

The Sabbath Recorder.

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GEORGE B. UTTER, EDITOR.

HISTORY OF THE SABBATH.

Showing how and by what Authority the Change of Day was effected.

DISCOURSE FOURTH—PART FIRST.

In this discourse I shall quote only first-day authors.

It is claimed by our opponents, that the primitive church observed the first day of the week as the Christian Sabbath, and then the inference is drawn, that therefore the practice must have descended direct from apostolic times. But if what is here claimed should prove not to be true, this conclusion, certainly, would not be warranted. Nor would it be warranted, even if it should prove to be true; because base corruptions had crept into the churches even in the apostles' days, as the epistles to the seven churches of Asia, and the epistles of Paul and Peter, abundantly prove.

Before I dwell much upon this point, I will examine the testimony adduced, for the purpose of showing that Sunday was observed by the primitive church.

The New Testament, the Epistle of Barnabas, the Letter of Pliny, and the Epistle of Ignatius, are all the authorities quoted in standard writings, for the purpose of showing that Sunday was observed previous to the middle of the second century. That the New Testament history furnishes nothing in favor of a first-day Sabbath, I have shown in my former discourses, and it is also attested by first-day authors whom I shall quote.

We will first consider the Epistle of Barnabas, so frequently quoted in favor of Sunday, while at the same time it is generally acknowledged to be a forgery. The passage they quote reads thus: "Lastly, he saith, your new moons and your Sabbaths, I can not bear them. Consider what he means by it; the Sabbaths, says he, which ye now keep, are not acceptable unto me, but those which I have made when resting from all things, I shall begin the eighth day, that is, the beginning of the other world; for which cause we observe the eighth day with gladness, in which Jesus arose from the dead, and having manifested himself to his disciples, ascended into heaven." (Epistle of Barnabas, ch. 14.)

Mosheim, an earnest advocate for Sunday, declares that this epistle is spurious. (See his History, part 2d, ch. 2, § 21.)

Sir Wm. Domville says, "The epistle was not written by Barnabas; it was not merely unworthy of him—it would be a disgrace to him; and what is of much more consequence, it would be a disgrace to the Christian religion, as being a product of one of the authorized teachers of that religion in the times of the apostles, which circumstance would seriously damage the evidence of its divine origin. Not being the epistle of Barnabas, the document is, as regards the Sabbath question, nothing more than the testimony of some unknown writer to the practice of Sunday observance, at some uncertain period of the Christian era, with no sufficient ground for believing that period to have been the first century." (See his work on the Sabbath, page 233.)

Coleman says, "The epistle of Barnabas, bearing the honored name of the companion of Paul in his missionary labors, is evidently spurious. It abounds in fabulous narratives, mystic, allegorical interpretations of the Old Testament, and fanciful conceits, and is generally agreed by the learned to be of no authority." (Ancient Christianity, ch. 1, sec. 2.)

Neander, Prof. Stuart, Dr. Killen, Prof. Hackett, Mr. Miller, Dr. Kitto, Eusebius, and many others, affirm the same.

This epistle is the only writing purporting to come from the first century; except the New Testament, in which the first day of the week is even mentioned. And first-day historians agree that it is a base forgery. Pliny's Letter to Trajan comes next, and is much quoted in favor of Sunday observance, as follows: "They (Christians) were accustomed on a stated day to assemble before sunrise, and to join together in singing hymns to Christ as to deity; binding themselves, as with a solemn oath, not to commit any kind of wickedness, to be guilty neither of theft, robbery, nor adultery; never to break a promise, or keep back a deposit when called upon." (Miller's History of the Church, cent. 2, ch. 1.)

Coleman says, "This statement is evidence that these Christians kept a day as holy time, but whether it was the last or the first day of the week, does not appear." (Ancient Christianity, ch. 26, sec. 2.)

Mr. W. B. Taylor says, "As the Sabbath-day appears to have been quite as commonly observed at this date as the Sunday, (if not more so,) it is just as probable that this stated day referred to by Pliny was the seventh day, as that it was the first day; though the latter is generally

taken for granted." (Obligation of the Sabbath, page 300.)

We next come to Ignatius, so often quoted, as follows: "Wherefore, if they who were brought up in these ancient laws came, nevertheless, to the newness of hope, no longer observing Sabbaths, but keeping the Lord's-day, in which also our life is sprung up, by him and through his death, whom yet some deny, (by which mystery we have been brought to believe, and therefore wait that we may be found the disciples of Jesus Christ, our only Master,) how shall we be able to live different from him; whose disciples the very prophets themselves being, did by the Spirit expect him as their Master." (Ignatius to the Magnesians, 3, 3-5.)

Concerning this epistle, two facts are worthy of notice. 1st. The epistles of Ignatius are acknowledged by first-day writers of high authority to be spurious. And those which they acknowledge may possibly be genuine, do not contain anything relative to first-day observance. 2d. Nothing would be found in the epistle to the Magnesians concerning any day, if the word day had not been fraudulently inserted by the translators. (See Kitto's Cyclopedia, article Lord's-day, page 215.)

Dr. Kellan says, "In the sixteenth century, fifteen letters were brought out from beneath the mantle of hoary antiquity, and offered to the world as the products of the pastor of Antioch. Scholars refused to receive them on the terms required, and forthwith eight of them are admitted to be forgeries. In the seventeenth century, the seven remaining letters, in a somewhat altered form, again came forth from obscurity, and claimed to be the works of Ignatius. Again discerning critics refused to acknowledge their pretensions; but curiosity was aroused by this second apparition, and many expressed an earnest desire to obtain a sight of the real epistles. Greece, Syria, Palestine, and Egypt, were ransacked in search of them, and at length three letters are found. The discovery creates general gratification; it is confessed that four of the epistles so lately asserted to be genuine are apocryphal; and it is boldly said, that the three now forthcoming are above challenge. But truth still refuses to be compromised, and sternly disowns these claimants for her approbation. The internal evidence of these epistles abundantly attests that, like the last three books of the Sibyl, they are only the last shift of a grave imposture." (Ancient Church, pp. 413, 414.)

But these three letters, which alone have any shadow of genuineness, contain no allusion whatever to Sunday. Hence it appears, that of the epistles of Barnabas, Pliny, and Ignatius—the only authorities quoted in favor of first-day observance earlier than the middle of the second century—the first is proved by first-day writers and historians to be a gross forgery; the second, though it contains an allusion to a stated day on which Christians met before sunrise, yet does not define which day, and first-day authors say that at the time it was written the seventh day was as generally observed as the first, if not more so; and the third is rejected by the same writers as spurious; and it is also shown by them, that the original letters make no mention of any day, nor would the translations, if the word day had not been fraudulently interpolated by the translators. Thus first-day authors admit that no evidence can be drawn from them for Sunday, except by fraud.

Calvin, Luther, Melancthon, and others, confirm Neander's statement, that "the festival of Sunday was always only a human ordinance." x. v. To be continued.

"SHALL WE EDUCATE THEM?"

Bro. Lewis says, very truly, that "ideas, like apples, must have time to ripen." But some ideas, like apples in a cold climate, never ripen.

Many favorite theories, as they exist in the minds of their admirers, are very satisfactory; or, when clothed in eloquent language, and urged with all the warmth the orator can command, sound plausible enough; or, when spread out in proper form on paper, look well indeed; but are never allowed to go beyond theory, for fear their practical working may prove a failure. Into this category, with us, the above question seems to have fallen.

For many years, it has afforded a fruitful theme for sermons, essays, and speeches, by many of the leading men in our denomination. At each annual gathering of the different Associations, Conferences, and meetings of minor note, those who have seen the need of a move in this direction have argued earnestly and well the importance of assisting such as have the ministry in view, but are unable to give themselves a thorough preparation for their work. The minutes of nearly every Association, for many years past, bear, among their Resolutions, one expressing the acknowledged sentiments of the Association respecting the importance of affording encouragement and assistance to this class of young men. But what has been the result of all this expenditure of breath and sympathy? Who has ever realized one

dollar as the result of denominational effort in this direction? Or who, that has watched the progress of our people in this direction for the last fifteen years, believes that these speeches and resolutions have any worth or meaning beyond the occasion which calls them forth?

Some have withheld their support of this measure, fearing that if it were known that students were to receive material aid, the demand would be greater than the supply, and soon we should be overrun with candidates prompted by unworthy motives to avail themselves of the opportunity to educate, and then use the knowledge thus obtained for other ends. How much weight there may be in this objection, I cannot say. It is possible there might be such instances. But ought this possibility of imposition to bar us from all the advantages arising from a more liberal policy? Shall the progress of our denomination continue to be retarded by keeping our ministers crippled and our churches starved for the want of proper cultivation? What machinist would refuse or neglect to perfect his invention because, in so doing, the temptation for dishonest men to infringe upon his patent would be greater than when the machine was of less value? No more ought we to be slothful in doing that which will greatly increase our ability to advance the truths of the Gospel, whereunto we are called.

God either requires us to act upon this question, or else He does not. If He does, fearful will be our responsibility if we neglect it. If He does not require it, then let us stop talking about it, and spend our time on something of more consequence.

Let this subject be borne in mind, with the understanding that it will be brought before the "Education Society" at its next session for action, according to the suggestion of A. H. Lewis in the Recorder of Jan. 4th. In the mean time, if there are objections to such a measure, let them be frankly stated, and honestly considered. Then, if it shall still be deemed a worthy enterprise, let there be substantial proof of our sincerity.

EX-STUDENT.

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Sabbath-school connected with the Seventh-day Baptist Church of Adams, for the year 1865.

Through the kindness of Divine Providence, we have reached another anniversary! Kept by our Heavenly Father's care, we can hardly fail to recognize what He has done for us. And yet we are prone to take the blessings God gives us without even a passing recognition. We accept the blessings of life as though ours, with an unquestioning right. A few of us, it is to be feared, view the choicest blessings God can give—those brought to us through the blood of Christ—as though we cared but little whether we made them ours or not. Not one grateful recognition of blessings or of obligations passes the lips of such persons; and still these blessings are kindly granted. Still it is given to all of us, if we will, to meet on this Anniversary, and to rejoice in those very choicest blessings a kind and loving Creator gives to us.

Yet our joy is tempered with grief. Some who commenced the year with us, are with us no more, either having found other homes, or gone to that home whence no friend ever returns. Even here we have been blessed to a great degree. We had nearly passed through the year without once having to gather around the death-bed of one of our number; but just in the last days of the year, death struck quick and heavy, and to-day, amidst the favorable circumstances of our lives, and of our School, we mourn the death of Mary Green. She was one who ever took delight in the exercises of the Sabbath-school, and when she could be, was found in her accustomed place. We can imagine some cases where the scholar would not be much missed as a member of the School; but such was not the case in this instance, and to-day we must mingle our tears with those more immediately stricken.

To a close observer, there will appear much in our School of a gratifying nature. Though the interest of the School may not be any deeper, apparently, than it was one year ago, still it has become more of our life. We see its influence in the formation of our characters, and in the social influence of the home circle. Indeed, how could it be otherwise, when we see the whole family, parents and children, join in learning a lesson in God's Sacred Word, and then take their places in the same School, to compare their thoughts on any questions arising concerning the lesson. Our School being composed of old and young—of those who are not afraid to say so, if they do not agree with everything advanced—makes the School much more interesting and beneficial than if confined to the young people alone. We lift our voices in joyful praise, that we can thus see the influence of the study of God's Word in our lives, as we learn what God is, what we are, our mutual relations, and our obligations and duties arising from those relations.

Though most of the School take a

deep interest in its exercises, there have been and are some who care but little for those exercises—caring so little for them, that they fail to remain to them, when here to attend the regular exercises of Sabbath worship. More than this—some who do remain in the house through the school exercises, fail to take their places in their classes, though we can report great improvement in this respect. We do not speak now of those who have never joined any class, but of those who are recognized as members of the School, and are sometimes found in their places.

Some who went from us to bear a hand for their country in her hour of need, are found once more occupying their accustomed places in the Sabbath-school, as well as in the other departments were too much for him; though when we meet them, they necessarily think of those who were away with them, but who are to come no more here, we can but rejoice that these are with us once more, and that we know of the labors of them that have been absent.

We have had a very pleasant meeting by Emma Jane Maxson, E. R. Green, M. D. H. E. Babcock, J. D. Green, Esther M. Langworthy, Orville D. Green, and Saryntha Coates; orations by A. E. Main and H. E. Babcock; and addresses by Revs. B. F. Garfield, G. E. Tomlinson, O. V. Babcock, and Dr. Dayton of Geneva, and C. H. Maxson of DeRuyter.

TRIBUTE

To the Memory of Thomas B. Stillman.

He was no ordinary man; and the loss to society, to the church, and to the world, of such a character, is not easily estimated. One so gentle and yet so firm, of such understanding and practical sense, of such generous impulses, so wise in council, so ready and so self-sacrificing in friendship, it is rare to find united in the same person. Those who knew Mr. Stillman best, appear to have admired and loved him most. But it was necessary to see him in public, active life, in the hurry and bustle of weighty business, too important to be committed to any but the hand of ripe experience, to understand how high must be the principle that could enable him, on all occasions, to maintain the consistent character of a Christian gentleman.

Coming into active life at the early dawn of steam navigation, he designed and constructed the engines of some of the earliest and some of the finest steamers on ocean, river, and lake, that have ever left our ports; and it is generally conceded, that in the line of his profession he has left few equals, and no superiors.

On his retiring from the Novelty Iron Works, which, in connection with President Nott of Union College, he established, he was called by Governor King of New York to undertake, as a Commissioner, the organization of a new Police Department for the city and county of New York. To this he devoted two or three years, and had the satisfaction of seeing a force enrolled, equipped, and drilled, which has been taken as a model by other cities, and is probably equal to any force of the kind in the world.

But the last labors of his life were devoted to the service of the General Government. He was called to the office of United States Superintendent-Engineer for the District of New York and New-England, by Mr. Chase, then Secretary of the Treasury; and during the war he held the further appointment of Superintendent of Construction and Repairs, under which he designed and constructed the fleet of steam armed Revenue Cutters, to replace sailing vessels in our most important commercial ports. It was during this period, that his health, which had before been poor, began seriously to fail. But the nature of the business in which he was engaged was so intricate, that no one could take his place. He took one voyage to the ports of New-England for the purpose of recruiting. During his absence, he wrote from Portland, Me., Aug. 30th:

"I am on my way homeward, having returned from Eastport on Monday; shall stay here to attend to repairs of the Ashuelot till Friday, when I hope to leave for Boston; spending a few days shall go to Newport, and after a few days more return to New York. Whether I shall be any better for the trip, is uncertain. If not, it will not be for want of work on the way, for I have found the need of a head to many things in the service, and all seem to depend upon me to do everything wanted. I may have to give up the charge of the Revenue Cutters. I am too weak to do much, or undertake any new enterprise requiring the exercise of either mental or physical energy. I find no man here, or on my route, who does more mental work than I do. Even on my fur-

lough for health, I must write reports, answer questions, give directions, &c., ad libitum."

Then, with the following expression of the yearnings of his heart, he closes:

"Oh, if I could burst this shell of worldliness, and come out as a bird from the shell, fledged for a heavenly flight in the atmosphere of divine life, how sweet it would be to my soul! Shall it ever be?"

"Rivers to the ocean run, Nor stay in all their course; First ascending seeks the sun; So speed them to their source. So a soul that's born of God, Pans to visit his glorious face, Upward tends to His abode, And rest in His embrace."

On Friday, the 29th December, he was in New York, anxious to close up his business with the Government, and retire from public service. His exertions were too much for him; his strength was overtaxed; he took a severe cold, went to his beautiful home in Plainfield, where so many have enjoyed his beautiful hospitality, was prostrated, and on Tuesday, January 2d, breathed his last.

The Metropolitan Bank Company, of which he was a Trustee and President for about two years, adopted the following:

METROPOLITAN SAVINGS BANK, No. 1 Third Av., N. Y., Jan. 11th, 1866. At a meeting of the Trustees of the Metropolitan Savings Bank, held last evening, the following tribute to the memory of THOMAS B. STILLMAN was adopted:

When, by a dispensation of Providence, we lost from our midst one who has shared in our labors, and of excellence of character won our affectionate regard, it is fitting and just that with the expression of our sorrow we should record a tribute of respect to the memory of the departed; therefore, be it Resolved, That in the sudden and lamented death of our late President and friend, THOMAS B. STILLMAN, this board has lost an earnest, capable and intelligent member; the community a useful, upright and patriotic citizen; and the cause of the industrial, local enterprise, of opening new sources of employment for labor, and of introducing the improvements of science and the appliances of art into the various industrial branches of manufactures and navigation; and that a large debt of gratitude is due for the persevering energy and devotion to duty evinced by him in the many trusts confided to his management, by private enterprise, as well as by the authorities of government.

Resolved, That we desire to express our deep and sincere sympathy with the family of the deceased in their great affliction, and our hope that they may find consolation in their bereavement.

Resolved, That a copy of the preceding resolutions be transmitted to the family of the late Mr. STILLMAN, and published.

J. T. S. WATSON.

HOME NEWS.

WATSON, N. Y., Jan. 14, 1866.

I beg to submit a few lines for your readers about Watson and vicinity.

Eld. Backus had told us, for three successive Sabbaths, of a glorious work which was going on up in the Watson district, about five miles distant from our church, where he had been preaching on First-days during the summer and autumn, and for three or four weeks he had been laboring nearly every night in the week. Feeling a desire in my own heart to participate once more in a good revival meeting, and having a favorable opportunity to ride to the place of meeting, I readily consented. We arrived at the schoolhouse about fifteen minutes before the time, and saw at once, by the eager throng that were gathering, that there was quite an interest awakened. Preaching commenced at half past six. Eld. Backus spoke from the text, "What is man?" We saw the tears trickling down the faces of many in the congregation, as the speaker was describing man in his natural and in his spiritual or regenerate state, and winding up with a short exhortation for all to come and be regenerated through the blood of Christ. Fourteen came forward, and asked an interest in the prayers of Christians. We bowed together in solemn prayer to Almighty God, and asked for the descent of his Holy Spirit, to display his saving power to man; and we believe that his Spirit did come with power, for many that came weeping on account of their sins, we saw happy in his forgiving love, and heard them testify that "God had forgiven them, and loved them freely;" and many others, that had been recently converted, testified that God is still a prayer-hearing God. We can truly say, that altogether it was the best meeting we have attended for many a year. O that such glorious meetings might be enjoyed by us in the "settlement!" For this we are laboring and praying. After the meeting, Eld. Backus informed us that about thirty-five had started, and that there were many more who were deeply convicted. That God may convert them all, is the earnest prayer of a member of the Watson Seventh-day Baptist Church.

LETTER FROM BRO. W. C. WHITFORD.

Mitros, Wis., Jan. 14th, 1866.

I am much pleased with the appearance of the Recorder in its new form. If I had time, I would like to canvass our societies in this section, to procure new subscribers for the paper; but I have not the time. I have had my mind on several themes, for several years, and I hope to get time, after a while, to write out my thoughts upon them for the Recorder. It seems to me that I get deeper into business, or the drudgery of it, every year. But I must get more time for writing.

I have been preaching for the past seven months, once in two weeks, in the village of Cooksville, and for the

year past, a portion of the time every other week, in the village of Stoughton. Both places are nearly twenty miles west of Milton, and six miles apart. Both congregations are First-day, and rather small; but they have manifested a good degree of religious interest during all the meetings. The society at Stoughton has added, during the year, thirteen members to its number. Lately, in both places, donation parties were held, and I received from the avails of these, and from private gifts of members of both societies, \$300 in cash. The labor performed in these congregations has been done at times when I could be spared from the school.

LETTER FROM BRO. H. P. BURDICK.

HIGHLAND CORN, Jan. 13th, 1866.

The people of the city of Elmira (that tunnel through which so much evil has passed to and from the war) are enjoying a very extensive revival of religion, in which all the ministers of all the orthodox denominations there, are earnestly engaged. Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian church every evening, and at some one of the other churches every morning. Many interesting facts are developed as connected with and growing out of the revival. On the evening of the 9th inst., a laboring man, past middle life, said he had not been to church for twenty-four years, and asked the prayers of Christians, that he might be saved from his appetites. On the 10th inst., I called upon one of the workmen in the car-shop. He said, "This morning Mrs. —, the wife of one of the proprietors of a liquor saloon, called at my house, and weeping, said, 'If these meetings continue two weeks longer, they will entirely ruin us. We are not selling now one-tenth as much liquor as we did before the meetings. Mr. —, my husband's partner, saw what it was going, and has left, and we shall have to leave, with nothing to eat, or help ourselves with, and in debt for rent, if these meetings keep on.'"

Fifteen Counties in the State of New York, have organized the Carson League, for the suppression of intemperance. A great many run-shops have been shut up, and a great many more are destined to be. In Pen Yan, Yates county; several run-sellers are looking through the grates of the county jail, for violating the license law, or selling without a license. Some of them were fined \$250, some \$150, each to be imprisoned thirty days, and remain in prison until all of the fine is paid.

FIRE AT OLEAN.

A destructive fire occurred at Olean, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., on the night of Jan. 15th. The large brick block, called the Martin Block, on the corner near the brick tavern, was totally destroyed, with most of the rear buildings. The block was occupied principally by merchants. The loss is not yet ascertained, but of course must be large. The same ground has been burned over several times before. One man was burned to death, we learn.

THE WEATHER IN ALLEGANY COUNTY.

We have had some rather cool weather in Allegany for a week or so back. Jan. 7th, the mercury run down to 26 degrees below zero, in the evening at 9 o'clock, but fortunately changed before the next morning to 15 degrees below. On the 9th, it stood at 15 degrees below. On the 10th, it stood at 10 below. On the 11th, there was quite a change, and it thawed some. 12th, rainy. On the 14th, became colder, and the mercury run down to 4 degrees below zero, at 9 o'clock in the evening; 15th, 6 below; 16th, more moderate, and quite windy; no snow for sleighing yet. There has been some variation from the above, in different localities in the county, the mercury going as low as 30 degrees, it is said.

THE WEATHER IN BROOKFIELD.

We have been having some very cold weather since the commencement of the new year, as follows: Jan. 5th, 14 degrees below zero; 6th, 2 below; 7th, 8 below; 8th, 20 below; 9th, 10 below; 10th, at zero. These observations were taken in the morning. On the 7th and 8th, the thermometer was below zero all day. Sabbath, the 13th, was warm and rainy; and Monday morning following, the mercury was 10 degrees below zero again; since which time the weather has been milder. No good sleighing this winter, though sleighs have run considerable. The stage has gone on runners only two days this winter.

DR. SCHAFF ON OUR CIVIL WAR.

One of the most prominent Protestant clergymen of this country, the Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff, has just published at Berlin, Prussia, a pamphlet on "The Civil War and Christian Life in North America." The pamphlet contains the substance of a course of lectures which the author, during his stay in Germany in 1865, delivered at Berlin, Bonn, Heidelberg, Stuttgart, Leipzig, Bremen, and other places. Most of the lectures treat of the religious condition of the United States; but the first two, on "The Civil War," and on "War and Slavery," review the great events of the last four years of our history. Prof. Schaff is not a radical anti-

slavery man. He expresses the opinion that the negroes in the South were generally well treated, and that Uncle Tom's Cabin were rare exceptions, and he would have regarded a gradual and peaceful emancipation of the negroes as "much more honorable and reasonable." As regards the war, however, he sets forth, with great force and clearness, that it was a war of the "Legitimate Authority against the Rebellion of the Slaveholders," of "Nationality against Disunion," of "Union against Confederation," of "Liberty against Slavery," and of "Christian Civilization against an antiquated Institution of Oppression and Barbarism;" and he shows himself throughout a devoted adherent of the political principles underlying our Constitution.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Sabbath Recorder.

Nothing has made us rejoice more, since the new year burst upon us, than to find that the Recorder has taken a leap ahead. For some reason, our arms ached while we eagerly read it; but we had forgotten they were stretched to greater length. A thrill went through our sanctum as we caught a glimpse of the dawning light of advancement. We directed the attention of a score of callers to the increased size and new dress of the Recorder. One brother thought us a "little emotional." This brought a slight dampness to our zeal, but we were soon comforted by remembering how I. Marvel cautions us against that class who are judicious, because possessed of no latent fires that need a curb-prudish, because of no warm blood to tempt. Such may triumph over love and sin and death, but it is the triumph of the one who has neither passions to subdue, nor energy to attack, nor hope to quench.

Your editorial calls for correspondence. We all feel a vital interest in the Recorder, and claim a right to rejoice over its prosperity; yet we cannot all help it on by corresponding. We have written many a page of foolscap for its columns, and then committed them to the flames, from a conviction it would make the greater light. We very much like to read what others write. To sit down quietly, and get a bird's eye view of all that is transpiring among our people, through a column in the Recorder, is a great blessing; a little girl, who had a present from the Christmas tree, thanked the tree. So, when we get the last number of the Recorder, fresh from the office, we feel like thanking someone and somebody. We thank Eld. Maxson for his excellent sermon on the death of an old man. We want to thank Eld. Lewis for his hints about educating young men for the ministry. We have seen too many hours of despair, because doomed to leave school and fall into the rear ranks to earn a dollar; we have seen too many times when a dollar would have made us princely rich for a week, not to thrill at any thing which hints at that subject.

But, Bro. Editor, the best correspondent we ever had, told us a state on each of a variety of subjects. We were always glad to come to a: 1. Will some of your correspondents explain to us the sin of a pastor's reading his sermons? 2. We wish the Report of the Education Society could be read each week for a year, by every Seventh-day Baptist. There is no work, "not before, but upon" our people, of equal importance. 3. I think the number of subscribers to the Recorder could be doubled during the current year. I wish each of our pastors would preach on this subject; then visit each family in his charge, and talk about it; and at the close of the year you would tell the gain.

TRIBUTE TO A MOTHER.

The following beautiful tribute to the memory of a mother, (whose death was recently noticed in the Recorder), is taken from a letter addressed by her son to his aunt:

"For two days has my mother sung with the angels. For two days has she been robed in the light that shines from the Eternal Throne. She has walked along the golden streets of Paradise, and entered at the portals of the temple not made with hands; and now she sitteth happy in the smiles of Him whose dazzling countenance fills all heaven with holy light. From her high seat she looks down, with a pitying eye, upon the dear ones left behind. She can come to us no more in fleshly form; but O! I have thought—I have hoped—that her pure spirit might sometimes come down to visit us in the silent night watches. Yes, she has gone! I satiate consumption has taken her away. There was a time when we thought her disease was stayed, and fondly we hoped for her recovery. But the Holy One had need of her to praise Him, in the bright land where the flowers never fade, and the fell hand of disease comes not for ever. So, while the winter storm was rushing wildly by, the grim-browed messenger came, and bade our mother prepare to enter the presence of her God. But he found her ready. Oh! it was a solemn thing to stand by a mother's death-bed, and view the agonies of that sad hour, without being able to render the least assistance. Jesus alone could afford relief; and when we know that he was faithful to the last, our sorrow that she is taken away from us is turned to joy and praise to God for the gift of salvation through his

only Son. She said she was willing to go. Alas! how many of us that stay behind could say the same, did the stern messenger knock to-night, and demand the talent of his Lord! Ready to go! Ready to go! Blessed be God for the sweet assurance, she rests to night in heaven. We have laid her in the tomb, and the winds howl sad dirges over the still mound beneath the leafless trees of the churchyard. But a short distance from my school-room door, she sleeps the sleep that knows no waking. And when at eve, I can step forth into the home of the dead, and linger a moment by her side, and drop a silent tear of love and remembrance over the spot that claims her for its own—this is a sacred, hallowed privilege, that I would not barter for a world's untold wealth. A visit to a mother's grave alone! Oh, solemn season! Oh, desolate hour! I shall never know a mother's love again. I shall see a gentle mother's loving smile, never, never more. Why did she die? And yet 'tis well. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord! How little did I know a mother's worth until I had no more! Oh! she was a good, a kind, a loving mother; but now she is an angelic mother, and she will be a guardian spirit. If she ever lingers round her sepulcher, I shall meet her there; and she will whisper softly to her first-born son. I shall hear her sighing in the rustling breeze that stirs the withered leaves; I shall see her smile in the blooming flowers, and the bursting buds of the leafy spring-time. O, the dearest, the most sacred spot to me, of all the earth, is the little mound that rests above my mother."

SUNDAY IN PHILADELPHIA.—One of our exchanges notices as follows a recent excitement in Philadelphia:

"Philadelphia is excited over a controversy between its clergymen and the proprietor of a daily paper, who has concluded to publish a Sunday edition. The last installment of the dispute filled four columns of small type, and was animated. The preachers claim that the editor violates public morals. The editor asserts that he does it, because he wants to 'strengthen public morals, and quote a hymn about 'If I am wrong, Thy grace impart.' Altogether, the controversy is very far from much edifying. If a paper either from impennicency, or a desire to make an labor more available, or a wish to enlarge its list of readers, prints on Sunday, it is the editor's own business. If the clergymen do not like it, let them print a paper of their own. The funny part is, that the editor should print a Sunday paper because he is moved by 'grace' and a regard for decency, and that the ministers should support other duties in Philadelphia printed by Sunday labor. We presume the truth is, that the ministers read Sunday papers because they want the news; and the editor prints a Sunday edition because he wants to make more money. We see very little 'grace' about either. Our only concern is for the poor editors and reporters, who, we trust, have been largely increased in salary."

SOUTHERN METHODISTS.—Our exchanges indicate, that the Methodist Episcopal Church is making rapid progress in the former Slave States. In Louisiana and Texas, more than 20,000 colored converts have been taken off their connection with the Southern Methodist Church, and joined the Northern Church. Bishop Thomson organized in December, at New Orleans, the Mississippi Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, which already numbers 17 preachers and over 22,000 members. "A Biblical Institute" has been opened at the City of New Orleans, and a new Church organ, The New Orleans Advocate, has been started by the Rev. Dr. J. P. Newman. In Kentucky, 25 ministers of the Southern Methodist Church, with about 5,000 of the white members, have declared their intention of joining the Northern Church. The colored congregations either have already taken the same step, or intend soon to take it. In Georgia, the Rev. Mr. Caldwell, a member of the Georgia Annual Conference, is now laboring as a missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church. There is in every other Southern State, it is highly probable that the entire colored membership of the Southern Church will connect itself with Northern Methodism.

THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY is still alive. Its 49th annual meeting was held last week in Washington, when reports were made by the officers. The revenue for the year was \$46,819 20; disbursements \$41,734 87. Of the balance, \$4,884 37 is awaiting the order of the Liberian authorities. The number of emigrants to Liberia was 527; exceeding any year's since 1846. 144 died, are 172 freedmen from Lynchburg, who arrived safely.

A LITTLE ONE would save a good deal of trouble to us, and disappointment to our correspondent. The following verbatim letter illustrates our meaning:

"You will oblige me much by changing my post-office address to Richburgh, Allegany Co., N. Y." That letter is defective in giving neither the name of the writer, nor the name of the post-office to which the paper is now sent. Of course we shall have to wait further orders. LIBERAL CONTRIBUTION.—On a recent Sunday, a contribution to the extent of \$31,000 was made at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, corner of First-place and Clinton-st., Brooklyn, to complete that edifice. Liquor can be obtained at no less than 2,160 places in Brooklyn, N. Y.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

Monday, Jan. 15th. SENATE. Mr. Wilson's bill for the re-organization of the army, with amendments, was re-committed to the military committee.

Mr. Chandler of Michigan offered a resolution declaring that whereas the British Government has refused indemnity for damage done to American commerce by her subjects in the late war, therefore, resolved, that the President be requested to withdraw our minister from the Court of St. James, and to declare non-intercourse between the two nations.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. A resolution was adopted, instructing the committee on ways and means to inquire into the expediency of imposing a license on horse races, where an admission fee is charged, and a tax of 5 per cent. on the gross receipts of the proprietors.

A resolution was passed instructing the ways and means committee to inquire into the expediency of requiring all fire and marine insurance companies to invest in Government securities, and deposit a certain percentage of their capital and receipts in the United States treasury.

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District of Columbia was taken up, and debated by Messrs. Clarke, Johnson, and Boutwell. A motion by Mr. Niblack of Indiana, to lay the whole subject on the table, was voted down by 46 to 123.

Mr. Darling of New York, to postpone the bill to the first Tuesday in March. It was disagreed to by 34 to 134. It was then moved that the bill be recommitted, with instructions to report certain qualifications irrespective of color, including the ability to read, assessment and payment of taxes, and military or naval service.

The House struck out the property qualification, and then voted down the whole proposition to recommit by 53 to 117. Thereupon the question recurred on the bill as originally introduced and reported from the Judiciary Committee, and it was passed by 116 to 54.

The following is the suffrage bill as it passed the House: Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from all laws and parts of laws, and prescribing the qualifications of electors for any office in the District of Columbia, the word "white" be and the same is hereby stricken out, and that from and after the passage of this act no person shall be disqualified from voting at any election held in the said district on account of color!

Mr. Doollittle presented the credentials as Senator from Florida of ex-Provisional Governor Marvin, which were laid on the table. The bill enlarging the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau was taken up. After a speech in opposition to it by Mr. Hendricks of Indiana, and one in its advocacy by Mr. Trumbull of Illinois, an amendment was adopted, restricting to three years' duration, instead of making them perpetual, the titles of the negroes to aboriginal Southern lands on which they were located by General Sherman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. A communication was received from Secretary of the Treasury McCulloch, relative to the decrease of our mercantile marine, and suggesting immediate appropriate legislation on the matter. Bills were introduced and referred providing for the readjustment one quarter by the Postmaster General of the salaries of postmasters, authorizing the payment of seventy-five thousand dollars to Charles F. Anderson for preparing plans and drawings for the further extension of the Capitol, and for the further prevention of smuggling.

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ADMIT ON THE ICE.—The Buffalo Express relates a fearful adventure of two men and a boy upon Niagara River, which took place on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Wm. A. Thompson, Vice President of the West Erie and Niagara Railroad, wished to get across the river to his family, but the ice was so thick that the ferry boat had ceased to run. A negro boy offered to take him across in a small boat, and Mr. Thompson finally accepted the offer. The two were soon after joined by a man named Warren, who also wished to go across the river. The three had nearly reached the opposite shore, when the mass of floating ice came down upon them, crushed their boat, and they were obliged to take refuge upon a small cake, which was subsequently broken up by larger cakes. The man Warren was drowned soon afterwards, but Mr. Thompson and the negro boy floated down the river for many miles, and were in the water for six or seven hours, until they were finally rescued, about ten o'clock in the evening, at Grand Island. The clothing of both was frozen stiff, and neither of them could probably have survived much longer.

FISH IN NEW-ENGLAND STREAMS.—The Commissioners who were appointed last year by the Massachusetts Legislature to investigate the subject of the fisheries in the Connecticut, and Merrimack Rivers, have reported, and the result of their labor is summed up in three propositions, viz.: 1. In order to restock the Connecticut and Merrimack Rivers with shad and salmon, fish-ways must be built over the dams; the pollution of the waters must be prevented; New-Hampshire should breed salmon; Connecticut should forbid the use of weirs and gill-nets, and stringent laws should be adopted for the regulation of fishing.

2. These fish-ways would more or less seriously injure manufacturers, agents and attorneys, and providing relief for the officers of certain colored regiments. 3. With a compliance to the above conditions, an abundant supply of fish might reasonably be looked for within five years, though they would not be so plenty as when the country was its primitive state.

A REMARKABLE FAMILY.—Twelve children of Moses and Rebecca Fitz, formerly of Gloucester, Mass., are now living in Maine, all enjoying excellent health. The Lewiston Journal says their united ages are 748 years and 7 months. Not a member of this family of children has died. The oldest is 75, and the youngest 50 years of age; the dozen consists of 6 males and 6 females; the latter are all married. They had a family gathering in Danville, Me., recently.

A NEW YORKER HAS PATENTED AN IRON RAILWAY to be erected on each side of Broadway, 17 feet above grade, and the cars to be propelled by a voiceless and sparkless engine. Gen. Butler's former chief of staff having made an extensive tour of the Gulf States, reports that almost all the Northern men who went there to settle are preparing to return to the North, in consequence of the bitter hostility of the Southern people toward them.

AN EXTRAORDINARY STORY.—In Walworth County, Wisconsin, on the 5th, three men entered the house of a man who had just sold his farm for \$3000, and, finding the farmer absent, murdered his wife and child, and proceeded to ransack the building. While thus engaged, a person living near by, hearing suspicious noises, went to the house, saw what had been done, and shot all three of the assassins, killing one, and mortally wounding the others.

SUMMARY OF NEWS. James Terrey, who was robbed of \$80,000 in New York, Jan. 10th, was a lad of seventeen years, and employed as a bank messenger. He states that while passing through William street, two men drove up in a cart, and one of them leaped out and struck him in the face with a pistol, at the same time snatching the satchel containing the money and checks from his hand. Before the boy could recover from the effects of the blow, the men had fled.

The citizens of Columbia, Pa., were greatly excited, one day last week, by seeing a locomotive run through the town at the rate of fifty miles an hour, with no one on it. The engine was then taken up, and the remainder of the day's session was occupied in speeches relative to the status of the Southern States, by Messrs. Deming of Connecticut and Smith of Kentucky; the former opposing the early admission of the Southern representatives. The House adjourned till Monday.

A WOMAN HUNG.—Mrs. Martha Grider was executed at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, last week. The criminal confessed to having poisoned Mrs. Caruthers, for which murder the sentence of the law was carried into effect, as also a Miss Buchanan. The demeanor of the wretched woman during the night preceding the execution, and at the gallows was exceedingly calm and collected. The President's Message was then taken up, and the remainder of the day's session was occupied in speeches relative to the status of the Southern States, by Messrs. Deming of Connecticut and Smith of Kentucky; the former opposing the early admission of the Southern representatives. The House adjourned till Monday.

It appears that 1,730,340 soldiers have received bounties in various amounts, reaching an aggregate of \$301,500,000. In relation to the proposed law to equalize bounties to soldiers, the Paymaster-General states that 731,900 soldiers have received no bounty, and that the sum required to equalize all the bounties by paying the highest bounty, \$400, would be \$98,800,000.

The Plymouth (Mass.) Sentinel of the 12th Jan., reports that during the intense cold weather large numbers of the fish inhabiting the waters of Cape Cod Bay, perished from cold, myriads of which, consisting of sea bass, rock fish, lobsters, &c., washed ashore in great numbers, strewn the coast for miles around with their frozen carcasses. Three venerable women still survive who belonged to the choir of young ladies which greeted Washington as he entered Trenton, N. J., in 1789, and strewed his path with flowers. One lives in Trenton, another is the mother of Mr. Chestnut, formerly Senator from South Carolina, and the third, Mrs. Sarah Hand, resides in Cape May-county, N. J. The sons of Mr. William Johnson, brother of the President, have published a letter confirming the reports that their father, who was accidentally injured by the discharge of his own gun, died for want of surgical treatment, the rebel surgeons of the vicinity refusing to render any assistance on the ground that Mr. Johnson was a brother of the President.

M. L. Sullivan, Esq., of Champaign county, Illinois, has 70,000 acres of land, all in one farm. Twenty-three thousand acres are under cultivation, and the rest used for herding and grazing. It is undoubtedly the largest farm in the world.

As an evidence of the surprising rapidity with which the great West is being populated, the Commissioner of the General Land Office states that at the month of December last, 25,250 acres were taken up for actual settlement, and cash land sales made at the same office, for the same period, amount to \$8,362.

A Dr. Brand relates to the French Academy of Science, that a young lady patient of his has remained in profound slumber for over a year without eating or drinking, and yet her life has been supported, and she manifests a tendency towards fattening. A similar phenomenon occurred in her experience years before.

Last year's cotton crop in Illinois amounted to three thousand bales, worth over half a million dollars. Cotton was not grown in Illinois till 1862, when less than seven thousand pounds were raised. This shows a rapid increase. The culture is confined to the southern portion of the State.

Brevet Lieut. Col. Hogan, Superintendent of Ordnance at Chattanooga, has just completed the removal to northern storehouses of the acres of cannon that have been lying in park since the battle of Mission Ridge. Perhaps 600 pieces have been removed within the last 40 days.

Mrs. Mary Sanchez, of Bates Rouge, La., is 103 years old, strong and hearty, has never worn spectacles, and can thread her needle as well as ever. Without ever leaving her native parish, she has lived under the flags of Spain, Great Britain, France, the Confederacy and the United States.

A Vermont sergeant wrote to a New York girl who planned her name to some clothing he received through the sanitary commission, and the correspondence led to courtship and marriage; and now the sergeant finds he has a good wife and a cool half million in money besides.

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The business portion of the village of Bergen, Genesee County, N. Y., 16 miles west of Rochester, was destroyed by fire on Monday night, Jan. 15. Two dry goods stores, a grain warehouse, hotel, church, harness shop, hardware store and clothing store were burned. Loss \$30,000.

Plans are under consideration for the preservation of the monitors for harbor defense, leaving them afloat in the water upon marine railways and hoisted. They could thus be kept in good order and be easily made available for service.

Ex-Gens. Heath, Billow, Hood, Longstreet, and other Southern leaders, have been in Cincinnati within the past five weeks, and engaged 1,600 white laborers, and purchased 800 cotton plants, to work plantations in the South.

Another counterfeit greenback \$10 bill has made its appearance. The signatures of Spinner and Chittenden are good, but the portrait of Mr. Lincoln is coarse, and the bill generally, much heavier in appearance than the genuine.

A person giving his name as Andrew Jackson Austin, was arrested in Cincinnati recently for forgery, and during his trial a woman purporting to be his wife came into court and swore that she herself committed the forgery.

Asland, the home of Henry Clay, was sold, Jan. 12th, to the Regents of the Kentucky University, for the sum of \$90,000. It consists of 325 acres, and will be the seat of the Agricultural College of the State.

Hon. James Arnold has presented the Free Public Library of New Bedford with a copy of Audubon's large work on the birds of North America, in four immense volumes, valued at \$1000 to \$1200.

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There is little doubt that the first report of the Reconstruction Congress, will embody a proposition for an amendment to the Constitution.

A man who was noticed to be driving slowly, near Boonsboro, Md., the other night, was found, with tightly grasping his lines, to be frozen to death.

Henry Berendes, keeper of a German resort in New York, has been fined \$50 and sent to the Penitentiary for two months, for having theatrical exhibitions on Sunday.

Mrs. James Dargin, while attending a ball, Wednesday evening, Jan. 10th, in West Cambridge, Mass., suddenly fell to the floor, and expired almost immediately.

The Kansas Indians are to be pushed westward out of that State. Governor Crawford recommends that measures be taken to transplant them to the Indian Territory.

John Paul, of Meadville, Penn., committed suicide a few days ago; or what is the next thing to it, he lost his life by trying to kindle a fire by the use of kerosene oil.

An English writer asserts that the use of tea with insufficient food leads to a craving for stimulants. He accounts in this way for the opium eating of the Chinese.

Some of the citizens of Houston, Texas, natives of Virginia, have contributed \$26 in gold, which they have sent to Richmond to be given to the widow of Stonewall Jackson.

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Miscellaneous.

NATURAL HISTORY OF BABIES.

Babies are of two kinds; male and female, and are usually put up in packages of one, though sometimes two, in which cases they are called twins, when nearly of the same age. They are not confined to any particular locality, but are found plentifully distributed over all parts of the inhabited countries. Their ages are various, and have a wide range. We have known them as young as 'tis easy to calculate time on a watch-dial, and then again we have seen them where they have acquired the healthy age of twenty-five, with a fair prospect of advancing still further into babyhood. Their weight depends a great deal on their health; but in general they weigh twenty-one years to grow in before it costs them anything, it don't matter so much how big they may happen to be when they commence.

and when we think of the vast numbers yet to be, and how every one will be a trifle superior to its predecessor, what a glorious future awaits us! We shall eventually reach perfection. How can those persons who believe that we retrograde, instead of progress, reconcile this fact with their absurd theory? Some people, a little enthusiastic, look upon a baby "as a thing of beauty and a joy forever." Now we have seen some whom we thought had a liberal discount on their beauty, and their "joy-forever" would quickly vanish on having to commence to cry, and "refuse to be comforted," when left in our charge, and we busily engaged in reading or writing. It must be comforting to a man, no matter how ugly or despised he may be, to think he was once a baby, beloved by a large circle of relatives and friends. It is a comfort we would not deny him. There are quite a number of this world's people who were not loving babies a great while; they arrived at years when people ceased to love them, quite early in life, and have never been babies since. Babies resemble what in many respects. Firstly, neither are good for much till they arrive at maturity. Secondly, both are bred in the house, also the flower of the family. Thirdly, both have to be cradled. Fourthly, both are generally well thrashed before they are done with.

SQUATTER SOBEIGNITY.

The New York correspondent of the Boston Traveler writes the following interesting letter: In the upper part of New York, in the neighborhood of Central Park, and on the East and West ends of the streets that lie between Nos. 40 and 100, there are great numbers of shanties, huts, hovels, sheds and dens, built on the craggy rocks, and under the declivities, and in the damp hollows, where human beings live and die and leave no sign behind. The life they lead there is in many respects the opposite of that of the dwellers in the crowded tenement houses in Baxter and Mulberry streets, and in all the region of Five Points; they are literally squatter settlers on the vacant building lots of these unoccupied portions of the metropolis. They obtain some old pieces of boards, perhaps a few logs, some lumpy bits of pipe and sheet iron, and in a very primitive way, without regard to order or architecture, they easily make for themselves a home and shelter, for which they are not compelled to pay any rent, and which they are privileged to occupy until the advancing wave of civilization surges upon them and drives them further along up town. Whoever visits New York without either walking or riding on the omnibus, fails to see the city as it is, for the glittering throng on Fifth Avenue and Broadway represents but a minority of the Gothamites. It is well, now and then at least, for curiosity sake, if for no other reason, to turn aside from the bustle and fashion of the promenades to look in upon the hiding places of misery, of shame, and contempt. I think that the occupants of these wooden shanties in the upper part of the city represent those best to do among the extreme poor; they constitute a kind of relative aristocracy. Hygienically considered, they are about as well off as if they lived in the country. Their houses are mostly built, or rather tumbled together, on the rocks, or at least on elevated sites. They are not crowded, and have the full benefit of the breezes that sweep down the Hudson and across the Park. They have their little gardens, where they can raise supplies of vegetables, both for sale and home consumption. They are blissfully removed from the inevitable contagion of typhus, and if provided with good food and clothes can keep themselves in a fair sanitary condition. Many of them are very far from being neat, yet so wide is the space and so dry and airy is the neighborhood, that it is impossible for filth to accumulate and engender poison as it does in the lower section where tenements are pressed down and running over, to the great financial advantage of the landlord. A few days since I took a walk in that vicinity for the purpose of observing their mode of life. I found a marvelous exhibit of every style of architecture that human ingenuity or stupidity could possibly devise. It was interesting to observe the universal disregard of all laws of proportion in the arrangement and modeling of their habitations. There were wooden huts roofed over with sheet iron, and huts with no roofing but thin and rotten boards, huts of one story, entered by a single door, with a single pipe to carry off the smoke and foul air; and huts of two low stories, with narrow and broken windows in the chambers, stuffed with old coats and hats, and pieces of carpeting; hovels arranged in every conceivable way, utterly disregarding streets, paths and the cardinal points of the compass; leaning towers of Pisa on the edge of the rocks, and some towers that had fallen as well as leant; here and there brick or stone cottages interspersed, affording a pleasing and refining variety to the visitor. Goats of various colors and sizes were clambering up and down the craggy heights and munching away among the heaps of offal and the deposits of the junk carts. Lazy, dirty, cowardly dogs, that looked as if their ferocity and vehemence had long since been starved out of them, were sleepily prowling round the huts and in the streets—yellow dogs, black and white dogs, iron colored dogs, in fact every type of the canine race, except the agreeable and useful. Flocks of geese were hissing and waddling about and stirring up the mud in the low places between the streets, while laying hens were cackling about in every direction. Ragged, dirty, swearing boys of various ages, were playing ball in the streets and yards, and their equally dirty and ragged, but more useful sisters were returning from foraging expeditions, laden with large baskets of old bones, and sundry kinds of refuse. One fat, greasy woman, too,

came out of a shanty, with a large live goose under each arm, looking as cool and unconcerned as if she was merely going through any ordinary performance, and she was used to having geese under her arms every day. On the whole the picture was rather sad than otherwise. Although relatively fortunate, these people are absolutely miserable. Living in the midst of our modern civilization they yet partake of few or none of its benefits. Reading aloud is one of those exercises that combine mental and muscular effort, and hence has a double advantage. To read aloud well, a person should not only understand the subject, but should hear his own voice, and feel within him that every syllable was distinctly enunciated, while there is an instinct presiding which modulates the voice to the number and distance of the hearers. Every public speaker ought to be able to tell whether he is distinctly heard by the farthest listener in the room; if he is not able to do so, it is from a want of proper judgment and observation. Reading aloud helps to develop the lungs, just as singing does, if properly performed. The effect is to induce the drawing of a long breath every once in a while, oftener and deeper than that of reading without enunciating. These deep inhalations never fail to develop the capacity of the lungs in direct proportion to their practice. Common consumption begins invariably with imperfect, insufficient breathing; it is the characteristic of the disease, that the breath becomes shorter and shorter through weary months, down to the close of life, and whatever counteracts the short breathing, whatever promotes deeper inspiration, is curative to that extent; inevitably and under all circumstances. Let any person make the experiment by reading this page aloud, and in less than three minutes the instinct of a long breath will show itself. This reading aloud develops a weak voice, and makes it sonorous. It has great efficiency, also, in making the tones clear and distinct, freeing them from that annoying hoarseness which the unaccustomed reader exhibits before he has gone over half a page, when he has to stop and clear away, to the confusion of himself as much as that of the subject. Working Oxen.—It is not so much hard labor that heats oxen and makes them loll in warm weather, as the ill treatment of rough and abusive drivers. Treat them with gentleness and regularly three times a day, with water sprinkled with oat and Indian corn meal, at least twelve quarts, bears some roots daily; let them have clean water as often as they are fed, and not require them to drink that which is impure or stagnant; give them to chew two hours after feeding to the chew the cud and rest, and they will perform a vast amount of hard work, and increase in flesh at the same time, and will usually be found to be more convenient for many purposes than horses. Let it be reiterated, that it is not the hard labor that exhausts their energies. Oxen were made for hard and careful, and if treated kindly and carefully, will labor hard every day, and still grow fat. But when fed a stunted allowance of poor hay and meal, worried and abused by a bawling, ill-treated driver, who incessantly applies the lash, who drags and pulls by carrying on their necks a huge cart tongue from morning till night, their strength fails, and sensible people are led to conclude that they cannot endure the heat like a horse.—Agriculturist. Producing Flowers.—To secure a continuous bloom of the tuberose, the first roots should be started in January, in a temperature not less than 65 degrees, and if kept regularly below that temperature, they will not flower in May. Those that are wanted to flower out doors, and which are of most interest to general readers, should be started in a green house, hot bed, or warm room, not sooner than the 1st of May, and planted out in the flower borders three or four weeks after; thus treated, they will begin to bloom in August, and continue to bloom for three or four months. In warmer sections of the country, there is no necessity for this forwarding treatment, as there, dry bulbs planted out in May will flower freely during the autumn months. For a later succession of flowers, say for the months of November, December, and January, the bulbs should be kept dry and planted by the first or middle of August; these of course must be grown in the hot house or green house, as the tuberose is a plant requiring at all times a high temperature. The beauty and grace of this flower will repay a little care required to produce it. HARD ON LAWYERS.—Mr. Graham, in closing the defence of the Strong case in New York, said: "The plaintiff is a man forty years of age, educated to the law, but with no practice, or the desire for practice. When a man has the shrewdness of a lawyer, but without his industry, he is an uncomfortable member of any family. You might as well have the plagues of Job in your house. When a man has been sharpened by the hone of the law, he needs something to cut, and if he doesn't cut the world, he will his family." ROBBERY IN COURT.—An English paper says that robberies have lately been of frequent occurrence in the Courts of Chancery. Not long ago, a short-hand writer had his coat stolen before his eyes while taking a judgment of the Lord Chancellor. He could not leave off writing for fear of losing a sentence, and could not make a disturbance for fear of committing for contempt. At another time a reporter had a small parcel, containing valuables, abstracted from his coat pocket, while taking a judgment of the Lords Justices. Gen. Grant is getting his full share of presents. On New Year's day he was made the recipient of a library costing \$5,000.

while, if he were to undertake the job in an "old gig," he would require a lifetime for its performance. Instead of a small folio, with its three quires of paper, the post office accounts consume every two years 3000 of the largest sized ledgers, keeping upwards of a hundred clerks constantly employed in recording transactions with more than 30,000 contractors and other persons. COMMERCIAL FAILURES. Messrs. Edward Russel & Co., of Boston, have issued their annual circular, reviewing the business of the year, and prospectively considering the future. The following is a comparative statement of the failures, their number and amount, in the last and previous nine years: Years. Number. Liabilities. 1857 4,257 \$265,818,000 1858 3,113 78,608,747 1859 2,959 51,314,000 1860 2,738 64,200,000 1861 5,935 178,800,000 1862 1,652 29,040,000 1863 495 7,899,000 1864 510 8,579,700 1865 530 17,625,000 Average from 1857-1865, 3,700. It will be seen by these figures that while the number of failures during the past year has been about the same as those of the two preceding years, the liabilities are quite double. In explanation of this we have to observe, that nearly one-half the failures in last year were confined to the leading cities, the liabilities thereof being over three-fourths of the entire amount throughout the Union. This, of course, is always the result in cities where a concentration of trade results in heavier obligations. Another fact, too, goes to swell the amount in the cities this year, and that is, by far too many of the heavy failures were the results of reckless speculation or downright fraud, rather than the ordinary reverses of business. Considering the enormous volume of the internal and foreign commerce of the country—the number of its traders—the exceptional condition of its finances—the burden which it bears, and the struggle through which it has emerged—these failures are wondrously few, and indicate a degree of solidity and capacity in the mercantile community most gratifying for the present and promising for the future. The Concord Bank robbers, who are doubtless in some foreign country, beyond the reach of extradition treaties, have offered, through some third party, to give up the stolen United States securities, amounting to some \$300,000, upon the receipt of \$40,000. An exchange truly says, "You may insert a thousand excellent things in a newspaper, and never hear a word of approbation from its readers; but just let a line or two not suited to their taste slip in, (though by accident), and you will be sure to hear of it." Frank H. McGoldrick of Morris-town, N. J., a returned soldier, with a fatal disease contracted in the service, was married on his death bed to a lady of Bridgeport, Conn., who wished the mournful privilege of being the widow of one who had so bravely served his country. Four horses belonging to the King of Italy were burned to death recently on the Lyons railway. The groom in charge of them also lost his life. It is supposed that he set fire to the carriage by smoking in the horse box where there was straw. It being proved, on a trial at Guildhall, that a man's name was Luch, who pretended that "the old proverb is verified in this man, who, being allowed an Luch, has taken an L." About sixty soldiers, who fell at the battle of Ball's Bluff, have been re-interred in a National Cemetery at that place, under the direction of Capt Moore, Acting Quartermaster. The Speakers of the House of Representatives of Maine and Massachusetts, elected on the same day, bear the same name—James M. Stone. Five hundred and forty-two old navy cannon, weighing 3,460,176 pounds, were sold for old iron at the Brooklyn Navy Yard last week. Professor James J. Mapes, who was probably the most prominent agricultural chemist in the country, died at Newark, N. J., last week. "A big life" has just been taken in Chicago. A building weighing twenty-seven thousand tons, has been raised two feet. John Demming, a Union soldier, paid off in Washington last week, was a prisoner of war at the South and nine hundred and sixty-six days. A bill has passed the Missouri Senate, making habitual intemperance for one year sufficient cause for divorce. A Mr. Yendell of Philadelphia was killed recently by the explosion of a boiler connected with a kitchen range. Three of the eight boys who were carriers of the Springfield Republican in 1855 are now cashiers of banks in Western Massachusetts. A history in the Welsh language of the rebellion is publishing in New York. Gloucester proposes to erect a memorial hall, to cost \$20,000, in honor of the soldiers. Henry Sheridan, in New York, committed suicide from grief at the absence of his wife. John L. Dunham has been employed as a letter carrier in Boston for the last eighteen years. A man in Minnesota ate six dozen raw eggs in twenty minutes—on a wager. Some one in Stamford, Conn., sent a 47 pound turkey to President Johnson on New Year's day. The pension appropriations for the next fiscal year will be \$17,944,000. St. Paul's church, in New York, is to be a horse railroad depot. Senator Sprague has given \$75,000 to a Methodist Seminary. Queen Victoria teaches a Bible class every Sunday. An ex-rebel officer died of starvation in the streets of Mobile, recently. Illinois has received thirty millions of dollars worth of public lands.

ODDS AND ENDS. Robert Burns was once taken to task by a young Edinburgh blood, with whom he was walking, for recognizing an honest farmer in an open street. "It was not," said the poet, "the great coat, the scone bonnet and the boot-hose that I spoke to, but the man that was in them; and the man, sir, for true worth, would weigh down you and me, and ten more such, any day." The Alden type-setting machine seems to have found more than a match in a piece of mechanism lately exhibited by the editor of a Modene newspaper, who claims that he is thereby enabled to set up five lines of poetry in nine seconds, each line containing 30 letters. The editor is convinced that by the aid of this machine speeches may be reported verbatim in type. The Midland New York Railroad Company has been fully organized, and the initial subscription secured. It will traverse the Counties of Oswego, Madison, Chenango, Otsego, Delaware, Sullivan, Orange, most of which have hitherto enjoyed slender railroad facilities. It will cost, when built and equipped, ten millions of dollars. At the time of Senator Douglas' decease, his estate was so encumbered that it was believed that there would be nothing left for his family. During the war, however, the price of real estate in Chicago, which belonged to him, appreciated so in value, that his sale has paid all of the debts, and left his family a handsome competence. While the widow of Gen. M. K. Alexander, of Paris, Ill., was dying on the 2d Jan., Mrs. Sanford, an old friend, called to see her, and dropped down at the threshold at the moment Mrs. Alexander died. At the same time joyous festivities of an unusually joyous character were going on in a house adjoining. Soldiers and sailors who have been honorably discharged, are advised not to sell their discharges. The Soldiers and Sailors' National Union at Washington appeal to them earnestly, not to part with those papers, as they will be of use to them in the future. The Concord Bank robbers, who are doubtless in some foreign country, beyond the reach of extradition treaties, have offered, through some third party, to give up the stolen United States securities, amounting to some \$300,000, upon the receipt of \$40,000. An exchange truly says, "You may insert a thousand excellent things in a newspaper, and never hear a word of approbation from its readers; but just let a line or two not suited to their taste slip in, (though by accident), and you will be sure to hear of it." Frank H. McGoldrick of Morris-town, N. J., a returned soldier, with a fatal disease contracted in the service, was married on his death bed to a lady of Bridgeport, Conn., who wished the mournful privilege of being the widow of one who had so bravely served his country. 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STONINGTON AND PROVIDENCE AND STONINGTON AND NEW LONDON RAILROADS. WINTER ARRANGEMENT. On and after Friday, Jan. 12th, 1866, trains will run as follows: LEAVE PROVIDENCE. 7.10 A. M. Accommodation Train for New London, connects with Train for Norwich. 12.35 P. M. (on arrival of Express Train that leaves Boston at 11 A. M.) Express Passenger Train, stops at Greenwich, Kingston, Westerly, Stonington and Mystic, connects at New London with Express Train for New Haven; arrives in New York at 7.30 P. M. 1.00 P. M. Freight, with a passenger car attached, for Stonington and Groton. 3.50 P. M. Accommodation Train for New London, connects at Stonington with the special steamer Plymouth Rock and Commodore for New York. 7.12 P. M. New York Steamboat Train for Stonington, connecting at Stonington with the special steamer Plymouth Rock and Commodore for New York. 10.00 P. M. Night Mail Train for New York, via New London and New Haven. 8.00 P. M. Sunday Mail Train for New York, via New London and New Haven. LEAVE STONINGTON. 12.00 Midnight (on arrival of steamer from New York) Steamboat Train for Boston, Taunton and New Bedford. 7.30 P. M. Passenger Train, on Sunday mornings only, for Mystic, Noank, and Groton. LEAVE NEW LONDON. 1.40 A. M. (Provident times) Night Mail Train for Providence and Boston. 7.00 A. M. Accommodation Train for Stonington and Providence, connecting with R. O. A. Train for Boston, Taunton, and New Bedford. 2.00 P. M. Accommodation Passenger Train for Providence and Boston. 5.15 P. M. (on arrival of the 12.15 Express Train from New York) Express Passenger Train for Providence and Boston, stops on this road at Mystic, Stonington, Westerly, Kingston and Greenwich; arrives in Providence at 7.30 P. M. Boston at 2 P. M. 10.00 P. M. Sunday Night Mail Train for Providence and Boston. J. A. THOMAS, Superintendent. Stonington, Jan. 10th, 1866. FRENCH'S HOTEL. ON THE EUROPEAN PLAN. OPPOSITE CITY HALL AND PARK. CORNER FRANKFURT STREET, NEW YORK. SPACIOUS REFECTORY, BATH ROOMS AND BARBER'S SHOP. SERVANTS NOT ALLOWED TO RECEIVE PEISUNERS. Do not believe Rumors or Hacksman who say we are full. MEXICO! MEXICO! MEXICO!!! \$30,000.00 LOAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO. TWENTY YEAR COUPON BONDS IN SUMS OF \$10,000, \$500, AND \$1,000. INTEREST SEVEN PER CENT. PAYABLE IN THIS CITY OF NEW YORK. PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST PAYABLE IN GOLD. \$10,000.000 TO BE SOLD AT SIXTY CENTS ON THE DOLLAR. In U. S. Currency, this yielding an interest of TWELVE PER CENT. IN GOLD, or SEVEN PER CENT. IN CURRENCY, at the present rate of premium on gold. THE FIRST YEARS INTEREST ALREADY PROVIDED. THE MOST DESIRABLE INVESTMENT EVER OFFERED. IMMENSE TRACTS OF MINING AND AGRICULTURAL LANDS; SIXTY PER CENT. OF PORT DUES, IMPOSTS, AND TAXES, IN THE STATES OF PUEBLA, SAN LUIS POTOSI, AND THE PUGHED FAITH GOVERNMENT, ARE OFFERED FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THESE BONDS AND PAYMENT OF INTEREST. THESE BONDS IS AMPLI. \$30 in U. S. Currency will buy a 7 per cent. Gold Bond of \$50 800 in U. S. Currency will buy a 7 per cent. Gold Bond of \$1,000 \$300 in U. S. Currency will buy a 7 per cent. Gold Bond of \$500 \$600 in U. S. Currency will buy a 7 per cent. Gold Bond of \$1,000 Let every lover of Republican Institutions buy at least ONE BOND. Circulars forwarded, and subscriptions received by JOHN W. COLLIER & CO., and J. N. TITF, Financial Agents, of the Republic of Mexico, 57 Broadway, N. Y. For Subscriptions also regard to Banks and Bankers generally throughout the United States. KING'S PORTABLE LEMONADE IS the only preparation of the kind made from the fruit as an article of economy, purity, and deliciousness, it cannot be surpassed. It is recommended by physicians for all febrile affections, and is especially convenient for travellers, who use long journeys, and for those who are requested to give a trial. Entertaining parties, parties, and picnics should not be without it. Sold by all Druggists and first-class Grocers. Manufactured only by LOUIS F. METZGER, No. 540 Pearl Street, New York. Also Agent for King's Portwines, Toilet Articles, etc. THE PERUVIAN SYRUP IS A PROTECTED SOLUTION OF PURE PROTOXIDE OF IRON. A new discovery in medicine which STRIKES AT THE ROOT OF DISEASE, by supplying the blood with its vital principle, and effecting a permanent cure. This is the secret of the wonderful success of this remedy in curing Dyspepsia, Liver Complaint, Dropsy, Chronic Rheumatism, Catarrh of the Bladder, Gout, and Fevers, Hemorrhages, Loss of Constitutional Vigor, Diseases of the Diaphragm, Female Complaints, and all diseases originating in a deficient supply of the blood, or accompanied by nervous or a low state of the system. Being free from Alcohol in any form, its remedial effects are not followed by corresponding reaction, but are permanent, increasing strength, vigor, and new life into all parts of the system, and building up an Iron Constitution. DYSPEPSIA AND DEBILITY. From the Venerable Archdeacon Scott, D. D.: DENHAM, G. E., March 24, 1865. "I am an inveterate Dyspeptic of more than 25 years' standing. I have been wonderfully benefited in the three short weeks during which I have used the Peruvian Syrup, that I can scarcely describe. My appetite has improved, and I have gained weight. People who have known me are astonished at the change. I am widely known, and can but refer you to others to which which has done so much for me." A CASE OF 27 YEARS' STANDING CURED! From Insley Jewett, No. 15 Avon Place, Boston: "I suffered, and sometimes severely, for 27 years, from dyspepsia, and on commencing taking the Peruvian Syrup, and soon thereafter, my sufferings, and have enjoyed uninterrupted health ever since." Thousands have been changed by the use of this remedy, from a weak, suffering, and feeble state, to a strong, healthy, and happy man and woman, and invalids can not reasonably hesitate to give it a trial. A pamphlet of 32 pages, containing certificates of cures, and recommendations from some of the most eminent physicians, clergymen, and others, bearing on this valuable and interesting matter, will be sent free to any one sending their name and residence. See that each bottle has PERUVIAN SYRUP blown in the glass. FOR SALE BY J. P. DIMONSON, 36 Day-St., New York. SETH W. FOWLE & SON, 18 Temple St., Boston, AND BY ALL DRUGGISTS. PACIFIC HOTEL. 170, 172, 174 & 176 GREENWICH-ST., (ONE SQUARE WEST OF BROADWAY.) Between Courtland and Day-Sts., New York. JOHN PATTEN, Jr., Proprietor. The Pacific Hotel is well and properly known to the traveling public. The location is especially suitable to merchants and business men; it is in close proximity to the business part of the city, on the highway of Southern and Western travel, and adjacent to all the principal Railroad and Steamboat depots. The building is of the most substantial character, and over 300 guests; it is well furnished, and possesses every modern improvement for the comfort and entertainment of its inmates. The table is liberal and well-stocked. The rooms are airy and well-ventilated, and provided with gas and water; the attendance is prompt and respectful; and the table is generally provided with every delicacy of the season. The subscriber, who, for the past few years has been the lessee, is now sole proprietor, and intends to identify himself thoroughly with the interests of his house. With extensive experience as a hotel-keeper, he trusts, by moderate charges and a liberal policy, to maintain the favorable reputation of the Pacific Hotel. He is desirous to prevent overcharge by Hackmen, the coaches of the Hotel are owned by the proprietor. JOHN PATTEN, Jr.

WISTAR'S BALSAM. HAS BEEN USED FOR NEARLY HALF A CENTURY. WITH THE MOST ASSURED SUCCESS, IN CURING COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, SORE THROAT, INFLUENZA, WHOOPING COUGH, CROUP, LIVER COMPLAINT, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, AND EVERY AFFECTION OF THE THROAT, LUNGS, AND CHEST. "CONSUMPTION, which carries off more victims than any other disease, and which baffles the skill of the physician, is cured by a greater extent than any other remedy, or by any other." YIELDS TO THIS REMEDY! when all others prove ineffectual. IS A MEDICINE, RAPID IN RELIEF, SOOTHING IN EFFECT, SAFE IN ITS OPERATION. IT IS UNSURPASSED while as a preparation, free from noxious ingredients, poisons, or minerals; uniting skill science, and medical knowledge; combining the most valuable and the vegetable kingdom for this class of diseases, it is INCOMPARABLE! and is entitled, merits and receives the general confidence of the medical profession. UNSOLICITED TESTIMONY. From Rev. FRANCIS LONEL, Pastor of the South Congregational Church, Bridgeport, Connecticut. BRIDGEPORT, January 21, 1864. Gentlemen, I consider it a duty which I owe to suffering humanity to bear testimony to the virtues of Dr. Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry. I have used it when I have had occasion for any remedy for Coughs, Colds, and Sore Throat—for many years, and never, in a single instance, has it failed to relieve and cure me. I have frequently been very hard upon Saturday, and looked forward to the delivery of the medicine in the following day with sad misgivings, but by a liberal use of the Balsam my hoarseness has invariably been removed, and I have traveled without difficulty. I commend it to my brethren in the ministry and to public speakers generally, as a certain remedy for the throat and lungs to which we are peculiarly exposed. Entirely unobscured, I send you this testimony, which you may use in any way you choose. Perhaps the Balsam does not affect all persons alike, but it always gives me relief, and I have never known the minister's mind working dry the Sabbath. Very truly yours, FRANCIS LONEL. PRICE ONE DOLLAR A BOTTLE. SETH W. FOWLE & SON, 18 Temple-St., Boston, AND FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS. E. & H. T. ANTHONY & CO. MANUFACTURERS OF PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, 501 BROADWAY, NEW YORK. In addition to our main business of PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS, we are prepared to furnish the following: VIEWS OF THE WAR, STEREOSCOPIC AND STEREOSCOPIC VIEWS. Of these, we have an immense assortment including VIEWS OF THE WAR, Obtained at great expense, and forming a complete PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF THE GREAT WAR. Bull Run, Antietam, Gettysburg, Yorktown, Panton Point, Hanover Junction, Chickamauga, Chickasaw, Olney Point, Nashville, Richmond, Petersburg, Deep Bottom, Fort Mifflin, Fort Mifflin, Fort Mifflin, Charleston, Florida, etc., etc. American and Foreign Cities and Scenery, Groups, Buildings, etc., etc. In addition to our main business, we are prepared to furnish the following: VIEWS OF THE WAR, Obtained at great expense, and forming a complete PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF THE GREAT WAR. Bull Run, Antietam, Gettysburg, Yorktown, Panton Point, Hanover Junction, Chickamauga, Chickasaw, Olney Point, Nashville, Richmond, Petersburg, Deep Bottom, Fort Mifflin, Fort Mifflin, Fort Mifflin, Charleston, Florida, etc., etc. American and Foreign Cities and Scenery, Groups, Buildings, etc., etc. In addition to our main business, we are prepared to furnish the following: VIEWS OF THE WAR, Obtained at great expense, and forming a complete PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY OF THE GREAT WAR. 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