THE LOUISIANA COTTON-BOLL.

DEVOTED TO THE COTTON PLANTING INTEREST, IMMIGRATION, EDUCATION, AND INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

SOUTH.

The small-pox is said to be spreading in Macon, Ga.

Ex-senator Louis T. Wigfall has been admitted to the Baltimore bar.

Tom Sankey is to be hanged at Montgomery, Alabama, on the 30th of January for the murder of Martin Graham, his rival in a love affair.

Joseph Bird shot and mortally wounded John Jones, of Evansville, on the Kentucky shore, near Green river, last week. The shooting was unprovoked, as stated by witnesses.

John C. Underwood, United States district judge for the district of Virginia, died suddenly last week of apoplexy, at his residence in Washington.

The steamboat J. S. Lee, belonging to the Rio Grande railway, struck a snag near Rio Grande City, and sunk in twenty minutes. The boat and cargo are reported a total loss. She was bound for Ringgold barracks with a general cargo and government stores and supplies for the upper military posts. No lives were lost.

WEST.

The Baldwin expedition report the discovery of the only practicable route for the contemplated railroad to connect the Union and Central Pacific with the thirty-fifth parallel road. It passes through the great coal and iron region of Iron county to St. George, thence down the Rio Virgini and Colorado rivers.

The national civil rights convention, say, in an address, that they take it for granted action will be had by congress proclaiming them from invidious distinctions in the enjoyment of common carriers, hotels, and other public places of convenience and refreshment, and places of amusement, and enjoying other civil rights, including entrance to the public schools, without regard to race. They want the denial of these rights punished.

EAST.

Jno. T. Irving, the self-accused Nathan murderer, has been sentenced to seven years and six months in Sing-Sing on the charge of burglary.

Philadelphia factories are resuming work three days in the week and with a reduction of 10 to 15 per cent. in wages. Twenty mills at Manayunk have resumed the past week.

The arrest of John M. Whitney, at Salt Lake City, and Joel Lawrence, at New York, was made upon complaint of E. B. Ward, of Detroit. It is claimed that about a year ago Whitney and Lawrence induced Ware to invest $200,000 in the stock of the Eureka silver mine of Utah, and that the mine was salted for the purpose of swindling. Ward understood that nearly $100,000 of Eureka stock was owned by other parties who had also been victimized.

A mass-meeting of the workingmen, under the auspices of the Internationalists, was held at Cooper institute. Theodore H. Banks, a painter, presided. It was crowded in every part. Several hundred ladies were present. Telegrams from Cleveland and Chicago were read, wishing success to the meeting. Around the platform were numerous mottoes, such as, "We demand a suspension of rent for three months; the general that commands this army is general distress; when workingmen begin to think monopoly begins to tremble," and others of an equally significant character. A hand bill was circulated summarizing the high salaries paid officials and demanding no more salaries over $5,000. The number of homeless men and women in the city is given at ten thousand, those in the station-house 7,500 per week, and out of eleven trade unions 20,250 men are idle, and only 1,800 employed. It is also stated that there are 180,000 skilled workmen idle in this state, and 210,000 of all classes in the city, and 38,000 women earning only an agerage of $3.44 per week. An address was read on the duty of the government to protect industrial classes when the government fails in that duty, it should be set aside or overthrown. John Halbert read a preamble and resolutions among which were: Whereas, We wish to avoid all outrage on the persons or property of any, and depreciate violence and injustice in any form, and we only demand the necessaries of life for ourselves and families, not as objects of charity, but as law abiding citizens whose right it is to demand these of the government which we have always supported. Resolved, That we will, in this our time of need, supply ourselves and our families with proper shelter and necessaries of life, and we will send all our bills for the same to the city treasury to be liquidated, until such time as we shall obtain work and pay for all our work. That we demand work now, and pay for work, and the abolition of the contract system, that will prevent money panics. We demand the enactment of a law that shall limit the accumulation of any individual, that is a law of graduated taxation, which shall prevent any man or set of men being able to lock up the circulating medium.

FOREIGN.

The Berlin press regard the Bazaine verdict as the result of political intrigue, and censure the Duke d'Aumale.

The Swiss government has decided to hand the Papal Nuncio his passport, on account of the pope's last encyclical letter.

As Baron Reuter has not begun internal improvements in Persia within the time fixed, the shah has declared the convention void.

It is said at Havana that the steamer Merida, the fastest vessel on the coast, will be altered into a gunboat and transport, to be used in case of war.

A ukase has been issued requiring that six men out of every thousand inhabitants of Russia, including the Polish provinces, will be drafted into the army.

A special dispatch from Madrid, says that a cabinet crisis is imminent. Great indignation is manifested at President Grant's message and Senor Castellar's alleged pandering to the United States.

A London dispatch says the ship Arabia, from Calcutta to Boston, foundered at sea in latitude 28, longitude 8. Part of the crew were landed at Gravesend; the remainder, eighteen in number, were drowned.

A Paris dispatch says the resignation of Minister Sickles was based on the act of the Washington government negotiating directly with Spain and overlooking him. He claimed the government has failed to protect him.

President McMahon has commuted the sentence of Marshal Bazaine to twenty years of seclusion, and to bear the effects of degradation from his rank, but be spared the humiliating ceremony. The island of Sainte Marguerite, off Cannes, has been selected as the place of confinement for Marshal Bazaine, and he will be sent there this week.

GENERAL.

The affairs of the St. Louis Mutual Life insurance association are all settled, and the Mound City association is to carry all its policies.

The indications are that the house of representatives will pass a bill fixing the salary of the members of congress at about six thousand dollars a year, with an allowance of actual traveling expenses.

The ordnance and war material sent from St. Louis to Pensacola consisted of 26 13-inch mortars, 48 9 to 10-inch guns, 13 100-pound Parrotts, 4,350 13 and 20-inch shells, 1,800 9 to 20 solid shot, 4,500 hand grenades, and 1,650 100-pound shells.

The senate has confirmed the following nominations: Martin Welker, district judge for the northern district of Ohio, vice Charles T. Sherman, resigned; Geo. R. Maxwell, marshal for the territory of Utah; H. C. Hall, of Connecticut, council-general at Havana; Alex. R. Shepherd, governor of the district of Columbia, and others.

Gen. Sickles being a retired officer, with an annual salary of $5,625, was at liberty to go where he pleased, and in accepting the office of minister to Spain in May, 1860, he has drawn the actual salary of $12,000 for this service, but nothing on army account, as the law prohibits the drawing of more than one salary. On his retirement as minister he will draw his army pay.

A private letter from Gen. Longstreet, at New Orleans, has been received at Washington, in which he says: "I have gone about as far as I can at present in arranging and enrolling and organizing troops. Letters come in every day, and from all parts of the south, offering companies, regiments and brigades. Gen. Bodge, chief of police at New Orleans, is raising a brigade of soldiers who served in the Union army, and Col. Beahan a brigade of ex-Confederates for the Cuban war."

At Carbondale, Ill., Jno. M. Brush, in registering his name at the Planter's house, spilled ink on the register, which provoked the clerk of the house. They got into a quarrel, in which the proprietor of the house, J. W. McDonald, took the part of the clerk, and the result was that Brush was shot and instantly killed by a revolver in the hands of McDonald. The affair creates intense excitement, owing to the popularity of Brush, and the fact that the provocation was trifling. Brush was an old army telegraph operator, and highly esteemed by all who knew him.

The Louisiana delegation to the national civil rights convention, accompanied by senator West, called on the president, who, in response to an address thanking him for the care and attention he had given the colored people of Louisiana, said he would always endeavor to secure for the colored man all the rights which should accompany his enfranchisement. Certain rights were still withheld, but he hoped that ere long they would find themselves in full poessession of all the legal privileges which belong to free men. He did not know what congress would do in the matter, but he thought it likely that body would, at its present session, pass some civil rights bill, and that if such bill is defeated, it will probably be because some extreme measure will be urged by a person claiming to be a particular friend of the colored man. After a general handshaking the delegation took their leave.

Rear Admiral Scott, at Key West, will have the strongest naval force under his command that has been collected by the government at any American port since the termination of the war. The monitors Saugus and Mahapoc are there already, with the Assipec and Worcester, the latter the admiral's flagship. The Colorado sails from New York; she is a screw steamer of 16 guns. The Floridа, carrying 16 guns, is expected to follow her. The Franklin and Brooklyn, the former carrying 39 and the latter 20 guns, will sail from Boston within a week. Capt. Lowry, of the Canandaigua, had two hours' consultation with secretary Robeson and chiefs of bureaus of the navy department, during which details and etiquette of salute to the flag was arranged, so far as they could be at present. The Spanish naval force on the coast of Cuba is reported to consist of American gunboats, which were convoyed to sea two years ago by vessels of our navy. Our naval force in the harbor of Santiago is more than sufficient to cope with it in a belligerent emergency, and should such an emergency arise, it is believed that the British fleet in the West Indies would render assistance to our forces.

The secretary of the treasury has written to the chairman of the ways and means committee recommending additional taxation, that the revenues may meet expenses, and enclosing a bill for that purpose. The restoration of the duty on tea and coffee, which will yield about $20,000,000 per annum, is included in the recommendations. The secretary also inclosed a letter from Commissioner Douglass, making the following recommendations: Increased tax of ten cents a gallon on distilled spirits, which would yield several million dollars annually; four cents additional per pound on tobacco, which would yield four millions; on illuminating gas, $250,000; on gross receipts of railroads from passengers and freights, $6,000,000; on steamboat gross receipts from passengers and freight, $600,000; on insurance companies, $1,300,000; on telegraph receipts, $250,000; and on express companies receipts, $500,000—making in the aggregate $22,150,000. This with the tax on tea and coffee would make forty two millions. The commissioner says if more revenue is wanted it could be obtained to the extent of ten millions by restoring the taxes formerly in schedule B, which includes stamps on all legal instruments, deeds, mortages, etc.

Captain-General Jovellar, of Havana, authorizes the statement that the entire island is tranquil and has no doubt that all will be arranged peacefully and satisfactorily without the slightest difficulty. He now declares that he does not intend to leave Havana, or transfer his power into the hands of Gen. Merelo. The feeling of the people in Havana is quieter, and no disturbance is apprehended; the disposition to comply with the mandates of the home government and obligations of the treaty with the United States without further discussion, is becoming general. The general commanding at Santiago de Cuba in the absence of Gen. Burriel, acting without orders, placed 92 Virginius prisoners aboard the Spanish man-of-war Bazan, and sent them to Cienfuegos. The few remaining prisoners, either too ill to be removed, or being youths of tender age, have been set at liberty. The prisoners while at Santiago were well treated by the authorities and in no way molested by the populace. When the Bazan reached Cienfuegos, her commander announced by telegraph to Havana his arrival with the prisoners. The captain-general answered by ordering the immediate return of the Bazan and prisoners to Santiago, where they must have arrived by now.

The protocol, signed by Admiral Palo with Secretary Fish on the 29th of November, was with the full approbation of his government, after mature deliberation of all its consequences, and since that time it has expressed no inclination whatever for an exchange of its terms. The excitement in the island of Cuba, and the alleged threats concerning the Virginius, gave a reasonable foundation for fear on the part of many persons that the vessel and her surviving passengers and crew would not be promptly delivered to the United States authorities according to the terms of the agreement; but such apprehensions have not been shared by the executive branch of our government, for it can be positively stated that there is nothing to diminish its confidence in the sincerity of purpose of the Spanish government, or its ability to execute its engagements. The delay of transactions has been unavoidable, and only recently the arrangement for the consummation of the terms has been completed. Whatever may have been suggested heretofore as to the programme, it can be now asserted that the Virginius will be delivered to one of our navy vessels within the next ten days at a Cuban port in open day, and the surviving passengers and crew will be transferred to a United States ship at Santiago de Cuba in an equally open manner. The vessels to perform these services will soon be, if they have not already been, designated by the secretary of the navy. This is the condition of affairs to-night, which has served to inspire a hope of continued peace with Spain in order that the United States may continue to give their moral support to the Castellar government in its efforts to establish a republic.

The secretary of the navy has sent the following letter to the speaker of the house of representatives, which has been referred to the committee on appropriations: "Under circumstances of the present emergency I am compelled to ask that a special appropriation be made to cover the expenses of putting the iron-clad and cruise navy of the United States in a condition for immediate and active service. I have taken measures to put every available iron clad and wood ship of our navy in a condition for immediate duty. I have ordered all the ships of the various squadrons within reach to rendezvous at Key West. I am enlisting men to supply and fill up the crews of all our vessels. I have accumulated materials, provisions and supplies for their maintenance and support, and advanced ammunition and all weapons of naval warfare for their use. The circumstances which have constrained the department to this unusual activity and consequent expenditure are known to you and the country. The fact that they occurred during the recess of congress made it necessary that I should myself assume the responsibility of prompt action, relying upon the wisdom and justice of the people and their representatives for support. I have not, as yet, exceeded the appropriations, but these measures, with the cost of preparing, transporting and concentrating everything necessary to carry them out, have already almost exhausted the money of the working bureaus of the department, and this must be supplied at once, if the work goes on. The cost of putting our iron-clads in service, a work already undertaken and in some instances far advanced, will also require a large appropriation. The amount required to reimburse the bureaus so as to carry them through this year, and also to put all our available monitors in order, will not be less than one million dollars. If our force is to be increased, or if the powerful double turreted monitors Miantonomah, Monadnoct and Puritan are to be put into condition for usefulness, at least one million more will be required."

CONGRESSIONAL.

In the senate, on the 8th, bills were introduced: To incorporate the Southern Trans-continental railroad company, and to grant the right of way through the public lands to the same; to authorize the organization of national banks without circulation; amendatory of the act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States; for the better protection of public works on the Mississippi river; to provide for cheap and permanent transportation for persons and freight between New York and Chicago; a bill for the relief of the East Tennessee university; to establish a national university of education and labor. James R. Young was elected executive clerk, Rev. Byron Sunderland, chaplain of the senate. Senate went into executive session and soon after adjourned.

In the house, on the 8th, bills were introduced and referred as follows: For the admission of Colorado as a state; to provide 25,000,000 additional bank note circulation for states having less than their due proportion; for the payment of losses by the Morgan raid; to repeal the bill to enforce civil rights; to repeal all the taxes on whisky and tobacco, and to provide for a deficiency in the revenue thereby occasioned; to provide for cheap transportation between Chicago and New York; for the insurance of national currency and 3 65-100 government bonds to be inter-changeable. A bill was passed modifying the steamboat passenger act by allowing tow boats on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to carry 150 pounds of steam pressure in place of 110 on standard boilers of forty-two inches in diameter, with plates one-quarter of an inch in thickness; also, by a vote of 145 to 29, a bill removing all disabilities imposed or remaining on any person by the third section of the fourteenth article of amendments of the constitution, and substituting for the iron-clad oath the modified oath now administered to persons from whom disabilities had been removed. A resolution recognizing Cuban belligerency was objected to and withdrawn. A lively discussion was had on the salary question, which ended by postponing the subject till to-morrow. Adjourned.

In the senate, on the 9th, bills were introduced and referred: To provide for the resumption of specie payments and free banking. It directs the secretary of the treasury to issue in return for deposits of United States notes to the amount of fifty dollars and upwards, $100,000,000 of loan certificates, payable in four years after date, and bearing interest at the rate of 3 65-100 per cent. per annum. All the national banks mentioned in section 31 of the national currency act are authorized to hold one-half of their reserve in these certificates and the other half in United States notes or gold. All other national banks may hold any part of their reserves in these certificates. The secretary of the treasury is directed, at any time after Oct. 1, 1874, to issue 5-20 six per cent. gold bonds to the amount of $300,000,000, with the proceeds of which, when sold at par for gold coin, he shall, on and after Jan. 1, 1875, redeem in coin such United States notes not bearing interest, payable to bearer, as may be presented in sums not less than one thousand dollars. Finally, the bill proposes to repeal all limitations on the amount of national bank currency, except a restriction that the amount of circulation issued to any national bank shall not exceed ninety per cent. of the bonds deposited as security or of the amount of its paid-in capital stock. To arm and equip the whole body of militia of the United States. It provides that $500,000 be appropriated annually for that purpose, all the arms issued to militia to be of the same pattern as adopted for the United States army. To provide for the construction of levees on the Mississippi river. It authorizes the chief engineer of the army to have surveys and drawings made as soon as practicable for the location, design and execution of a complete system of levees for the reclamation of the Mississippi between Cairo and Belize; the cost of the work to be defrayed by issuing and selling United States bonds from time to time as may be necessary, not exceeding $36,000,000 currency. The states benefited are to cede to the United States all swamp and overflowed lands within their limits, and also other lands embraced within the base of said levees. A tax on various drainage districts is to be levied for maintaining the levees in repair. The levees are to be the property of the United States. Adjourned.

In the house, on the 9th, a bill was reported to provide for the redemption of the loan of 1859. It differs somewhat from the like bill passed by the senate. It declares that for the purpose of redeeming the bonds issued under the act of June 14, 1858, it is the pleasure of the United States to pay all coupons and registered bonds of the loan of 1858, on the 1st of January, 1874, at which date the interest thereon shall cease, and it appropriates money to carry out that provision. The second section authorizes the secretary of the treasury to issue an equal amount of five per cent. bonds in exchange for such bonds of 1858 as the holders thereof may desire to exchange, on or before the 1st of February, 1874, provided no commissions or allowances whatever be paid for the exchange of the bonds. An amendment to substitute the word "coin" for "money" was adopted, and the bill was passed. Considerable sparring was indulged upon the bill repealing the increase of salary law, and the house adjourned without definite action thereon.

In the senate, on the 10th, several petitions were presented, asking for legislation to regulate the traffic in alcoholic liquors, which were referred. A bill was reported to authorize the organization of national banks without circulation; also, authorizing the secretary of the treasury to issue the forty-four million reserve fund, and make it part of the permanent circulation. The bill is designed for the immediate relief of the stringency and to restore confidence and business activity to the country. A resolution was offered declaring it to be the duty of congress at the present session to adopt measures to strengthen the public credit, and directing said committee to report a bill providing for an issue of currency, at all times redeemable in gold or its equivalent. An amendment to the constitution was submitted, declaring that the United States should make nothing but gold and silver coin a legal tender for the payment of public or private debts; also, directing the secretary of the treasury to communicate to the senate all particulars relative to the cotton seized under orders of the department after the close of the war. A resolution was agreed to directing the committee on postoffices and post roads to consider the expediency of providing further convenience in correspondence known as letter writers, with a one cent stamp, being a new article of stationery adapted for a letter circular and newsaper wrapper. The senate went into short executive session and adjourned.

In the house, on the 10th, the following proceedings were had: A resolution recognizing Cuban independence was referred; also a resolution directing the secretary of the treasury to report in detail the cost of refunding the public debt thus far into five per cent. bonds; also, a bill to authorize the organization of national banks without circulation; also, a resolution for printing 255,000 copies of each of the annual agricultural reports of 1872 and 1873. A bill authorizing the present number of enlisted men of the navy to be increased from 8,500 to 10,000 was amended by providing that the temporary increase of force should not continue beyond the first of January, 1875, and, after a brief war talk, was passed. A bill appropriating four millions for extraordinary expenses of the navy was referred. The house then indulged in its regular skirmish on the repeal of the increase of salary bill, and adjourned.

In the senate, on the 11th, the first business in order was the election of a president *pro tem.*, which resulted in the choice of Senator Carpenter, of Wisconsin, over Thurman, of Ohio, by a vote of 32 to 16. The bill to substitute compound interest notes for legal tender notes were discussed and referred. A bill removing the political disabilities of Thomas S. Bocock, of Virginia, Jno. H. Reagan, of Texas, and others, passed. A number of petitions asking for the appointment of a commission to regulate the traffic in alcoholic liquors were presented and referred; also a bill to repeal the section of the bill of March 3, 1873, forbidding the free transmission of periodicals, magazines and newspapers through the United States mails and restoring the franking privilege; also, a bill extending the time for the completion of the St. Paul and Pacific railroad. A bill was introduced authorizing, from and after April 1, 1874, the payment of customs duties one-half in legal tender notes and one-half in gold; also, a bill relative to the liquor traffic. It provides for the appointment by the president, with the consent of the senate, of five commissioners to investigate the alcoholic liquor traffic in its economic, criminal, moral and scientific aspects, in connection with pauperism, crime social vice, the public health, and the general welfare of the people, and who shall also inquire and take testimony as to the practical results of license, restrictive and prohibitory legislation for the prevention of intemperance in the several states of the Union. The bill to authorize the organization of national banks without circulation was taken up, discussed briefly, and laid over. Senate then adjourned till Monday.

In the house, on the 11th, a resolution was adopted providing for a survey to ascertain the practicability of a ship canal connecting Lake Michigan with the Wabash river; also, instructing the committee on elections to examine and report the best and most practicable method of electing the president, and providing a tribunal to adjust and decide all contested questions therewith; also, directing the postmaster-general to report how many employes of all grades it will require to carry on the postal-savings institutions as recommended by him, and that he furnish like information as to the postal telagraph system also recommended, when the same is in full operation. A bill was reported to establish an educational fund, and to apply the proceeds of the sale of public lands to the education of the people. It enacts that the net proceeds of the sale of public lands shall be forever consecrated and set apart for the education of the people, provided the act shall not repeal, impair or suspend any law authorizing pre-emption or homestead entries, or abridge the power of congress over the public domain, nor interfere with granting bounty lands to soldiers and sailors of the late war. Laid over. The repeal of the increase of salary bill again came up. Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, made a lengthy speech in opposition, and the house adjourned without reaching a vote.

In the house, on the 12th, the senate bill removing political disabilities from Thomas J. Babcock, E. J. Harvey and Daniel Trigg, of Virginia, and John Reagan, of Texas, was passed. A resolution was adopted, directing the secretary of war to report whether payments had been made to the Illinois Central railroad company, for the transportation of troops or supplies of the United States since the first of January, 1866, and requiring like information as to other roads in aid of which grants have been made. A petition from a large number of business men all over the country for the repeal of the bankrupt law was referred. The speaker laid before the house a communication form the secretary of war, calling attention to the defalcations in the accounts of Gen. O. O. Howard, of the freedmen's bureau, whereupon a resolution was offered that the letter and accompanying reports relating to the defalcation, etc, of Gen. Howard be referred to the committee on military affairs, with instructions to report a resolution providing for the trial by a military court martial of any officers of the army implicated therein. The resolution was amended by striking out the word "instructions," and substituting therefor "alleged," and passed. The salary question then came up, and the bill was remitted to a special committee. In committee of the whole the bill appropriating $4,000,000 for extraordinary expenses of the naval service was taken up, discussed, and passed, and the house adjourned.

PARTED.

BY JOAQUIN MILLER.

We part as ships on a pathless main,
Gally enough, for the sense of pain
Is asleep at first; but ghosts will arise
When we would repose, and the forms will come
And walk when we walk, and will not be dumb,
Nor yet forget with their wakeful eyes,

When we most need rest, and the perfect sleep,
Some hand will pass from the dark, and keep
The curtains drawn and the pillows toss'd
Like a tide of foam; and one will say
At night—O heaven, that it were day!
And one by night through the misty tears
Will say—O heaven, the days are years,
And I would to heaven that the waves were crossed!

A LITTLE CLUB AFFAIR.

Isabel walked the parlor of her suite. It was far past midnight, and the great hotel was nearly silent. Up and down, with a supple, leonine motion peculiar to her, and a footfall of velvet, turning her black eyes restlessly, and whirling about if the air stirred in the passage; thus she had moved for hours.

Was she a heroine in distress? Was she a woman of gifts, evolving some creation from her sleepless brain? I am sorry to bring her down to earth—she was a fit subject for romance. But it must be confessed Isabel was only waiting for her husband, who was out late. Had she been a sensible, practical woman, she had wrapped the drapery for her couch round her and laid down to sweet dreams long ago. But she has only been a wife a year. Her husband was her single tie; she lived her life in him.

Isabel was beautiful. Her flesh was like marble lighted by fire; her hands, her eyes, her lips, the poise of her head, her undulating motion, had an elegance of their own. But when God lent her the gift of loveliness, He added thereto the gift of supersensitiveness, through which so many are graded to melancholy and madness. She had been the ward of a bachelor uncle, who felt he did his whole duty if he visited her twice a year at her convent, and answered her sorrowful black eyes with nods and winks of approval. When she was ready to enter the world, the charge of a young lady niece so taxed his freedom, and, by consequence, his spirits, that he laid him down and died. He hadn't meddled in matrimony. Why should his autumnal youth be spoiled by a foster daughter? The problem shovelled him into the grave.

Then Burnham appeared to Isabel. His family and hers had been on friendly terms whole generations. He had just returned from a long tour, and had the air of other continents around him, which fascinated her senses. Afterwards his best grew upon her; his generous nature, his pure intention, his mellow thought, the whole fine structure of his manhood. She knew little of the world; she made him her standard. So that when Burnham came wooing and made her sure that all his happiness was in her, she staked herself, and was blessed in proportion to her intense sensibility.

When Isabel became a wife, she did not degrade her hero. Her very estimate kept him up to her. Proud and tender of her, he walked to rectitude, and softly, before her, many moons and never meant to deviate.

But—

(The chapter recording Solomon's fall begins with *but.*)

But Burnham was a society man; he had such jovial friends, who formed such a jovial and select club. The "Pickwick Club" run over with money and leisure and graceful gayety. To be a "Pickwickian," was to be recognized as a tip-top globule of the city cream. Youngsters of family looked forward to rising into this club much as the young Roman anticipated the toga of manhood. It wielded an absurdly strong influence. The "Pickwickians" met in elegant apartments, drank imported wine, attended by perfect and silent service, and railed at the hard-worked, sad-visaged world. Young husbands were considered great conquests among them, and they importuned Burnham so much to join them that he good-naturedly took to "running in." From taking a friendly cigar and glass, he went on to extending his stays till the fascination of the club ran through his veins.

Isabel knew nothing of clubs. She supposed they might be assemblages of gentlemen with something of a literary character, such as Addison pictures. She saw in her mind's eye sober citizens grouped about tables, reading, perhaps smoking, and discussing wisdom. She waited for her husband because she was restless when he was away, not because she had any righteous tongue in pickle for him.

Feet shuffled in the hall. She bent her neck; her whole body crouched to listen. They drew nearer, zig-zagging; they paused at her door; and the being outside, evidently an animal without hands, began to rub and fumble and growl for entrance.

Isabel threw the door open, when a person in a very bad hat, with his whole apparel somewhat on one side, fell at her feet. It was a stage scene, but terribly real with one actor. Isabel started back, raising and wringing her hands, and staring at her husband like a maniac. Mr. Burnham gathered himself up and took observations. Some drunken men are abusive; others maudlin; others jolly. But Burnham was pompous. He found a sofa, and mounted it tremulously to harangue his wife on her duty as "genl'men to c'nduct 'self like genl'men—drivedullcare'way!" and made as consummate and disgusting a fool of himself as it is possible for a man's body to do when that fine spirit which governs is drown'd.

Isabel stood watching without moving a muscle. The stare drew his attention, and he requested leave to ask if she was drunk, and if she meant to "sult him." Then overwrought by his own eloquence, he relaxed and dropped along the sofa. She saw a face swollen and sensual; a frame nerveless and heavy; a man turned to a beast.

Her maid tapped at an inner door to ask if Mrs. Burnham wanted her now.

"Go to my dressing-room," replied Isabel, towering between the damsel's eyes and that locomotive-laboring-up-a-steep-grade upon the sofa. "Wait for me there."

She closed the door and went back. Not being addicted to harangues and handkerchiefs, she merely clasped her hands and looked at him, thinking. I suppose, that no woe like hers had ever come upon the world since the deluge. Yet Mrs Smith, down by the wharves, could have shown her deeper depths: and thousands of wretches within a few square miles, might have smiled at her butterfly misery. Yet, after all, every one suffers according to his capacity rather than according to his stroke. Isabel considered wine as belonging to gentle breeding. That Mrs. Smith's "man" should come to the gutter through rum, was a thing to be expected: "that sort of people you know, etc.," but that Mrs. Burnham's lord could be touched with the same infirmity, was a revelation of human nature for which she was not prepared. Like all natures of her cast, she stood in fiercest judgment over what she loved best.

Burnham slept till a late sun thrust bright daggers through his hair, and heated his eyelids.

Dissipation treated him kindly. He came down to luncheon after bath and toilet and a little philosophy, as fresh and suave as your father confessor. Isabel did not trouble him for the time. She had taken her maid and gone out, he supposed, and he was glad of having more time to recover himself before he attempted to pass muster under those black eyes again. He came home to dinner invigorated by business, with his winning, repentant guise on his arm, ready for use, as you may say. But Isabel had not yet returned. No one had seen her that day.

He rushed to her room and plowed among her belongings. She had taken little; and that little had evidently been packed hastily.

Pinned to a frame containing his portrait, Burnham found her last testament; he opened it with a face like the dead. She said to him:

"Do not search for me. We can never be anything to each other again. You have killed me; you taught me to lean on and adore the best of men; and then you unmasked and showed me what you were. The world is black; I have no faith in anything."

Mr. Burnham, in reading this scrap, forgot the repose of good breeding. He fell upon his knees as if Hercules had planted a blow between his eyes; he rung for the police, and whirled up the great hotel like a madman. But those much buttoned gentlemen, with clubs and ornamented caps, have a soothing effect on the most harrowed mind. Burnham dropped down in his parlor, with his head between his hands, and explained himself, in fragments, to one of them, who stood reading him like a book.

"Did she have money?" asked the immovable.

"She has a large bank account, her own property, which I never touch. Perhaps she has cashed that."

On investigation it was found that she had.

"And with eighteen hours start," pursued the immovable, "she'll be well away from the city by this time. Description of lady, and lady's woman, sir?"

So they took notes, examined, put their hand to the wires, and flew about surely and silently, while Burnham measured his rooms or the streets, or sat in police stations, looking like an old man.

Once, when a juvenile, I seized a stone, with an impulse of disgust, and hit a rat which crept from under the barn. It screamed and tottered, lifting suffering eyes. The poor thing had been poisoned; great ulcers were on its back; it was crawling from death, and I hurt it! I sat down on the grass, crying and wringing my hands, the veriest wretch alive; I had struck a suffering, defenseless creature! If I could only have gathered the rat on my lap and soothed its dying moments! But he dragged out of sight and left me everlasting remorse. Since cruelty is a two-edged sword that falls back painfully if you use it even against vermin, how it must cut if we have lifted it against our best beloved!

The rhyme of Burnham, his wanderings, his remorse, his sack-cloth and fastings, are they not written in the book of his experience?

His police force traced Isabel out of the city, but they were long discovering her. They sent him continued messages of their progress; he left his affairs to follow every clue. And dismal hours he spent in her dressing-room poring over a glove or a ribbon, enjoying the sweetness of freedom and widowhood. The "Pickwick Club" was no stay to his care. He hated the sight of their Bacchanalian faces.

It seemed that years instead of months had passed, when the chief man of buttons and clubs waited on him one day, with the joyful assurance that in a certain northern village, in a certain house, he would find his wife. Was it joyful assurance after all? At the end of his long, sickening journey, he stood at the gate of her house, about dusk, more depressed than he had ever felt before. She had commanded him not to search for her; he was minded to turn and go back, satisfying himself with the knowledge that all was well with her. Such floods of change had rolled between them. He knew not how to approach her.

But, like a call to him, a little cooing cry came from the house; it stirred him like a sea. Then Isabel came to the window, looking out and up. Her beautiful face was softened and sweetened, for she had been in the hard land of maternity, under discipline which brings out the angel-side of woman; in her arms she held his little child.

Her eyes falling on her husband, this most consistent woman reached toward him, bursting into a low, glad cry of, "Oh, I knew you'd come!"

After supper, when the room was cosy, and the good maid's steps had ceased, and the blessed child had been admired till both parents were in a state of imbecility, Isabel hung to a button of her husband's coat and falteringly confessed her sins; her days of darkness; her ignorance of patient love, till the baby came to teach her. Then Burnham took up the parody, and shrived himself and made promises in a way which would have afforded the "Pickwick Club" infinite amusement. And, in his turn, the remarkable infant raised his voice. So that they were very cosy.

And it was not fatal after all, like some other club affairs.

Gen. Forrest Tenders His Services—Reply from Gen. Sherman.

The Memphis Appeal publishes the following correspondence:

MEMPHIS, Nov. 24, 1873.

To Gen. W. T. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief U. S. A., Washington, D. C.:

DEAR GENERAL—By telegrams from Washington and other sources, it appears we are likely to become involved in war with Spain. If so, I presume the seat of war will be in Cuba. In case we should become involved, and the government should require assistance, I hereby tender you my services as volunteer. I think I could enlist from 1,000 to 5,000 men who served in the southern army during the late war, at short notice, and who could rendezvous at New Orleans, Mobile, Pensacola and Key West, either as cavalry or infantry.

Yours, very respectfully,

[Signed] N. B. FORREST.

HEAD Q'RS ARMY OF U. S.,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 28, 1873.

N. B. Forrest, Memphis:

SIR—Yours of the 24th is received, and I have sent it to the war department with this indorsement, "Respectfully referred to the secretary of war for file." Among the hundreds of offers that come to me, I deem this worthy a place among the archives, to await coming events. I regard N. B Forrest one of the most extraordinary men developed by our civil war, and were it left to me in the event of a war requiring cavalry, I would unhesitatingly accept his services, and give him a prominent place. I believe now he would fight against our national enemies as vehemently as he did against us, and that is saying enough.

[Signed] W. T. SHERMAN, Gen.

I don't believe there will be a war, for neither government wants a war. Again, in the event of a war with Spain on account of Cuba, the bulk of the fighting would be afloat, for whoever commands the sea can have Cuba. We may not now have sufficient heavy iron clad ships, but then some could be had, and we have an abundance of good naval officers and seamen, when the result would be certain, leaving for the land forces the smaller task of occupation. No part of this will likely be confided to me, and, therefore, I have sent your letter to the war department, which can only act after congress declares war and provides means for its prosecution.

W. T. SHERMAN, Gen.

Bazaine Sentenced to Degradation and Death.

M. Tachard, counsel for Marshal Bazine, in his peroration, said: "I deeply sympathize with the valiant soldier, overwhelmed by the terrible accusation. I fear not death for him. He is brave and fears nothing but the loss of his honor, but for the sake of his wife and children. I feel most for France, which will deplore the loss of the valiant soldier. Your honor and patriotism forbids that you condemn him. You know what political trials on this spot are, on which posterity has raised a statue to those executed after such trials." M. Pourcet replied, demanding that a terrible example be made as a lesson to the rising generation.

Before the judges withdrew Bazaine said: "I have two words in my breast, honor and country; I have never been wanting to this proud motto during forty-two years of service. I swear before Christ that I have never betrayed France."

After a long deliberation the judges declared Bazaine guilty of the charges of the capitulation of Metz and the army on the open field, without doing all that was prescribed by honor and duty to avoid surrender, and unanimously condemned him to death and to be degraded from his rank previous to his execution.

After judgment had been rendered, all the members of the court signed an appeal for mercy, which Duke D'Aumale immediately conveyed in person to President McMahon. Bazaine was greatly agitated when he heard the decision of the court.

A NEBRASKA man willed $5,000 to a widow and $1,000 to his own wife, and the way that widow's hair came out was a caution, while the dead man in his tomb hadn't a softer word than "old fool" applied to his remains.

THEY are now shipping dressed beef from Denizen, Texas, to New York city, and it is thought this will lower the price of beef in New York and increase the revenue of the producer, as it does away with the old drover system.

GRAVE AND GAY.

SPRING WATER—April showers.

THE FIRST man of mark—Cain.

LIP SERVICE—Tea-cups and saucers.

SONG of the seeds—Put me in my little bed.

IN our law there is no sin but cruelty. *Hafiz.*

A NOBLE style can only proceed from a sincere heart.

WHO has the fewest wants is most like God.—*Socrates.*

How did Adam go out of Eden? He was snaked out.

SOCRATES thought men were gods who had not found it out.

THE theater of war is about the only one where back seats are desired.

ADVICE to surgeons—Keep your temper or you'll lose your patience.

LA CROSSE papers speak of the schools of that city as "the tanneries."

Oh! it was a terrible cough
That carried her off,
And 'twas a coffin
They carried her off in!

ADVICE to florists—Always plant pillow-slips at the head of your flower-beds.

Do not speak of your happiness to a man less fortunate than yourself.—*Plutarch.*

BLOBBS insists that eating chestnuts in the dark doesn't give the worms a fair chance.

No man is always wrong; a clock that does not go at all is right every twelve hours.

HE that wants money, means and content is without three good friends.—*Shakespeare.*

IF "I" were in the sun, and you ("u") were out of it, what would the sun become? Sin.

WIDOWS who cry most are easiest consoled. There is nothing like wet weather for transplanting.

A CONNECTICUT father has christened his daughter Glycerine. She will be good for chapped lips.

A WAG said to an egotistical writer,