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MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1869.

WHAT WE HAVE GAINED.

We read and hear so much of the evils resulting from the late Rebellion, that we are in danger, if not from having the ills overstated, at least from not recognizing the valuable advantages derived from this selfsame source. Enjoying as we did for more than three-quarters of a century the blessings of the most beneficent Government ever vouchsafed to man, there was, nevertheless, no frue, reliable national sentiment among our people.

There was so little to remind us of the General Government—no burdensome taxes, no forced military duty, no exercise, indeed, of national authority, except in protection and benefits. These blessings fell upon the land as gently, naturally, and as unperceived as the dew of heaven fall upon the unweaned grass. The influence and exercise of the central power were scarcely felt or recognized, except when in some far-off country or upon some distant ocean it was exerted to shield the honor or protect the liberty of a citizen.

Our colonial system anterior to the Revolution, the very slender bonds that held the colonies together during that trying period under the Articles of Confederation, and the abominable and pernicious heresy of State sovereignty under our present Constitution, taught universally throughout the South and to a great extent in the North, will account very largely for this lack of a national sentiment.

Mr. Webster, one of the most national men, oftentimes spoke for Massachusetts; Mr. Calhoun always for South Carolina; and Mr. Clay was emphatically the representative of Kentucky. There were indeed but few of our public men of whom it could with truth be said they were national. If the truth must be spoken, let us frankly admit that the war of the Rebellion found us a confederacy full of petty jealousies, State pride, and with very little deep-seated love or intelligent appreciation of the advantages derived from the National Government. In sorrow and anguish we had to learn the lesson almost neglected in the long years of our peace and prosperity; but learn it we did, and when the glad news of an honorable peace came flashing up from Appomattox, it found us in our rejoicings a united people, forgetting all contracted State lines, proud and happy as Americans over the vindication of our nationality and the triumph of our flag. Upon this developed love and devotion to our country rest the brightest promise and most abundant guarantee of the future. This is one advantage of the war that cannot be over-estimated.

The overthrow of slavery—the liberation of four millions of human beings—was as necessary to our existence as to their elevation and happiness. Long deferred justice was at last done to an oppressed race, our Declaration of Independence ceased to be a rebuke to our own people, and the flag of the republic was cleansed of the blood marks of despotism, and floated for the first time in our history the emblem of freedom and justice. The war developed our industrial interests and capacities. We advanced from dreamers to doers. A railroad uniting the oceans had long been speculated about and talked of. Some of the more sanguine hoped for its completion, but scarcely in their day and generation. It was reserved, however, for the aroused and developed energies of "our war times" to accomplish the great undertaking, the fruits of which are even now but dimly foreshadowed. It has become the pioneer of other enterprises of a like character, which in a few years will bind the continent together with bands of iron. It has brought the East and West into close companionship, annihilated distance, destroyed selfishness, and established a life current between the sections that is the surest bond of a perpetual union.

Another and very important result of the war is the elevation of our national character abroad. The gigantic struggle carried on upon these shores for nearly four years; the resources, the courage, the endurance of our people, and the triumphant vindication of our popular form of government, have astonished and dumb-founded the world; and whilst it has educated Europe to an appreciation of the vast extent and inexhaustible resources of our country, of the spirit, intelligence, and indomitable will of our people, it has also taught them to respect the flag that represents our nationality. Citizens of the United States constantly meet the evidence of this in their journeyings through Europe, especially in Prussia. Here the feeling is not confined to respect and admiration, but often manifests itself in words and acts indicative of devoted attachment and love for the land of "Washington and Lincoln." This feeling is shared by all classes, from noble to peasant. Almost every family has a representative in our country, and nearly all feel bound to us by ties of blood as well as attachment. A beautiful exhibition of the respect entertained for this country by the governing class of Prussia was presented a month or two since. The King, commanding nearly fifty thousand troops, had a sham fight, and the day following, a grand review near Hamburg, on the old battleground where Frederick the Great fought one of his celebrated battles. On this occasion there were gathered from all parts of Europe the leading military celebrities—Marshals of

France, Austria, and Russia, as well as prominent officers of the English and American armies. On his way to the palace from the fight, on the evening of the first day, the King passed the flags of several nations without any movement, but as he was passing the Hotel Victoria, where some Americans had our flag flying, he lifted his hat and saluted it. The next morning, as he was marching past the same hotel to the review ground, at the head of the finest cavalry in Europe, his attention was directed by the Crown Prince to our flag in the hands of a daughter of an esteemed citizen of Philadelphia. The King immediately arose in his carriage, took off his hat, and made a profound bow, which was followed by his whole staff, amid the prolonged cheering of the spectators. This was nothing in itself, except as an indication of the respect and veneration in which our country is held by Germany, from her venerable King to the most humble subject. We are in the eyes of Europe what we were not before the war, viz., a nation, entitled to the respect and consideration due a first-rate power.

It were worse than foolish to underestimate the great trials and sacrifices of the war. We could not if we would forget the great debt bequeathed, and we would not if we could forget that mighty army of good and true men who laid down their lives upon the altar of our national unity. Generations coming after us shall call them blessed. But we would direct attention to the fact that, with all the sorrow and suffering through which the nation marched to victory, there are great and precious fruits resulting immediately from the contest, that the people are reaping now and will continue so to do through the coming generations. These should not be forgotten.

AN OLD CATECHISM.

THERE is an odd document to be found in collections of old political pamphlets which is curiously suggestive when read in the light of to-day's history. It is a catechism issued by the United Irishmen after the death of their last champion, Tone, and their final defeat in the rebellion of '98. It was secretly taught in the families of the peasantry, in the hope of keeping up a flame which threatened to become extinct. The real secret of discontent is thus touched:—

Q. How would you alter the property in land, and preserve the country from anarchy? A. By dividing the ancient estates among the descendants of those Irish families who were pillaged by English invaders. The remainder to be sold by public sale (auktion), and the money applied to paying off the debts of the former confederacy, and to rewarding the citizens who fought for their country.

The last number of the Saturday Review contains a synopsis of the present bearing of the Irish land question which is peculiarly interesting when collated with this Catechism. The complaint now comes in reality, not so much from the Milesian Irish whose claim to the ancient estates dates back to the days of Brian Boroihme, but from those very English invaders whom they decried—the small farmers who for ten, thirty, sometimes ninety-nine years were granted leases of property on payment of peppercorn rent; the very class who in the insurrection of '98 sided with the Government, classing themselves with the gentry, and holding aloof from the rebels who fought for the land then, as from a race of Pariahs.

Whatever may be the right or wrong in this Irish land question, it has certainly been a suit in Chancery, a Jarndyce versus Jarndyce, out of which both the original claimants and the point at issue have long since disappeared. No wonder the English reviewer shakes his head in despair over the unending labyrinth, and talks of vast and theoretical grievances impossible to understand, or Mr. Tighs Hamilton exhorts Parliament to remember that it cannot possibly comprehend anything about Ireland, and warns it back as from a slough of despond.

In the seventy years which have passed since this yellow catechism was written, Ireland has almost emptied herself of those who issued it. They are Fenians, perhaps, to-day, in New York or Montreal, but not in Cork. Their place is filled, more than they are willing to acknowledge, by imported small farmers from Scotland and the lower English shires, and it is they who now really moot the old vexed question of rentals, making use of the few remaining members of the old race to give the effect of permanency and long standing to their claim. The manner in which the subject embodies itself now before Parliament proves this. It is no vague injustice of race to race which it is called upon to adjust, nor even the question of present proprietorship, or the right of any man to buy and hold land—the thorns which so long vexed the souls of the Milesians, and incited every revolt. It is a simple matter of business claims between landlord and tenant.

Shall the landlord have the right to eject a tenant without payment for improvements put upon the land? and shall the tenant be allowed to demand a renewal of the lease, instead of money in payment of such claim? A business question, likely to settle itself in a just business fashion. But that the "ancient estates" will ever return to the O'Haras and O'Neills, there is but little prospect, in spite of the wild and not unrighteous demand for justice in this old pamphlet. The harp is not only silent in Tara's halls, but in most cases it is gone out of the halls altogether.

The most curious point to be noticed in this catechism is that every demand from these malcontents for justice in their lives has been answered, simply and naturally, by the mere fact of emigration. Here they can openly profess their creed, which there it was death to whisper, of the "supreme majesty of the people, the equality of man, and the lawfulness of resistance to oppression." Here they have what there they hoped for—"emancipation, equality of rights, a fair division of land, abolition of State religious establishments, and a representative govern-

ment." They are malcontents yet, probably. But one of the hardest lessons of life for nations or individuals is that the sure mills of God not only grind exceeding slow, but seldom give us that food which we have chosen for ourselves.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL HOAR is played out. When his nomination to a Cabinet position was announced, the country outside of Massachusetts was quite unanimous in propounding the query, Who is Hoar? Since then the Attorney-General has contrived to render himself better known than he cares to be—so well known that it would have been better for him if he had never been known at all outside of the courts of Massachusetts. The Senate will not confirm his nomination to the bench of the Supreme Court; he has become so unpopular at the capital that it is extremely doubtful if he will be able to maintain his seat in the Cabinet for any length of time; and the comfortable and honorable seat which he used to occupy upon the bench in Massachusetts has long since been filled; so that Hoar's chances for resuming the active practice of his profession are quite promising. Some men cannot hold up under a pressure of greatness, and Hoar is one of this unfortunate class.

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL has adopted a plan whereby the exact extent of the iniquitous franking abuse can be ascertained. Each postmaster is required to make a monthly return hereafter of the number of letters and packages which pass through his hands into the mails by virtue of franks, together with the amount of postage that would be chargeable thereon at the established rates. In this way it is hoped to be able to ascertain within the next six months the amount of money which is lost to the Treasury through the franking system. It will be interesting to discover whose estimate comes the nearest to the mark—that of the Postmaster-General, who appears to be actuated by a laudable desire to render the service self-sustaining, or that of the Congressmen who do not entertain such notions of national economy.

EDWIN M. STANTON died poor. This fact is perhaps one of the strongest proofs of his integrity that could be adduced. His soul was bound up in the herculean task to which he had been called, and in its prosecution he was as careless of his own fortune as of his health. Friends who were familiar with his circumstances, and abundantly able to relieve him, at different times urged him to become the recipient of their material assistance, but he invariably repelled such advances with almost as much earnestness as he would have thrust from his presence the man who ventured to tempt his official action with a bribe. Men of this peculiar mould are almost as rare in public life as those who are possessed of the other sterling qualities of the departed statesman.

MOUNTROY, the "King of the Whisky Ring," has come to grief at last. This morning he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary, with an additional year in case a fine of \$3000 is not paid in the interim. The law-abiding people of the city will rejoice at this disposition of one of the most notorious and unscrupulous enemies of the revenue. But already we hear rumors of a prospective pardon by the President. It is to be hoped, however, that President Grant will be guilty of no such thing.

PARLIAMENTARY PARTIES IN FRANCE.—The Paris Press of a recent date has the following paragraph, in relation to the political classification of the members of the Corps Legislatif:—"In consequence of the movements which have taken place, the classification of parties in the Chamber and their respective strength are as follows:— The right centre, which is the constitutional progressive party, composed as is known of the majority of the 116, and of fifty members of the right, for since Monday five new members have adhered to the programme of the Josselin meeting. Members who have not signed the document, but who will vote for its policy. Left centre. Radicals. Right, having as chief M. de Bonis. Extreme right, with Baron Jerome David as its head. Average of persons ill or absent in the course of the session. Total of the legal number of deputies under the present constitution. Taking the number of 365, which is generally the maximum voting, the absolute majority will be 183, and that of a liberal Cabinet in accord with the ruling opinion of the country nearly 200, while leaving the extreme left and the radicals to their systematic opposition.

Table with 2 columns: Item and Count. Includes: Left centre (39), Radicals (41), Right (5), Extreme right (30), Average of persons ill or absent (22), Total of the legal number of deputies (293), Maximum voting (365), Absolute majority (183), Liberal Cabinet (200).

SPECIAL NOTICES.

WHAT REMAINS OF OUR HOLIDAY GOODS, Dressing Gowns, Toilet and Fancy Articles, Furnishing Goods, etc.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR, Will all be closed out THIS WEEK AT A REDUCTION.

JOHN WANAMAKER'S, Chestnut Street Clothing Establishment, Nos. 913 and 939 CHESTNUT ST.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

THE NEW YEAR BEING NEAR AT HAND, THE GRAND CLEARING SALE NOW PROGRESSING AT NOS. 913 AND 939 CHESTNUT STREET.

WILL BE VIGOROUSLY PUSHED FOR THE FEW DAYS REMAINING OF THE OLD YEAR. STILL FURTHER ACCOMMODATION OF PRICES!

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BOYS' CLOTHING OF THE FINEST QUALITY AND BEST STYLES.

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It is designed for every description of Family Sewing or Manufacturing purposes. It is adapted to a much greater range and variety of work than heretofore offered to the public.

Every improvement that ingenuity can invent or art suggest is applicable to this machine. All machines warranted. Call and examine. [12 24 61]

SALESROOM, No. 704 CHESTNUT STREET.

SPLENDID LIQUORS FOR HOLIDAY USE.—To those of our readers who are convivially inclined, and who regard a full supply of choice liquors as indispensable to the proper observance of the Christmas Holidays, we would state that Mr. H. C. ALEXANDER has now at his store, No. 723 BARKER STREET, below Fifth, a really superior stock of Old Brandies, Whisky, Holland Gin, Jamaica Rum, Wines, Cordials, Bitters, etc., which he sells at prices within the reach of all. These liquors may be relied upon as being entirely free from adulteration, and it is owing to this fact that Mr. Alexander has secured the patronage of many of our first citizens, who will buy only of him. In addition to the above he has Scotch Ale and London Porter and Brown Stout by the dozen. He is the sole agent in this city for the celebrated TRIMBLE WHISKY, which is regarded by connoisseurs to be superior to any Rye Whisky manufactured.

UNION LEAGUE HORSE. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25, 1869. A Special Meeting of the UNION LEAGUE of Philadelphia will be held on MONDAY, December 27, 1869, at 10 o'clock P. M., in order to take such action as may be proper regarding the death of the late HON. EDWIN M. STANTON.

By order of the Board of Directors, GEORGE M. BOKER, Secretary.

CONTINUATION OF THE SALE OF FINE WHISKIES, BRANDIES, AND WINES, BALANCE OF STOCK OF G. W. MIDDLETON. Owing to the inclemency of the weather on Wednesday last a large portion of the above extensive and desirable stock of fine liquors remained unsold, and will be disposed of on WEDNESDAY next, 29th inst., at 11 o'clock A. M., by Powell & West, Auctioneers, at their rooms, No. 28 South FRONT STREET.

OFFICE OF THE GREEN AND COATES STREET CAR RAILWAY COMPANY, TWENTY-FOURTH AND COATES STREETS. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27, 1869. The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at the Office of the Company, on MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 1870, at 10 o'clock A. M., at which time and place an Election will be held for a President and two Directors, to serve for the ensuing year. 12 27 29 31 J. B. MOFFITT, Secretary.

ANNUAL BALL OF THE DELAWARE ENGINE FIRE COMPANY, No. 4, to be given at MUSICAL HALL, NEW YEAR'S EVE, FRIDAY, Dec. 31, 1869. TICKETS, ONE DOLLAR. Positively no pass tickets. 12 27 44 DANIEL O. DAVIS, Secretary.

WEEK OF PRAYER.—THE CLERGYMEN of the city are invited to meet at the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, No. 124 CHESTNUT STREET, TO-MORROW (Tuesday) AFTERNOON, at 4 o'clock, to make arrangements for the coming Week of Prayer.

REQUEST OF SEVERAL PASTORS. THE COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 11, 1869. The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House on WEDNESDAY, the 15th day of January, 1870, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 3 P. M. S. G. PALMER, Cashier.

THE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27, 1869. An election for thirteen Directors of this Company will be held at the office of the Company, Nos. 4 and 6 EXCHANGE BUILDING, on MONDAY, Jan. 10, 1870, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 3 P. M. J. H. HOLLINSHEAD, Secretary.

MARY COMMANDERY, No. 36, K. T.—The members of Mary Commandery will assemble in the hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, No. 124 CHESTNUT STREET, on MONDAY, December 28, at 10 A. M., for the purpose of attending the funeral of our late companion, MR. SIDNEY DEKING. W. M. KELLY, E. C.

CHRISTMAS JUBILEE OF LUTHERBAUM SUNDAY SCHOOLS, B. E. COUNCIL OF TWELFTH AND OXFORD STREETS, THURSDAY EVENING, December 30, at 7 1/2 o'clock. W. J. KELLY, E. C.

TO RENT—THE LECTURE HALL OF THE MERCANTILE LIBRARY, TWENTH, above Chestnut. 12 21 61

CLOTHING. OUR HOLIDAY PREPARATIONS.

ROCKHILL & WILSON are not afraid to say they're prepared for the Holiday trade. With the finest Clothing ever made; Every pattern and every shade; With the most consummate taste displayed; Gorgeously finished, and neatly laid On the counters of Rockhill & Wilson.

And we tell the public the reason why They'd better hurry along and buy What suits their fancy and pleases their eye: And the prices are certainly not too high. For we've prices than all down; just come and try. And see how the goods continue to fly From the stores of Rockhill & Wilson.

And the folks both in town and country say That for all the seasons of Holiday, Never were suits to be had so gay. So much to please, so little to pay, Certain to suit you, any way. Better than what they find to-day At the store of Rockhill & Wilson.

For clothes for your own use, and for Christmas presents for your friends and relations, come and buy, at wonderfully reduced prices, from the rapidly vanishing Winter stock of ROCKHILL & WILSON, GREAT BROWN HALL, 603 and 605 CHESTNUT STREET.

DURABILITY, COMFORT, AND ECONOMY. Are combined in our Scotch Cheviot Suits, which we are making to measure for Also, our Frieze and Cassimere Suits at \$18.

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This Institution will be opened for the transaction Business on MONDAY, December 27, when the Company will be in readiness to receive SPECIAL DEPOSITS for 12 Months, 6 Months, 3 Months, and other shorter periods, at rates as liberal as those charged by other Safe Deposit Companies in the principal cities of the United States, and to BEST SMALL SAFES inside its BURGLAR-PROOF VAULTS at rates varying from \$10 to \$75 per year, according to size and location. These vaults are well lighted and ventilated, of enormous strength, and no effort or expense has been spared in their construction to render them ABSOLUTELY BURGLAR-PROOF. Watchmen of undoubted character, vigilance, and intelligence will be on duty day and night (Sundays and holidays included) inside and outside the premises; and every conceivable precaution has been adopted in the internal arrangements to preclude the possibility of stealthy or sudden theft. Nothing has been omitted to provide for the convenience and most perfect attainable security of Depositors and Renters, and afford absolute SAFETY against FIRE, THEFT, BURGLARY, and ACCIDENTS.—The terms for which, as adopted by the Company, are not, it is believed, excelled in the country.

All Educational obligations, such as Trusts, Guardianships, Executions, etc., will be undertaken and faithfully discharged. Coupons, Interest, and other Income will be collected when desired, and remitted to the owner for a small commission. Suitable accommodations are provided for the convenience of ladies. Circulars, giving full details, forwarded on application. Office Hours, 9 o'clock A. M. to 4 o'clock P. M.

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WANTED—\$1000, AS A LOAN FOR TWELVE MONTHS. The Subscriber having lately started in business, so far has found it prosperous and bidding fair to continue. A want of capital prevents him from securing advantages which would evidently result in the success of his undertaking. The amount mentioned above would be sufficient, and could only be received as a trust, with payments to be made at 20, 30, or 50 days.

The security given will be the subscriber's note and a life insurance policy. With the above understanding an opportunity is offered to advance the welfare and success in business of the applicant, by addressing "WALTER," at the office of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH. 12 21 61

NEW PUBLICATIONS. NEWEST BOOKS FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

UNDER THE HOLLY; Stories for Girls. FRENCH FAIRY TALES, Illustrated by Dore. LITTLE ROSIE SERIES, By Mrs. Hosmer, 3 vols. SHIFTING WINDS, By Ballantyne. LENNY THE ORPHAN, By Mrs. Hosmer.

ANIMAL LIFE THE WORLD OVER, Splendid Colored Plates, oblong 8to. NURSE'S PICTURE-BOOK, Twenty-four Beautiful Chromes, 4to. size. PICTURES OF WILD ANIMALS, With Huge Colored Plates, oblong.

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Catalogues of the Society's Publications and Specimens of their Periodicals may be obtained gratuitously at the Depository of the AMERICAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION, 1125 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia. 11 29 mwf75

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