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Democratic to the Hub!

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POETRY.

SONG OF THE FLAIL.

BY J. T. TROWBRIDGE.

IN the autumn, when the hollows
All are filled with flying leaves,
And the colonies of swallows
Quit the quietly silenced eaves,
And a silver mantle glistens
Over all the misty vale,
Sits the little wife and listens
To the beating of the flail,
To the pounding of the flail—
By her cradle sits and listens
To the flapping of the flail.

The bright summer days are over,
And her eye no longer sees
The red blossom upon the clover,
The deep green upon the trees;
Hushed the songs of finch and robin,
With the whistle of the quail;
But she hears the mellow throbbing
Of the thunder of the flail,
The low thunder of the flail—
Through the amber air the throbbing
And reverberating flail.

In the barn the stout young thresher
Stooping stands with rolled-up sleeves,
Beating out his golden treasure
From the ripened and rustling sheaves;
Oh, was ever knight in armor—
Warrior all in shining mail—
Half so handsome as her farmer
As he plies the flying flail,
As he wields the flashing flail?—
The barn—through the brown young farmer,
As he swings the scourging flail?

All the hopes that saw the sowing,
All the sweet desires of spring,
All the joy that watched the growing
And the yellowing of the grain,
And the love that went to meet her,
And the faith that shall not fail—
All are speaking so fly to her
In the pulses of the flail
Of the palpitating flail—
Past and Future whispering to her
In the music of the flail.

In its crib their babe is sleeping,
And the sunshine from the door
All the afternoon is creeping
Slowly round upon the floor;
And the shadows soon will darken,
And the daylight soon must pale,
When the wife no more shall hearken
To the tramping of the flail,
To the dancing of the flail—
When her heart no more shall hearken
To the footfall of the flail.

And the babe shall grow and strengthen,
Be a maiden, be a wife,
While the moving shadows lengthen
Round the dial of their life;
Theirs the trust of friend and neighbor,
And an age serene and hale,
When machines shall do the labor
Of the strong arm and the flail,
Of the stout heart and the flail—
Great machines perform the labor
Of the good old-fashioned flail.

But when, blessed among women,
And when, honored among men,
They look round them can the brimming
Of their utmost wishes then
Give them happiness complete?
And can ease and wealth avail
To make any music sweeter
Than the pounding of the flail?
Oh, the sounding of the flail!
Never music can be sweeter
Than the beating of the flail!

—*Harper's for September.*

MISCELLANY.

MISS HARTSON'S DEFEAT.

BY MRS. BELLE WILSON STAFF.

"IT'S just the loveliest old farm-house in the whole wide world, and the beautiful country around it, in its wildness and grandeur, stirs the heart like a thrilling poem or a deep, tender romance." Helen Grandison was saying to her friend Miss Wilhelmina Hartson, who listened to the rhapsody in a very listless, absent sort of way. In fact, she did not at all understand this fine, poetic appreciation of everything beautiful that was really and truly a part of Miss Grandison's deep, earnest nature, and scarcely realized what she meant when she talked in this way about the country being "a thrilling poem," or "a tender romance;" notwithstanding she did turn around when Helen had finished, and exclaim, rapturously, "Well, Helen, dear, that's just the very place then. We'll go, and stay the whole enduring summer! Won't it be delightful not to be compelled to drag through another fashionable season, right now?"

"Yes, indeed, Willie," replied Helen, smilingly, taking her friend's enthusiasm all in good faith, "we can have a charming quiet, restful time; do just as we please, and I know we'll both find it more agreeable than all the compulsory dressing and dancing at Saratoga."

"And we mustn't tell a single soul where we're going, for if we should, one or more of our worshipful devotees would be sure to follow us," stipulated Miss Hartson, with a half-inquiring glance at Helen's face, which grew a shade more thoughtful, for there was one person in the world to whom she had designed giving the key of her whereabouts, before this virtual retirement from society, that he might know where to find her in the long, quiet summer that stretched out so alluringly before her. So she did not reply immediately, and presently the other girl commenced talking again.

"In the strictest confidence, Helen," she said, "I will give you my reason for wishing to make this a part of our agreement. The truth is, dear, I wouldn't care for anybody else, but I don't want Will Standish to know where I am this summer. If others find out, he will be sure to ascertain also, and in less than a week after we get there make his appearance, which would be the most unpleasant contretemps in the world for poor little me."

"I don't quite understand," said Helen, with just a faint tremor in her sweet voice, "why it should be so unpleasant to you, Willie, to have Mr. Standish come to uncle Raymond's."

"Well, I have gone a little too far with the gentleman in question, that's all, and never realized, until he had commenced begging me to name the day, how very much in earnest he was," the girl replied, with a little deprecating laugh and a keen, furtive glance into the white, startled face of the listener. "You see, I want to avoid a scene, and shall manage not to see him any more before I go with you to the country; will leave a letter of dismissal to be handed him after I am fairly off. I must leave his picture and ring, too," she added, twirling significantly the magnificent diamond that glittered on the "engagement finger," and on which Helen now looked with a wild, half-incredulous gaze.

"You have surprised me very much, Willie; I had never thought of Mr. Standish as a lover of yours," she said directly, in a strange, quiet voice, shrinking away from the curious scrutiny of the pale blue eyes opposite.

"Of course you didn't, Helen, because it was my special request that he should never devote himself to me in public. I don't believe anybody is aware of our engagement. But really I must be off now, dear, I've half a dozen other calls to make this morning," Miss Hartson continued, as she glanced at her watch and rose from her seat. "And how soon shall we start to your Uncle Raymond's?"

"I should like to go immediately," responded Helen: "to-morrow morning, if possible."

"Oh, dear! and I can't possibly be ready before next Tuesday," said Miss Hartson, with a pretty affectation of dismay; "but never mind that, Helen; you go to-morrow, if it suits you best, and I'll come next week."

Then she pressed a good-bye kiss on Miss Grandison's cold lips, and ran lightly out to the little phaeton that stood in waiting. As she gathered up the lines and drove slowly down the street, she congratulated herself over and over again on the success of her plan to get Helen Grandison out of her way, for one season at least.

"She was silly enough to believe everything I told her about Will Standish, and actually supposes that I mean to bury myself at that stupid old farm-house, sure enough," soliloquized Miss Hartson. "It will be an easy matter to write next week that I have been compelled by circumstances beyond my control to change my plans for the summer, and by the time she resurrects next fall it won't be my fault if Will Standish and myself are not, in truth, on the high road to matrimony; and I shall not care a straw if Helen should suspect 'foul play' then." And she smiled complacently as she drew up before her own home, altogether forgetful of the half-dozen other calls she had intended making.

The very night before Helen Grandison had listened to words of love from this same Will Standish, and, hearing his eager pleading, and looking into his earnest, handsome face, she had believed him to be all that was noble, true and good; and, although she had not promised to be his wife, she yet felt that he had won her heart, and received assurance of her love. Then she remembered, with a keen sense of mortification, that he had actually called her "my darling," and for one brief moment clasped her to his breast.

She had felt so supremely happy in the belief that she was beloved by this, the only man to whom her pure, true heart had ever yielded allegiance, and the revelation she had listened to that morning had fallen like a swift blow upon her high, sensitive nature.

It was hard to realize that all the brightness of yesterday was gone from her life; that she had only been deceived in him whom she had trusted so entirely, and she buried her pale face in her hands and wept the first bitter tears of sorrow that had ever dimmed the luster of her glorious dark eyes.

At first she thought only of her own wrecked hopes and wounded love; then, with a quick revulsion of feeling, a sense of supreme scorn for the man himself swept through her soul—for this man who had been recreant enough to trifle away the hours of his engagement to another girl by amusing himself in a flirtation with her. Her idol had indeed fallen, and once looking the facts fully in the face, and believing him to be in reality utterly unworthy the deep love she had given him, she resolutely determined to drive his image from her heart; and, with characteristic firmness, set about shaping her future course of action. She felt a thrill of gladness that she had decided to go to the country the next day instead of waiting until Miss Hartson could be ready to accompany her; for, with all her resolution and firmness, she could not feel quite strong enough to face the world and Will Standish just now.

Drawing her writing-desk toward her, she penned him a few formal words of retraction and rejection, hoping that the mutual flirtation, which had been so eminently agreeable to her, had proved equally so to him, and closing by bidding him a courteous adieu for the summer season.

Then, remembering that she had given Miss Hartson no directions for finding her uncle's country home, she proceeded to write a note to her also, and, separately folding the two delicate sheets of note-paper, she enclosed them in the envelopes she had already directed, and at once dispatched a servant with the one addressed to the young lady, retaining the other to be sent to the post-office next morning, so that it would be delivered through the mail after she was gone.

The servant soon returned, saying Miss Hartson was not at home, but he had left the note to be handed her when she should return.

That same evening, when Will Standish called to see Helen, his true heart all full of love and hope, and eager yearning to feel anew the hallowing influence of her sweet presence, he felt sadly disappointed when he was met at the door with the message: "Miss Helen says you will please to excuse her this evening."

Wondering a little that no kind word of regret accompanied her wish to be excused, but concluding in his own mind that she must be suffering from indisposition, he could only await, impatiently enough, the coming of the morrow, resolving when it came to call upon Helen in the afternoon, instead of waiting until night.

But the noon mail brought a letter superscribed in her handwriting to himself.

He tore it open, and with an odd mixture of bewilderment and delight, read these words:

DEAR WILLIE—I start to my uncle Raymond's to-morrow morning. Be sure to follow me on Tuesday next. You can, if you choose, just take the early train for L——; stop at —— station, and I will be there myself to meet you.

Affectionately, HELEN.

Glancing at the date, he perceived the note must have been written the day before, and thought that he now understood why his darling had refused to see him that evening. She must, of course, have been in the midst of hurried preparations for leaving home, for certainly her departure was unexpected to herself, else she would have mentioned it to him when he saw her last.

Over and over again he perused the words she had penned, and each time the thrill of rapture they brought to his heart was strangely mingled with a puzzled feeling of surprise that Helen should so suddenly have cast aside all her proud reticence of manner and the sweet, maidenly reserve that had always constituted in his eyes one of her most winning charms, and write to him in this free, familiar style, actually addressing him as "Dear Willie," and subscribing herself "Affectionately, Helen." But he did not feel disposed to find fault with this lack of conventionality, and in his soul he blessed her for laying formality aside this one time, thus giving him indisputable proof that, although she had withheld her verbal promise to become his wife, she did, after all, regard him as her affianced lover.

To-day was Thursday, and many were the ways and means that our hero devised to pass away the weary intervening time; and when the auspicious Tuesday at last arrived, and he was really aboard the railway train, the four hours' ride to —— station seemed an almost interminable journey.

With a feverish, indefinable impatience he sprang from the cars when the station was called out, and, glancing eagerly around, saw the beautiful face of Helen looking from an open carriage near the depot.

He advanced quickly toward her, his earnest gaze noting the fact that she was looking paler than he had ever before seen her.

Her soft dark eyes were fixed upon some other passengers who had emerged from the train, among whom were several ladies, and she did not see him until he had gained the carriage, and was giving her fond rapturous words of greeting.

Before she could recover sufficiently from her surprise and indignation to speak, he had sprung lightly into the vehicle beside her, and clasping her hand, he murmured fondly, "Oh, Helen, my darling, you can never know how blest and happy you made me by your sweet command that I should come to you to-day."

With flashing eyes and crimson cheeks, Helen drew herself haughtily away, just as the coachman approached, and respectfully announced that Miss Hartson was not aboard the train, at the same time handing Helen a letter that had been brought for her to the station.

A sudden light drifted through her mind, and turning with quiet dignity to her companion, she said coldly: "Mr. Standish, you have evidently, through a careless blunder of mine, received a note which I wrote last week to my friend Miss Willie Hartson, whom I came here to meet to-day, and as you have been presumptuous enough to suppose that I was really addressing you, courtesy demands that I shall offer you the hospitality of my uncle's house."

"Which, of course, I shall be only too happy to accept," responded the young man.

And Helen gave her orders to the driver, who was already in his seat.

"Let me beg pardon for my presumption, Helen," Will Standish continued, as the horses started in a quick trot. "And while I tell you how sorry I am to discover that the sweet words were not really meant for me, may I not believe that you are glad to see me anyhow; and will you not accord me just one bright smile of welcome, my darling?" he asked gravely, looking in a kind of pained amazement upon the cold, repellant, half-scornful expression of her face, as she listened to his words with averted eyes. "Helen, in heaven's name, what does this mean? Tell me—"

"Mr. Standish, this is neither time nor place for explanation," interrupted Helen, "but I should be glad hereafter to have you address me as Miss Grandison."

The remainder of the short drive was passed in comparative silence, and when they reached the Raymond farm-house, Helen, leaving her perplexed and distressed lover in the care of her uncle, who met them on the steps, repaired at once to her own chamber, endeavoring to quiet in some measure the tumult of emotion in which she found herself.

Almost mechanically she glanced at the letter which still remained unopened in her hand, and which was, of course, from Miss Hartson. Thinking it might help to distract her thoughts from herself, she tore it open.

The letter bore the date of the preceding day, and the young lady commenced by telling her dear Helen that the note which she had sent her last week had, through the negligence of a servant, not been delivered until that very evening upon which she wrote.

Then she went on to say how horrified she was when she discovered that the missive had been intended for Mr. Standish.

"For Helen, darling," she added, pathetically, "I am almost sure that you have sent him something you had written to me, and I am so fearful that it may have contained some allusion to the ridiculous story I told you the morning before you left home. Of course, dear, I was only jesting about Mr. Standish being a lover of mine, and merely wanted to see, for the fun of the thing, if I could impose on your credulity for a little while. You must forgive me for breaking my promise to spend the summer with you in the country, as mamma is determined I shall go to Saratoga."

It is needless to say how freely Helen did forgive her, or to tell of the radiant, blushing face with which she met her lover in the dining-room a half-hour later, or of how Will Standish blessed the fates for sending him the wrong note, when Helen confessed to him what she had really intended him to receive.

Miss Grandison's summer in the country was one delicious volume of love and tenderness.

There was a grand wedding in the city in the fall, and Miss Hartson, after grinding her white teeth savagely over her defeat, smiled amiable congratulations to the lovely bride and the handsome, happy bridegroom.—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

THE TROUBLES IN THE SOUTH.

The Department of Justice to Preserve the Peace Under the Provisions of the Enforcement Act.

LONG BRANCH, N. J., Sept. 2, 1874.

Gen. W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War:

Recent atrocities in the South, particularly in Louisiana, Alabama and South Carolina, show a disregard for the law, civil rights and personal protection that ought not to be tolerated in any civilized government. It looks as if, unless speedily checked, matters must become worse, until life and property there will receive no protection from the local authorities until such authority become powerless. Under such circumstances it is the duty of the Government to give all and for the protection of life and civil rights legally authorized. To this end I wish you would consult with the Attorney-General, who is well informed as to the outrages already committed, and the localities where the greatest danger lies, and so order troops as to be available in cases of necessity. All proceedings for protection of the South will be under the Law Department of the Government, and will be directed by the Attorney-General in accordance with the provisions of the Enforcement act.

No instructions need, therefore, be given troops ordered into the Southern States, except as they may be transmitted from time to time on advice from the Attorney-General, or as circumstances may determine hereafter.

(Signed) U. S. GRANT.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, September 3, 1874.

SIR—Outrages of various descriptions, and in some cases atrocious murders, have been committed in your district by bodies of armed men, sometimes in disguise, and with the view, it is believed, of overthrowing and intimidating peaceable and law-abiding citizens, and depriving them of the rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution and laws of the United States. Your attention is called to an act of Congress, passed April 9, 1866, entitled "An act to protect all persons in the United States in their civil rights, and to furnish means for their vindication," and to another passed April 20, 1871, entitled "An act to enforce the provisions of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and for other purposes," also, to one passed May 6, 1870, entitled "An act to enforce the right of citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of this Union, and for other purposes;" which, with their amendments, make these deeds of violence and blood within the jurisdiction of the General Government. I consider it my duty, in view of these circumstances, to proceed with all possible energy and dispatch to detect, expose, arrest and punish the perpetrators of these crimes, and to that end you are to spare no effort or necessary expense. Troops of the United States will be stationed at different and convenient points in your district, for the purpose of giving you all the needful aid in the discharge of your official duties. You understand, of course, that no interference whatever is hereby intended with any political or party action not in violation of law, but protection to all classes of citizens, white and colored, in the free exercise of the elective franchise and the enjoyment of other rights and privileges to which they are entitled under the Constitution and laws as citizens of the United States. Instructions are issued by authority of the President and with the concurrence of the Secretary of War. Very respectfully,

GEO. H. WILLIAMS, Att'y-General.

[The above is addressed to the U. S. Marshals and Attorneys, and is prepared with the approval and indorsement of the President, to whom the substantial points were submitted during a visit of the Attorney-General to Long Branch.]

THE building in Washington for the British Embassy, said to be the handsomest and costliest residence in the city, has been finished, and will be ready for the occupancy of Sir Edward Thornton on the 1st of October. Its cost has been about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and the furnishing will cost half that sum. It has seventy rooms and covers about ten thousand square feet of ground. It is of pressed brick, laid in black mortar, and is trimmed with light gray sandstone.

NEWS SUMMARY.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

The Republicans of Nebraska have nominated J. C. McBride for Treasurer, and Gen. George H. Roberts for Attorney-General. The resolutions favor free banking; recognize the power of the General Government to regulate commerce between the States, and recommend the Government to establish and operate a double-track railway from the Missouri River to the Atlantic; deprecate a presidential third term; and approve the Civil-rights bill.

Steele, Democrat, is re-elected to Congress from Wyoming Territory by a majority between 500 and 600. The Democratic ticket generally was successful throughout the Territory.

The Democratic and Conservative State Central Committee of Louisiana have issued an address to the people of the Union, in reference to the present exigency of affairs in that State. They say that the people of that State have for two years appealed in vain to the General Government for protection against the illegal acts of the Federal District Judges in the State; that having failed, their only hope of relief is in participating in the election held under the very auspices of the usurping State Government; that the number of murders and crimes committed in the State have been magnified and distorted for the purpose of securing Federal intervention, and that under the Enforcement act the military forces of the General Government are to be placed under the control of the United States Marshal, who is also the Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, and the District Attorney, who is also one of the main pillars of the Republican party in the State, and that such troops will be used to overawe and intimidate their political opponents in the coming election. The address concludes:

In this emergency the people of Louisiana appeal to their fellow-citizens of the Union for a hearing. They ask the judgment of an enlightened public opinion. They assert their fidelity to the Nation, but they spurn an odious usurpation gnawing at the vitals of the State. They respect and cheerfully give obedience to the General Government, but they discriminate between the well-defined action of that government and the fraudulent perversion of federal functions by subordinate officers. Conscious of the honesty of their purposes, and of the justice of their cause, they are energetically enlisted in the work of their political redemption.

A convention of Republicans of the Southern States is to be held at Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 12, the object of which is stated to be to set forth to the nation the true condition of the South, and show the needs and suggest reforms necessary to secure the perfect reconstruction of those States. It is expected the President, Vice-President and others of national reputation will be present. Owing to the short notice it is agreed that the Executive Committee of each Southern State or their chairmen appoint delegates. This movement is understood to have the indorsement and co-operation of prominent Republicans in all sections.

The new Constitution of Arkansas was completed and signed, on the 7th, by nearly all the members of the Convention. The Convention adjourned until Oct. 20, seven days after the election on the new Constitution; and should the Constitution be ratified it stands adjourned sine die.

The answer of Henry Ward Beecher to the complaint of Theodore Tilton, was served on the plaintiff on the 7th. The answer is a general denial of all the criminal charges made therein.

The Missouri State Republican Committee have resolved to call a State Convention, to be held at Jefferson City on the 23d instant. They recommend, however, that no State ticket be nominated for the ensuing campaign, "but to leave the party perfectly free to support such ticket as shall best secure economy and good government in Missouri."

The Democrats of Massachusetts, at their State Convention held on the 9th, nominated Wm. Gaston, of Boston, for Governor, and Wm. S. Smith, of Springfield, for Lieutenant-Governor. The remaining nominations are—Secretary of State, Benj. F. Wells, of Williamstown; Treasurer, Nathan Clark, of Lynne; Auditor, C. Osgood Moore, of Newburyport; Attorney-General, Waldo Coburn, of Dedham. The resolutions favor a speedy resumption of specie payment, as alike demanded by honor and recognized by all civilized nations of the world as the only sound and healthy basis of currency. All lawless acts of violence against the colored race at the South are heartily condemned, as well as all Federal interference with the elections in the various States.

Judge Poland has published a card, withdrawing from the contest for Congress in the Second Vermont District, where neither of the three candidates running had a majority—Judge Poland, the regular Republican nominee, being left far in the rear, however, by Denison, his bolting opponent. Judge Poland in his card denies the use of any improper influence to secure his election, and says that his course upon matters stigmatized as salary-grabbing, Credit Mobilier, whitewashing and press-gagging, will bear the closest scrutiny, and he has no desire to change.

The New York Liberal Republican State Convention met on the 9th. It was deemed inexpedient at present to make any nominations, and the convention adjourned to Sept. 30. Resolutions were passed—denouncing the administration of President Grant for various reasons given; and opposing the re-election of any President for a second term; condemning the press-gag law, so called; and favoring a return to a specie basis and the establishment of a free banking system.

Governor Baxter was renominated for Governor of Arkansas by the Democratic State Convention, on the 9th. Hon. E. H. English was also renominated for Chief-Justice. Resolutions were passed recommending the ratification of the new Constitution.

Patterson, Democrat, has been elected Representative from Colorado, beating Chaffee, Republican, the present member, by a majority of from 1,000 to 2,000.

The Nebraska Independent State Convention, held at Lincoln on the 9th, nominated J. F. Gardner for Governor and Henry Webb for Secretary of State. The platform favors resumption of specie payment as soon as possible, also cheap transportation; opposes further land grants to railroads, favors reduction of taxes, a tariff for revenue, against patent monopoly and in favor of uniform license law.

The Michigan Reform Convention, held at Jackson on the 9th, nominated Henry Chamberlain for Governor, Jerome W. Turner for Lieutenant-Governor, George W. House for Secretary of State, and Wm. F. Hewitt for Treasurer. The platform advocates the reduction of the number and diminution of power of officers under the National Government; reduction of salaries, to the extent that no fund can be raised for political purposes from office-holders; political opinion should not be a reason for appointment to office, nor ground for removal; prohibition of recommendation to office by any Senator or Representative in Congress; election of all Federal officers by the people; speedy return to hard money; all banking, State and National, should be free; a tariff for revenue and a just and equitable system of taxation.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

The closing price of gold in New York, on the 9th, was 109 1-4.

Following is the comparative cotton statement for the week ending Sept. 5:

	1874.	1873.
Net receipts for past week all U. S. ports	5,562	9,323
Total receipts from Sept. 1 to date all U. S. ports	5,562	9,323
Exports for past week from all ports	1,186	7,221
Total exports from Sept. 1 to date from all ports	1,186	7,221
Stock now on hand at all U. S. ports	147,611	81,206
Stock now on hand at all interior towns, less Selma and Columbus	16,516	10,437
Stock at Liverpool	800,000	575,000
Stock of American afloat for Great Britain	26,000	41,000

Trains will commence running through the Hoosac Tunnel on November 1.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

A white man named Hall, who was locked up in jail for being concerned in the murder, by six masked men, of an old negro in Putnam county, Tenn., was a few nights since himself taken out of the jail by a party of masked men and shot.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Governor Kellogg, of Louisiana, issued a proclamation on the 3d, placing a reward of $5,000 a head on all the persons implicated in the Coushatta affair, and accompanied his proclamation by a statement giving a history of the troubles. Gov. Kellogg says that the difficulties originated in the efforts of the White League of Red River parish to compel the Republican State officers of that parish to resign, and his statement is substantially as follows:

Sheriff Edgerton summoned a *posse comitatus* to protect the officers from threatened violence on the part of the White League. The Sheriff's posse was overpowered by a superior force assembled from the adjacent parishes, and finally, after several white and colored men had been killed, surrendered themselves prisoners, with the explicit guarantee that their lives would be spared. If the more prominent Republicans would agree to leave the parish, and those holding office would resign their positions. These stipulations, though unlawfully exacted, were complied with on the part of the Republican officials, who were then locked up in the jail for the night.

The following named persons were among those so surrendered and resigning: Homer A. Mitchell, planter and Tax Collector of Red River parish and Deputy United States Postmaster, in charge of the post-office at Coushatta; Robert A. Dewees, Supervisor of Registration of De Soto parish; Clark Hoeland, merchant and Supervisor of Registration of Red River parish; W. F. Howell, Parish Attorney and United States Commissioner; Frank S. Edgerton, Sheriff of Red River parish; McC. Willis, merchant and Justice of the Peace.

On the following morning (Sunday, the 30th August), these persons were bound together, two and two, and conducted by an armed guard to the McFarland plantation, just over the parish line of Red River, within the boundaries of Bossier parish, about forty miles east of the Texas line. There they were set upon and deliberately murdered in cold blood. On the night preceding the murder, a body of forty members of the White League of Cobdet parish, mounted and armed, left the city of Shreveport, and were seen riding in the direction of the place where the murder was subsequently committed. The bodies were buried where they fell, without inquest or any formality whatever.

A special dispatch to the New Orleans *Picayune* from Shreveport emphatically denies the truth of Gov. Kellogg's statement, and says that Major Stephenson's statement, heretofore published, is substantially correct, and that the negroes and their white abettors were the aggressors. It is also denied that the citizens of Caddo parish had anything to do with the affair.

Goldsmith Maid trotted a mile in 2:14 at Mystic Park, Boston, on the 2d. She was accompanied, as at Rochester, by a running mate, and took a prize of $2,500 which was offered conditional on her beating, in three trials, her previous record of 2:14 3-4. The first quarter was made in :33 1-4 and the half-mile in 1:06 1-4.

A committee appointed by the Minnesota Legislature to investigate the transactions of the late Auditor, Charles McIlrath, on account of the school and swamp lands which were in his charge as Land Commissioner *ex officio*, report that they have discovered defalcations on the part of McIlrath to the amount of $89,559. It is also ascertained that McIlrath had executed no official bond since the commencement of his last official term, and the school fund of the State will therefore be an absolute loser to the amount above mentioned.

Governor Osborn of Kansas on the 5th made another request to the President for arms to protect the frontier from Indians. The Governor says in his letter to the President, that since the 16th of June last sixteen citizens of Kansas are known to have been murdered by the Indians, and that not one of the murderers has been apprehended or punished. He therefore argues that as the United States military forces furnished are not sufficient to protect the settlers, arms should be furnished the latter so that they may protect themselves.

The St. Paul papers state that the defalcation of McIlrath, late Auditor of Minnesota, will amount to $100,000. That gentleman, however, published a card in the New York papers of the 5th, requesting a suspension of public opinion until he could have an opportunity of refuting the charges made against him; stating that the investigations of the committee were entirely ex parte and made for political effect, and that at the proper time he would vindicate his character against the assaults made upon it.

General Sheridan has sent the following instructions to Gen. Terry, at St. Paul, and also to the General commanding the Department of the Platte:

Should the companies now organized at Sioux City and Yankton trespass on the Sioux Indian reservation, you are hereby directed to use the force at your command to burn the wagon-trains, destroy the outfit and arrest the leaders, confining them at the nearest military post in the Indian country. Should they succeed in reaching the interior, you are directed to send such force of cavalry in pursuit as will accomplish the purpose above named. Should Congress open up the country for settlement by extinguishing the treaty rights of the Indians, the undersigned will give a cordial support to the settlement of the Black Hills.

The brig Castalia, from Havana, came in sight of the station at Cape Henry, a few days since, and reported her captain and several of her crew dead from yellow fever, and nearly all the remainder of the crew prostrated with the same disease. Medical assistance was sent for to Norfolk, and the vessel meanwhile taken to a safe anchorage.

The centennial anniversary of the meeting of the first Continental Congress was appropriately celebrated in Old Carpenter Hall, Philadelphia, on the 5th of September.

The places in Louisiana designated for troops to prevent outrages are New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Shreveport, Alexandria, Monroe, Harrisburg and St. Martinsville.

An official order removing the headquarters of the army to St. Louis in October was promulgated on the 5th inst.

Mrs. Zerlinda Samuel, the mother of the James boys, publishes a card in the Kansas City *Times*, denying that her sons were engaged in the late Lexington stage-coach robbery, and adding that she will in a few days publish evidence showing that her boys were not at or near Lexington on the day of the robbery.

Information has been received that the command of Gen. Miles had an encounter, on the 30th ult., with a band of about 500 hostile Indians on the head waters of the south branch of the Red River, in Texas. A running fight was kept up for several days, the Indians abandoning one field after another, and burning their villages during the fight. Their line of retreat, it is stated, was strewn with abandoned property and broken-down animals. Gen. Miles's loss was three men badly wounded, while the Indians lost some twenty-five or thirty killed and wounded.

Dispatches from New Orleans and Galveston, on the 9th, deny the report that there were cases of yellow fever in those cities. The Galveston health officer says there has not been a single case of yellow fever in any of the Gulf ports of the State of Texas during the year 1874.

FOREIGN.

Dockray, the American prisoner in Cuba, has been sent to Spain.

The Spanish Ministry resigned on the 4th. It is said that Segasta will be at the head of the new Cabinet.

The official report of the commission appointed to investigate the circumstances of the escape of Bazaine, implicate the jailors, and states that they were instigated by Colonel Villette, Bazaine's aid-de-camp, to facilitate the prisoner's flight, but acquits the garrison of any part or complicity in the affair.

Members of the Austrian Polar Expedition, for whose safety fears were felt, have been heard from. They were shipwrecked, and after abandoning their ship the party traveled for seven months on sledges, and two winters were passed on the ice. The highest point reached was in latitude 80. A large tract of land was discovered to the northward of Nova Zemola. The expedition arrived at Wardol on the Russian boat. Only one death occurred on the entire voyage.

The French bark Coramandel, of Bordeaux, Captain France, went ashore at Bagdad, Mexico, on the 4th, and eleven of the crew were drowned. The captain and four others were rescued.

The Carlists have abandoned the seige of Puvcerda and are intrenching themselves around Bilbao, according to a Madrid telegram of the 4th.

The French Government has suspended for two months the publication of *L'Unicers* for a bitter article against President Serrano.

The work of laying a new direct cable from the Irish to the American coast was commenced on the 6th.

It is reported from Berlin that an order will soon be issued expelling from Prussia all foreign priests, monks and nuns.

THE BLACK HILLS.

Important Letter from the Department of the Interior—Expeditions Positively Prohibited from Visiting the New Eldorado.

WASHINGTON, D. C., September 8.—Since the declaration of General Sheridan, that no one would be allowed to visit the Black Hills country without authority from the Interior Department, meaning its authorized agents, the Department has been in receipt of a large number of letters asking permission to go there, and for the benefit of a large class the following letter is made public:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, WASHINGTON, September 8, 1874.—SIR: I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th instant, referring to associations that are forming for travel in of that part of territory embracing the Black Hills, notwithstanding existing treaties with the Sioux Indians, and requesting such suggestions for the guidance and benefit of citizens of the Territory as may be considered appropriate by the Department, and in reply would say that in the second article of the treaty between the United States and the different tribes of Sioux Indians, concluded April 29, 1868, statutes vol. 15, U. P. 636, 15, P. 635, the United States agree that the following district of country to wit, viz: "Commencing on the east bank of the Missouri River, where the forty-sixth parallel of north latitude crosses the same; thence along low water mark down said east bank to a point opposite, where the northern line of the State of Nebraska strikes the river; thence west across said river and along the northern line of Nebraska to the 104th degree of longitude west from Greenwich; thence north on said meridian to a point where the 46th parallel of north latitude intersects the same; thence due east along said parallel to the place of beginning. And, in addition, all existing reservations on the east bank of said river shall be, and the same is, set apart for absolute and undisturbed use and occupation of the Indians herein named, and for such other friendly tribes and individual Indians as from time to time they may be willing, with the consent of the United States, to admit amongst them. And the United States now solemnly agree that no persons, except those herein designated and authorized so to do, and such officers, agents and employees of the Government as may be authorized to enter upon the Indian reservations in the discharge of duties enjoined by law, shall ever be permitted to pass over, settle upon, or reside in the territory described in this article, or in such territory as may be added to this reservation for the use of said Indians; and henceforth they will and do hereby relinquish all claims or right in and to any portion of the United States or Territories except such as is embraced within the limits aforesaid, and except as hereafter provided."

The foregoing section prescribes who shall be allowed in this territory so set apart for the Indians, and expressly states that none others shall be permitted to pass over, settle upon or reside therein. The only power to alter this provision is that which made the treaty, and then it must be done with the consent of the Indians.

What is known as the late exploring expedition of General Custer is merely a military reconnoissance of the country for the purpose of ascertaining the best location, if in future it should become necessary to establish there a military post. On the 22d of June last, in a letter to this Department, the Hon. Secretary of War wrote on this subject as follows:

"It is well known to the Department that at various times settlers in the adjacent country have contemplated expeditions to the Black Hills, and the Department has uniformly discountenanced such movements, but it has now almost become a military necessity that accurate knowledge should be possessed by the army as to that portion of our territory, and for that purpose only is the present expedition undertaken. The question of opening up this country to settlement rests with Congress, and until action has been taken by that body this Department has no discretion in the matter, but is required and will endeavor to prevent any violation of the provisions of the treaty before mentioned."

For reasons herein set forth, all applications for permission to visit the Black Hills country will be denied.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
B. F. COWAN, Acting Secretary.

To Gov. J. L. Pennington, Yankton, Dakota.

A STRANGE though not a novel phase of the Indian question is that two prophets have arisen, each of them in regions far remote from the other, preaching that the Indians should have no further intercourse with whites and missionaries, and that, though few in number, they shall again possess the land. Smohalla, the Oregon prophet, urges the Indians to live upon no reservation, to accept no bounty, to enter no church or school or house of prayer, and to be in no way lured from the habits of their forefathers. Already he has a compact and powerful band who believe in his doctrines and to try to live up to them, though no attempt has been made to carry out the extermination of the whites, which he also preaches. A similar prophet has arisen among the Comanches of Arizona, who tells his people that he has had an interview with the Great Spirit, who said that the Indians who were adopting the mode of life of the whites were going down hill fast, as regarded population, and that the Comanches would do the same, should they to become civilized.

PITH AND POINT.

EVERYBODY complains of his gas bill, and yet it is a light expense.

THE strike among the wheelwrights produced some fine orators. Wheelwrights are naturally good spokesmen.

IF your sister fell into a well, why couldn't you rescue her? Because you couldn't be a brother and assist her, too.

"I'M not much for shtump spakin'," declared a candidate at Dubuque, Iowa, "but for honesty and capacity and integrity I bate the divil."

TEACHER.—"Peter, you are such a bad boy that you are not fit to sit in company of good boys on the bench. Come up here and sit by me, sir."

WHY is the letter *I* the most fortunate of all the vowels?—Because it is in the midst of bliss, while *E* is in hell and all the other vowels are in purgatory.

THE girls at Vassar College are learning to swim. Fourteen of them got into a washtub at once, so as to give each other courage.—*Detroit Free Press.*

"SEE," said a sorrowing wife, "how peaceful the cat and dog are." "Yes," said the petulent husband, "but just tie them together and then see how the fur will fly."

GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN wants to know if the newspapers will permit him to retire to some secluded valley and end his days in peace. Select your valley, George.—*Detroit Press.*

ACCORDING to a Cincinnati paper, John Thomas was recently sued by Hester Prim for breach of promise. "John Thomas, come into court!" shouted the constable. "John Thomas needn't come into court me any more," said Hester primly.

IT is related of Sir James Simpson, the celebrated English physician, that the Duchess of Buccleugh drove up to his door and sent her footman to tell him that she waited without. "Tell the Duchess," he replied, "that Dr. Simpson is engaged with a washerwoman."

"ARE the Joneses back?" inquired Mrs. Spilkins, who hasn't been out of town all summer. "Yes'm," replied the cook, "and Mrs. Brown and the children got home from Saratoga this morning." "Then, Mary, you may open the front shutters," continued Mrs. Spilkins, "and say that we've returned too."

SPOONEY young gentlemen are advised never to write gushing effusions in praise of their sweetheart's hair. They may safely operate on her nose or eyes, but the color of her hair is apt to change with the fashion. It would be very awkward to send her a poem telling her that her hair is like golden threads spun from a sunbeam, and to meet her next day wearing a deep chestnut colored chignon.

The Projected Tunnel Between France and England.

The project to construct a tunnel between France and England is assuming a practical phase. The capitalists and engineers embarked in this gigantic enterprise demand a concession of thirty years, instead of ninety-nine, usually accorded to railway companies, and ask for neither guarantee n