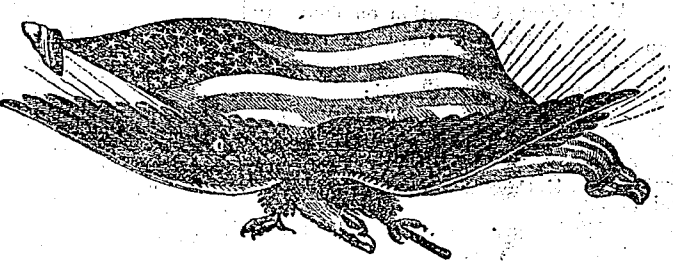


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A DIRGE FOR McPHERSON. BY FRANCES MARY SCANNELL. What! gone in thy glory, McPherson—Oh, wide through this grief-stricken land.

THE TRIAL OF CAPTAIN WERTZ. The Charges and Specifications.

WASHINGTON, August 14.—The following are the charges and specification for which Wertz, the Andersonville jailor, is to be put upon his trial.

prisoners to use unwholesome water, with the filth and garbage of the prison and prison guards, whereby the said prisoners became greatly reduced in their bodily strength, and emaciated and injured in their bodily health.

The second specification charges the prisoner with "wilfully and maliciously intending and designing to injure the health and destroy lives of the prisoners under his control, to the end that the armies of the United States might be weakened and impaired thereby."

The fifth and last specification charges him with keeping and using ferocious and blood thirsty beasts, dangerous to human life, called bloodhounds, to hunt down prisoners of war who had made their escape from his custody.

THE HUMAN EYE.—The language of the eye is very hard to counterfeit. You can read in the eyes of your companion, while you talk, whether your argument hits him, though his tongue will not confess it.

Thackeray says that "when a man is in love with one woman in a family, it is astonishing how fond he becomes of every one connected with it. He ingratiates himself with the maids; he is bland with the butler; he interests himself with the footman; he runs on errands for the daughters; he gives and lends money to the young son at college; he pays little dogs which he would kick otherwise; he smiles at old stories, which would make him break-out in yawns were they uttered by any one else but papa; he drinks sweet port wine, for which he would court the steward and the whole committee at a club; he bears even with the cantankerous old maid; he wastes time when the darling little Fanny performs her piece on the piano; and smiles when wicked little Bobby upsets the coffee on his shirt."

Walking.—The tradesman in walking gives signs of folding cloth, and measuring tape, and taking down bundles. The ponderous arm and heavy fall of hand betrays the blacksmith; and the quick, nervous grasp with which she adjusts her dress gives unmistakable signs of a factory operative.

The pleasure which we derive from walking is of every gradation. There is a pleasure resulting from mere muscular activity. This is greatly heightened when obstacles are overcome, and we are conscious of exercising physical power. Hence, often the pleasure we take in a walk during a dark and stormy night, through mud and snow.

SMALL BEGINNING.—Franklin had but little early education; yet look at what he became, and how he is revered. Ferguson, feeding his sheep on the hills of Scotland, picked up the rudiments of learning, but subsequently rose to be one of the first astronomers in Europe.

There are 1,000 male and 500 female clerks in the Treasury Department at Washington—being more than two full regiments, speaking in military parlance. The annual cost of this little army is more than two million dollars.

Matrimony.—"I did!" "You didn't!" "You are the plague of my life!" "And you of mine!"

In this cold, selfish world? We know nothing of your squabbles and do not wish to know. It is six of one and half a dozen of the other; you are a couple of young idiots, and that is all about it.

Look you, sir, she is weeping! Now throw your manly arms around her neck and kiss those tears away. You, as the stronger vessel, it is noble to yield first. And you, sweet girl, with sunny smiles running through falling tears.

FUN.—Oh, glorious laughter! Thou man loving spirit, that for a time dost take the burden from the weary back; that dost lay salve to the feet, bruised and cut by the flints and shards; that takest blood-baking melancholy by the nose and makes it grin despite itself; that all the sorrows of the past, the doubts of the future, confoundest in the joy of the present; that makest man truly philosophic, conqueror of himself and care!

The Negro's Postscript.—A gallant soldier of the 5th corps is responsible for the following: Mac was on a visit to City Point, and while there called upon an old friend who had charge of some hundreds of Uncle Sam's sable heroes.

Novel Reading and Insanity.—Dr. Ray, of the Butler Insane Asylum, Providence, in noticing some of the prominent causes of the increase of insanity in our day, lays stress on the light reading of the age.

In novel reading, on the contrary, the mind passively contemplates the scenes that are brought before it, and which, being chiefly addressed to the passions and emotions, naturally please without the necessity of effort or preparation.

This specific doctrine that I would inculcate is, that the excessive indulgence in novel reading, which is a characteristic of our times, is chargeable with many of the irregularities that prevail among us in a degree unknown at any former period.

Useful Orthographical Rule.—Among the other difficulties of English orthography is the relative position of i and e in the words "serve" or "ceive," and both in manuscript and print are seen "bulsere" and "belsive," "receieve" and "receive," "reprieve" and "reproieve."

HOLE-Y.—At a camp meeting a number of ladies continued standing on the benches, notwithstanding the frequent hints from the minister to sit down.

"Well, Sambo, what kind of a letter do you want?" asked Mac. "Dunno, sah; wants to write to 'Honey,' sah." "You want a regular stamp of a 'love-letter,' hey? Isn't that it?" "Dat's it, 'sactly, sah."

Slightly Mixed.—From love to matrimony may be but a step from the sublime to the ridiculous; still it may be safely ventured upon, even in a case like the following of domestic perplexities:

I got acquainted with a young widow, who lived with her step daughter in the same house. I married the widow; my father fell, shortly after, in love with the step daughter of my wife and married her. My wife became the mother in law and also the daughter in law of my own father; my wife's step daughter is my step mother; and I am the step father of my mother in law.

A JOKE ON "SONNY."—A Parkersburg (W. Va.) paper says that several gentlemen of the Legislature took the cars at Grafton late on the evening of the 5th ult. for Wheeling, and among the number was Mr. G., of somewhat large proportions physically, and a Mr. D., of proportional undersize.

Italian wit is highly dramatic, spontaneous, genial. Among its proverbs are—"The dog earns his living by wagging his tail." "Make yourself as all honey, and the flies will devour it." "The smiles of a woman are the tears of the purse." "He who takes an oar by the tail, or a woman by the tongue, is sure to come off empty handed."

French wit is characterized by finesse, brilliancy, dexterity, point, brevity. In repartee the French is unrivaled. Their conversation is not only an art, but a fine art. In punning they are unequalled. In no literature are there so many proverbs which speak disparagingly of the fair sex.

Each moment makes thee dearer, as the parsimonious tradesman said to his extravagant wife. The bottle is the devil's crucible, in which everything is melted.

Right to Sixteen.—Lord Shaftesbury recently stated, in a public meeting in London, that he had ascertained from personal observation that of adult male criminals in that city, nearly all had fallen into a course of crime between the ages of eight to sixteen years; and that if a boy lived an honest life up to twenty years of age, there were forty nine chances in his favor and only one against him as to an honorable life thereafter.

This is a fact of startling importance to fathers and mothers, and shows a fearful responsibility. Certainly a parent should secure and exercise absolute control over his child until sixteen—it cannot be a very difficult matter to do this, except in very rare cases; and if that control is not wisely and efficiently exercised, it must be the parent's fault—it is owing to parental neglect or remissness. Hence the real source of ninety eight per cent. of the crime in a country such as England or the United States lies at the door of the parents.

From "eight to sixteen" in these few years are the destinies of children fixed. In forty-nine cases out of fifty—fixed by parents! Let every father and mother solemnly vow: "By God's help, I'll fix my darling's destiny for good by making him more attractive than the streets."

National Wit.—The character of Spanish wit is excessive staleness. Of their proverbs—"He who has nothing to do, let him buy a ship or marry a wife." "From many children and little bread, good Lord deliver us." "A fool is never a fool unless he knows Latin."

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SEVERAL HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS.—The heads of families are often heard to exclaim, we must break up our household and go to a boarding house, for the want of good house servants. A writer who seems to have given this vexed question some thought says "that housekeepers should never scold or rave at servants, and if you desire them to be useful and obedient, do not exact too much of them. Allow them sufficient time for rest and recreation, remembering that humble labor is entitled to its privileges as well as wealth and high position. Correct their mistakes kindly. Do not perplex and worry them with contradictory directions. Teach them, their duties calmly. If they are dull do not laugh at them, for that will only make them obstinate as well as dull. Never treat them as if you suspected them of dishonesty, except on sufficient grounds; nor accuse them of falsehood until you find them systematically deceiving you. Give them plenty of time for their meals, and comfortable beds to sleep on. In short, use them as you would desire to be used if in their places. The golden rule always works well when faithfully applied."

A countryman took his seat at a tavern table opposite to a gentleman who was indulging in a bottle of wine. Supposing the wine to be common property, our unsophisticated country friend helped himself to it with the claimant's glass. "That's odd!" exclaimed the owner of the wine indignantly. "Yes," replied the other, "should think there was ice in it!"