

On The Side.

The latest version of the poet is that "Man wants but little here below zero."

The publisher of the New York Times says he could easily have raised a half million for Grant.

An exchange thinks when a man marries a widow he should give up smoking. "She gives up her weeds"—he should be equally polite.

A well has been dug in the center of the Ninety-mile Desert, New Mexico, and a wind-mill placed thereon. The water is abundant and good.

We fear that Bob Ingersoll has been tampering with the church clocks. They are beginning to express a disbelief in both time and eternity.—Nycum Advertiser.

An old bachelor asserts that many a marriage has been postponed, or indefinitely delayed, by the careless habit of the girls in having so many pins in their apron strings.

A Congressman asked Delegate Cannon the Mormon Representative, how many wives he had. "I have enough to keep me from interfering with the wives of other men," was Cannon's quick rejoinder.

An old woman in a town of Massachusetts—far away from Boston mind you—refused the gift of a load of wood from a tree struck by lightning, through fear that some of the "fluid" might remain in the wood and cause disaster to her kitchen stove.

Footie was talking away one evening at a dinner-table of a man of rank, when, at the point of one of his best stories, one of the party interrupted him suddenly with an air of most considerate apology: "I beg your pardon, Mr. Footie, but your handkerchief is half out of your pocket." "Thank you, sir," said Footie, replacing it; "you know the company better than I do," and finished his joke.

Joe Gould, in an interview with a New York reporter, states that the consolidation of the telegraph companies is completed, and cannot be disturbed by any legislative or judicial action. The object of the consolidation was to carry out a plan of developing in the United States an efficient system of cheap telegraphy on a grand scale, both by sea and by land. A general cable and telegraphic circuit around the world is contemplated, with New York for the center.

A leading Democratic Senator is reported as saying that his party "were willing to retire Grant if he will stay retired," which suggests an anecdote of a certain Major General who was known as "Old-Fuss-and-Feathers" during the rebellion. His command met the enemy's advance guard and drove it back. The General at once sent a Hall Columbia telegram to headquarters announcing that he had "whipped the rebels." The main column of the enemy coming up, Old-Fuss-and-Feathers was badly routed.

"You said you whipped the enemy," said the commander-in-chief, impatiently, afterward.

"I did," said Old-Fuss-and-Feathers "but he wouldn't stay whipped."

And that's what's the trouble with Grant. He wouldn't stay retired.

He was not There.

A jolly-looking German was quietly walking down Third avenue, looking up occasionally at an elevated-railway locomotive, and perhaps wishing he could smoke as much as it could, when he was familiarly approached by a man who said, "Hello, Joe! What are you doing here?" The old man looked and said, "But I am not here at all." "Not here?" said the man. "What do you mean by that?" "Well, now, you see my name is not Joe, and so how could I be here? You must mean some other man."—New York Herald.

A Shocking Oversight.

When a man living on Galveston avenue came home to dinner the other day, his wife told him that their neighbor over the way had sent to borrow an ax.

"What did you do?" heartlessly exclaimed the husband.

"As we didn't have any ax, I sent them word to that effect."

"Mother of Moses! we are a ruined community. Send right off to a hardware store and buy a gilt-edged ax, and carry it over yourself. Didn't you know that our neighbor's wife's uncle lives in Ohio, and the whole family are obliged to have fat offices or starve?"—Galveston News.

Children's Ideas.

The natural philosophy of children are very interesting; they invent just such theories of the universe as the wild nations have, with a sweet unconsciousness that they are originally myths. During a tremendous thunder storm a little fellow of four years old was overheard explaining to another child that lightning was just "red water that runs out of the clouds," and the thunder "the noise it makes when it goes into the ground." He lost his courage concerning thunder in one of the showers, and afterwards had to be comforted a little when one occurred. One evening, to calm his apprehensions, his father assured him that the lightning he saw was a great way off, and told him that if he were near, he could hear the thunder at once after the flash, but this time he could notice that there was quite a while between the two. The boy mused over this a little, and then

queried: "Papa, what makes the thunder speak so long after it's got through?" A question which might be asked of many a public speaker.

Judging by Appearance.

When Maine was a district of Massachusetts, Ezekiel Whitman was chosen to represent the district in the Massachusetts legislature. He was an eccentric man, and one of the best lawyers of his time. He owned a farm and did much work on his land, and when the time came for him to set out for Boston, his best suit of clothes was a suit of homespun. His wife objected to him going in this garb, but he did not care.

"I will get a nice suit made as soon as I reach Boston," he said. Reaching his destination, Whitman found rest at Doolittle's city tavern. Let it be understood that he was a graduate of Harvard, and at this tavern he was at home. As he entered the parlor of the house he found several ladies and gentlemen assembled, and he heard the following remark from one of them:

"Ah! here comes a countryman of the real homespun genius. Here's fun."

Whitman stared at the company and then sat down.

"Say my friend are you from the country?" remarked one of the gentlemen.

"Yes," answered Ezekiel, with a judicious twist of the face.

"And what do you think of our city?" asked one of the ladies.

"It's a pretty thickly-settled place anyhow. It's got a sweepin' sight of houses in it."

"And good many people, too."

"Yes, I should guess so."

"Many people where you come from?"

"Well, some."

"Plenty of ladies, I suppose?"

"Yes, a fair sprinklin'."

"And I don't doubt you are quite a beau among them."

"Yes, been 'em home, few meetings and singin' skewil'."

"Perhaps the gentleman from the country will take a glass of wine?"

"Thank 'ee. Don't keep it I do."

The wine was brought.

"You must drink a toast."

"Oh, g' g'ent! I eat toast, never heard of such a thing as drinkin' it. But I can give you a sentiment."

The ladies clapped their hands; but what was their surprise when the stranger, rising, spoke calmly and clearly as follows:

"Ladies and gentlemen, permit me to wish you health and happiness, with every blessing earth can afford, and may you grow better and wiser in advancing years, bearing ever in mind that outward appearances are deceitful. You mistook me by my dress as a country booby, while I, from the same superficial cause, thought you were ladies and gentlemen. The mistake has been mutual."

He had just finished when Caleb Strong, Governor of the State, entered and inquired for Whitman.

"Ah, here I am Governor. Glad to see you."

Then, turning to the dumfounded company, he said:

"I wish you a very good evening."

Cheating the Lord.

Parson Joyner, an old gentleman who rode a circuit years before the war, has been excommunicated in the eyes of the progressive world. Parson Joyner committed no sin, but in the opinion of the judges who were summoned to weigh the evidence against him, he merited expulsion from the circle of the anointed.

Several weeks ago the parson took a horseback trip into an adjoining neighborhood, and having read of so many railroad accidents and terrible losses of life, he concluded that as a railroad was being constructed in the neighborhood of his intended visit, justice to his wife demanded a life insurance policy. With but little trouble he found an agent who was willing to insure his life. He made all necessary arrangements, gave the papers to his wife and went on his journey. Shortly after his return he was arrested by a church officer, on a charge of employing the means of the devil to cheat the Lord.

"Brother Joyner," said the judge of the church court-martial, "it is charged that you, in connection with the devil, have been attempting to cheat the Lord. Brother Joyner, you have been fighting the devil a long time, and in our opinion 'was successful. Now, using a forcible expression, what the devil have you got against the Lord?"

"The Lord forbid," said the old man, "that I should have anything against my divine master."

"You insured your life, Brother Joyner. Why did you do it? Don't you know that you have no right to take your life into your own hands and insure it? Don't you know that the crucifixion of our Savior insured all our lives? Huh?"

"But there were no railroads then. I went into a neighborhood where there is a road. I didn't know how soon it might double up and hit me."

"But you were not killed, were you?"

"No, sir."

"Well, then, don't you see how foolish it was to insure your life? Leave this house. The doors of White Oak Church are closed against you. Go, and may the Lord forgive your great crime."

The old man left, and several days afterward when the life-insurance man called, he took down a flint-lock gun and snapped at him three times.—Little Rock Gazette.

Newspapers of the World.

There are in round numbers 30,000 newspapers, and other periodicals published on the globe. One third of these are printed in this country, and one-half of them in the English language. Great Britain and Ireland have 3,000 papers; The German Empire 5,000; France 2,500 and the other countries the remaining 12,000. The city of Paris which is half the size of London, has the same number of papers, 1,200. New York city with a population of 1,200,000 has 500, while Brooklyn which is nearly half as large has only 25; Constantinople supports 50 papers. The city of Milan, Italy, with a population of but 275,000 has more papers than Boston which is one-third larger, and about as many as Philadelphia which is three times as large. The little city of Munich, in Switzerland, with a population of about 22,000 sustains 16 papers with an aggregate circulation of 70,000. The combined circulation of the press of the Kingdom of Great Britain is about 22,000,000. The total circulation of American papers 25,000,000. The average circulation of English papers is 7,000. The average circulation of American periodicals about 2,000. Great Britain issues in a year 1,734,000,000 copies of all sorts of papers. The United States, 1,876,000,000. Americans afflicted with provincial pride and prejudice, and who claim that this is the only country of intelligence and culture would do well to study the figures given here. China is said to have but one newspaper, the official organ of the government. But books are plenty there, and all Chinamen are taught to read and write. Newspapers tend to unsettle things, and promote change. Books as a rule are conservative. If ten thousand American newspapers could be established in China and the people induced to read them, revolution of that people, and their institution would result in a generation.—World.

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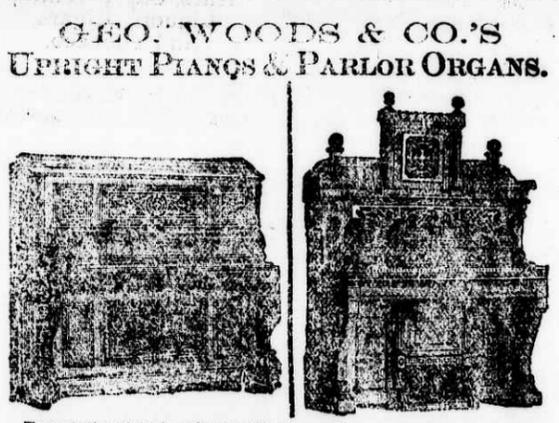
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