Wm. Rauchin


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## Miscellaneous Selections.

### MY SPARROWS.

"To catch sparrows, sprinkle salt on their tails."
—*Nursery Lore.*

BY KATE HILLARD.

I.

From a dingy garden-bower,—
Child, pent up in smoky town,—
Watched I many a patient hour
For the sparrows gray and brown.
Sprinkling salt on a tail-feather
Was to be my charm of might;
But the salt and I together
Failed to stay their sudden flight.

Had I caught that wished-for sparrow
(*Now*, I say in wisdom's words),
Still my triumph had been narrow,—
Sparrows are but homely birds.
Dull of plumage with no glitter
On their breasts of dingy gray;
And their voice a restless twitter;
I am glad they flew away!

For my fancy now beholds them
With the flames of Paradise,
And my eager clutch enfolds them
Glitt'ring with a thousand dyes.
Love, himself might gem his arrows
With a feather from their breast;
Philomel learn from those sparrows
Songs she never has possessed.

II.

Now grown old, my other sparrows
Still I lay my bulk the arrow;
And though Fancy's kingdom narrows,
Hope, unchanged, my vision shares.
Love, Ambition, Wealth, and Learning
Hop about my garden rails;
And I feel the same old yearning,
And creep up to salt their tails.

Off they fly! but all unheeding,
I console myself with this:
'Tis th'thing we don't succeed in
Seems to us the truest bliss.
When we're caught our bright ideal,
We have spoiled its painted wings,
And the broad glare of the real
Shows the shabbiness of things.

Still, while restless Fancy lingers,
Pulling at my idle sails,
Hope and I will find our fingers
Sprinkling salt for sparrows' tails.
Sorry work! would make of living,
Did the future promise naught;
And—I say it with thanksgiving—
All my sparrows are not caught!
—*Atlantic for March.*

### MOTHER RUE'S CASHMERE SHAWL.

"Bless your soul! how air ye, Miss Sovereign?" said a bent, wizened old woman, accosting a lady who was giving some orders in a store. "I should hev knowed ye if I'd met you in the New Jerusalum: you ain't a day older'n you was a dozen year ago." The old woman wore a rusty alpaca, and a tattered wooten shawl that did service at the same time for a bonnet.

"I really—I beg your pardon," murmured Mrs. Sovereign, smiling apologetically upon the poor old face, and trying to bring to mind all the old women she had ever met. "Is it Mrs. Rue?"

"Bless your eyes! I knew you wouldn't forget an old neighbor—when I made your wedding-cake, too! Now there's many a fine lady like you would hev jest made as if she'd never sot eyes on sich a shabby old body as me; but you never wus proud. Lor sakes! I wish I hed my teeth in! I jest thought of it. I'd 'a put 'em in if I'd knowed I was going fur ter see you; but, ye see, I thought there'd be nobody here ter take a grain of notice of me. That's jest the way—go without a thing, and you're sure ter wish ye hed it; keep on your old gown, and company's certain ter call!"

"You've grown into a philosopher since we met," said Mrs. Sovereign.

"Like as not," answered Mrs. Rue, whose notions of philosophy were rather hazy. "But, you see, I wus allus one of them folks as set a sight by appearances—mere's the pity! And 'cause teeth, I got 'em by way of a slant; and somehow or other when I don't hev 'em in, the root of my mouth seems ter go clear up ter the top of my head. You see, there wus a young fellow as wus a dentist—a sort of peddling dentist—and he wus took down with the small-pox and nobody ter look after him but them as was scared ter death of it; but as it wa'n't no great account ter me anyway, and I couldn't be much worse off in t'other place, if I died of it, than with 'Liza Ann, why, I jest up and nursed him clean through with it; and when he got well, says he,

"'What shall I do fur you fur all you've done in my behalf?' And says I,

"'Nothing whatsomever. I wus only curious to know if I'd be liable to the disease.'

"'Nonsense,' says he; 'I want to pay yer in some way.' And as he wusn't forehanded, and I knowed how ter feel fur them as wasn't, and as it wus all in his line, I said,

"'Well, if you're bent on it, make me a set of teeth.' And I'm awful sorry I ain't got 'em in."

"Indeed, you deserved them," returned Mrs. Sovereign. "But don't concern yourself about it; I shouldn't know that you were without them if you had not told me."

"Oh yes, you would, begging your pardon, if you wus onst ter see them in."

"You are dropping a piece of steak from your paper," observed Mrs. Sovereign.

"Lor! I wouldn't mind losing the whole of it, I'm that glad at seeing you, only 'Liza Ann would raise sich a rumpus; she wouldn't take no excuses; and it couldn't be made up ter her noway! I s'pose she's a-scolding now, 'cause I ain't at home frying this 'ere; but I left the table all sot, and the water a-biling fur the tea."

"And who is 'Liza Ann?"

"Goodness! I thought everybody knew 'Liza Ann—leastways, she thinks they do. Why, she's my Tom's widder; an' he left word on his dying-bed that she wus ter pervide fur me as long as I lived, and I sometimes think she's a-tryin to see how soon she can git rid of me."

"And do you still live in Joy's Court?" pursued Mrs. Sovereign.

"Sakes alive! didn't you know that we'd left that there these ten year? I s'posed that wus town talk. I wish ter goodness I hed my teeth in, and I'd walk along with you a bit, ter hev a little chat, and not keep you a-waiting."

"Oh, never mind your teeth." Another woman might have hinted that she had her tongue left.

"Now that's downright Christian in you. I take it, 'Liza Ann herself wouldn't be seen out-doors with me in this old gown; and it wa'n't but yesterday as I met Miss Deacon Merit, and stopped ter ask after the deacon's numb-palsy, and she jest makes as though she wusn't looking my way, and walks straight on. I tell ye what, Miss Sovereign, if ye want ter find out the natur' of folks, what virtues they're made of, and what air hung onto 'em like their clothes, jest lose your worldly prosperity and your good looks, and wear out your store clothes. But that Cashmere shawl is ter blame fur it all—plague take it!"

"What do you mean?" asked Mrs. Sovereign.

"Oh, like as not you never see me wear it. I never hed it on my back more'n twice. I felt as if I wus carrying of Christian's burden every time I put it on. 'Liza Ann don't know I've got it—she'd take it away if she did. I keeps it sewed up in a towel in my straw bed—there wa'n't nowhere else out of the way of 'Liza Ann's prying eyes. I can't bear the sight of that shawl; it makes my eyes smart to look at it, and the tears jest come of their own accord. Sometimes I've bin half a mind to sell it; but, sakes alive! you can't never git the vally of a thing like that!"

"And how much did you give for it?" asked her listener.

"A hundred dollars!—silver ones! It blisters my tongue ter tell it! A hundred dollars, if I'm a sinner; and I've worn it twice, and hed more wretchedness out of it than there air threads wove into it!"

"Oh! oh!" sighed Mrs. Sovereign, wondering if her companion was in her right mind.

"Yes, I hev. Sometimes I've thought if I could git a hundred dollars fur it again—though, of course, I couldn't—it would be jest enough ter take me into the Old Ladies' Home—that's one of my castles in the air—so't I'd be out of 'Liza Ann's reach. I've thought maybe the grave couldn't be so hard if 'Liza Ann wusn't there too!"

"Dear, dear! But you were telling me about the shawl?"

"Lor, yes! I've got a habit of wandering onto me like my old grandmother. She'd begin a-telling how the children got the measles, and she'd let ye into the private history of half the family by the way, and wind up, like as not, with a fortin somebody was expecting from Angland. Wa'al, I dunno as you remember the widder Niles's son that went a-voyaging to the world's end? They do say how that he wus rich as Croysus, but she never got no more'n his cheest after he wus lost overboard. You see she wus expecting of him home, and his cheest came instead. Wa'al, Miss Niles, she didn't so much as open it fur six months; and then she found this 'ere shawl in it, which I s'pose he wus a-bringing home ter her. I sometimes wish she never *hed* opened it! Howsomever, the minute I clapped my eyes on the shawl I wus covetous of it, and I never rested till I got it. I thought it wus the most beautifulest thing I'd ever sot eyes on. It looked as if it wus all made of rubies and precious stones, and it wus most all border, saving a bit of scarlet about as big as a bandana handkerchief! Now, you see, I never owned a shawl but this 'ere robroy that I've got on; and though it wa'nt so nigh used up as it is now, it hed lost considerable of its bloom; and so, one day, when Miss Niles dropped in, and said she hedn't no heart fur nothing sence Jamek's death, and she shouldn't never wear nothing but black clothes the rest of her life, and how her only desire now wus ter go out ter Indy fur a missionary, and if she could raise a hundred dollars on that Cashmere shawl, 'twould help pay her way, and after that the Board would take care of her, it seemed a sort of pious duty ter help her out, if she felt a call. Leastways, it wus one of the biggest temptations that ever beset a poor vain mortal. We wus a-buying back the house in Joy's Court at that time—fur, ye see, my husband's name hed bin on Mr. Grew's paper, and what did he do but up and fail, and obleege us to mortgage the house! Wa'al, I said it then, and I say it now, that it ain't proper fur a man ter put his name ter another man's paper, and leave his family out in the cold—not that I blames John half so much as myself, fur he did it jest ter obleege, and I bought the shawl only ter please myself! We wus trying ter git through ter gither, you understand, ter pay off the mortgage, and some years we couldn't do no better than ter pay the interest. I worked amazing hard. I took old Miss Lamson ter board—and a heap of trouble she was, poor soul, with her rheumatics and the doleureux; and she had ter hev skeleton jelly made fur her, and lastly she hed ter be fed; and it wan't no fool of a job—she wus a powerful eater! But I never give her a hasty word, nor a wry look; and I treated her as handsome as if she'd bin my own mother, or the fust lady in the land. You see, the town paid fur her board—and a mighty small one it wus, but it helped; and after she'd gone home I hed more time, and I took in needlework, and I'd raked and scraped a hundred and some odd dollars tergither—my John he'd bin laid up with the rheumatic fever, and hedn't got nothing aforehand that year—and I was going ter pay it down that very next Monday, when Miss Niles and the shawl they come in a Saturday.

"I hed a great struggle with myself fust. It kep' me a-turning and twisting all night a-making up of my mind. I hankered after that shawl like all possessed, till it seemed as if I couldn't be happy without it noway, though I knowed I'd no business with anything so grand. But all the neighbors hed hed new shawls that fall, even Miss Grew—lor! they rides in their carriage ter-day, and goes about cracking in their silks, as if falling and bringing honest folks inter poverty wa'n't a crying sin!—and I thought this one would be crazy with envy when she saw me sail out in my new Cashmere, and the other one and her Bay State would be cast inter the shade. So, without onst thinking that I hedn't nothing, like gowns and fixings, ter correspond, I jest paid Miss Niles the money, and carried my shawl up stairs. Wa'al, she wa'n't no sooner out of the house than I'd give a farm not ter hev bought it; but I wus too proud ter call her back, and I've allus hed her heavy on my mind, as well as the shawl; for, you know, she wus lost a-going ter Indy, and I somehow felt sort of responsible—seeing, too, as she wus the niece of their minister. Wa'al, John he didn't know I hed the hundred dollars—I'd kep' it fur a surprise—and now I couldn't make up my mind to tell him about the shawl. So when it came Sunday I put it on with my old delaine, and my rough-and-ready straw bonnet, and sneaked down the back stairs ter meeting without saying a word ter him—he hedn't got able ter be out himself—and I felt so horrid mean about it that when Miss Jenkins said, 'What a splendid new shawl you're a-wearing of!' it didn't give me the leastest quiver of pleasure as ever wus; nor when Miss Grimukin said, 'It really don't seem worth while ter hev such a dressy shawl ter wear about here, where there's nobody to see—now, does it?' nor when Miss Little declared, 'There wasn't nothing like a shawl ter cover up your old gowns, and make ye look respectable!' though I knew it wus all spite and jealousy that made their words stinging. I've come ter think I'd rather hev my neighbors good-natured than envious as I git along in years. I wa'n't half so comfortable in my Cashmere as I'd bin in the old robroy; and after I wore it twice I took sich a dialking ter it that I jest hid it away, and went back ter the robroy. But I allus felt as if the Cashmere hed crippled us. You see, we allus has ter pay fur our luxuries, even after we've got tired of 'em. Money wus harder ter git after that, or perhaps I'd misused my opportunity and didn't desarve another. Howsomever, Mr. Doubleday, who held the mortgage, died, and his son foreclosed, and turned us out o' house and home! After that there wusn't much ter hinder us from going down hill pretty lively. John he lost courage, and wus gitting weakly; the children died one after another, except Tom, and 'Liza Ann she worrited the life out of *him* in time; and so here I am, an old woman, with naught in the world but a set of teeth and that there Cashmere shawl. You see, if I hed paid the money onto the mortgage, it would hev give John a lift, and put some spirit inter him—fur work never seems so light as when you're gitting ahead—and then maybe I shouldn't hev hed retribution a-follering of me round all my days in the shape of 'Liza Ann a-twitting me of being a burden and a millstone around the neck of she and the children; though, goodness knows, I slave well fur all I git—what with being up at five o' mornings, making pies, and frying of griddle-cakes, and standing at the wash-tub, till my feet were that numb they wouldn't bear me! But it ain't no use. You may do ninety-nine things fur some folks, and if you don't do the hundredth, ye might as well let it all alone; and 'Liza Ann's one on 'em; though I won't want ter be complaining, only a pot must bile over onst in a while, onless the fire goes out; and you're an old friend, so't I've made free ter tell ye about the shawl. A body must speak now and agin about what's worrying 'em, and there's no sympathy in 'Liza Ann more'n a tommyhawk!"

"And did you never speak to your husband about the shawl?" asked Mrs. Sovereign.

"Bless you, yes; and he said as how it wouldn't kev made no difference noway; Doubleday'd hev foreclosed, and the house and money'd hev gone together. He wus allus thatsensoling, John wus. But I've thought if anybody could feel as how the shawl wus worth a hundred dollars or less, it might, as I said, pay my way inter the Old Ladies' Home, out of 'Liza Ann's reach, for I'm sot agin being a burden or a millstone ter anybody."

"I should like to see the shawl," said her friend; "if you will bring it to my mother's house to-morrow, I will see what can be done."

"I'll come, rain or shine. I've bothered you with an awful long yarn, but if it wa'n't fur 'Liza Ann—gracious! there she is at the door now a looking fur me, and a whole thunder-storm in her face! Good day, and thanks!" and the little old woman hobbled off, up a muddy lane.

True to her word, Mrs. Rue appeared next day with the shawl.

"It is as good as new," she said, unfolding it.

"Quite," returned Mrs. Sovereign, exchanging glances with her mother. "It's a pity that you couldn't have sold it before, and had the money at interest all this time!"

"'Liza Ann wouldn't hev heered ter its staying there!"

"But how much do you think it is worth?" asked Mrs. Sovereign, with an amused smile.

"Lor sakes! if I could git twenty-five dollars, I should thank my born stars!"

"Well, I was looking at shawls of this kind in New York last week, and the price was—two thousand dollars!"

"Now don't! you're jest a-joking of me! Who ever heerd tell of a Cashmere shawl costing sich a power of money!"

"It's a very good joke, isn't it? But it's true, all the same. You see, it's an India Cashmere; you thought it was French, I suppose; so perhaps did Mrs. Niles. But as she set her own price, and has left no heirs, there will be no trouble. My husband is going to give me an India shawl. If you are willing, I will take this, and pay you two thousand dollars!"

"My!" cried the poor woman, with tears in her eyes. "It's the hist time I've wished John alive agin in this 'ere world of worlds! If he only knew! Miss Sovereign, the Lord must hev sent you a-purpose ter take me out of 'Liza Ann's reach! I don't hev no need ter be under obligation ter the Old Ladies' Home neither, fur I can hire a room, and keep house all ter myself, and hev folks ter tea sociable; and what's more, I shall hev something ter leave the children, ter pay 'em fur being a burden and a millstone 'bout their necks! I wish my John was here ter thank you!"—*Harper's Bazar.*

### The Value of Beauty.

At a recent agricultural meeting in Pennsylvania it was discussed whether it was worth while, from a monetary point of view, to ornament farm grounds. It is remarkable that, of the great number of things discussed, no question seemed so very interesting. One would think that such a subject needed no discussion; but when we drive through the country and see so many farmhouses not only without beauty, but absolutely without comfort—and even in defiance of all beauty, as if cheerless, miserable condition were actually preferable—it is clear that the question was not at all a pointless one.

One speaker at that meeting put the matter in a practical light in this way: If, he asked, we are buying apples in the market, and have two samples before us—both large, both of equally excellent flavor, both, in fact, precisely the same in every respect, except that one is of a green, uninviting tint, and the other red and rosy—which do we take? Indeed, there is in every breast a love of beauty, and in many respects it is all we live for. We like this world because it is beautiful; because the flowers bloom, the trees grow, and the birds sing; because our eyes, ears and all our senses are pleased; and because it is beauty that lends more than any other element those charms of life which so delight us; and, whether we are conscious of it or not, it enters largely in all our calculations as to what we shall buy and what we will own.

To make our homes beautiful should be the one object of our lives. The mere making money is all very well. It is indeed one of the virtues. He who is willing to work, and is anxious to make and to save money by his hard labor, may have vices; but he is seldom so coarsely bad as the shiftless spendthrift who, while ridiculing the saving habits of parents or friends, is yet willing to borrow from or spend money for them. But too often these praiseworthy, frugal, and saving habits degenerate into a rule of life, and very little happiness or good in any shape results from the money made. A very little of these savings—a very little time spent on beautifying one's home—put a new phase on existence; and we really believe men would live an average of ten years more than they do if they were to say once in a while "begone dull care" in the mere matter of money-making, and devote a little time each day or so to making a sort of Eden of their home and the surroundings. But it is not so much of the mere pleasure that we would speak. There is actual money in beauty. As the speaker above said of a beautiful apple, so it is of a beautiful farm. As a general rule a place in which taste is exhibited, and everything is kept up in nice style, will bring double that of one in which misery and ruin rules complete. It is to be noted, however, that these pretty places are seldom for sale. Those who cultivate these tasteful habits with the view of selling their places in consequence of improving them, seem to thrive in every other way; and in time come to the conclusion that they can afford it, and may as well enjoy life in the midst of beautiful surroundings as to sell out for other people to enjoy. *The Press.*

### A Newspaper Office on Exhibition.

There are some things too sacred for public display, and among them may be classed the art and mystery of "getting up" a newspaper. It is announced, however, in a letter from Vienna, that at the International Exhibition now being organized in that city one of the great sights is to be the interior of a newspaper office, with editor, writers, reporters, printers and publishers at work, just as in ordinary life. The industrious journalists are to be shown in a huge glass building, like bees in a transparent hive. The editor will be seen giving out subjects, revising articles and exemplifying, with waste-paper basket at hand the well-known rule in respect to rejected communications. Writers will be on view at work of the most varied kind—some at leaders, others at reviews and a few even (if the character of Austrian journalism is to be rigorously maintained) at the incubation of canards. To complete the picture, a certain number of important visitors, anxious to obtain "favorable notices" or to reply to just but unpalatable criticisms, should be allowed to appear. It is to be hoped that the literary performers will be well up in their parts, that the editors will wear a becomingly grave aspect, and that the writers will no be seen pausing for lack of inspiration or refreshing their memories too frequently by turning to books of reference. Cobbett once expressed a desire to bring a the journalists of London together on Kennington Common, that newspaper readers might see by what sort of men they allowed themselves to be influenced. The writers of the *Neue Freie Presse* have probably never heard of Corbett's saying but not very intelligent sneer. They, at all events, are the heroic governmen who, with a love of publicity which proves that their hearts are in their profession, propose during the forthcoming Vienna Exhibition to do their literary and journalistic work in presence of as many thousands of sight-seers as can be got together from all parts of the world.—*N. Y. Independent.*

There is a bill before Congress to convert Mackinaw Island into a national park. This beautiful gem of the Lakes is situated in the straits between Lake Huron and Lake Michigan; in length it is about three miles, in width about two. It is one of the oldest settlements in the West; was discovered by the early French explorers two hundred years ago; was for a long time a famous fur depot; and is now a military post of the United States. It is one of the most truly beautiful and picturesque places in the country, and in recent years has become a place of resort for summer pleasure-seekers.

Those men are always best, noblest, and most harmonious, in whom is seen the reflected influence of elevated and refined women.

## General News Summary.

### Personal and Political.

The entire session of the House, on February 26, was devoted to the discussion of the resolution for the expulsion of Messrs. Brooks and Ames.

The Select Committee in the case of Senator Clayton of Arkansas, has reported that the charges are not sustained. The charges were that he had issued an illegal certificate of election to Congressman Edwards.

The House, on February 27, refused to pass the resolution of expulsion in the case of Messrs. Brooks and Ames, but substituted resolutions of censure, and then discharged the Select Committee from the further consideration of the subject.

The Select Committee of the Senate, on the Credit Mobilier, has submitted a report recommending the expulsion of Senator Patterson of New Hampshire.

The Senate continued in session on the evening of February 27, until 7:40, A.M., of February 28, and finally rejected the bill ordering a new election in Louisiana.

J. B. Stewart, the recusant Credit Mobilier witness, has been discharged from custody.

The House of Representatives has passed resolutions directing the impeachment of Judge Delahay, of Kansas, for habitual intoxication.

A Washington dispatch says that a warrant has been issued for the arrest of A. M. York of Kansas, for embezzlement, and that York has left the district to avoid service.

The Republican members of the Missouri State legislature have signed a memorial to Congress asking that the circumstances attending the recent election of Senator Bogy be investigated.

The Fusion Legislature, of Louisiana, has elected General McMillan Senator for the long term from that State.

A committee of the House has appeared at the bar of the Senate and demanded that that body consider articles of impeachment, to be hereafter filed against Judge Delahay, of Kansas.

Senator Pomeroy has been exonerated from the charge of bribery, by a majority report of the Committe of investigation.

### Crimes and Casualties.

A fire broke out in New Orleans, on the afternoon of February 27, which burned over nearly six squares, bounded by St. Claude, Dauphine and Mandeville Streets and Washington Avenue. About 200 houses and their contents were consumed. Loss $250,000.

A destructive fire occurred on the corner of Hanover and Blackstone Streets, Boston, Mass., on the morning of February 27. Two firemen were killed outright by falling walls, two are supposed to be fatally wounded, twelve more or less injured, and one missing. Two girls who were unable to escape from the burning building are supposed to be consumed. The pecuniary loss was $50,000.

Foster, the street-car murderer, has been reprieved by Governor Dix, of New York, until March 21. He fainted when the news was brought to him. A commutation of his sentence is now expected.

### Domestic Intelligence.

Gold, in New York, closed, March 4, at 115¼.

McEnery, the Fusion Governor of Louisiana, has issued his proclamation calling out the militia. The McEnery Legislature has passed a joint resolution directing McEnery to use the civil and military power of the State to reinstate the judges of the third, fourth, seventh and eighth district courts of the Parish of Orleans, on their benches, and to sustain them in the exercise of their judicial powers.

A San Francisco dispatch says that the Modocs are becoming destitute of clothes and provisions and are ready to make peace.

The contract for furnishing postal cards has been awarded to a Springfield, Mass., firm, at $1.38 7-8 per 1000. The contract is to run for four years.

The following is the comparative cotton statement for the week ending February 28:

| | Bales. |
|---|---|
| Receipts at all ports for the week | 104,266 |
| Same time last year | 74,459 |
| For the year | 2,706,584 |
| Last year | 2,265,823 |
| Exports for the week | 84,370 |
| Same time last year | 77,859 |
| For the year | 1,547,545 |
| Last year | 1,281,893 |
| Stock at all U. S. ports | 563,370 |
| Last year | 545,154 |
| At interior towns | 97,335 |
| Last year | 86,466 |
| At Liverpool | 525,000 |
| Last year | 624,000 |
| Afloat for Great Britain | 305,000 |
| Last year | 176,000 |

A public meeting was held in New Orleans, on the evening of February 28, at which resolutions condemnatory of the Kellogg Government, and denunciatory of the action of the United States Government were unanimously adopted.

The Senate extended the session, on the evening of March 1, until 4 o'clock Sunday morning, and then reassembled at 7 o'clock Sunday evening.

The following is the public debt statement, for March 1:

| | |
|---|---|
| Six per cent bonds | $1,339,245,700 |
| Five per cent bonds | 414,567,300 |
| Total coin bonds | $1,753,813,000 |
| Lawful money debt | 15,968,000 |
| Matured debt | 3,063,240 |
| Legal tender notes | 356,084,300 |
| Certificates of deposit | 27,770,000 |
| Fractional currency | 45,202,109 |
| Coin certificates | 24,024,989 |
| Total without interest | $ 47,292,29 |
| Total debt | 2,226,065,629 |
| Total interest | 29,616,755 |
| | 2,255,682,384 |
| Cash in treasury—coin | 65,930,782 |
| Currency | 4,600,902 |
| Special deposit held for redemption of certificates of deposit as provided by law | 27,770,000 |
| Total in Treasury | $ 98,301,684 |
| Debt less cash in treasury | 2,157,380,700 |
| Decrease during month | 5,277,880 |
| Bonds issued to Pacific R. R. Cos. | |
| Interest payable in lawful money, principal outstanding | 64,623,672 |
| Interest accumulated and not yet paid | 646,235 |
| Interest paid by United States | 1,560,580 |
| Interest repaid by transportation, mails, etc | 4,185,353 |
| Balance interest paid by U. S. | 14,221,927 |

At the last reports, at midnight, on March 3, the two Houses were at variance upon the salary question. The report of the Conference Committee was concurred in by the House. The following are the amounts decided on: President of the United States to receive $50,000; Vice President, $10,000; Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, $10,000; Justices of Supreme Court, $10,000; Cabinet officers, $10,000; Assistant Secretaries of Treasury, State, and Interior Departments, $6,000; Speaker of the House, (after the present Congress) $10,000; Senators, Representatives and Delegates, (including the present Congress) $7,500. This is to be in lieu of all pay and allowances except actual individual traveling expenses from their homes to the seat of government and return by the most direct route of usual travel for each session. The Senate, at latest accounts, had not concured in the report, and an all-night session appeared inevitable.

The peace commissioners have had a conference with the Modocs, and it is thought the war is over. It is believed that Capt. Jack has agreed to surrender to the military authorities, and to be removed with his tribe to a reservation in Arizona, the Indian Territory, or Southern California.

The 42d Congress closed its deliberations at 12 m., on March 4.

The Inauguration ceremonies passed off quietly. The procession was arranged in twelve divisions, formed on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue. At 10 o'clock the head of the column started, led by a squad of mounted policemen, and as each division was reached, it fell into line. So numerous were the participants that the line reached from the Capitol nearly to the White House. The streets were thronged along the route, and a great deal of enthusiasm was manifested. The appearance of the President on the platform was greeted with enthusiastic cheers, with bursts of music from the bands and applause from the various civic and military organizations, which filled the entire space in front of the Capitol. After the noise was hushed, the President and Chief Justice rose simultaneously, and the oath of office was recited, the conclusion of which was signalized by the booming of cannon, the ringing of bells and the shouts of the assembled multitude. After quiet had been restored, the inaugural address was read, after which the President was escorted to the White House, and the procession dispersed.

A New York dispatch says that a general strike of all mechanics will be inaugurated, in that city, in a few days, for the eight hour system, and an advance in wages. The Internationalists propose to take an active part in the strike.

Hicken and Campbell indulged in a prize fight at Collier station, W. Va., on March 4, lasting through twenty-four rounds. The fight broke up in a general row, but the referree decided the battle in favor of Hicken.

The Kellogg and the Pinch Legislatures of Louisiana have agreed upon a compromise.

### News from Abroad.

A revolution is expected to break out in Hayti. Port au Prince has already been placed in a state of siege.

It is rumored that Gen. Zuballo, a Carlist leader, is marching on Madrid with four batallions.

The Swiss Government has formally recognized the Spanish Republic.

Snow fell to a great depth, on February 28, in the north of France. Railways were blockaded and mails delayed.

The brother of Don Carlos, of Spain, has issued a proclamation in his behalf, calling on the soldiers of the regular army to join the Carlists. The latter claim that they have a total of 35,000 men in the field. Pampaluna is seriously threatened.

Efforts to settle the strike in South Wales have failed.

The Great Eastern has now on board 2,567 miles of cable, and the telegraph fleet, with additional cable, which is to be laid for the Anglo-American and French cable combination, on board, will sail the last week in May, and it is expected that the cable will be in working order before the first day of July. The cable will be laid to Halifax and thence to New York.

Preparations for the Khivan campaign are going on without interruption. The report that the expedition had been abandoned in consequence of the submission of Khiva has no foundation.

A Berlin dispatch says that the great powers of Europe have resolved to defer the recognition of the Spanish Republic for the present.

Immense frauds upon the Bank of England have just been unearthed, supposed to have been perpetrated by a gang of American swindlers. That institution cautions the public against negotiating certain 5-20 and 10-40 U. S. bonds, aggregating $220,000.

Rumors have reached Madrid of the disastrous defeat of government troops by the Carlists.

The *Messager d'Paris* publishes in an extra on the evening of March 4, dispatches, reporting that Marshal Serrano has been appointed dictator of Spain, and that the Republicans have suffered a severe defeat at the hands of the Carlists, near Irun.

### Congressional Proceedings.

In the Senate, on February 26, the House amendment to the Geneva Award bill was non-concurred in and a Committee of Conference ordered....A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Transportation Routes to inquire into the propriety of constructing a first-class, double-track railroad from the Atlantic seaboard to the Mississippi river, the same to be operated and controlled by the United States, and so managed as to cheapen transportation. The House bill to carry into effect the fishery clause of the Treaty of Washington was passed....The bill for the relief of certain federal officers in Chicago was passed....The bill to aid in the execution of the laws in Utah was taken up and discussed at length. An amendment was adopted providing for the election of two Commissioners by the Territorial Legislature, who, with the United States executive officers, should select juries for Utah Territorial Courts....The Select Committee to investigate the charges against Senator Clayton of Arkansas, submitted a report declaring that the charges were not sustained....At the Evening session a resolution was adopted directing the Committee on Judiciary to inquire whether the U. P. R. R. Co. will be entitled to land or bonds for any branch road it may hereafter construct.... The consideration of the Utah bill was resumed. An amendment was agreed to providing that, in Utah elections, ballots shall be numbered and the result announced immediately after the close of the polls. The bill then passed without further important amendments. Adjourned.

In the House, on February 26, the entire session was devoted to the report of the Select Committee on the Credit Mobilier. The first speech was made by Voorhees who made an elaborate argument against the expulsion of Mr. Brooks. Mr. Stevenson followed in support of the report of the Committee, which he stated had been extorted by unquestionable facts from a reluctant committee. Mr. Niblack, member of the Select Committee, then took the floor, and defended the report. He insisted that no partisan consideration had influenced the Committee. The question was outside of and beyond the range of party politics, relating not only to the integrity of the House, but affecting the honor of the Government. Mr. Bingham followed in opposition to the report, which he characterized as dictated by a howling mob, and whose recommendations he felt at liberty to disregard. Mr. Banks said the judgment of the Committee was sustained by the facts. He said it was not the case against Brooks and Ames that was important, but it was the demand of the people for a good Government that was at issue....At the Evening session the discussion was resumed. Mr. Butler then took up the defense of Mr. Ames, and raised the question of jurisdiction, insisting that, if the offense had been committed, the House had no constitutional or legal right to expel for a crime alleged against him five years ago. Mr. Shellabarger replied in a close and logical legal argument to the objections of Mr. Butler and others that the House had no right to expel for acts done before the election. Mr. Wilson, chairman of the Credit Mobilier Committee No. 2, argued against the report made from the Judiciary Committee, on Monday last, by Mr. Butler....regarded the conclusion arrived at in that report as pernicious and full of mischief. Mr. Goodrich, another dissenting member of the Judiciary Committee, expressed similar views. Mr. Eldredge then discussed the parliamentary question involved, maintaining the position assumed by the Judiciary Committee. Mr. Sargent offered a substitute for the pending resolutions, reciting that the offenses complained of occurred more than five years ago, and that grave doubts existed as to the power of the House to expel under such circumstances, and concluding with a resolution discharging the Select Committee from the further consideration of the subject. Without reaching a vote, the House adjourned.

In the Senate, on February 27, the credentials of R. J. Oglesby, Senator-elect from Illinois, were presented....A bill was reported to repeal so much of the law relating to the organization of the army as establishes distinctions to the providers of colored men....The House bill authorizing the construction of a railroad bridge across the Mississippi river at Carondelet, was reported without amendment....The calendar was laid on the table by unanimous consent and the bill providing for a new election in Louisiana taken up. A substitute was offered providing for forming a legislature out of the legally elected members of both bodies now claiming to be the Legislature of Louisiana, and authorizing the Legislature thus formed to count the returns of the last election, and declare who are the legally elected State officers. Mr. Carpenter briefly addressed the Senate in support of the bill reported by the majority of the Committee. Mr. Morton opposed the bill and advocated the report submitted by the minority. The question was debated at length until the recess....In the evening the discussion was resumed and continued without final action until the session closed, being interrupted only by the presentation of a report from the Senate Credit Mobilier Committee, recommending the expulsion of Senator Patterson....Adjourned.

In the House, on February 27, discussion was resumed on the report of the Select Committee on Credit Mobilier, and continued by Messrs. Bird, Holman, Wood and Potter against expulsion, and Mr. Speer in favor. At 11 o'clock Mr. Poland proceeded to close the debate and reply to the arguments made against the power of the House to expel for offenses committed before election. At the close of Judge Poland's remarks, Mr. Farnsworth moved to lay the whole subject on the table; lost by yeas 99, nays 104. The question then recurred on the resolutions offered by Mr. Sargent, condemning Messrs. Brooks and Ames instead of expelling them. These were adopted by yeas 115; nays 110. A resolution of censure upon the conduct of Mr. Ames was voted by yeas 121; nays 33, and a similar resolution upon the conduct of Mr. Brooks by yeas 111; nays 82. A resolution was offered censuring Mr. Kelley, which gave rise to an animated discussion lasting until the recess. In the evening the discussion was resumed and the resolution was laid on the table by yeas 112; nays 75. A resolution censuring Mr. Hooper for investing in Credit Mobilier stock was not considered by yeas 75; nays 108. Mr. Sargent then offered a resolution discharging the Select Committee on Credit Mobilier from further consideration of the subject; carried by yeas 114; nays 75.... Adjourned.

In the Senate, on February 28, the credentials of J. J. Patterson, Senator-elect from South Carolina, were presented. The report of the Committee of Conference on the bill to revise, amend and consolidate the judicial laws was concurred in. The House bill to authorize the Missouri Legislature exonerating Senator-elect Bogy from the charge of bribery was laid before the Senate.... Bills were passed amending the act authorizing honorably discharged soldiers and sailors to acquire homesteads on public lands; authorizing the use of third beer barrels and stamps....In the evening the Senate considered and amended the Civil Appropriation bill. The Rivers and Harbor appropriation bill was reported by the Committee on Commerce and discussed until 1:30 a. m., when, without final action, the Senate adjourned.

In the House, on February 28, the time for the continuance of the Southern Claims Commission was extended for four years....Resolutions were adopted for the impeachment of Judge Delahay, of Kansas, for habitual intoxication ....The rules were suspended, and the bill presented by the Wilson Credit Mobilier Committee in relation to the Union Pacific Railroad, on February 20, was allowed to be offered as an amendment to the Legislative Appropriation bill, by yeas 136; nays 13. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill....In the evening Mr. Maynard moved as a privileged question, the discharge of Joseph B. Stewart, the recusant witness in the Credit Mobilier investigation; agreed to....The Appropriation bill was further considered in Committee, and, after debate, the Wilson amendment above referred to, accepted....The Committee then rose and reported the bill to the House, which then proceeded to vote on the amendments in detail. The amendment increasing the salaries of the President, Cabinet officers, Supreme Court Judges and members of Congress was rejected by yeas 69; nays 121....Adjourned.

In the Senate, on March 1, the Committee on Public Buildings reported that none of the models offered for a statue of the late Admiral Farragut were worthy of the subject....The Sundry Civil Appropriation bill was taken up and amended....The joint resolution congratulatory to Spain was passed....The credentials of Senator-elect Mitchell, of Oregon, were presented and the oath of office administered. The vote by which the Louisiana bill was rejected was laid upon the table by yeas 29; nays 28....The Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill was taken up, and amendments to strike out all relating to salaries except the item fixing the President's salary at $50,000 was rejected. The Senate then voted to non-concur in the House amendments by yeas 21; nays 35, and a Committee of Conference was ordered....The credentials of Senator-elect Merriman of North Carolina were presented....A bill was passed authorizing the continued employment of Mr. Hale as counsel before the U. S. and British Mixed Commission, notwithstanding his election to Congress....The Committee on Revision of the Laws reported adversely on the petition of Susan E. Anthony and others for the constitutional recognition of women's right to vote. The River and Harbor bill was passed, retaining the appropriations for western rivers originally reported....The Texas Pacific Railroad bill passed ....At 4:15, Monday morning, the Senate took a recess until 7, p. m. In the evening the Committee on Printing reported a resolution to print 50,000 copies of the Agricultural report, to be sold at 50 cents per copy; agreed to....A large number of pension bills were passed....A resolution of inquiry as to the conduct of army officers in South Carolina, passed....The House bill for a bridge across the Mississippi at Carondelet, Mo., was passed....At 12 o'clock the Senate went into executive session, and soon after adjourned.

In the House, on March 1, the bill fixing the salaries of the President, and other executive officers was reconsidered, amended and again passed. The only change is making the salary of members of Congress $5,000 instead of $5,000. A joint resolution was reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs congratulating the people of Spain upon the formation of a Republic; agreed to....A bill passed extending for two years the time for pre-emptors on public lands in Montana and Dakota, to make payment therefor....The Wilson Select Committee on Credit Mobilier, reported a bill securing the interests of the United States and the public in the Central Pacific railroad....The Senate bill authorizing a railroad bridge at Lexington, Mo., was passed....A bill was passed reimbursing Treasurer Spinner $61,374 for losses in his office through the embezzlement of employees....The Deficiency Appropriation bill was taken up