American Volunteer.

BY JOHN B. BRATTON. "OUR COUNTRY—MAY IT ALWAYS BE RIGHT—BUT RIGHT OR WRONG, OUR COUNTRY." AT $2 00 PER ANNUM.

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THE VOLUNTEER.

John B. Bratton, Editor and Proprietor.

CARLISLE, THURSDAY, DECB'R. 30, 1847.

A METALLIC CURRENCY.

The Hon. Robert J. Walker, Secretary of the Treasury, in his annual report recently published, gives a glowing description of the finances of the country. In no one particular is that report more gratifying than in its exibit of the large increase of the circulation of the precious metals among the people, through the benign influence of the Constitutional Treasury, and a Revenue Tariff.

We invite particular attention to the extract of the report of the able head of the Treasury Department, to be found below. The revenues of the nation are now collected and disbursed in gold and silver, and without producing the least embarrassment to the commercial community, which was so common an occurrence when the public money was deposited in the banks and made the basis of an increased circulating paper currency. The amount received in specie from the 1st January 1847, to the 1st December 1847, being a period of eleven months, is $48,667,886 18—and the amount of disbursements in specie during the same period is $48,226,516 31—showing an aggregate of receipts and disbursements in specie during that period of $96,894,402 49.—These are great results under the new system.

The amount of foreign coin or bullion coined this year at our mints, estimating December the same as November, would be $23,844,001 92, showing that the amount received this year under the happy workings of the Constitutional Treasury, is about one sixth of the aggregate coined in the fifty-five years from the first coinage in 1793 to the close of the present year—the whole amount of the coinage under the old system of receiving and disbursing the monies for that long period of time having been but $143,238,370 54.

We may thus reasonably expect a much larger infusion of the precious metals in our circulating medium than hitherto, and that the time is about being realized, predicted by Senator Benton, when gold would be seen glittering through the interstices of almost every man's purse. But to this important extract.

The constitutional Treasury went into effect on the 1st of January last, and under this act during the last eleven months, as appears by a table from the records of the Treasury, hereunto annexed, there was received in specie for loans, customs, lands and miscellaneous collections, the sum of $48,667,886 18 in specie, and the sum of $48,226,516 31, during the same eleven months, disbursed in specie. In New York, (see table Y) during the month of August last $3,340,766 48 in specie was received by the Collector of that port, and in the last eleven months, in specie, $18,615,422 27. During the same month of August, was deposited (see table G G,) the sum of $5,795,720 92 with the Assistant Treasurer of that city, and transferred from or disbursed at that office. The receipts and disbursements of the Government in specie, during the last eleven months have amounted together to the sum of $96,894,402 49, and not a dollar has been lost to the Treasury, nor any injury inflicted upon any branch of commerce or business.

The constitutional Treasury has been tried during a period of war when it was necessary to negotiate very large loans, when our expenditures were being increased, and when transfers unprecedented in amount were required at distant points for disbursement. During the last eleven months the Government has received, transferred and disbursed more specie than during the whole aggregate period of fifty seven years preceding since the adoption of the Constitution. To render the system still more safe, useful and economical, to define more clearly the powers of the Department, and especially to render more secure "the public money in the hands of disbursing agents," the amendments suggested in my last annual report, (including the establishment of a Branch Mint at New York,) and which received the sanction of the House of Representatives during the last session, are again recommended to the favorable consideration of Congress.

During the year, ending June 30, 1847, our imports of specie were $24,121,289, (see table T,) most of which under former systems must have gone into the banks, to have been made the basis of issues of their paper to the additional amount of fifty or sixty millions of dollars. Such an expansion, during the last spring and summer, accompanied by still higher prices, and followed by a greater fall, and by bankruptcies in England to an extent heretofore unknown, finding our banks and credit greatly expanded, and reacting upon this expansion would have produced a revulsion here, exceeding any that has heretofore occurred in the country.

A general requisition of the Banks would probably have resulted, depressing the wages of labor and prices of property and products, affecting injuriously the operations and credit even of the most solvent, and producing extensive bankruptcies. From this revulsion we have saved by the Constitutional Treasury, by which the specie imported, instead of being converted into Bank issues, has been made to circulate directly to a great extent as a currency among the people, having been received here during the last eleven months by the new orders of this Department under the Act of 9th of Feb., 1793, and the zealous co-operation of the able and efficient head of the Mint of Philadelphia, to the unprecedented extent of $20,758,048 12; and there are now thousands of our citizens now solvent and prosperous, who have been saved from ruin by the wholesome operations of the Constitutional Treasury. The Banks that so unwisely opposed the system have been rescued probably from another suspension, their stockholders, depositors and other note holders from severe losses, and the country and the Government from the ruinous effects of a depreciated paper currency. If the union of the Government with the Banks had continued, and their suspension and the depreciations of their paper occurred during the war requiring large specie disbursements, which suspended Banks could not furnish, consequences the most disastrous to the honor and the interests of the country must have ensued. The Government is now disconnected from Banks, and yet its stock and notes are at par, although we have been constrained to contract heavy loans, and to keep larger armies in the field than at any former period. But during the last war, when the Government was connected with Banks, its six per cent. stock and Treasury Notes were depreciated twenty-five per cent., payable in Bank paper twenty per cent. below par, thus amounting to a loss of forty-five cents in every dollar upon the operations of the Government. In my first annual report to Congress, on the 2d December, 1845, in recommending the adoption of the Constitutional Treasury, the following observations were made, "Nor will it be useful to establish a Constitutional Treasury, if it is to receive or disburse the paper of Banks."

"If paper, in whatever form, or from whatever source it may issue, should be introduced as a circulation by the Constitutional Treasury, it would precisely to that extent diminish its use as a means of circulating gold and silver."

During and before the commencement of the last session of Congress, it was thought by many that this measure would not operate successfully during war, and that large loans could not be negotiated if the payments were required in specie. The department, however, adhered to the recommendation of its first report, believing that the government would be rendered stronger by the divorce, and that if the Treasury should resort to banks to negotiate its loans or supply its revenue, that both, if the war continued, would be involved as they were in the war of 1812, in one common ruin. During the months of June, July and August last, (per table N,) the sum of $6,000,000 was transferred from the Assistant Treasurer of New York, for the necessary disbursement at New Orleans, and in Mexico.

Heretofore the public money being deposited with the banks and loaned out to their customers, when such enormous transfers were made, a contraction of the banks with ruinous losses, must have ensued, but the money of the government is now transferred from New York to New Orleans, and scarcely affects the business or the money market, because the transactions of the government are disconnected from those of the banks. When the government formerly received and disbursed only the paper of banks, whenever a revulsion and numerous bankruptcies occurred in England, they universally reacted upon our perilous paper system so as to create a pressure in our money market, a large and sudden contraction of the paper currency, a calling in of heavy loans by the banks, and as a consequence many failures and most frequent suspensions of specie payments.—Now, for the first time in our history, although failures in England of the most unprecedented magnitude have occurred, including banks and bankers, yet our banks and credit are sound and stable, and the business of the country is still prosperous and progressive.

Nothing is more injurious to all classes, but especially to our manufacturers, than the expansions, contractions and fluctuations of the bank paper system, vibrating with every considerable change of the public moneys held by them as depositories. This perilous and seductive bank system opens temporarily and beyond the wants of the country, a market here for foreign imports, not in exchange for exports but for credit, the redemption of which drains the country of its specie, contracts the paper currency, forces at a sacrifice the sale of domestic fabrics, and depresses the industry of the whole country.

Domestic manufacturers require for their permanent and successful operation the basis of specie, checking vibrations and inflations of the paper system, confining our imports to the wants of the country, and preventing the temporary purchase of foreign goods for credit and not for exports, which always results in disturbances of the money market, and an injury to the country. If our manufacturers desire great advantages from the home market it must be abundantly and permanently supplied with a large specie circulation, which alone can sustain the market for a number of years, and prevent those calamities which must follow an inflated paper currency.—A home market for our manufactures, when based upon specie and low duties, is solid, permanent and augmenting, but when founded upon paper credits, it is inflated one year only to be depressed the next or some succeeding year, thus depriving the manufacturer of any well assured and permanent domestic market. The bank deposit year, 1836, when we were importing grain, contrasted with 1847, the year of divorce of the Government from banks, exhibits the delusive inflation of the one with its succeeding disasters, and the solid prosperity of the other, resisting, thus far, to a great extent, the revulsion in England, and proving the good effects of the union of low duties and the specie-receiving and specie-circulating constitutional Treasury.

I renew my former recommendation for the establishment of a branch of the mint of the United States at the City of New York. During the last eleven months, commencing on the first of January last, the amount of coin actually paid into the Assistant Treasurer of that city was, (as per table H H.) $29,904,744,19, nearly all of which was in foreign coin, a large portion of which, as far as practicable, were transferred and re-coined into our own coin at the mint in Philadelphia. The whole of that foreign coin, however, ought to have been at once re-coined at that city where it was received, and, in addition, the large amount of coin and bullion which is constantly arriving there and does not find its way into the office of the Assistant Treasurer, but a foreign coin is deposited with the banks, and never becomes a circulation to any great extent among the community, all which would also be at once converted into American coin, without loss or delay, if a branch of the mint were located at the great emporium of the commerce of the Union.

Under the salutary provisions of the Constitutional Treasury law, the experience of this year has proved that a sum not exceeding $3,000,000, is all that need be retained in the Treasury as a surplus to meet the wants of the Government, or to supply the mint and branch mints an abundant amount for coinage, thus saving in this way, the interest, or $1,000,000, to our country. The Treasurer at the mint in Philadelphia and of the branch mint at New Orleans, are also Assistant Treasurers to and from whom transfers of specie (nearly all of which is received in foreign coin) can be made under the provisions of the Constitutional Treasury.

Under the act of 9th February, 1793, providing for the re-coinage of foreign coin at the mint, instructions were issued by me to carry that act fully into effect.

Under these orders, transfers are made of the foreign coin to the mint and branch mint for re-coinage, and the amount coined since the 1st January last up to the 1st December, was $20,758,048,12, of which the sum $3,085,953,80 was coined in the month of November, 1847, and if this should be continued for the present month, it would make the coinage of the first year of the Constitutional Treasury $23,844,001,92.

Table R exhibits the yearly coinage from 1793 to 1st December, 1847, amounting in the whole to $143,238,370,54, showing that the amount coined this year would be about one sixth of the aggregate coined in the fifty-five years from the first coinage in 1793, to the close of the present year.

Table S gives the coinage each month this year from the 1st January to the 30th November.

Most of this coinage has been by converting foreign gold coins, which will not circulate among our people, into American gold coin, which is now going into much more general circulation; and during the ensuing year, it is expected that the coinage of specie from the silver that must be brought in from Mexico in exchange for our imports there, as also for the new issue of Treasury notes now asked from Congress as constituting part of the loan recommended, will, it is believed, greatly augment the coinage of silver during the ensuing year.

Under the export duty upon specie now existing in Mexico, it is believed that, when the new Treasury notes now asked for shall be issued, they may be sold to a considerable extent on account of the Government for specie at a premium in Mexico; and as the Government funds will not be subject to the export duty, the specie may be brought into the country by this Department in exchange for these notes, and received at the mint in New Orleans into American coin.

It has been seen that the amount of foreign coin or bullion coined this year at our mint and branch mints, under the new orders of this Department, estimating December the same as November, would be $23,844,001 92, at which rate we would soon supply our own people with our own coin, and in time also, with our augmenting commerce, Americanize to a great extent the coin of the world, and thus introduce our simple and beautiful decimal currency gradually throughout all nations, substituting it for the complex system of pounds, shilling and pence; or of doubloons, ducats and rupees, which retard business and complicate accounts.

Heretofore the world has supplied us with foreign coin, which will not circulate among our people, because of its extreme complexity; but now our own coin is flowing into the channels of our own circulation, and must soon begin to diffuse itself into other nations, for their benefit as well as our own. The three things which most concern the progress of the wealth of the world, are free trade and uniformity in coinage, and in weights and measures. Coins as well as weights and measures for the benefit of all nations, ought to be uniform throughout the world, and if our decimal system of coinage should be more simple and perfect than that of any other nation, it ought to be and ultimately will be adopted, and lead to the introduction of the decimal system of weights and measures, as far as practicable; so that ultimately the coin and the weights and measures may be simple and uniform throughout the world.

Table T shows the imports and exports of specie for the fiscal years ending 30th of June, 1846, and 30th June, 1847; being for 1846 an import of $3,777,732, and an export of $3,481,417, leaving the gain of specie that year $296,315; and in 1847 the specie imported was $24,121,289, and the export $1,845,110, leaving the specie gained in 1847, $22,276,170.

Table U shows the amount received in specie from all sources—customs, lands, miscellaneous and loans; from 1st Jan. 1847, to 1st Dec. 1847, being $48,667,886 18, and the amount of disbursements in specie during the same period, $48,226,516 31; showing the aggregate of receipts and disbursements in specie during the first 11 months of the new system, $96,894,402 49, and proving that the department has been enabled, during the last eleven months, to circulate, by disbursements among the people, the sum of $48,226,516 31, under the specie receiving and specie circulating constitutional treasury.

From the Public Ledger.

REPUDIATION.

The English journals are continually scolding at our country upon this subject, as if all our governments, State and Federal, had abjured their debts, and resolved to pay nothing. We might say that this was not very modest in the organs of a government which once repudiated two thirds of its national debt by a single "Act of Parliament." And it comes with especially bad grace from such sources, against a Federal government which has never repudiated a dollar of debt, and against State governments, only two of which have repudiated that portion of their debt out of which they had been positively swindled by British capitalists. And of these two States, Mississippi has expressed its determination to pay, even this portion of its debt, and Michigan will follow its example. And while these British journals scold so much about American repudiation, they forget that the city of Edinburg, the capital of one of the "three kingdoms," and the very nest of that band of Tory scribblers who long manufactured public opinion for the British nation, and systematically slandered all others, repudiated its whole debt, refusing to pay principal or interest. This reeking hot-bed of wholesale libellers, of Walter Scotts and Broughams and Wilsons and Blackwood Magazines, made a grand wholesale, magnificent repudiation, and swindled all its creditors at once.

But the point to which we would now call especial attention, is a recent statement in the London Times. After scolding in its usual strain about repudiation, and pronouncing the "Universal Yankee Nation" a "batch of swindlers," it says that they began with repudiation, having refused to redeem the whole issue of Continental money with which they conducted the revolution, and that the proprietor of the Times now has some of this very Continental money with which the swindling was committed, "and which helped us to capture Cornwallis in 1780." A correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce censures this charge, in a manner which ought to be quite satisfactory to the Times, and to the whole body of British libellers. Those conversant with American history know that after the Federal constitution was adopted, all the debts of the States, as well as of the Confederacy, which has been contracted for the prosecution of the revolutionary war, with the exception of this continental money, were *funded*, or assumed by the Federal government, and have long since been paid. But the Continental money, the circulation of which amounted towards the close of the war, to two hundred millions of dollars, and which had gradually depreciated, even to ninety-nine per cent., was never redeemed, but gradually disappeared from circulation. The Federal government refused to redeem any of it, because large quantities had been counterferred, and so well as to defy detection.

And who were the fabricators and circulators of these spurious bills? The British officials then in the United States, civil and military. The spurious bills were executed in England, and sent out, in large quantities, to the commanders of the British armies, for distribution. And no small quantities were distributed through the Tories; the object being, not only to swindle the Whigs, but to cripple the confederacy by destroying the character, and thus accelerating the depreciation, of this currency. This brings us to the story told in the Journal of Commerce.—Little Delaware, the "Blue Hen" that sent forth such a brood of pugnacious chickens to fight in the battles of the Revolution, sent forth among them, at the very commencement of hostilities, a certain Maj. McLane, the father of Hon. Louis McLane, our late minister to England. This Maj. McLane kept a journal, which is still extant, to which is appended a certificate from Washington, stating that he served with great reputation, from the commencement to the close of the war, and then retired on half pay for life. We Americans regard this as quite a decent certificate of character, especially as Gen. Washington was a man of considerable respectability. The Major's journal states that late in the autumn of 1779, he attacked the British garrison at Sandy Hook, took it by surprise, brought off the prisoners, and *a million of dollars of counterfeit continental money*, so well executed, as to defy Mr. Smith, the head of the Loan-office at Philadelphia, in all attempts to distinguish it from the genuine issue.

This is a good story, and a true one, well authenicated by the officer who captured the money in British hands. The editor of the London Times, in saying that he possesses a continental bill, says it was part of the issue which enabled us to capture Cornwallis in 1780. If this be true, it certainly rendered good service to the republic. But is he sure of its authenticity? Is it not one of the counterfeits which the British authorities imported and scattered to an amount more than doubling the genuine issue? If it be the latter, we advise the editor of the London Times to exult over it as a characteristic specimen of "sterling English probity."

John Bull is quite an adept in counterfeiting and exporting the metallic and paper currencies of other countries. London annually sends forth large quantities of such wares. He is also famous for counterfeiting the marks of American, French and German manufactures, and sticking them upon his own inferior wares for foreign markets, that *look* just as well as the genuine. He is up to all tricks of trade, from the Premier in Parliament to the beggar in St. Giles, or the pickpocket at the Old Bailey.

DONATIONS TO IRELAND.—It is estimated, that during the past year, the donations sent from this country to Ireland, amount to a million and a half of dollars. The amount of contributions sent from the following ports, is as follows:

Boston, $174,847 00; Philadelphia, 80,284 38; New York, 182,450 13; Baltimore, 21,090 00; Washington, 10,300 00; Richmond, 15,000 00; New Orleans, 30,385 00; Providence, R. I., 6,377 00; Salem, Mass., 3,438 97; New Bedford, Mass. 3,847 61; Nantucket, Mass. 2,180 69; Vigo co., Indiana, 1,441 65—total $591,313 29. Add the contributions transmitted from Pittsburg and Charleston, not included in the above, 60,398 80—total $651,612 09.—The returns are however not yet complete.

From the PublicLedger.

FLOUR AND GRAIN SPECULATIONS.

The New York Herald of the 13th inst. contained a long article, attributing the flour and grain speculations of 1846–7, between this country and Europe, to a concerted action of the Barings and Rothschilds with the English and French governments. It asserted that Lord John Russell, in consideration of pecuniary aid from Rothschild for electioneering purposes, furnished the latter with the earliest information of the deficiency of the crops; that he also exaggerated that deficiency in Parliament for the benefit of his ally; and that Rothschild, by dint of the panic thus excited, and his own influence with the bank of England, so managed the English currency and prices of breadstuffs, as to realize enormous profits by his operations in the latter articles. The Barings under similar circumstances, also reaped a rich harvest. Nearly the same story is related of the Rothschild of Paris and the French government. Having thus by their operations nearly reduced England to beggary, we are told that they are now hatching a new scheme, or rather a repetition of the one first enacted.

The currency in England being very much contracted for want of the precious metals, and our own currency diminishing for fear that England will take them from us, prices of all kinds consequently shrink. Such being the case, the Rothschilds will enter the market, buy all they can at the lowest possible rates, and when the purchases shall be complete, will work the money market so as to ensure an immense profit. Having feathered their own nests at the public expense, they will suffer the bubble to burst, utterly regardless of the ruin, that may ensue to others.—This is the out line of the scheme, announced by the Herald.

In view of all this, the Herald advises American farmers to sell for cash, at present prices, and not trust a precarious future, controlled as it will be by such rouges as the Rothschilds and Barings. It is sensible advice.

But whilst the advice is sensible, there is room for consideration, whether the reasoning which precedes it, is not open to objection.

As matters of this kind must be interesting to our farmers and merchants, we will briefly discuss the topic.

We do not pretend to say that the ministers of either the English or French governments are immaculate. The corruption of the electioneering system in England are to glaring too permit us not to believe this. Recent disclosures in France corroborate our unbelief as to that country. Rothschild, as a vast capitalist, deeply interested in the various national debts of Europe, occupies a necessary relation to the different governments, which can be possessed by no other individual. Superior wealth, his means of information and action, are therefore very great, and it would be very unreasonable to suppose, that this pecuniary Leviathan would hesitate to employ them. It would also follow that his influence with the Bank of England must be very considerable, and that it is no doubt very unsparingly used. But does he hold the destinies of proud England in the hollow of his hand? Or does he so control the markets of the world, that his bidding, prices shall rise and fall, and famine increase or diminish? Can the actions of the Rothschilds or the Barings, or any other individuals, exercise the influence claimed for them by the Herald? We say no, nor dare they to starve Europe, or any other nation, even if they could whether for a long or short period, however profitable such a humane speculation might prove. The pressure of an artificial famine would soon burst the chains of government and law, and the wealth of the Rothschilds would become more impalpable than the mote that floats in the sunbeam.

Having disabused our minds of this error, thus disseminated by the Herald, let us glance for a moment at the wants of the *masses* in England, and *then* decide, or conjecture, if you please, what will be the demand and scale of prices for our breadstuffs, during the coming six months.

We shall not encumber our brief argument with statistics, upon which in general very little can be placed. We shall merely make a few common place and common sense remarks.

We observe then, that Europe, and England more particularly, as she is the main subject of our argument, are too poor to pay extravagant prices for breadstuffs. They are not reduced to utter poverty of course, but have still been so well shorn of their superabundance, as to feel very economically disposed. Judging from the tenor of the news received by the Britannia, the English consider six dollar per barral or superfine flour, quite as much as they can afford to pay. They perceive by the failures and mercantile embarrassment which have already occurred amongst them, that they have been buying too much and paying too high. They are now determined to retrench, to buy as little as they can, and as cheaply as possible.

We cannot reasonably expect to drain them a second time of their money, as we have once done, and that in two consecutive years. The Bank of England seems to be resolved, that as far as she is concerned, there shall be no redundant currency to invite importations to her shores. If we want from her more specie, we must first send it to her. And that is the process actually going on now.

We are a great people but cannot expect in twelve months to become the great reservoir into which shall flow the entire wealth of nations.

Our prices of breadstuffs are now too high for exportation, and our speculators in their eagerness have brought business almost to a stand.

In the mean time, our own Banks perceive how keenly the English desire our gold, and hold on to it with similar tenacity. Hence there is a contraction in the money market at home as well as abroad, both operating against a rise in prices.

During the past year, trade was active in restoring the equilibrium of the flour market in the old and new world. This year the monetary equilibrium is being adjusted. This is a feature in the business not to be overlooked. We therefore say with the Herald, *sell at present prices, and sell for cash.*

Col. Morgan at Home.

The gallant Col. Geo. Morgan has returned to Columbus, Ohio, where a public dinner was given him by his fellow citizens, in honor of his bravery and skill upon the battle-field. The Colonel made a patriotic speech on the occasion, from which it appears that he is a manifest destiny man. He said—

Many see or pretend to see, danger to the Union by an extension of "freedom's area." This is no new idea. Years ago, the same class of men saw danger in extending the limits of the Union west of the Alleghenies. But onward flowed the tide of emigration, and State after State, in the West was added to the Union. Louisianna and Florida were purchased, and they have been added to the constellation of States, and no disunion, as prophesied by these croakers of evil, followed. When Texas was admitted into the Union, the wild howls of threats of disunion were again heard. That beautiful region will be found, as it has already been, promotive of the interest of the whole people. No one, said Col. M., advocates the admission of any part of Mexico into the Union as States, at this time. But it is the destiny of the Anglo Saxon race—nay, said Col. M., of the American race, which includes those brave spirits from other lands who sought and found a home with us, and have become citizens—in time to give laws to this continent from the southern extreme to the frozen ocean in the north.

The idea of withdrawing the army at this time he treated as an insult. He remarked—

Can it be, that the gallant men who went forth with high hopes to battle for their country's rights and their country's honor, in a war, just on our part, as was ever war waged, are to be compelled to return (for they *defeated* by their own countrymen at home, *disgraced* by their withdrawal from the scenes of their triumphs, and the graves of their companions, before the objects of the war is accomplished? The men to be thus treated are not hireling soldiers. They are farmers and mechanics, who, believing that our soil had been invaded and our citizens murdered, went forth to protect their country's honor—to avenge her wrongs. How they have succeeded, history must tell.

From Neal's Gazette.

THE BRIDE OF THE GRAVE.

BY INA.

One of the brightest of the glorious golden days of this fading autumn I spent at Mount Auburn. It was a Sabbath, and there, on the green turf, and under the blue sky, my heart sent up its devotions to God.

Oh, never tell me of the majesty, the solemnity, of a Sabbath in temples reared, and set apart, and consecrated by men. No minister, old, and dim, and vast—no modern church, with its costly adornments; its religious music, could ever seem so truly a consecrated temple owned and accepted by the Eternal, as that green, arched home of the dead, where goes up, in grateful incense, the perfumed breath of the flowers—where float, and echo, and linger the song of the birds—whose very atmosphere, by the presence of death, is hallowed, and sanctified, and blessed.—Not all the princely grandeur of those churches of the old world, rich and stately as they are, and thronged about by mighty memories, could so move the heart to solemn worship!

God be thanked that man has dedicated to the holy dead a place so lovely! My heart clings to it—and when the gloomy night of death has darkened around me, fain would I sleep in its sweet seclusion. My heart clings to it. One whom I loved sleeps in its hallowed ground. Green be the turf, and bright the stars above her! Pure and fresh in loving hearts her memory!

Two years ago last June I went out to Mount Auburn with a young friend then visiting Boston for the first time. We spent a whole bright day in wandering through those green arcades. I remember well the sweet seriousness of my happy-hearted friend, and once, when we stood in a sweet, green nook, bathed in soft sunset light, and musical with the song of birds, and fragrant with the breath of flowers, she said with a sad, pleasant smile, "when I die, Ina, let me be buried here—I never could love a burying-place before—I always shrank with fear from the thought of death, but this could make me almost in love with it. One could sleep here as in a pleasant dream. If I die first, Ina, tell them to lay me here."

I hardly thought of it again—and never in connection with the death of her who was all life, all loveliness. I had expressed the same wish, with as little thought of its fulfilment.

We parted at Cambridge, with the expectation of meeting again the following June, when Ellen was to be married, and going to her new home in the Far West.

In our school-girl days I had made a careless promise to be Ellen's bridesmaid, when a certain friend, then pursuing his studies at old Harvard, should claim her pledged hand, and there, under the elms, I renewed that promise.

May came round, and with it came a letter from Ellen, reminding me that the wedding was to be on the last day of June, which was likewise her birthday, and desiring me to spend with her the preceding month. How gladly I looked forward to our meeting—how gladly left the noise and dust of the city for the freshness of her village home, in green, rural Worcester!

Three weeks went by as never went weeks before—in rambles all about her charming home—in boat-rides by moonlight, with Ned Nugent, Ellen's betrothed, and Ellen's joyous-hearted brother Ben, for companions—in long, dear conversations, in an old garden arbor long after the star-beams had kissed the slumbering flowers—and dearer than all, in twilight re-unions in the little parlor, when softly through the open windows came in on wings of balm, the rose perfumed breath of June.

Ellen was so merry-hearted, so gay and careless that had I not known her well I should have almost feared that she too lightly regarded the expected change in her life. We all laughed, and jested, and pictured our bright, young Ellen, in her log-cabin home, with her brown hair put soberly away from her brow—all the charming poetry of love fast giving place to its stern, sober, slate-colored prose—the fairy fancies and delicious imaginings of a girlish heart "fading before life's realities away."

Perhaps we laughed and jested too much, for love and marriage are solemn things. One may trifle with them for a while, but when comes the hearts betrothed—the pledged hands—when the whole existence goes forth to mingle forever with another—when old, familiar friends, are to be given up for the untried and new—when a long, it may be a last farewell, is to be taken of the childhood's home—when the mother's lip quivers in its last fond kiss—when the father's hand trembles while it blesses—when the brother's voice murmurs it last adieu, and the heart of the sister is torn from the clasp—oh, then, then are they serious, solemn things!

One and all seemed anxious to keep the dreaded day of separation from their thoughts. Ellen was the only sister in a band of brothers—the fire-side idol—happy, loving and loved. Yet, how could they but give her up willingly, when she had chosen a home in the heart of one dearer than them all, and said—"Whithersoever thou goest I will go—Thy people shall be my people—Thy God, my God."

The night before the wedding, Ellen sat down for the last time to the home piano, with all the family around.

"Now don't sing anything sad, Nelly," urged Ben.

So in careless carol, she gaily sung, and if a tremor from her heart now and then choked her voice, and stirred the well of tears in every eye, the friendly twilight concealed them all. No lights were brought in that evening—the soft moonbeams, streaming through the curtains of convolvulus, kissed the tear-drops from more than one cheek in the music-haunted room. At length, one after another of the family retired, till none but Ellen and her mother were left. It was a sacred hour. I stole up to our room, and left them there, Ellen sitting upon a low seat at the foot of her mother—that mother's hand resting in fondness upon the head, pillowed like a weary child upon her knee.

It was midnight when Ellen came up, but not to sleep.

"I cannot sleep to night, Ina, let us go down into the garden."

So we stole softly out of the house, and down through the dewy paths to that old arbor. It was bright moonlight, and earth and sky were bathed in beauty.

Oh, the delicious loveliness of a summer night!—They who sleep the dreamy hours away know not the cool, grateful refreshing of a midnight under the stars.

Ellen was oppressed with sadness.

"I have said my last 'good night,' Ina—sung my last songs—looked upon those loved ones as I shall look no more—felt my mother's heart beating in trouble anguish against my own; and yet, Ina, I have not shed a single tear. My heart is stifled as if a chain were round it. What does it mean? The night is beautiful—but, Ina, this garden looks like a grave yard."

I soothed the excited girl, and persuaded her to go in; she flung herself upon the bed, but there was no sleep in that room. The morning found her pale and serious, but not sad.

It was a bright, fragrant morning as ever gladdened our earth with sunshine and beauty. Many times, during my light labors, I paused to look down from the window of the little chamber upon the garden, glittering with dew-drops, and musical with the song of birds.

The last preparations were made, and we stood in silence by that window, Ellen attired in her simple dress of white muslin, when Edward and Ben entered.

Ellen's encircling arm clung more fondly around me; her hand trembled in mine; her lips lingered in a loving pressure to my own; "now, Ina, adieu!—no—no—come, I mean."

"Wait a moment," said Ben, as Edward drew her to his side and clasped the little gloved hand tenderly in his, "wait a moment, see how Ellen trembles—it will be over soon."

Edward placed his arm around her—that arm protecting even to death—she clung convulsively around him—looked up into the proud, manly face, bending so tenderly over her—with a holy, heavenly beauty in her blue eyes, a long, loving, lingering look, and—and—oh, my God, I can no more.

* * * * * * *

I know not how it happened, but we all stood in the midst of a group in the room below; Edward still holding fast in his arms the lifeless form of his dear, dead Ellen.

I cannot write of the voiceless, tearless agony of that hour—of those who had looked for a solemn parting, but not for that—of my poor stricken friend Nugent, whose light had gone out forever.

I have since been to that room—and have sat in the old arbor, where, on that summer night, I sat with an angel by my side, and know it not—nor knew that angel was so near to Heaven.

We bore her far from her childhood's home, and laid her in Mount Auburn, a meet resting place for the young heart yielded up in its pure loveliness to God.

Adventures of a Leg.

A soldier, who served under Napoleon, at the battle of Waterloo, and who was so severely wounded in that engagement that he was compelled to have one of his legs amputated, arrived at Cincinnati last week. The history of his leg, which he brought with him, presents greater vicissitudes than does that of a similar limb, once the personal property of Santa Anna. At the time of the great battle, his residence was at Leghorn, and thence, with his coffined leg he retired, and committed to mother earth that portion of his defunct proportions—removing to Geneva, in the year 1821, he disintered his leg, and buried it again in the vicinity of his new home.

But a few years had elapsed till he resolved to cross the Atlantic, and—strange infatuation—such was his affection for his lifeless limb that he brought it over the surging billows of the deep, finding for it a place of temporary repose in the western world, near Bordenton, N. J. With much of the restless spirit which characterizes more particularly the Yankee, he resolved to emigrate to the great West, and is now on his way to Jacksonville, Ill., where he says he is resolved to live out his days, and at last be buried with his long lost limb.

Honeymoon.

The origin of this word is so little known, and yet so highly interesting, that we are constrained to give an account of it. It is traceable to a Teutonic origin. Among the Teutons was a favorite drink called *metheglin*. It was made of honey, and much like the present mead of the same name in European countries. The same beverage was in use among the Saxons, as well as another *hydrat*, which was also made of honey, but flavored with mulberries. The honeyed drinks were used in great abundance at festivals. Among the nobility the marriage was celebrated a whole lunar month, which was called *il moon*, during which the festival board was well supplied with the honey drink. Hence this month of festival was called the *honah moon*, or honey moon, which means a festival. The famous Alaric is said to have died on his wedding night, from the effects of too much indulgence in metheglin.

The Frenchman and the Skunk.

We cannot refrain, says the Knickerbocker, from recording an incident, which we recently heard depicted by a friend, a French gentleman, whose ostentatious but princely hospitality adds (what one could hardly deem possible) even a new charm and grace to the lovely banks of the Saint Lawrence, along the most delightful reach of that resplendent stream.

"It ces twenty year," said he, "since zat I was in New York, and I go up one night in a upper part de cite, ('t wan 'most in de contrée,) to see a frande. Ah! oui! W'en I com' by de dooryard, I see som' sing—I know not what he ces, but I s'ought he was little rabbeet; but he war ver' *tame*. I go up softly to heem; 'Oh, ha!' I say to myself, 'I 'av gots you.' So I strike him big stroke vis my ombrel on his nek. Ah, ha! sup'pose w'at he do? *B-a-a-h!* He strike me back in my face wis his —— *I cannot tell!* Vat you call him? It was *awfuls*—DREADFULS! He sem-cold so you cannot *touch* him—and I de same! I s'row myself in de pond up to my necks; but it makes no use.

I smell *seex wee'eek!* I not like go in zo room wis my frande. I dig big hole to put my clo'es in de grounde: it not cure zem! I dig zem up: bah!—it is de same! I put zem back—and dey smell one year; till zey rot in de ground. *It cessfuact!*"

And so it *was* a fact; for no man born of woman could ever counterfeit the fervor of disgust which distinguished the graphic delineation of that sad mishap.

THE FEELING IN MEXICO.—The Union is giving the views of officers in the army relative to the future policy towards Mexico. One gentleman immediately from Gen. Scott's army, says:—

"The Mexicans are unwilling to see us quit their country; they declare their lives and property have never been so safe as under the protection of our army; and that they are apprehensive, if we retire, of seeing their country again torn to pieces by contending factions and military oppressors. This gentleman is of opinion (and it is the general opinion of the army) that we shall have peace only by throwing more troops into the country to assist those who are already there. These are able to retain the capital, the road to Vera Cruz, and keep the Guerrillas at bay. But additional reinforcements would make excursions to proper points whenever it was proper to extend our conquests, from State to State, and from capital to capital, and to command the rich mines, some of which are within forty miles of the capital. Every effort has been made to cover up these mines, under the guise of British ownership, through the inventive genius of a British agent in Mexico. It is the opinion of the officer alluded to, that, we should also exact contributions, by means of such taxes upon property as were levied by the Mexicans themselves. Our informant entertains little doubt that, by thus bringing the war nearer to the Mexicans, they would be disposed to seek for peace—particularly if our troops should throw their protection over the people for a short time.

"These general representations of the state of things in Mexico are confirmed from so many quarters, that we cannot hesitate to believe them; and, were we at liberty, we could name an authority nearer to Mexico, and even more reliable, because founded upon a longer and a more intimate acquaintance with the character and the feelings of her people."

IDOLIZING TRUTH.

Mr. Clay, in his late speech, says, that General Taylor ordered his cannon opposite to Matamoras "while Mr. Slidell was wending his way to Mexico with his credentials."

The "truth" is General Taylor was not ordered from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, 'till it was known to the Administration that the Mexican Government had refused to receive Mr. Slidell!

Mr. Clay asserts that Gen. Taylor's "good sense" prompted him to believe, in the beginning of the year 1846, that our army ought to remain at Corpus Christi.

The "truth" is, Gen. Taylor ADVISED the forward movement of the army to the Rio Grande!

Mr. Clay asserts that the war of 1812 was one "purely of *defence*."

The "truth" is, the *invasion* of Canada, was the first act of our country in that war!

Mr. Clay asserts that the justice of the war of 1812 was admitted by the federal party.

The "truth" is directly the reverse, so far as we can judge from the recorded opinions and acts of the leaders of that party in Massachusetts and elsewhere!

The foregoing statements in the speech of Mr. Clay are truly remarkable, considering that he almost *idolizes truth!*—*Richmond Examiner.*

QUEER THEFT.—A couple of men went to the house of Robert Tate, in Hopewell, N. J., on the 10th, and kidnapped his wife and