THE "CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN,"

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY, BY

GOODLANDER & LEE.

ESTABLISHED IN 1827.

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G. B. GOODLANDER,
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Publishers.

CLEARFIELD REPUBLICAN.

GEO. B. GOODLANDER, Proprietor. PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN. TERMS—$2 per annum in Advance.

VOL. 52—WHOLE NO. 2,556. CLEARFIELD, PA., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1878. NEW SERIES—VOL. 19, NO. 4.

Cards.

JOB PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION neatly executed at this office.

JUSTICES' & CONSTABLES' FEES. We have printed a large number of the new FEE BILL, and will on the receipt of twenty-five cents mail a copy to any address.

H. W. SMITH,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
11:1:73 Clearfield, Pa.

J. J. LINGLE,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
1:18 Philipsburg, Centre Co., Pa. y:pd

G. R. & W. BARRETT,
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
January 30, 1878.

ISRAEL TEST,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Office in the Court House. jy11'67

W. C. ARNOLD,
LAW & COLLECTION OFFICE,
CURWENSVILLE,
o26 Clearfield County, Penn'a. 75y

S. T. BROCKBANK,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Court House. ap 25,'77-1y

S. V. WILSON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
Office one door east of Western Hotel building, opposite Court House.
sept.5,'77. CLEARFIELD, PA.

FRANK FIELDING,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Will attend to all business entrusted to him promptly and faithfully. jan1'7

WILLIAM A. WALLACE. DAVID L. KREBS.
HARRY F. WALLACE. JOHN W. WRIGLEY.

WALLACE & KREBS,
(Successors to Wallace & Fielding,)
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
jan1'77 Clearfield, Pa.

THOS. H. MURRAY. CYRUS GORDON.

MURRAY & GORDON,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Pie's Opera House, second floor. 9:30'74

CHARLES O. LEIDY,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Osceola Mills, Clearfield Co., Pa.
Legal business of all kinds attended to. Particular attention paid to the procuring of bounties, pensions, &c.
Nov 21, 1877-1y.

JOSEPH S. M'ENALLY. DANIEL W. M'CURDY.

McENALLY & McCURDY,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
Legal business attended to promptly with fidelity. Office on Second street, above the First National Bank. jan1:76

WM. M. McCULLOUGH. FRED'K G. BUCK.

McCULLOUGH & BUCK,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
Clearfield, Pa.
All legal business promptly attended to. Office on Second street, in the Masonic building. jan18,'77

A. G. KRAMER,
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
Real Estate and Collection Agent,
CLEARFIELD, PA.,
Will promptly attend to all legal business entrusted to his care.
Office in Pie's Opera House. jan1'76

JOHN L. CUTTLE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW
And Real Estate Agent, Clearfield, Pa.
Office on Third street, bet. Cherry & Walnut.
Respectfully offers his services in selling and buying lands in Clearfield and adjoining counties; and with an experience of over twenty years as a surveyor, flatters himself that he can render satisfaction. [Feb 28:'63tf.

DR. W. A. MEANS,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
LUTHERSBURG, PA.
Will attend professional calls promptly. aug10'70

DR. T. J. BOYER,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
Office on Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.
Office hours: 8 to 12 a. m., and 1 to 6 p. m.

DR. E. M. SCHEURER,
HOMŒOPATHIC PHYSICIAN,
Office in residence on First st.
April 24, 1872. Clearfield, Pa.

DR. H. B. VAN VALZAH,
CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
OFFICE IN MASONIC BUILDING.
Office hours—From 12 to 2 P. M.
May 12, 1875.

DR. J. P. BURCHFIELD,
Late Surgeon of the 83d Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, having returned from the Army, offers his professional services to the citizens of Clearfield county.
Professional calls promptly attended to. Office on Second street, formerly occupied by Dr. Woods. [apr4,'66-tf

WILLIAM M. HENRY, JUSTICE OF THE PEACE AND SCRIVENER, LUMBER CITY. Collections made and money promptly paid over. Articles of agreement and deeds of conveyance neatly executed and warranted or no charge. 23jy'73

REED & HAGERTY,
DEALERS IN
HARDWARE, FARM IMPLEMENTS,
Tinware, Nails, &c.,
aug1,'77 Second Street, Clearfield, Pa.

JAMES H. LYTLE,
In Kratzer's Building, Clearfield, Pa.
Dealer in Groceries, Provisions, Vegetables, Fruits, Flour, Feed, etc., etc.
april7,'75-tf

HARRY SNYDER,
BARBER AND HAIRDRESSER.
Shop on Market St., opposite Court House.
A clean towel for every customer.
Also manufacturer of
All Kinds of Articles in Human Hair.
Clearfield, Pa. may 19, '75.

JOHN A. STADLER,
BAKER, Market St., Clearfield, Pa.
Fresh Bread, Rusk, Rolls, Pies and Cakes on hand or made to order. A general assortment of Confectionaries, Fruits and Nuts in stock. Ice Cream and Oysters in season. Saloon nearly opposite the Postoffice. Prices moderate.
March 10-'75.

Cards.

JOHN D. THOMPSON,
Justice of the Peace and Scrivener,
Curwensville, Pa.
Collections made and money promptly paid over. feb22'71tf

RICHARD HUGHES,
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
—FOR—
Decatur Township,
Osceola Mills P. O.
All official business entrusted to him will be promptly attended to. mch29 '76.

THOMAS H. FORCEE,
DEALER IN
GENERAL MERCHANDISE
GRAHAMTON, Pa.
Also, extensive manufacturer and dealer in Square Timber and Sawed Lumber of all kinds.
Orders solicited and all bills promptly filled. [jy19'72

REUBEN HACKMAN,
House and Sign Painter and Paper Hanger,
Clearfield, Penn'a.
Will execute jobs in his line promptly and in a workmanlike manner. apr4,67

G. H. HALL,
PRACTICAL PUMP MAKER,
NEAR CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.
Pumps always on hand and made to order on short notice. Pipes bored on reasonable terms. All work warranted to render satisfaction, and delivered if desired. my25:lypd

E. A. BIGLER & CO.,
DEALERS IN
SQUARE TIMBER,
and manufacturers of
ALL KINDS OF SAWED LUMBER,
8-7'72 CLEARFIELD, PENN'A.

JAS. B. GRAHAM,
dealer in
Real Estate, Square Timber, Boards,
SHINGLES, LATH, & PICKETS,
9:10'73 Clearfield, Pa.

WARREN THORN,
BOOT AND SHOE MAKER,
Market St., Clearfield, Pa.
In the shop lately occupied by Frank Short, one door west of Allegheny House.

ASHLEY THORN,
ARCHITECT, CONTRACTOR and BUILDER.
Plans and Specifications furnished for all kinds of buildings. All work first class. Stair building a specialty.
P. O. address, Clearfield, Pa. jan.17-77tf.

JAMES MITCHELL,
DEALER IN
Square Timber & Timber Lands,
jell'73 CLEARFIELD, PA.

J. R. M'MURRAY
WILL SUPPLY YOU WITH ANY ARTICLE OF MERCHANDISE AT THE VERY LOWEST PRICE. COME AND SEE. 3:3:73y
NEW WASHINGTON.

WEAVER & BETTS,
DEALERS IN
Real Estate, Square Timber, Saw Logs,
AND LUMBER OF ALL KINDS.
Office on Second street, in rear of store room of George Weaver & Co. [jan9,'78 tf.

J. BLAKE WALTERS,
REAL ESTATE BROKER
AND DEALER IN
Saw Logs and Lumber,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
Office in Graham's Row. 1:25:71

S. I. SNYDER,
PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER
AND DEALER IN
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry,
Graham's Row, Market Street,
CLEARFIELD, PA.
All kinds of repairing in my line promptly attended to. April 23, 1874.

NEW BOOT AND SHOE SHOP.
The undersigned would inform the public that he has removed his Boot and Shoe Shop to the room lately occupied by Jos. Dearing, in Shaw's Row, Market street, where he is prepared to attend to the wants of all who need anything in his line. All work done by him will be of the best material and guaranteed to be first-class in every respect. Repairing promptly attended to. All kinds of Leather and Shoe Findings for sale.
JOHN SCHIEFER.
Clearfield, Pa., July 18, 1877-6m.

Clearfield Nursery.
ENCOURAGE HOME INDUSTRY.
THE undersigned, having established a Nursery on the Pike, about half way between Clearfield and Curwensville, is prepared to furnish all kinds of FRUIT TREES, (standard and dwarf,) Evergreens, Shrubbery, Grape Vines, Gooseberry, Lawton Blackberry, Strawberry, and Raspberry Vines. Also, Siberian Crab Trees, Quince, and early scarlet Rhubarb, &c. Orders promptly attended to. Address,
J. D. WRIGHT,
sep20 68-y Curwensville, Pa.

ANDREW HARWICK,
Market Street, Clearfield, Pa.,
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN
HARNESS, SADDLES, BRIDLES, COLLARS,
and all kinds of
HORSE FURNISHING GOODS.
A full stock of Saddlers' Hardware, Brushes, Combs, Blankets, Robes, etc., always on hand and for sale at the lowest cash prices. All kinds of repairing promptly attended to.
All kinds of hides taken in exchange for harness and repairing. All kinds of harness leather kept on hand, and for sale at a small profit.
Clearfield, Jan. 19, 1876

E. WARING'S
LAW BLANKS
For sale at the Clearfield REPUBLICAN office.
The most Complete Series of Law Blanks published.
These Blanks are gotten up in superior style, are of uniform size, and furnished at very low figures for cash.
Call at the REPUBLICAN office and examine them. Orders by mail promptly filled.
Address, GOODLANDER & LEE,
July 25, 1-77-tf. Clearfield Pa.

JOHN TROUTMAN,
DEALER IN
FURNITURE,
MATTRESSES,
AND
Improved Spring Beds,
MARKET STREET, NEAR P. O.
The undersigned begs leave to inform the citizens of Clearfield, and the public generally, that he has on hand a fine assortment of Furniture, such as Walnut, Chestnut and Painted Chamber Suites, Parlor Suites, Reclining and Extension Chairs, Ladies' and Gents' Easy Chairs, the Perforated Dining and Parlor Chairs, Cane Seats and Windsor Chairs, Clothes Bars, Step and Extension Ladders, Hat Racks, Scrubbing Brushes, &c.
MOULDING AND PICTURE FRAMES,
Looking Glasses, Chromos, &c., which would suitable for Holiday presents.
dec10'73 JOHN TROUTMAN.

THE ROOTS OF THE ROSES.

BY ALICE CAREY.

The leaves are fading and falling,
The winds are rough and wild,
The birds have ceased their calling,
But let me tell you, my child:

Though day by day, as it closes,
Doth darker and colder grow,
The roots of the bright red roses
Will keep alive in the snow.

And when the winter is over
The boughs will get new leaves,
The quail come back to the clover,
The swallow back to the eaves;

The robin will wear on his bosom
The vest that is bright and new,
And the loveliest wayside blossom
Will shine with sun and dew.

So, when some dear joy loses
Its beauteous summer glow,
Think how the roots of the roses
Are kept alive in the snow.

MODERN GOTHS AND VANDALS.

Civilization with slow and measured tread, has ever travelled westward. From Eastern Asia, where the most ancient signs of a civilization, a religio-moral code and a National Government, are found, having left their traces indelibly on the sands of the rolling centuries, India, Arabia, Egypt, Greece and Rome in turn became the centres of the highest thought and wealth and progress of the human race. Each civilization was of a higher order, in some if not all respects, than its predecessor, and from Rome, under the impetus of the printing press, the increased facilities of communication of thought, and the study of science, has sprung the present civilizations in the blending of the Latin and Anglo Saxon races, through the whole of Western Europe and America. Co-existent with these centres of civilization there have been races inhabiting a more Northern latitude, who have made periodical and often disastrous inroads upon their more peaceful Southern neighbors, and in more than one case they have arisen with such power as to annihilate their enemies and scatter the seed of culture and refinement to the four winds, leaving the world temporarily in the darkness of brute heathenism, until at length some of the seed, falling on a fertile soil, has sprung up again and brought forth fruit, eclipsing in learning and splendor its progenitor. So it was with Rome. The Goths, themselves an Asiatic nation which had previously overrun and conquered Central Europe, being pressed upon by the advancing hordes of Mongolian Huns from the plains of Tartary and Central Asia, encroached upon the German tribes, and in turn Italy was invaded and laid waste by the Visigoths, Franks, Vandals, Allemanni, Goths—and finally by the Huns themselves. This was under the great barbaric commander Attila, who became the acknowledged sovereign of all tribes between Gaul and the borders of China.

History repeats itself, and barbarism, like civilization, presses westward; and now the centre of those Northern barbaric tribes, the legitimate descendants of the Huns, is transferred from the plains of Central Asia to Russia—to St. Petersburg. As the lives of nations are longer than the lives of men, the accomplishment of a national purpose consumes centuries, perhaps, as the accomplishment of life's purposes consumes years. More than a century and a half ago Peter the Great founded the Empire of Russia. He placed himself at the head of the Greek Church, and centralized the powers of government completely in his own hands. He fought Sweden twenty years, to secure the navigation of the Baltic, and attempted to establish water communication between the Caspian, White, Baltic and Black Seas, fully appreciating the importance of maritime commerce as a means of giving life and enterprise to his vast dominions. Like Attila, the Hun, his chief thought was to extend the bounds of his Empire, both in Asia and in Europe, to the East, West and South. Like Attila, too, Peter the Great was but an ignorant, coarse, brutal savage, gloating over scenes of cruel suffering, and devoid of the faintest taint of culture, refinement or high aspiration. The policy of Peter the Great is the policy of Russia to-day, and so long as there exists a Czar of all the Russians that policy will not change. It is the policy of invasion, of territorial aggrandizement and of absolute monarchy. Each successor of "the father of his country," weak or strong, in success and in defeat, has kept these maxims continually before his mind.

Two centuries, yes, even fourteen centuries, have changed the inhabitants of the Russian steppes but little. They are a race apart, and partake neither of the ancient civilization their Eastern borders, nor of the present civilization on the West. They are still the hordes of barbaric Huns which pillaged the whole of Western Europe, to whom progress is an incomprehensible myth, and with whom the civilization of the South, liberality of thought and sentiment, with their central idea, freedom of mind, body and soul, are as meaningless as they would be to a herd of bison. Not much more can be said of their rulers. Possessing every opportunity for intellectual advancement, they make use of them solely for themselves. As individuals they may possess all the attributes of true greatness and liberality. As rulers of barbarians, they are themselves the essence of barbarism, having wisdom enough to mollify the barbarity of their people, to make them subservient to imperial mandates and effectual in conquest, making them proficient in the arts of war, production and homely manufacture; but in independent thought, philosophy, and intelligent morality, leaving them still in their swadling clothes. Turkey is a heathen nation, but it is not barbaric. It is undoubtedly weak and corrupt, but it does not foster and enforce barbarity. Its weakness, indeed, with its central position in the commerce of Europe and Asia, its relation with European powers, and missionary labors and influences, have enforced many changes of government and a quite general leavening of the masses, to which Russia has been impervious. The English, doubtless, had the most just cause to raise their voices against Turkish atrocities, and the spirit of humanity which was the main spring of their clamor, for enforced law and order can but be commended by everybody, but when they entrusted the correction of those terrible evils to Muscovite hands, in the name of the cross, they made a most fatal mistake. Who could choose, for himself or those in whom he takes an interest, protection in slavery in preference to comparative freedom, with life and property somewhat insecure? Which of the two states is the grosser violation of civilization? There was England's first great mistake. But the maudlin inactivity, the lack of courage and foresight which she has since shown as the Black Eagle has swooped to the South in rapid flight, and now rests ready to make easy prey of the very key of all Eastern commerce, are still graver ones. Germany is playing the part of the Goth, and Austria the Vandal to the Russian Hun, and England alone of all the European powers, has the strength, and the direct interest at stake to make it devolve upon her to arrest the advance of the barbaric hosts, and establish in Turkey a liberal civilization. Constantinople is to-day not only the key of inter-continental commerce, It is the key of European civilization. If the Russians once obtain a firm hold upon that spot, nothing can dislodge them. Then Turkey in Europe, Greece, and the Mediterranean islands, and the Ottoman possessions in Asia gradually fade into the Nirwana of Barbarism. England is left weaker than Sampson with his shorn locks. Germany continues her conquests of Denmark, Holland, Belgium, and another huge slice of France. Austria is divided as Poland was. Italy, Spain, France and England are overrun, not by the wild bands that conquer, pillage and depart, but by an organized barbarian horde, which conquers to hold possession, and pillages to make its tenure in power sure. This is the modern Attila that threatens Europe. This is the power to which England confides not only her own temporal interests, but the very civilization of modern Europe. No nation was ever placed in a more responsible position, with more appalling results for good or evil in the balance. And yet, what does England do? Nothing but keep her army on a peace footing and stay at home. A thousand times better defeat in so holy a war than peace at such a price.—*Pittsburg Telegraph.*

WHAT IS HONESTY?

The following extract from a sermon recently delivered by Rev. Dr. J. M. P. Otts, of Wilmington, Delaware, is such healthy doctrine in these degenerate times, we publish it for the benefit of our readers:

The word honesty is derived from the Hebrew word Hon, which means property, substance, wealth. It means the fair and even thing in all dealings in regard to property and money. It is the first and most universal principle that underlies and regulates the ownership and transfer of property. It requires absolute faithfulness in the administration of all private and public trusts. It is the principle by which all values are adjusted and regulated in strict accordance with intrinsic worth, and by which an exact equivalent, as nearly as possible, is given and taken in all transactions involving property and money. It means thirty-six full length inches to the yard, sixteen full weight ounces to the pound, four full measure pecks to the bushel, and one hundred cents of ten mills each to the dollar. Honesty means gold when it says gold, and when it says "or its equivalent in silver," it means one hundred full cents worth of silver for every gold dollar promised. This is what honesty means, and to offer anything less is a discredit and disgrace to the party offering, and to enforce anything less downright dishonesty and thievery. Honesty requires that all trusts and obligation involving property and money shall be met with full values, and exactly at the appointed time. The word in the Greek of the New Testament for honesty is Kalon, which means the thing that is absolutely complete and beautiful in itself, the sphere that is mathematically square, and the equation that is eternally equal, as two and two equals four. Ninety-two cents of silver for one dollar of gold is not such an equation. Neither do we have the "fair and square" thing in the administration of public trusts when States "scale their public debts," whatever that may mean. As a preacher I am so presumably ignorant of financial matters, that I hold myself excusable for not being able to see in the "scaling of a public debt" anything more or less than repudiation with an attempt to hide its shame under the mask of a plausible name. This specious form of dishonesty has even invaded the sacred precincts of the church in some places. Not very long ago much was said in the newspapers about a certain very prominent church that freed itself from debt by bidding in its costly and handsome building from under the Sheriff's hammer for less than the first mortgage, and thereby cheating the holders of a second mortgage out of many thousands of dollars. That congregation assembled the next Sabbath and thanked God that His church was freed from debt, just as if the Lord could receive the gift and worship of such sanctimonious rogues. Such things, were I not able to distinguish between sham and real Christianity, would drive me to infidelity.

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA.—The Great Wall of China was measured in many places by Mr. Unthank, an American engineer, lately engaged on a survey for a Chinese railway. His measurements give the height at eighteen feet, and a width on top of fifteen feet. Every few hundred yards there is a tower twenty-four feet square, and from twenty to twenty-five feet high. The foundation of the wall is of solid granite. Mr. Unthank brought with him a brick from the wall which is supposed to have been made two hundred years before the time of Christ. In building this immense stone fence to keep out the Tartars, the builders never attempted to avoid mountains or chasms to save expense. For 1,300 miles the wall goes over plain and mountain, and every foot of the foundation is in solid granite, and the rest of the structure solid masonry. In some places the wall is built smooth up against the bank, or canons or precipices, where there is a sheer descent of 1,000 feet. Small streams are arched over, but on the larger streams the walls run to the water's edge, and a tower is built on each side. On the top of the wall there are breastworks, or defences, facing in and out, so the defending forces can pass from one tower to another without being exposed to any enemy from either side. To calculate the time of building, or cost of this wall, is beyond human skill. So far as the magnitude of the work is concerned it surpasses everything in ancient or modern times of which there is any trace. The Pyramids of Egypt are nothing compared to it.—*London News.*

"The sentence of the Court is," said Judge Porter, a popular Irish magistrate, to a notorious drunkard, "that you be confined in jail for the longest period the law allows; and I hope you will spend the time in cursing whiskey." "I will, Sir, and Porter, too."

GRAY'S UNFINISHED "ELEGY"

Mr. George MacDonald, a Scottish novelist, whose books never harmed a living soul or roused an unruly passion in the breast of man or woman, and of whose critical powers we catch a satisfactory glimpse when we find him saying that Thomas Hood's

"We watched her breathing through the night"

lives not because of its pathos but because of its "beauty of form," has lately thrown himself into the middle of Gray's "Elegy" and plumped two stanzas of his own therein. His motive for doing so is rather ethical than poetical, and herein differs from that which led Mr. Tupper to continue Coleridge's fragment, "Christabel," to a dreadful ending. The weird imagination of Mr. Tupper, his natural taste for *diablerie* and his wonderful metaphysical force made it possible for him to enter into the spirit of that wild poem in a manner which was quite satisfactory to his numerous readers. Mr. Tupper saw through "Christabel" in a poetical sense and, as a poet, he went ahead and did for it, swerved from his course by no moral reflections upon the sinful character of witches. Mr. MacDonald, on the other hand, pondered long upon Gray's "Elegy" and saw that it contained no kindly remarks about dear woman. The defect was of so serious a sort that he at once wrote the following stanza, which he interpolated between the fourteenth and fifteenth quatrains of the original poem:

"Here sleeps some fair, whose unaffected charms
Bloomed with attraction to herself unknown;
Whose beauty might have blessed a monarch's arms
Whose virtues cast a lustre on a throne;

Whose modest beauties warm'd a humble heart,
Or cheer'd the labors of some homely spouse;
Whose virtues form'd to every duteous part
The healthful offspring which adorned her house."

Mr. Matthew Arnold speaks of Dr. Chalmers as "the Scotch thistle doing duty as the Rose of Sharon;" we don't know what he thinks of Mr. MacDonald making Gray use such a rhyme as "house" and "spouse," and repeating "beauties" and "virtues" after this fashion. The Scottish novelist, however, has his noble excuse for his interpolation, for it surely is a shame to Thomas Gray that in writing an elegy in a churchyard he neglected to praise our female relatives.

And when we come to think of it, how many things there are which Mr. Gray did not mention in his very elaborate, not to say encyclopedic, treatise on the instability of earthly want and grandeur! The steam engine is one of the greatest triumphs of the human mind, and especially at the present day it is highly interesting to very many worthy persons. Study the "Elegy" as we may we will find no allusion to the grand old iron horse. Therefore, and whereas by the merest oversight, Mr. Thomas Gray, poet, late of Pembroke Hall, England, has neglected to mention in his sprightly essay on churchyards one of the most powerful of modern means of transportation, therefore, be it resolved that the following lines from the gifted pen of our respected fellow-townsman, H. R. Bobbs, Esq., be inserted between the eighth and ninth stanzas of the original production:

"The locomotive engine's fiery breath
Sweeps savage on the down and upper tracks;
It deals destruction, leads to sudden death:
Few other qualities of force it lacks.

Each man, forbear thine impious hand to raise,
Nor ever dare to touch th' important switch,
A spark may set a city in a blaze;
A boy may tumble trains into a ditch."

It is to such beautiful verse as this that Mr. MacDonald's method of filling up gaps in poetry will lead if it shall be generally adopted. It does not seem to be a good method, and in principle it has already worked sad havoc in hymnology, for instance. It should not be allowed any further extension. Haply some hoary-headed sage may say that a man may write what he chooses to write and speak of Colley Cibber; but with such an old sage we would have nothing to do. It will not do to tinker the poets. The "Elegy" is commonly supposed to be one of the most "finished" poems in the language, and he who would extend it is but a vain and vaporing man.

HOW THE EYES OF YOUNG FOLKS ARE DAMAGED.

Resuming now the consideration of near-sight, we proceed to suggest some of its principal causes, as follows:

1. The early use by school children of books, slates and writing paper, or copy-books, when black-boards and models would be better. Type and script letters and figures and their primary combinations, at least, should never be taught from books, but from large and perfectly formed models, printed on cards and hung on the wall. When the eye and the memory are sufficiently trained to easily recognize and name each letter and figure at sight, and when some knowledge has been gained of the power of letters and figures in combination, then the same forms in books will be at once familiar as old acquaintances, and may be studied without straining the sight. To train the hand without straining the sight presents a greater practical difficulty. In the large schools, of course, all the children cannot go to the blackboard; but a considerable practice in drawing large lines and single objects on good-sized slates, in a sort of free-hand style, should precede the formation of letters and figures, and when these are begun they should be made of generous size. A correct position, meanwhile, should be an imperative requirement; and, until it becomes habitual and easy, good work should be held to be of secondary importance. Hard slate-pencils and greasy slate surfaces should not be permitted; both should be subject to systematic inspection.

2. Ignorance or laxity on the part of parents and primary teachers in permitting faulty positions of the head, body and book during reading, study and writing, and in not seeking early to secure the intelligent co-operation of the pupil by simple and appropriate physiological instruction.

3. A prolonged and steady looking at an object or at objects near the eye though at proper distance, without rest or frequent change of the visual lines, as in long and absorbed novel-reading, intense study, or persistent diligence in needlework.

4. The practice of reading or otherwise using the sight at too short range. This results in part from insufficient light; or from its faulty direction, so that the hand or body throws a shadow on the page; or so that the direct rays fall upon the eye, causing undue contraction of the pupil, while the page is in shadow. It results also from improperly graded desks, from small and poor type and inferior printing-ink, and from faulty color and quality of printing-paper; also from pale writing-ink—pale when used—and from the substitution of the lead-pencil for the pen, especially in the evening.

5. A prone or forward position of the head too long maintained or frequently repeated, and becoming a habit. This results from reading or studying with the book in the lap and from the use of desks not graded to the heighth of the pupil. Dr. Howe reports pupils varying eighteen inches in height seated at the same grade of desks. The distance of the eye from the page should not be less than eighteen inches. Having the desks set too far from the seats also induces this faulty position. The front of the desk should overlap the seat one or two inches.

Donders says: "In the hygiene of myopia the very first point is to guard against working in a stooping position." He favors high, sloping desks, and indicates "rectilineal drawing on a flat surface" as a class of work which is especially objectionable.

6. Since a vitiated atmosphere is a frequent feature of the school room, it may not be amiss to add here that the effect of bad air is indirectly to injure, if not to destroy, the sight.

7. Allowing a sun-glare on the page, while reading; also transition from cloud shadow to sunshine.

8. Reading and studying in railroad cars is known to be a fruitful source of injury.

9. But insufficient light, perhaps more than any other cause, produces diseases of the eye and derangement of the vision. This is not confined to the schools. Sadly frequent as it is found to be there, it is believed to be yet oftener illustrated at home, both by daylight and in the evening, in preparation for the school and otherwise. Artificial illumination is faulty at best but even in the most favored homes the elder group is apt to monopolize the shaded drop-light or student lamp, while the school boy with his text-books is found somewhere in the outer circle.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

AN ILLUMINATING CANNON SHOT.—One of the most simple and ingenious contrivances for the purpose of investing a fleet with a zone of light through which no enemy could pass without being observed, has been devised by M. Ferdinand Silas, of Vienna, whose experiments with life buoys at Portsmouth have been reported in these columns. M. Silas's inextinguishable lightning shell is similar to a common shell, can be made to fit any gun, and can, accordingly, be projected any distance. The projectile consists of three parts, one within the other. Within the shell proper is a lining of wet sponge, and within this is a glass bottle, which fills the whole cavity; the bottom of the shell unscrewing to admit of its entrance. This bottle is filled with various charges of phosphide, none of which, however, is to be less than ten pounds. A small channel is bored through the sharp point of the shell in order to allow the air to mix freely with the wet sponge, and there are a couple of apertures in the head which are plugged with wooden stoppers covered with leather. Through the moveable bottom of the shell a steel striker is inserted, which is fitted with a spring and communicates with the glass bottle within. When the light shell is fired, the spring striker is driven forward by the explosion like a gas check, and so breaks the bottle; the water then contained in the jacket of the sponge penetrates through the broken glass and saturates the phosphide; phosphuretted hydrogen is immediately generated in large quantities, by the pressure of which two stoppers are forced out and two streams of illuminating matter are poured upon the sea. The light burns with great brilliancy for a considerable time, and it is claimed to be inextinguishable.—*London Times.*

ECLIPSES IN 1878.

The astronomers are going to be liberal with their eclipses the coming year and will be responsible for four, visible upon various portions of this planet. The opening performance will take place upon the second of February when the great orb of day will obscure his face with a sun bonnet or one of the Ashantee umbrellas, which will be a great surprise to the untutored Africans who least expect it, and perhaps even Stanley has not been forewarned of this phenomenon. It seems rather a waste of ceremony, for the Ethiopians and the Congos do not appreciate these little entertainments, and it will be night in all civilized countries when this takes place. We are happy to say that the moon shows a more profound respect for the white folks and Christian institutions. Upon the seventeenth of the same month a partial eclipse of the moon will startle with its weird shadowings those who don't go home till morning, but generally bring up there a little while before the sun rises. The grand spectacular bill will be presented upon the twenty-ninth of July, when the sun will undergo a total eclipse that will be visible in the United States. In New England however we have seats in the dress circle and only get a partial view of it, while the fortunate dwellers in Siberia will have the full benefit. In Boston it begins a few minutes before 5 o'clock and ends about half past 6 o'clock p. m. The moon partially hides herself upon the 12th of August, and these with a transit of Mercury, May 6, are about all the heavenly entertainments to which the public is invited.

MANNERS.—I used just now that word, manners. Let me beg your very serious attention to it. I use it, remember, in its true, its ancient—that is, in its moral and spiritual—sense. I use it as the old Greeks, the old Romans used their corresponding words; as our wise forefathers used it, when they said well, that "Manners makyth man;" that manners are at once the efficient cause of a man's success, and a proof of his deserving to succeed; the outward and visible sign of whatsoever inward and spiritual grace, or disgrace, there may be in him. I mean by what our Lord meant when he reproved the pushing and vulgar arrogance of the Scribes and Pharisees, and laid down the golden rule of all good manners, "He that is the greatest among you, let him be the servant of all." Next I beg you to remember that all, or almost all, the good manners which we have among us—courtesies, refinements, self-restraint, and mutual respect—all which raises us socially and morally above our forefathers of 1,500 years ago—deep-hearted men, valiant and noble, but coarse and arrogant and quarrelsome—all that, or almost all, we owe to Christ, to the influence of His example, and to that Bible which testifies of Him. Yes, the Bible has been for Christendom, in the cottage as much as in the palace, the school of manners; and the saying that he who becomes a true Christian becomes a true gentleman is no rhetorical boast, but a solid historic fact.—*Canon Kingsley.*

A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY IN COMMERCE.

No enterprise of recent times has attracted more general attention at home or abroad, than the contract lately awarded to certain citizens of Pennsylvania for the building of the Madeira and Mamore Railway. It, in fact, involves the opening of a continent whose vast resources are not only undeveloped, but are hardly dreamed of by the commercial world. The field is white to the harvest, and waits for the reapers to enter in and garner its rich fruitage. At present Bolivia, the most peaceful and the richest of South American Republics, is absolutely isolated from commerce. The railway line whose construction is now assured will break up this isolation and make the Bolivian trade a prize within the reach of any country that has the pluck and the sagacity to reach out and take it. The road will run along the eastern shore of the Maderia river, in Brazil, from the head of navigation below the rapids to the point of navigation on the Mamore river, a branch of the Maderia above. The Madeira has its source on the great water shed of Bolivia, east of the Andes, leaves Bolivia at the northeastern point and runs across the table lands of Brazil to the Amazon, which it joins near Barra, about seven hundred miles from the Atlantic. A series of falls, however, render the river useless for navigation for a distance of one hundred and eighty miles; the Namore is a continuation of the Madeira, and begins above the falls on the border of Bolivia, and on it are the Guajara-merim Falls. The railroad is to bridge the gap of one hundred and eighty miles caused by the rapids, which are otherwise an insurmountable obstacle to the movement down the Madeira and Amazon to the Atlantic, where it will be open to the competition of the world, will be easy.

The area of country in Bolivia that the road will drain, directly or indirectly, is 480,000 square miles. In 1868 its internal trade reached 15,000,000 pounds, and in 1872 exports amounting to 3,750,000 pounds were taken across the Andes on mule and llama back, in default of any other way of getting to market. Silver, gold, lead, salt, copper and nitre are abundant; indeed, the mineral wealth of the country is immense, and yet the surface of the mines has hardly been scraped, because when extracted it was impossible to bring it within the reach of the arms of commerce; and the same may be said of the best coffee in the world that grows almost without cultivation, the berries dropping to rot because until there is some better vehicle of trade than mule packs it does not pay to gather them. Cotton, too, grows wild in great profusion; cocoa is an important and valuable product; sugar cane is easily cultivated; the tobacco is said to be equal to that of Havana; there are vast indigo fields, and dyewoods drugs are varied and numerous. The stories as to the salubrity of the climate and the productiveness of the country would strain credulity were they not fortified by indubitable proof. How to make the products available and to give the Bolivians the goods and machinery that they crave in exchange is a problem that has long challenged the attention of the engineers and statesmen of Brazil and Bolivia and lured the convetousness of European commercial and manufacturing interests, and that has now been happily solved through the heroic efforts of Colonel Church, the agent of the Bolivian Government. It is America's good fortune that the contractors for building the railway that is to bring Bolivia into closer and mutually more profitable relations with the community of nations are Americans. The grant that the Bolivian Navigation Company has received from Brazil and Bolivia is beyond computation in value, and it is not surprising that British interests look with chagrin and jealousy upon the prospect of American domination in handling it. This grant embraces one million of acres of land and the navigation of all the waters of Bolivia for ninety-nine years, with the remarkable concession that no other company shall have the right to build a road around the rapids for fifty years. The enterprise need only be named in this general way to suggest the vast possibilities that it involves.

The great question, however, is whether from ignorance of the matter in hand, a conflict of local interests, petty personal jealousies or sheer stupidity the commercial and manufacturing men of this country will neglect the magnificent opportunity that is presented. That the building of the Madeira and Mamore Railway will enrich the contractors and open the way to fortune for those Americans whom they will send to the field of promise is beyond question. But this is a trifle compared to what may be done in the revival of our commerce, the quickening and indefinite expansion of our manufacturing interests and the enlivening of trade in all its branches. This new tributary of commerce taking its rise in the Andes should find its way to American ports and leave the rich spoils that it bears upon its bosom at our doors. But it will not come of its own accord. A channel must be opened for its accommodation. American steamships must do the work, and it will not do to wait until the last moment to put them on the ocean. There is in this and other cities unemployed capital and enterprise sufficient for the work and we believe capitalists and merchants and manufacturers generally have some vague idea of its importance. It would be most unfortunate, therefore, if from any cause the opportunity should be lost. Let the right sort of men take hold of the problem and organize and push a movement that will accomplish the object. It is a matter that rises far above personal or local consideration. Philadelphia, as the leading manufacturing city in the country, may be more directly interested, but the whole country will share in its benefits, and it is therefore of national concern. We hope ere many months have passed to see steamships, carrying the United States flag and the United States mails, plying between Philadelphia or New York, or both, and Rio Janero and Para. The business men of these cities who realize the magnificence of the opportunity that is within our grasp should organize for the work and see that Congress gives the contemplated undertaking the consideration and assistance that its importance warrants.—*Philadelphia Times.*

MAN WAS MADE TO MOURN.—And this is the way the Cleveland *Herald* gets it off as its view of the recent Senatorial contest in Ohio:

Sing a song of sixpence,
Bellies full of rye;
A dozen jolly candidates
For the Senate pie.
When the pie was opened,
All began to sing;
But not a mother's son of them
Got inside the Ring.

LIFE INSURANCE.

A LETTER FROM ONE WHO COULDN'T FOREVER STAND IT.

We are permitted to publish (omitting names) the following letter, written by a gentleman who was insured on the "half note plan" in one of our leading life insurance companies, in reply to the company's notification of the amount due on the policy. It will be read, no doubt, with sympathetic interest by many policy-holders who have had similar struggles with the mysterious mathematics of this kind of insurance. It should be stated, in fairness to the company, that the explanation of the Actuary was so satisfactory that instead of insisting upon getting out, the writer of the letter decided to keep up the policy:

NEW YORK, May 15, 1877.

Mr. ———, VICE PRESIDENT, ETC.

Dear Sir; I am in receipt of postal card advising that my next annual premium (Policy No. 43,369) is $147.03. Thereby I am reminded that the life insurance business, as managed by your company, is like the providence of God, "past finding out." I began paying $80 cash and $52 note on this policy in 1867. It seemed an inexpensive luxury. It would have been if I had died. I unhappily survived, and now for ten years have been struggling as much to keep the policy as myself alive. But the appetite of this policy, I observe, does grow by what it feeds on, and the danger is that it will shortly exceed in its demands my ability to answer, and I shall see it die on my hands. The steady and constant increase in the amount of the premium of this policy began to excite a curiosity, not to say my admiration, several years ago. The agent to whom I applied for enlightenment—I have passed through the hands of five or six, each of whom has amassed a competence and retired—so overwhelmed me with mathematics of the most mixed and abstruse character that I fell back from the investigation greatly humiliated at my own ignorance and profoundly impressed with the resources of—either the company or the agent, I could not decide which. I think I realize, and I hope I appreciate greatfully, the beneficent operation of this steady progression in cost of the policy. It makes one contemplate death with resignation, and to look upon that consumption as a checkmate to the company. Did you ever think how Booth or John McCullough might improve Hamlet's soliloquy and thrill any ordinary audience by just holding up one of your life insurance policies as suiting the action to the word, at the passage: "*There's the respect that makes calamity of so long life?*"

But I fear I trespass on your time. Is it true that insurance officials, notwithstanding the meagreness of their salaries, are overworked? I will come at once to business. I need not trace the steady, upward progress of these premiums. Sufficient that last year I paid $112.75, and this year you call for $147.03 upon a policy the annual premium on which was $132 ten years ago. At this rate of increase, and with my discouragingly sound health, I cannot undertake to compete with the company. I am aware, of course, that a policy-holder who has paid ten annual premiums can hardly expect the consideration due those who, not being insured, seek information. Being a fish in the basket, I do not expect the consideration due one in the sea, and yet I *would* like to know whether Policy No. 43,369 has any surrender value. Can you give me any information on the subject? I am already in possession of a considerable accumulation of tracts, pamphlets, circulars, almanacs, calendars, and extracts from religious newspapers which afford abundant knowledge as to the facilities and methods for getting *in* to life insurance; what I seek now is information how to get *out*.

Pardon me, sir, if I have used too great familiarity in addressing a man whose acquaintance with logarithms and mortality tables and the differential calculus entitles him to the name of benefactor and the salary of Actuary. I am not ignorant what is due the representative of $27,000,000—if that's the figure—of assets. I address you because your name appears on the seductive postal card which invites me to add $147.03 to the $27,000,000. I presume you are no stranger to the complaints of disappointed policy holders, and it is not improbable that you dismiss them all with the remark of the Apostle Paul upon returning a box of Dr. Ayer's celebrated compound cathartic pills to the elders of the church at Ephesus, "None of these things move *me*." But there may be some one in your employ who can show me the cheapest way out. Will you please refer me to him, that I may present my policy and receipts and things with the conundrum which at one time staggered the intelligence of such a statesman as Daniel Webster, "What is all this worth?" But then Webster knew scarcely anything about life insurance.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

KEEPING APPLES.—The *Michigan Farmer* says that apples should not be put in the cellar until hard freezing arrives, and adds: They should be packed in clean new barrels and stored in some shed or covered with boards, exposed to the atmosphere, for several weeks after picking, then removed to the grain-barn, away from the smell of stables, and allowed to remain there as long as possible and not be frozen. We throw stalks or straw over the barrels, and often defer placing them in the cellar until late in December. The fruit-cellar should be darkened and kept as cool as possible and not freeze. Place the barrels on their sides, with strips of wood between them and the cellar bottom, and do not open or move until wanted for use. If the cellar is free from the scent of vegetables when the barrels are opened a rich and tempting perfume will arise. Most cellars are too warm for the storing of fruit.

R. V. WINKLE IMPROVED.—The Japanese have the story of Rip Van Winkle in another form. A young man fishing in his boat on the ocean was invited by the goddess of the sea to her home beneath the waves. After three days he desired to see his old father and mother. On parting she gave him a golden casket and a key, but begged him never to open it. At the village where he lived all was changed and he could get no trace of his parents until an aged woman recollected having heard of their names. He found their graves a hundred years old. Thinking that three days could not have made such a change, and that he was under a spell, he opened the casket. A white vapor rose, and under its influence the young man fell to the ground. His hair turned gray, his form lost its youth, and in a few moments he died of old age.

SPITTING IN THE CARS.

It is high time that suffering American womanhood should utter a protest on the utterly disgusting and unnecessary habit in which American men only, of all men in the world, indulge—that of spitting in the cars, the horse cars especially. Ladies who have travelled on the Continent often complain of their sufferings from the smoking in public conveyances which, torturing as it is, is a cleanly and respectable habit, compared with this intolerable insult to all decency of spitting, first, directly before the face and eyes of a whole car full of people, and second, directly on the floor where ladies' skirts are lying and over which they must be brushing all day long. More than all, a delicate woman will not unfrequently find herself wedged in for a ride of two or three miles next to a man who, without exaggeration, expectorates on an average *once a minute* during the entire distance. Yet such an experience is enough to make a sensitive organization half-ill for the rest of the day with loathing and disgust. That indescribable *nasty* odor of many horse cars is no doubt largely due to the continual evaporation of the results of this dreadful habit, and who can tell how much malaria and disease may also arise from this constant deposit and decay of organic animal juices?

Now what can women do about this open daily disgrace to American chivalry and civilization? In the first place, they can circulate petitions to all the horse-car and railroad companies to put up placards in their conveyances, "SPITTING NOT PERMITTED INSIDE THESE CARS"—for men should ride on the platform or in the smoking-car who are unable to control this propensity in the presence of the other sex. In the second place, let them endeavor to have manuals of good manners introduced into the public schools which every boy and girl shall have to learn by heart, and in these let the strongest reprobation be laid upon the habit, both on account of its weakening effects upon the health of the persons addicted to it, and of its violation of decency. It would be of little avail to recommend "mothers and sisters" to take up this cause in their families, and warn their sons and brothers against it, for we are persuaded that it exists only among the class who have neither intelligence nor refinement to work upon. Whatever "spitting" as a National public habit may have been in the past, it is now mostly practised—at least in the East—by boys and young men who have "come up" rather than been brought up. Therefore it can only be reached by the public admonition of placards, by early precepts in the public schools, and perhaps even by the imposition of small public fines.—*Boston Post.*

WONDERS OF THE AMERICAN CONTINENT.—The *American Enquirer* thus catalogues a few of the wonders of the American Continent: The greatest cataract in the world is the Falls of Niagara, where the waters from the great upper lakes form a river three-fourths of a mile in width, and then, being suddenly contracted, plunges over the rocks in two columns to the depth of 175 feet. The greatest cave in the world is the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky, where any one can make a voyage on the waters of a subterranean river, and catch fish that have no eyes. The greatest river in the known world is the Mississippi, 4,000 miles long. The largest valley in the world is the Valley of the Mississippi. It contains 5,000,000 square miles, and is one of the most fertile regions of the globe. The greatest City Park in the world is in Philadelphia. It contains 2,700 acres. The greatest grain port in the world is Chicago. The largest lake in the world is Lake Superior, which is truly an inland sea, being 430 miles long and 1,000 feet deep. The longest railroad at present is the Pacific Railroad, over 3,000 miles in length. The greatest mass of solid iron is the Pilot Knob of Missouri. It is 350 feet high and two miles in circuit. The best specimen of Grecian architecture in the world is the Girard College, Philadelphia. The largest aqueduct in the world is the Croton Aqueduct, New York. Its length is 40½ miles, and its cost $12,500,000. The largest deposits of anthracite coal in the world are in Pennsylvania, the mines of which supply the market with millions of tons annually, and appear to be inexhaustible.

CALIFORNIA QUICKSILVER.—Quicksilver is an indispensable article in gold and silver mining. For centuries Spain furnished the world with it. With the discovery of gold in this State, California entered the field as a competitor. The first cinnabar deposits were discovered in New Almaden, in Santa Clara county.

For years the ore found was very rich and the mines were very productive. Then the ore in quantity and quality began to diminish as the demand increased. Numerous other deposits were found in the southern and northern counties, and to-day there is every reason to believe that the cinnabar deposits are inexhaustible in this State. Quite a number of mines have suspended operations, while others are worked with vigor.

The new Almaden mines are still worked, and are the chief source of supply. Last year the yield of quicksilver in the State was over 75,000 flasks. Since 1850 the total product has been some 860,000. For the past 25 years the total exports of quicksilver have been over 600,000 flasks, and the export is yearly increasing. China is California's best customer for the liquid metal. Within the past two years and a half nearly 62,000 flasks have been sent to Hong Kong.—*San Francisco Cor. of the Boston Journal.*

TO THE POINT.—The New York *Sun* opposes the silver bill on grounds of expediency, and does not attempt the silly twaddle of the other New York papers, that remonetization is repudiation. The *Sun* says:

No word in any act of Congress authorizing any national loan obliges us to pay gold. The word "gold" has never been used by Congress, but only "coin." Senator Matthews is perfectly justified in asserting that the employment of silver instead of gold is no violation of national faith.

We have the legal right to pay in silver, and those who assert the contrary do not understand what they are talking about.

For the same reason, private contracts, which call for "coin" dollars only, and not "gold" dollars, will be amply satisfied by the delivery of silver dollars. It is the creditor's own fault that he did not foresee the depreciation of silver, and it is too late for him to rectify his error. If he is entitled only to "coin" he cannot complain if he gets silver coin, and not gold coin.

DOES IT MEAN IMMERSION?—A Kentucky preacher rose to speak, and opened the Bible. The first verse that met his eye happened to be, "The voice of the turtle shall be heard in the land." "Brethring," said he, "at first sight one would not think there was much in this tex'; but, on a little consideration, you will see there's a great deal in it. Now, you all know what a turtle is. If you've been along by a pond, you have seen them on a log sunning themselves. Now, it is said, 'The voice of the turtle shall be heard in the land.' But the turtle hasn't any voice, that anybody ever heard; so it must be the noise he makes in plunging off the log into the water. Hence, we conclude that immersion is meant, and that immersion will become universal."