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TOPICS OF THE TIME.

PRINCE MILAN, of Servia, has received from Russia a sword said to be fourteen hundred years old, which still bears marks of service in the crusades, when it was even then in its old age.

THE New York *Commercial Advertiser* states that Alex. Steel's canary died recently at the ripe old age of twenty-four years and nine months. Mr. Steel has had the bird since it was two months old, and has had it with him in Denver and the Rocky Mountains. We have no record of any canary attaining this remarkable age before.

Two physicians of Cincinnati, Ohio, propose to discuss publicly the merits and demerits of vapor baths. One of them, who has used the baths and recommended them to others for fifty years, may be supposed to have something more than scientific interest in the subject, while in his own person and his eighty years he presents a strong argument in their favor.

A PHOTOGRAPHER at Le Roy, New York, a few days ago photographed in one group, Mrs. Stanley, aged ninety-two; her daughter, Mrs. Brown, aged seventy-four; her granddaughter, Mrs. Bostwick, aged forty-four; her great-granddaughter, Mrs. Duncan B. McNaughton, aged twenty-three, and her great great grandson, Roy McNaughton, aged wo years.

THE Cumberland (Maine) Medical Society has been procuring and analyzing samples of the numerous preparations so plentifully advertised throughout the country for the cure of the opium habit, with startling results. They are all found to contain opium in large quantities, and the doses are so large that the victim is really taking more of the drug than he would ordinarily do were it not disguised.

WHEN Seth Green, the fish culturist, a few years ago put some shad fry into a river flowing into Lake Ontario, he advertised that he would pay twenty-five dollars for the first one taken from the lake weighing not less than two and a half pounds. A lucky fisherman living at Sodus Point, New York, caught a shad in the lake a few days ago weighing four pounds, and has forwarded it to Mr. Green, along with the proper affidavits.

THE great Maritime Canal, connecting Amsterdam with the German Ocean, was opened lately with imposing ceremonies, at which members of the Cabinet and foreign representatives were present. A grand banquet took place in the evening. The city was covered with flags, and there was a general illumination at night, and splendid displays of fireworks. The canal is sixteen miles long, and has at the sea end a harbor covering two hundred and fifty acres, which, however, is not quite completed.

AN official inspector in England reports as to the danger of working in white lead manufactories. The harm comes partly from inhaling the lead, but principally from absorbing it through contact, causing paralysis. A few manufacturers compel their workmen to wear gloves and respirators, and to wash themselves thoroughly at the end of each day's work; but the employees generally dislike the trouble of these precautions, and show great recklessness of health. A law compelling the exercise of greater care is suggested.

THE well-known French earthenware manufacturer, M. Collinot, has discovered a new mode of decoration for residences and public buildings. Instead of applying the decorated faience to the wall, he proposes enameling the stone itself, by putting up a light scaffolding and using the blowpipe instead of the oven. The advantages claimed for this process are, chiefly, cheapness and durability, the experiments thus far made showing that not only is the method less expensive than separate plates, but that the decoration is calculated to last as long as the stone itself. This method appears to have received the approval of some of the most eminent French architects, and it is to be introduced in the public buildings now in progress.

THE difference in the effect of lightning in various countries is remarkable. It is believed to be more dangerous in England than here. From statistics collected it appears that on an average seventy-seven people are killed by it each year in France, and the annual list of killed and wounded there by this cause amounts to two hundred and fifty. The low-lying departments are less subject to it. Eighty were wounded and nine killed in one thunderstorm at Chateauneuf-les Moutiers in 1861, and within one week, when the air was highly charged with electricity, thirty-three fearful flashes were observed, each bringing death to some victims. On an average twenty-two people are killed by lightning every year in England, nine in Switzerland, and three in Belgium.

A CURIOUS variety of remarkable mechanisms was lately exhibited in South Kensington, London, among these being the original telescopes and other instruments used by Galileo, now for the first time allowed to be removed from Florence; Watt's first steam engine was also another object of extreme interest, as also the original air pump made by Otto Guericke of Magdeburg; a quadrant belonging to Tycho Brahe; a telescope by Huyghens; the pendulum apparatus of Foucault and Gauss; Babbage's calculating machine, and that made by James Black for Lord Mahon; the original Napier bones; the measuring instruments of Sir Joseph Whitworth; the apparatus employed by Joule in ascertaining the mechanical equivalent of heat; the apparatus with which Professor Faraday made many of his wonderful chemical discoveries; the original Wheatstone Bridge; the instruments used in laying the Atlantic cable; Armstrong's hydro-electric machine, etc.

SOME DAY.

BY JOHN CHRISTIAN GUNTHER.

Some day earth will know no gloom,
  Some day faith will rise from sleep,
Some day hope will bud and bloom,
  Some day men will cease to weep;
When the path of life is rough,
Some day Death will cry, Enough!

Some day water will be wine,
  Some day woe will change to weal,
Some day captives will not pine,
  Some day deepest wounds will heal,
Some day, with its sweet decree,
Made imprisoned Joseph free.

Some day, some day, envy dies,
  Long ago the Spirit spoke,
Changing into purple dyes
  Jewish David's shepherd cloak,
Making Saul, erst fierce and fleet,
Follow on with lingering feet.

Some day must the aloe bloom,
  Fruit will grow upon the palm,
Some day light will vanquish gloom,
  Some day pain will find a balm;
Some day eyes will not be wet,
Some day, some day will come yet.

THE LOAF OF BREAD.

An unfortunate Lyonese, the father of a family, was deprived of work by the depressed state of his trade during a whole winter. It was with great difficulty that he could get a morsel of food now and then for his famished wife and children. Things grew worse and worse with him, and at length on attempting to rise one morning, for the purpose of going out, as usual, in quest of employment, he fell back in a fainting condition beside his wife, who had already been confined to her bed by illness for two months.

The poor man felt himself ill, and his strength utterly gone. He had two boys, yet in mere childhood, and one girl about twelve or thirteen years old. For a long time the whole charge of the household had fallen on this girl. She had tended the sick bed of her mother, and had watched over her little brothers with more than parental care. Now, when the father too was taken ill, there seemed not to be a vestige of hope for the family, excepting in the exertions which might be made by her, young as she was.

The first thought of the poor little girl was to seek for work proportioned to her strength. But that the family might not starve in the meantime, she resolved to go to one of the Houses of Charity, where food was given out, she had heard, to the poor and needy. The person to whom she addressed herself accordingly inscribed her name in the list of applicants, and told her to come back again in a day or two, when the case would have been deliberated upon. Alas! during this deliberation, her parents and brothers would starve! The girl stated this, but was informed that the formalities mentioned were indispensable. She came again to the streets; and almost agonized by the knowledge how anxiously she was expected with bread at home, she resolved to ask charity from the passengers in the public ways.

No one heeded the most unobtrusive appeal of her outstretched hand. Her heart was too full to permit her to speak. Could any one have seen the torturing anxiety that filled her breast, she must have been pitied and relieved. As the case stood, it is not perhaps surprising that some rude being menaced her with the police. She was frightened. Shivering with cold, and crying bitterly, she fled homeward. When she mounted the stairs and opened the door, the first words that she heard were the cries of her brothers for something to eat—"Bread! bread!" She saw her father soothing and supporting her fainting mother, and heard him say, "Bread!—she dies for want of food!"

"I have no bread!" cried the poor girl, with anguish in her tones.

The cry of disappointment and despair which came at these words from her father and her brothers caused her to recall what she had said, and conceal the truth. "I have not got it yet, she exclaimed, "but will have it immediately. I have given the baker the money; he was serving some rich people, and he told me to wait or come back. I came to tell you that it would soon be here."

After these words, without waiting for a reply, she left the house again. A thought had entered her head; and maddened by the distress of those she loved so dearly, she had instantaneously resolved to put it in execution. She ran from one street to another, till she saw a baker's shop in which there appeared to be no person, and then, summoning all her determination, she entered, lifted a loaf, and fled! The shopkeeper saw her from behind his counter. He cried loudly, ran after her, and pointed out to the people passing by. The girl ran on. She was pursued, and finally a man seized the loaf which she carried. The object of her desire taken away, she had no motive to proceed, and was seized at once.

They conveyed her to the office of the police; a crowd, as usual, having gathered in attendance. The poor girl threw around her despairing glances, which seemed to seek some favorable object from whom to ask mercy. At last, when she had been brought to the court of the police office, and was in waiting for the order to enter, she saw before her a little girl of her own age, who appeared to look on her with a glance full of kindness and compassion. Under the impulse of the moment, still thinking of the condition of her family, she whispered to the stranger the cause of her act of theft.

"Father and mother, and my two brothers, are dying for want of bread!" said she.

"Where?" asked the strange girl, anxiously.

She had only time to give the address and add the name of her perents to the communication, when she was carried in before the commissary of police.

Meanwhile, the poor family at home suffered all the miseries of suspense. Fears for their children's safety were added to the other afflictions of the parents. At length, they heard footsteps ascending the stairs. An eager cry of hope was uttered by all the four unfortunates; but, alas! a stranger appeared in place of their own little one. Yet the stranger seemed to them like an angel. Her cheeks had a beautiful bloom, and long flaxen hair fell in curls upon her shoulders. She brought to them bread, and a small basket of other provisions.

"Your girl," she said, "will not come back, perhaps, to-day; but keep up your spirits! See what she has sent you!"

After these encouraging words, the young messenger of good put into the hands of the father five francs, and then, turning round to cast a look of pity and satisfaction on the poor family, who were dumb with emotion, she disappeared.

The history of these five francs is the most remarkable part of this affair. This little benevolent fairy was, it is almost unnecessary to say, the same pitying spectator who had been addressed by the abstractor of the loaf at the police office. As soon as she had heard what was said there, she had gone away, resolved to take some meat to the poor family. But she remembered that her mamma was from home that day, and was at a loss how to procure money or food, until she bethought herself of a resource of a strange kind.

She recollected that a hairdresser, who lived near her mother's house, and who knew her family, had often commended her beautiful hair, and had told her to come to him whenever she wished to have it cut, and he would give her a lotis for it. This used to make her proud and pleased; but she now thought of it in a different way. In order to procure money for the assistance of the starving family, she went straight to the hairdresser's, put him in mind of his promise, and offered to let him cut off her pretty locks for what he thought them worth.

Naturally surprised by such an application, the hairdresser who was a kind and intelligent man, made inquiry into the cause of his young friend's visit. Her secret was easily drawn from her, and it caused the hairdresser almost to shed tears of pleasure. He feigned to comply with the conditions proposed, and gave the bargainer fifteen francs, promising to come and claim his purchase as some future day.

The little girl then got a basket, bought provisions and set out on her errand of mercy. Before she returned, the hairdresser had gone to her mother's found that lady at home, and related to her the whole circumstances; so that when the professor of the golden tresses came back she was gratified by being received into the open arms of her pleased and praising parent.

When the story was told at the police office by the hairdresser, the abstraction of the loaf was visited by no severer punishment. The singular circumstances connected with the case raised many friends to the artisan and his family, and he was soon restored to health and comfort.

A Gale at Sea.

A letter from Key West, giving the experiences of the United States steamer Ossippee, in the storm of the 19th and 20th of October, says that the men, in getting about the decks to attend to their duties, were thrown violently from their feet, and blinded by the salt spray. They were obliged to go groping about as if they were in total darkness. They could only stick to their stations by the most desperate struggling against the hatches, gratings, doors, deck buckets, and many other articles that were being swept back and forth across the decks by the rushing of the water as the ship rolled and tossed. Breathing was difficult, and the air taken into the lungs was so loaded with sea salts that it caused excessive irritation, producing violent coughing and vomiting. The suffering of the men was most intense, especially among the firemen and coal-heavers, who were not only deprived of ventilation, but obliged to inhale the salt water steam produced by the seas rushing into the fire-room. It was then thought advisable to encourage the men by the use of stimulants. The surgeon found a sufficient quantity to give all hands a "tod" each, and sent it into the cabin to be distributed.

The effect of the storm on the animals on board was peculiar. Cats disappeared the morning before the storm, and were not seen for five days afterwards. The dog "Daniel," a splendid pointer, owned by the Captain, exhibited the greatest dread at being left alone, and was only appeased when some one was petting him. The hens, turkeys, usually the most hungry and voracious and quarrelsome beasts on board, forgot their hunger, and barely opened their eyes when food was thrown them. Two birds (Babos, a species of Pelican,) came on board while we were lying in the vortex. They must have been drawn down while attempting to fly over us. The parrot was the only thing on board that seemed at all to enjoy the surroundings.

Beauty.

A clever writer says: "Providence meant women to make the world beautiful as much as flowers and butterflies, and there is no sin in tasteful dress, but only in devoting to it too much money or too much time." This is a most sensible view, and is the true ground of mediumship between the one extreme of straight and rigid simplicity, and the devotion of the best energies of a lifetime to vanity and frivolity. But, after all, what is all this rage for dress but an effort after the beautiful? The reason why the beautiful is not always the result is because so many women are ignorant or merely imitative. They have no sense of fitness; the short wear what belongs to the tall, and brunettes sacrifice their natural beauty to look like blondes. That which is inappropriate is never beautiful, no matter how fashionable; but who does not know some woman whose taste and training are so perfect that fashion becomes to her a means of grace instead a despot, so that even the worst fashions seem to them but a chain of roses?

The Irish Address.

[New York Evening Telegram.]

One of the most remarkable instances of heaping up a mass of words in a vain effort to conceal the point of a subject is contained in the correspondence, just published, of our Secretary of State's office with Messrs. Parnell and Power, the two Irish members of the British Parliament, who have been staying here and in Washington for several weeks past. These gentlemen have in charge an address in behalf of the people of Ireland, congratulating the people of the United States on getting independence a hundred years ago, and keeping it to the present day. Upon the occasion of a recent visit of President Grant to this city they held a pleasant social interview with him, and he appointed a day to receive the address formally at the White House. It was developed at this interview that somebody in close connection with the President is trying to "head them off," and had intercepted and suppressed a letter which they had previously sent to him. When they arrived at Washington they encountered another and a fatal instance of this adverse influence. The subject of the address, of course, is a very suggestive one, in view of the grievances which Ireland has suffered from England, and it occurred to the officers of our State Department that the official reception of it by the President might be offensive to the British Minister. Accordingly, all the diplomatic formalities were rigorously enforced to avert its presentment. Mr. Parnell and Mr. Power were informed that, notwithstanding their special appointment with the President himself, they must conform to an asserted usage of consulting the British Minister and ascertaining that their proceedings were acceptable to him. The result of the submission to Sir Edward Thornton was not doubtful. He, of course, disapproved the contents of the address, and it therefore remains unpresented; and in the final communication from our State Department to Messrs. Parnell and Power they are snubbed with the information that the cause of all their trouble consists in their going at the President directly when he was here, instead of adopting "the usual channels of communication" through the Circumlocution Office. Mr. Fish was conveniently absent during this correspondence, as he was at the time of the South Carolina proclamation, and the letters from the department were signed by an "acting" secretary who has no "political future" to be affected by the transaction.

It cannot fail to occur to the American people that their Federal Government has not always displayed such tender considerations for the feeling of foreign Ministers at Washington. To take an instance within the memory of a greater part of the present generation, we are not aware of any delicate respect shown by President Fillmore's administration toward the Austrian Minister or his home government in the matter of the official invitation of Kossuth to visit this country in 1851. Yet Daniel Webster, who then was Secretary of State, probably was the equal of Mr John Cadwallader, the present "acting" Secretary, in his knowledge of the correct measure of courtesy to foreign powers. We negotiated with Turkey for the release of Kossuth from restraint in Asia Minor. We brought him to America as the nation's guest, in a vessel of our navy. We received him on his arrival at Washington by a committee of Congress, headed by Senators Cass, Seward, and Shields. The Secretary of State paid his respects to him immediately on his arrival, and formally presented him to the President, who treated him with the highest official as well as personal distinction. Then, early in January, 1852, Congress, by resolution, invited him to the Capitol—an honor never before bestowed on anybody but Lafayette, though since shared by the King of the Sandwich Islands—and all the officers of our government applauded his speech there, in which he returned thanks for his welcome as an "honor to his country," thereby alluding to Hungary in distinction from the dominion of the Austrian Emperor at Vienna.

If it was proper for our State Department twenty-five years ago to assist in these honors to an unsuccessful rebel solely because of his rebellion, surely it is supersensitive now to "head off" the presentment to the President of a brief address from a friendly people, merely because it suggests facts from which a student of history might justly infer that Ireland's causes of grievance against Great Britain are equal to what those of Hungary ever were against Austria. If Johnny Cadwallader is right now, Daniel Webster was wrong then.

Even Dead Soldiers are Victimized by Republican Sharks.

It was seen when an appropriation was made by Congress of a million of dollars for the erection of headstones at the graves of soldiers buried in the national cemeteries that behind this pretense of patriotic gratitude there lurked a corrupt purpose. The event has justified the expectation, as is shown by the testimony taken before the Committee on Military Affairs of the House, and the accompanying report, submitted by unanimous consent, the Republican members concurring.

Proposals for the furnishing of these stones were invited by advertisement, and the bids opened in the office of the Quartermaster-General. Instead of the contract having been given as a unit to the lowest bidder, and instead of the lowest bid having been accepted, it was divided and distributed according to the caprice of Secretary Belknap. Contracts for material and work subject to the same specifications were also awarded in the lettings to different parties at varying rates, without warrant of law Changes in the details, as they were at first exacted, were also subsequently made by the Secretary, as regards the dimensions of the stones and the amount of lettering, in the interest of the favored recipients. Bridges, who, as a bidder, was not entitled to any portion of the contract, but who was preferred, was a fellow townsman and particular friend of General Belknap's.

It was eminently fitting that a party whose policy and knavery had inordinately augmented taxation, while palsying industry—which had robbed the infant in its cradle by taking the father's bread, which had set the haggard impress of perplexity and want upon the brow of manly toil, and diminished the widow's cruse—should not hesitate, as an insatiable scourge of the living, to enlarge its field of operations by an alliance with death itself.

The unanimous report of the Committee shows that the principal contract was secured by one Bridges, a jeweler of Keokuk, and a friend of Belknap, who levied blackmail on the other contractors before their bids were passed.

The conclusions of most moment to the public service to which the Committee have arrived are—

"That the awarding of the contracts for head-stones referred to were made in violation of law, and show a disregard of official puty.

"That the contracts were not awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, as required by law.

"That the separation or division of the contract, and the awarding of parts of the same to different contractors at different rates, claimed to have been done by the Secretary of War, in the exercise of discretionary power, is not warranted by any law, and that such discretion was assumed without right, to the prejudice of the Government and the injury of binders.

"That some of the inspections appear to have been corruptly made, and the inspector who made them was unworthy of trust, and the committee are informed that he has been dismissed.

"That the changes in form and dimensions of the head-stones, without a corresponding change in the price, have been made by the Secretary of War after the work was commenced, in the interest of the contractor, and, in the judgment of the committee, constitute an abuse of official power on the part of that officer.

In conclusion, your committee find that the awarding of the contracts appears to have been unfair, unjust and in violation of law, and to have been decided without any proper consideration of the rights of bidders, and with the special purpose to give a portion of the contract to Samuel G. Bridges, of Keokuk, Iowa, who, under his bid, was not entitled to the contract, or any part of the same; that this Samuel G. Bridges, who figures in the evidence as the friend of the Secretary, purchased all of the contracts that were awarded to others; that he was not a man of sufficient pecuniary means to carry out this contract alone, and without large assistance from other persons."

Enormous Misappropriation of Federal Revenue Under Grant.

[New York World.]

The vast increase of public expenditures under Grant's Administration in branches of the service wholly unconnected with the war has been shown, and this increase traced directly to party purposes by showing that the increase is always proportioned to the party exigency, and therefore uniformly much greater in the years of the Presidential election than in other years. Attention has also been called to the doubling of the number of office-holders, and the increased expenses required to collect half the amount of revenue collected under Johnson's Administration for which no explanation but the party requirements can be given. In further elucidation of how the finances of the government are applied to subserve this purpose, a statement of assessments and collections of internal revenue from the fiscal year 1867 to the fiscal year 1875, inclusive, is submitted:

Year.	Assessments.	Collections.	Deficiencies.
1867	$262 592,733	$256,042,568	$4,550,165
1868	270,089,891	254,409,614	15,680,277
1869	188,067,097	178,451,219	9,615,878
1870	175,431,159	139,709,473	35,723,686
1871	140,945 363	130,864,141	10,081,222
1872	123,079,983	117,328,127	5,750,856
1873	125,945,960	105,238,480	20,707,480
1874	104,411,897	94,926,479	9,485,318
1875	130,249,797	102,995,245	27,254,555
Totals	$1,520,813,880	$1,381,864,443	$138,849,437

This shows a deficit in collection of the enormous sum of $138,849,437. No part of this loss, it must be borne in mind, accrues from the inability of the officers to collect the amount, for assessment appropriates the property to the government till the tax is paid. Hence the deficit arises only by the remission of the tax by the officials. Is it credible that one-tenth of the entire assessment was properly remitted? The amount is so large as in itself to demonstrate conclusion, and the system is one which admits the practice, if it was not designed to produce it. The power of the Commissioner to remit taxes on the recommendation of the local officers, is a discretion easily applied to party purposes, and the vast sums shown by this table almost of themselves demonstrate that this abuse has been practiced on a great scale. The demonstration is completed by comparing Johnson's Administration with Grant's, as shown by the following table:

Internal revenue taxes assessed and collected during 1867, '68 and '69, three years of President Johnson's Administration:

Assessments	$720,749,721
Collections	690,903,401
Deficiency	29,846,320

Internal revenue taxes assessed and collected during 1870, '71, '72, '73, '74 and '75, six years of President Grant's Administration:

Assessments	$800,064,159
Collections	691,061,042
Deficiency	109,003,117

Hence Grant's remittances are nearly four times greater than Johnson's, when the sum collected in three years under Johnson was substantially the same as that collected in six years under Grant, demonstrating that at least $100,000,000 of the revenue has been corruptly used.

But the profligacy of the Administration finds its best illustration in the following table:

Amount of Internal revenue taxes assessed and collected in the First District of Missouri during fiscal year 1875:

Assessments	$7,097,941
Collections	3,726,510
Deficiency	$3,371,431

This is the famous crooked whisky district, in which so large a part of the whisky was not assessed at all. This table shows that the tax was remitted upon about one-half of what was assessed. These figures show a degradation of the public service scarcely equaled in Mexio.

Harmony Between the Sections Essential to National Prosperity.

The policy of the Republican party is in seeking to fan the dying embers of sectional prejudice.

The products of the Southern soil are more abundant, and intrinsically more valuable than those of any other section of the Union, and hence agriculture is more remunerative than at the North or West. The cotton, sugar, and tobacco growing regions of the South, therefore, become the best market for the sale of Northern products, the home production of which is either impossible or unprofitable. With the South prosperous, the demand for the products of Northern labor and Northern ingenuity is increased in direct proportion. But if, through misrule, oppressive taxation, and social disorder, the industrial interests of the South are prostrated, the consumption of Northern products is decreased, and the effect is felt in the commercial centers as well as in the grain growing regions of the North and West.

It must be remembered that the bulk of the Southern products exported was grown in the States which the Democratic party has had control of, and this result is at once an argument in favor of the ascendency of that party, and proof positive of the falseness of the "outrage stories" which the radical press and orators so industiously circulate. If the Southern people in the cotton States habitually maltreat and oppress the negroes, how comes it that so much cotton is grown? It can not be grown without the labor of the negroes, and as a rule, it is grown "on the shares"—the owner of the plantation supplying the land and the capital, while the negroes supply the labor and divide the product. That this system results in decided benefit to the negroes, is evidenced by the fact that the official statistics of the State of Georgia show that the amount of taxable property owned by negroes in that State averages $100 per each head of family—an exhibit that can not be made by any other laboring population in the world.

Is it wisdom or folly to pursue a policy which must stimulate the people of that section to develop and build up their country as a rival to the North? It is the habit of many intelligent Northern men to sneer at Southern industry, Southern energy and Southern perseverance. The talk about the South having been demoralized by the system of slave labor; about the energies of the Southern people being paralyzed by that curse, and point with becoming pride to the wonderful progress which the Northern people have made in the inventive and industrial arts, and smile complacently when Southern competition is mentioned. They forget that the Southern people have been purified in the furnace of affliction, and that a new people was born during the four years of dreadful war through which they passed. They start far behind in the race and are handicapped with many disanvantages, it is true, but they have the advantages of climate and soil, and with industry and thrift equal to that of their Northern competitors, the Southern people will prove no mean rivals. Their agricultural products exported, alone equal two-thirds of the entire exports of the whole country—and this, be it remembered, has been accomplished under the most unfavorable circumstances.

There is, however, a higher standpoint from which to appeal to the Northern intelligence; and we would invite all patriotic men to give more than passing attention to what we have to say. During the past five years the balance of trade has been largely against the United States. The gold, or its equivalent, requisite to pay the interest on our national debt, and to pay for our foreign importations has been drained off, and hence we are cursed with an irredeemable currency. Whenever our exports largely exceed, in gold value, the interest on our public debt and the importations of foreign products, then we will be on the high road to national prosperity. This cannot be without a prosperous South, and prosperity, misrule, social disorder and excessive taxation, never come together.

Removed Because He was a Conspirator.

[Detroit Free Press.]

Advices from Washington give the reason why Elmer Washburne was removed from his position at the head of the Secret Service. Secretary Morrill did not want to make any change, and personally was thoroughly satisfied with the manner in which Major Washburne had performed his duties, but, acting under positive instructions from the President, asked for the resignation of the Chief. The Secretary said he was not authorized to give the reasons for the removal, but he understood that the President believed that Major Washburne had been in such a position in the treasury, and had sustained such relations to former officials whom the President believes had been in conspiracy to defame him, that he must have known of such conspiracy, and knowing of it, he had failed to inform the President.

The only "conspiracy" against the President which Major Washburne has engaged in is the one which Bristow, Jewell, Pratt, Dyer, Yaryan, and others have found, by their experience, to be certain of punishment. It is a kind of conspiracy more dangerous by far than either conspiring to defraud the revenue, complicity with whisky rings, putting up safe-burglary jobs, or entering into a league to ruin the reputation of reputable citizens opposed to the "Boss" Shepherd ring in the District of Columbia. The "conspiracy," in short, is that of faithfully and zealously attempting to enforce the laws of the United States and to "let no guilty man escape," even if he be a personal friend of the President. The conspiracy of "Boss" Hesing, Jake Rehm, and the Chicago gang of whisky thieves, of Babcock, Avery, McDonald, Joyce and McKee was a slight offense in comparison with and to be more readily overlooked than the vile conduct of men who performed their official duties in complete disregard of the persons upon whom the blow might fall. Some of the former class have already been pardoned by the President, and the probability is that those of them still behind prison bars will soon be let loose; but none of the latter class are to be permitted to escape the condemnation of the President.

Such is the "civil service reform" which Grantism gives the country—the civil service reform of the Administration which Hayes cordially approved and which did all in its power to help Hayes.

Condensed Statement.

An examination of the Finance Reports of the Secretary of the Treasury, from July 1, 1866 to June 30, 1875, inclusive, shows the enormous sum of nearly $139,000,000 of a deficiency, between the amount of Internal Revenue Taxes assessed, and the amount collected. Of this amount, nearly $53,000,000 occurs from non-collection in six years of Grant's Administration in the Whisky Ring States, viz., Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri and Kentucky; Ohio and Illinois, showing the largest deficiency, and Missouri the next largest.

It is also shown that this deficiency in collection of Internal Revenue Taxes is greater, especially in Presidential and Congression election years, and that as Republican majorities in those and other states grow less, the deficiency in collection of revenue increased, the Finance Report from July 1, 1868, to June 30, 1869, showing less than $10,000,000, while the same report from July 1, 1872 to June 30, 1873, shows a deficiency of nearly $21,000,000, or over $15,000,000 greater than the preceding year. An especial feature in this examination is, that in the last three years of President Johnson's administration, within $200,000 as much Internal Revenue Taxes were collected, as have been collected in the last six (6) years of Grant's Administration. It is also shown, that of this enormous sum of nearly $139,000,000 deficient, 109,000,000 of the amount is found to be deficient from non-collection in the last six years of Grantism.

All of the above deficiency, evidently occurring through corrupt collusion between revenue officials and tax-payers, the money being evidently used for vote-purchasing and other means of stifling public sentiments when setting against the Republican party. It is impossible that this deficiency could occur by any other means than fraudulent collusion, for Hon. D. D. Pratt, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, in his report for 1875, calls the attention of the Secretary of the Treasury, to the fact "that it is with pardonable pride he presents a table, showing with what accuracy of system, the Internal Revenue Office estimates the receipts from all sources of Internal Revenue for any succeeding year."

How they Manage to get Along.

It is easy to understand how the Republican machine is successfully run, when the abuses of public patronage are considered. Take as an illustration the following Custom Houses of Maine for the last year, as officially reported by Henry C. Johnson, Commissioner of Customs:

Non-paying districts for the year ending June 30, 1875, with receipts and expenses, and excess of expenses over receipts:

Ports.	*Receipts.*	*Expenses.*	*Expenses Above Receipts.*
Moulton, Me.	$6,250 44	$10,836 73	$4,586 29
Bangor, Me.	7,832 82	12,781 13	4,948 31
Belfast, Me.	5,079 58	8,811 84	3,732 26
Castine, Me.	3,450 20	8,533 53	5,083 33
Ellsworth, Me.	2,670 80	6,709 41	4,038 61
Kennebunk, Me.	284 76	1,277 70	992 94
Machias, Me.	4,918 52	5,834 73	916 60
Saco, Me.	258 55	1,213 15	954 60
Waldoboro, Me.	9,400 05	11,830 04	2,429 99
Wiscasset, Me.	1,805 21	5,415 27	3,610 06
York, Me.	97 18	379 00	281 82
Totals	$42,048 11	$73,631 53	$31,574 42

Here are ten little Custom Houses, pets of Blaine and his confederates, and all filled by their strikers, not one of which meets the expense of collecting the small revenue that is received. In fact, the Treasury pays out four-fifths of the whole receipts, in addition to the receipts themselves, to keep up the patronage which Blaine utilizes. Add the post-offices, internal revenue officers, District Attorneys, Marshals, special agents, and the like, and it will be seen how much the people of the whole country are taxed to support an atrocious system.

These sham Custom Houses are to be found in various States, and cost annually $183,904.40 more than the revenue. They provide places for partisans, who often help to swell their official incomes by colluding with smugglers. Seeing Blaine, Colfax, and nearly all the Republican leaders in Congress, made suddenly rich by legislation and jobbery, they imitate the example in this way, and sometimes share the spoils with needy Representatives and Senators to whom their appointments may be due.

A Little Item About Blaine.

There was some time ago considerable controversy about the Caldwell dispatches to Blaine. Mr Proctor Knott, chairman of the judiciary committee of the House, alleged that these dispatches were concocted in the United States. Mr. Blaine, of course, swore that they were not, just as he swore to everything in his case, until he found it essential to get sick, so as to avoid swearing at all. The truth of the matter is, that these dispatches were written in Washington, in the square near the Arlington House, the night before they were ostensibly telegraphed from Philadelphia to London and back. The parties present were the mysterious Favo, whose identity was subsequently established as being a clerk and confidential agent of Caldwell, and two members of Congress from Maine, closely connected with the disgraced Speaker.

The whole transaction about Blaine's investigation by the Congressional Committee was carried on by detective intrigue. The people of this Blaine party were constantly meeting each other under false names, in dark places, and hurrying from point to point in obedience to mysterious telegrams. They must have all belonged to the American Alliance, or some other equally dark and mysterious order, because they did nothing in the open light of day. Proscription, sectional hate, and public plunder are natural allies, and a man who is willing to rob the public treasury is willing to proscribe his neighbor for the crime of not agreeing with him. Such men are not Americans, for the American principle is to allow each man the full chance which his merit may secure him. "A fair field and no favor" is a good motto, but one which the Radical conspirators, who own all the doubtful and desperate claims against the United States, and who have plundered the Southern States bare, have no confidence in.

A Reply to Blaine's Groundless Slander Against the People of Georgia.

We learn that Mr. Blaine stated in a speech, recently delivered in New York, that United States flags did not float anywhere in Georgia, except over Custom Houses and Post Offices. This is not true. On public occasions they are hoisted over the Capitol and across the streets. In this city, about the time Mr. Blaine was speaking in New York, there were four or five United States flags floating from the Opera House in the city of Griffin, Ga., where Senator Norwood and Mr. Haralson were speaking. During the session of the Democratic Convention which nominated Smith, the present Governor, the hall was decorated with United States flags, and when Colquit, the Governer-elect, was recently nominated, there were no less than twenty United States flags—and no other flags—flying over that Democratic Convention. The inference Mr. Blaine would have the Northern people draw is as false as his statements.

United States flags are habitually displayed in our legislative hall, and were hanging there while Mr. Blaine was speaking.

His statement, however, is but another instance of the groundless slanders upon the South which have become common with a portion of the Republican leaders, that while they continue to give us pain no longer cause surprise.

J. B. GORDON, U. S. Senator.
JAMES M. SMITH, Gov. of Georgia.
A. R. LAWTON, Elector at Large.

A GENTLEMAN burying his wife, a friend asked him why he expended so much on her funeral. "Ah, sir," he replied, "she would have done as much or more for me, with pleasure."

IMITATION Limburger cheese has been manufactured so successfully in Wisconsin that families living near the factory were obliged to close their windows.

HUMILIATION is a guest that only comes to those who have made ready his resting-place, and will give him fair welcome.

The Eaton Democrat.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Space.	1 w.	2 w.	1 m.	3 m.	6 m.	9 m.	12 m.
1 inch	$1 00	$2 00	$3 00	$4 00	$6 00	$8 00	$10 00
2 inches	2 00	3 00	4 00	6 00	10 00	13 00	15 00
3 inches	2 50	3 50	4 50	9 00	11 50	15 00	18 00
4 inches	3 00	4 00	5 00	11 00	15 00	17 50	20 00
¼ column	4 00	6 00	8 00	15 00	20 00	25 00	30 00
½ column	7 00	10 00	13 00	20 00	30 00	40 00	50 00
1 column	10 00	18 00	23 00	35 00	55 00	75 00	100 00

Business cards of five lines or less, $3 per annum. Local notices 10 cents per line each insertion.

Simple announcements of marriages and deaths, and church and benevolent society notices inserted free. Any additions to obituary notices will be charged 5 cents per line.

Favors MUST be handed in as early as Tuesday morning to insure insertion the same week.

Communications upon subjects of general or local interest are solicited.

FLORA KELLFLOURE.

BY LOTTIE SMITH.

The river runs sweetly adown by the mill,
  An' murmurs, an' sings, by the Castle O'Kelly
An' out thro' the bend it winds bashful and still,
  Where it kisses the sea like a lover so gaily;
An' on its green banks at the short evening hour,
I've courted a girl named Flora Kellflloure.

Far out on the ocean the ships sailed so gay,
  Like skiffs on a silver sea, man'd by the fairies;
And fancy could hear o'er the waves mournful sigh,
  The wild eerie cry to ward off the skerries;
While all the surroundings seemed laden with power,
As I gazed on the sweet face of Flora Kellfloure.

And oft I would press her ripe lips as we strayed,
  And breath the fond vows of the love that I bore her;
But death came between us, and lowly she's laid,
  And the roses we loved droop their heads sadly o'er her.
Yet time, in its changes, has never had power
To dim the bright image of Flora Kellfloure.

PENCIL AND SCISSORS.

WHY is F like a cow's tail? It is at the end of beef.

LOWELL *Courier:* Doesn't a man contract a debt when he pays part of it?

VALUE the friendship of him who stands by you in a storm: swarms of insects will surround you in sunshine.

THERE is not so agonizing a feeling in the whole catalogue of human suffering as the first conviction that the heart of the being whom we most tenderly love is estranged from us.

LIFE.

The past is not—the hues in which 'tis dressed,
  Fond memory supplies;
The future is not—hope born in the breast
  Its fancied joys arise;
The present is not—like the lightning's gleam
  Its brief illusions seem;
This is the life allotted unto man,
A memory—a hope—a fleeting moment's span.
—*From the Italian.*

"I SAY, ma," exclaimed a little minx of thirteen, "do you know what the pyrotechnical remedy is for a crying infant?" "Gracious goodness me, no; I never heard of such a thing!" "Well, ma, it's a rocket."

A VENERABLE young gentleman, four years old, recently threw his maternal relative into a fit of admiration by the following speech: "I like most all kinds of cake—pound cake, sponge cake, and jelly cake—but I don't like stomach-ache."

A YOUNG person thinks it enough to do right. As he grows older, he finds it necessary to satisfy others that he has done so. Much of the time that might be spent in doing well must be used in securing evidence that we have not done ill.

IMAGINASHUN, tew much indulged in, soon is tortured into reality; this is one way that good hoss thieves are made; a man leans over a fence all day, and imagines the hoss belongs to him, and sure enuff, the fust dark night the hoss does.

THE sunshine of life is made up of very little beams that are bright all the time. In the nursery, on the playground, and in the school-room, there is room all the time for little acts of kindness, that cost nothing, but are worth more than gold or silver.

A STUTTERING Vermonter was asked the way to Waterbury. With great politeness he strove to say it was ahead, but in vain; the more he tried the more he couldn't. At last, red in the face, and furious with exertion, he burst forth with, "Gug-g-'long! hang you; you'll g-g-get there afore I—I can t-t-tell you!"

GOOD nature is the best feature in the finest face—wit may raise admiration, judgment may command respect, and acknowledge attention. Beauty may inflame the heart with love, but good nature has a more powerful effect—it adds a thousand attractions to the charms of beauty, and gives an air of beneficence to the most homely face.

TRUANT SUMMER.

Sudden I missed the Summer. Swift
I ran and called, "O Bird! O Bee!
Which way went Summer? Did you see?
Red rose, thy silent petals lift,
And by a gesture point to me
Which way went truant Summer free!
Her work undone, her promise broken,
Oh, fickle Summer, of false token!"

E'en while I spoke the bee fell dead,
Frozen to death; and vanishing
In southern sky, on pauseless wing,
I saw the swallow as he fled.
Close to my feet sank shivering
The rose, all white with suffering.
And, as I turned, the skies were snowing,
And icy whistling winds were blowing.

ABOVE all earthly gifts a good mother stands pre-eminent; she is worth her weight in gold—more than an army of acquaintances. Those who have played round the same door step, basked in the same mother's smiles, in whose veins the same blood flows, are bound by a sacred tie that can never be broken. Distances may separate, quarrels may occur, but those who have a capacity to love anything must have at times a bubbling up of fond recollections, and a yearning after the joys of by-gone days. Every woman has a misson on earth. There is "something to do" for every one—a houshold to put in order, a child to attend to, some class of unfortunates, degraded or homeless humanity to befriend. That soul is poor indeed that leaves the world without having exerted an influence that will be felt for good after she has passed away.

OVER six thousand people perished in these United States last year, victims of kerosene oil accidents. It is not easy to realize the extent and the significance of this reliable statement. An average of one hundred and fifteen deaths for one year, when scattered over a great extent of territory, does not impress the average individual like a single catastrophe where half a hundred lives are sacrificed by criminal neglect or murderous parsimony. A boiler explosion, a railroad collision, or an Indian massacre thrills the public heart and stirs the blood within us; but it is only the statistician or the humanitarian who realizes the mental and bodily anguish, the appalling disasters, the agonizing death-bed scenes that are represented by this army of six thousand kerosene victims. The use of kerosene has now become so common in the household, the store, the river, and the rail that it seems almost a work of supererogation to add anything to what has been so often and so ably said.