

The Sabbath Recorder

WESTLEY, N. Y., FIFTH DAY, DEC. 22, 1864.

ORIGIN AND NATURE OF THE SABBATH

CHAPTER I.—CONTINUED.

Whatever the disciples taught, whatever customs they introduced, where they journeyed, and what befell them, we may, with propriety, expect to learn from that book, written by one of them, which is designed especially to give us such information. This is true of the information given in the book of Acts; but in all this book, containing the history of about thirty years, we find but one direct reference to the first day of the week, which is claimed as evidence in favor of its sabbath observance by the apostles. This meager reference could not be, if it had been true that the disciples were introducing a custom of sabbatizing, so adverse to all which had been before taught and practiced. There would have been discussions and objections, not a few, especially among the Jewish converts; and the historian, even should he attempt it, would not be able to conceal the evidence of these agitations. Much less would an honest and faithful historian, like Luke, fail to give publicity to them; especially as his own opinions and practices, in common with the other apostles, would be thereby called in question. This fact is so patent on a moment's reflection, is so enough to decide the question against the existence of any such practice.

Still, we proceed to examine the text, Acts 20: 6, 7. "But we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them, (those who were waiting) to Troas, in five days, where we abode seven days. And upon the first day of the week, we having come together to break bread, Paul discoursed to them, (being about to depart on the morrow), and continued the discourse until midnight." &c. The claim is, that this is proof of an existing and well-understood custom of the disciples, to sabbatize on the first day of the week. Let us examine it.

Does that it was not a gathering of all the disciples at Troas for the purpose of celebrating the Lord's Supper, but only the gathering of the traveling party for their evening meal, and that they might be together for the journey of the following day, at which time the residents came in—whether Christians or not, we are not told—and he discoursed to them.

More than this, the history given in the book of Acts covers at least thirty years, and these the very years in which it is claimed a new custom was being established. Yet only this one reference is made to the day, and none whatever to any custom. To suppose such an absence of all reference to it is impossible, if the facts were as the claim of Sunday supporters implies, and Luke be deemed a reliable historian.

will be fatal. We may be exceedingly zealous, and wear out our lives in service; but if we look to the wrong source for strength, we shall be disappointed, and our efforts will be unavailing. Are we then relying on human might? Are we to depend chiefly on the means to secure success that men employ in things of common life? The nature of the gospel itself makes but one answer possible. The weapons of our warfare cannot be carnal, and it is because they are spiritual that they are mighty, through God, to the pulling down of the strongholds of sin. Success comes not by might nor by power, but by the Spirit of the Lord. "A Paul may plant, and an Apollon water; but God giveth the increase."

HARMONY OF THE SCRIPTURES

FEET-WASHING AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

It seems to be the popular belief, that the washing of feet, spoken of by John in the thirteenth chapter of his Gospel, and the instituting of the Lord's Supper, as recorded by the other evangelists, both occurred on the same evening. This, it seems to me, makes the Holy Scriptures conflict, touching these events. Some, in their efforts to reconcile the statements of the different narrators, so as to have them all refer to the passover supper, have concluded that Judas was not present, either at the communion, or the washing of feet. To this I object, for the reason above stated, and also because I think it takes from us an intended example of our Saviour, which we so much need. We cannot know each other's hearts, and it is not our privilege to judge of them. (Matt. 7: 1, and Rom. 14: 10-13.) The Saviour well understood this fact, and while he knew that Judas was a traitor at heart, he condescended to commune with him, and wash his feet, that his disciples might learn, from his example, not to reject a brother, while he brought up the external appearance of a disciple. This is as I understand it.

I see but one reason why the two occasions of feet-washing and of the Lord's Supper, are thus blended together; and that is, that on both occasions the Redeemer set forth the fact that one of his disciples should betray him, and clearly indicated that Judas was the one. But the statements of the different evangelists seem to me fully to warrant the conclusion, that the occasions were not the same, although similar facts were communicated. On one occasion, his disciples "began, every one of them, to say unto him, Lord, is it I?" And he answered and said, He that dipeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me. On the other, "the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake;" and Simon Peter beckoned to the disciple leaning on Jesus' bosom, "that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake. He then lying on Jesus' breast, saith, Lord, who is it? Jesus answered, He it is to whom I shall give a sop when I have dipped it." Now, I conclude that the Supper, alluded to by John, after which the Saviour washed the disciples' feet, preceded the one at which he instituted the Lord's Supper. Some of the reasons for this conclusion are as follows:

1st. Matthew, Mark, and Luke, all record the agreement of Judas to betray his Lord as being previous to the Passover. Matthew says, "From that time he sought opportunity to betray him." Luke says, (22: 3, 4), "Then entered Satan into Judas, surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them." Verses 6 and 7—"And he promised, and sought opportunity to betray him unto them in the absence of the multitude. Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the passover must be killed." John records the entering of Satan into Judas as being after the Saviour had washed the disciples' feet, and after the sop, which was to designate him as the betrayer of his Lord. John 13: 27, Luke continues: "Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly." And, verse 30: "He then, having received the sop, went immediately out; and it was night." Now, I think it is reasonable to infer, that he went from the place where the Lord had washed their feet, and where they were probably lodged for the night, to make the agreement to betray his Master. At any rate, if Luke and John were both right, and surely they were—in their testimony with reference to the time of Satan entering into Judas, the washing of feet must have been before the passover supper, and not after it.

shows that the disciples were looking forward to some feast. 3d. The last reason that I wish now to present, for believing that the Supper spoken of by John was on some evening prior to the one on which Jesus was betrayed, is the fact that John begins his narrative of the feet-washing by saying, "Now, before the feast of the passover." (John 13: 1.)

"Now, Mr. Editor, it will greatly oblige a sincere inquirer, after truth, if you will please lay my views on the subject before the readers of the Recorder; and if I should be wrong, you or some of your correspondents, will answer the following queries: How is it known that the Saviour instituted the Lord's Supper, and washed the disciples' feet, both on the same night? If this is shown, what does John mean by commencing his narrative as above? and to what feast does the disciples reference, when they thought Jesus had said to Judas, "Buy those things that we need against the feast?"

THE HONORED DEAD.

The righteous dead need no human eulogy. They are beyond the reach of the most eloquent tribute, unaffected either by praise or blame, for they rest from their labors. But as homage paid to virtue is an incentive to the performance of virtuous acts, we should note down the good deeds of our fellow men, that others may emulate their virtues, and follow their noble example; for, as the sun dispels the mist, so our tears of sympathy, shed over those we love, will be effaced, leaving no trace to tell future generations of the early conflicts, of the gentlemanly bearing, of the persevering efforts, and the successful business career, all made radiant by faith in God, of him who now lies silent in death.

Among the worthy examples to be remembered in the business circle, the name of JOHNATHAN R. WELLS stands in the front rank. In early life he left his home for a place in a woolen mill. It was his motto, to do well whatever he did. Soon he was master of his business, and when the opportunity presented for him, in company with his brother, to engage in the manufacturing of woolen goods, his energy and success marked him as having a business talent. The company of which he stood at the head, now runs successfully four mills. In his constitution he united boldness with caution, and was noted for his perseverance; these combined to make him hopeful. Thus he looked upon the bright side of the trials of life, a habit which kept him in good spirits while waiving with disease. He was cheerful and buoyant to the last. He said that he was nothing of himself; his hope was in the mercy of God through Jesus Christ. Though in the prime of life, Col. Wells had gained a competency for himself, and a good reputation among the citizens of his native town. He earned his title of Colonel by his faithfulness under his commission in the Dorr war. He has filled honorably the presidency of the Ashaway Bank since its organization. But the wisdom of his business career is seen in gathering around him conscientious and permanent help. He encouraged his friends, and faithful members of society, to build and make permanent homes, and thus identify themselves with the interests of society. This course gave the company good and trusty help, and has concentrated in the community a moral power, which we trust may gather strength to vindicate the wisdom and benevolence of his business policy for years to come. In his death the poor have lost a friend. His neighbors have grieved to observe his declining health, while the business men of his circle will lament the death of an enterprising and kind-hearted associate. But while the church, and especially his family, mourn his death, they mourn not as those without hope.

WEDDING GIFT.

At the wedding of Mr. Andrews and Miss Burton, on Thanksgiving evening, at Rockville, the bridal pair were presented by the bride's foster parents, immediately after the marriage ceremony, with the Cottage Bible in two volumes; upon which it was remarked, that those who love you desire to express interest in your prosperity by this beautiful present—a Cottage Bible—a lamp to your feet, and a light to your dwelling—emblematical of your union—though in two volumes, yet, one book, they cannot be separated—having one aim, and accomplishing one object, in the salvation of man. Thus with you; though two persons, you are united in one; having given your hearts to each other, you cannot be separated; bound by the cords of love to each other, you now have one aim, one interest in all of the duties of your earthly pilgrimage. May this book be your companion in prosperity, your consolation in the hour of trial, and by its light may you be guided to your heavenly rest. May there be many such happy pairs, blessed with such a present.

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Sound Doctrine.—A respected correspondent, in sending a communication for the Recorder, says: "I recognize it as the duty of those who have at heart the welfare of the denomination, to note with you in your efforts to make the paper interesting." This sentence expresses a truth which we have long desired to see prevail. No one can make a paper which shall be the exponent and meet the wants of a denomination, to accomplish that object fully, a paper must embody the best thoughts of the leading thinkers of the denomination. Of course somebody must stand in the position of editor, to see that the productions of the different writers appear in the proper form and place, and to attend to the details of editing. But it is a great mistake to suppose that it is in the power of such a person, unaided, to make a paper all that any religious denomination needs. We commend the suggestion of our correspondent to the consideration of those among us whose opportunities for editing are thoughtfully obligated to "communicate."

TENDER MERCIES OF THE REBELS.—We have received, too late for publication this week, a manuscript written in the rebel prison at Andersonville, Georgia, by Nathan Lanphear, of Nile, N. Y., late Commissary Sergeant in the 85th Regt. N. Y. Vols., now a paroled prisoner at Annapolis, Md. He says that on the 11th of September, in company with most of his regiment, he left Andersonville for Charleston, S. C. During their stay at Andersonville, out of 442 men, 130 died, and about 50 were left sick in hospital, most of whom, he thinks, are dead before now. Of the "boys" from Nile, all had died except himself and two others, and those two he left at Florence, S. C., not paroled. Silas Clark died Oct. 28th, and O. E. Lanphear Oct. 29th.

LIBERAL BEQUESTS.—The late C. A. Ely, of Georgia, Ohio, bequeathed a block of buildings to found a library, and five thousand dollars in addition for books, and the income of ten thousand dollars every alternate year for books or works of art for the library. Mordecai Parrish, of Baltimore, Md., made the following bequests: To the Maryland State Bible Society, three thousand dollars; to the Maryland House of Refuge, three thousand dollars; to the Maryland Institution for the Blind, three thousand dollars; to the Preachers' Aid Society of the East Baltimore Methodist Conference, three thousand dollars; to the Missionary Society, three thousand dollars; amounting in the aggregate to fifteen thousand six hundred dollars.

WORTHY OF Imitation.—Rev. O. W. Ketchum, of Toledo, Ohio, writes to the Western Advocate: "Robert Hunter, a member of my church, is an example of devotion to duty worthy of note. Five years since he and his wife began a mission Sunday school in the Fifth ward of Toledo, with nine scholars, and now it numbers over one hundred scholars, and during all that time Mr. Hunter has not missed a single Sunday. And having served the school exactly five years, he has been drafted into the service of his adopted country—being formerly from Edgland—and when his friends offered him a substitute he refused to accept the offer, regarding the call of the government as the voice of God. May God preserve him, and return him to his family and his school."

THE PEOPLE'S COLLEGE, located in Western New York, is likely, after all the high hopes which have been entertained for it, to come to naught. The bounty of \$10,000 per year for two years, granted by the State of New York, has expired by constitutional limitation, without the institution being started. The building has never been furnished; the original founder, Charles Cook, declining to do it, and the trustees having failed to raise the needed funds. The President, Rev. Amos Brown, after laboring for years to establish the Institution, has resigned his position, and the day of opening is indefinitely postponed.

HENRY R. SCHOOLCRAFT, L. L. D., died at Washington, Dec. 10th, aged 71 years. He was for several years Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and devoted most of his life to the history and literature of the Indians, respecting which he published several works which have become standards.

PASSENGERS are hereafter to be required of persons coming into the United States from foreign countries, the regulation being "intended to apply especially to persons proposing to come to the United States from the neighboring British provinces."

MISSIONARY BOARD MEETING.—A quarterly meeting of the Executive Board of the Seventh-day Baptist Missionary Society, is to be held at Westley, on Fourth-day, Jan. 11th, 1865.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.—A number of Spanish bishops and clergy are preparing to send a deputation to Rome, to present to the Pope the expressions of their attachment to the visible head of the Church, to protest against the spoliation of the patrimony of St. Peter, and to invite his Holiness, in case he should be obliged to leave Rome, to take up his abode in some metropolis of Italy. The deputation will also offer to the Pope a considerable amount of money; the proceeds of a subscription made for the purpose by all classes of society in Spain.

There is trouble in Poland about the kidnapping of Jewish girls in Warsaw. The Jewish community had hitherto been silent about it, because none but the lower classes had been subjected to this treatment. But about three months ago the daughter of a rich Israelite being enticed into a convent of Felician nuns, and then forcibly kept there, the father complained to the bishops, and after innumerable efforts his child was restored to him. She said there were about a dozen Jewish girls more in the same convent.

Catholic papers of France and Italy are greatly delighted in reporting the establishment of a convent in Sweden; and at the good reception of the missionaries by Protestants as well as Catholics. The same papers do not hesitate to approve the prohibition of all Protestant worship and Protestant books in Spain. Such are the views of the Roman Catholic Church on religious liberty.

The Duke of Modena has sent to Jerusalem as a souvenir of his recent pilgrimage, three splendid lamps; one, the largest, is intended for the Holy Sepulchre, and the other two for Bethlehem and Nazareth. He has also presented a valuable memorial in silver to the Latin Patriarch. The Empress Dowager of Austria has recently sent a fine oil painting representing a "Descent from the Cross."

Some idea of what High Lutheranism means in this country may be obtained from a statement of a Lutheran journal respecting the Synod of Buffalo. Private confession and absolution are practiced in all the churches, and no communicant is admitted to the Lord's table who has not made confession and absolution. The great church festivals are kept during three days, and the four church humiliation days, together with those of the Apostles, Mary, and the Martyrs, are likewise celebrated.

Six years ago the Rev. Mr. Cross made an appeal in behalf of poor Sunday schools to some of the children of Frederick City, Md. In response to this, one little girl by the name of Eliza, and selling them at a fair obtained nine gold dollars, which she gave to Mr. C. With this sum he purchased a library and sent it to a poor school in Alleghany county in that State. From this school sprang a church now numbering from thirty-eight to forty-five members, which in turn is giving help to another school.

Mrs. Eliza W. Farnham, the well-known philanthropist and authoress, died in New York, on Thursday morning of last week. Among the works from her pen were: "The Prairie Land," "California, Its Docks and Ore," "The Era of Woman," &c. She was at one time the matron of Sing Sing Prison, New York, and subsequently had charge of a blind institution in Boston.

The accounts of the New York Sanitary Fair are finally closed. Mr. Gourlie, Chairman of the Finance Committee, has paid over to the Treasurer of the Sanitary Commission \$178,151.68, being the balance on settling the books. The entire net proceeds of the Fair were \$180,091.27.

The late Charles A. Ely, of Elyria, Ohio, gave by his will a block of buildings in the town, wherewith to found and sustain a public library; also, \$5,000 in addition for books, and the income of \$10,000 every alternate year for books and works of art to be placed in the library.

roads are not yet full, which indicates that the main instead of snow yet to fall. The muckrakers have built their houses two stories high, to avoid the rise of the waters; and the nuts are scarce, as the squirrels will have the liberty of the woods instead of being blocked up in their holes by snow banks.

WAR NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Scarcely any week since the war began has brought so much cheering news as the past—the success of Gen. Warren's expedition south of Richmond, the arrival of Gen. Sherman at the seaboard with an army greatly increased in his march of three hundred miles, the thorough whipping of Gen. Hood by Gen. Thomas at Nashville, the sailing of a great fleet from Fortress Monroe, &c.

AROUND RICHMOND.

Indications of activity in the army around Richmond continue, and leave no room to doubt that it will be ready to perform its part in the great drama now progressing. The results of Gen. Warren's expedition are summed up as follows: A rapid march of fifty miles, across important bridges, over twenty miles of railroad, and a large amount of forage and other stores, destroyed; Sussex Court House, burned, a score of prisoners captured, and all with having sustained only a slight loss.

GEN. SHERMAN.

On Tuesday, Dec. 13th, Gen. Sherman captured Fort McAllister, commanding the entrance to the Ogeechee River, fifteen miles from Savannah, at the point where the Savannah and Gulf Railroad crosses the Ogeechee. This is the earthwork which our navy has made two unsuccessful attempts to take. Its capture placed Gen. Sherman's army in direct communication with the fleet of Admiral Dahlgren, and enabled them to co-operate.

The march of Gen. Sherman's army for three hundred miles is represented as having been in the highest degree successful, and established the truth of the assertion, that the Confederacy is only a shell.

—Since the foregoing was in type, a dispatch from Gen. Sherman has been published. It is dated on board gunboat Dandelson, Ossawaucombee, 11:50 P. M., Dec. 13th. The General says:

"Today at 5 P. M., Gen. Hazen's division of the 15th corps, carried Fort McAllister by assault, capturing its entire garrison and stores. This opened to us the Ogeechee River, and I pulled down to this gunboat to communicate with the fleet. Before opening communication we had completely destroyed all the railroads leading into Savannah and invested the city. The left is on the Savannah river three miles above the city, and the right on the Ogeechee at King's bridge. The army is in splendid order and equal to anything. The weather has been fine and supplies abundant. Our march was most agreeable, and we were not at all molested by guerrillas. We reached Savannah three days ago, but owing to Fort McAllister we could not communicate. But now we have McAllister we can go ahead."

"We have already captured two boats in the Savannah river, and prevented their gunboats from coming down. I estimate the population of Savannah at 25,000, and the garrison at 15,000. General Hardee commands."

"We have not yet lost a wagon on the trip, but have gathered in a large supply of negroes, mules, horses, &c., and our teams are in far better condition than when we started. My first business will be to clear the army of surplus negroes, mules and horses. We have utterly destroyed over two hundred miles of railroads, and consumed stores and provisions that were essential to Lee and Hood's armies. The quick work made with McAllister, and the opening of communication with our fleet, and the consequent independence for supplies, disarranges all their boasted ability to head off and starve the army. I regard Savannah as already gained."

After the above dispatch was written, Gen. Foster visited General Sherman at Fort McAllister. It is stated that Hardee would be summoned to surrender, and that two days after the city would be bombarded, if it did not capitulate.

NASHVILLE.

There was hard fighting before Nashville on Thursday and Friday, which resulted in the complete success of Gen. Thomas. It seems that Gen. Thomas, despairing of an attack by Hood, concluded to take the offensive. On Thursday, the rebel left was driven from the Cumberland river and forced back about eight miles. At this portion of the field of battle the Union cavalry, who were disappointed, and the gunboats, did good service. All of Hood's earthworks were taken, throughout the entire extent of his line, except about a mile of them on his right wing. Between eight hundred and one thousand and prisoners, sixteen cannons, the rebel General Cheatham, and other quarters and trunks, besides another state of about twenty wagons, are among the tangible trophies of General Thomas' indisputable victory in this one day's campaign. The rebels were taken, throughout the entire extent of his line, except about a mile of them on his right wing. Between eight hundred and one thousand and prisoners, sixteen cannons, the rebel General Cheatham, and other quarters and trunks, besides another state of about twenty wagons, are among the tangible trophies of General Thomas' indisputable victory in this one day's campaign. The rebels were taken, throughout the entire extent of his line, except about a mile of them on his right wing. Between eight hundred and one thousand and prisoners, sixteen cannons, the rebel General Cheatham, and other quarters and trunks, besides another state of about twenty wagons, are among the tangible trophies of General Thomas' indisputable victory in this one day's campaign.

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THE CHICAGO LAKE TUNNEL.

A few days since, the Common Council of Chicago made an inspection of the Lake Tunnel. The Tribune says: "The bottom was reached in safety, and the party stepped out into the world a long bore, five feet in diameter, and stretching away like a...

THE CHICAGO LAKE TUNNEL.

The bottom was reached in safety, and the party stepped out into the world a long bore, five feet in diameter, and stretching away like a distance of eleven hundred feet. The bottom gave a good footing, but a rather familiar amount of perpendicular rock in which to walk. But the party got down, but (and very double) on reaching the bottom, the temperature was about seventy degrees below the surface, and the water was so cold that it was necessary to wear heavy clothing, and long before the end was reached, the knees and back began to ache, while the elevated temperature of the air, made it uncomfortably warm.

DEATH IN THE WALL.

The People's Journal of Health has an article with this fearful title, which is an attack on wall paper. The writer says: "A good clean paper is certainly more pleasant to the eye than a flowered and gaudy wall, whose scales of lime are continually peeling off and soiling every garment which comes in contact with it. And if a proper selection of paper is made, and there be no other lining of similar stuff beneath, it is not only more pleasant to the sense, but is almost equal to the whitened wall. But here is the difficulty. As a general rule, one coat of paper is put over another, as the last gets too much soiled to look well, until several layers cover the original surface, thus often producing an actual cause of disease."

EDUCATION FOR WORKINGMEN.

The New York Evening Post recently printed an account of the Cooper Union Free Schools, the magnificent gift of that true democrat, Peter Cooper, to the mechanics and other workingmen and women of New York. Mr. Cooper began life as a poor boy; he has been a workingman all his life; and when, by the virtues of industry, patience, and thrift, he accumulated a large fortune, he did not forget his fellows; he stood by his order, and founded, here in the city, for the benefit of workingmen and their children, a free night college, and a free library, which have already done so much to help mechanics and their sons and daughters to obtain, in the only way they can spare from labor, a thorough practical and technical education.

LIORENS AND MOSES.

The mode in which these insignificant plants prepare the surface of sterile rocks for the reception and growth of higher species of vegetation is very remarkable. While the lichen is living, it forms a considerable quantity of oxalic acid, the materials for which—oxygen and carbon—are supplied by the atmosphere. This acid chemically upon the rock, especially limestone, and forms hollows in which the detritus, both of the rock and of the decaying plant, remains. The moisture which is caught in these little wells sinks into the crevices of the rock, and when the frost seizes on these particles of moisture, it causes them to expand, and thus breaks up the surface beneath which they lie, into minute fragments, so continually adding to the forming soil. Age after age this process goes on, until at length the barren rock or the volcanic lava is found clothed with soil, and converted into fruitful fields. The mosses follow the lichens, and then come the ferns and other tribes, each one by its decay affording a richer and more plentiful soil to those that succeed.

DOCTORS' VISITS.

It is not only for the sick man, but the sick man's friends, that the doctor comes. His presence is often as good for them as for the patient, they long for him yet more eagerly. How we have all watched after him! What an emotion the thrill of his carriage wheels in the street, and at length at the door, has made us feel! How we hung upon his words, and what a comfort we got from a smile or two, if he can't get out of the carriage to light us! Who hasn't seen the mother prying into his face to know if there is not hope for the sick infant, that cannot speak, and that lies yonder, its little frame battling with fever? Ah, how she looks into his face! What thanks if there is light there—what grief and pain if he casts them down and says, "No hope!" Or is it the house-father that is stricken? The terrified wife looks on, while the physician feels the patient's wrist, and smothering her agonies as the children have been called upon to stay their plays and their talk! Over the patient in the fever, the wife exclaims, the children unconscious, the doctor stands as if he were Fate, the dispenser of life and death!

THE UNIVERSAL OPINION OF THE MUSICAL PROFESSION.

"That Messrs. Mason and Hamlin have succeeded in making a better small instrument from little hands than any other which, though portable, and not larger than a piano, can make themselves felt in a church or in the universal opinion of the musical profession. They agree that no such mechanical works of the kind can be found in equal perfection in Europe. The tone is pure and full, and with an immense body for so small a structure. They stand rough traveling, bad usage, and will live in climates that kill American missionaries."—N. Y. Tribune.

THE UNIVERSAL OPINION OF THE MUSICAL PROFESSION.

"The instrument known as the CABINET ORGAN is quite as great an improvement upon the Melodion, introduced some twenty years ago, as its successor, the Harmonium, is a concert grand piano. The melodion was over the imperfect Pianos in vogue a quarter of a century since. The melodion long favored from its facility for expression, its mass was monotonous to a degree annoying to cultivated ears. The harmonium was an improvement upon the melodion, but still failed to satisfy the extent demand for its use in churches, school-rooms or halls, as a support to choral singing. Within a couple of years, Messrs. Mason and Hamlin, who have always taken the lead in this country as manufacturers of reed instruments, have succeeded in largely overcoming the defects noticed in the melodion, and their important modification introduced is the Automatic Bellows swell, by which the performer is enabled to produce the softest tone, or to awaken a volume of tone superior to any in point of musical quality fully as good as that derived from superior church organs."

WEST'S IMPROVED PUMP.

These pumps have now been in general use for many years, and give better satisfaction than any other, and are recommended as THE BEST. Capt. Ericsson and the eminent Engineer, we can refer to all who will confirm them, and guarantee that all will recommend them. They are more simple in construction, and work easier, and cost less, than all others. "Our readers will find the double-acting Improved Pump of J. D. West & Co., one of the best in the market. It works in all climates, works to a charm, so that any other pump, it throws a steady, continuous stream, and does not freeze in the coldest exposures, and is unusually cheap. We are confident, and give the testimony of our own experience, without the knowledge or request of the proprietors."—N. Y. Beech Tree, July 1st, 1864.

THE CHICAGO LAKE TUNNEL.

Down in that work the ventilation is as good as could be desired. A thorough draft is kept up through a large pipe extending the whole length of the work, and the operation of this is needed only to change the air made foul by breathing and boring. The soil through which the miners are digging is remarkably free from those poisonous gases which are so great an obstacle in all underground operations. Only twice have the workmen been troubled with gaseous outbreaks, and but one of those of such magnitude as to necessitate a suspension of labor.

DOCTORS' VISITS.

It is not only for the sick man, but the sick man's friends, that the doctor comes. His presence is often as good for them as for the patient, they long for him yet more eagerly. How we have all watched after him! What an emotion the thrill of his carriage wheels in the street, and at length at the door, has made us feel! How we hung upon his words, and what a comfort we got from a smile or two, if he can't get out of the carriage to light us! Who hasn't seen the mother prying into his face to know if there is not hope for the sick infant, that cannot speak, and that lies yonder, its little frame battling with fever? Ah, how she looks into his face! What thanks if there is light there—what grief and pain if he casts them down and says, "No hope!" Or is it the house-father that is stricken? The terrified wife looks on, while the physician feels the patient's wrist, and smothering her agonies as the children have been called upon to stay their plays and their talk! Over the patient in the fever, the wife exclaims, the children unconscious, the doctor stands as if he were Fate, the dispenser of life and death!

LIORENS AND MOSES.

The mode in which these insignificant plants prepare the surface of sterile rocks for the reception and growth of higher species of vegetation is very remarkable. While the lichen is living, it forms a considerable quantity of oxalic acid, the materials for which—oxygen and carbon—are supplied by the atmosphere. This acid chemically upon the rock, especially limestone, and forms hollows in which the detritus, both of the rock and of the decaying plant, remains. The moisture which is caught in these little wells sinks into the crevices of the rock, and when the frost seizes on these particles of moisture, it causes them to expand, and thus breaks up the surface beneath which they lie, into minute fragments, so continually adding to the forming soil. Age after age this process goes on, until at length the barren rock or the volcanic lava is found clothed with soil, and converted into fruitful fields. The mosses follow the lichens, and then come the ferns and other tribes, each one by its decay affording a richer and more plentiful soil to those that succeed.

EDUCATION FOR WORKINGMEN.

The New York Evening Post recently printed an account of the Cooper Union Free Schools, the magnificent gift of that true democrat, Peter Cooper, to the mechanics and other workingmen and women of New York. Mr. Cooper began life as a poor boy; he has been a workingman all his life; and when, by the virtues of industry, patience, and thrift, he accumulated a large fortune, he did not forget his fellows; he stood by his order, and founded, here in the city, for the benefit of workingmen and their children, a free night college, and a free library, which have already done so much to help mechanics and their sons and daughters to obtain, in the only way they can spare from labor, a thorough practical and technical education.

DEATH IN THE WALL.

The People's Journal of Health has an article with this fearful title, which is an attack on wall paper. The writer says: "A good clean paper is certainly more pleasant to the eye than a flowered and gaudy wall, whose scales of lime are continually peeling off and soiling every garment which comes in contact with it. And if a proper selection of paper is made, and there be no other lining of similar stuff beneath, it is not only more pleasant to the sense, but is almost equal to the whitened wall. But here is the difficulty. As a general rule, one coat of paper is put over another, as the last gets too much soiled to look well, until several layers cover the original surface, thus often producing an actual cause of disease."

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THE UNIVERSAL OPINION OF THE MUSICAL PROFESSION.

"That Messrs. Mason and Hamlin have succeeded in making a better small instrument from little hands than any other which, though portable, and not larger than a piano, can make themselves felt in a church or in the universal opinion of the musical profession. They agree that no such mechanical works of the kind can be found in equal perfection in Europe. The tone is pure and full, and with an immense body for so small a structure. They stand rough traveling, bad usage, and will live in climates that kill American missionaries."—N. Y. Tribune.

THE UNIVERSAL OPINION OF THE MUSICAL PROFESSION.

"The instrument known as the CABINET ORGAN is quite as great an improvement upon the Melodion, introduced some twenty years ago, as its successor, the Harmonium, is a concert grand piano. The melodion was over the imperfect Pianos in vogue a quarter of a century since. The melodion long favored from its facility for expression, its mass was monotonous to a degree annoying to cultivated ears. The harmonium was an improvement upon the melodion, but still failed to satisfy the extent demand for its use in churches, school-rooms or halls, as a support to choral singing. Within a couple of years, Messrs. Mason and Hamlin, who have always taken the lead in this country as manufacturers of reed instruments, have succeeded in largely overcoming the defects noticed in the melodion, and their important modification introduced is the Automatic Bellows swell, by which the performer is enabled to produce the softest tone, or to awaken a volume of tone superior to any in point of musical quality fully as good as that derived from superior church organs."

WEST'S IMPROVED PUMP.

These pumps have now been in general use for many years, and give better satisfaction than any other, and are recommended as THE BEST. Capt. Ericsson and the eminent Engineer, we can refer to all who will confirm them, and guarantee that all will recommend them. They are more simple in construction, and work easier, and cost less, than all others. "Our readers will find the double-acting Improved Pump of J. D. West & Co., one of the best in the market. It works in all climates, works to a charm, so that any other pump, it throws a steady, continuous stream, and does not freeze in the coldest exposures, and is unusually cheap. We are confident, and give the testimony of our own experience, without the knowledge or request of the proprietors."—N. Y. Beech Tree, July 1st, 1864.