

The Weekly Express

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LIFE'S SUNNY SPOTS.

A GEM.

Though life's dark and thorny path,
It goals the silent tomb,
It yet some spots of sunshine hath,
That make the gloom of life seem dim.
The friend who weal and woe partakes,
Unchanged, what'er his lot,
Who kindly soothes the heart that aches,
Is sure, a sunny spot.

The wife who half our burden shares,
And utters not a moan;
Whose ready hand wipes our tears—
Unobscured all her own.

Who treasures every kindling word,
Each harsher one forgot,
And carols blithely as a bird,
She's too a sunny spot.

The child who lifts, at morn and eve,
His voice in prayer,
Who grieves when'er his parents grieve,
And joys when they rejoice;
In whose bright eye young golden gleams
Whose heart, without a blot,
Is fresh and pure as summer's rose;
That child's a sunny spot.

One's yet, upon life's weary road,
Whose spot of brighter glow;
Whose sorrow half forgets its load,
And ne'er a longer lull.

Friendship may wither, love decline,
Our child may lose his bloom,
But still undimmed that spot will shine—
Religion lights that spot!

A TRIP TO MINNESOTA.

Correspondence of the Boston Post.

Crow Wing, Minn., October 1856.

It is maintained by the reviewers, I believe, that the duller the writer is the more accurate he should be. In the outset of this letter I desire to testify my respect to the justice of that dogma. For as tedious as King's "I could not find it in my heart to bestow it all without a measure of utility."

I shall try to answer some questions which your magazine might be put by different classes of readers who are interested in this part of the west. My last letter had some hints to the farmer, and I can only add, in addition, for his benefit, that the most available locations are now a considerable distance above St. Paul. The valley of the St. Peters is pretty much taken up; the district of the valley of the Mississippi for a distance of ten miles above St. Paul. One of the land officers at Minneapolis informed me that there were good preemption claims to be had fifteen miles west, that being as far as the country was thickly settled. One of the finest regions now uncultivated, that I know of, not to except even the country on the Crow Wing river, is the land bordering on the Ottertail lake. For forty miles all round that lake the land is splendid. More than a dozen interested eye witnesses have described that region to me in the most glowing terms. In beauty, in fertility, and in the various collateral resources which make a farming country desirable, it is not surpassed. It lies about ten miles west of the west. The number of visitors and emigrants is so large that the productions of the territory are utterly inadequate to supply the market. Therefore large quantities of provisions have to be brought up from the country to the west. At Swan river, 100 miles this side of St. Paul, is worth \$35. Knowing that pork constitutes a great part of the "privates" up this way, though far from being partial to the article, I tried it when I dined at Swan river to see if it was good, and found it to be very excellent. Board for laboring men must be about four dollars a week. For transient visitors at Crow Wing it is one dollar a day.

I have heard it said that money is scarce. It is possible. It certainly contains a high premium; but the reason is that there are so splendid opportunities to make fortunes by building and buying land in this territory. A man may take the rent of a house or store shall pay for its construction in three years. The profits of adventure justify a man in paying high interest. If a man has money enough to buy a pair of horses and a wagon he can defy the world. These are illustrations to show why one is induced to pay interest. I do not mean to say that money is scarce; but never saw people so free with their money, or appear to have it in so great abundance.

There is one drawback which this territory has in common with the greater part of the west, in fact of the civilized world. It is not a drawback, but a nuisance anywhere, I mean drinking or why they do not appear to have it in so great abundance. The greater portion of the settlers are temperate men I am sure; but in almost every village there are places where the meanest kind of intoxicating liquor is sold. There are some who sell liquor to the Indians. But such business is universally considered as the most degraded that a man can engage in. It is a filthy trade to see men staggering under the influence of bad whiskey, or any kind of whiskey. He who sends a young husband to his new cabin home intoxicated, to mortify and torment his family; or who sells liquor to the uneducated Indians, that they may fight and murder, must have his conscience—If he has any at all—gashed over with sole leather. Mr. Gough is needed in the west.

Minnesota is not behind in education. Ever since Governor Slade, of Vermont, brought some bright young school mistresses up to St. Paul (in 1849) common school education has been diffusing its rays apart two sections of land—the 16th and 36th—in every township for school purposes. A township is six miles square; and the two sections reserved in each township comprise 1280 acres. Other territories have the same provision. This affords a very good fund for educational purposes, or rather it is a great aid to the exertions of the people. There are some flourishing institutions of learning in the territory. But the greatest institution after all in the country—the surest protection of our liberties and our laws—is the free school.

CHARACTER BETTER THAN CREDIT.

We often hear young men, who have small means, dolefully contrasting their lot with those of rich men's sons. Yet the longer we live, the more we are convinced that the old merchant was right, who said to us when we began life: "Industry, my lad, is better than heaps of gold, and character more valuable than credit." We could furnish, if need were, from our own experience, a score of illustrations to prove the truth of his remarks. In all branches of business, in all vocations, character, in the long run, is the best capital. Says Poor Richard: "The sound of your hammer at five in the morning, or nine at night, heard by a creditor, makes him easy for six months longer; but if he sees you at a billiard table, or hears your voice at a tavern, when you should be at work, he sends for his money the next day." What is true of the young merchant, is true also of the young mechanic, as of the young lawyer. Old and sagacious firms will not long continue to trade with thousands of dollars when they see the purchaser, if a young man, driving fast horses or banging about drinking saloons. Clients will not entrust their cases to advocates, however brilliant, who frequent the card-table, the wine party, or the race track. A great deal of business is going on constantly; and those who have good trades get \$2,500 per day. I am speaking of course, of the territory in general. One of the most profitable kinds of miscellaneous business is surveying. This art requires the services of large numbers; not only to survey the public lands, but to locate the lands of private individuals. Labor is very high everywhere in the west, whether done by men, women or children—evan the boys not fourteen years old, who clean the knives and forks on the steamboats, get \$20 a month and are found. But the best of it all is, that when money earns a few dollars he can double his money in three months, perhaps a month. One of the merchant princes of Boston, the late Col. T. H. Perkins, published a notice in a Boston paper in 1789, he being then 25, that he would embark on board of the ship Astrea for Canton, and that if any one desired to commit an "adventure" to him they might be assured of his exertions for their interests. The practice of sending "adventurers" beyond the seas" is not so common as it was once; and instead thereof men invest their funds in western prizes. But let me remark in regard to the fact I relate that it shows the true pioneer spirit. Col. Perkins was a man of great energy and high character, and his rising triumphant over bankruptcy itself. A man with character can never be ruined. It is the first thing that a young man should seek to secure, and it may be had by every one who desires it in earnest. A poor boy with character is more fortunate by far than a rich man's son.—*Balt. Sun.*

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?

Nothing. Is that your reply? Have you no other answer to make? Then you are living to no purpose. You are a useless incumbrance to society. You are not only of no use to yourself and to others; but you are a detriment to the world. You produce nothing and yet you consume; you eat, but do not work; you are clothed, but not by any exertion of your own. If you neither labor with your hands nor your head, your mind nor your muscles, you must be either a pauper or a robber.

But are you doing nothing? That is impossible. If you are a good man, and an able, he generally sets his feet on the proverbial rock. It is a good thing to do something—that is unavoidable; it is doing or harm? You may stand idle at the street corner—you may lounge in a saloon—you may be listless and indifferent to your own welfare and to that of others; but those depending upon you for support, for council and guidance; but still you are doing something. If you are not advancing you are retreating; if you are not progressing forward and upward, you are going downward and backward. Nothing in this world is stationary either in matter or mind—reactor or moral.—*What are you doing?*

ANOTHER WHEELBARROW BIRD.

Back to the *Girl Lost in Barrel of Sawings.*

Some time ago a girl who lives in one of the best and richest families in this city, made a wager of a barrel of shavings with a man that James Buchanan would carry New Hampshire. Last evening, without giving him previous intimation, she wheeled with her own hands on a wheelbarrow the barrel of shavings to his door, about an eighth of a mile. If the public had known of the event, doubtless the Amoskeag Veterans, the City Guards, and the whole Fire Department, "without distinction of party," would have turned out to receive the girl with a barrel of shavings, a la State street, when Poore came with his apples. "A noble girl!" If Ben Perley Poore should be Governor of Massachusetts he should give his pluck in paying his bet. This girl ought to be the wife of James Buchanan, and live in the White House.—*Manchester (New Hampshire) Mirror.*

DEW GRASS DANGEROUS TO SHEEP.

It is stated that nearly thirty thousand horses died last year on the Cape of Good Hope from some disease which could not be accounted for; but what sheep were, also, lost from an unusual disease; and that it is now thought that this calamity was occasioned by allowing the animals to eat grass with the dew on it. The Boston Post says that it has been a precept from time immemorial with careful shepherds to keep their flocks from grazing on dew grass, or grass in damp or marshy places, and quotes from Siebold's treatise on "Entozoa" in explanation of the same: "Many of the creatures pass their early portion of their predatory existences in the bodies of one species of animal, and their maturity in another. The eggs are deposited in these after domestic, but developed there; they have to be expelled, and the deer little maggots, either as eggs or embryos, are cast upon the wide world to shift for themselves. But how? They lie on the smoking dungheap, and far away from the sheep in whose lungs and liver they alone can develop themselves and find food; what chance have they? This change—the rain washes them into the earth, or the farmer turns them in manure upon the soil. The humidity serves to develop them; they fix themselves against the moist grass; the sheep nibbles the grass, and with it carry these tiny Entozoa into their stomachs; once there the business is soon accomplished. This is that dew grass is dangerous. Thus it is that damp seasons are so prejudicial to sheep, multiplying the diseases of the liver to which these animals are subject; whereas in the dry hot seasons such diseases are rare, because the Entozoa have been dis-

OUTSIDE GLITTER AND INSIDE GLOOM.

Many homes are elegantly furnished, with small addition to domestic comfort. In this fast age the Mrs. Potiphar often live in palatial residences, overlaid with gorgeous decorations for the eyes of fashionable visitors, while the home-loving Mr. Potiphar sighs for the humble old homestead. The *Marysville Tribune* gives an amusing sketch of the inner life of one of these comfortless households:

"I declare, Mr. Smith, it is too bad. Here you are stretched out on the sofa, musing it up, and my poor wife is sitting by the lamp of your coarse boots. I shall be ashamed to bring any one into the parlor again—and I have taken so much pains to keep every thing nice. I do think, Mr. Smith, you are the most thoughtless man I ever did see—you don't appear to care how much trouble you give me. If I had no more care than you have, we would soon have a nice looking house—it would not be long till our new house and furniture would be just as bad as the old," said John Smith's wife to him, as she sat in the parlor taking a nap on the sofa.

Mr. Smith rose up early and answered "I was tired and sleepy, Mary, and the weather was so cold, and the sofa looking cool, and the sofa looking inviting, that I could not resist the temptation to snooze a little. I thought when we were building a new house and furnishing it, that we were doing it because the old house and furniture were not so comfortable. I thought when we were buying our new house and furniture, that we were doing it because the old house and furniture were not so comfortable. I thought when we were buying our new house and furniture, that we were doing it because the old house and furniture were not so comfortable."

THE IRONY OF MR. SMITH'S REPLY.

provoked his wife, and seeing himself threatened with a repetition of Mrs. Smith's speech, with unpleasant additions and variations, and knowing that he would come to a bad end if he did not get up and defend himself, he took himself out, and left Mrs. Smith to fix up and dust out, and look him out of his own house, and took a seat on an old chair in the kitchen which every day—in the kitchen where no one sees him.

Mr. Smith said was good enough to use every day—in the kitchen where no one sees him.

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DR. E. D. HAYES CELEBRATED.

ALLIED TO THE HUMAN SYSTEM. Dr. Hayes is a celebrated physician, and his name is well known in the United States. He has been successful in curing many cases of disease, and his name is well known in the United States. He has been successful in curing many cases of disease, and his name is well known in the United States.

DR. J. M. BAKER, Homoeopathic Physician.

Office at No. 100 North Second Street, Philadelphia. Dr. Baker is a celebrated physician, and his name is well known in the United States. He has been successful in curing many cases of disease, and his name is well known in the United States.

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