The Early Rain.

Down through the misty air,
Down from the gloom above,
Falling, pattering everywhere,
The rain comes quick with love,
Softly the mieel-thrush
Sings in the golden storm;
The robin under a laurel bush
Waits for to-morrow morn.

Drip, drip, drip from the eaves,
Pit, pit, pit on the pane,
Swish, swish, swish on the drenched leaves
List! 'tis the song of the rain!
Grasses are bending low,
Green is the corn and thick,
You can almost see the nettles grow,
They grow so strong and quick.

Soft is the wind from the west,
Softer the rain's low sigh;
The sparrow washes his smoky breast,
And watches the gloomy sky.
Stirred are the boughs by the breeze,
Scarcely a leaf is still,
Something is moving among the trees
Like a restless spirit of ill.

Standing watching the rain,
Do you no seem to hear
The voice of God outspeaken
To man's ungrateful ear?
Promising plenty and peace,
Gainers with treasure heaped,
That seed time and harvest shall not cease
Till the Harvest of Earth is reaped.

— *The Argosy.*

The Silver Whistle.

We were all traveling with papa in the Tyrol, when a telegram summoning him to Vienna to the bedside of a dying friend came to interrupt our plans. He installed Letty and me in a comfortable room in the fine new hotel at Toblach, gave us his blessing, a double allowance of pocket money, and left us, with strict injunctions to stay quietly at home till his return, as he did not approve of his daughters traveling about alone in a foreign country.

Letty and I amused ourselves very well for the first few days, driving over the picturesque roads and through parts of the beautiful Ampezzo valley. We gathered gentian and mountain strawberries, and lost our way in the big wilderness of garden at the back of the hotel; filled our presse botanique with handfuls of floral treasures, and then began to weary a little of our strictly rural pleasures.

We were the only Americans in the hotel, and we found few congenial friends among the host of strangers arriving and departing every day. We had read all our books, written all our letters, and were feeling very moped—it was a rainy day, dull and unpromising—when Letty spelled out from the German newspaper the following announcement:

"Her majesty the queen of Italy, on her way to Lirnz, intends to honor Sachsenburg with a brief sojourn, arriving on the 13th. The people of Sachsenburg are preparing for a grand fete to honor her majesty."

"Sachsenburg, that is not very far from here, on the railroad," said Letty. "Oh, Helen, let us go! Queen Margherita is so very lovely, and we may never have the chance of seeing her again, and the fete, too, will be well worth seeing. The town will be one great bower of flowers, and all the peasants will appear in their best holiday costume. Do say you will go, Letty—it's so dull here."

"But have you forgotten that papa asked us to stay quietly here, and not go roaming about without him?" I said, gravely.

"Oh, my dear, conscientious old goose? it is not traveling to go to Sachsenburg to see the queen."

"Sachsenburg is a ten hours' journey from here, and we should have to be away for three days at least to make the trip worth while."

"So much the better; I am frightfully tired of this place, and papa's return is delayed for another week."

But I need not repeat our discussion further. Letty carried the day in this instance as in most others, and I—her staid, elder sister, her senior by ten years, and her nominal mentor and guardian—meekly gave in to her wishes.

Equipped with light hand-luggage, umbrellas and shawls, we set off in the omnibus the next day, with many injunctions from our Wirth to inquire carefully the hours of arrival and departure of the trains, as the time-tables were often inaccurate in this part of the world.

Our only fellow-traveler in the railway carriage was a gentleman apparently about thirty, with pleasant brown eyes, a straight, slender nose, and an indescribable air of good-breeding about him from the slender toe of his boot to the closely trimmed hair beneath his soft traveling cap.

He looked often at Letty; not impertinently, but as any well-bred man looks at a pretty girl sitting opposite him on a long journey. Letty, with her violet eyes darkening at times almost to black, her delicate color like an alabaster lamp with a rosy flame within, and her charmingly graceful figure, made excusable more obtrusive admiration than this man's.

Animation and pleasure at our trip made her doubly attractive, and I could not blame the brown eyes opposite for often wandering to her pretty face.

I did not like to seem stiff; so presently I spoke to the stranger, who had been attentive about stowing away our luggage and screening us from the brilliant sun.

He answered pleasantly, in a low, musical voice that I liked, and we were soon all three chatting together over our various experiences of the summer.

He proved to be an Englishman, and the name engraved upon the card which he presented me in the course of conversation was Romney Mordaunt, of Mordaunt Hall, Surrey. His destination was further than ours; and at Reichthal, where we were to change carriages for Sachsenburg, we must separate.

Letty seemed to share heartily my approval of our traveling-companion, and I almost wished she would not smile upon him so confidingly, nor bewitch him with her bright, half-saucy speeches, for he was a stranger, after all, and might prove unworthy of our trust.

Gradually I began to think myself a very poor chaperon for my pretty little sister, and I tried to look fierce and forbidding, but it was no use, and my furtive plucks and nudges at Letty were quite ineffectual. When I flattered myself I was looking awfully grim, she actually put out her pretty pink palm at Mr. Mordaunt's request to have her fortune read.

The time sped very quickly, and shortly before our arrival at Reichthal, our companion began to tell us some amusing stories of his life in the Indian jungle. He showed us a curious little whistle that had often served him to signal his lost companions, which had a curious shrill, bird-like tone, unlike anything of the kind we had heard before.

As Letty was returning Mr. Mordaunt the whistle—a pretty little silver toy that she much admired—he said:

"Please keep it, Miss Weir, as a souvenir of one more idler whom fate has thrown in your way. Imagine that it is charmed, and if you are in distress a note from the whistle would bring me to the rescue—if I am worthy that honor—as Oberon flew to the assistance of Huon."

Letty could not refuse the little gift so gracefully tendered, and her evident pleasure in it seemed to reward Mr. Mordaunt three-fold.

At about 11 o'clock at night I heard the guard call out "Reichthal!" with great regret, for here we must lose our amusing companion, and I could see plainly that the pleasantest part of the journey was over for him.

At Reichthal we made an unwelcome discovery; we had missed connection with the Sachsenburg train, and to reach our destination we would have to wait till 5 o'clock in the morning of the next day.

"What will you do in the meantime?" asked Mr. Mordaunt. "I have ten minutes before my train goes; if I could be of any service to you about engaging a room at the hotel, or in any other way, I should be most happy."

"I think, Helen, it would be better not to go to a hotel," said Letty; "we should never wake up for the 5 o'clock train if we went to bed, and we can't waste so much time waiting for the next train.

"Yes," I answered, "we could get some refreshments here and spend the remainder of the night in the waiting-room—it is not quite five hours."

Our funds would not admit of much extravagance on the trip, as the allowance papa had given us had dwindled during his prolonged absence, and I was glad of Letty's economical suggestion. Something in Mr. Mordaunt's manner gave the idea that he did not approve quite of our plan, but he was too polite to say anything against it. He ordered a waiter to attend us, inquired if we would be allowed to pass the night in the waiting-room, brought us a favorable answer, and then, as the locomotive whistled sharply, he reluctantly took his leave, and disappeared in the darkness.

"I wish he had staid with us—it is so lonely in this strange place," said Letty, with a little shiver.

"Nonsense, child! It would have been obtrusive and indelicate of him to give us so much of his society; we never saw him before to day, and why should he alter his plans for us?"

I spoke boldly—but I, too, felt deserted and forlorn in the little railway coffee room; a language I but indifferently understood being spoken about me—not a familiar face to be seen but Letty's frightened one, and midnight just past.

We were the only women in the place, and I did not fancy the look of the men hovering about. Some were playing cards in a corner, and others sat silently over tall glasses of beer, giving us furtive glances which I tried to ignore.

"Letty, you ought not to wear that ring on a journey, or, if you will wear it, you ought to keep your glove on; it is very tempting to a thief," I said, nervously, as the light caught Letty's diamond—papa's present on her birthday—while she put back her veil, and made my eyes ache with its sparkle.

At that moment I saw the ugly, dark face of a man close against the window pane outside watching us intently. He turned away quickly as he saw me looking at him, but I had time to note his heavy, rough beard, unkempt hair and coarse big throat.

The horrible thought seized me that he had seen Letty's ring, and would try to rob us. I said nothing to my sister of my fears, but felt intensely relieved when the porter appeared with a lantern to escort us to the waiting-room.

He informed us that we would have the room quite to ourselves, but that we must consent to be locked in. It was the strict rule that the door be locked after the departure of the last night train, and according to the regulations passengers were not allowed to spend the night on the premises; he had only made an exception in our favor. Furthermore, we must make up our minds to dispense with a light, as every one went away but the guard, and the place must be left in darkness.

This was appalling, to be locked up for four hours in a pitch-dark room; but there was apparently no other alternative.

At last, by a judicious fee, I prevailed upon the man to allow us to bolt one door on the inside, so that we would not feel quite in durance vile.

The clock struck, and the porter, hurrying us into the dreary little den, went away with his light before we could get more than a glimpse of our surroundings.

"It is a consolation to know that the guard is on duty outside," I said, trying to stifle a sigh.

"Perhaps we are not alone in this dreadful place, after all," said Letty, stumbling over a chair; "and some one may jump at us out of the darkness."

At this cheerful suggestion I bethought me of some wax matches in my satchel, and lighted one, shielding its flame as well as I could from observation outside.

We hastily explored our prison—a tall iron stove, a table, some cane chairs and two long benches with hard leather cushions, none of them inviting repose; but of other living presence than our own there was no trace.

Pillowed upon our waterproofs and each other, we tried to snatch an hour's sleep, but I, at least, became preternaturally wakeful. Here were we, two unprotected women, dropped down at an obscure little wayside station at dead of night, with not a soul nearer than the mile-distant hotel to help us in case of need. There were suspicious characters lurking about, and our only protection a glass door and the guard, who might be a coward or a knave; we could be robbed and murdered, and no one would know.

The guard's slow, heavy step passing at long intervals, and the gleam of his lantern on his scarlet cap, gave me a little sense of security, but I was very miserable nevertheless, and heartily wished we had not disobeyed papa. In the midst of my reflection, I heard stealthy steps approaching the inner door of the waiting-room and the grating of a key quietly turned in the lock. I began trembling violently, and the next instant, to my horror, the door opened and the dark-faced man whom I had seen through the window of the coffee-room, crept softly in with a dim lantern in his hand.

"Listen," he said, in German, in a hoarse whisper, fixing me with his evil eye, "if you are quiet and sensible I will do you no harm; but if you make the least disturbance, I know how to silence you," and he showed a murderous-looking knife at his belt. "I have come for the diamond the young one wears on her finger and any other jewels and money that you may have about you. Be quick and silent; give me these things, and make no resistance as you value your lives."

I suppose I grew very white and trembling, for Letty said in a firm voice that astonished me:

"Do as he says, Helen—our lives are worth more than a few trumpery jewels."

I pushed our small portmanteau toward the robber with my foot; he put it on the floor just before the door through which he had entered, set his lantern on the table, and began undoing the straps of the portmanteau.

How eagerly and vainly we listened for the tramp of the guard at that moment, but he appeared to have vanished from the face of the earth.

"The rascal evidently thinks the other door is locked on the outside, as he is not watching us," said Letty, gliding like a phantom toward the door next the platform.

While the man busily overhauled our effects she slipped the bolt with as little noise as if it glided over velvet, and then said to me:

"I am going to make one bold effort to save my ring; I shall dash that man's lantern to the ground with this bundle of shawls—in the darkness we shall have the advantage of him, as no obstacle is between us and the door. We can rush out and scream for the guard, and I am sure this wretch will not dare to follow us."

"Oh, but Letty, the danger!" I moaned; the man could not understand us, so we could say what we chose.

"Don't think of the danger, but be ready to open the door as I smash the lantern."

Letty, with a well-directed aim, sent our thick roll of shawls flying over the table, and we were all in darkness.

The next instant my sister and I were rushing like mad creatures down the platform, shrieking for the guard whose slouching figure we could see in the distance.

Strangely enough he did not or would not hear us, and, horror of horrors, the burglar was hurrying after us, the light of his lantern gleaming upon his knife blade!

Letty, in despair, put her silver whistle to her lips and blew till its peculiar note rang out like a clarion in the still air.

Directly afterward we heard the sound of hastily approaching footsteps, whether for good or evil we could not tell.

Letty's courage had failed her, and she leaned on me half-fainting with fright, when a voice calling, in English, "Hallo! What is the matter? What are you rascals doing?" revived her.

Two men came running toward us, one of whom, to our amazement and delight, we recognized as Mr. Mordaunt, our traveling companion.

We hung upon him, and hovered over him with tears, hysterical laughter and incoherent thanks, and during our confused explanations did not notice that both robber and guard quietly disappeared.

Mr. Mordaunt accounted for his presence as follows: As he left us in the coffee-room he noticed a suspicious-looking pair of fellows about the platform who seemed to be discussing us; the waiters also were talking together over the vagaries of the two American heiresses who were going to spend the night at the station, and Mr. Mordaunt concluded that we might be subjected to annoyance, if nothing more.

He therefore decided to wait himself for the next train, and not liking to intrude further upon us had whiled away the time smoking and chatting with another belated traveler, within sight of our temporary prison.

He had strayed some distance down the road, when the sound of Letty's whistle reached his ears as a sound of distress.

"What I can't understand is this rascally guard having deserted his post so shamefully," said our rescuer, ringing at a huge bell which hung near.

Presently lights were seen approaching, and a few sleepy-looking men gathered wonderingly about us. One of them stumbled over something lying in a dark corner.

"What is this!" he exclaimed. "Adolf Harle, the nightguard, in a drunken sleep. He will lose his post for this neglect of duty."

It was afterward discovered that Adolf Harle, the real guard, had been drugged over his evening glass of beer by two ruffians, one of whom had invested himself with the watchman's duties, lantern and cap, while the other made his daring attempt upon Letty and me.

"He only got some sham earrings and an ivory brush from the portmanteau, and I saved my ring!" said Letty, triumphantly.

Fright and excitement had cooled our desire to see her majesty, Queen Margherita, and on the following day we returned to Toblach, Mr. Mordaunt accompanying us.

When papa returned five days later, Romney Mordaunt met him with the request for the hand of his younger daughter in marriage, a request which my father could not refuse when he looked into Letty's radiant eyes.

Prehistoric Mining in Michigan.

The Lake Superior mines have the advantage of producing metal free from any alloy of antimony or nickel or arsenic. In many of the mines great masses of native metal are found so large that they must be cut in place with chisels.

All the more important mines are situated on the ancient workings of a prehistoric race. They seem to have been ignorant of the fact that copper could be melted, for they left behind them the fragments too small to use and the masses too heavy to lift. Every day they subjected it to a temperature nearly high enough, without making a discovery which would have lifted them out of the Stone Age into the Bronze Age, and perhaps have enabled them to survive the struggle in which they perished. They must have been very numerous, and have reached the point of development where they were capable of organizing industry.

In Isle Royale, near the Minong mine, their pits, excavated to a depth of from ten to twenty feet in the solid rock, cover an area of from three to four hundred feet wide and more than a mile and a half in length. The labor expended here cannot have been much short of that involved in building a pyramid. Isle Royale is ten miles from the nearest land, and is incapable of producing food, so that all supplies except fish must have been brought from some distant point. Their excavations could of course never go below the point at which water would accumulate. Their hammers, frequently to the number of several thousand, are found in heaps where they were evidently placed at the end of the season. As no graves or evidences of habitations are found, we can hardly doubt that the ancient miners lived south of the great lakes, and made yearly journeyings with fleets of canoes to the copper mines. The aggregate amount of the metal which they carried off must have been very great, and it has, I believe, been generally thought that the copper implements of the ancient Mexicans came from this source. M. Charnay in a recent number of the *North American* seems to think that the Mexicans reduced copper from its ores. A chemical analysis of their hatchets would solve the question, for Lake Superior copper is so free from alloys as to be unmistakable.

The superintendent of the old Caledonia mine in Ontonagon county kindly took me to the top of a cliff where three Cornish "tributers"—miners working not for wages but for a share of the product—had cleared out one of the ancient pits in the outcrop of the vein. They had brought out a quantity of copper, and had just uncovered a large mass which would weigh certainly not less than seven tons. Many battered stone hammers lay around the mouth of the pit. The active little Englishmen, belonging to a race of hereditary miners perhaps as old as the mound-builders themselves, had come around the world from the East to finish the work of the departed Asiatic race from the West at a time to which no date can be assigned. Not far away another party had cut down a dead cedar to make props for their tunnel. As they were putting the log in position, from its center dropped a small but perfectly formed stone hammer which had never been used. It was made from a stone found, I believe, only on the north shore of the lake. This tree was not far from two hundred and fifty years old; but as cedar is almost indestructible in this climate, it may have been dead several hundred years. The axman said that he had found several hammers in the center of cedars. It would seem barely possible that this hammer had been placed in a cleft of the tree, when it was a sapling, that the wood might grow around the groove and serve as a handle. At all events, this one, which I have, was certainly placed where it was—about thirty inches from the ground—by human hands, undoubtedly by the ancient miner himself, when the tree was a twig.—*Harper's Magazine.*

The Child's Escape.

At Harrisburg, Pa., recently, while Forepaugh's show was starting on its street parade, one of the elephants wandered from the herd and could not be controlled, and, in his excitement, rushed toward the crowd, which swayed back in much excitement. A lady named Wise had a baby carriage in charge with a child in it, and in her efforts to get out of the crowd, found herself and carriage in front of the elephant. With great presence of mind Mrs. Wise snatched her child from the carriage, and in the next instant the front foot of the monster crushed down in the carriage, completely demolishing it.

While the school laws of Utah expressly forbid the use of public school funds for the support of sectarian or denominational schools the book of Mormon and the Mormon catechism are used as text-books, and children have been expelled for refusal to study them. No teachers can obtain employment in those schools except members of the Mormon church paying tithes regularly.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Eastern and Middle States.

Frank B. Ames, a sea captain, about fifty years old, and his wife were found dead in their room in a New York boarding-house. Captain Ames had evidently shot his wife and then killed himself. There was no apparent trouble between the two, but the captain had been sick for some time.

Marie Konig, a German woman, forty-six years of age, living in Boston, murdered her boy Auguste, five years old, by cutting his throat with a case knife. She then cut the throat of her daughter Mary, aged thirteen, but not fatally. Her son Alfred was also cut in a dozen places, and Emil, a boy of seventeen, was wounded, neither of them fatally. Mrs. Konig then attempted to commit suicide by cutting her left leg below the knee. She is undoubtedly insane.

At the Pennsylvania Republican convention held in Harrisburg the following ticket was nominated: For governor, James A. Beaver; for lieutenant-governor, William T. Davies; for secretary of internal affairs, John M. Greer; for judge of the supreme court, William Henry Rawle; for congressman at large, Thomas M. Marshall. The convention adopted a platform which condemns the use of patronage to promote personal political ends and compulsory assessments for political purposes, and declares against the removal of competent and faithful officers. The platform further recommends the adoption of certain permanent rules for the holding of State conventions and the conduct of the party, and declares that it is the duty of the Federal government to keep faith toward the aborigines, and to adopt a policy looking to the education of Indian children and to conferring citizenship upon self-supporting Indians. The resolutions deplore the loss of General Garfield and approve President Arthur's administration as wise, conciliatory and efficient. Governor Hoyt's administration of State affairs is also approved.

Extensive cotton frauds have been perpetrated by the firm of L. Green & Co., of Columbus, Miss., upon manufacturing concerns in Boston and vicinity. Forged certificates of cotton shipped were presented to these concerns, and the drafts in payment for the cotton were forwarded to Columbus and there paid; but the cotton failed to arrive, and Green & Co. disappeared. Boston parties lose about $200,000, and Fall River concerns about $60,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Scoville, who had been having considerable trouble in New York through the efforts of the former to prevent his wife from lecturing, met in Chicago and had a reconciliation.

In his annual address before the conference of the Methodist Episcopal Zion church at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Bishop Moore declared that the colored Methodist Episcopal church had a membership of three millions scattered in nearly every State and Territory, Canada, Liberia and the West India islands. There are twenty-two annual conferences, presided over by six bishops, church property to the amount of $16,000,000, and a recently established institution of learning in North Carolina.

The Dauphin county (Pa.) court has dissolved fifty-eight mutual assessment insurance companies, which were lately proceeded against by the attorney-general at the instance of the insurance commissioner of the State. The number which the insurance commissioner alleges have been found doing business in violation of their chartered privileges is 213, and against all these proceedings have been instituted, with a view to their dissolution.

Great damage has been done to shipping and other property by a heavy storm along the southern New Jersey coast.

A mass meeting in New York, presided over by Mayor Grace, and addressed by prominent Irishmen, passed resolutions condemning the recent assassinations in Dublin, but declaring they were caused by English misrule in Ireland.

An old man in New York died the other day from the effects of a bite inflicted by a cat.

Three white men and two negroes were publicly whipped, for various crimes, at the New Castle (Del.) jail.

Thomas McCabe, a sixteen-year-old boy, shot and mortally wounded his stepmother, aged sixty-five, in New York, and then robbed her as she lay helpless on the floor of her room. The young scoundrel was caught and locked up.

The British steamship Pliny, from Brazil for New York, stranded near Long Branch, N. J., during a heavy storm. All the passengers and crew reached land through the efforts of the crew of a life-saving station. The Pliny was an iron vessel valued at $200,000, and had a cargo of 26,000 bags of coffee, worth about $325,000, and 500 bundles of hides. She will be a total loss.

South and West.

In Wilkes county, N. C., three burglars were disarmed after they had effected an entrance into a smoke-house, and one was shot dead. The other two were crushed to death by falling logs while trying to escape.

Later reports say that by the cyclone which passed over McAllister, a mining settlement in Indian Territory, seven persons were killed outright, four fatally, eleven dangerously and thirty-nine more or less injured. Fifty-eight houses were demolished, and thirty others were badly wrecked.

No less than eight vessels went ashore or were badly damaged on the west coast of Lake Michigan during a heavy storm.

Still later news from McAllister, Indian Territory, increases the number of fatalities by the cyclone to twenty-one and the injured to forty. One-half of the killed and wounded are women and children.

An enormous pigeon roost in the vicinity of Sparta, Wis., is attracting great attention. The roost is in a dense pinery, is about half a mile wide and ten miles long, and every tree contains from twenty to thirty nests. The pigeons number millions.

Patrick Devine was hanged at Clinton, Ill., for the murder of Aaron Goodfellow, a prominent citizen of Bloomington, in 1879. Devine and another young man were supposed to have committed the crime, and the former was tracked to New York State, extradited, tried and found guilty upon circumstantial evidence. He protested his innocence to the last.

Cyclones have wrought death and destruction in various parts of the South. Throughout the south side of Virginia many family residences, farms and fences were demolished, large trees uprooted and bridges washed away. In the vicinity of Shreveport, La., houses, forests and plantations were destroyed, one old man and two children lost their lives, and many cattle were killed. Mill Creek settlement, in the Indian Territory, was partially destroyed, and four persons were killed and nearly a dozen injured.

Ex-Governor C. C. Washburn, of Wisconsin, is dead.

General John G. Barnard, for many years at the head of the department of engineers, U. S. A., died a few days since at Detroit, Mich.

C. D. W. Young, auditor of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha railroad; Stewart Moore, chief clerk in the freight department of the Northern Pacific railway, and Mr. Gosick, of White Bear, were drowned in White Bear lake, twelve miles from St. Paul, Minn.

A San Francisco dispatch says that a Mr. Ferris, who claims to be the last real original Sir Roger Tichborne, has been recognized by three former servants of the family, now residents of California.

Many houses, mills and bridges have been swept away in Arkansas by inundations caused by heavy rains. The loss is estimated at more than $500,000.

Hundreds of thousands of acres of wheat, oats and corn in Indiana have been destroyed by heavy and incessant rains, and many farmers will be ruined.

Dick Rogers, a cowboy, and Jim Cation, a stage robber, while drunk, terrorized the citizens at Fort Garland, Col.; but in trying to run the soldiers out of the fort the former was killed and the latter mortally wounded.

The Tennessee senate passed the bill to fund the State debt at sixty cents and three, four, five and six per cent. interest.

Dr. H. H. Hubbard, late surgeon-general of the Confederate army, died in San Francisco, aged fifty-five.

A sailing boat with twelve persons on board capsized in Lake Calumet, near Pullman, Ill., and all were drowned, as follows: Napoleon Bucklin, an old sea captain, recently from Maine, aged 50 years, and his two sons, Ben and James Bucklin, aged 12 and 17; John L. Smith, foreman in the car department, aged 29; Charles F. Pierce, aged 46; H. T. Moore, 38 years; W. J. Burns, 22 years; a young man named Foster, a man named Davis, 45 years old, and three other men.

From Washington

The committee of ex-Union and ex-Confederate officers, comprising Generals Dudley, Scales, Dawes and Ayres and Colonels Manning, Aiken and others, appointed to arrange a series of joint reunions of the veterans of the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Northern Virginia to fix historic points for the government history of the battle of Gettysburg, have decided on June 7 for those engaged at or near the "Peach Orchard," "Wheatfield," "Devil's Den" and "Round Top;" June 14 for those engaged in the first day's battle, and October 18 for those engaged at or near "Culp's Hill" and "East Camden Hill," the hour and place for the meeting to be the Eagle hotel, Gettysburg, at 8 P. M. Other reunions will be called as the history progresses.

During the five months in which Congress has been in session 6,359 bills have been introduced in the House, 381 of which have passed that body. Of these eight passed the Senate with amendments which the House has not yet acted upon, and 101 have become laws. In the Senate 1,915 bills have been introduced, 297 of which have passed that body; of these sixty-four have become laws. It appears, therefore, that 165 separate bills have become laws within the last five months.

The annual pension appropriation bill, as reported to the House, appropriates $100,000,000. The appropriations for the same purpose for the current fiscal year amounted to $50,000,000, and it is estimated that a further appropriation of $20,000,000 will be necessary to complete the service for that period. The new bill appropriates for army pensions: Invalids, $74,000,000; widows, children and dependent relatives, $20,000,000; survivors and widows of the war of 1812, $3,640,000. For navy pensions: Invalids, $900,000; widows, children and dependent relatives, $900,000.

One hundred of the children of the Crow Indians of Montana are to be sent to farmers in Ohio, "to be educated and reared up to usefulness."

It is reported that the secretary of the interior has decided to adopt the policy of disarming all the Indians in the Western States and Territories who are subject to the effective control of the government.

James Q. Smith, the contestant for the seat of Representative Charles W. Shelley, of the Fourth Alabama district, died the other day at the national capital.

The woman suffragists have scored quite a victory, the Senate select committee on woman suffrage by a vote 3 to 2 having agreed to recommend to the Senate for adoption Senator Lapham's joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, providing that "the right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." The vote was as follows: Yeas, Senators Lapham, Blair and Jackson, 3; nays, Senators George and Fair, 2; absent, Senators Anthony and Harris.

Mrs. Garfield has writen to Senator Sherman, acknowledging the receipt of a notice of the pension granted her for her husband's sake and saying further: "I am truly mindful of the generous kindness shown to the family of General Garfield not only by friends but by the national legislature and may I ask that you make acknowledgment of this in whatever way and by whatever expression of my gratitude seems to you appropriate."

The President nominated W. A. Maury, of Washington, for assistant attorney-general of the United States.

The Senate confirmed the nomination of Roland Worthington as collector at Boston, notwithstanding the opposition of both the Massachusetts senators. The vote stood 38 to 14.

Foreign News.

Ma. George Otto Trevelyan has been appointed successor to the murdered Lord Cavendish as chief secretary for Ireland.

A ministerial crisis has occurred in Holland because of the rejection by the second chamber of a treaty of commerce with France, and the ministry have tendered their resignations.

The British government offered a reward of £10,000 for information given within three months which will lead to the conviction of the murderers of Lord Cavendish and Under-Secretary Burke, and a reward of £1,000 for private information. The government will also grant a free pardon and extend the special protection of the crown in any part of the queen's dominions to any persons, other than the principals in the crime, who may give the information required.

The following additional information with regard to the Dublin assassination has come to light. Two bicyclists, fitters in the employment of a railway company, state that they passed the spot where the murders were committed. They saw the assassins strike their victims, and heard Lord Frederick Cavendish cry out: "Ah, you villain!" to his assailant, who then stabbed him again. Lord Frederick fell over against the bicycle of one of the fitters who was coming to his assistance; but the murderers, with bloody knives, made toward him, and both of the bicyclists thereupon got away as fast as possible. They saw the car on the road waiting for the murderers. The driver's back was turned. They saw a man stab Cavendish in the back as he lay on the ground.

Egypt is in a state of revolution. The ministry have summoned the chamber of notables over the head of the khedive.

The British minister was stoned in the capital of Morocco. Six hundred arrests were made by order of the sultan.

At Ballina, Ireland, a man who had rented a farm from which another man had been evicted, was shot and mortally wounded while entering his door. On the same day the postmaster of Navan, county Meath, shot and killed a man who was attempting to stop a mail car.

The funeral of the murdered Lord Frederick Cavendish at Chatsworth, England, was attended by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh, representing the Queen; Mr. Gladstone, 300 members of parliament and an assemblage of 30,000 persons. One of the most conspicuous features of the funeral was an assemblage of 5,000 tenants of the Duke of Devonshire, father of Lord Cavendish. The order of the funeral procession was as follows: The hearse, the Duke of Devonshire, walking alone; the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Edward Cavendish, Mr. Gladstone, Earl Granville, the speaker of the house of commons, members of the cabinet and three hundred members of parliament, walking four abreast.

The greater portion of the business part of Hastings, Ontario, has been destroyed by fire, causing aggregate losses of about $60,000.

A storm at St. Johns, N. F., did heavy damage to shipping and other property. Several vessels were lost.

A bill endowing the lord lieutenant of Ireland with almost unlimited powers for the suppression of crime has been laid before parliament.

Mr. Parnell is reported to have applied for and to have received police protection, owing to rumors which are current, and to threatening letters which he has received to the effect that he is a marked man.

A terrible explosion of fire-damp in a mine in Westphalia is reported. Shortly after the explosion the bodies of fifty-six miners were recovered.

Civil war is threatened in Egypt, and English and French ironclads have been ordered to Alexandria.

Thirty-six houses have been destroyed by fire at the town of Oranienbaum, Russia, about nineteen miles from St. Petersburg.

The hall of the Hygienic exhibition, near Moabit, in the district of Potsdam, Germany, has been destroyed by fire. The exhibition was about to be opened, and many costly exhibits were already in place, all of which were destroyed. The loss is estimated at several hundred thousand pounds. Emperor William was present during the conflagration.

A Dublin dispatch says: "From information that the assassins are still in this city the conclusion is drawn that they are afraid that if they should be separated one would turn traitor. From information obtained it appears that at least twelve were engaged in the tragedy. It is believed that in the cab which stood near the scene of the murder and loitering under the trees were armed men ready to effect a rescue in case the actual assassins were surprised. The police have issued descriptions of four of the men on the car. Two of them are described as being about thirty years of age, with sandy hair; one about thirty-five, of stout build and dark complexion, with a hollow on the bridge of his nose, and the other about twenty, with a small black mustache. The driver is described as being between thirty-five and forty, with a red bloated face."

The business part of Manta, Ecuador, has been burned; aggregate losses, $120,000.

The Pacific Mail steamer Salvador was wrecked on the island of San Lucas, near Costa Rica. No lives were lost and nearly all the cargo was saved.

A Turkish transport in the Bosphorus went ashore and fifty soldiers on board were drowned.

An Austrian physician, who has visited the Jews' hospital at Odessa, states that there are 125 horribly mutilated persons there, the Russians having poured petroleum into their wounds.

A reward of £500 has been offered by the British government for the apprehension of any one harboring the assassins of Lord Cavendish and Mr. Burke.

Fifty Austrians have been killed by insurgents in ambush near Nevesinje, Herzegovina.

The captain, first officer and fifty-five of the crew of the Turkish transport which went ashore in the Bosphorus perished.

About half of the village of Danville, Quebec, has been burned. Forty houses and stores were destroyed, causing a loss estimated at $150,000.

From St. Johns, N. F., comes news of many marine disasters and much loss of life during the recent heavy storms. Several vessels with all on board have been lost. A large French vessel, with a crew of nineteen men and eighty-seven passengers, more than forty days overdue, has been given up as lost. Since the arrival of the French fishing fleet at St. Pierre twenty-one deaths from drowning have occurred.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

Senate.

Bills were passed to give from one to six cast-iron cannon to monumental or cemetery associations in Topeka, Kansas; Lycoming county, Penn.; Hamilton, Mansfield, Gallipolis, Malan township and Bellaire, Ohio; Waterloo, Iowa; Concord and Portsmouth, N. H., and Birmingham, Conn.... The tariff commission bill as it came from the House was passed by a vote of thirty-five yeas to nineteen nays, six Democrats voting for and two Republicans against the bill.

A petition from the New England Genealogical society, asking that extinct cities and land reservations attached to the ancient Pueblos in New Mexico and Arizona be withheld from public sale and their ruins preserved, was referred to the committee on public lands.... Mr. Butler reported a new bill, appropriating $20,000 for a building for the use of the national association for the relief of destitute colored women and children in the District.... Mr. Grover reported favorably on the bill giving full pay to Lieutenant Schwatka while on leave in command of the Franklin search expedition.

Bills were reported favorably making appropriations for public buildings as follows: Jackson, Tenn., $50,000; Newcastle, Del., $15,000; Council Bluffs, Ia., $100,000; Detroit, $600,000; Hannibal, Mo., $75,000; Louisville, Ky., $500,000.... Mr. Pendleton presented a report from the committee on civil service, urging the passage of the bill to improve the civil service reported to the Senate in March.

House.

The bill creating an executive department of agriculture was passed—yeas 172, nays 7. The bill provides that the department of agriculture shall be an executive department under the supervision and control of a secretary of agriculture, who shall be an experienced and practical agriculturist, and establishes departments of agricultural products, of animal industry, of lands and of statistics.... The conference report on the Indian appropriation bill was passed.

The bill to aid in the support of common schools was received from the committee on education and labor. It provides that for the next five years there shall be annually appropriated the sum of $10,000,000 to aid in the support of free common schools, which amount shall be known as the common school fund, and which shall be apportioned to the several States and Territories according to the number of their illiterate population over ten years of age. An amount not exceeding five per cent. of the sum apportioned may be used for the education of teachers in public schools.

The session of the House was opened by Rabbi Jacob Voorsanger, of Houston, Texas.... The river and harbor appropriation bill was reported and ordered printed.... The bill to enable national banking associations to extend their corporate existence was debated, and notices were given of several amendments.... A bill was introduced and referred, tendering the thanks of Congress to Lieutenant Commander Dewey, of the Jeannette, and conferring upon him the rank of lieutenant-commander.

A bill was introduced providing that every person who destroys any wild animal or game except for purposes of human food, shall forfeit all the implements, guns and ammunition in his possession, and shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.... A resolution was adopted directing the secretary of war to inquire into the propriety of purchasing the dwelling house in Washington in which President Lincoln died.... The speaker announced the appointment of Messrs. Camp, of New York; Davis, of Illinois, and Blackburn, of Kentucky, as visitors to West Point; and of Messrs. Thomas, of Illinois, Darrell, of Louisiana, and Harris, of New Jersey, as visitors to Annapolis.... A motion was adopted to suspend the rules and pass a bill providing that no action for damages for infringement of patents shall be sustained for the use of any patented article or device, when it shall appear on the trial that defendant purchased such article for a valuable consideration in open market.... Mr. Robinson, of New York, introduced a resolution in the House requesting the President to inform the House whether certain papers and correspondence regarding American citizens in British prisons, communicated to the British parliament or published in London, have been received at the state department, and whether the House may expect the additional correspondence called for by the resolution of the 25th ult.; whether any persons claiming to be American citizens still remain in British prisons without allegation of crime or prospect of speedy trial; whether any proposition has been made to coerce American citizens to so degrade their citizenship as to accept release from unjust imprisonment by accepting it on degrading conditions; whether any person holding citizenship of the United States has offered money to those citizens to induce them to accept release under such degrading conditions, and if so, by what alleged authority, etc.

A Circus Rider's Tragic Death.

The tragic death of Emilie Loisset, the famous circus rider, at the Cirque d'Hiver, in Paris, plunged the gay capital into temporary grief. Her horsemanship was very remarkable, and it seems to have run in the family, for her father and uncles and aunts were all famous equestrians in their days. Her sister, whose marriage with Prince de Reuss created so much excitement a short time ago, was also famous for her performances in the saddle. The accident which caused Emilie Loisset's death was brought about by a restive horse. She had just returned from Berlin with her four horses, and went to the circus in the daytime for some practice. She wished to train one particular horse called "J'y pense" to gallop from the stable into the ring when she was encored in her performance, and to leap an obstacle placed at the ring as she returned. When Mlle. Loisset rode "J'y pense" at this obstacle, the horse, a vicious brute, balked, and exasperated by the vigorous lashing which his rider gave him, dashed at full gallop toward the stable. There the iron gates stopped him, and Emilie Loisset, catching him short by the head, tried to turn him around. The brute, however, reared, and after balancing for a moment, fell heavily over on one side on top of his rider. The crutch of the saddle inflicted severe internal injuries on the unfortunate girl. Everything possible was done to save her life, but she died a few days afterward, and all Paris was plunged in grief.

Do Your Best.

A gentleman once said to a physician, "I should think, doctor, that at night you would feel so worried over the work of the day that you would not be able to sleep."

"My head hardly touches the pillow till I fall asleep," replied the physician. "I made up my mind," he continued, "at the commencement of my professional career, to do my best under all circumstances, and, so doing, I am not troubled by any misgivings."

A good rule for us all to follow. Too many are disposed to say, "No matter how I do this work now; next time I'll do better." This practice is as bad as the reasoning, "No matter how I learn this lesson in the primary class; when I get into a higher department, then I'll study." As well might the mother, in knitting socks, say: "No matter how the tip is done; if I do drop a stitch now and then I'll do better when I get further along." What kind of a stocking would that be?

As well might the builder say: "I don't care how I make the foundation of this house; anything will do here; wait till I get to the top, then I'll do good work."

Said Sir Joshua Reynolds once to Dr. Samuel Johnson: "Pray tell me, sir, by what means have you attained such extraordinary accuracy and flow of language in the expression of your ideas?"

"I laid it down