

POETRY.

SIGNS.

BY HOWARD GYLDON. O sad brown hill! O pitiful sea-side slope, Bare as the heart bereft of its last hope!

MISCELLANY.

The Princess Salm Salm in Mexico.

The following graphic sketch is from Shelby's "Expedition to Mexico": Dr. Hazel was a young physician from South Carolina, who had gone through the siege of Sumter with a devotion and a constancy that had found their way into general orders, and that had returned in the shape of a chain more precious to a soldier than sunlight to flowers—the rain of official recognition.

NEWS SUMMARY.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

The investigation into the District of Columbia paving contracts has finally developed the fact that Wm. G. Moore, business partner of Governor Shepherd, was interested in the De Golyer and McClellan contracts.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

Joe Waltz, the murderer, who was confined in the Catskill, N. Y., jail, sentenced to be hung on the 1st inst., on the day previous murdered his keeper, Charles Ernst, in his cell, by crushing in his skull with a piece of iron.

Following is the comparative cotton statement for the week ending May 1:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Net receipts for past week, Total receipts from Sept. 1 to date, and Stock on hand at all interior towns.

CIVIL WAR IN ARKANSAS.

Battle at Pine Bluff—A Number of Killed and Wounded—The Situation at Little Rock.

A Little Rock dispatch of the 30th, says that General King White, who has charge of the Baxter forces at Pine Bluff, hearing that a party of Brooks men were assembled at New Gascony, in Jefferson county, committing depredations, moved a column of 200 men down to that point for the purpose of dispersing them.

CONGRESSIONAL.

APRIL 30.—Senate.—The Civil-Rights bill being under consideration, Mr. Norwood made a speech in opposition thereto. The bill was then laid aside. A number of private bills were passed.

MAY 1.—Senate.

The oath of office was administered to Senator Washburn of Massachusetts. The House bill authorizing the Secretary of War to provide relief for the sufferers by the Mississippi inundation, and appropriating \$50,000 for that purpose, was passed.

MAY 2.—Senate.

The day was mainly occupied by the consideration of private bills. Mr. Roberts from the Committee on Ways and Means reported an elaborate bill to amend the customs revenue laws, and to abolish the moieties.

MAY 4.—Senate.

Mr. Stewart introduced a bill to regulate legislative control of the District of Columbia, and provide for the government thereof. Referred to Committee.

MAY 5.—Senate.

There was considerable discussion over the amended bill for making an appropriation for the relief of persons suffering from the overflow of the Mississippi.

PREMEDITATED SUICIDE.

Ex-Congressman Bowne, of New York, committed suicide a few days ago. The act was premeditated, as is evidenced by the manner in which he proceeded.

FOREIGN.

A wretch named John Sullivan, who committed an outrage upon a five-year-old girl at Guelph, Ont., has been found guilty and sentenced to be hanged.

Medomark was brave—besides, he was an officer.

There were, therefore, but two courses left to him—but two things to do—to accept Hazel's card, or to refuse it. In preference to disgrace he chose the duello.

When two men mean business the final arrangements are simply matters of form.

On the morning after Medomark's insult in the cafe, Wood called upon him early. During the day the preliminaries were all amicably agreed upon, and at sunrise the next morning, about a quarter of a mile southeast of the American burying-ground, Hazel and Medomark met at ten paces with dueling pistols.

The New York Legislature adjourned on the 30th.

Governor Washburn, of Massachusetts, Senator Sumner's successor, on the 30th sent his resignation to the Legislature, and left for Washington to fill the vacant chair.

Senator Boutwell appeared before the Ways and Means Committee on the 1st, and made a statement concerning his knowledge of the Sanborn contracts.

He said, in effect, that he was sure the Sanborn business was never a matter of conversation between him and Secretary Richardson, and that he had never had any personal relations with Sanborn, and Sanborn had no right to claim his personal friendship and intimacy.

The residence of John Hammet, about six miles from Pittsburg, Pa., was burned on the morning of the 30th, with all its inmates, consisting of six persons, viz: John Hammet, his wife, their two children, a hired man, and a boy.

One of the bodies recovered from the ruins had had its throat cut, and it was believed the whole family had been killed and the house burned for the purpose of destroying the evidence of the murdered victims.

Waltz, the Catskill, N. Y., murderer, was duly hanged on the 1st.

By the bursting of a boiler in a paper mill at Shawangunk, Ulster county, N. Y., on the 2d, seven persons were instantly killed and three others fatally wounded. The boiler, weighing five tons, was thrown a distance of six hundred feet.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The condition of the inundated country, as reported in dispatches of the 30th, was as follows: Jacksonport, Clarendon and Indian Bay, on the White River, are inundated. The whole country from Skipworth's Landing to the mouth of the Yazoo is under water, and there is great destitution among the inhabitants.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

Gold closed in New York on the 4th, at 112 3/8. An Associated Press dispatch of the 30th gives the following as the President's views on the financial question, as elicited in a recent interview:

Allusion having been made to President Grant about a compromise of the finance measure that would be acceptable to both sides, the President replied that he did not know what force was intended to apply to the term "compromise" unless it was an agreement all that was asked for, and he had not said what kind of bill he would approve.

The following is a recapitulation of the public debt statement, May 1:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Includes Debt bearing interest in coin, Six per cent. bonds, Five per cent. bonds, Total coin bonds, Legal money debt, Maturity debt, Fractional currency, Gold certificates, Total without interest, Total debt, Total in Treasury, Cash in Treasury, Special deposits, Redemption of certificates of deposit as provided by law, Total in Treasury, Debt less cash in Treasury, Decrease during month, Bonds issued to Pacific Railroad companies, interest payable in lawful money, principal outstanding, Interest accrued but not yet paid, Interest paid by United States, Interest repaid by transportation of mails, etc., Balance of interest by U. S., Total.

The Government sales of gold for the month of May will be as follows: On the first and third Thursdays, \$1,500,000 each day; and on the second and fourth Thursdays, \$1,000,000 each day, making \$5,000,000 in all.

An Automatic Wonder.

A citizen of Lanesborough, N. Y., has completed a toy, of which the following description has appeared: It is intended to represent, in a measure, the business portion of a small village. There are a series of houses or compartments, each devoted to some special branch of industry, and the whole is actuated by a tower on which there is a town clock and a chime of bells.

The Princess pushed back her plate and arose as one who felt that she was the subject of conversation without understanding the words of it.

As she passed through the door, Medomark boisterously and in great glee, called out a slang term of the circus, and shouted: "Hoop la!"

The Agnes Le Clerc that was of the sawdust and tight, the Princess Salm that is now of the titles and diamonds, heard the brutal cry, and felt to her heart the studied insult.

Turning instantly, she came again half into the cafe—her eyes full and discolored with passion, and her face so white that it appeared as if the woman was in mortal pain. She could not speak—though she tried hard, poor thing, but she looked once at Medomark as if to crush him where he sat, and once at Hazel, who understood it all now, and arose as she again retired.

The Boston Courier is of opinion that the sudden and direful fate of Ananias and Sapphira did not cure the world of lying, and doubts whether the people of Jerusalem remembered the sin and the punishment of the mendacious husband and wife more than a week.

These remarks are pertinent to a means adopted by one Dr. Williams for detecting a liar; he placed his finger on a boy's wrist who was asserting his innocence of an accusation, and said: "Young man, you are lying! You have not uttered one word of truth about this matter! Your pulse is running as high as one hundred and forty, and no person enjoying good health and telling the truth would have as rapid pulsation as that." The boy confessed his guilt.

"You lie like a gas meter" is the favorite euphemism in Albany at present.

Everything remained quiet at Little Rock on the 4th. Judges Bennett and Searle, of the Supreme Court, were taken on from Memphis at Argenta (opposite Little Rock) on the evening previous, by a squad of armed men, and sequestered somewhere in the vicinity, probably, as they had sent word to their friends assuring them of their being unharmed. Their capture was doubtless effected for the purpose of preventing a special session of the Court, which was announced to be held at Little Rock on the following day.

At Little Rock, on the 5th, Chief-Justice McCrech had a writ served on Generals Churchill and Blocher (of Baxter's army), commanding them to produce the bodies of Messrs. Bennett and Searle, the Justices of the Supreme Court, whose arrests were heretofore mentioned. These officers replied by stating that martial law prevailed in Pulaski county at this time, and they knew of no orders, except those which came from their superiors.

Masculine and Feminine.

A proof of how much more appearances weigh in this foolish world that facts, may be found in the relative traditional estimate of the owl and the goose. The former bird, merely from looking grave and solemn, and keeping himself retired from public view, has been credited with unlimited sagacity, and made the chosen companion of the Goddess of Wisdom. As no military, fifty years ago, would have dared to give a bishopric to Sydney Smith, simply because he was too witty, so no old Athenian imagined that Pallas would have preferred in her temple the society of a lively and satirical bird, like the goose, to the dull and gloomy-minded owl. But the goose is really a clever creature, and proves it in a hundred ways, while the owl, like Lord Burleigh, merely nods his head in solemn rapture, and is accepted as wise on his own showing.

On the last trip of the steamer Siberia to Boston, among the steerage passengers was a family of Italians aged as follows: Father 47, mother 43, with fifteen children, aged as follows: 23, 22, 19, 17, 16, 15, 14, 11, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6. Twelve were boys and three girls.