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Miles O'Reilly at the White House.

In a late number of the New York Herald, we find a glowing letter from Washington, from which we think it will pay to make a few extracts.

The letter describes a meeting held at the White House, on the afternoon of Thanksgiving day. The letter commences thus:

"It is to-day to be chronicled as a great day in the life of the great Republic of the United States."

This afternoon took place the interesting ceremonial of presenting private Miles O'Reilly, 47th Regt. N. Y. Vols., to his Excellency the President of the United States, by whom in turn, the young Militia warrior and hero of the South Army Corps was presented to several members of the Cabinet and foreign diplomatic corps, who were present at the White House on Thanksgiving day.

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which the Cavalier John O'Mahony was Head Center. He thanked the President, Mr. Seward, Mr. Chase, Mr. Stanton, General Halleck, General Sherman, the Baron Gerolde, the O. Mercer, Colonel Townsend and Nelson, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Fox, and the others who were present, for the interest in this interview, of which he had the highest inkling as to how his Excellency had been engaged, he would most certainly have passed on the visit, a wish for which had been conveyed to him through Secretary Stanton. He would now briefly introduce to the President private Miles O'Reilly, the hero of Morris Island, whose name he had just learned, and who was seated at the table with the President and other members of the Cabinet.

Mr. Lincoln then made reply, and of course he had to tell a story.

He said he was happy to see private O'Reilly, but did not care to make a speech. In his position it was not wise to talk too much, and he would, therefore, but rarely talk at all. As to the "war for the succession," about which the Herald and Mr. Wendell Phillips appeared to be so much excited, he would say a few words. Men of sense betray and do for themselves by over anxiety to secure their object, just as the widow in Zola's story did: away down in Bourbon county, who had been eating her cabbage and jam, when she saw a man in a nightgown who was about increasing the population. "Good night," said she, "I am going to bed." "I am going to bed," said she, "I am going to bed."

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tempt to deny that the President tells stories. Why it is rarely that any one in his company for fifteen minutes without hearing a good tale appropriate to the subject talked about. Many a metaphysical argument does he demolish by simply telling an anecdote, which exactly overturns the verbal structure.

About five o'clock the President declines seeing any more company, and often accompanies his wife in her carriage, to take a drive. He is fond of horseback exercise, and when passing the summer at the Soldiers' Home, used generally to go and fro in the saddle.

The President dines at six, and it is rare that some personal friends do not grace the round dining-table, where he throws the cares of office and reminds the old school gentlemen who used to frequent his table with a few words of conversation.

After the party retires to the crimson drawing-room, where coffee is served, and where the President passes the evening, unless some duty has a special interview. Such, I am informed, is the almost invariable daily life of Abraham Lincoln, whose administration will rank next in importance to that of Washington in our national annals.

There is a half a million of us that can vote, though General Seymour will not let any of us New York boys vote by proxy and in form back out in the Union, except one, that the army vote will be given. Everything depends now how the war goes. It may be short, and it will be great if his gallant victories continue, or if it may be long, and it will be great if the New England States will not have the New England States sold out in any way.

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Whisky Drinking in the Army.

"Drunkenness," the army correspondent of the Springfield (Mass.) Republican, thus discourses of the use of whisky in the army.

"An army is a big thing, and it takes a great many notables and not a few drinkables to carry it along. Have you any idea how many barrels of 'commissary' (that's a gentle euphemism for whisky) it takes per week to run the machine? I don't know but it would be better to Uncle Sam than one hundred thousand volunteers to his army, if he would shut off entirely and absolutely the supply of intoxicating liquors from officers and men, from messes, hospitals, and everything and everything connected with the army. On what ground is the present supply of whisky furnished? Is it that an occasional ration may be issued to the soldiers when returning from picket, or after an exhausting march? Why, there hasn't been a whisky ration issued to a single regiment, to my knowledge, for many a month, and I am certain within the truth when I say, that not ten a year are issued to an average company.

It is as good as a total abstinence society to be a private in the army. Cause why? The use of liquor has so increased among the officers that none is now left over to be issued to the men! Three gallons a week are about the present allowance of a Brigadier General, and inferior officers in proportion. A Major General, who is liberal and reasonably hospitable, is expected to spend at least his pay in various liquors. Every time a general or staff officer calls on a comrade, the bottle is expected to be produced. Every time an officer is promoted he is expected to 'wet' his commission! Every occasion of a sword or horse presentation is improved for a big drunk all round. It is not yet considered quite reputable for an officer to be helpless or crazy drunk when actually engaged on some special duty, such as officer of the picket, or judge advocate of a court martial, but at other times it is nothing against him, and even if caught in such a case, it is rather his misfortune than his fault, poor fellow.

It is of vastly more importance to keep animals in health than to cure them when sick. As a general rule animals may be kept in good health by the observance of a few simple rules:

1. Animals should always be fed with regularity both in respect to time and quantity. Overfeeding is often the cause of disease.

2. They should always have water as often as required, and that which is pure. Horses will not drink of hard, lime or clayey, if they can have access to pure water.

3. Do not overwork horses; when Regular and moderate labor will accomplish more in a year, and keep them in better condition than overworking at one time and resting and overfeeding as another.

4. A sufficient variety should be fed to stock in winter, and not confine them to dry hay or straw and grain. A mess of carrots, turnips or potatoes cut and mixed with ground oats or shorts, is excellent to promote health, and should be given as often as twice a week.

5. Never feed musty and mouldy fodder; but if it must be used, cut it, moisten and sprinkle over with meal, and feed to harnessed cattle. It never should be fed to horses.

6. Always shelter stock in cold storms in all seasons of the year, and never leave a horse after being driven, to stand in the cold wind without being covered with a good thick blanket or buffalo.

7. Avoid all sudden changes of food in grain or from hay to grain.

8. Due care should be taken that animals always have a plenty of pure, fresh air, and for this purpose stalls should be well ventilated, as stock often becomes sick from breathing foul air. A proper amount of exercise is also essential.

9. Strict cleanliness should always be observed. All animals are found to maintain a better condition and fatten faster when curried and kept clean.

When an animal becomes sick, one of the best measures to be adopted is good nursing. This is a method beginning to be advocated by the best practitioners of the medical art, as being applicable to the human family, and is unquestionably an advantageous when applied to farm stock. There is no doubt that the life of valuable animals is often lost by doctoring, while many recover when left to themselves and the workings of Nature.

GENERAL MORTON, in declining an invitation to lecture before the Mercantile Library Association of Boston, writes thus: "Be assured my heart warms toward Boston, her people, her institutions, no less from the events of the national struggle in which we are now engaged, than from old and happy associations in past and peaceful years."

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