

THE LAW.

Life is a Shylock: always it demands
The fullest usurer's interest for each
treasure.
Gifts are not freely scattered from its
hands;
We make returns for every borrowed
treasure.

Each talent, each achievement, and each
gain,
Necessitates some penalty to pay.
Delight imposes lassitude and pain.
As certainly as darkness follows day.

All you bestow on causes, or on men,
Of love, or hate, of malice or devotion,
Somehow, sometime, shall be returned
again.
There is no wasted toil, no lost emotion.

The motto of the world is, "Give and take."
It gives you favors—out of sheer good-
will.
But unless speedy recompense you make,
You'll find yourself presented with its
bill.

When rapture comes to thrill the heart of
you,
Take it with tempered gratitude: re-
member
Some later time the interest will fall due.
No year brings June that does not bring
December.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

AN INSATIABLE, BOTTOMLESS GRAVE
The Hole of Death—A Quagmire That
Swallows Up Horse and Rider.

It is an awful sight to see a man drown.
But with foresight and skill no man need
drown. Fancy a sea in which there is
no swimming, and a sea into which you
may plunge unawares. A man is loping
over the green prairie, looking out from
under his broad sombrero at the lazy
cattle and the prairie-dogs playing in the
sun. Suddenly there is a sound like a
giant's throat swallowing a choked shout
of terror. The prairie-dogs run into
their holes, and a moment later come
out cautiously, curious and frightened.
The tall reed-like grass is waving where
the horse and rider were just now. The
antelope on the crest of the divide
yonder look round them wretchedly. But
there is nothing to fear—no man in
sight. He is going to town, that rider,
with the wages of a hard winter's work
in his pocket, riding his favorite bronco,
dressed in the buckskins he had fringed
in the winter evenings, ready to show
the foolish girls how brave he looked in
his ride attire. Where is he now—he
and his horse? In a grave of slimy,
shivering mud—alkali paste, blue with a
nameless tint of putrid death, has filled
his throat—covered his eyes before he
could close the lids.

What does this mean—some hideous
freak of nature—some work of a devil
endowed with a moment's power? No;
only an alkali sink; only a natural well,
filled with a paste as yielding as water—
retentive as hell. Picture to yourself the
surface setting back to its normal
quietude with an indescribable gulp,
a ghoul-like smacking of grave-lips. A
grave that supplies itself with dead—a
grave that buries almost before it kills—
an insatiable, bottomless grave, set like
a trap for the living. The sink-hole is
not always covered with grass; some-
times it has a caked and seamed crust of
bluish-white alkali on the top of it. But
even that is a poor safeguard, for the
long grass around it will hide it from the
rider until it is too late to avoid it.

The tenacity of this paste of mud is
something incredible. I have never seen
a man caught in a sink-hole, but I have
seen a man ride to the edge of one, dis-
cover it too late to turn his horse, and
shaking himself in the saddle, vault over
the horn-ponnel, when the pony was
caught, striking the ground far beyond
the sink-hole. There were twenty men
there, and before the horse had sunk far
there were half a dozen ropes fast to
him. Half a dozen strong ponies can
pull most anything, but they could not
draw that horse back from the grave
that was closing over him. There is a
strange suction about that alkali mud—
it holds all it grasps with a horrible
pertinacity.—San Francisco Engliside.

A Queer Animal from Japan.
An animal whose identity is at present
unknown there, was landed in San Fran-
cisco lately from the interior of Japan,
where it first saw the light of day. At a
glance the curiosity might be taken for
either a dog or a monkey. Its shaped like
the former about the head and neck,
but otherwise somewhat resembles the
monkey. The animal's favorite position is
on its haunches, but with a little urging
it stands on its four feet, the body slop-
ing downward from the head like a
giraffe. The claws on the four feet are
like those of a dog, but two extra pairs
are furnished on the hind legs a couple
of inches above the balls of the feet.
The animal appears to be gentle, but has
a strong, high-keyed bark, which it
gives when spectators attempt to stir it
up.—Chicago Herald.

A Treaty on a Silk Handkerchief.
A Swiss correspondent of The Repub-
lique Francaise, in looking over the
papers of the eccentric duke of Brun-
swick, deposited at the library of Geneva,
has found the draft of a secret mutual
assistance treaty between him and the
late Emperor Napoleon. It is dated
Ham, 25th June, 1844, and is not only
signed Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, but is
written by him on a white silk pocket-
handkerchief in marking ink.—Glasgow
Mail.

Old Burial Ground in London.
The old burial ground in London, which
was made celebrated in Dickens' novel
"Bleak House," where Lady Dedlock "lay
with one arm creeping round the bar of
the iron gate, seeming to embrace it,"
and where Poor Jo was buried, has been
turned into a playground for children. It
is a very small one, not more than fifty
paces by fifteen, but it must be of in-
estimable value in a place like London.
—Chicago Journal.

The Oldest Son of Brigham.
John W. Young, the oldest son of
Brigham, is the leader of the Mormon
lobby at Washington, and is said to pos-
sess many of the personal characteristics
of his father. His mother was the first
of Brigham's seventeen wives.—Detroit
Free Press.

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part of the time was unable to work.
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ted, urged me to take Ayer's Pills. I
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by the time I had taken four boxes, was
cured.—F. L. Dobson, Topeka, Kans.

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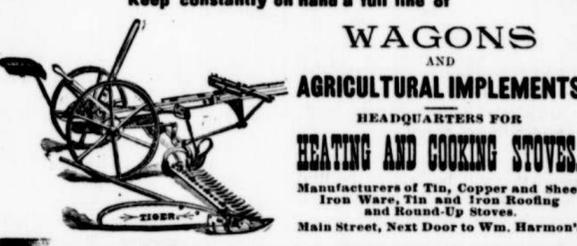
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