of the Revolution died in 1780. He was the son of Edward Hart, of Hopewell, N. J. He was a member of the Congress of 1774, and in 1776 signed the Declaration of Independence.

ABRAHAM CLARK.

The subject of this sketch was born February 5, 1726, at Elizabethtown, N. J., and was bred a farmer, but gave his chief attention to surveying, conveyancing, and the imparting of gratuitous legal advice to his neighbors. Being appointed a member of Congress, he voted for the Declaration of Independence, and affixed his name to that instrument. He died in consequence of a stroke of the sun, in September, 1794, aged sixty-seven, and was buried at Rahway.

Pennsylvania.

ROBERT MORRIS.

Robert Morris, the distinguished financier of the Revolution, was born in Lancashire, England, in January, 1733.

Mr. Morris was elected to Congress on the 18th of July, 1776, fourteen days after the Declaration of Independence was adopted, and being in favor of the measure he affixed his signature thereto on the 2d of August following.

BENJAMIN RUSH.

Dr. Benjamin Rush was born at Byberry, about twelve miles northeast of Philadelphia, on the 24th day of December, 1745. He was solicited to take a seat in the general Congress of 1775, but declined; but when, in 1776, some of the Pennsylvania delegates in Congress refused to vote for independence, and withdrew from their seats, he was elected to fill one of them. He was not a member when the Declaration was adopted, but was present and signed it on the 2d of August following.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

It would be superfluous to say anything of Benjamin Franklin. He was elected a delegate to the general Congress in 1775, and was again elected in 1776. He was one of the committee appointed to draft a Declaration of Independence, voted for its adoption, and signed it on the 2d of August. The remark that broke the silence following the announcement of the Declaration to the assembled Congress: "Yes, gentlemen, we must all hang together, or we will all hang separately," is attributed to him.

JOHN MORTON.

John Morton descended from ancestors of Swedish birth. He was born in 1724, his father having died previously.

He was elected to the "Stamp Act Congress" in 1765, and in 1776 he was made High Sheriff of the county in which he resided. In 1774 the Assembly of Pennsylvania appointed Mr. Morton a delegate to the General Congress. He was re-elected for 1775 in December of the same year, and he was also elected in 1776 to the same office. His election did not take place until some days after the Declaration of Independence was adopted, but he had the privilege of signing it in August.

GEORGE CLYMER.

George Clymer was born in Philadelphia in 1739, and was brought up by his mother's brother, Wm. Coleman, and was educated in his counting-room. He accepted the command of a volunteer corps belonging to Gen. Cadwallader's brigade.

In 1776, after two of the Pennsylvania delegates in the General Congress declined voting for the Declaration of Independence, and withdrew from their seats, Mr. Clymer and Dr. Rush were appointed to succeed them, and they both affixed their signatures to that instrument.

JAMES SMITH.

James Smith was born in Ireland, date of birth not known. He came to this country with his parents when quite young. He was elected to the Congress to fill a vacancy caused by the withdrawal of part of the delegation of his State, and affixed his signature on the 2d day of August.

GEO. TAYLOR.

Geo. Taylor was born in Ireland, in the year 1716, and came to this country when he was about twenty years of age. He was one of those elected to fill vacancies occasioned by the withdrawal of a number of members, and put his name to the document on the 2d of August.

JAMES WILSON.

This distinguished patriot was born in Scotland in 1742, and emigrated to this country in 1766. In May, 1775, he was chosen a delegate to the General Congress, together with Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Willing. He was again elected for the session of 1776, and warmly supported the motion of Richard Henry Lee for absolute independence. He voted for and signed the Declaration, and remained an active member of Congress until 1777, when he and Mr. Clymer were not re-elected in consequence of the operations of a strong party spirit which at that time existed in the Pennsylvania Assembly.

GEORGE ROSS.

George Ross was born in New Castle, Delaware, in the year 1730.

He first appeared in public life in 1768, when he was elected a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly for Lancaster. He was chosen to the Continental Congress in 1774, and remained there till 1777. He was a warm supporter of the resolution of Mr. Lee, proposing independence, and signed the Declaration thereof, on the 2d of August.

Delaware.

GEORGE READ.

Another of our true liberty men was born in Cecil county, in the province of Maryland, in the year 1734, and was the eldest of six brothers. His useful life was suddenly closed in the autumn of 1798, by a sudden illness, which ended in his death at the age of sixty-four years.

CÆSAR RODNEY.

This active and very popular man was born at Dover, Del., in the year 1730. Mr. Rodney was a member of the Provincial Assembly in 1769, and was chosen its Speaker. He continued a member and the Speaker of that body until 1774, and as Chairman of the Corresponding Committee he was arduous in plying his pen in the interchange of political sentiments with his compatriots in other colonies. He died early in the year of 1783, when in the fifty-third year of his age.

THOMAS M'KEAN.

This talented gentleman and firm defender of our country's rights was born in New London, Chester county, Pa., in 1734. He died at a ripe old age, after a long and useful life both to himself and his country.

Maryland.

SAMUEL CHASE.

Samuel Chase was born on the 17th day of April, 1741, in Somerset county, Md. Mr. Chase was one of the five delegates to the first Continental Congress, in 1774, appointed by a convention of the people of Maryland. He was also appointed by the same meeting one of the "Committee of Correspondence" for that colony. He continued a member of Congress until 1778, and was almost constantly employed in the duties of most important committees.

THOMAS STONE.

A native of Maryland and delegate to the Continental Congress, he performed his duties according to the instruction of his State. He was several years in Congress, and died in the forty-fifth year of his age.

WM. PACA.

This patriot was one of the four Maryland delegates. He was a man of education and thought. He was an ardent advocate of the Continental Congress, and afterward of the Declaration, although his State was slow to indorse these measures. After the war he held important offices in his State.

CHARLES CARROLL.

One of the foremost of the Revolutionary leaders in Maryland was the subject of this notice. He was a lawyer by profession, and was particularly distinguished as a political writer. He performed important service before the meeting of the Congress of '76. When his State removed the prohibition forbidding her members to vote for independence, he was elected a delegate to the Congress, with instructions to vote as the judgment of the delegates should dictate. Mr. Carroll proceeded to Philadelphia, where he arrived on the 8th of July, too late to vote for the Declaration of Independence, but in ample time to affix his signature to the parchment.

Virginia.

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Richard Henry Lee was born in the county of Westmoreland, Va., on the 20th day of January, 1732, within a month of time and within a few miles' space of George Washington. He was educated in England, but his mind was early imbued with republican sentiments gathered from the annals of ancient history. His history in connection with the Revolution is too familiar to need repetition. He was one of the most sterling of patriots, and his name will live as such so long as history exists. On the 7th of June, 1776, he presented in Congress the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown; and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

The consideration of the resolution was made the special order of the day for the first Monday in July, and a committee, of which Thomas Jefferson was chairman, was appointed to draw up a Declaration of Independence. This document was presented to Congress on the 1st day of July, and, after several amendments made in committee of the whole, it was adopted on the 4th by the unanimous votes of the thirteen United Colonies.

THOMAS JEFFERSON.

American history represents few names to its students more attractive and distinguished than that of Thomas Jefferson, and rarely has a single individual, in civil station, acquired such an ascendency over the feelings and actions of people as was possessed by the subject of this brief memoir. It would be out of place to attempt to outline his history in this brief space, for nothing could be said that would not be familiar to every schoolboy.

He was elected a delegate to represent Virginia in the Continental Congress of 1775, and for several years he was one of the most efficient members of that body. He soon became distinguished among the men of talent there, although comparatively young; and when, in the succeeding year, a committee was appointed to draft a Declaration of Independence, he was chosen one of the members. Although the youngest member of the committee, he was appointed the chairman, and was requested by the others to draw up the instrument, which he did, and his draft was adopted on the 4th of July, 1776. This instrument forms an everlasting monument to his memory, and gives, by far, a wider range to the fame of his talents and patriotism than eloquent panegyric or sculptured epitaph.

GEORGE WYTHE,

a Chancellor of Virginia, and friend of his country, died June 8, 1806, aged eighty. He was born in the county of Elizabeth, in 1725, and was sent to Congress in 1775, where he signed the Declaration of Independence. After a short illness he died. It was supposed that he was poisoned.

BENJAMIN HARRISON,

a Governor of Virginia, died April, 1791. In 1774 he became a member of Congress, and was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. In 1777 he resigned his seat. He was afterward a member of the convention for adopting the Constitution of the United States.

THOMAS NELSON, JR.,

a Governor of Virginia, died Jan. 4, 1789, aged fifty. He was born at York, and at the age of fourteen was sent to England to be educated. He returned in 1761, and was sent to Congress in 1775. In the next year he signed the Declaration of Independence. He was appointed Brigadier General, and was at the capture of Yorktown.

FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE,

a statesman of Virginia, was born Oct. 14, 1734. In 1775 he was elected member of Congress, in which body he continued till the spring 1779. He was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, but seldom took part in the public discussions.

CARTER BRAXTON,

a member of Congress in 1776, and signer of the Declaration of Independence, died Oct. 10, 1797, aged sixty-one.

North Carolina.

WILLIAM HOOPER,

a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was sent to Congress in 1774. His private affairs induced him to resign his place in February, 1777. He died October, 1790, aged forty-eight.

JOSEPH HEWES,

a Quaker, was born in 1730, in New Jersey, but settled in North Carolina. In 1774 he was sent to Congress, and remained there, with the exception of a year, till his death at Philadelphia, November 10, 1779, aged forty-nine. He was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

JOHN PENN,

a lawyer, was born in Virginia, May 17, 1741, and died in September, 1788, aged forty-seven. In 1774 he removed to North Carolina. Being a member of Congress from 1775 to 1779, he signed the Declaration of Independence.

South Carolina.

EDWARD RUTLEDGE.

Edward Rutledge was of Irish descent. His father, Dr. John Rutledge, emigrated from Ireland to America in 1735, and settled at Charleston, South Carolina. When but twenty-five he was elected to the first Congress, and was present at the opening, September 5, 1774. Partly on account of ill health, and partly because of the disturbed condition of his State, he withdrew from Congress in 1777, but was returned again in 1779. In the interval he was actively engaged at home in measures for the defense of the State and to repeal invasion.

THOMAS HAYWARD, JR.

Thomas Hayward was born in St. Luke's parish, South Carolina, in the year 1746.

In 1775 Mr. Hayward was chosen a delegate to the General Congress. He remained in Congress until 1778, when he accepted the appointment of Judge of the Criminal and Civil Courts of South Carolina.

ARTHUR MIDDLETON.

This gentleman held an important position in his State, where his influence was considerable in shaping the public sentiment of the people. In the winter of 1776 Mr. Middleton was elected by the Provincial Legislature a delegate to the General Congress at Philadelphia.

Mr. Middleton continued a member of Congress until the close of 1777, when he returned to South Carolina. In 1778 the Assembly adopted a State Constitution, and Arthur Middleton was elected first Governor under it. Doubting the legality of the proceedings of the Assembly in framing the Constitution, he declined the acceptance of the appointment.

THOMAS LYNCH, JR.,

a Captain in the 1st South Carolina Regiment, was born August 5, 1749, at Prince George's Parish, S. C. He went to Congress in 1776, and signed the Declaration of Independence. In 1779 he was lost at sea, being twenty-eight years of age.

Georgia.

BUTTON GWINNETT.

This old veteran of 1776 was another native-born Englishman, who emigrated to this country in the year 1770 at the age of thirty-eight. Mr. Gwinnett was a firm defender of the colonies against the tyranny of Great Britain, yet he at some particular times felt doubts as to the success of the colonies against the mother country. He, however, did not live to an old age, having been mortally wounded in a duel with a Col. McIntosh, whom he had looked upon as a rival and personal enemy.

LYMAN HALL,

a true American, was born in 1721 in Connecticut. He received his education at Yale College, from which he graduated after four years' study. He died in the year 1874, at the age of sixty-three, greatly beloved and widely lamented.

GEORGE WALTON.

George Walton was born in Virginia in 1740. During the time when the Colonies were in a blaze respecting the various acts of the British Parliament which invaded colonial rights, he was among the patriots who stood firm for their privileges. Mr. Walton was favorable to the proposition for independence, and he used all his influence to bring about that result. He voted for and signed the Declaration of Independence, and the fortune and honor he there pledged were freely devoted to its support. He lived to enjoy the benefits reaped from our independence for a considerable number of years, dying at the age of sixty-four, in 1804.

Two Classes of Conversers.

Around and above all other distinctions, there are two great classes of conversers: those who make you feel that you are of some account in the world, and those who have a subtle way of convincing you that you have no right to exist. The latter class is small in number, but what they lack in quantity they make up in sting. Sometimes they are gifted with a sharp tongue and an unerring faculty of saying the most grinding things. Sometimes they are apparently suave and considerate in manner and phrase. But, in either case, you go away from them with a feeling that the world is stuffed with sawdust, that you yourself are an imbecile and an impostor. It may take days for you to recover your proper standing with yourself. Then, if you ask your soul what fatal gift has the tormentor, which carries with it this power of making his fellow-mortals miserable, you discover that it is the gift of selfishness. The person to whom you have been talking is ungenerous. A generous man, a generous woman—you cannot come near such an one without receiving something that makes amends for your own disappointment with, your own ill opinion of, yourself. An ungenerous person adds the weight of another to your side of the scales, and down you go!—*The Old Cabinet; Scribner for July.*

A TURKISH EXECUTION.

Punishing the Salonica Assassins—Six Men Hanged.

A correspondent of the London *Times* gives the following account of the execution of some of the men who took part in the assassination of the French and German Consuls at Salonica:

"The Sultan ordered the offenders to be punished within eight days, and yesterday (10th), early in the afternoon, the troops were observed to be assembling in a large clear space on the quay, close to the water's edge, and nearly opposite the main street of the town, which terminates, as it were, at the landing place, and in a little while individuals were seen to be putting up eight erections, which soon assumed the form of gibbets. After the arrangements were complete, a boat from the Turkish man-of-war came on shore, bearing prisoners who had been condemned by the court a few hours before. These unfortunate wretches were allowed to say a short prayer each, after being marched to their respective gibbets in full view of the ship's officers. When that prayer was over each had to stand on a chair which was borrowed from the adjacent cafe for the occasion, and as soon as the rope was adjusted the chair was kicked away from them, letting them drop only that height. As they cannot get Turks to take the part of executioners, they have to catch Gypsies and Albanians from the neighborhood two or three days beforehand, and make them do it with the option of losing their own lives in case of refusal. Yesterday the Mohammedan priest who was present told each prisoner he was dying a martyr to his religion, and one of them (a negro) would not allow himself to be polluted by the touch of an Albanian, but got on the chair, adjusted the rope, and kicked the chair away himself. This ends this part of the business. The court-martial is over, and six culprits have suffered for the murder; but it is a great mistake to suppose that much impression will be made upon the Turks by hanging a few wretches who belong to the very lowest class of society, which class produces the majority of murderers, thieves, and other criminals in ordinary times, members of which are constantly undergoing the same punishment as was inflicted yesterday, which, by the way, hardly attracted any one beyond the usual spectators on such occasions. Of course, it was well known that the men who suffered yesterday were only tools of others in a higher position. The people only smiled when they saw who were the victims, and it was remarked in Turkish and overheard, that Turkey would be the gainer if a hundred such as these were sent out of the world. No. In order to produce an impression they must search out the instigators and get hold of a few of the gentlemen who are called Bey or Effendi. By executing one or two of them in the midst of the town, instead of at the common place for hanging criminals, they may instill a little terror into the souls of these fanatics, who, we may now be sure, will only await another opportunity for carrying out whatever designs they harbor."

A Terrible Adventure.

Friday night a special dance was in progress at Brunson's ranch, in the lower end of the county, and after the dancing had got well under way two young men, named Tom Adams and Joe Russian, started out, intending to visit a neighboring saloon for the purpose of procuring cigars. The night was unusually dark—absolutely nothing being discernible a foot distant. Consequently the two men proceeded slowly, trusting to their knowledge of the locality to carry them in the direction they wished to take. Suddenly, and without the least warning whatever, their feet slipped from under them, and the next instant they felt themselves plunged downward neck deep in slum and water. They had fallen into an old shaft, dropping at least forty feet from the edge. Fortunately, both landed on their feet, and the mud at the bottom prevented them from being bruised in the fall. A new danger, however, immediately presented itself, namely, in the quicksand. Both made desperate efforts to keep their heads above the water, but in doing so nearly suffocated from immersion. Adams at last caught hold of a projection on the side of the shaft, and, although possessing but one arm, succeeded in holding on until Russian climbed over him and reached the mouth of the shaft. Russian then called for help, and the party at Brunson's was soon on the spot. No ropes were procurable, and something had to be done immediately to save Adams from death in the bottom of the pit. Men think very rapidly in cases of imminent danger, and one of the crowd around the top of the shaft proposed that the most muscular form themselves into a chain and drop into the shaft. This was acted upon at once. The heaviest man was held by one arm by several men at the mouth of the shaft, and a second man sliding into the shaft clinging to his waist. A third man did likewise, grasping the second man's waist, and each successive link in the human chain did likewise until the bottom was reached, and Adams dragged from his awful predicament. Through the mutual assistance of Adams himself and his friends he managed to reach the top, completely exhausted, as were his brave rescuers. It was indeed a narrow escape for both young men from a horrible death, and a creditable action on the part of those who undertook in this novel and dangerous manner to rescue Adams.—*Sonoma (Cal.) Democrat.*

Literary Study.

In speaking of the study of literature, the *Westminster Review* remarks that "to read a few great authors, and from them to work outward to their surroundings and see the relations in which they stood to the time, is far better than the reverse principal of first flooding the mind with names of writers and their works, each ticketed with a slap-dash judgment."

A CLERGYMAN was "turned down" at a fashionable spelling-bee for spelling drunkenness with one "n." Shortly afterward he returned to his parish, and found himself very coldly received by his parishioners. He sent for the parish clerk and asked him what was the cause. "Well, sir," replied the man, "a report has come down here that you was turned out of a great lady's house in London for drunkenness."

SUNDAY.

Don't worry and bother just now, I implore;
Pay troubled attention, as you plainly can see;
I'm off on a visit to her I adore—
No, thanks, I can't stop to indulge in my tea.
What's tea to a lover? What? just upon five?
Good gracious! I haven't a minute to lose;
I had I must really be "looking a live,"
This hurry and bustle I beg you'll excuse—
The time's getting on, and I'm quite in a fix—
I've promised to see my enslaver at six.

Oh, give me my gloves and my Sunday cravat;
What collars! they've only been rinsed through the "suds."
Oh, where's my malacca? and where is my hat?
And where upon earth is my best set of studs?
Oh, what will she think if I cause her to wait!
(The pet, with her ringlets so daintily curled!)
My love for the angel will never abate;
I wouldn't be after my time for the world.
By Jove, I must hurry and worry "like bricks,"
If I wish to put in an appearance at six.

Confound it! now there goes a button, of course—
It's hard for a civilized being to bear;
I'd strangle that laundress with little remorse;
My shirt front's enough to make any one swear.
How cruel! my best "patent-leathers" too tight.
That snob is a stupid, ridiculous ass.
I'm certain she'll think me a hideous fright;
I haven't the courage to look in the glass.
Oh, Fortune, you're playing me cowardly tricks;
You *know* that I've got an appointment at six!

Wit and Humor.

WHY is an old maid like a dried orange? Because neither of them is worth a good squeeze.

WE suppose there can be no disputing the fact that the first *Arktic* expedition was got up by Noah.

THE crystalized kisses of young maidens if exposed for sale would be labelled "*lasses* candy."—*Bath Times.*

HOW is it proved that Adam was orthodox in his sentiments? Because his belief was undoubtedly Eve-angelical.

TRUE love can no more be diminished by showers of evil-hap, than flowers are marred by timely rains.—*Sir P. Sidney.*

A WESTERN editor having published a long leader on hogs, a rival paper in the same village upbraids him for protruding his family matter upon the public.

EMERSON said in a recent lecture, in Boston, that the art of writing was the greatest permitted to man. We suppose this is the reason why so few are great in it.

"I WILL lay you a wager," said Bouncer, "that I will shoot more crows today than you!"—"Oh, yes," replied the companion, "you always beat me at *crowing.*"

IN a discussion in the Connecticut Legislative Agricultural Club, last year, a wag recommended the farmers to put snuff on their corn, so as to make the crows sneeze, and then to shoot the sneezing ones as the rogues.

TOM—"Don't you think some werses would touch her, Charley—a beautiful pome?" Charley—"Oh, hang your werses, Tom. If you want to enjoy life, drop poetry and the gals altogether, and jine a fire-company."

IN a suburban school a teacher gave out the word "psalter" to a class in spelling. It was a "poser" to all till it reached the foot of the class, when a curly-headed little fellow spelt it correctly, and on being asked to define it, shouted out, "More salt."

A FORTUNE-HUNTER, being in a ballroom, heard a gentleman give an account of the death of a rich old widow. "Died yesterday, in her eighty-ninth year," said the narrator. "What a pity!" exclaimed the fortune-hunter, "what a fine match she would have made two days ago!"

A HARVARD student, born with too much genius to look after details, sings the following lament:

Broke, broke, broke;
I have squandered the uttermost son,
And have failed in an effort to utter,
One trivial, last I O U.
O well for the infant in arms
That for ducats he need not fret;
O well for the placid corpse
That he's settled his final debt.

LAST week a "straw" fiend was going through a train on the Illinois Midland railway, with a pencil and note book, taking the vote for President, when the car he was in jumped the track, and he was thrown into the wood-box, and an axe, five lamps and a stove banged in on top of him, and when they took him out there wasn't a whole bone in his body and he never will know how the vote on that train stood. Let not this terrible warning be thrown away.

A RAGGED and uncouth alms-asker (says the Detroit *Free Press*) was begging of pedestrians on Michigan avenue, yesterday, when a policeman asked him why he didn't go to the County House. "I go to the Poor House!" exclaimed the old man. "Why, yes. It would be much better than begging." "You keep away from me, sir!" growled the vagrant. "A man who will deliberately advise me to degrade my character and stain my honor is an unsafe officer, and I will have you broken, sir!"

Washington Knocked Down.

In 1754, Washington, then in command of the Virginia Rangers at Alexandria, awaiting the arrival of Gen. Braddock's troops, supported Mr. Fairfax in an election contest for the House of Burgesses, against Mr., afterward Colonel, William Payne of the Continental army. This seems to have been one of those rare occasions when Washington's hot blood got the better of his peerless judgment. Fierce words passed between the two gentlemen in the market square of Alexandria, ending by an outburst of rage from Payne, in which he felled Washington to the earth. The rangers rushed from their barracks and surrounded Payne, but Washington, with calm dignity, dispersed them. A duel seemed inevitable. On the following day, however, Washington sent for Payne, and, extending his hand, said, with a gentle courtesy that touched the other to the heart: "Mr. Payne, to err is human. I was wrong yesterday; but if you have had sufficient satisfaction, let us be friends." Until the day of his death Col. Payne retained for Washington a devoted and unbroken regard.—"*A Little Centennial Lady;" Scribner for July.*

There's Farming for You!

What do you think of an unbroken furrow six miles long? That's what you can see any day by going to Elm river, where Messrs. Dalrymple and Grandin are breaking prairie. The teams start in the morning and make one round across the entire township and back (twelve miles) before dinner, and the same in the afternoon—twenty-four miles' travel for each team every day. All for wheat next year.—*Fargo (Cal.) Times.*