

HOME JOURNAL.

VOL. VIII. WINCHESTER, TENN., MAY 6, 1869. NUMBER 18.

L. METCALFE, G. W. HUNT, S. S. DUNN
METCALFE, HUNT & DUNN,
Publishers and Proprietors.

TERMS:
One copy, one year, \$3 00
One copy, six months, 2 00
One copy, three months, 1 00

TO CORRESPONDENTS.
No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications. Whatever is intended for insertion in the Home Journal, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—no necessary for publication, but as a guarantee for good faith and responsibility.

Out-Door Weather.
The fear of the weather has sent multitudes to the grave, who otherwise might have lived in health many years longer.

Time for Planting Strawberries.
Some advocate setting strawberry plants in the fall; others in June or July; and still others, and we believe the larger number, think the last of April or first of May the better time.

About to Try It.
In France, in all criminal prosecutions the accused is examined—his evidence being received for what it may be worth, as explanatory or corroboratory of other evidence.

Articles on "Words and Their Uses," written by Richard Grant White, which have been published in the Galaxy from time to time, and which have already attracted much attention, are now undergoing a careful revision by the author, and will soon be published by Sheldon & Co. in book form.

No less than fourteen railway locomotives have exploded within the last seven months in the United States, killing 29 persons outright, and severely wounding a much larger number.

WHY I SING.
I sing because I love to sing.
Because I have no earthly things,
Because it pleases some I love.

THE OLD CARTMAN.
An Affecting Story.
I have a mind to tell you a little story—a brief, yet true one.

About five years ago John Ainsley, or "Pap Ainsley," as he was familiarly called, was the owner of a hand-cart, and earned a living by conveying miscellaneous packages from one part of the city to another, and receiving therefor the sum of fifty cents per load.

Four years ago last September, having two or three dozen volumes to transfer to my lodgings, I gave Pap Ainsley the task of transportation. Arriving at my room just as he had deposited the last armful on the table, and observing that the old man looked fatigued after climbing three flights of stairs two or three times, I invited him to take a glass of brandy—a bottle of which I usually kept in my room for medical and sporadic purposes.

"Well, if you drink at all," I insisted, "you will not find as fair an excuse in the next twelvemonth for indulging, for you appear fatigued and scarcely able to stand."

In three months the wife died; and at the expiration of a year, when the young people returned to Syracuse from Connecticut, where they had remained with the parents of the husband, they learned that the old man had squandered his money, and was almost destitute.

Ainsley was arrested, tried and acquitted on the plea of insanity. The daughter and her husband returned to Connecticut, since which time the father had not heard from them. He was sent to a lunatic asylum, from which he was dismissed after remaining six months. In 1851 he came to

California. He had followed mining for two years, but his strength was unequal to the pursuit, and he returned to the city, purchased a hand-cart, and the rest is known.

"Since then," concluded the old man, bowing his face in his hands in agony, "I have not tasted liquor, nor have I seen my child."

"Very well, I will pay you," said the lady, stepping into an adjoining room. She returned, and, stating that she had no small coin in the house, handed the man a twenty dollar gold piece.

"No, no," replied the lady, glancing pityingly at the white locks and trembling limbs. "I will not put you to so much trouble," and she handed the coin to Bridget, with instructions to see if she could get it changed at one of the stores in the neighborhood.

"What is your name, my little child?" "Maria," lisped the little one. "Maria?" he repeated, while the great tears gathered in his eyes; "I once had a little girl named Maria, and you look very much as she did."

"I cannot meet her without betraying myself, and I dare not tell that I am that drunken father who attempted to take her life, and perhaps left her husband a cripple," he groaned as he hurried toward the door.

"All was forgiven, and the husband, when he returned late in the afternoon, was scarcely less rejoiced than his good wife at the discovery. Whether or not Bridget succeeded in changing the double eagle I never learned; but this I do know, it took that honest female all of two months to unravel the knot into which the domestic relations of the family had tied itself during her absence.

with it. I peeped into Dr. Eastman's back-yard a short time since, and discovered the old man dragging his favorite vehicle around the enclosure, with his four grand children piled promiscuously into it.

"Damaging Testimony."
Senator Sprague of Rhode Island, has recently given to the country some very important information concerning the condition of the business affairs of the country; and his lifting of the curtain exhibits anything but a lovely picture of how things are managed in our National Congress.

"Any man who takes an independent position in this country contrary to those who are wielding unbounded capital over the business, the legislation, and the capital of this country—those who make Senators here the point for their attack and who corrupt wherever they touch—must expect to be met by such means as these.

"Perhaps I may find some silver in the house," said the lady, leaving the room, "for I fear Bridget will not get the twenty-dollar piece changed."

"I do not drink now. I have not tasted intoxicating liquors for fifteen years—since."

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The warlike reports are echoed from Italy, and heavy preparations for defense are being made throughout the country. The cloud is expected to burst soon, and hints are given that Prussia will open the ball.

A LEAF FROM HISTORY.

General Sherman's Late Letter on General J. E. Johnson's Surrender.

To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune.
Sir—In your issue of yesterday is a notice of Mr. Healey's picture, representing the interview between Mr. Lincoln, General Grant, Admiral Porter and myself, which repeats substantially the account published some time ago in "Wilkes' Spirit of the Times," explanatory of the interview, and attributing to Mr. Lincoln himself the paternity of the terms to General Johnson's army at Durham, in April, 1865.

I am glad you have called public attention to the picture itself, because I feel a personal interest that Mr. Healey should be appreciated as one of our best American artists. But some friends here think by silence I may be construed as willing to throw off on Mr. Lincoln the odium of those terms.

I had been absent so long that I presumed of course, that Congress had enacted all the laws necessary to meet the event of peace, so long expected, and the near approach of which must then have been seen by the most obtuse; and all I aimed to do was to re-mit the rebel army surrendering to me the conditions of the laws of the country as they then existed.

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I repeat, that according to my memory, Mr. Lincoln did not expressly name any specific terms of surrender, but he was in that kindly and gentle frame of mind that would have induced him to approve fully what I did, excepting probably he would have interlined some modifications, such as recognizing his several proclamations antecedent, as well as the laws of Congress, which would have been perfectly right, and acceptable to me and to all parties.

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think should be properly borne by me alone.

If in the original terms I had, as I certainly meant, included the proclamations of the President, they would have covered the slavery question and all the real State questions which caused the war; and had not Mr. Lincoln been assassinated at the very moment, I believe those "terms" would have taken the usual course of approval, modification or absolute disapproval, and then returned to me, like hundreds of other official acts, without the newspaper clamor, and unpleasant controversies so unkindly and unpleasantly thrust upon me at the time.

I am truly yours,
W. T. SHERMAN, General.

WASHINGTON, D. C. April 11, 1868.

Adjusting Expenses.

An English paper in this pleasant and forcible way begs people to draw the important distinction between regulating their expenditures by other people's instead of by their own wants and purses:

"If you want to live in vain show, regulate your expenditure by the expenditure of your neighbors; if you want to live wisely and manfully, regulate your expenditure by your actual wants, including, of course, the wants of your mind as well as those of your body, and the wants of your family as well as your own. Coquely dress is a good thing, and a proper application of your money; but a dress of a particular cut and color, not wanted for any other reason except that Mrs. Goldsmith or Miss Filagree over the way has got one, is not a legitimate or thrifty expenditure.

The most successful go-between between Parisian managers and actors is a former "bar woman" at the Odeon theater. She clears 60,000 francs a year.

A graphic representation of the fluctuations in cotton at Liverpool during 1867, and other cotton statistics, with German and English text, published at Leipzig, has been received by Mr. L. W. Schmidt, in Memphis.

Col. Wm. D. Mann, proprietor of the Mobile Daily Register, married his ward Miss Belle Jones, of Alabama, last Friday, at the Metropolitan Hotel New York.

There is a very fatal disease prevalent among the hogs in the vicinity of McKinney, Texas, supposed to be caused by eating the roots of the young cockle-burr.

ITEMS.
Charlotte Thompson will appear on the San Francisco stage as soon as she has gathered her cotton crop in Alabama.

John C. Clark of Texas, having left an estate of several millions and no known heirs, the State has taken possession.

A western German paper says that Senator Sprague inherited one-half of Rhode Island, and the other he has acquired since.

Melbourne, Australia, has a newspaper printed in Chinese characters, edited by an Algerine and corrected by a native of Buenos Ayres.

The Earl of Zeland has held the office of Grand Master of Free Masons of England for twenty-five years, and is now to retire.

Two young ladies, on an average, commit suicide in Paris every day for love, and one man in consequence of pecuniary embarrassments.

The project of cutting a canal through the Isthmus of Corinth, Greece, has been revived. Its length would be three miles and three quarters.

The London Saturday Review says that the New York city government is "the most corrupt body in the civilized world."