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NO. 5.

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A True Heart.

The King of Terror slew the heart,
So gentle, meek, and kind;
The heart that never knew deceit;
The heart that answered mine.

Since thou art still, fond, loving heart,
Why should I wish to live;
In agony forever,
Earth hath no joy to give.

While dreaming of the loved one dead,
Sweet memories o'er me steal;
Ah, when I wake no loved one's near,
How sad my heart doth feel.

Where is the heart that knows no pain?
The heart that ne'er responds—

Chatham, Va.

That is as firm, unchangeable
As the golden sun.

None but the heart that knows no care,
That will ne'er ache again,
That was true, though now dead,
That caused no bosom pain.

Had we more hearts so fond, so loving;
Had we more hearts like thine;
Life would grow sweeter day by day,
No heart would ever pine.

Love, thou hearest not my weeping,
As I with flowers strew
The little mound that now contains
The heart now dead, though true.

L. C. M.

Indian Commissioner Atkins wants every Indian youth who graduates to marry an Indian maiden at once; and he wants the Government to set them up in housekeeping.

Genius is not a meteor, a beautiful

flower, simple ornamentation, an accidental excrescence of mortal existence, but an outgrowth, the legitimate product of toil, persistent effort, unflagging industry, such as the average mind can attain when the necessary conditions are adopted.—*Dr. Hanaford.*

Future History of Virginia.

To the political economist, as well as to all who love the Old Dominion, an inquiry into the future history of Virginia cannot fail to be of interest.

Any one familiar with her splendid past, and her present, naturally asks what is her future to be? From some considerations, the out-look is not propitious. Undoubtedly, the presence of the negro, who is not only here, but here to stay, is now, and will prove hereafter, a serious drawback to the State's prosperity. This is evident from the fact that the negro is of an inferior race—the lowest of all the races—and that he occupies room in our midst which might otherwise be filled by honest workingmen of the white race. But not to consider the space occupied by the sons of Ham, white workingmen will not, as a class, come to Virginia because they are unwilling to labor side by side with the darkey, and his being here thus prevents immigration of a desirable class.

Again, as long as the negro is in our State and his race votes almost as a unit, the white people will unitedly oppose him, and the two races will be perpetually—with exceptions when some such issue as the State debt settlement arises—arrayed against each other. As the whites are in a majority, and are likely to remain so, it is probable that there will be no change as to the party in power, except at very rare intervals. This is not for the best. No party which is in power for a very long period will continue to govern well. It is not safe for the people to bestow power on *any* party for a long time, or unlimited power for even a short time. Acting upon this lat-

ter principle, the people of New York State have shown their good sense by choosing, for some years past, their legislative and executive departments of government, the one from the one party and the other from the other party.

That the present party in power in Virginia does not at all times guard the people's interest as it should, is evident from the defeat, in our last Legislature, of the thirteenth section of the Munford bill—a measure intended to relieve the people from the oppression of railroad monopolies.

But the evil of the negro's presence will decrease as he becomes educated and elevated, and the prejudice against him is lessened, with the years.

Again, we are inclined to take a gloomy view of Virginia's future because of the seemingly hopelessly unsettled condition of the State debt. But it is more than probable that this question will be *settled*, and settled soon. The people are tired of it, and they are going to rid themselves of it, *ni frustra augurium vani docuere parentes*.

But to the mind of the thinker, the prospect for Virginia's future is very bright. Her future will be noble because her sons are going to make it so. There are scarcely any people in the world who have such stimulants to success as have the people of Virginia. With the examples contained in the glorious history behind us, in which there appear a galaxy of great names and deeds that will glitter with unsurpassed lustre in the Temple of Fame, and of which any State in the annals of history might be proud, to enthuse us to great and noble

actions, and with comparative poverty, which compels men to exert themselves, and thereby develops genius it would seem that such influences are brought to bear on those who are to shape the future of Virginia as the people of no other State of this Union feel.

For attaining real success in life and reaching the goal of highly developed manhood, the youths of Virginia are far better off than they would have been if the war had not made them poor. Perhaps, it is hard for some of them to realize this, but it is the *effort* that makes the man, and *Forsan et haec olim meminisse juvabit*.

The young men of our State are to determine her place in future history. Virginia! Young men, guard well that name, and keep it bright in future days! The eyes of your heroic fathers who fought for you, rocked in your cradles at home, are upon you. Do not fail in peace to uphold the honor and advance the interest, of that State for which many of your fathers died.

It is difficult to pass on without something said about the brave men who yielded up their lives in defending the soil of their native State.

They and their deeds are immortal.

"Soldier, rest! thy warfare o'er.
Sleep the sleep that knows not breaking;
Dream of battle-fields no more,
Days of danger, nights of waking."

His slumber indeed knows no breaking, till the resurrection morn, but he is wrapt in the folds of glory!

"Hands unseen thy couch are strewing,
Fairy strains of music fall."

The "Hands unseen," are the hands of a loving friend, who steals away, all alone, to scatter roses on his grave.

The "Fairy strains" are those that the angels sing above the hero's grave.

There are similarities, both in the geographical positions and in the histories of Virginia and the ancient State of Athens. It is said that the Parthenon at Athens, and the rotunda of the Virginia University, are on precisely the same parallel of latitude. It would seem striking that the Temple of Wisdom of the noblest of the Grecian States, built by the greatest architect of Athens, should be thus related to our temple of wisdom—that of the noblest of the American States—built by one of Virginia's greatest architects, of buildings and of government.

There is a marked period in the history of Athens, up to which time she had almost unbounded prosperity. The same is true of Virginia. The Peloponnesian war corresponds with our civil war.

As up to the close of the war with Sparta, Athens held the Hegemony of Greece, and produced a list of great names which are scarcely rivalled in ancient history, so Virginia, up to the close of the late war, held the Hegemony of the American States, and gave to the world a list of great names which are not excelled in modern times. Athens led the other States in the war that crushed her. The same is true of Virginia. But Athens' great orator flourished after the war which laid his country low, while Virginia's

"Forest-born Demosthenes,
Whose thunder shook the Philip of the seas,"
lived before our late war.

The student of Greek history will see in the character also of the typical Athenian much to remind him of the race of Virginians—the dashing cavaliers. From

this standpoint Virginia is like Athens, and Massachusetts, whose Puritan settlers resemble much the sturdy Lacedaemonians, is like Sparta.

But the *future* of our State will be very different from Athens' history subsequent to the Peloponnesian war. Athens would have recovered, and renewed her youth, if she had not have been perpetually under the iron heel of tyrants, who gave her no opportunity to rise. There is little probability that Virginia will suffer the same fate, and be visited by other wars, but rather there is a great probability that, in an interrupted series of years of peace, the energy and genius of the sons of her great of the past, which now lie smouldering for a while, will burst forth into a brilliant flame, lighting the other States on the road to fortune.

And let us not though sometimes tempted, ask of Virginia, as was asked by England's greatest poet of Athens:

"Where, where, are thy men of might, thy great in soul?"

And reply:

"Gone, glimmering through the dream of things that were."

but believe that Virginia's sons will do honor to her name again.

But, if we inquire into the future of Virginia from another point of view—that of her material resources, we shall find that her geographical position, her characteristics of climate and soil, her agricultural and manufacturing facilities, and her mineral wealth, all indicate that she is to be one among the first, if not the first, in the sisterhood of States. Why the Great West is not in the near future to make the largest shipments to foreign countries which are made *via* the Atlantic

seaboard through our State, it is difficult to understand.

A glance at the map will show that for many points on the Ohio our capes are nearer than any point on the ocean, and one hundred miles nearer than New York.

Moreover, the capes, or points on our deep rivers, are nearer a large majority of foreign countries to which shipments are made than more northern points on the Atlantic.

Virginia's springs are early, her autums rival those of Italy. There is here less difference in extremes of heat and cold than in any State of the Union.

When our farmers—those of eastern Virginia are more especially referred to—learn that they cannot compete with the West, in raising the cereals, and begin to farm on a basis consistent with the state of affairs existing in the country *now* and not on the *ante-bellum* basis, agriculture will be profitable.

As the populations of the great cities on our coast increase, the demands for trucks and vegetables will increase.

Does it not seem that the farming interests of eastern Virginia would dictate that her light soil be, as are already parts of New York, New Jersey, and Maryland, one large garden for supplying the demands of these cities? Trucks cannot be raised in the West to such advantage as on the soil of Tidewater Virginia, which is admirably adapted to this class of farm products.

Our State produces certain superior brands of flour and tobacco which can be had nowhere else. Virginia has great facilities for manufacturing, and her wealth in the future depends largely upon whether her people engage more or less

extensively in this industry. What has been the most potent factor in elevating rocky and naturally almost barren New England to that height of wealth and prosperity which she has attained? Manufacturing will enrich any country. It draws money to a section and holds it there. Virginia's mineral wealth is immense. Very few of her people have any adequate idea of it. She has great beds of coal and iron, the developing of which will enrich thousands. She has veins as rich in the precious metals as any California can boast.

Let Virginia's young men, remembering her past and emulating the examples of her noble sons, such as God-like Robert Lee, remain at home, and pursue with industry those call-

ings consistent with their environments.

If this be done, the land of our nativity, the land where our fathers lived and prospered, and built those magnificent residences along the banks of the grandest rivers in the world, but which are now simply vine-clad memorials of a noble past, will bloom again and blossom as the rose. And the bosom of the Old Dominion will heave with emotion as she sees the faces of her sons lit up with glad smiles of prosperity and joy, from the heights of the Alleghanies, which lift their heads in majesty towards heaven, pointing man to his final Judge, to where her shores are bathed by Neptune's waves, and the music of the ocean rolls in grandeur.

A. B., Jr.

Patriotism.

Instilled in the mind of man is a desire to become great. He takes pleasure in contemplating the wonderful deeds that are portrayed on the pages of history.

Inspired by illustrious examples he is led to the undertaking of Herculean tasks. And although his plans are not always realized, yet we have seen his laudable efforts, under the guidance of good motives and noble incentives, work the grandest results.

Aspiration moves us on to higher attainments, and too often, alas, do we flatter ourselves that we are great, when in truth we are only in a position to see our insignificance. But the man who has bled nobly in the interest of his native land, is not duly praised when the motive which prompted his action is

withheld from our view. And so he who has never felt the power of patriotism, which fills the soul of man with noble deeds to his fellow-creatures, cannot, and does not, fully appreciate the motive which actuates the patriot to sacrifice his life in behalf of his country's cause.

With an unrelenting determination and ever-burning devotion for the welfare of a cause dear to him as life, he stands at his post, and with the courage of a true man, strikes for his altars and his fires, nor does he cease until the last armed foe expires. Such for fidelity and promptness in all the relations of life, has ever been the character of those to whom the world has willingly accorded a place among the illustriously good and great. Never did there escape the lips of the poet a truer saying than "life is real life,

is earnest"; and he who has given his life as a ransom for his country's freedom has deserved as a recompense, honors as bright and undying as ever shone in a victor's wreath or gemmed a monarch's crown.

In looking back upon history's gilded page we find here and there a memorable form whose undying devotion to his race and love of country have written him among the imperishables of the past, and around whose memory gathers a halo of splendor and greatness that the obscuring clouds of centuries have failed to dim, but which is destined to gather increasing effulgence as the generations to come shall climb to a higher point of observation and enter more fully into the sublime motives that inspired his conduct. When sectional hate and political animosity have ceased to burn in American bosoms, will the patriotism of those who fell in defence of the lost cause be vindicated; the charge of treason forever hushed to silence, and their libation upon the altar of State rights and political liberty be cherished as a priceless offering, and an heirloom of freedom to generations yet unborn. And yet the man who has never felt the inspiration of patriotism burning within his soul cannot judge with a true appreciation of him who meets at the threshold the invader of his country's liberties, and bending all his powers with that zeal which love alone inspires, resolves to conquer or to die. Let us take a retrospective view of the past and trace in our imagination the records of those whose names have been rendered dear to us by the principles which they so zealously embraced and bravely maintained. Go to the famous battle-fields, and there, bending

with silent form, ask the lone slumberer why it was that he so nobly fought and died; why it was that he preferred to sleep on some lone field of carnage with no canopy but the vaulted skies, and the answer is wafted back upon the gentle zephyrs that the cause of this was patriotism.

Yes, 'twas this benign principle of benevolence under the guidance of heaven that actuated a Washington to contend so bravely for the liberty of his countrymen; and so justly has he been called the father of his country, who, uniting the endowments of the hero, the virtues of the patriot, and exerting both in establishing the liberties of his country, has rendered his name dear, and given to the world an immortal example of true glory.

The ambition of heroes and braves who have essayed to write their names above that of Washington, has been admired; but how much worthier that youth's resolve to write higher than any upon the hearts of his survivors, the record of his consecrated labors of love. With undaunted resolution he ever strives to lift the banner of his cause higher, and with that determination which overcomes all opposition, with no vice as his idol, no name as his end, but with love as his incentive, liberty as his god, marches forward and places upon the rampart amid the exultings of his fellow-men the flag of well-earned freedom. Again and again he strives to contribute the best energies of his noble manhood to that common fund from which he and his fellows every day must draw, or drink unsweetened the bitter cup of life.

Patriots have toiled, and in their country's cause bled nobly. In cherishing the memory of their great and good names,

let us remember that it is this philanthropic sentiment of the unselfish soul that sweetens all of life's fountains, beautifies her landscapes, distills her odors,

fructifies her fields, and presides as tutelary goddess over all her banquets of pleasure and feasts of love.

PRIMUS.

Character of Balaam.

[Biblical Lecture delivered at Richmond College, January 12th, 1887, by Rev. ANDREW BROADUS, D. D., of Caroline county, Va.]

In nothing, perhaps, is the genius of McCaulay more conspicuous than in his skill as a limner of character. His pen pictures of men are equally distinguished by accuracy of drawing, richness of coloring, and minuteness of detail. The Biblical descriptions of character—if descriptions they can be properly called at all—present a marked contrast to those of the great English historian and essayist. The personal records of the Bible are only outlines or sketches, and they never attain the fulness even of “studies,” if I understand what the painters mean by this phrase. This plan, though less attractive to superficial readers than the more elaborate method, yet to the thoughtful and studious, has some advantages over it.

The strength of the *general* impression is somewhat weakened by minuteness of detail. What is gained in finish is partially lost in force. McCaulay's pictures are complete in the most minute particular. They leave nothing to study, to inference, or to the imagination. On the other hand the personal sketches of Scripture are frequently eminently suggestive, and, by a legitimate process of deduction, may sometimes be filled up so as to present striking, vivid, and life-like portraits. We are to learn the character of those whose names appear in Sacred His-

tory, not from any detailed description or minute analysis of feelings, motives, and aims, but from their recorded words and actions, and these convey the most correct, and sometimes the most vivid impressions of character. In filling up the sketches of character contained in the Scripture, however, while legitimate inference is allowable, and while, to a certain extent, even the imagination may be indulged, yet care should be taken that nothing is inferred contrary to the truth, and that conjecture never assumes the form of dogmatic assertion. Bearing this in mind, I shall endeavor to delineate, as best I may, the character of that rather strange being who made his appearance near the camp of Israel not long before they passed over Jordan into the promised land.

It is a question which has been much debated whether Balaam were a true prophet of the Lord, who had become demoralized by association with the heathen and by the mastery of a debasing passion, or only a diviner, magician, or fortune teller. My own view will appear in what I have to say farther on. It is a matter, I judge, of no very great moment, and one in regard to which we may not reach a very positive conclusion. But while, on this point, there may be difference of opinion, there are certain features

in the character of Balaam so prominent as to be beyond dispute. That he was a man of great astuteness, and of commanding talents, there can be no reasonable question. Of this, evidence is furnished by his wide reputation for wisdom extending from the Euphrates in Mesopotamia to the land of Moab on the Dead Sea. I know that shallow tricksters and charlatans have, for a season, acquired an undeserved reputation for wisdom; but they have generally been soon found out; or where this has not been the case with a pretender, he has at least indicated a knowledge of men, which in itself, is no mean talent. But the *character* of Balaam's reputation more than its extent furnishes proof of his talents. Balak says of him, "I wot that he whom thou blessest is blessed, and he whom thou cursest is cursed."

From this it seems that Balaam had previously, perhaps, in several instances foretold success or disaster probably to some nation about to engage in battle, and that the predictions had been verified by the event. We cannot suppose that such predictions were inspired by God, and whatever Balaam may have pretended they could not, of course, have been the outcome of his divinations. They must then have been the fruit of his foresight and judgment. His capacity to comprehend the situation and his insight into the characters of men made it safe for him to predict the result of a contest between two peoples with whose resources and capacity he was familiar, and this gave him a merited reputation for discernment and wisdom. But still stronger proof of Balaam's talents is found in the counsel he gave Balak, which, being followed, seduced the children of Israel into idolatry and adultery.

By this artful device he secured indirectly the "rewards of divination," which he had been prevented from directly receiving, being held back by the hand of God from cursing Israel. This stroke of policy, while it secured to Balaam what he sought, at the same time was the means of obtaining for Balak, in large measure, what *he* desired. Balaam could not himself curse Israel, but he instructs Balak as to how God might be induced to curse them, and this he knew would be infinitely worse for them than any curse *he* could inflict. Balaam certainly was so far acquainted with the God of Israel as to know that jealousy and purity were two of his attributes, and hence that idolatry and adultery were sins peculiarly heinous in his sight. He, therefore, skilfully counsels Balak to seduce Israel into the commission of these sins as the surest means of bringing on them the Divine displeasure, and the event proved that the counsel was wise.

But in the history of Balaam there is nothing in which he displays talents of so high an order as in the "parables" or prophecies he utters in regard to Israel. I know it is said that he was to "speak only the word which God should put in his mouth." But by this I understand that he was to give expression only to such sentiments as God should dictate, while the language in which these sentiments should be clothed was left to his own choice, and in all the range of prophetic inspiration there is no language more impressive, sublime, and eloquent. As Balaam stood on the mountain, and looked on the camp of Israel spread out below him, as he noted its vast extent, as he marked the regularity and order of the encampment, as he gazed on the gorgeous

Tabernacle in the midst of the mighty host, and as his eye followed the mysterious cloud upward till it was lost in the blue ether, his soul was fired by poetic fervor, and in tones no doubt suited to the grandeur of his theme, he poured out the prophetic strain—

“Balak the King of Moab hath brought me
from Aram,
Out of the mountains of the east, saying,
Come, curse me Jacob, and come, defy
Israel.
How shall I curse, whom God hath not
cursed?
Or how shall I defy, whom the Lord hath
not defied?
For from the top of the rocks I see him,
and from the hills I behold him:
Lo, the people shall dwell alone,
And shall not be reckoned among the na-
tions.
Who can count the dust of Jacob,
And the number of the fourth part of Is-
rael?”

And then, as if there mingled with his glowing admiration of Israel a consciousness of his own corrupt character, he closes with the pathetic and half-despairing cry, “Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his.”

Balaam united in no mean measure the poetic genius of a Byron with the subtilty and craft of a Metternich or Talleyrand.

Balaam added to superior intellectual capacity very strong religious feeling. He was eminently a religious man. Being descendants of Shem, Balaam's people had probably maintained the knowledge and worship of the true God, mingling with it the worship of other deities. Like the Samaritans, at a later period, they “feared the Lord and served their own gods.” Of this kind of worship Balaam was the most prominent

and distinguished leader. He recognized the superior authority and power of Jehovah, and feared to transgress his direct command. Yet, by his “enchantments,” he sought the guidance and aid of inferior dieties or spirits, so far as these could be rendered in subordination to the supreme authority.

Thus, while offering sacrifices to the true God, he selected the “high places of Baal” as the position for his altars, hoping that while the sacrifices might be accepted of Jehovah, he would at the same time propitiate Baal, the god of the Syrians and Phenicians. That Balaam regarded the approval of the Deity as of supreme importance is shown by the fact that he would say nothing and do nothing till the seven altars were erected, and the fourteen victims offered at each of the places selected for the purpose. The time, the expense, and the trouble involved, were not considered by him for a moment when compared with the performance of a religious duty. And so religion pervades all he says, and directs all he does. I turn aside from the direct line of remark before me to make, just here, one or two practical suggestions.

Balaam was a very religious man, but his case shows that it is not enough to be very religious—nay, it proves that the more religion a man has the worse off he is if his religion be of the wrong kind. Decided religious views and practices are deep-rooted, and it is hard to eradicate them. Those who have paid little attention to religion, and have no fixed opinions in regard to it, receive the truth much more readily than such as have adopted an erroneous religious system and are active and zealous in maintaining it. It was the eminently religious

class—the Scribes and Pharisees—that rejected the Saviour, while the “publicans and sinners,” who made no pretensions to religion, heard him gladly. Let us see to it, then, that our religion be of the right kind; for otherwise it will be worse for us than if we had no religion at all.

The mention of Balaam’s altars and offerings suggests another practical remark, and it is this: that the observance of a positive institution must be exact, or it is not obedience at all in the eyes of God. Balaam offered burnt sacrifices. Burnt sacrifices were required under that dispensation. He offered oxen and sheep. They were the animals God had designated to be offered. He offered these animals on altars of earth or unhewn stone. Such were the altars that God had pointed out as proper to be used. It might be said that as all that was *material* in the institution of sacrifices was found in these sacrifices offered by Balaam, they should have been acceptable to God. But apart from the motive or spirit required in such a service, Balaam’s sacrifices were radically defective in that they did not conform *exactly* to the divine requirements. Sacrifices were to be offered; but they must be offered not on “the high places of Baal,” but at the door of the Tabernacle. Sacrifices were to be offered; but they must be presented not by Balaam, but by the priest of the order of Aaron whom God had appointed to that office. It would have been well for Balaam if he had learned the lesson which Samuel afterwards taught Saul, that “to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken, than the fat of rams.” And it would be well if the same lesson were learned by some in modern times who contend that the

ordinances of the New Testament are properly observed if all that is *material* be included, forgetting that *everything* God has commanded is material.

But to return from this digression. I have shown that Balaam was eminently a religious man. I may add that his religion, unlike that of some others, was not merely theoretical. It rendered him, to a certain extent, both conscientious and obedient. He would speak only what God directed. He would go only by God’s permission. He would turn back after he had started if God said so. What more could be required? In seeking for the defect in Balaam’s conscientiousness and obedience, it will be found in that quality, propensity, or principle which was his dominant characteristic. This is indicated by the apostle when he says he “loved the wages of iniquity.” It was the love of money—the desire for “wages,” though they might be “the wages of iniquity”—that made him willing to curse Israel if he had been permitted to do so when Balak’s first message came to him.

It was this which induced him to seek such permission when the second message was received. It was with the secret hope in his heart that when he met Balak he would, in some way, secure the “rewards of divination” that he started on his journey. And it was with the hope that he would propitiate the Deity, and thus secure the permission he sought, that he erected his altars and sacrificed his victims. Between Balaam’s supreme love of God and his fears—between this love, too, and his admiration of Israel—there were sore conflicts. But, in the end, the ruling principle conquered, as it always does conquer. Though he could

not directly curse Israel, yet, in the end, he secured the desired object by the artful policy which has been already described.

The history of Balaam suggests to my mind two practical reflections in addition to such as may already have been mentioned. Balaam's case bears testimony to the truth that "the love of money is the root of all evil." From the time when Balaam's love for the wages of iniquity brought destruction on himself and death to thousands of the Israelites, all along through the ages down to this day, this poisonous root has been sending up all over the world, shoots whose baleful print has inflicted misery and ruin on millions. It has been forcibly said by an English writer that "mammon is a god worshipped in every land without a single temple, and by every class without a single hypocrite."

And in no land and at no period has this worship been so universal and so ardent as it is in our own land, and at the present period. For reasons too obvious to need mention, the thirst for gold is more intense, and the struggle to obtain it more sustained and arduous in this country, than they ever have been anywhere in the past. But as an "evil tree cannot bear good fruit," no matter in what soil it may be planted, or in what age it may flourish, so the love of money still bears its direful fruit of crime, and vice, and pain, and tears, and death. How sedulously, then, should we guard ourselves, and how earnestly should we warn others against the danger of having this noxious plant take root in the heart.

But the most obvious, and at the same time, the most important, practical re-

flection suggested by the history of Balaam, is that character is determined and destiny is decided by the *ruling principle*. After all, Balaam's character was moulded and his conduct guided by the same sort of influence that controls other men. In every man's breast there is some one ruling principle—some master passion, or purpose, that dominates all other feelings and aims. Other feelings and propensities may have an influence, but when they come in conflict with the ruling principle they give way.

In every case there is a supreme purpose, and the character of this purpose determines the character of the man and his destiny as well. "To whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death, or of righteousness unto life eternal."

Almost every week the papers report the defalcation of some honored and trusted fiduciary. And surprise has frequently been expressed that men who for years have maintained a spotless reputation, and have been, perhaps, active and esteemed members of churches, should at last prove to be dishonest.

The secret of it all is not far to seek. In such cases the love of money, the eager longing to be rich, the desire for display, or self-seeking in some form, has been the dominating principle. It may have been held in check for a season, but in the end it has proved its mastery by conquering every other feeling. Let such cases, young gentlemen, the case of Balaam among them, impress you with the necessity of having a pure and high purpose as the governing principle of your feelings and conduct. And remember that the only principle that can be relied on to conquer

temptation, whatever form it may assume, is found in supreme regard for the will of God. Making this the governing principle of your lives, you will fail of "the

wages of iniquity," but you will secure gold which can never be corrupted, and treasure that never can be lost.

The Sleet.

BY ST. LEGER L. CARTER.

Awake ! awake ! the sun is up. Awake ! and sally forth,
We've had a rain of jewelry from out the frozen north.

The earth is robed in dazzling white ; each tree is hung with gems,
And diamonds, in ten thousand shapes, are hanging from their stems.

Each bush, and every humble shrub, with precious stones is strung,
And all the brightest, purest things by hand-fuls round are flung.

The emerald, and the amethyst, the topazes behold !

And here and there a ruby red is sparkling in the cold.

The chrysolite and jasper see, and that bright sardian stone

The holy Patmos prophet saw upon the heavenly throne.

There all the gold of Ophir shines, with all Golconda's store,

And who could ever number up the countless myriads more !

The Holly, in its darkest green, with crimson fruit looks gay,

Embossed with solid silver, too—how rich is its array !

In green and gold the shaggy Pine seems almost in a blaze,

With all the sun's reflected light, with all his mellowed rays.

The Cedar—Oh ! thou favored tree ! In Scripture it is told,

They laid thee in the House of God, and covered thee with gold.

But, great as was King Solomon, he, nor the house he made,

Was dressed in such magnificence as thou hast here display'd.

The Beech tree stands in rich array of long and shining threads,
Its brittle boughs all bending low to earth their drooping heads.

And now and then some broken limb comes crashing from on high,

And showers adown its world of gems that sparkle as they fly.

The lofty Oak !—the hundred-limbed Briareus of the trees—

Spreads out his ponderous, icy arms, loud crackling in the breeze :

And, as the roused-up lion "shakes the dew-drops from his mane,"

So does the woodland monarch shake his crystals o'er the plain.

But time would fail to tell of all that bright and starry host

The north wind brings "to witch the world" from out the realms of frost.

The meanest thing, the most deformed, the dry and sapless bough,

The bramble rude, the rugged thorn, are pure and spotless now.

"Ye councillors of earth" come forth ! "ye princes who have gold,"

Bring here, ye kings, your diadems, the jewelled crowns ye hold ;

Come, Woman, in thine ornaments, in all their costly sheen,

And let them be the loveliest that ever graced a queen.

This grass that's trodden under foot, this weed with branching arms,

Thus glittering in the morning sun has thousand-fold their charms.

Then cast your baubles vile away, and bend in solemn thought

To Him who hath this gorgeous scene from storm and tempest wrought.

Yet this fair pageant soon must fade before
the breath of noon,
And by the fiat from on high your wealth
shall fade as soon.

Oh ! lay not worthless jewels up, which "moth
and rust" assail ;
But such as at the Judgment Day through
Jesus will prevail.

What ! though the sun so soon must melt this
frost-work and its forms,
He speaks them into life again who rides
amid the storms.

So, "in the twinkling of an eye," at His last
trumpet dread,
Our bodies, fashioned gloriously, shall rise up
from the dead.

The sun goes up his destined way : how few
attend my calls !
In tears the vision melts away, "the baseless
fabric" falls.

I, too, could shed my tears. Alas ! that
this sweet scene is past,
For scenes as sweet it brings to mind, which
fled away as fast.

Reading.

As a source of pleasure and profit, as a channel of information and wisdom, as a means of intellectual cultivation and improvement, it is difficult to estimate the importance and value of reading. We live in a reading age. There is everything to stimulate people to read. Never before were there so many books, papers and periodicals accessible to everybody. The literature of to-day is so varied in the matter and style of composition and in the manner of publication, and so thoroughly adapted to every peculiarity of individual taste, that it presents to the minds of the people a grand banquet or feast in which there is everything to satisfy intellectual hunger and to create an intellectual appetite. But although nearly everybody now reads to some extent, all do not read from the same motives, nor keep, while reading, the same objects in view. And it is with our books as in other matters. We get just about what we seek for and aim at. The amount of wisdom and knowledge and intellectual cultivation that we derive from reading, depends very much upon the motives and objects that prompt us to read—depend very largely upon what we read for. If

we read solely for amusement or pleasure, that is, if we have no object beyond the present in our reading, we will derive just this and nothing more. Besides, to read in this way and invariably to select those books that will best serve this purpose, will not only fail to make our minds stronger, but will really make them weaker. Just as he who associates habitually with clowns and wags will surely bring his own mind down to a level with theirs.

Some read because it is popular and fashionable. They read from a negative motive,—*not to be*, rather than *to be*, and of course can only derive from their reading a negative benefit. Their reading will probably keep them from appearing ignorant or awkward, it may keep them from appearing behind the times, &c. ; but when they read from such a motive they cannot derive any direct, positive benefit or pleasure. Others read in order to appear wise, not because they really love knowledge and prize information for its own sake, but simply to appear learned. But those who read most wisely are those who read with a desire and a purpose to be benefited. They also

derive just as much pleasure as others do—pleasure which does not consist in forgetfulness or simply from being amused, but the pleasure of a higher and a more real motive. The pure pleasure that results from the acquisition of knowledge and from the consciousness that we are profitably as well as pleasantly engaged.

The proper motive in reading will aid us in determining the important question as to what we shall read—a question which we cannot leave to our own taste and inclination. If pleasure and entertainment alone were to be considered in reading, regardless of what effects or consequences their supremacy might lead to, we might allow them to dictate. But if we read with the desire to be benefited, then our selection of what to read must be made with reference to this object. It is not, I think, the least of the many indirect advantages that reading affords that if we allow our judgments thus to guide us in the selection of books, we may really correct bad taste and restrain hurtful tendencies of character. When two friends having dispositions and characters very unlike, which is often if not generally the case, each one serves to correct opposite traits in the other which might become ungovernable if not restrained, or if encouraged and stimulated by association with one possessing the same traits.

It is so with our books. A proper selection, guided by a proper motive, may be indirectly very helpful in restraining and suppressing bad tendencies in taste and character, while an injudicious selection, guided by these very tendencies and traits themselves, will only serve to excite and stimulate them. We can see, then, that our

own good may make it necessary, both for our moral and intellectual discipline, for us to read what we dislike to read.

When shall we read, is an important but perplexing question. The quality and amount of our reading too often depends upon how we settle it, or whether it is settled at all. If we read irregularly we cannot read systematically. With most people it is difficult, I know, to have a regular time for reading. With some, because they are so busy; with others, because they are always liable to be interrupted. And yet if we fully appreciate the importance of it we can succeed in arranging to appropriate a certain time for reading, and in not allowing it to be consumed in any other way. In fact, to do so may be really beneficial to us in itself, because to set apart this hour or half hour for reading may cause us to set apart other hours for other things, and thus lead to general habits of method and system by which we can greatly economize time. Having a set time to read we can read connectedly and systematically, without which we cannot read profitably.

How to read is another important question. It is, I suppose, quite plain to all of us that we do not derive as much benefit from our reading as we might. The reason of this doubtless lies in the manner of our reading. It is not how much we read that decides the amount of benefit that we receive, but how well. Reading is nothing but a channel through which the mind derives food, and of course unless this food is digested and becomes a part of the mind it fails to do us good. So then as we read we must digest, and to digest is to understand. But how can we understand unless we can see from the author's stand-

point? In order to accomplish this we must, as far as possible, identify ourselves with him, enter into his feelings, rise to his conceptions. To do this, of course involves very close attention and consecutive thinking, in both of which, however, habit will greatly assist us.

To remember what we read is a thing to be aimed at, I know, and we should read with a view to remembering what

we read and endeavor to cultivate our memory. But the benefit that we derive is not in proportion to what we remember, except in so far as remembering is connected with reading well.

For if while reading we thoroughly digest, our minds are made stronger, although we should forget. Just as the food that we eat day by day goes to support and nourish the body.

Merits of Chivalry.

When I speak of chivalry I mean a military institution, prompted by enthusiastic benevolence, sanctioned by and combined with Christianity, the purpose of which was to protect the weak from the oppression of the powerful, and to defend the right cause against the wrong. When Charlemagne had expired like a meteor that, having broken suddenly upon the night of ages, and blazed brilliantly over a whole world for a brief space, fell and left all in darkness, even deeper than before.

His dominion, which he had subdued to his imperial sway from the ruinous wreck of the Roman Empire, was divided into petty kingdoms, his successors were waging long and inveterate wars against each other, the nations he had subdued were shaking off the yoke, the enemies he had conquered were avenging themselves upon his descendants, the laws he had established were forgotten or annulled, the union he had cemented was scattered to the wind, and in a lamentably brief space of time, the bright order which his great mind had established throughout Europe, was dissolved into confusion. Each individual

who, either by corporeal strength, advantageous position, wealth or habit, could influence the minds of others, snatched at that portion of the divided empire which lay nearest to his means, and claimed possessions which he did not before own.

Numerous chiefs more or less powerful held local sway as far as they could enforce their dominion. The powerful and the wicked had no restraint upon their actions, and the weak were everywhere oppressed and wronged. Bands of plunderers raged throughout the whole country; property was held by the sword, cruelty and injustice reigned supreme, and the whole history of that country offers a complete medley of massacre, bloodshed, torture, crime and misery. The high culture which once characterized the chief glory of that kingdom seemed to have relapsed into primitive barbarism.

In such a state of things the rights of the humbler classes of society were at the mercy of every assailant. Woman, now the pride of an enlightened race, was then looked upon as the serf of man. And by the deranged law, which was but the oppressive enactments of the proud nobility,

inferior man was bowed down as the slave of the feudal barons. But the world becoming tired of barbarity, a reacting spirit was born out of the very bosom of confusion. And so the spirit of chivalry, like the flame struck forth from the hard steel and the dull flint, was kindled into sudden light by the savage cruelty of the nobles and heavy barbarity of the people. Thus it is that chivalry was cradled and nursed in the sentiment of those who were incarcerated amidst the gloomy and inaccessible dungeons of the lords, which framed an ideal of the heroic character, combining invincible strength and valor, justice, modesty and loyalty to superiors, courtesy to equals, compassion to weakness, and devotedness to Christianity.

And its rude beginning may be marked in the patriarchal manors which preceded every known frame of artificial life, and have been shaped and modified by the legislator and moralist. The ties of companionship in arms, respect to elders, devotion to women, military education and military investiture, were the few and simple elements of chivalry; this was a new and mighty spirit, which was influencing the world and binding to its purposes every principle and affection. Christianity with its sanction gave form and character to this grand institution. He who was invested with the military belt was no longer the mere soldier of ambition and rapine, but was taught to couch his lance for objects of defence and protection, rather than for those of hostility. He was the friend of the distressed, of widows, orphans, and of those who suffered from tyranny and oppression.

By chivalry, woman was restored from her degeneracy to the rank in the moral world which nature had originally as-

signed her, and feelings of respect for the sex which were entertained in the early and unsophisticated state of Europe were heightened by new sanctions of piety. The knight looked to fame as one of the guerdons of his toils; the degradation which had smothered the people for many years taught him to dread shame and disgrace, and thus the fine sense of morality, that voluntary submission to its maxims which we call honor, became a part of knighthood. Europe, with her active courage, her jealousy of honor, her superior religion; Asia, with her proud and lofty deportment, her fervid and sublimated imagination, and the magnificent ceremonial of her pomp formed the knighthood of the middle ages, and in consequence of this influence of orientalism on his character he represents the stateliness of chivalry.

It awakens the most splendid and romantic associations of the mind. It first taught devotion and reverence to those weak, fair beings who but in their beauty and gentleness have no defence. It first raised love above the passion of the brute, and by dignifying women, made woman worthy of love. It gave purity to enthusiasm, crushed barbarous selfishness, taught the heart to expand like a flower to the sunshine, beautified glory with generosity, and smoothed even the rugged brow of war. The triumphs of chivalry over all preceding systems of opinion were complete, when imagination refined the fierceness of passion into generous and gentle affection—a refinement so perfect and beautiful, that subsequent times with all their vaunted improvements in letters and civilization, are obliged to revert their eyes to the by-gone days of the shield and the lance for

the most pleasing and graceful pictures of respect for woman. For long, Christian religion had struggled alone, a *great* but shaded light through the storms of the dark and barbarous ages.

Till chivalry arose, its glorious power was not fully known; but from that moment with a champion in the field to lead forth the knowledge that had been imprisoned in the cloisters, the influence of religion began to spread and to increase;

thus we conclude it was chivalry that bridged the chaos of the dark ages, and connected antiquity, adorned by its intellect, with modern splendor. Chivalric imagination still waves its magic wand over us; and courtesy of manners, that elegant drapery of chivalry, still robes our social life; and liberality of sentiment distinguishes the gentleman, as in days of yore it was wont to distinguish the knight. NONPLUS.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

Among the large and noble gifts of philanthropists within the last few years there should be noticed the name of the generous Lick, a California millionaire, who a few years ago devoted a large sum of money to the construction of a gigantic telescope. This telescope, when completed, will be placed in the observatory on Mount Hamilton, near San Francisco, and will be the largest instrument of its kind ever constructed by mortal man. If successfully arranged, it will doubtlessly be a noble gift to astronomy, and will reveal many of the hitherto secret mysteries of the skies.

We may gather some idea of the size and power of the Lick telescope from the fact it has a focus 55 feet long, nearly fourteen feet longer than the longest focus in the world, but, like all modern telescopes, it is a refractor. The most important part of a telescope is the lens. The lens is formed of two discs of glass, one concave and the other convex. The discs of the Lick telescope are three feet in diameter.

There is said to be great difficulty involved in getting a rough lens of this

size and bringing it to perfection. The labor which it involves may be judged from the fact that it took the Paris glass-house five years to procure this lens, and now it will require several more to polish it to the exact proper trim necessary. The Lick lens is now at the shops in Cambridge, Mass., where it is polished with the greatest dexterity and skill by moving it back and forth over an iron plate sprinkled with a friction powder called crocus. The lens is by this process brought gradually and slowly from a spherical to a parabolic curve. It is impossible to think what dexterity has to be employed in the process. If the slightest difference in thickness exists on either side of the glass the whole process has to be begun over again, until every part is of the most exact and harmonious thickness. The glass has to be faultless, exact, and uniform.

It is no wonder that, requiring so great trouble and labor, the lens of Lick's telescope will cost not less than fifty thousand dollars, and the weight of its two discs will be at least seven hundred pounds.

When this monster telescope is com-

pleted and is turned for the first time to the heavens, it will, indeed, mark a new era in the science of astronomy. Many may be the revelations which this instrument shall disclose to the eye of science. It is said that this instrument will bring the moon, which is two hundred and forty thousand miles from the earth, to within one hundred miles. It will not be possible, to be sure, to discover individuals on its surface. But if the moon is inhabited, and the people traverse its plains in large bands, or build ships of commerce upon its waters, or forts for war-like purposes, these objects will undoubtedly be of sufficient size to be discerned through Lick's "star gazer."

Astronomy should congratulate itself on this philanthropic gift to the science and the probability of soon being able to penetrate the silent depths of space which have heretofore been far beyond the ken of the astronomer's best instrument, and we should be proud that such an instrument is planted on American soil, and is the gift of an American gentleman.

Perhaps teaching has not been reduced to a science. There are many things which hinder any special method. Those who criticise methods and complain at the want of success which attends certain men who follow teaching, perhaps do not consider the many disadvantages which are connected with the teacher's work. There is one thing, however, that every instructor should bear constantly in mind, that the object of his work is not so much to impart knowledge as to draw out and develop the powers of mind, that it may be prepared, and given the tendency, to acquire knowledge. It is true that the cultivation of the memory is important.

But the power to remember by rote is not a test of a strong intellect, while the power to remember facts in an arranged order, or with such accuracy that the thought they contain can be clothed in other words, may be regarded as one element of a good mind.

If this be true, a student's recitation is not essentially good if he repeat *verbatim* the treatment of a subject given in his text-book, nor by no means to be considered bad, if he produces the thought of the text clothed in his own words. The thought is more valuable than its dress, and who wants to be a slave to another's phraseology? Language in a general sense is the common property of all men, but when a sentence is constructed, or a paragraph is written, in the order in which it is composed, it is the author's private property. Plagiarism consists not in taking the thoughts of others and re-arranging and re-clothing them according to one's own taste and style, but in taking both thoughts and the language in which they are expressed, word for word, and appropriating them without giving their author credit for them.

If a student is required in recitations to give not only the sentences in brief of the text, but the precise adjectives used by the author, will he not form a habit of thinking altogether in the words of others, and fall into literary theft because he has failed to develop the power of individual thinking? One of the pleasant(?) remembrances which many students of Richmond College carry away with them is the recollections of the Greek classroom (the interrogation mark above is necessitated only by the fact that some did not "get through"), and in that room,

when a student begins to quote the text, he is invariably requested to use his own words. Why not? They are men as capable of finding out the truth regarding the subject taught as the author of a Greek text-book.

In the last number of the *Messenger* we intimated something further concerning the address of Mr. Bagby, of Brazil. We have already said that it was good, but that is not saying enough. The information it contained concerning the country and the people who live there cannot fail to interest a student of history in both. Brazil is one of the most fertile lands on the globe; its products are as varied as any other country; the climate is mild and healthful. Mr. Bagby said that Java gets the credit for a vast amount of coffee sent us, which credit belongs to Rio Janeiro; that our chief supply of coffee is from Rio, and that half of the caoutchouc used in the world comes from the forests of Brazil. It would require a long article to discuss all the features which were mentioned to show that it is a desirable country in which to live. Yet it contains a vast extent of unsettled land, and there is scarcely any immigration to Brazil.

We naturally inquire why is this so? The answer to this inquiry is suggested by the fact that Mr. Bagby is sent there as a missionary. But why send missionaries to Brazil? Would it not insult her people not to call them Christians when they have been claiming this title for three hundred years? Here is another example of what Roman Catholicism enforces whenever she holds sway, and the many evils which grow out of the union of Church and State. There is every

kind of superstition, scepticism and idolatry that can be invented extant in this so-called "Southern Land of the Cross." Men believe and teach every doctrine except the truth, and are as ignorant of what the word Bible in their own language means as they are of the book's contents.

Some may object to the treatment of this subject in a college journal, and for the benefit of those of our readers who do not peruse other journals of like character, we will state that more than one article on this topic have appeared recently discussed by our contemporaries. Why not discuss a living subject, one that involves our national, educational, and religious interests, rather than repeat a eulogy in honor of some long-dead and perhaps ill-deserving Greek or Roman?

It is due them to say of Roman Catholics that there is not a moral, conscientious sect in the world. But the tendencies of their principles are not observed in this country, where the influence of other more liberal institutions counteract their development. They are potent enough in countries like Brazil, where they constitute the basis of government. The ultimate effect of their predominance is to create and foster superstition and scepticism. All these tendencies and results are the outgrowth of one underlying principle—that which deprives man of his individuality and makes him a slave to formulated creeds and the dictates of a hierarchy. As was recently said by a converted priest, who is most capable of expressing the truth on this subject: "One of the sublimest rights of man, and one recognized by the Creator in all His dealings with man, is his freedom of will and individual choice." Nothing so dwarfs the human intellect and so cripples

ples the possibilities of human greatness as the deprivation of these rights; and the privileges conferred by religious liberty are extended too far when a government allows a people under its dominion to crush the powers and usurp the highest rights of men and women by

compelling them into the thralldom of monastery and convent life. The world can never expect to see the southern continent take its place in prosperity and progress among the other nations of the earth until some revolution shall wrest it from the dominion of priestcraft.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

A TON OF COAL.—There is more in a heap of coal than most persons are aware of. Besides gas, a ton of gas coal will yield 1,500 lbs. of coke, 20 gallons of ammonia water, and 140 lbs. of coal tar. Destructive distillation of the coal tar gives 69.6 lbs. of pitch, 17 lbs. of creosote, 14 lbs. of heavy oils, 9.5 lbs. of naphtha yellow, 6.3 lbs. of naphthaline, 4.75 lbs. of naphthol, 2.25 lbs. of alizarin, 2.4 lbs. of solvent naphtha, 1.5 lbs. phenol, 1.2 lbs. of aurine, 1.1 lbs. of aniline, 0.77 lb. of toluidine, 0.46 lb. of anthracine, and 0.9 lb. of toluene. From the last named substance is obtained the new product known as saccharine, which is said to be 230 times as sweet as the best cane sugar.

IRON.

HOW TO PREVENT A COLD.—Under this title Dr. Brown-Sequard makes a contribution to the *Société de Biologie* which will be read with interest. Everybody catches cold more or less often, and nobody wishes to do so; hence Brown-Sequard's "method" ought to be popular. Under the name of a "cold" are included a number of acute catarrhal inflammations affecting the nasal, pharyngeal, laryngeal, tracheal, or bronchial mucous membrane. In this country we even apply the term to acute affec-

tions of the middle ear, the eye, the stomach, intestines, or bladder. The cause of these so-called "colds" is the influence of cold, damp air upon sensitive portions of the body, producing thereby a disturbance of the vascular equilibrium. The result is a congestion which settles down, perhaps with the help of microbes, as the late Dr. Austin Flint believed, into an inflammation.

The most sensitive parts of the skin according to Dr. Brown-Sequard, the catarrhal genetic areas, are the neck and the feet. In order to prevent "cold," therefore, one has only to harden these areas and destroy their sensitiveness. This is done by daily blowing a stream of cool air, by means of an elastic bag, upon the neck, and by immersing the feet in cool water. The air is at first only slightly cool, but is each day made colder, until the neck can stand an Arctic blast with impunity. The feet are immersed in water which is at first at a temperature of about 90° Fah., and this is gradually reduced to 38° Fah.

Dr. Brown-Sequard's method is only a more rigid and elaborate form of a very well-known practice—viz., that of daily bathing in cool water. It will, no doubt, be useful if the person is not aged or

weak. Such methods, however, seem after a time to lose their efficacy.—*Medical Record*.

THE PURITY OF MID-ATLANTIC AIR.

In the course of an address on the action of micro-organisms on surgical wounds, Prof. F. S. Dennis, of New York, states that during his last trip across the Atlantic he made some experiments to test the purity of the air about 1,000 miles from land. He employed capsules of sterilized gelatine, and exposed them for fifteen minutes. One capsule was exposed in the state-room upon the main deck of the steamer. Within 18 hours over 500 points of infection had developed. Two capsules exposed in a similar manner in a cabin on the promenade deck, where the circulation of air was free, showed five or six points of infection each ten days afterward. A capsule exposed over the bow of the ship was found to be entirely uncontaminated. These experiments are on the same lines as those of Pasteur and Tyndall upon the mountain air of Switzerland, and, so far as they go, they show the germless condition of mid-oceanic air, and also the need for much more efficient ventilation in the state-rooms of even the first-class American liners.—*Lancet*.

A POCKET CAMERA.—An English paper says Councilor W. J. Lancaster, of Colmore Row, London, has a very remarkable photographic apparatus, to be used for detective purposes or ordinary portrait photography. The apparatus is inclosed in a watch case, which opens in the ordinary manner by means of a spring. As the case opens, a miniature camera shoots out for a moment, shuts up again,

and the thing is done. The sensitive plates to be used for the camera are miniature dry plates, and a store of these is to be carried by the operator in a specially prepared locket to hang on the watch chain. We understand that the miniature apparatus has been very eagerly welcomed by the detective police, and that the authorities at Scotland Yard have decided to make extensive use of it. A detective who wishes to secure the portrait of a suspected character will only have to get close to his subject, and pretend to pull out his watch and look at the time, and the features will be registered. We may mention that for the sake of experiment, accurate and "speaking" likenesses were taken of a large number of the persons who mixed in the crowd at the recent Socialists' meeting.

THE GREEN RAY.—The green ray is a flash of emerald colored light, said to be observed sometimes for a second or half a second at the moment the sun's disk disappears below the horizon, and just when one sees only a very small segment of its surface. Tourists in Egypt and the Red Sea testify to the phenomenon. Some consider it objective, and others believe it to be subjective. According to a letter of M. de Maubeuge to M. Mascart, the well-known French physicist, the phenomenon has been several times observed in the Red Sea at the rising of the sun. M. De Maubeuge particularly noticed it, he states, in October, and the first impression of his eye and that of his assistant was a beautiful emerald green. He has also seen it at sunrises behind mountains elevated from 1 deg. to 2 deg. above the horizon. These observations tend to prove that it

is an objective phenomenon. He has also observed it at the setting of the sun. There was not the least cloud between the orb and spectator, and the air was pure, but humid. The same phenomenon has not been observed by him from the moon, Venus, or any star, although he has often looked for it in the tropics.—*Scientific American*.

IMPURE ICE AS A CAUSE OF DISEASE. The State Board of Health having been asked by the Board of Health of Syracuse to examine into the purity of ice taken from Onondaga Lake, from the Erie Canal at Syracuse, and from Cazenovia Lake, has not only made a careful investigation into the quality of ice from those sources, but has also prepared a report on the general question of the pathogenetic powers of contaminated ice. The Board comes to these conclusions: Ice formed in impure water has caused sickness; it may contain from eight to ten per cent. of the organic matter dissolved in the water, and in addition a very large amount of the organic matter that had been merely suspended or floating in it; it may contain living animals and plants, ranging in size from visible worms down to the minutest spores, and the vitality of these organisms may be unaffected by freezing.

ALLOYS.—In a recent lecture Professor Austen Roberts mentioned that the union of copper and antimony by fusion produces a violet alloy when the proportions are so arranged that there is 51 per cent. of copper and 49 per cent. of antimony in the mixture. This alloy was well known to the early chemists, but, unfortunately, it is brittle and difficult to

work, so that its beautiful color can hardly be utilized in art. The addition of a small quantity of tin to copper hardens it, and converts it, from a physical and mechanical point of view, into a different metal. The addition of zinc and a certain amount of lead to tin and copper confers upon the metal copper the property of receiving, when exposed to the atmosphere, varying shades of deep, velvety brown, characteristic of the bronze which has from remote antiquity been used for artistic purposes.

A COSTLY MACHINE.—The Waterville (Me.) *Mail* describes a machine invented by Prof. Rogers, of Colby, which inscribes upon a polished surface from 30,000 to 50,000 parallel lines in each square inch, and which is of much use in the conduct of his astronomical labors. It was not perfected without an outlay of several thousand dollars. A single screw, which is twenty inches in length, and employed directly in the inscription of the lines above mentioned, after several attempts at construction, was finally produced, only after an expenditure of \$3,000. The very limited use, the editor adds, to which the machine can be put, renders the procurement of a patent wholly unnecessary.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION OF WOOD.—Mr. Braidwood, superintendent of the London fire-engine establishment, stated before a committee of the House of Lords that by long exposure to heat not much exceeding that of boiling water, timber is brought into such a condition that something like spontaneous combustion takes place, and that it may take eight years for the heat from pipes

charged with or used to convey steam, hot water, or heated air, laid among the joists of a floor, or in the heart of a partition, or elsewhere in a building, incased in timber, to induce the condition necessary to the actual ignition of the timber.

In Pesth, Hungary, dynamite has been successfully used for driving piles. An iron plate 15 inches in diameter and $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches thick is placed in a perfectly horizontal position on the pile to be driven. A dynamite cartridge, in the form of a disk, containing $17\frac{1}{2}$ ounces of dynamite, is placed on the iron plate and exploded by electricity.

PETROLEUM IN AMSTERDAM.—A huge iron reservoir is being built at a remote spot in the outer harbor of Amsterdam for the storage of petroleum. It will be nearly 33 feet in diameter and of the same depth, and is calculated to hold 211,125 gallons. The petroleum will be brought direct from Russia in vessels specially constructed, and it will be

pumped out at Amsterdam into the tank, thus saving the expense of filling and emptying casks and diminishing the risk of accidents.

Professor Samuel P. Langley, of the Alleghany Observatory, Pittsburg, has received from the Royal Society of London the Rumford medal for meritorious discoveries in light and heat. The medal is of solid gold, 260 pennyweights, and is accompanied with a fac simile of itself in silver.

A SCIENTIFIC FISH STORY.—An Italian has discovered that fishes are fond of music. To one Signor Garetti the honor of the discovery is said to be due; and recently, with a party of friends, he is said to have tried the experiment on Lake Geneva, which proved quite successful. Musical notes, especially those produced by the human voice, attracted the fishes in great numbers around the boat. Fishermen should try the experiment.

LOCALS.

Session half gone.

What has become of all the Prep. mustaches?

Several students agreed not to shave for an unusual length of time. Their disappointment was not from what *came*, but what did not come. They concluded they must still be *shavers*.

Prep. Math., man on his way to examination room: "Look here, if Professor asks anything on those French measures,

like 'How many *metres* in a *quart*'? I am going to flunk."

Mr. E. went to the five-cent store to buy a stew-pan, and, — call around and get him to tell you about it.

A student who does not go into the lecture-room to try his examination, does not flunk *positively*, but *negatively*. Yet he *positively flunks*.

Mr. B. was criticised for his small appetite at the breakfast table. He re-

marked that it was probably due to his taking a *roll* every morning in bed before he got up.

Mr. J. A. Bostwick, of New York, has made Richmond College an unconditional donation of \$25,000. Quite a liberal sum, and wisely bestowed.

Mr. F. is said to have made the following peroration to a letter addressed to his paternal parent the other evening at 7½ o'clock: "The bells in the city are now chiming the midnight hour, so I must say 'good-bye.'"

UNLUCKY OMENS.—To call out "unprepared" on Friday.

To get *thirteen* mistakes on one exercise.

To have professor look *cross-eyed* at you when you are studying Sr. Phil. in Sr. Lat. class.

To have a joke fall *flat* in chemistry lecture. It is best to ease it down, if it strains you to a *grin*.

To petition the faculty for holiday Christmas. They granted one in '83, and last summer there was an earthquake.

To have the professor, in marking you, to put down the cipher and forget to prefix the unit.

We have found our professors curious to know so many things of us this month that the anxious public must excuse answers to their enquiries through "Letter Box" until next issue.

The students had the pleasure of attending two Biblical lectures in the chapel last month, delivered by able divines. We are glad to have the first, by

Dr. Andrew Broadus, to publish in this issue; the other, by Dr. James M. Stifler, of Crozier Theological Seminary, on "How to Read the Bible," we shall present to our readers, we hope, in full next month. Both lectures were largely attended, and very much enjoyed by all.

At the meeting of the Y. M. C. A. held January 8th, 1887, the following officers were elected: President, H. W. Williams; Vice-President, C. D. Roy, Treasurer, J. M. Wilbur; Recording Secretary, G. Y. Bradley.

The president has appointed the following standing committees: Soliciting Members: C. T. Taylor, R. L. Motley, and E. L. Flippo. General Religious Work: W. A. Borum, J. T. Johnson, A. J. Ramsey, W. F. Lewis. Missionary Exercises: W. C. Tyree, W. B. McGarity, T. R. Corr. Devotional Exercises in College: C. A. Folk, R. P. Rixey, and L. P. Russell.

A novel association has been formed at the college, known as the Anti-Tobacco League (limited).

The following pledge was circulated by a student, who, under a commendable impulse, "swore off" January 1st for a year:

"We, the undersigned, do hereby organize ourselves into an Anti-Tobacco League (limited).

"We pledge ourselves not to use Tobacco in any form from date to June 5th, 1887."

The pledge was signed by about twenty veterans of the weed, which number comprises almost the entire tobacco-consuming element of the college.

At the first regular meeting in Janu-

ary of the literary societies, the following officers were elected for the ensuing term :

Philologian Society : President, H. W. Williams ; Final Orator, H. W. Jones ; Vice-President, G. Y. Bradley ; Recording Secretary, W. H. Baylor ; Corresponding Secretary, H. R. Hundley ; Treasurer, C. T. Kincannon ; Critic, R. G. Austin ; Censor, D. H. Rucker ; Chaplain, J. M. Morris ; Sergeant-at-Arms, J. I. Ayres ; Hall Managers, J. T. Noell and J. W. Avery ; Final Committee, C. H. Baker, R. G. Austin, D. H. Rucker, J. W. Avery, W. H. Baylor, and C. T. Kincannon.

Mu Sigma Rho Society : President, H. F. Cox ; Final Orator, W. C. Tyree ; Vice-President, J. P. Massie ; Censor, M. A. Coles ; Recording Secretary, T. L. Lawrence ; Corresponding Secretary, T. H. Long ; Chaplain, N. B. Elsea ; Treasurer, E. M. Pilcher ; Critic, A. H. Hill ; Sergeant-at-Arms, W. C. Robinson ; Hall Manager, W. T. Creath ;

Final Committee, S. L. Kelly, E. B. Kinney, T. H. Long, W. O. Carver, J. M. Wilbur, C. W. Trainham.

At a mass-meeting of the students held Friday evening, January 7th, it was decided to have a Jollification at the close of the session. The talent in the college this year is promising, and we think that the reputation of Richmond College boys in this line will be fairly sustained.

The following officers were elected : President, W. A. Borum ; Secretary, J. T. Noell ; Treasurer, C. L. Laws ; Executive Committee—W. A. Borum, W. C. Robinson, H. H. Harris, Jr., and C. A. Folk.

The following sub-committees have been appointed : On Music—E. B. Kinney, C. B. Tippet, B. P. Willis. On Drama—R. C. Stearnes, C. D. Roy, and J. T. Noell. On General Arrangements, J. D. Martin, W. H. J. Parker, J. P. Massie, H. R. Hundley, and M. A. Coles.

PERSONALS.

J. Garland Paty, '86, is teaching in Smithville, Tenn.

W. W. Morton sailed February 5, for a trip abroad.

Charles E. Williams, '86, is in the cotton business in Norfolk.

Rev. P. G. Elsom, '86, was ordained at Stanford, Ky., January 23d, where he is preaching in connection with his course at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

J. R. Ward, '84, paid us a visit recently. The greatly increased breadth

of his corporeal dimensions makes quite a change in his appearance.

Nelson S. Groome is purser on the Luray, plying between Norfolk and the Eastern Shore.

J. L. Brown has accepted a situation in Danville and will leave for his future home about February 15th.

Jesse D. Abrahams, of Cumberland county, (1866-'68) has been promoted by the Secretary of the Treasury and upon recommendation of the Civil Service Commission, from presiding over a school

in Washington city to be Deputy Comptroller of the Currency. We reckon he will find greenbacks harder to manage than boys and bank accounts more intricate than vulgar fractions, but feel sure

that he will at least "control" enough currency to keep up his correspondence through us with the *Alma Mater* who taught him how to stand examinations.

EXCHANGES.

In the production of the New-Year number of the *Hanover Monthly* its editors seem to have put forth their very best efforts.

It is unusually well sustained throughout, but we rather think that its chief merit lies in the excellence of its literary department, where, in the carefully prepared articles, "New Year's Day," "Vive la Bagatelle," "Recollections of Prof. J. R. Lowell," "Thackeray," "New Year Rhymes," and "The Poet Bryant," it presents a very fine array of fresh, crisp, and entertaining matter.

The sanctum of the editors was gladdened recently by the arrival of an invitation from the literary societies of Wake Forest College to be present at their anniversary exercises February 11th. We appreciated the remembrance very much, and should esteem it a great favor, if our good friend the *Student* will kindly tender the marshals our thanks for their handsome card and our best wishes that the occasion may be a perfect success and in every way worthy of the college.

Oh, no! Come down, Mr. *St. Charles College Gazette*. If you can't answer the return shot of the *College Message*, don't hurl at it such scurrility as "Hit a dog and he will howl." Such an expression lacks point, and can't possibly do the

Message any injury, while on the contrary it lowers the *Gazette* in the eyes of its contemporaries and at the same time affects the dignity of the college press.

Our plucky little exchange of eight pages, the *Cue*, is certainly true to the spirit of its name when it speaks as follows of another paper:

"We 'despise not little things.' The *Buzzy Bee* has reached us. May your size increase."

We doubt not that some exchange editor of the fairer sex, as she sees this, will call it real "cute" in the *Cue*.

The *Cue* will understand that we don't mean anything derogatory by remarking upon its size, for we have always considered it a fine paper and a credit to the academy that produces it.

We found out just at that tantalizing moment, when a miss often seems worse than a mile, that in our notice of the Emory and Henry *Exponent* last month we used the very ungrammatical expression, "There is nothing truer in the management and publishing a college magazine."

We intended saying, "In managing and publishing," and should doubtless have better used the form of speech "in the management and publication of," but the use of the combination above men-

tioned was indeed a harsh and uncouth reception to give the first number of our excellent contemporary, and we can only hope that the *Exponent* will look at the intentions of our heart, and pass over in charity this error of the head, of the pen, or of careless proof reading.

We appreciate very much the complimentary remarks about the *Messenger* in the January number of the *Exponent* both for what they were and especially for the motive which prompted them.

It can hardly be called an advance movement for a magazine in changing from a monthly to a semi-monthly to drop from 28 to 11 pages, for twice eleven doesn't ordinarily make twenty-eight. We hope, however, that in the case of our excellent contemporary the *Indiana Student*, this falling off is only for the one issue, and that the final result of the change may be as great an improvement in the paper as the editors could wish.

We congratulate the *College Rambler* on the marked improvement in its outward appearance.

The open book on its new cover, showing the past all written up and the blank leaves for the future, is very appropriate and suggestive. The *Rambler* can, we think, look back over the leaves of its past history with pleasure and pride, while for the future we can only hope that it may ever be the same plucky, progressive paper that we have always found it in the past.

The *Fisk Herald* has the following in reference to Richmond College :

"The question, which of the colleges in Virginia, the South, or the country

at large, won the honor of being the first to establish a School of English, does not appear to be yet settled. Richmond College, however, repeats her claim and appeals to her record in proof of that claim. Let her have it."

Yes, *Mr. Herald*, let her have it if she deserves it, but otherwise not.

The agitation of this question was first commenced by other colleges very quietly appropriating to themselves the credit for this important move, when they had no sufficient grounds for so doing. Richmond College believed that the honor justly belonged to her, and, in order that she might do herself justice, and at the same time, perhaps, give some aid towards the final settlement of this question, she has, as your article says, given the figures on which she bases her claim of being "the first of all the institutions for higher education in this country—certainly in Virginia and the South—which put the English language "on its proper plane as of equal dignity with Latin, Greek, French, or German."

If any of her sister institutions can produce any evidence of an earlier move in this direction, let them do it; if they cannot, why, let them cease arrogating to themselves the credit for it, and do the handsome thing of giving the honor to the college to which the honor is due. From the spirit of the *Herald's* remarks we are quite sure that its opinion on this subject agrees with ours.

One rarely sees a finer article than the oration, "Forceful Language," in the January number of the *Normal News*.

In the first paragraph of the oration the speaker very ingeniously gets himself a subject, which is indeed a model one for the occasion, and at the same time

rivets the attention of his hearers by relating an amusing account of a man who, wishing to take the train, rushes up to the station just in time to see the train moving out; under which circumstances it was said that the man expressed himself in "forcible language."

This subject is then developed in a clear, forcible, and interesting style, ac-

cording to the following line of thought :

Forcible language must, of course, in the first place, be simple, and must contain as a second qualification the necessary element of truth; third, it must be the production of a man who is a close reasoner, and especially in the fourth place must the one who expects to produce it have individuality of thought.

COLLEGE NEWS AND FUN.

Wentworth's Geometry is used in 350 American colleges.

This is the time of year when a young man envies a bearded woman.

Virginia has \$1,650,000 worth of property in universities and colleges.

The University of Michigan has a department at Athens for the study of Greek.

Ann Arbor was the first American institution to introduce the co-educational system.

There are 210 active Young Men's Christian Associations in American Colleges alone.

Dr. McCosh's Psychology, published last June, has reached its fourth edition in six months.

The oldest college in America is the College of Mexico, which was founded fifty years before Harvard.

The University of Michigan was the first institution in this country to introduce the co-educational system.

At Johns Hopkins and other prominent schools in the country the plan of changing the Debating Society into a House of Commons is now in successful

operation. This idea of conducting the meetings of the literary societies after the manner of the sessions of the different houses of Congress, or of Parliament, is gradually growing in favor all over the country.

At the University of Virginia there is no class distinction, and no vacations except legal holidays. Chapel, recitation and lecture attendance is voluntary, yet examinations are rigid and exacting.

An Irishman who had on a very ragged coat was asked of what stuff it was made. "Bedad, I don't know," said he, "but I think the most of it is made of fresh air."

There are 5,357 students in the University of Berlin during the present winter term, the highest number ever attained by any German university.

"Well, really," replied his daughter, "I have had no opportunity of judging. I never met him anywhere except in society."

"Is he a young man of brains?" inquired an old gentleman respecting a swell youth.

It is reported that less holidays are granted at the University of Pennsyl-

vania than at any other college in the country.

The wife of the Mikado of Japan is a Vassar graduate.

Texas school fund is \$20,000,000, the largest in the Union.

What is the gamiest State in the Union? Tennis—see?

You can't have the last word with a chemist; he always has a retort.

Madison University does not allow its students to marry during their course.

Wake Forest College has invited Talmage to deliver its commencement sermon.

APART FROM MATHEMATICS.—Experience has demonstrated that one gal is equal to four quarts of ice cream.

All Europe has fewer colleges than Illinois. And one of the European colleges has more students than all Illinois.

The Senior class of the University of North Carolina wear black beavers, in order to be distinguished from the Freshmen.

A missionary writes that the Chinese encyclopedia comprises 22,937 books. In every large town an official library exists, in charge of Mandarins.

Life, young man, is only

A slippery piece of ice;

No girl there—it's lonely;

One girl there—it's nice.

"Why do you drink that vile stuff?" said a temperance man to a toper. "Because, my dear sir," was the crushing reply, "it is not thick enough to eat."

Vassar, Wellesly, Smith, and Bryn Mawr are the only colleges giving instruction to ladies alone, but there are in the United States over one hundred and

fifty colleges for young men which also admit them. The great English universities, Oxford and Cambridge, have made arrangements by which ladies can attend a large number of lectures. Italy, too, has opened its seventeen universities to women, and Norway, Sweden and Denmark have also allowed them to enter.

A Frenchman learning the English language complained of the irregularity of the verb "to go," the present tense of which some wag had written out for him as follows: "I go; thou startest; he departs; we made tracks; you cut sticks; they obsquatulate or skedaddle."

Among the most distinguished visitors at Harvard during the late celebration was Rev. Dr. Creighton, of Emanuel College, Cambridge University, England. He was a welcome visitor, as from his college John Harvard graduated.

Sir Lyon Playfair, says English universities teach "graduates how to spend \$5,000 a year with dignity and intelligence; Scotch universities teach them how to make \$5,000 with dignity and intelligence."

Mr. Bostwick, the Baptist, who gave \$10,000 to the Baptist Theological Seminary, has just given \$50,000 to Wake Forest College. Mr. Bostwick formerly lived at Lexington, Ky.

Ferguson, formerly of the Virginias and now of the Philadelphia base-ball team, will coach the Princeton nine this winter.

Emperor William and Prince Bismarck told the Japanese minister that all that Japan needed was the gospel.

Most lies are hyperboles; hyperbole is a figure; hence most lies are figures;

but figures cannot lie ; ergo, a lie is not a lie.

The California State University pays its president a salary of \$8,000.

A senior says that his class is doing *post mortem* exercises in Latin now.

Leyden University, in Holland, is the richest in the world. Its real estate alone is said to be worth four million dollars.

Sam Jones wants to build a college for himself at Cartersville, Ga., and has received \$10,000 in furtherance of the scheme.—*Ex.*

The fourteen students who, dissatisfied with the order of recitation, bombarded Washington and Jefferson College, have been suspended.

More than four thousand couplers have been patented in this country, and yet there are hundreds of thousands of men and women yet unhitched.

Peterhouse College, the oldest of the seventeen colleges in Cambridge University, was founded over six hundred years ago, during the reign of King Edward I.

Sophomore oratory: How nice it would be to go to the North pole and see whether or not the Aurora Borealis is caused by a *hot box* where the earth revolves on its axis.

England boasts of her bulldogs and beagle,

Her ravine, and starling, and seagull ;

But when it comes to the scratch

Her *Henn* is no match

For your loud-screaming, much despised

Eagle.—*Baron Tennyson*.

Count Yongi, son of the Premier of Japan, is in Chicago, arranging with

publishers for text-books in the English language for use in the Japanese schools. The Mikado has commanded that English be taught in all the schools of his empire.

Student, after examination, to professor : " What rank do you give me, Professor ? " Professor : " I have put you down as captain of cavalry. You seem to ride a horse better than the others. "

In the United States the Episcopalians have twelve colleges ; the Methodists, fifty-two ; the Baptists, forty-six ; the Presbyterians, forty-one ; and the Congregationalists, twenty-eight.

" I say, Fatty, " exclaimed one gamin to his fleshy companion, " is it yer mudder wot makes yer so fat ? " " Naw, of course it haint ! " was the reply. " It's my fodder. "

It is claimed that over 1,700 college students have been converted during the past year, and that there were 2,270 candidates for the ministry in the various colleges.

Tulane University, New Orleans, has received a donation of \$100,000 from a New York lady, with which to establish a college for the higher education of women.

A fire, a short time since, in the anatomical department of the University of Virginia, destroyed \$10,000 worth of charts, drawings and models.

At Dartmouth a dramatic association has been formed as a stock company, with a capital of \$600, divided into shares of \$5 each.

Teacher : " If you were president of a county fair and wanted a gate ten-

der, what would you do?" Pupil: "Boil it."

In the olden times men lived by days of toil. Now we live by Knights of labor.

Syracuse University is only sixteen years old and has four hundred and fifty students.

Talmage, Justin McCarthy, and Lew Wallace will lecture at the Indiana State University this winter.

Herr Heyden, the celebrated Professor of Philosophy in the University of Erlanger, Germany, is dead.

The Harvard catalogue is no longer published for gratuitous distribution, but is sent post-paid for sixty cents.

The Prince of Wales has his committee framing plans for the proposed Imperial Institute. It will cost \$1,500,000.

Under the new law West Point graduates get second lieutenants' pay from date of graduation to time of commencement in the regular army.

Miss Nellie, an enthusiastic dog fancier: "Is that charming little bobtail yours, monsieur?" Monsieur: "Oh, no, mademoiselle; zat ees ze dog's."

The first paper established at Williams was in 1827. Princeton published a paper in 1831. Dartmouth's first venture in journalism was in 1835.

Why should a man not starve on the desert of Arabia?

Because of the sand which's there.

How came the sandwiches there?

The tribe of Ham was bred and mustered there.

The other evening Thornton said to a young lady to whom he had been paying marked attention: "Of all Lord Beacons-

field's novels, I prefer *Endymion*—by the way, the word means 'the setting sun.'

"Well, Mr. Thornton," she replied, "you should have been called *Endymion*."

"Why so, Clarissa?" asked Billy, expecting a compliment.

"Because," she replied, "you can sit around about as long as any son I ever saw."

Greek Recitation: Professor: "Mr. B——, how did you translate that word?"

Mr. B. (doubtfully): "I think it means a *curse*."

Professor (sadly): "Well, it may—yes, sometimes; but here it should be translated, mother-in-law."

The students of the Pennsylvania colleges have half-fare tickets on all railroads issued to them, wherever they travel. The president of the college issues blanks which are filled out, and which, when presented at any ticket office, entitles the holder to half-fare ticket.

Mr. W. H. Walker, who is raising money to build a chapel at the University of Michigan, says: "Five of the faculty are Unitarians, eight are infidels, and thirteen decline to express their religious belief." Dr. Fitzpatrick says this is the result of a State non-sectarian school.

A paragraph in a society paper states that "Oscar Wilde's hair is growing long again." Oscar Wilde? Oscar Wilde?—Oh, yes, we remember now; that's the colt that won the two-mile dash for three-year-olds. Wonder why they don't clip him again!—*Burdette*.

SELECTIONS.

FOR 1887.

Spend less than you earn, and you will be rich.

Eat less than you can digest, and you will be well.

Attempt less than you can accomplish, and you will be strong.

Covet little, love much, and you will be happy.

By the first you will accumulate money; by the second, blood; by the third, nerve; by the fourth, love.

And so we wish you a happy New Year.—*Selected.*

DID YOU?

Did you ever see a man
Who couldn't tell you just the plan
On which a paper should be run?
So perfect and complete,
So very nice and neat—
What the editor should say,
And what he shouldn't do—
He will tell it all to you,
And you will find it fun—
The way he lays it out,
And the way he talks about
The things he would do
If he were only you,
Everybody he would please.
Let them try it for a week
And I'm sure that he would seek
Rest for troubles that are real,
Losing sight of his ideal.

—*Tid-Bits.*

"UNCLE SAM."—The term "Uncle Sam" as employed in designating the United States is said to have had its origin in the following circumstance:

"Samuel Wilson, familiarly known as 'Uncle Sam,' was an inspector of beef

and pork at Troy, N. Y., purchased for the Government after the declaration of war against England in 1812. A contractor named Elbert Anderson purchased a quantity of provisions, and the barrels were marked 'E. A.,' the initials of his name, and 'U. S.' for United States. The latter initials were not familiar with Wilson's workmen, who inquired what they meant. A facetious fellow answered, 'I don't know, unless they mean 'Uncle Sam.' A vast amount of property afterwards passed through Wilson's hands marked in the same way, and he was rallied on the extent of his possessions. The joke spread, and it was not long before the initials of the United States were regarded as 'Uncle Sam,' which name has been in popular parlance ever since."

COUNTING THE HAIRS OF THE HEAD.

Measurements have shown the thickness of the human hair to vary from the two hundred and fiftieth to the six hundredth part of an inch. The silk worm's thread is one five-thousandth of an inch thick, and the spider's web only one thirty-thousandth. Blonde hair is the finest and red the coarsest. Taking four heads of hair of equal weight, a patient German physiologist found the red one to contain about 90,000 hairs; the black, 103,000; the brown, 109,000; and the blonde, 140,000.

BEQUESTS TO HARVARD.—There has been some little remark of late concerning the recent bequests made to Harvard by different men. Within a very short time some \$1,400,000 have been bequeathed to the university, and yet in such a way that it does not benefit the

college property at all. Much of this enormous sum goes to particular purposes, such as funds for the library, and \$400,000 of it is for scholarships. So that we are no nearer our swimming bath, new dormitories, or reduction in college expenses than before. It is really the college that needs the money, and many of the scholarships might very profitably be employed in lessening the general expenses instead of being given to the first twenty-five of each class, many of whom take easy courses for the purpose of obtaining them.

STUDENTS' CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AT PRINCETON.—At Harvard last year the scheme of having a committee of students to confer with the Faculty on matters of common interest was adopted, and has been most successful in its results. This year we hear that Princeton has resolved to take similar measures, and on the 22d of this month will elect a "Students' Conference Committee." As this plan is becoming popular at other colleges, it might be well to consider it here at Yale, and to ascertain the way in which it is carried out. The committee will consist of six Seniors, three Juniors, two Sophomores, and one Freshman, and will serve for the remainder of the present college year. Each class will elect its own representatives, and at least one Senior and one Junior must be on the committee from the School of Science. In order to be eligible to the election, a student must be at least twenty years old on September 1st, preceding his graduation; he must be a regular candidate for the degree of B. A., B. S., or C. E.; he must not have incurred serious discipline within the year preceding the election; and he must have a fair stand in

his studies. A "Faculty Conference Committee" will also be chosen from the general Faculty, which will act in conjunction with the students' committee.—*Yale News.*

A recent letter to the *State* from its Washington correspondent contains the following interesting incident:

"When Frank R. Stockton, the writer of short stories, first came to this city, he was asked by one of those present at a dinner given in his honor to solve the mystery which hangs about the story of 'The Lady and the Tiger.' Before Mr. Stockton could answer, a gentleman suggested that the pleasure of having written so successful a story must be considerably diminished by being so frequently asked to tell its sequel. Mr. Stockton laughed and said: 'It is very true; I have been requested more than once to inform curious readers whether the princess directed her lover to the jaws of the tiger or to the arms of the beautiful lady, but as I didn't know I couldn't satisfy them. I finally decided to have it settled for me, and when I was at Wellesly College I left the decision to the young ladies of that institution. Eighteen of them voted that the princess would sooner have sacrificed her lover than have seen him wed the lady, against six who voted to let him live. I think women can best judge their own sex, and I am satisfied to abide by the Wellesly decision.'"

An exchange, speaking of the number of papers published in the United States in foreign languages, says: There are about 600 newspapers printed in German, and forty-two in French. The towns which have the most French periodicals are New York, New Orleans, and Worcester, Mass.—four apiece. There

are more Swedish prints than French. Two daily newspapers are printed in the Bohemian tongue. The toughest names are found among the Polish, Finnish, and Welch press; for instance, the *Dzienswiety* and the *Przajciel Ludi* of Chicago, the *Yhdyswalta in Sanomat* of Ohio, and the *Y Wawr* of Utica, New York. There is one Gaelic publication, one Hebrew, one Chinese, and one in the Cherokee language.

The last invention in hat lining is a map of the city of London printed on silk so that any young fellow or stranger

may find his way home, or see at a glance if cabby is taking him the nearest route to his destination.

It is no trouble to meet a bill. But to get out of the way of it is most difficult.

The best way to keep chaff out of a half bushel is to fill it up with wheat.—
Rev. W. C. Bartlett.

The total number of visitors to the Colonial Exhibition, London, recently closed, was 5,550,749, and the average daily attendance was 33,846.

"When anger arises, good judgment sits down on a back seat."

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