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PUGET SOUND HERALD

CHARLES PROSCH,
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W. P. JACKSON,
323 Washington street, San Francisco.
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THE LAST CHARGE.

Now, men of the North! will you join in the strife?
For country, for freedom, for honor, for life?
The giant grows blind in his fury and spite—
One blow on his forehead will settle the fight.

Flash fall in his eyes the blue lightning of steel,
And stem him with cannon-balls, pistol upon wheel!
Mound up the dead, and pile your guns to his rear,
As the bound tracks the wolf, and the bough the deer!

Blow, trumpets, your summons, till sluggish ears awake!
Beat, drums, till the roots of the faint-hearted shake!
Yet, yet, ere the signal is stamped on the scroll,
Their names may be traced on the blood-sprinkled roll!

Trust not the false herald that painted your shield;
True honor to-day must be sought on the field!
Her scutcheon shows white with a blaze of red—
The life-drops of crimson for liberty shed!

The hour is at hand, and the moment draws nigh!
The dog-star of treason grows dim in the sky!
Shine forth from the battle-cloud, light of the north,
Call back the bright hour when the Nation was born!

The rivers of peace through our valleys shall run,
As the gladiators of tyranny melt in the sun;
Smile, smile the proud parrot down from his perch—
His scepter once broken, the world is our own!

MARCH.
The stately March is come at last,
With wind and cloud, and changing skies;
I hear the rattle of the band,
That thrums the snowy valley floor.

Ah, passing few are they who speak
Of this stormy world! In pride of their
Yet, though they think are fond and blest,
That all a welcome month to me.

For those to northern lands again
The glad and glorious sun doth bring;
And gladest joined the gentle train,
And greet the gentle name of Spring.

And in thy reign of blast and storm
Smiles many a long, bright sunny day,
When the changed winds are soft and warm,
And heaven puts on the blue of May.

THE HOARING SEA.
With her white lace full of agony,
Under her dripping locks,
How the wretched, restless sea to-day
Moans to the cruel rocks!

Happily, in her great despair,
She shudders on the sand;
And the waves are gone from her tangled hair,
And the shells from her listless hand.

'Tis a sorrowful sight to see her lie,
With her beating, heaving breast,
How the waves are gone from her tangled hair,
And the shells from her listless hand.

Alas! alas! for the foolish sea,
Why was there none to say:
"The waves that strike on the heartless stone
Must break and fall away."

Why could she not have known that this
Would be her fate at length:
That the hand, unkind, must slip at last,
Though it cling with love's own strength?

For now, too late, has she learned the truth,
Which when she knew forgot—
And this is the best that she can do
With the future left her yet!

To rise and wear on her face a smile,
Though her life be doing out;
And so, she must come to her feet again,
And hide from the world her shame.

ALL'S FOR THE BEST.
All's for the best—no sanguine and cheerful—
Trouble and sorrow are friends in disguise!
Nothing but folly goes hither and thither—
Contentment is happy and wise.

All's for the best—if a man would but know it!
Providence writes us all to be best:
Heaven is gracious, and all's for the best.

All's for the best—be a man but contenting;
Providence governs the rest:
And the full bark of his creature is guiding,
Wise and wary, all for the best.

FROM WILSON'S TALES OF THE BORDERS.

The Assassin.

At a late hour of an evening in the beginning of the year 1860, mine host of the Stag and Hounds, the principal hostelry of Lillithgow at the period referred to, was called from his liquor—the which liquor he was at the moment enjoying with a few select friends who were assembled in the public room of the house—to receive a traveler who had just ridden up to the door. On reaching the door, Andrew Nimmo (such was the name of mine host) found the traveler had dismounted. He was standing by the head of his horse, a powerful black charger, and seemingly waiting for some one to relieve him of the animal.

This duty he now performed. He took hold of the bridle, after a word or two of welcome to his guest, and asked whether he should put up his horse and supper him? "What else have I come here for?" replied the stranger, gruffly. "Surely put him up; but I must see myself to his being properly fed and tended. If we expect a horse to do his duty, we must do our duty by him. No lead the way, friend."

Dumped by the unceremonious manner of the traveler, Andrew made no further reply than a muttered acquiescence in the justice of the remark just made, but instantly led the horse away towards the stable; calling out, as he went, on John Ramsay, the ostler, to come out with the lantern, for it was pitch dark, and a light was indispensable.

With the scrutinizing habits of his calling mine host of the Stag and Hounds had been severely but anxiously endeavoring to make out his customer; to arrive at some idea of his rank and profession, if he had any; but the darkness of the night prevented him from noting more than that he was a man of tall stature, and he thought, of a singularly stern aspect.

When Ramsay brought the light, however, mine host obtained farther and better opportunities of pursuing his study of the stranger; and, besides having his former remarks confirmed, now discovered that he had the appearance of a person of some consideration, his dress being that of a gentleman.

"Fine beast that, sir," adventured mine host, after a silence of some time, during which the latter and his guest had been standing together overlooking the operation of John Ramsay as he fed and littered the animal whose noble proportions had elicited the remark. "Poor beast, sir," continued Mr. Nimmo. "I think I have never seen a better."

"Not often, friend, I dare say," replied the stranger, who was standing erect, with folded arms, and carefully marking every proceeding of the ostler. "For a long run and a swift, he is the animal for a man to trust his life to."

Mine host was startled a little by the turn given to this remark; it smelt somewhat, he thought, of the highway; or, at any rate, seemed to carry with it a somewhat suspicious sort of reference. He was, however, much too prudent a man to exhibit any indication of an opinion so injurious to the character of his guest, and therefore merely said, laughingly—"That he was believed that if a man was in such jeopardy as required his trusting to horse legs for his life, he would be safe enough on six as a beast as that, especially if he got anything of a man's seat."

Yes, give him ten minutes of a start, and there's not a wench that ever rode over North Berwick Law on a brownstick that'll throw salt on his tail, let alone a horse and rider of flesh and blood," replied the stranger, with a grim smile. "I'll trust my life to him," he added, emphatically, "and have no fears for the result."

"The attendance on the much prized animal which was the subject of these remarks having now been completed, mine host and his guest left the stable, and proceeded to the house, which having entered, the former ushered the latter into the public room, being the best in the house, and the only one fitted for the reception, as our worthy landlord deemed it, of a percentage of the stranger's apparent quality.

The latter at first showed some reluctance to enter an apartment in which there were already so many people assembled; but, on being told by mine host that he should have a table to himself, in a distant part of the room, if he did not wish for society, he expressed himself reconciled to the arrangement, and, walking into the apartment, took his place at its upper end; then throwing himself down in a chair, having previously laid aside his hat, cloak and sword, he commenced a vigilant but silent scrutiny of the party by which the table that occupied the centre of the apartment was surrounded.

While he was thus employed, the landlord, who had gone for a moment about some household business, approached him to receive his orders regarding his sight's entertainment. The result of the conference on this subject was an order for supper, and for a measure of wine to be brought in, in the meantime, until the former should be prepared. The landlord bowed, and retired to execute his commissions. In a minute after, a powerful measure of claret, with a tall drinking glass, stood before the stranger. He filled up the latter from the former, drank it off, and again set himself to the task of scrutinizing the company before him.

—a task to which he now added that of listening to their conversation, which seemed to be of a nature to interest him much, if one might judge from the earnest intensity of his look, and the varying but strongly marked expressions of countenance with which he listened to the various sentiments of the various speakers. The subject of the conversation was the Regent Murray—his proceedings, government, and character.

"Aweel, folk may say what they like of the Regent," said one of the speakers, "but I think he's managing matters very well on the whole, and I wish we may never have a war in his place. He's no man to be trifled with; and if he keeps a light rein hand, he does o'er-ride the strength o' his head. He's a strict, justice-loving man; that I'll say o' him."

"Then ye say mair o' him than I wad, deacon," said another of the party. "His strictness I grant ye; but as to his justice, there was once little o', I think, in his treatment o' his sister; his conduct to that poor woman has been most unatural, most savage, selfish, and unfeeling. That's my opinion o', and its the opinion o' mony a one besides me."

"Weel, weel, every one has his ain mind o' these things," Mr. Clinkscales, replied the first speaker; "but, for my part, I'll ay ride the ford as I find it; that's my creed."

"Has ony o' ye heard," here interposed another of the party, "o' that cruel case o' Hamilton's o' Bothwellhaugh? Ane o' the Queen's Hamiltons," added the speaker. "Some said they had, others that they had not. For the benefit of the latter, the speaker explained. He said that Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh was one of those who had been forfeited for the part he took at the battle of Langside. That the person to whom his property was given by the Regent had turned Hamilton's wife out of her home, and that the poor woman had died in consequence of this cruel treatment.

"An' what's Hamilton sayin' to that?" inquired one of the party. "They say he's in an awfu' takin about it," replied the first speaker, "an' threatenin' vengeance, richt an' yo, particularly against the Regent."

"I think little wadder o'," said another of the party. "It's a shameless business, and aneuch to make any man desperate."

"But it's true?" here inquired another. The reply to this question came from a very unexpected quarter; it came from the stranger, who, starting fiercely to his feet, and stretching towards the company with a look and gesture of great excitement, exclaimed—"Yes, gentlemen, true it is—true as God is in heaven—true in every particular! An eternal vengeance to the justice and clemency of the tyrant, Murray! The wife of Bothwellhaugh was turned naked out of her own house in a cold and bitter night, and died of bodily suffering and a broken heart. She did—she did. But—and the stranger ground his teeth and clenched his fist as he pronounced the word—there will be a day of count and reckoning. The vengeance, the deadly vengeance of a ruined, deeply injured and desperate man will yet overtake the ruthless, remorseless tyrant."

Having thus delivered himself, the stranger again retired to his former place, recanted himself, and relapsed into his former silence; although the deep and labored respiration of recent excitement, which he could not subdue, might still be distinctly heard even from the furthest end of the apartment.

It was some time after the stranger had retired to his place before the company felt disposed to resume their conversation. The incident which had just occurred, the energy with which the stranger had spoken, and the extreme excitement he had evinced, had had the effect of throwing them all into that silent and reflective mood which the sudden display of anything surprising or interesting is so apt to produce even in our merriest and most thoughtless moments.

At length, however, the chill gradually wore off; the conversation was resumed, at first in an under tone, and by fits and starts; and finally it became more continuous, and finally began to flow with all its original volume and freedom. No more allusion, however, was made by any of the party to the case of Bothwellhaugh. This was a subject to which, after what had taken place, some seemed to care about returning. Neither did the stranger evince any desire to hold farther correspondence with the revelers; but, on the contrary, appeared anxious to avoid it; nay, one might almost have supposed that he regretted having intruded himself upon them at all, and that he could have wished that what he had uttered in an unguarded moment had remained unsaid.

Be this as it may, however, he sought no further intercourse with the party, but, having hastily dispatched the supper which was placed before him, and finished his measure of wine, he placed undisturbed out of the apartment, and, conducted by his host, retired to the sleeping chamber which had been appointed for him.

On the following morning, the stranger, who was sojourning at the Stag and Hounds, went out to transact, as he told his landlord, some business in the town; saying, besides, that he would not probably return till evening.

Strongly impressed by the manner and appearance of his guest, and not a little awed by his grim and fierce aspect, the landlord could not help following him to the door when he departed, and furtively looking after him as he stalked down the main street of the town, and much, as he looked at him, did he marvel what sort of business it could be he was going about. This, however, was a point on which the worthy man had no means of enlightening himself, and he was therefore obliged to be content with the privilege of muttering some expressions of the wonder he felt.

In the meantime, the stranger had turned an angle of the street and disappeared—at least from the view of the landlord of the Stag and Hounds. Not from afar; for we shall follow and keep sight of him, and endeavor to make out what he was so curious to know.

Having passed about half way down the main street of the town, the former suddenly halted before a large unoccupied house with a balcony in front. It was a residence of the Archbishop of St. Andrew's. Standing in front of this house, the stranger seemed to scan it with earnest scrutiny. He looked from window to window with the most cautious and deliberate vigilance, and appeared to be noting carefully their various heights and positions. While pursuing this inquiry, he might also have been frequently observed glancing, from time to time, on either side, as if to see that no one was marking the earnestness of his examination of the building.

Having apparently completed his survey of the front of the house, the stranger passed round to the back part of the building, and proceeded to the gate of the garden, which lay behind, and through which only was the house accessible on that side. On reaching the gate, the stranger paused, looked cautiously around him for a few seconds, when, observing no one in sight, he hastily plunged his hand beneath his cloak, drew out a key, applied it to the lock, opened the gate, passed quickly in, and closed the door cautiously behind him.

With hurried step the intruder now proceeded to the house, drew forth another key, inserted it into the lock of the main door, turned it round, applied his foot to the latter, pushed it open, and entered the building; having previously, as in the former instance, secured the door behind him. Ascending the stairs in the inside of the house, the mysterious visitor now commenced a careful examination of the various apartments on the second floor, and at length adopting one—a small room, with one window to the front—made it the scene of his future operations. There were, the laying on the floor a straw mattress, which he dragged from another apartment, and hanging a piece of black cloth—which he also found in the lumber-room from whence he had taken the mattress—against the wall of the apartment opposite the window.

Having completed these preparations, the secret workman went up to the window, knelt down on the mattress, and leveling a stick, or staff, which he found in the apartment, as if it had been a musket, seemed to be trying where he might be best situated for firing at an object without. This experiment he tried repeatedly, shifting his position from place to place, until he appeared to have hit upon one that promised to suit his purpose.

This ascertained, he rose from his knees; threw down the staff; glanced around the apartment, as if to see that all was right; descended the stair; came out of the house, locking the door after him; crossed the garden and passed out at the gate, locking that also before he left, and with the same precaution that he had used on entering; that is, looking around him to see that no one marked his proceedings.

The guest of the Stag and Hounds now returned to his inn, from which he had been absent about two hours. At the door he was met by mine host, who, touching his cap, asked if "his honor intended dining at his house, as it was now about one of the clock," the general dinner hour of the period.

Without noticing the inquiry of his landlord—"Be there any armurers in this town of yours, friend?" he said, "where I could fit me with some weapons I want."

"Yes, indeed, there be one, and a main good one he is," replied the other. "Tom Wilson, I warrant me, will fit your humor with any weapon you can desire, from a pistol to a cut-throat; from a two-handed sword of six feet long, to a dagger like a bodkin. And as for armor, you may have anything, everything, from head-piece to leg-splint; all of the best material, and first-rate workmanship."

"Where is this man Wilson's shop?" inquired the stranger. "See you, sir," replied the other; "see you yonder projecting corner, beyond the palace entrance?"

"I do." "Well, sir, three doors beyond that, you will find Wilson's shop; and, if your honor chooses, you may use my name with him, and he will not serve you the worse, or the less reasonably I warrant me. It is always a recommendation to Tom to be a guest at the Stag and Hounds."

Without saying whether or not he would avail himself of the privilege offered him by using his name, the mysterious stranger hastened away in the direction pointed out to him, and, in half a minute after, he was in the workshop of Wilson the armorer.

"Your pleasure, sir," said that person, advancing towards his customer from an inner apartment. "Have you a good store of fire-arms, friend?" inquired the latter. "Pretty fair, sir; pretty fair," replied the armorer. "What description may you want?"

"Why, I want a carbine, friend—something of a rare piece—that will carry its ball well to the mark. None of your bungling articles, that first hang fire, and then throw their shot in every direction but the right one. I would have a piece of good and certain execution."

"Here, then, sir, here is your commodity," said the armorer, disengaging a short and heavy gun from an arm-rack that occupied one side of the shop. "Here is a piece that I can recommend. It will be the fault of the hand or the eye when this barrel misses its mark, I warrant ye. I'd take in hand myself to smash an egg with it, with single ball at fifty yards distance. I've done it before now with a wren-gun."

"I will not require any such feat from the piece as that, friend," said Wilson's customer, drily; and having taken the gun in his hand, he began to examine the lock, and to see that the piece was otherwise in serviceable condition. Being satisfied that it was, he demanded the price. It was named. The money was tendered, and accepted, and the stranger departed with his purchase; having, however, previously received from the armorer, in lieu of lack's penny, although he offered to pay for them, half a dozen balls, and a few charges of powder, to put the capability of the gun to immediate trial. This, however, its new proprietor did not think necessary; but, instead, returned to the archbishop's house with it; and, after loading and priming it, placed it in a corner of the apartment, which we have described him as having put into so strange a state of preparation.

Leaving the house with the same caution and stealthy step as before, the stranger again retired to his inn; but it was now to leave it no more for the night.

"What news stirring, friend?" said he to the landlord. "Nothing, sir," replied he, as he laid the cloth for his dinner; "only that the Regent will pass through the town to-morrow. I hear he'll be through by about twelve o'clock. The magistrates, I understand, have gotten notice to that effect."

"So," replied the stranger, "then we shall have a sight." "A brave sight, sir; for he is to be accompanied by a gallant cavalcade, and the trades of the town are to turn out with banners and music to do him honor. It will be a stirring day, sir, and I trust a good one for my poor house here; for such doings make people as thirsty as so many dry sponges."

To these remarks the guest made no reply, but proceeded with his dinner; the materials for which having, in the meantime, been brought in, and placed on the table by another attendant.

On the following morning, the little town of Lillithgow exhibited a scene of unusual bustle. Hosts of idlers were soon gathered here and there, along the whole line of the main street; and persons carrying trades' banners might be seen hurrying in all directions to the various mustering-places of their craft. An occasional discharge of a culverin, too; and, as the morning advanced, a merry peal of bells heightened the promise of some impending event of unusual occurrence. By and by, these symptoms of public rejoicing became more and more marked; the groups of idlers increased; the banners became more frequent; and the bells were rung more furiously.

It was when matters thus bespoke the near approach of a crisis that the mysterious lodger at the Stag and Hounds ordered his horse to be brought to the door. The horse was brought, the stranger settled his bill, and, telling the landlord that he would witness the sight from horseback more advantageously than on foot, mounted and rode off in the direction of the approaching cavalcade. In this direction, however, he did not ride far; for, on gaining the eastern extremity of the town, he suddenly wheeled round, and rode back in rear of the line of the street, until he reached the gate of the garden behind the mansion of the Archbishop of St. Andrew's, in which the mysterious preparations before described had been made.

Having arrived at the gate, he dismounted, opened it, led in his horse, and fastened him to a tree close by. This done, he removed the lintel, or cross-bar, over the gate. The latter, contrary to his practice on former occasions, he now left wide open, and proceeded towards the house, into which he disappeared.

In less than a quarter of an hour after, the Regent entered the town. He was on horseback, surrounded by a party of friends, also mounted, and followed by a numerous body of armed retainers.

As the cavalcade penetrated into the town, the crowd which the occasion had assembled gradually became more and more dense, and the progress of the Regent and his party consequently more slow; until, at length, they were so packed in the narrow street, with the human wedges that were forcing themselves around them, that it was with great difficulty they could make any progress at all.

Becoming impatient with the delay thus occasioned, although carefully concealing this impatience, the Regent, who was now directly opposite the house of the Archbishop of St. Andrew's, kept waving his hand to the crowd, as if entreating them not to press so closely, that he might pass on with more speed. The crowd endeavored to comply with the wishes of the Regent, but their efforts only added to the confusion, without mending the matter in other respects. It was at this moment that all eyes were suddenly directed towards the house of the Archbishop of St. Andrew's, in consequence of a shot being fired from one of the windows. When those eyes looked an instant after again towards the Regent, he was not to be seen; he had fallen from his horse, mortally wounded; a ball had passed through his body. It was Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh who had fired the fatal shot.

The friends and retainers of the Regent, seconded by the town's people, flew to the house of the Archbishop, and endeavored to force the door, in order to get at the murderer; but it had been barricaded by the wily assassin, and resisted their efforts long enough to allow of his escaping from the house, mounting his horse, and darting through the garden gate at the top of his utmost speed. He was pursued; but, thanks to his good steed, pursued in vain, and subsequently escaped to France; having done a deed which the moralist must condemn, but which cannot be looked upon as altogether without palliation.

Many years ago, Mr. Miller, one of the early settlers of a neighboring town, sold a yoke of oxen for \$50, and, in payment, received a fifty dollar bill, which he carefully folded up and deposited in his tobacco-box, for safe keeping. Mr. M. was accustomed to make use of the "weed" at any hour of the day or night, whenever he felt an inclination for it. The night following the sale of the oxen, he sought his tobacco-box, and finding a convenient portion, he put it in his mouth, and not readily obtaining the full benefit he expected, he chewed it most vigorously and effectually, exclaiming as he did so: "No strength to the tobacco! no strength to the tobacco!"

A Clever Sell.

A great French natural historian, one of the leading members of the Zoological Society of France, was lately taking a tour in Algeria, and had occasion to call on the officer commanding the garrison there. Passing through the yard, which, being a barrack, was naturally crowded with soldiers, his attention was called to two Zouaves, who were playing with an animal which to the learned man was a perfect novelty. He stood and stared; it evidently belonged to the group of Rodentia, but to what class? It was neither the Muskrat, for it has no tail; nor the Arvicola amphibius, for that certainly has no proscissus like that which the astonished professor saw in the specimen before him. He asked the Zouave, "an intelligent soldier," as he afterwards observed:

"What animal is that?" "Monsieur, it is our trunked rat."

"You find it here?" "In the neighborhood, but very rarely. The natives say that they are dying out, and the breed will soon be lost."

"You will sell that one, perhaps?" "Ah, Monsieur, it belongs to us two. What would you? It is our little amusement. The poor soldier has but few; still Jean and myself are poor and would part with our little playfellow for 400 francs."

The professor objected to the price—even science may be bought too dearly—but finally agreed to give 150 francs for the one rat, and 400 francs if in a week they could get him a female of the same race. He was absent for a week, came back with his male and female rats, paid his 400 francs, christened them the *class mus elephas*, wrote a long paper on the discovery to a scientific body, posted his letter, and went out to spend the evening with the wife of the colonel of Zouaves, who happened to be present.

As he entered, the Colonel was telling a story to the evident delight of the company. The professor joined the circle.

"Yes," said the Colonel, my fellows are the sharpest in the whole army. Would Monsieur le Professor believe that two of them had just sold two common rats for 400 francs?"

"Monsieur le Colonel is partly wrong, partly right," replied the Professor; "two rats, yes; common rats, no! They are unique, and I am the lucky purchaser."

Mrs. Caudle Wanted to Find Out.

Mr. Caudle was made a Mason, and Mr. Caudle, burned, scathed, fatigued and ill, went home with fear and trembling, and endeavored to get to the back side of the bed without awakening the "God's last best gift to man," who was slumbering in front, and whom he supposed to be sleeping, but Caudle was mistaken, for as he slipped beneath the bed drapery, the lady said:

"So you are there, are you? Well, I only wish I was Queen for a day or two, I'd put an end to Freemasonry, and all such trumpery, I know."

"Now, come, Caudle, don't let's quarrel. Eh! You're not in pain, dear? What's it all about? What are you lying laughing there at? But I'm a fool to trouble my head about you."

"And you're not going to let me know the secret, eh? You mean to say you're not? Now, Caudle, you know it's a hard matter to put me in a passion—not that I care about the secret itself; no, I wouldn't give a button to know it, for its all nonsense, I'm sure. It isn't the secret I care about, it's the slight—Mr. Caudle; it's the studied insult; that a man pays to his wife when he thinks of going through the world keeping something to himself—that he won't let her know? Man and wife one indeed! I should like to know how that can be, when a man's a Mason—when he keeps a secret that sets him and his wife apart? Ha! you men make the laws, and you'll take good care to have all the best of 'em to yourselves; otherwise a woman ought to be allowed a divorce when a man becomes a Mason. When he's got a sort of corner cupboard in his heart—a sort of place in his mind—that his poor wife isn't allowed to rummage! Caudle! you shan't close your eyes for a week—no, you shan't—unless you tell me some of it. Come; there's a good creature; there's a love. I'm sure, Caudle, I wouldn't refuse you anything, and you know it, or ought to know it, by this time. I only wish I had a secret! To whom should I think of confiding it but to my dearest husband? I should be miserable to keep it to myself, and you know it. Now; Caudle! Was there ever such a man; I'll cry! A man, indeed! A brute?—yes, Mr. Caudle, an unfeeling, brutal creature, when you might obligate me and you won't. I'm sure I don't object to your being a Mason; not at all, Caudle; I say it's a very good thing; I dare say it is—it's only your making a secret of it that vexes me. But you'll tell me—you'll tell your Margaret? You won't! You're a wretch! Mr. Caudle."

But I know why, oh, yes, I can tell. The fact is, you're ashamed to let me know what a fool they've been making of you. That's it. You, at your time of life—the father of a family. I should be ashamed of myself, Caudle. And I suppose you'll be going to what you call your lodge every night now? Lodge, indeed. Pretty good it must be, where they don't admit women. Nice goings on, I dare say. Then you call one another Brethren! I'm sure you'd relations enough, you didn't want any more. But I know what all this Masonry's about. It's only an excuse to get away from your wives and families, that you may feast and drink together, that's all. That's the secret. And so abuse women—as if they were inferior to animals, and not to be trusted. That's the secret, and nothing else. Now; Caudle, don't let us quarrel. Yes, I know you're in pain. Still, Caudle, my love; Caudle! Dearest, I say Caudle!"

"I recollect nothing more," says Caudle; "for I had eaten a hearty supper, and somehow became oblivious."

There are many stratagems in war, and as many, it may be well said, in love of law. A young man of Nuremberg, who had no fortune, requested a lawyer, a friend of his, to recommend him to a family where he was a daily visitor, and where was a handsome daughter, who was to have a large fortune. The lawyer agreed, but the father of the young lady, who loved money, immediately asked what property the young man had. The lawyer said he did not know, but he would inquire. The next time he saw his friend, he asked if he had any property at all.

"No," replied he. "Well," said the lawyer, "would you suffer any one to cut off your nose, if he would give you twenty thousand dollars?" "Not for the world."

"Tis well," replied the lawyer; "I had reasons for asking?" The next time he saw the girl's father, he said, "I have inquired about this young man's circumstances. He has, indeed, no ready money, but he has a jewel, for which to my knowledge he has been offered and refused twenty thousand dollars?" This induced the old father to consent to the marriage, which accordingly took place; though it is said, in the sequel, that he often shook his head when he thought of the jewel!

An orator out West spreads himself in a town meeting on the subject of hydrophobia: "I have horses and cattle, I have sheep and pigs, I have a wife and children; and (rising higher as the importance of the subject deepened in his estimation) I have money out at interest, all in danger of being bit by these infernal dogs!"

A man getting out of all omnibus, a few days ago, made use of two rows of knees as banisters to steady himself, at which the ladies took offense, and one of them cried aloud:

"A perfect savage!" "True," said a wag inside, "he belongs to the Pawnee tribe."

"Your house is on fire, sir," said a stranger, rushing into the parlor of a sober citizen.

"Well, sir," was the answer of the latter; "to what cause am I indebted for the extraordinary interest which you take in my house?"

"It is a rule for counting houses," too well-known, as he contrived politeness; to ask unnecessary questions, he turned it over and over, and up and down repeatedly, and at last, in a paroxysm of baffled civility, inquired, "How, in the name of wonder, do you count houses with this?"

"What is the best pupil regiment of adversity?" said a gen'l in the art of self-defence to his teacher—a noted pugilist.

"Keep a civil tongue in your head," was the unexpected and significant reply.

PUGET SOUND HERALD

STELLACOOM, W. T. Saturday, March 26, 1864.

LATEST EASTERN NEWS.

[CONDENSED FROM THE PUGET SOUND HERALD.]

Washington, March 25.—The Postoffice Department has just completed contracts for mail service in Nebraska, Washington, Idaho and other far-off Territories; among them is one providing that from July 1st, mails are to be carried tri-monthly from the intersection of the Overland and Great Northern routes at Bismarck City and Ashburn to Walla Walla, in ten days, in lieu of sending by Placerville, Cal. This saves 2,000 miles travel. This service will be to Ben. Holladay at \$150,000 per annum. Mails for the newly discovered gold regions of Idaho at Bannock City are sent from Salt Lake City; contract awarded to E. S. Alford.

New York, March 25.—The Richmond Whig of March 9th says it will take a week or more to rebuild the railroad to Lee's army. The Whig says the rebel loss in the battle of Olustee outnumbered the Federal two to one.

Fortress Monroe, March 25.—The steamer Pease collided with a bark off Wilmington. Washington, March 25.—Gen. Lew. Wallace has been assigned to the command of the Middle Department—headquarters at Baltimore.

The Supreme Court will, during the ensuing week, decide on the following named cases: U. S. appellants vs. L. Polson's executors, from the District Court of California; Louisville, March 25.—Gen. Burbridge has ordered the arrest of Col. Frank Wolford for dilatory sentences uttered at a sword presentation at Lexington on Thursday last.

Washington, March 25.—It is understood that Gen. Brantlett has addressed a remonstrance to the President respecting the enrollment and enlistment of slaves in Kentucky, and has notified the President that he will execute the laws of Kentucky against all who attempt to enlist slaves without their owners' consent. He claims that Kentucky has furnished more than fifty thousand of her citizens to defend the Government and is willing to furnish still more; that she has proved her loyalty and should be treated as loyal and her laws constitute solemnly enacted, must be respected.

New York, March 25.—The Morning Star, from New Orleans on the 21st has arrived. Gen. Isham was inaugurated on the 4th inst. Gen. Beauregard's wife at New Orleans on the 24. The burial took place on the 4th, and was the largest ever seen in New Orleans. Over 6,000 persons were in attendance. Gen. Banks extended permission to the steamer Nebraska to convey the remains a few miles up the river to her father's plantation. The corps was followed to the levee by thousands of ladies, who desired to take a last farewell of one who was loved and esteemed by all.

Gen. Sherman has arrived at New Orleans. His expedition from the 10th, which he had led to take 11,000 mules, 4,000 contrabands, 200 prisoners and a large amount of supplies. Papers contain no news from Ferragut.

Calo, March 25.—Memphis dates are received to last Friday. Gen. Herron had arrived there from New Orleans on Thursday. An expedition which was sent by Gen. Sherman moved on Meridian, had returned to Vicksburg. It reached Fort Pemberton and returned to Yazoo City before commands had disembarked.

Boats were sent to Vicksburg laden with cotton. While awaiting the return of boats troops were attacked on the 20th, by two brigades of rebel cavalry. The fighting was desperate, lasting from ten until four o'clock. Men fought in the streets hand to hand. Our loss was 18 killed; the enemy's much greater. The boats were captured and the troops re-embarked and returned to Vicksburg.

Washington, March 25.—The Indian Bureau is taking preliminary measures for the return of Indian refugees to Kansas, numbering about 8,000 who were driven out by the accession of the rebels. Their return will not be hastened.

New York, March 25.—The steamer Falcon from Port Royal on the 10th, brings intelligence that Capt. Kirkham, of the Island City, captured two large torpedoes near the mouth of the Savannah river, evidently intended for the destruction of the blockade squadron.

Washington, March 25.—Gen. Grant will retire in ten days. He will accompany the army of the Potomac and accompany in person its first movements. Halleck has been offered command of any department wanted. Lieut. Col. Sanderson has been put under arrest, on charges preferred by Col. Straight, of the 10th, to the rebels a plan of the Union prisoners to escape from Libby prison; none of his friends doubt his innocence. Gen. Wade was held up to Fortress Monroe with orders to suspend further exchanges on Gen. Butler's army. He was only 15 of our prisoners, and 100 rebels. Commissioners to investigate the conduct of Gen. Rosecrans at Chickamauga fully exonerate him.

New York, March 25.—Despatches state our loss at the battle of Olustee exceeds 18,000, two-thirds of whom were slightly wounded. A British fleet of 12 ships, under the command of Sir James Stirling, has been ordered to the coast of Charleston, had crossed. On the 11th, Schooner Albatross, a small blockading runner, ran ashore on the Tybee Island and was captured by our troops. A Jackson rebel vessel was captured by the fleet on the 10th, and the rebel vessel was captured by the fleet on the 10th, and the rebel vessel was captured by the fleet on the 10th.

Washington, March 25.—The Senate amended the gold bill by debiting to the House yesterday, and a vote will probably be had today.

New York, March 25.—The World's Washington dispatch says: Commissioner Lewis of Internal Revenue, recommends a tax of 40 cents on petroleum, one dollar on distilled spirits, and 50 cents on tobacco.

The Tribune's Washington dispatch says: A guard yesterday took possession of the naval stores at Washington, by order of Secretary Welles, and arrested several clerks and navy agents to serve as witnesses against Secretary Welles and parties in New York and Philadelphia, charged with swindling the Government in Naval contracts.

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Washington, March 25.—In the House, Mr. Hill from the Committee of Ways and Means reported a bill establishing an Assay Office in Nevada Territory, also one at Portland Oregon. Referred to the committee of the whole.

Fortress Monroe, March 25.—The Richmond Examiner of the 14th, says that a slow fire was kept up on Charleston. An artillery duel of several hours duration took place on the 9th between Fort Gregg and a battery on Sullivan's Island. No damage was done.

New York, March 25.—The Ariel has arrived from Aspinwall with California passengers and two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in treasure. Special dispatches say that the Pacific Railroad Committee have had under consideration, for some days, amendments which are being pressed by the various interests for the road. The Committee have invited the gentlemen representing these to appear before them and make their statement. They did so, and the result was a total failure to agree upon anything.

Knoxville, March 25.—Peace has been restored with the North Carolina Rebels. In this case, they were induced to take up arms under the belief that they were fighting for the Government of the United States.

New York, March 25.—All the Washington special agents agree that the gold bill will pass the House today. The bill will pass the House by a majority of 100. The bill will be amended so as to authorize the Secretary to issue certificates, payable in gold, to be used in payment of Custom House duties.

Cumberland, March 25.—Information deemed reliable says that Long Street, Head Quartermaster at Greenville, Tenn., and Backner's are at Bull's Gap; their main forces are between these two points; their pickets eight miles above Morriston. Gen. Vaughn is at Rogersville; Jones is at Long Mills, eight miles below Jonesville, Va.

St. Louis, March 25.—Vicksburg advices to the 24, state that all the boats at that place have been pressed into Government service for a reported movement to be made via Red, Black and Washita rivers, thence by land to Reservoir. Gen. Steele will co-operate with Little Rock.

Washington, March 25.—In the House Mr. Bride of Oregon, introduced a bill granting lands for the railroad from Salt Lake City to the head waters of the Columbia. This with other bills relating to the Pacific Road was referred to a select committee on the subject.

Washington, March 25.—Asked leave to offer a resolution instructing the Ways and Means Committee in the next revenue bill, to provide for a suspension of the rules, which the House refused, by a vote of 54 to 55.

Fortress Monroe, March 25.—The gunboat Beaufort arrived from Plymouth, North Carolina, on Saturday, and reports that when she was coming down the Chowan river the rebels opened fire on her from their battery, making it impossible to proceed. She went to Plymouth for assistance. The gunboats Southfield, Whitcomb and Massanut were dispatched to the scene, with one thousand infantry on board. The gunboats opened on the enemy, shelling them five hours when the rebels disappeared and the river opened to our vessels. One hundred Parrot gun exploded, the Southfield, wounding two men. It was the only casualty.

Army of the Potomac March 25.—Meade returned to the Army today. His health seemed excellent. The report in regard to his resignation is said to be without foundation.

Washington, March 25.—The orders relieving Halleck from duty as General in Chief, says that the President desires to express his appreciation and thanks for the able and zealous manner in which the arduous and responsible duties of that position have been performed.

The Military Committee of the House have decided to report in favor of increasing the pay of the soldiers to eighteen dollars per month and sergeants to thirty dollars.

New York, March 25.—A special to the Tribune says the Court of Inquiry, appointed to investigate the conduct of Gen. McCook, Crittenden and Negley at the battle of Chickamauga, have reported the results of their investigation as follows: They find that Gen. McCook did his entire duty in the battle proper, but made a mistake arising from an error of judgment in going into Chattanooga.

Gen. Crittenden is held entirely blameless. The Court says in commendatory terms of his conduct. He has been sent to Gen. Thomas, and he found himself without a command before leaving Chattanooga. Gen. Negley is also exonerated.

The Herald's special says that the Department of the Pacific, including California, Oregon and Nevada, has been placed under the administration of Gen. Sherman. He desires active service directly against the enemy.

It is believed that a re-organization of the Army of the Potomac was about being made, and that Gen. Hunter or Smith will have command of the first corps.

The Herald's special says the late expedition resulted in the destruction of King and Queen County's Court House, where the King and Dalgreen were ambushed and murdered.

The Washington special pronounces the statement that Gen. Wadsworth had gone to the front, as untrue. He has been ordered to return to the rear for an exchange of prisoners is untrue. Butler will not be interfered with.

Calo, March 25.—In a fight at Trinity, on the Wichita river the iron-clad Helena, which was Admiral Porter's flag-ship, was damaged considerably.

Twenty iron-clads are now lying at the mouth of the Red river ready for the coming expedition up that stream. The ram Accrion has also gone to the fleet of gunboats.

The Cadets, with a full cargo of ammunition, collided with the Gen. Price and sunk on the 10th, near Natchez. Boat and cargo a total loss.

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Lieutenant-Colonel Sanderson has been sent to Fort Warren. Gen. W. F. Smith, was yesterday nominated as Major-General in the place of Grant promoted.

Porter's special Washington dispatch says it is understood that Gen. Fremont will be assigned to the Department of South Carolina, and that Gen. Gilmore is to have active command in the field.

A special dispatch to the Post says: The new call for troops accords with the plans of the military campaign which have been laid out by Gen. Grant. It is understood that he asks for a large number because the country expects him to close the war within the present year.

The Post's special says: The President has taken measures to enforce the Enrollment law in the State of Virginia.

A bill will be introduced into the Senate today to deprive all deserters, escaped into British Provinces, from further privileges of citizenship, unless they immediately give themselves up for military duty.

Knoxville, March 25.—There was some slight fighting beyond Mission Station yesterday, in which the rebel Col. Jones was killed. All quiet along the lines and at Chattanooga today.

Chicago, March 25.—There is considerable excitement in Kentucky, caused by the action of the Federal authorities in enrolling slaves in that State preparatory to the draft. Gen. Brantlett has issued an address which is as follows:

Frankfort, March 25.—Fellow Citizens: In view of the disturbance of the popular mind produced by the enrollment of slaves for the army in Kentucky, it is deemed prudent to make the following suggestions for the benefit and guidance of the loyal men of Kentucky: Your indignity should not allow you to commit acts of violence or unlawful resistance. Stand by the law, and if any commanding officer refuses or neglects to use his utmost endeavors to arrest an officer or soldier under his command, and hand him over to the civil authorities for trial when officially advised of these facts, the Executive Government will prefer charges, and demand a court martial, and if a Court-martial and in accordance with law, arrest and strip your rights. It is our duty to obey the law as declared by judicial decision, to be unconstitutional. Citizens may be arrested under the imperative mandate of the Constitution, and just compensation for property so taken for public use. 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brother returning, neither could he be sure that Mr. Redfern came straight from the coppie; he came from that direction.

The testimony of the Squire's daughter had added nothing to the hopefulness of Godfrey's case. The excitement, indeed, seemed to reach its height, and the throng its greatest density during his brief examination; but the cross-questioning about the time of the supposed murderer's return; the state of his dress—his manner and words—was pitilessly uncomplaising, even in the respectful compassion which softened the questioner's voice, and made his marks of interrogation less sharp.

And then there had occurred a little bustle in the crowd as the Squire went to take care of his daughter, who had fainted; and perhaps the general excitement and expectancy received rather a stimulus than a quietus from that casualty.

There seemed, however, to be little doubt as to the result of the trial. Godfrey Redfern had met his brother in the coppie, had been heard to use threatening language; the significant remark had been made that "it was the last time for one of the two"—time had proved which one. At the end of the coppie nearest the pool there were marks of a desperate struggle and it had been proved that Mr. Godfrey Redfern left the coppie alone. Mr. Redfern, the elder, asserted that his half-brother had taken him by surprise and felled him to the ground; that he, Godfrey, was stunned for the space of some seconds, he could not say exactly how long; that when he did recover he had looked round for his brother, but failed to see anything of him. He was then so dizzy from the fall that he had to cling to a tree for some time before he could stand upright. He never saw his brother alive afterwards.

It was, however, remarkable that Godfrey should have returned baffled, and, by his own admissions, unconscious of the loss of his hat, and that the hat should have been found on the brink of the pool, which he stated he had never crossed. A feeling of satisfaction began to creep over the Squire as a voice in the crowd muttered eagerly, "He'll be hanged for all he's a good, as sure as his name's Redfern;" and another responded, "Unless they make it manslaughter." And then all at once he was conscious of a hand insinuating itself over his arm, and a bit of soiled paper was dashed at the court.

The next moment he had left the court.

CHAPTER IV.

"All we want is your promise that you will take no advantage of anything we may say to hurt us."

"Is it about Mr. Redfern?"

"Your promise first, sir."

"Promise! of course I promise. Good God, man, if you know anything to right the innocent, here on earth can you stand to barter about it?"

"We must look to ourselves, and we have wived and children, Squire. However, you have promised; and even if it concerned a bit of poaching, you wouldn't hurt a man for doing you a good turn?"

"The Squire made an impatient gesture.

"Well, then, I was there; we were both there, in the park, that night."

"Go on."

"We were in hiding from the keeper. We are not regular poachers, Squire, though I dare say you'll always suspect us now; but we were hard up. The gun you heard was mine; it went off unawares. I'm not used to a gun, and I was dragging it through a hedge after me, full cocked. The report scared us a bit, but we thought perhaps it mightn't be noticed, and after we had got away from the place we agreed to wait a bit and see if anything happened, for, as I said before we were hard up, and there wasn't a morsel to eat in my house. We got into the bushes by the big pool. Once or twice we thought we heard voices, but the wind carried them away. All at once a man came out of the coppie towards the pool. "Keep close," my mate whispered; "his young Redfern from the Hall."

"Mr. Godfrey Redfern?" interrupted the Squire.

"At first I thought it was, but he came close to us, and the moon shone full on his face all at once out of a cloud, and I saw that it was Mr. George."

"You will swear that?"

"I'll swear it wasn't Mr. Godfrey, for Mr. Godfrey's alive, and that chap isn't. He came close to the bushes, and he was looking wild like, and talking to himself. And all at once he turned his face up to the sky and said, 'quite loud,' 'God forgive me, if there is a God.' There's the very words, for I've heard 'em in my dreams since, many a time. And then he threw up his arms, and there was a splash."

"You saw all this," cried the Squire excitedly, and yet made no attempt to save him?"

"Well, I did do just that. My mate was for darting out, but I held him back. Just you look at it, sir; how did I know but what the keepers might come up at any minute? We had no business in the park at all, and if a man has got a name for poaching, there's nothing people wouldn't suspect him of. Over and above being caught with a gun, it would have been awkward for either of us to be found meddling with a drowning man. Anyhow, I didn't fancy risking it."

"And you held in your hands the clearing up of this horrible story, and yet wanted to be sure I would look over the poaching before you would tell it?"

"We didn't know it was going to turn out this way; the general notion was that Mr. Redfern would get off, and then we should have peached upon ourselves for nothing. As soon as we dared, we went out of the bushes, but the body must have sunk like lead, for there was no sign of it. As we went through the coppie I stumbled over something, and stooped to look what it was; it was a hat. I thought, if it belonged to the drowned man, I'd rather have nothing to do with it, so I pitched it after him towards the pool. That's all, sir, and we are ready to tell it wherever you like."

Saved!

A great shouting and uproar, a triumphant procession, from which Godfrey would have been hidden, and at which the poor Squire cast looks of mingled wonder and satisfaction. It certainly was all wonderful, like an ugly dream. The whole thing had a certain element of unreality about it which he could not rid himself of.

That Godfrey Redfern should have actually been arrested and tried for murder, escaping only at the last moment, when his condemnation seemed inevitable. That he,

the Squire of Beechwood, should have been on the spot, firm in his own conviction of Godfrey's innocence, and yet powerless to help him in the slightest degree. It was beautiful! It seemed like a judgment upon the contemptuous security with which he had argued about such cases.

And then the shouting people set the bells of the principal town church to ring, and Godfrey leaned back in the Squire's carriage, and hid his face.

Those bells must have fallen like a melon-blossom upon Isabel, waiting in dull misery for the verdict, looking with hopeless eyes upon the spires and chimneys of the town wherein the light of her life threatened to go out. For surely some miracle must have saved him, or joy-bells like those would never sound in her ears to mock her misery. Never were bells so beautiful before; never was the roll of wheels so musical an accompaniment.

"Bismuech my son," said Mr. Slow, shaking his head with oracular and owl-like profanity, "it is not well to know too much, my boy; your father never did—he knew too much for that. Thoughts is perplexing, and the human mind, Bismuech, is too precious a thing, to be worn out with too much friction. Don't abuse the gift of nature, my son, 'cause nature's one of 'em she is. Don't investigate anything new, my boy, 'cause there's a thousand odd things of more consequence to look arter—the first which is number one. New notions perplexes the mind, dear—there's full enough fools in the world who like to look arter such things, without troublin' your precious head about 'em; 't wouldn't be a cent of benefit to you."

"Call 'em all humbug and moonshines, and them as believes 'em all lunatics and scoundrels, and that will save you a many dissections, and give you a dignity, and prudent folks make money. Philosophy and scions and then things is humbug and everything is humbug but money. Mind I tell ye."

Mr. Slow ceased, overcome by his own eloquence.

The editor of a Norfolk paper, in looking over some musty records of Virginia, came across the following:

"At a Grand Assemblage held in James City in the year of our Lord, 1616, were passed manie acts to the glorie of Almighty God, and publique good of this his Majesty's Colonie, among which is set out by the said Assemblage, 'That any man causing scandalous suits to be ducked.' Whereas, oftentimes many labbling women often slander and scandalize their neighbors, for which their poor husbands are often brought into chargeable and vexatious law suits, and cast in great damages. Be it therefore enacted by the authority aforesaid, That in actions of slander occasioned by the wife as aforesaid, after judgment found for the damages, the women shall be punished by ducking! And if the slander be so enormous to be adjudged a greater damage than five hundred pounds of tobacco, then the women shall be ducked head and heels once for each five hundred pounds of tobacco so adjudged against her husband, if he refuse to pay the fine imposed."

The Confederate girls carried things with a high hand when the rebellion first broke out. The Nashville Union says "young men were persecuted, dragged, and actually kissed and hooted into the rebel army. The beautiful young mistress curled her lip in scorn, and turned haughtily away from her most favored suitor, if he hesitated to fight against his country. Hundreds of the most talented and accomplished young men of this State, whose first impulses were for the Union, trembled for a moment before this tempest of female fury like aspen leaves in an equinoctial gale, and then bowing their heads before the pressure, went away sorrowfully to treason and to death. Not the Syrens of the Greaves sang more treacherously to the shipwrecked mariners, than thousands of the daughters of Tennessee sang to the young men of the State; to their friends, brothers, and lovers."

The man who pays the largest personal tax in New York city lives in the same house in which he kept a store for some fifty years; in the back yard, whenever he does wash at all; take a basket and goes out to buy a little food, which a woman in the house prepares for him. He sells no goods at present; but adds to his vast wealth daily, by lending money on good security, being just as shrewd, keen, and close, as he ever was, though he is much beyond seventy years of age. Alas for the poverty of riches!

An Indianapolis editor attending church last Sabbath, for the first time in many years, stopped at the entrance, and looking in vain for the bell-pull, deliberately knocked at the door, and politely waited until somebody opened it and let him in.

The following laconic epistle may be seen in the window of a London coffee-shop: "Stolen from this window a china cup and saucer; the set being now incomplete, the thief may have the remainder at a bargain."

Dr. Franklin observes:—"The eyes of others are the eyes that ruin us. If all but myself were blind, I should neither want fine clothes nor fine furniture."

Although one Swallow will not make one Summer, still a pin maliciously inserted in a chair will make one Spring.

Punch truly says that in the shadow of a small waist may be seen a large doctor's bill and the outside of a coffin.

Ladies, if your husbands could you for buying too expensive cuffs, give them a few smart ones to quiet them.

It is proper for people to mend their highways and still more to mend their low ways.

Milk-maids and shepherdesses are the best kinds of cow-bells and sheep-bells.

The fire of genius, however brilliant, seldom has power to warm the heartstone.

Error loves to walk arm in arm with truth, to make itself thought respectable.

Be pure but not stern; have moral excellence, but don't bristle with it.

Low as the grave is, you cannot climb high enough to see beyond it.

An exchange calls scrofula "the potato rot of mankind."

A young enchantress may in time come to be called an old witch.

The most troublesome fools are those who have some wit.

The Farmer's Corner.

Communications on Agricultural subjects, from subscribers and others, are invited for these columns.

Preparation and Culture of Land. The prevailing error I think to be this: Too little spade before, and too much work after plowing."

The above quotation is taken from an article over the signature of "Clifton," in the Cotton Planter and Soil for January, instant. It contains (in a nutshell) important truths. My design in sending up my annual contribution to the Farmer and Planter, is to go somewhat more diffusely into this subject.

On all sides it is agreed that plowing—stirring the soil—is necessary in tending our crops; but many do not appear to have any clearly defined object in doing so. It is a practice that has been handed down from sire to son; and the farmer of the present generation does it because he learned it from his predecessor. I do not say this sneeringly; great respect is due to long-established customs. They are, most generally, the result of matured and well-tried experience; and I stand with those who are opposed to hasty and untested innovations. But this doctrine must not be carried too far—we live in a progressive age, and certainly have yet much to learn.

And now, I have opened up a subject which, properly discussed, would fill a volume; but I must be short; a page or two of your journal is as much as I can claim. In enquiring, what are the objects of plowing? The first object of plowing is, to prepare the land for the growth of the intended crop; this is often called breaking up. What we aim at here, is to prepare a bed loose enough for the roots of plants to spread in every direction. It is clear then, that the soil should be finely crumbled, and loosened deeply; as deeply as the roots of plants are likely to go; this is the first object. The second is, to admit of the descent of rains and dews, so as to supply the necessary moisture.

A third is, to admit the atmospheric air, which acts in various ways. 1. Germination cannot take place without it. 2. The decomposition of the vegetable matters turned under, cannot take place without it; and 3. It helps to liberate earthy salts, and to form new combinations, which favor (in fact, are necessary to) the growth of plants. Some of these modes of action, and their effects, are pretty well understood—some of them perhaps, are not fully understood. But I have not room to enlarge. From the above, however, it will appear that we should break up our lands thoroughly and deeply.

MODE OF BREAKING UP. Every one must decide this for himself. Much will depend upon the nature and condition of the soil. Generally, when there is a good growth of weeds, or other vegetable matter to be turned under, it should be done with a turn-plow, single or double horse, followed, when the subsoil is close, with a coulter or scouter, so as to loosen, but not bring it up. Very often, when land has been long plowed to a certain depth, a hard pan or crust forms at this depth, and this ought, by all means, to be broken up. When there is little or no crop, or where there is a tough sod of grass, the scouter or coulter is a very good instrument for breaking up; perhaps as good as any.

TIME OF BREAKING UP. On this subject there seems to be much difference of opinion. I incline to think that on all stable lands, when there is a good coat of vegetable matter, the earlier it is turned under the better—early in the Fall or Winter, whenever and as soon as other necessary business will permit. By doing so, we expose the larvae of insects, which are apt to infest such lands, to the winter frozes—the frosts help to pulverize the soil, and the vegetable matter is undergoing decay, and producing various chemical combinations, useful to the intended crop. In clear ways, and perhaps in some stiff clays, even although they be in stable, I would prefer breaking up late; so late as just to finish the operation at planting time. So much for breaking up.

To complete the preparation for your crops, as soon as you are done sowing out, commence laying off your cotton ground, with a deep scouter-furrow; on this sower your manure, and ridge with two deep twister-furrows; finish the bed when you come to plant. For the corn crop, as far as your nature will go, adopt the very same process, except as to finishing the bed in clear ways, it is not already well broken. In low grounds, the bed should always be completed before planting. On my high lands—that portion which I cannot manure—my practice has been to run a deep horizontal scouter-furrow in laying off, and on each side of this, about a foot distant, another deep scouter-furrow; thus leaving two ridges. When I come to plant, I open with a shovel, and cover with two scouter-furrows, splitting the two first ridges, and making one in the center. By this mode I have a thorough stirring of the soil when the corn is planted.

CULTIVATION ON TILLAGE. It is here that I think our farmers are most at fault. They prepare their soil for the easy spread of the roots, and sponges of plants, and then, in their after culture, cut these off, as if they were useless appendages. In clear ways, it is not already well broken. In low grounds, the bed should always be completed before planting. On my high lands—that portion which I cannot manure—my practice has been to run a deep horizontal scouter-furrow in laying off, and on each side of this, about a foot distant, another deep scouter-furrow; thus leaving two ridges. When I come to plant, I open with a shovel, and cover with two scouter-furrows, splitting the two first ridges, and making one in the center. By this mode I have a thorough stirring of the soil when the corn is planted.

Each department of this great farm is under the charge of an able farmer. A blacksmith shop repairs all the iron parts of the implements, machines and tools; a carpenter shop is constantly occupied with the wood work; a cook feeds the army of hands, and the great dining hall is under perfect systematic management; the gardener raises tons of vegetables for the men; the dairy cows are under the charge of a man constantly in the saddle, and who sees that each plowman has his allotted work, and everything in running order; and the whole is under the charge of a general superintendent, who reports daily to the proprietor. Accounts are kept of everything, and at the end of the year it is known with accuracy what every bushel of corn has cost, how much labor every animal has done, and in what direction the greatest profits are made.

In a discussion at an agricultural club, a wag recommended the farmers to put snuff on their corn, so as to make the crows sneeze, and then to shoot the sneezing ones as the rogues.

There are but two ways which lead to great aims and achievements—energy and perseverance. Energy is a rare gift, it provokes opposition, hatred and rejection. But perseverance lies within reach of every one, its power increases with its progress, and it is but rarely that it misses its aim.

A dashing and fashionable widow says she thinks some of suing some gentleman for breach of promise, so that the world may know she is in the market.

What is the difference between a milkmaid and a swallow? Oats skims the milk and the other skims the water.

Wrinkled purses make wrinkled faces, but fullness of the money-bags maketh broad countenances.

He who spends all his time in sports is like one who wears nothing but fringes, and ends nothing but sauce.

well. With those run over the crop every two or three weeks, until it is "laid by," which should always be before its great effort at fruit-making has commenced. Let us not interfere now; pull off your shoes, and tread lightly, for we are in the Temple of Nature, where the great mystery, or work of fructification is going on. All we can do is to lift a prayer with the Poet of the "Seasons":

"Be gracious, Heaven, For now, laborious man has done his duty."

Why Seeds Fail. PRACTICAL HINTS.—Frequent failures are made in cultivation which are unjustly charged to the seedsmen. Seeds are sown, they do not come up, and they are set down as old or imperfect. While such seeds are doubtless sold by some, our experience is that respectable seedsmen generally send out reliable seeds, and that the want of success is often the fault of the sower.

In treating of the vitality of seeds in a late number of the American Agriculturalist, it was shown that there was no general rule as to the time that seeds would keep; so seeds after being sown differ as to their power of resisting decay if the circumstances are unfavorable to their immediate germination. Three conditions are necessary to the growth of all seeds, viz: air, moisture, and a sufficient temperature. Any one of these failing, the seeds will not grow. The amount of heat required for germination varies greatly with different seeds; that of the common chickweed will start at a temperature just above freezing, while those of some tropical plants commonly cultivated germinate at a temperature of 50 to 60 degrees. Moisture is required not only to soften the seed coat, but to enable the germ to grow, and too little or too much is equally fatal to success. If the soil is too dry the seeds remain unchanged, and if an excess of moisture is present, the seeds, if delicate, will decay.

In well drained soil the proper amount of water is held by capillary attraction. The third requisite, air, is always present in recently worked soil. All the conditions being favorable, there is a great difference in the time that seeds require for germination. Place under similar circumstances, it has been found that wheat and millet germinate in one day, beans, radishes and turnips in two, and lettuce in four days, while melons and cucumbers require five or six, and parsley thirty or forty days. The seeds of some trees and shrubs remain in the ground one, and even two years before they germinate. The common causes of failure with good seeds are: too deep or too early sowing, and excess of moisture. When small seeds are planted too deeply, the vitality of the germ is exhausted before it can reach the light and air necessary to its growth; such seeds should be barely covered with soil, and if there is danger of the surface becoming too dry, it should be shaded. Very small seeds may be sprinkled on nicely prepared soil, and then lay a board upon the surface until they start. When sowing is done too early, the ground is too cold, and many seeds rot before it becomes of a proper temperature to cause germination. Too much moisture in the soil excludes the necessary air, and thus one of the requisites being wanting, the seeds decay.

A Large Farm. C. D. Bradford, corresponding editor of the Rural New Yorker gives a detailed account of his visit to the celebrated farm of M. I. Sullivan, Champaign county, Ill., which he is bringing into cultivation, having personally occupied it two years. This farm is seven miles long and five and a half wide; it contains twenty-two thousand acres. In May, 1862, eleven thousand acres of this farm had been enclosed, and subdivided into fields of a section or two, more or less each. He had a large force building fence, and a month later he expected to have twenty thousand acres enclosed. The soil is a rich, deep, black loam, well adapted for raising corn and feeding cattle for profit; and has at present over 5,000 head of cattle. Of the 11,000 acres above mentioned, eighteen hundred were devoted to corn, three hundred to winter wheat, forty to oats, and fifteen hundred to meadow. The rest are in pasture. Twenty-two thousand bushels of corn were sold at forty-two cents per bushel that spring, amounting to over nine thousand dollars; and five hundred tons of timothy hay brought five thousand dollars. There are also four thousand under government, and some more on hand, and a large quantity of stock. Seventy-five spans of horses, seventy-five yoke of oxen and some mules are used in working it.

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Domestic Recipes.

To MAKE A HOT-POT.—To make this successfully, it is necessary to be provided with a deep glazed earthenware dish, with a cover fitting closely over it. Take a loin of mutton, first cut into chops, and then freeze them from fat and skin, and upon each chop lay a piece of butter the size of a marble. Peel some potatoes, and cut them into thin slices. Place first a layer of these sliced potatoes at the bottom of the dish, at the top of these a layer of chops, seasoning them well with pepper and salt, then a mutton kidney, and some oysters; begin again with a layer of potatoes which are cut into four quarters. Pour in half a pint of gravy, a tablespoonful of mushroom ketchup, the same quantity of walnut ketchup, and the liquor of the oysters, which should be strained carefully. Place the cover firmly on the dish, to keep in the aroma, and bake for an hour and a half to two hours, according to the oven. The dish is sent to table, with a napkin pinned round it. For a moderate sized hot-pot, three dozen oysters and three mutton kidneys were requisite. If an onion flavor is preferred, either onions or mushrooms can be substituted for the oysters.

TIMBALS.—This dish, if cooked with care, is an excellent plan for using up cooked meat. Boil some macaroni in milk and water for five minutes. Butter a bloaten mould well, and place the macaroni in rows all round it; then fill the mould with forcemeat made with either chicken or veal, or any other dressed meat which may be at hand, adding to it a little lard or bacon, pounded very fine and seasoned with the rind of a lemon grated, three small leaves of sage, chopped very fine; two cloves, a pinch of mace and nutmeg, an onion chopped small, salt and pepper to taste. Mix all these ingredients well together with two eggs. The whole must be steamed for one hour and a quarter, and served with white sauce.

DUTCH FLEMMEY.—Put one ounce of isinglass or gelatine into a jug, pour upon it a full pint of boiling water, and let it stand for half an hour, or until it is dissolved; then put it into a brass saucepan, adding the peel of one lemon and the well-beaten yolks of three eggs, half-pint of sherry, and loaf-sugar to taste. Let it simmer, or just boil up together; when this is done, put it into a cool place, until it is lukewarm, when add the juice of one lemon. Run it through a jelly-bag into moulds. This is a simple but an excellent sweet.

RIK MIEBIEK.—Swell gently four ounces of rice in a pint of milk, let it cool a little, and stir one ounce and a half of fresh butter, three ounces of pounded white sugar, the rind of a lemon, and the yolks of five eggs. Pour the mixture into a well-buttered dish, and lay lightly and evenly over the tops the whites of 6 eggs beaten to snow. Bake the pudding for ten minutes in a gentle oven. The peel of the lemon should be first soaked in a wineglass of white wine before it is added to the other ingredients.

COCA-NUT CHOCOLATES.—Take the white part of a cocoa-nut, three ounces of lard sugar, and half a gill of water. The sugar must be first dissolved in the water, and the cocoa nut (grated) to be added to it. Let all boil for a few minutes over a slow fire; let it get cold and then add the yolks of three eggs, and the white of one well beaten up. Put the mixture into small tins with thin paste at the bottom, and take in a slow oven.

BARLEY CREAM.—Take two pounds of perfectly clean oat, or three pounds of the scrub, free from fat; chop it well. Wash thoroughly half a pound of pearl barley; put it into a saucepan with two quarts of water and some salt. Let all simmer gently together until reduced to one quart. Take out the bones and rub the remainder through a fine hair-sieve with a wooden spoon. It should be the same consistency as good cream. Add a little more salt, if requisite, and a little mace, if approved. This makes light and nourishing food for invalids.

BEKRY HANSH.—Chop up three or four onions, fry them brown, and add a teaspoonful of flour, a little good butter, seasoning of salt, pepper and a sprig of parsley chopped very fine; and mix all well over the fire. Mince the beef very fine, add to it the sauce, and cook all gently for a short time. At the last thicken the gravy, and serve the hash with apples. A circle of poached eggs may be added.

TO STEW CELERY.—Take off the outside and remove the green ends from the celery; stew in milk and water until they are very tender. Put in a slice of lemon, a little butter and onion, and a good lump of butter and flour; boil it a little, and then add the yolks of two well-beaten eggs, mixed with a teaspoonful of good cream. Shave the saucepan over the fire until the gravy thickens, but do not let it boil. Serve it hot.

TO BOIL BEETROOT.—Wash and clean the root, but take especial care not to injure it, or the small rootlets growing from it, in the slightest degree. If the rootlets get broken, or the root be wounded even so slightly, it will spoil the color or sweetness entirely. Put it in warm water with a pinch of salt. A beetroot takes long to boil; it must be cooked until the outside feels tender to the touch.

ROOT VEGETABLES.—Turnips should be pared, have two washes, half through, cut in each, to hasten the cooking, and put in plenty of water, with a little salt. They must be boiled until quite soft (more than half an hour must be allowed), and mashed with butter, pepper, and salt. Carrots and parsnips must be scraped clean, boiled much longer, and served out in quarters.

A DELICATE PUDDING.—Take the yolks of five eggs, beaten very well, half a pound of pounded sugar, half a pint of milk, a slice of butter warmed in the milk, and a tablespoonful of flour. The sauce should be made of one glass of sherry, a little loaf-sugar, and melted butter. Bake the puddings in large tereps, turn them out, and pour the sauce over them.

A QUAKING PUDDING.—Boil a pint of the best new milk with two blades of mace, a little grated nutmeg, and a little ginger, when nearly cold; add to it the yolks and whites of five eggs, well beaten, a few almonds, and sugar to taste; mix all together with two tablespoonfuls of flour. Boil it half an hour.

Salads will blanch very white—one spoonful is enough for a kettle of clothes.

San Francisco.

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