

THE PLUM; OR, WHAT WILL WE DO WITH IT? A NEAT LITTLE WESTERN STORY.

Once upon a time there was a number of youngsters—naughty, of course—who became tired of the restraint placed upon them by their parents and guardians, and determined to travel to see the world for themselves.

"One said it was a barn, Another said nay, The other said it was a church With the steeple cut away."

This was a joke, and they all laughed at it quite heartily, but in due course of time they came across a young elephant, when

"One said it was a cow, Another said nay, The other said it was 'Old Nick,' And they all ran away."

This was no joke, and so the boys did not laugh at it.

But all of this is like an event in modern times. There has recently been made a treaty between the "Great Bear of the North" and the "Hunkee-Doree Bald Eagle of the West," which the latter has been allowed the privilege of purchasing, for a very small amount of money, a very large tract of land.

The said tract, called Russian America, is like the young elephant—nobody knows exactly what it is. The question has racked and divided parties, and has puzzled the brains of statesmen, diplomats, editors, and politicians.

No one can tell what kind of a bargain has been made, or what advantage will accrue to us from this gift.

Mr. Johnson, a citizen of Tennessee, looks upon the cession as a gift. It appears so cheap that the sum asked can only be regarded as earnest-money.

Mr. Seward, who has "fixed this little affair up," thinks that unless we accept the gift of Russian America, "no great war can last more than sixty days," and that it will be necessary to bring again into requisition that famous "little bell."

In fact, unless we have Russian America the Union cannot be saved.

The Czar of all the Russias desires us to accept his "almost a gift," because he can no longer take care of it with profit to himself.

It is so isolated, and then, too, he loves the Monroe doctrine, and has no doubt that the "boundless continent is ours."

God bless the dear soul for those few words of comfort!

Napoleon looks upon the matter with pure nonchalance. He is absorbed in his attentions to the sick Prince Imperial, and the Paris Exposition.

England fumes over the matter. She sees danger in the 'ole affair. By accepting this gift the continent will be turned into a huge pair of shears, and they some day may cut some poor Giles of an English Prince's love in twain.

Besides, it savors of aggrandisement. It looks as if Russia desires to divide the world with the United States! and that would be 'orrible to the subjects of her Majesty, "on oose dominions, by 'eavens, the sun never sets!"

Senator Sumner, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, thinks the treaty is a neat thing, and quotes the classic Penn on treaties generally in support of his position.

Yet he bids us look to the helm, lest by avoiding this Scylla (silly?) rock in the ocean of affairs we wreck our ship of state (the radical party?) on the Charybdis of Democratic success in the coming campaign.

General Halleck (old Brains) is sure that Russian America is worth having, and thinks that the inhabitants of the Pacific will demand its purchase.

Simon Cameron says "wigwag," and Colonel Forney "sees disaster in the whole thing," unless more radical influences can be brought to bear upon "His Accidenty."

General Meigs goes into ecstasies over the new acquisition. He wants to see the doings of the old Norse kings repeated in that country. General Meigs is probably the most poetic Quartermaster-General that has ever lived.

The New York World thinks Russian America is a "sucked orange," but the world is full of snap judgment.

The Herald thinks it is a "pretty good egg," and is probably wrong taking as a gift.

The Tribune opines that it would have been all well enough if we had carried Connecticut.

The Times, in a "little villanish" way, compliments Mr. Seward for his diplomacy in the matter.

The Commercial Advertiser is non-committal like most of our Philadelphia journals. Mr. Thurlow Weed would not refuse the gift if it could be shaped into a plank for the new conservative platform, with Grant and Farragut for the Presidency.

But we must have done. We have got into such a labyrinthine muddle over the opinions of these great men, that we are almost distracted.

Soberly speaking, THE EVENING TELEGRAPH advises a prompt ratification of the treaty. We can lose nothing by it, and we may gain much. Ten years ago we could have had British America for the asking.

We asked not because we thought its possession would not be at once advantageous. We can see now what we have lost—a country full of wealth and vitality. We have gained a vicerey and a quantity of humiliation. Ten years ago we could have had Mexico, on the promise to exclude slavery. We refused to do this, and the result is a country torn and bleeding, robbed of its richest treasures, and forever blighted by a robber called an Emperor.

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ASSETS OF THE COMPANY, November 1, 1866. \$100,000 United States Per Cent. Loan, 1871..... \$114,000.00

126,000 United States Per Cent. Loan, 1881..... 126,000.00

200,000 United States 7 3-10 Per Cent. Loan, Treasury Notes..... 211,500.00

125,000 City of Philadelphia Six Per Cent. Loan (exempt)..... 126,600.00

64,000 State of Pennsylvania Five Per Cent. Loan..... 64,700.00

60,000 State of New Jersey Six Per Cent. Loan..... 60,750.00

20,000 Pennsylvania Railroad, 1st Mortgage, Six Per Cent. Bonds..... 20,000.00

25,000 Pennsylvania Railroad, 2d Mortgage Six Per Cent. Bonds..... 24,250.00

25,000 Western Pennsylvania Railroad Six Per Cent. Bonds (Pennsylvania Railroad guaranteed)..... 20,750.00

30,000 State of Tennessee Six Per Cent. Loan..... 30,000.00

7,000 State of Tennessee Six Per Cent. Loan..... 5,940.00

15,000 300 Shares Stock of Germantown Gas Company (principal and interest guaranteed by the city of Philadelphia)..... 15,000.00

7,150 100 Shares Stock of Pennsylvania Railroad Company..... 5,258.25

5,000 100 Shares Stock of North Pennsylvania Railroad Company..... 2,950.00

*20,000 80 Shares Stock of Philadelphia and Southern Mail Steamship Company..... 20,000.00

195,500 Loans on Bonds and Mortgage, 1st Liens on City Property..... 195,500.00

\$1,045,000 par. Market value, \$1,070,280.75

Real Estate, \$1,000,000.00 Bills receivable for Insurance..... 36,000.00

Balance due at agencies—Fremont, Union, and Phoenix..... 27,875.20

Balance due to the Company..... 85,929.90

Ship and stock of sundry Agencies and other Companies, \$575,000..... 2,850.00

Cash in Bank \$811,102.25 Cash in Drawer..... 467.14

INSURANCE COMPANIES. UNIVERSAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE UNIVERSAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NEW YORK

JANUARY 1, 1867. Subscribed for and paid in cash..... \$200,000.00

ASSETS HELD BY THE COMPANY. Amount of cash on hand..... \$145,329.95

Amount of cash in hands of Agents and in course of transmission..... 27,875.20

Amount of United States 5-20 bonds, six per cent., par \$100,000, market value..... 107,500.00

Amount of other securities against the Company, contained or otherwise..... None

Amount of all other assets..... 8,951.56

LIABILITIES. Amount of losses which have not been settled..... 3,000.00

Amount of losses which have been paid during the year \$45,000..... 45,000.00

Amount of dividends (interest on stock) issued during the year \$14,000..... 14,000.00

Amount of all other claims against the Company, contained or otherwise..... None

INCOME. Amount of cash premiums received..... \$109,500.00

Amount of interest received..... 8,000.00

Amount of premiums earned, \$103,500.00..... 17,271.20

Amount of interest money received..... 14,000.00

Amount of all other expenses and expenditures of the Company..... 8,375.00

EXPENDITURES. Amount of losses paid during the year..... 43,000.00

Amount paid for reinsurance..... 11,500.00

Amount of dividends paid..... 14,000.00

Amount of expenses paid during the year, including commission and fees to Agents and Officers of the Company..... 71,513.73

Amount of taxes paid by the Company..... 2,950.70

Amount of all other expenses and expenditures of the Company..... 15,346.57

THE UNIVERSAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, believing that the policy holder desires the greatest benefit at the least expense, and without any liability of assessment, recommends the "JOINT STOCK SYSTEM"

As the safest and most consistent with true business principles. The system which this Company was the first to introduce in the United States is perfectly plain and safe.

The policyholder gets what he pays for—insurance on himself, not on others; his object is to provide for the payment of his policy at maturity, and not to speculate on dividends, in the adjustment of which he has no control.

THE UNIVERSAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY offers the following advantages:—Security in a paid-up Capital of \$200,000, and a Board of Directors composed of men of well-known integrity and experience.

Premiums nearly one-third lower than those charged by the majority of Mutual Companies.

Losses paid within thirty days after good and sufficient proof of the death of the assured.

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Tables of Rates, further information, etc., may be obtained at the office of the undersigned.

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J. L. Houpp, late of Pennsylvania Railroad Company. E. Kingley, Continental Hotel. Samuel C. Palmer, Cashier of Com. National Bank.

H. G. Lister, No. 27 and 285 Dock street. James M. Conrad, firm of Conrad & Walton, No. Market street. Knott Lewis, late Gen. Superintendent Penna. R.R.

Andrew Mahady, S. W. corner of Third and Walnut streets. G. C. Francklin, Gen. Agent Penna. R. R. Co.

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