Bedford Inquirer.

A LOCAL AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER, DEVOTED TO POLITICS, EDUCATION, LITERATURE AND MORALS.

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Professional & Business Cards.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

JOHN T. KEAGY, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office opposite Reed & Schell's Bank. Counsel given in English and German. [apl26]

KIMMELL AND LINGENFELTER, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, BEDFORD, PA. Have formed a partnership in the practice of the Law. Office on Juliana Street, two doors South of the Mengel House. [April 1, 1864-tf

M. A. POINTS, ATTORNEY AT LAW, BEDFORD, PA. Respectfully tenders his professional services to the public. Office with J. W. Lingenfelter, Esq., on Juliana street. Collections promptly made. [Dec. 9, '64-tf.

HAYES IRVINE, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Will faithfully and promptly attend to all business intrusted to his care. Office with C. H. Spang, Esq. on Juliana street, three doors south of the Mengel House. May 24:1y

ESPY M. ALSIP, ATTORNEY AT LAW, BEDFORD, PA., Will faithfully and promptly attend to all business entrusted to his care in Bedford and adjoining counties. Military claims, Pensions, back pay, Bounty, &c. speedily collected. Office with Mann & Spang, on Juliana street, 2 doors south of the Mengel House. apl 1, 1864.—tf.

J. R. MEYERS .... J. W. DICKERSON

MEYERS & DICKERSON, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, BEDFORD, PENN'A., Office nearly opposite the Mengel House, will practice in the several Courts of Bedford county. Pensions, bounties and back pay obtained and the purchase of Real Estate attended to. [may11,'66-1y

J. B. CESSNA, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Office with JOHN CESSNA, on the square near the Presbyterian Church. All business entrusted to his care will receive faithful and prompt attention. Military Claims, Pensions, &c., speedily collected. [June 9, 1865.

E. B. STUCKEY, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, and REAL ESTATE AGENT, Office on Main Street, between Fourth and Fifth, Opposite the Court House, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI. Will practice in the adjoining Counties of Missouri and Kansas. July 12:tf

S. L. RUSSELL .... J. H. LONGENECKER

RUSSELL & LONGENECKER, ATTORNEYS & COUNSELLORS AT LAW, Bedford, Pa., Will attend promptly and faithfully to all business entrusted to their care. Special attention given to collections and the prosecution of claims for Back Pay, Bounty, Pensions, &c. Office on Juliana street, south of the Court House. April5:1yr.

J. M'D. SHARPE .... E. F. KERR

SHARPE & KERR, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW. Will practice in the Courts of Bedford and adjoining counties. All business entrusted to their care will receive careful and prompt attention. Pensions, Bounty, Back Pay, &c., speedily collected from the Government. Office on Juliana street, opposite the banking house of Reed & Schell, Bedford, Pa. mar2:tf

J. R. DURBORROW .... JOHN LUTZ.

DURBORROW & LUTZ, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, BEDFORD, PA., Will attend promptly to all business intrusted to their care. Collections made on the shortest notice. They are, also, regularly licensed Claim Agents and will give special attention to the prosecution of claims against the Government for Pensions, Back Pay, Bounty, Bounty Lands, &c. Office on Juliana street, one door South of the "Mengel House" and nearly opposite the *Inquirer* office. April 28, 1865:t.

PHYSICIANS.

WM. W. JAMISON, M. D., BLOODY RUN, PA., Respectfully tenders his professional services to the people of that place and vicinity. [dec8:1yr

DR. B. F. HARRY, Respectfully tenders his professional services to the citizens of Bedford and vicinity. Office and residence on Pitt Street, in the building formerly occupied by Dr. J. H. Hofius. [Ap'l 1,64.

J. L. MARBOURG, M. D., Having permanently located respectfully tenders his professional services to the citizens of Bedford and vicinity. Office on Juliana street, opposite the Bank, one door north of Hall & Palmer's office. April 1, 1864—tf.

DRS. S. G. STATLER, near Schellsburg, and Dr. J. J. CLARKE, formerly of Cumberland county, having associated themselves in the practice of Medicine, respectfully offer their professional services to the citizens of Schellsburg and vicinity. Dr. Clarke's office and residence same as formerly occupied by J. White, Esq., dec'd. S. G. STATLER, Schellsburg, April12:1y. J. J. CLARKE.

HOTELS.

CHALYBEATE HOUSE. NOTICE.—Persons visiting the Watering Places, will find a very desirable resort at the CHALYBEATE HOUSE, near the Chalybeate Spring, Bedford, Pa., where the undersigned is prepared to accommodate from eighty to one hundred persons. The house is new and airy, and neatly furnished. Terms moderate. Hacks running to Mineral Springs, and Mineral Water always on hand. May 31:3m WM. CHENOWETH.

WASHINGTON HOTEL. This large and commodious house, having been re-taken by the subscriber, is now open for the reception of visitors and boarders. The rooms are large, well ventilated, and comfortably furnished. The table will always be supplied with the best the market can afford. The Bar is stocked with the choicest liquors. In short, it is my purpose to keep a FIRST-CLASS HOTEL. Thanking the public for past favors, I respectfully solicit a renewal of their patronage. N. B. Hacks will run constantly between the Hotel and the Springs. may17,'67:1y WM. DIBERT, Prop'r.

MISCELLANEOUS.

RUPP & SHANNON, BANKERS, BEDFORD, PA. BANK OF DISCOUNT AND DEPOSIT. Collections made for the East, West, North and South, and the general business of Exchange transacted. Notes and Accounts Collected and Remittances promptlymade. REAL ESTATE bought and sold. feb22

DANIEL BORDER, PITT STREET, TWO DOORS WEST OF THE BEDFORD HOTEL, BEDFORD, PA. WATCHMAKER AND DEALER IN JEWELRY, SPECTACLES, &C. He keeps on hand a stock of fine Gold and Silver Watches, Spectacles of Brilliant Double Refined Glasses, also Scotch Pebble Glasses. Gold Watch Chains, Breast Pins, Finger Rings, best quality of Gold Pens. He will supply to order any thing in his line not on hand. [apr.28,'65.

O YES! O YES!—The undersigned has taken out auction license, and tenders his services to all who have sales or auctions to cry. Give him a call. Post Office address, Spring Meadows, Bedford county, Penn'a. April5:6m* HENRY B. MOCK.

Poetry.

THE MYSTERY OF NATURE.

BY THEADORE TILTON.

The works of God are fair for naught,
 Unless our eyes, in seeing,
See hidden in the thing the thought
 That animates its being.

The outward form is not the whole,
 But every part is moulded
To image forth an inward soul,
 That dimly is unfolded.

The shadow, pictured in the lake
 By every tree that trembles,
Is cast for more than just the sake
 Of that which it resembles.

The dew falls nightly, not alone
 Because the meadows need it,
But on an errand of its own
 To human souls that heed it.

The stars are lighted in the skies
 Not merely for their shining,
But, like the looks of loving eyes,
 Have meanings worth divining.

The waves that moan along the shore,
 The winds that sigh in blowing,
Are sent to teach a mystic lore
 Which men are wise in knowing.

The clouds around the mountain-peak,
 The rivers in their winding,
Have secrets which, to all who seek,
 Are precious in the finding.

Thus Nature dwells within our reach,
 But, though we stand so near her,
We still interpret half her speech
 With ears too dull to hear her.

Whoever, at the coarsest sound,
 Still listens for the finest,
Shall hear the noisy world go round
 To music the divinest.

Whoever yearns to see aright,
 Because his heart is tender,
Shall catch a glimpse of heavenly light
 In every earthly splendor.

So, since the universe began,
 And till it shall be ended,
The soul of Nature, soul of Man,
 And soul of God are blended!

—*Atlantic Monthly.*

Miscellaneous.

A PROTECTIVE TARIFF.

Its Revenue and Protective Features.

Few of our people are so little interested in the subject as not to have noticed that the antagonism which exists between two classes of thinkers and actors in this country known respectively as Protectionists and Free Traders, is fast developing itself into a condition of actual warfare.

Not satisfied with feeble attempts at controversion and disquisition, the champions of free trade have sallied forth from the atmosphere of quills and inkstands to wage their cause in the arena of politics. Last year, when the manufacturing interests of this country more than ever demanded judicious protection, the quasi free traders of the West and a few legislators from the East, for want of something to make a reputation upon, seized this new sensation of free trade, and adopted that for the purpose. These mistaken persons, led on by the unscrupulous men collectively known as the "American Free Trade League," managed to exert sufficient influence in Congress to defeat the bill, than which, as a measure of commercial necessity, nothing could have been more wise, reasonable, or well adapted to the circumstances of our manufacturing interests. Through the same opposition this bill when brought up again in Congress during the winter, was again stifled, and it was only as an unavoidable necessity that this same meddlesome clique suffered to pass the Wool bill in March previous to the adjournment of the Thirty ninth Congress.

Since that time the Free Trade League has commenced the publication of an organ specially devoted to its interests. This by itself furnishes no indication of the growth of their pernicious doctrines, the organ alluded to being altogether of too weak a nature to afford any further indication of the progress of the League than that of mere existence. But we believe it to be an unquestionable fact that under the teachings of European economists, who understand nothing about American affairs, and the shallow reasonings of their disciples here, who under stand, if possible, less, the doctrine of free trade has obtained such extensive support in this country that it will not do any longer to ignore its existence. With few exceptions, the leading papers of this city are devoted to its cause, and the influence of the metropolitan press is such, that unless immediate and energetic steps are taken, it is not unreasonable to expect that before a long while the leading papers of the country will unthinkingly be led into the same channel. There is evidently but one way of dealing with this evil, and that way is to give it battle. To enter the lists unarmed, against an opponent as well prepared as is the Free Trade League, fed as it is with foreign gold, and petted as it is in the clubs, would be sheer madness. For these reasons we call upon the manufacturing interests of the country, and we call almost in the tone of a right, for their support of a journal which is intended to be especially devoted to their interests in this great cause. Unless they wish to see the entire value of their investments swept away by acts of legislation either of commission or omission; unless they wish to see the industrious poor around them suddenly thrown out of employment and reduced to beggary; unless they wish to see the entire commercial interests of the country brought to a sudden stand still, and the whole land agitated by a financial convulsion, let them respond at once to every reasonable effort which may be made to avert these calamities, and particularly to such a one as the present, which, in this land of newspapers and newspaper readers, has always proved the most efficacious. It is now to be seen which side will enlist in its favor the potent engine of *popular opinion*, for without this neither cause can hope to permanently triumph; and let it not be said, should popular opinion be won for a cause so plainly false as that of free trade, that it was won through any listlessness or apathy or want of energy on the part of American manufacturers.

For the benefit of those who have never thought it worth while to examine the arguments on this subject which have been bandied about of late, we shall now proceed to state the whole question as it stands to-day, for it is only upon a clear knowledge of the situation that proper measures can be predicated.

Left to itself without any legislation at all upon the subject—left to free trade, this broad country would support but one class of industries, and that class, agriculture. This, with a few fishing establishments on the coast, and a few manufactories for the heavy and more bulky class of goods, would constitute the support of the entire country; and in this condition the United States would be entirely dependent upon the markets of Europe.

If the harvests in Europe were bad, a great advantage to this country would ensue. Our grain would be sold at high prices, and for a single year everything would go as "happily as a marriage bell." With the proceeds of our exports of agriculture we would purchase enormous quantities of foreign manufactures, and the country would be stocked with these wares from the lakes to the gulf. If next year the harvests of Europe turned out to be even tolerably good, all this would be changed. The enormous overplus of grain which would remain in our warehouses without purchasers would rot upon our hands. In short, there would be no sale for the only thing we had to sell; and a year of desolation and misery would inevitably follow. Since in the long run there are more good harvests than bad ones in Europe—as indeed there ought to be, even without the advantages of the application of superabundant capital and improved culture, a bad European harvest is a rarity—the result would be that only once in ten or a dozen years should we be able to dispose of our surplus produce to advantage. This is the millennium to which free trade desires to bring us—the condition of an agricultural community without a market—the condition of Southern Russia; the condition of Egypt; the condition of India. Who ever heard of an agricultural country that was rich; or of a manufacturing country that was poor? The reason that these things can never be is plain enough. The fruits of manufacture can be replanted and grown twenty times over within the year; the fruits of agriculture but once. The cultivation of the earth is essentially a slow process, depending as it does upon heat, moisture, the seasons; in short, upon a long concatenation of circumstances over which man has no control. The farmer depends upon the skill, energy, effort, and capital properly applied. To avoid such a condition of affairs as we have pictured, there is but one remedy—that of a protective tariff; a tariff sufficiently high to discourage foreign importation and to encourage the growth and support of American manufactures—such manufactures as the agriculturist demands in return for the products of the soil. In this way, not only is the farmer gratified in obtaining the clothing, implements, and other manufactures he stands in need of, in exchange for his agricultural products, but a new market is built up for the latter, in the shape of the large industrial class who manufacture for him the wares he requires. This reciprocal relation, once established, makes the country entirely independent of foreign markets, while on the other hand no one is prohibited from selling his products abroad, and he will doubtless export them whenever he can do so to advantage. The foreign market is still as open as it ever was, and if there is anything to be gained by supplying it, surely nobody is prevented from doing so. On the other hand, manufactures have been established, which, after answering the great purpose we have mentioned, work still further benefit to the country; they accommodate large classes of persons who are unfit for agricultural employment, and who would never, in any event, make successful agriculturists. They take advantage of and economize the natural resources that surround us on all sides—water-power, fuel, and convenient transportation; and added to this, they place the country in such a state of preparation that in the event of war it is enabled to equip and send armies into the field or navies over the seas, and to maintain them to the end of the contests in which they are to be engaged. This is one reason for a protective tariff. We shall now furnish another.

The amount of revenue required for the support of this Government for the next two years, without paying off any debt at all, is estimated at about eight hundred millions of dollars. This revenue is required for various purposes, which are roughly as follows:—

Two Years' Expenditures.	*Million Dollars.*
Civil List	27
Foreign Intercourse (including Russian purchase)	11
Navy Department	50
War Department	300
Pensions	40
Indians	10
Miscellaneous	70
Interest on Public Debt	290
Total	798

Now, there are two ways of raising a revenue. One is by taxation, the other by loans. As for borrowing money, we believe it will be conceded that we have done enough of that already—the national debt now amounting to twenty five hundred millions of dollars, and the voice of the people being unmistakably towards lowering instead of increasing it. The revenue demanded for the purposes of the Government must therefore come from taxes. Of taxes there are two kinds—internal and external, or customs-duties. If our revenue is derived altogether from internal taxes, the desire of the Free Trade League would be at once gratified. The man who makes a pair of shoes in Massachusetts will be taxed from one to two dollars on his manufacture; while the product of the English or French shoemaker will be admitted into the country free of taxes of all kinds. The man who raises wool in Iowa will be taxed twenty-five cents per pound on his product, while the South American and the Dutch Boor of the Cape will be permitted to land the fleeces of his foreign flocks upon our shores free from taxes. The Kentuckian distiller of spirits will be charged two dollars for every gallon he manufactures, while he of Islay or Cognac will be invited to import his product unattended by any tax. In a word, to derive the large revenue required by this Government exclusively from internal taxes, would not only destroy the business of every manufacturer in this country, by furnishing a positive premium to all foreign competitors, but it will throw out of employment every man, woman, and child in the country dependent for their suport on any other industry but agriculture, and even a great portion of the latter, by depriving them of that home market which, under a wise though often baffled system of protection, has been slowly and laboriously built up in this country. But public opinion clearly stands for a decrease of internal taxes; the people are everywhere murmuring; the taxes are unconscionably high; the tax-gatherer is seen in every house; he pries into every man's affairs, and subjects a free people to domiciliary visits, a thing that we have stood long enough, and which we never would have stood at all, had it not been for a temporary and patriotic purpose. One half of the present revenue of the Government is derived from customs duties, and the popular tendency being unmistakably in favor of lowering internal taxes, as a necessary consequence the customs duties must be raised, in order that the amount of revenue shall be obtained which the requirements of the Government demand. An increase of the tariff being conceded, it only remains to discuss in what direction this increase shall go on. Shall it be upon those articles of common use which find their way into every poor man's house, so that his present heavy burden, instead of being alleviated, would only be rendered more unbearable? Shall it be upon sugar, now no longer an article of luxury but one of urgent necessity? Shall it be upon coffee? upon tea? upon rice—all of them belonging to the same catalogue, of articles of necessity, and all already taxed as high as they can stand, and of large consumption among the poorer classes? Or shall it be upon French silks, laces, kid gloves, British iron, and Cape wool, and such other articles of foreign produce as are likewise raised or manufactured in this country? To increase the duties on tea, sugar, and coffee would answer but one end—that of raising the required revenue. To increase the duties on textile fabrics, iron, and wool, would answer two ends—that of raising a revenue, and likewise of protecting American manufacturers. To increase the duties on tea, sugar, and coffee would still further burden the poor. To increase them on textile fabrics, iron, and wool would mainly burden the rich, who consume the products that fall under these classes in greater proportion than the poor. The rich wear silks, laces, kid gloves, embroideries, jewelry, ornaments of various sorts, the richer fabrics of cotton and wool, and thousands of other articles to which the poor are comparative strangers. It is upon these things that an increase of customs duties should fall, for if there is any truth well established in political economy, it is this—that taxes fall upon the consumer in proportion as he consumes. Let the taxes, therefore, be upon such articles as are mainly consumed by the rich, who consume more largely than the poor, and following this policy out to the point where it will enter into practical legislation, it will result in what alone it should result, namely, a strong protective tariff.—*N. Y. Protectionist.*

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING A TRADE.

We do not intend, under this heading, to speak of the importance of becoming an apprentice to any mechanical business, but of the importance of learning—acquiring—a trade, of becoming a workman at the business chosen. It is not enough that a young man goes into a shop and works for a longer or a shorter period as a neophyte, but that he becomes master of the rudiments of his business. The country is filled with unfinished mechanics, every trade is overburdened with the miserable hangers on who, professing a knowledge of a business, bring it into disrepute by their incompetency. There is no bond in this country, by which a master can control the time of an apprentice for a period sufficient to remunerate the employer for the losses sustained in the early stages of the apprenticeship, or to give the apprentice a proper knowledge of his business. The apprentice is free to leave his master and employment, whenever, in his opinion, he has collected scraps enough of superficial knowledge to set up as an independent worker. He becomes dissatisfied with the character of his work or the amount of compensation, and, finding other work and larger pay, he quits his master's employment just when his services have begun to be valuable, thus committing a fraud upon his employer and doing a great injury to himself.

In no case is the term required to learn a trade too long. According to the value and difficulties of the business, it varies from three to seven years, and the most faithful and observant apprentice, after having filled his full term of apprenticeship, finds he has much to learn before he can honestly claim to be entirely and thoroughly competent. For at least a few months the apprentice is a constant source of anxiety and expense. From want of experience, or from heedlessness, or dislike to the particular job given him, he breaks tools and ruins work enough in a week to cover all the profits of his work for months. The employer bears with this, patiently or impatiently as the case may be, in the hope that during the last part of the novitiate's apprenticeship he may reap some return from the profits of his work. Under such circumstances it must be very vexatious to have an apprentice leave just when he is becoming, in some measure, useful. Yet it is a common occurrence in this country. Apprentices seem too often to be devoid of conscience and wanting in the principles of common honesty.

Nor is such conduct of any real, permanent advantage to the apprentice. He becomes the Bohemian of the workshop, a waif driven hither and thither, having a smattering of knowledge and yet understanding no one thing thoroughly. His services are not sought; he is only a "Jack-at-a-pinch," to be used merely to fill a space otherwise empty. Scores of such half-baked mechanics can be picked up any day; they infest shops, torment employers, and disgrace the business they falsely profess to understand. They are industrial vagrants, if such a term is permissable, to be shunned and despised by every honorable workman. "Unstable as water, they cannot excel."

The ambition of the apprentice to be ranked among journeymen is a laudable one when properly directed, but it can only be realized by an honest and persistent sticking to his obvious and plain duties. If he ever expects to teach he must first be taught; if he desires to direct he should submit to direction. What this country needs in the industrial arts is finished workmen. They are scarce and always in demand. A competent and intelligent workman is seldom wanting a good job. When business is slack the incompetents are first discharged, while the valuable workman is kept often at a serious pecuniary loss to his employer, simply because it is difficult to fill his place.

These considerations have nothing new in them, but because they are so trite and hackneyed they are not enough considered by apprentices. We earnestly invite their attention to the subject, believing it will be to their present and prospective advantage to deal honestly in this as well as other respects.—*Scientific American.*

MEN are like bugles; the more brass they contain the more noise they make, and the farther you can hear them. Ladies are like violets; the more modest and retiring they appear the better you like them.

THE CUBAN CABLE.

The United States and Cuba are now connected by an ocean telegraph, and it is probable that the end of the present year will find us in instant communication with all the West India Islands; and that a very short time only will elapse before we shall have, by the same means, daily reports from the Cape of Good Hope and the Republic of Liberia. The first line of the long-proposed scheme of an ocean telegraph line via the West Indies to South America and the African Coast has been successfully laid. This enterprise was conducted by the International Ocean Telegraph Company of New York. This company was organized in 1865, the original projectors being Capt. Jas. A. Scrymser and Alfred Pell, Jr., Gen. William F. Smith being subsequently associated with them and assuming charge as president of this company. It first built a line through Florida 400 miles in length, which is already operating from New York to Key West. The Cuban submarine cable was finished in England, and was shipped from Liverpool on June 27, direct far Havana. The work of submerging it began during the first part of last month; but on the 7th ult. the cable was unfortunately broken about midway between Key West and Havana. And after several days spent in grappling, the wire was drawn to the surface of the water, a successful splice made, and the great work accomplished. The several islands of the group, including Jamaica, St. Domingo, St. Thomas, &c., are within short distances of each other, and great inducements have been made to secure the extension. The Government of Spain granted a concession, giving the International Ocean Telegraph Company the exclusive right for forty years to lay all cables between Cuba and the United States, and the Captain General of Cuba was directed to afford every facility in carrying out the project. The State of Florida also granted a similar exclusive concession for a period of twenty years, which was further ratified and sanctioned by the Government of the United States. The Venezuelan Government has entered into a contract with parties to connect that country with European lines by means of a telegraph cable to Cuba. The government is to pay $30,000 quarterly for thirty-three years, and have its despatches sent free. A very liberal grant has also been made by the Argentine Government to establish a telegraph line between Buenos Ayres and the Chilian frontier, which, in connection with the telegraph system of Chili and the projected coast-line of the Hispano-American Inter Communication Company from Valparaiso to Panama, for which grants are now being sought, will place the southwest and eastern coasts of South America in immediate communication with the West India Islands, the United States, and Europe. *Harper's Weekly* says: "The importance of these lines to the merchants of this country cannot be calculated. The trade of the West Indies amounts to nearly $500,000,000 a year, and, partly owing to the superior means of communication sustained by Great Britain with that region, three-fourths of this traffic is transacted directly by English merchants. The Isthmus of Panama is the natural focus of the whole trade of the Pacific. The commerce of the southwest coast, which, according to all laws political and geographical, should belong to us, is now almost entirely in the hands of the European commercial communities, attributable, mainly, to the same liberal system of postal connections whereby England fosters indirectly the establishment of markets for her principal staples. Were our merchants placed in telegraphic communication with the West India Islands, Brazil, and the Republics of Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chili, and Argentine, there would be no reason why a fair average of the commerce of these countries should not be directed to us. The success of the line to Cuba, and its extension to the other islands, and to Brazil, Panama, &c., will undoubtedly greatly affect this commerce in favor of American merchants."

THE WRITING ON THE ROCK.

Ages upon ages ago the tide was out, and the muddy beach lay smooth as this sheet of paper before me. A cloud passed over the sky, and a shower of big rain or hail came down, and pitted the mud as thick as leaves on the trees. A strong wind drove the drops, so that the impressions were a little one-sided. They had written their short history as plain as my pen can write; and even the direction from which the wind blew was recorded. Some great frogs and lizards which used to live there, came hopping over the mud, and left their tracks also deeply printed on the shore. By and by the great waves came softly stealing up, and covered the whole surface with fine sand, and so the tracks were seen no more for ages upon ages. The clay hardened into solid rock, and so did the sand; and after these thousands of years had passed away, some masons came upon the curious inscription. Men of science, who are skilled in reading these stony leaves of God's great book, read, as plainly as if they had been present, the story of that passing shower. It had been written on the softest clay, but it was read on solid rock. So your hearts to-day are like the soft clay. Everything stamps them, but the stamps are not so easy to remove. They will be there when you are grown up to be a man or woman. O, what deep, dark prints the bad words of evil associates make? But how lovely it will be to recall the record which kind and loving actions make upon the soul!

USE OF DISTILLED WATER.—In Mr. Quin's report upon the Paris Exhibition, reference is made to the use of distilled water at the Wallaroo Copper Mines in South Australia, stating that until tanks for collecting rain water had been constructed, "perhaps for the first time in the history of the world, there was a population of some thousands, with all their horses, cattle, sheep, etc., drinking *aqua distillata.*" As many readers may not be aware of the fact, it may be interesting here to mention that in the rainless region of the Pacific coast of South America, the entire population of the country between about the 18th and 28th parallels of south latitude, or some 600 miles from south to north, including the important towns of Caldera, Cobija, Iquique, Pisagua, and several minor ports, have for many years derived their supply of potable water from the sea water of the Pacific, distilled in greater part by coal imported from England, and costing above £3 per tun.

Not only is a population of many thousand inhabitants, principally engaged in the mines of this district, as well as a still larger number of beasts of burden and other animals, supplied from this source, but even the locomotives on the Copiapo and Caldera railway, and some steam engines for other purposes, are actually driven with distilled water. For a distance of some thirty to fifty miles inland from the coast, very few natural springs are met with in this rainless desert, and when met with they are seldom sufficiently free from saline matter to be potable.—*Cor. Chemical News.*

A LAUGHING DEACON.

Beecher, in his new novel, thus delineates the character of a laughing Deacon. Some genuine model doubtless sits for the portrait:

"How they ever made a Deacon out of Jerry Marble I never could imagine! His was the kindest heart that ever bubbled and run over. He was tough, elastic, incessantly active, and a prodigious worker. He seemed not to tire, but after the longest day's toil he sprang up the moment he had done with work, as if he were a fine steel spring. A few hours sleep sufficed him, and he saw the morning stars the year round? His weazened face was leather color, but forever dimpling and changing to keep some sort of congruity between itself and his eyes that winked and blinked and split all over with merry good nature. He always seemed afflicted when obliged to keep sober. He had been known to laugh in meeting on several occasions, although he ran his face between his handkerchief and coughed, as if that was the matter, yet nobody believed it. Once, on a hot summer day, he saw Deacon Trowbridge—a sober and fat man of great sobriety—gradually ascending from the bodily state into that spiritual condition entitled sleep. He was blameless of the act. He had struggled against the temptation with the whole virtue of a deacon. He had stirred himself up and fixed his eyes on the minister with intense firmness, only to have them grow gradually narrower and milder. If he held his head up firmly, it would, with a sudden lapse, fall away over backward. If he leaned it a little forward; it would drop suddenly on his bosom. At each nod, recovering himself, he would nod again with his eyes wide open to impress, upon the boys that he did it on purpose at both times.

In what other painful events of life has a good man so little sympathy as when overcome with sleep in meeting time? Against this insidious seduction he arrays every conceivable resistance. He stands up a while; he pinches himself or pricks himself with pins. He looks up helplessly to the pulpit, as if succor might possibly come from thence. He crosses his legs uncomfortably, and attempts to recite catechism or the multiplication table. He seizes a languid fan, which treacherously leaves him in a calm. He tries to reason, to notice the phenomena. Oh, that one could carry his pew to bed with him! What tossing wakefulness! what fiery chase after somnolency! In his lawful bed a man cannot sleep, and in his pew he cannot keep awake! Happy man who does not sleep in church! Deacon Trowbridge was not that man. Deacon Marble was! Deacon Marble witnessed the conflict we have sketched above, and when good Mr. Trowbridge gave his next lurch, recovering himself with a snort, and then drew out a red handkerchief and blew his nose with a loud imitation, as if to let the boys know that he had not been asleep, poor Deacon Marble was brought to a sore strait. But I have reason to think that he would have weathered the stress if it had not been for a sweet faced little boy in front of the gallery.

The lad had been innocently watching the same scene, and at its climax laughed out loud, with a frank and musical explosion, and then suddenly disappeared into his mother's lap. That laugh was just too much, and Deacon Marble could no more help laughing than could Deacon Trowbridge help sleeping. Nor could he conceal it. Though he coughed, and put up his handkerchief and hemmed—it was a laugh, deacon!—and every boy in the house knew it, and liked you better for it—so inexperienced were they!

THE WORTH OF KNOWLEDGE.

Could young men generally be persuaded to believe that "knowledge is power," and that he who possesses it has within himself all the elements of enjoyment and success in life, there would be a closer husbanding of leisure hours, fewer evenings spent in lounging upon corners, and fewer dimes and dollars expended for cigars, lager beer, tobacco, and other costly and hurtful indulgences. It were folly to assert that such ability as was possessed by Shakspeare, Scott, Macauley, Noah Webster, Agassiz, or other illustrious poets, novelists, historians, lexicographers or naturalists, is within the reach of all men; but it is sound philosophy to assume that every young man who will, may so store his mind with useful knowledge as to fit him for pleasant and profitable association with intelligent men. The evening hours which the majority of our young men fritter away in idle lounging and unprofitable conversation and association, if properly spent would give them a moral influence in society, and improve their chances of success in life to a degree that can scarcely be over-estimated. How small an amount of money is sufficient to secure to those who desire to cultivate a taste for mental information all the needed facilities? Eight dollars will purchase a share in one of our largest and best libraries, and less than a penny a day thereafter will secure to him all its privileges. Think of it young men! the fifth of the cost of that bad cigar you smoke, or of the glass of lager you drink every evening, will secure to you for that evening the perusal at home of some interesting and valuable book, or the privileges of the reading room, where are to be found nearly all the leading newspapers and magazines of our own and other countries! Surely the thrusting aside of such golden opportunities is little less than criminal, when it is remembered that their improvement would not only prove a source of lifetime enjoyment, but in almost every pursuit of life a powerful adjunct to success. He is but half fulfilling the purposes of his creation who, having within ready reach the means of improvement, fails to employ them. He is but half a man who, with books and newspapers at command, contents himself with ignorance and mere sensual enjoyments. An upright, skilful mechanic is to be commended always; but when to his skill he adds a comprehensive and cultivated intellect, he stands before the world one of nature's noblemen. Neither wealth, rank, nor power can enhance the lustre of his character. Why have we not thousands such? Viewed in a mere utilitarian light, how superior are the advantages of such a man! How much more readily will he find profitable employment: how better fitted for the discharge of duty, where he combines intelligence with skill! The well informed mind directs the masterly hand, and his labor, instead of wearying drudgery, becomes pleasant recreation.—*Philadelphia Evening Star.*

A POSER.—"Ma," said an inquisitive little girl, "will rich and poor people live together when they go to Heaven?"

"Yes, my dear, they will be all the same there."

"Then Ma, why don't rich and poor Christians associate here."

The mother did not answer.

THOSE who blow the coals of others, strife may chance to have the sparks fly in their own faces.

A LOOK AT THE STARS.

The study of the calm, eternal stars, aided by the multifarious appliances of science, advances with the civilization of the centuries and the growth of human intellect. The constant recurrence of astrononmical phenomena has rendered scientific study of the planets a permanent necessity, and students of the stars are now almost as plenteous as "leaves in Vallambrosa." These mellow August nights, when the sky is not obscured by rainy clouds, are very favorable for a contemplation of the firmament and its teeming mysteries and marvels. If the night be cloudless there will be spread out before the observer the most magnificent spectacle that the mind can conceive of, the greater and more conspicuous planets gleaming with marvelous brilliancy in the midst of constellations that have clustered since the morning stars sang together, and the lesser satellites glinting the broad expanse of the heavens like a tremulous swarm of beautiful fire flies. Piercing the meridian of these splendid August nights may be seen the most brilliant star of the northern hemisphere, Vega—or as it is more commonly called Lyra, from the name of the constellation of which it is the crowning gem. Distant from the earth about eighteen thousand times further than our planet is from the sun, yet it seems to be one of our nearest celestial neighbors. Its primary brilliancy is about three and a half times greater than that of the sun, and its light is twenty one years reaching us. The constellation to which this star belongs contains only twenty one stars. Lyra or Vega, Episiton and Zeta, the two small stars East of it, Delta in the middle, and Beta and Gamma in the garland of the harp, are all that to the ordinary observers are large enough to attract attention standing where a full sweep of the sky can be obtained and facing the South. At the left will be seen the mighty planet Jupiter, which on the twenty sixth inst, will be distant from the earth four hundred millions of miles, which is two hundred millions of miles less than the greatest distance to which it ever recedes from us. The large yellow star on the right, not far from the horizon, is the planet Saturn; and not quite so far to the West, and nearer the horizon, is the fiery-red star Antares, the heart of the constellation, known as the Scorpion. There are other first magnitude stars, visible upon any clear night, all of rare brilliancy and beauty. The stars of August, full of the sublime and subtle mysteries of the universe, and all perfect and harmonious parts of that problem of the Infinite which surpasses human solution are indeed a study of the grandest and most instructive character.

LIFE'S AUTUMN.

Like the leaf, life has its fading. We speak and think of it with sadness, just as we think of the autumn season. But there should be no sadness at the fading of a life that has done well its work. If we rejoice at the advent of a new life; if we welcome the coming of a new pilgrim to the uncertainty of this world's way, why should there be so much gloom when all the uncertainties are past, and life at its waning wears the glory of a complete task? Beautiful as childhood is in its freshness and innocence, its beauty is that of untried life. It is the beauty of promise, of spring, of the bud. A holier and rarer beauty is the beauty which the waning life of faish and duty wears.

It is the duty of a thing completed; and as men come together when some great work is achieved, and see in its concluding nothing but gladness, so ought we to feel when the setting sun flings back its beams upon a life that has answered well its purposes. When the bud drops are blighted, and there goes all hope of the harvest, one may well be sad; but when the ripened year sinks amid the garniture of autumn flowers and leaves, why should we regret or murmur? And so a life that is ready and waiting to hear the "well done" of God, whose latest virtues are its noblest, should be given back to God in uncomplaining reverence, we rejoicing that earth is capable of so much gladness, and is permitted such virtue.

PRINCE SALM SALM.—In connection with the report from Mexico that Prince Salm Salm had been condemned to death, the following from the Atlanta *Intelligencer*, will be read with interest: Soon after the "surrender" this unfortunate individual was placed in command of the Federal troops then occupying the city. He was a genial, jovial and eccentric individual of generous disposition, much given to pet dogs, squirrels, fast driving, and other *fast* affairs. The good people who were then occupying Atlanta in its desolation, were treated kindly by this German Prince and never had, we believe, cause to utter complaint at his rule. The truth is, the prince Salm Salm would forgive almost any offense, even a military one, provided it was asked for. In one respect, however, he was inexorable, and woe to the individual who trespassed upon that tender point. Rude treatment of any of his "pets"—his horses, squirrels, dogs, birds, snakes, *et cetera*—inflamed his wrath and brought down always severe denunciations as well as punishment upon the unfortunate offender. He lived a dashy life while in Atlanta, and left our city with as little reluctance as he entered it, for to him all places were alike. Soon after his departure from Atlanta, we noticed his entrance into Maximilian's service in Mexico.

A TRAVELLER stopped at a public house in Maine for the purpose of getting dinner, knocked but received no answer. Going in he found a little white headed man in the embrace of his wife, who had his head under her arm, while with the other she was giving her lord a pounding. Wishing to put an end to the fight, our traveller knocked on the table, and called out in a load voice, "Hallo, there! who keeps this house?" The husband, though much out of breath, answered. "Stranger, that's what we are trying to decide!"

IT is said that after a horse is nine years old, a wrinkle comes on the eyelid at the upper corner of the lower lid, and every year thereafter he has one well defined wrinkle for each year over nine. If, for instance, a horse has three wrinkles, he is twelve; if four he is thirteen, etc.

AT a recent wedding in Nashville, "the bride and groom knelt and joined hands from opposite sides of a table, in the middle of the altar, on which was an open Bible covered with a wreath of flowers. A beautiful pyramid of flowers was suspended over their heads from the ceiling.

WEDDINGS.—One month from marriage makes a sugar wedding; one year makes a paper wedding; five years a wooden wedding; ten years a tin wedding; twenty five years a silver wedding; fifty years a golden wedding; and seventy five years a diamond wedding.

A woman may speak as many tongues as she will, but don't let her do it with too long a one of her own.