

MORAL AND RELIGIOUS.

A Mother's Song.

Some years ago a company of Indians were captured on the Western frontier. Among them were a number of stolen children. They had been with the savages for years. Word was sent throughout the region, inviting all who had lost children to come and see if among the little captives they could recognize their own. A long way off was a woman who had been robbed of her darlings—a boy and a girl. With mingled hope and fear she came; with throbbing heart she approached the group. They were strange to her. She came nearer and, with eyes filled with mother-love and earnestness, peered into their faces one after another; but there was nothing in any that she could claim. Nor was there anything in her to light up their cold faces. With the dull pain of despair at her heart she was turning away, when she paused, choked back the tears, and in soft, clear notes began a simple song she used to sing to her little ones of Jesus and heaven. Not a line was completed when a boy and girl sprang from the group, exclaiming: "Mamma! mamma!" and she folded her lost ones to her bosom. So lives a mother's early influence in the hearts of her children.

Religious News and Notes.

The Lutherans have only twelve communicants among the colored people of the South.

Messrs. Moody and Sankey are hard at work at their second campaign in Great Britain.

The membership of colored churches in the United States is between 1,000,000 and 1,500,000.

It is reported that the Universalists of New England have now 170 less churches than in 1850.

The denomination known as Christian has 650 congregations in the State of Illinois, with a membership of 50,000.

The Baptist Foreign Mission convention of the United States (colored) will send three missionaries to Africa on their own account.

Some 200 Chinamen are said to attend the Sunday-schools of Brooklyn. They are fond of their schools, and soon show attachment to their teachers.

The entire Bible has been translated into the language of the New Hebrides group of islands in the Pacific ocean, and the natives have paid the whole expense of printing it.

Missionary work has been done by the American board on such a large scale that the reported receipts of \$450,000 are not enough for the estimated demands of the work. Efforts are now to be made for the collection of at least \$650,000 for the coming fiscal year.

The largest increase of Baptists since 1870 has been in the fifteen Southern States, where the gain is 761,418, mostly among the colored people. In the six Eastern States the increase is 16,700; in the Middle States, 34,904; in the thirteen Western States, 64,776, and in the Territories, 6,060.

The Rev. Sheldon Jackson, D. D., a superintendent of the Presbyterian home missions, has just completed his third tour of Alaska. He has established two new missions, stationed three new missionaries, made improvements in the missionary buildings, and traveled 500 miles in canoes.

The journal of the second annual convocation of the Episcopal diocese of New Mexico and Arizona, presents the following statistics: Clergy, including the bishop, 4; lay readers, 5; missions, 7; baptisms, 13, of which 1 was adult; communicants, 162; Sunday-school scholars, 70; offerings, \$1,639.63; value of church property, \$8,250.

The Carrying Trade of the World.

From a recent comparative statement it appears, omitting vessels of less than fifty tons measurement, Europe possesses forty-two tons to every one thousand inhabitants, America forty, and Australia seventy-nine, while Asia and Africa have only two tons per thousand. Liverpool ranks as the most important port in the world, with a tonnage of 2,647,373; this is succeeded by London, with 2,330,688, and Glasgow with 1,153,676 tons. The nine landing ports of Great Britain have a tonnage of 8,724,123, while the first four ports of the United States have only 1,976,940. St. Johns, New Brunswick, is in this respect as important as Boston or Charleston, and more so than Philadelphia. Great Britain and Ireland possess a gross tonnage of nearly twelve millions sailing vessel tons, and with the tonnage of her colonies the British flag covers fourteen millions tonnage out of the total world's existing tonnage of twenty-seven millions. The United States, twenty years ago, carried sixty-six per cent. of their foreign trade in their own bottoms, whereas now they carry something less than eighteen per cent.

A Southern journal says this year's rice crop in the Gulf States will reach one hundred and fifty million bushels. It is predicted that the rice industry will soon rival that of sugar growing in Louisiana.

SCIENTIFIC SCRAPS.

A well-fed frog is more susceptible to poison than one which has been fasted for weeks.

Corals often permanently change color, when subjected to different conditions of lighting.

The Japanese bronze brass by boiling it in a solution of sulphate of copper, alum and verdigris.

A concentrated beam of electric light carried seven miles has furnished sufficient light to read by.

The solar atmosphere contains sodium, iron, calcium, magnesium, nickel, barium, copper and zinc.

According to Ehrenberg a cubic inch of water may contain more than 800,000,000,000 of animalcules.

Platinum when alloyed with silver becomes soluble in nitric acid, which does not affect it while unalloyed.

Pig iron contains from ninety-five to ninety-seven parts of pure iron, and three to five of carbon, with small quantities of sulphur, phosphorus and silicon.

Hay, like most vegetable products, contains much material which is soluble in water. On this material its nutritive value depends, and its removal by dampness seriously injures the crop.

The floods and droughts of the present time will probably lead farmers and others to a careful reconsideration of the question regarding the proportion which wooded ought to bear to cleared land.

From surveys taken in the province of Ufa, Russia, it appears that the former forest area of 17,577,000 acres has now been diminished by more than 3,500,000 acres, and yet the population is only three to the square mile.

Last year the German wire mills supplied England with 30,000 tons of wire, and Russia with 40,000 tons. France received from Germany from 12,000 to 15,000 tons of steel wire for sofa springs, and America not less than 30,000 from the same source.

A Village in India.

Outside the entrance of the single village street, on an exposed rise of ground, the hereditary potter sits by his wheel, molding the swift-revolving clay by the natural curves of his hands. At the back of the houses which form the low, irregular street there are two or three looms at work in blue and scarlet and gold, the frames hanging between the acacia trees, the yellow flowers of which drop fast on the webs as they are being woven. In the street the brass and coppersmiths are hammering away at their pots and pans; and further down, in the veranda of the rich man's house, is a jeweler working rupees and gold mohrs into fair jewelry, gold and silver earrings, and round tires like the moon, bracelets and tablets and nose rings, and tinkling ornaments for the feet, taking his designs from the fruits and flowers around him, or from the traditional forms represented in the paintings and carvings of the great temple, which rises over the grove of mangoes and palms at the end of the street, above the lotus-covered village tank. At 3.30 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon the whole street is lighted up by the moving robes of the women going down to draw water from the tank, each with two or three water jars on her head; and so, while they are going and returning in single file, the scene glows like Titian's canvas and moves like the stately procession of the Panathenaic frieze. Later the men drive in the mild, gray kine from the moaning plain, the looms are folded up, the coppersmiths are silent, the elders gather in the gate, the lights begin to glimmer in the fast-falling darkness, the feasting and the music are heard on every side, and late into the night the songs are sung from the Ramayana or Mahabharata. The next morning, with sunrise, after the simple ablutions and adorations performed in the open air before the houses, the same day begins again. This is the daily life going on all over western India in the village communities of the Dakhan, among a people happy in their simple manners and frugal way of life, and in the culture derived from the grand epics of a religion in which they live and move and have their daily being, and in which the highest expression of their literature, art and civilization has been stereotyped for 3,000 years.

Buffaloes Delay a Train.

A train on the Northern Pacific was twice obstructed by buffaloes a short time ago near the border line between Montana and Dakota, and was forced to come almost to a standstill. There were a number of soldiers aboard armed with repeating rifles, and nearly every passenger had one or more revolvers. They all joined in a brisk fire at the buffaloes, which numbered sixteen the first time and twenty to thirty the second; but the animals seemed wholly indifferent to the bullets. None of them fell or even showed signs of being wounded, and the train was unable to proceed until they saw fit to turn tail and scamper off.

PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

When a friend corrects a fault in you, he does you the greatest act of friendship.

Next to silence comes brevity—the wise man's strength and the fool's refuge.

Fancy is imagination in her youth and adolescence. Fancy is also excessive; imagination, not seldom, is sedate.

The best kind of revenge is that which is taken by him who is so generous that he refuses to take any revenge at all.

Is there one who has not to repent some slight, thoughtless omission of duty or kindness toward those whom they love?

Never fear to bring the sublimest motive to the smallest duty and the most infinite comfort to the smallest trouble.

Be what nature intended you for, and you will succeed; be anything else and you will be ten thousand times worse than nothing.

Let men call you mean, if you know you are just; hypocritical, if you are honestly religious; pusillanimous, if you feel that you are firm.

The will of self-control does not diminish, but constantly increases in strength, and there is scarcely any limit to its attainments.

Whoever is an imitator by nature, choice or necessity, has nothing stable; the flexibility which affords this aptitude is inconsistent with strength.

Sincerity is to speak as we think, to do as we pretend and profess, to perform and make good what we promise, and really to be what we would seem and appear to be.

It is beautifully remarked that a man's mother is the representative of his Maker. Misfortune and mere crime set no barriers between her and her son. While his mother lives a man has one friend on earth who will not desert him when he is needy. Her affection flows from a pure fountain and ceases only at the ocean of eternity.

What Mutilated Coins Are Worth.

Many people want to know exactly what mutilated coins are worth. They are only worth their bullion value, and that, even when these coins are intact, is something less than the face value. The United States government, in purchasing silver to be made into coins, bases the value of silver upon the price in London, taking into consideration the rate of exchange between New York and that city, but generally pays a trifle less from 1-10 to 1-2 cent per ounce) than the equivalent of the London rate. At present a Troy ounce of pure silver is worth \$1.12843. At this price of silver the exact value of the silver coins if sold to the government would be:

Table with 2 columns: Coin type and Value. Trade dollar: \$0.88.8; Silver dollar: 0.87.2; Half dollar: 0.40.8; Quarter dollar: 0.20.4; Twenty-cent piece: 0.16.4; Dime: 0.08.2.

The Plug Hat.

The Hatters' Gazette says: An exchange paper says that the plug hat is virtually a sort of social guarantee for the preservation of peace and order. He who puts one on has given a hostage to the community for his good behavior. The wearer of a plug hat must move with a certain sedateness and propriety. He cannot run, or jump, or romp, or get into a fight except at the peril of his headgear. All the hidden influences of the beaver tend toward respectability. He who wears one is obliged to keep the rest of his body in decent trim, that there may be no incongruity between head and body. He is apt to become thoughtful through the necessity of watching the sky whenever he goes out. The chances are that he will buy an umbrella, which is another guarantee for good behavior, and the care of hat and umbrella—perpetual and exacting as it must ever be—adds to the sweetness of his character. The man who wears a plug hat naturally takes to the society of women, with all its elevated tendencies. He cannot go hunting or fishing without abandoning his beloved hat, but in the moderate enjoyment of croquet or lawn-tennis he may sport his beaver with impunity. In other words, the constant use of a plug hat makes a man composed in manner, quiet and gentlemanly in conduct and a companion of the ladies. The inevitable result is prosperity, marriage and church membership.

CLIPPINGS FOR THE CURIOUS.

There are 700,000 Masons in the United States.

The length of the East river suspension bridge is 5,993 feet.

The quantity of soda imported into the United States from England in 1847 was 8,000 tons.

In an edition of Ptolemy's geography, 1540, a double-tailed mermaid figures in one of the plates.

There are seventy-two national cemeteries for the burial of the Union and Confederate dead.

Among the natives of India white quartz, boiled in milk, is used as a remedy for sick children.

A wire 400 feet long can be made from one grain of silver. Such a wire is finer than human hair.

The ancient Chinese used hydropathy as a cure for certain diseases, among others chronic rheumatism.

The ancient Persians taught their sons, from the age of five and twenty, only three things: To manage the horse, to make use of the bow, and to speak the truth.

The largest room in the world, under one roof and unbroken by pillars, is at St. Petersburg. By day it is used for military displays; by night for a vast ballroom. Twenty thousand wax tapers are required to light it.

Steel needles were invented by the Spanish Moors, before which thorns or fish bones, with a hole pierced for an eye, were used. The first needles made in London were made in the reign of Henry VIII. by a Moor.

The first book published in the North American colonies was, it is supposed, an "Almanac calculated for New England, by Mr. William Pierce," which appeared in Cambridge in 1639. It was printed by Stephen Daye, but not a copy of it now exists.

Those of us who in winter complain that the sun has not power of warmth should bear in mind Professor Young's recent remark, that if we could build up a solid column of ice from the earth to the sun, two miles and a quarter in diameter, spanning the inconceivable abyss of 93,000,000 miles, and if then the sun should concentrate its power upon it, it would dissolve and melt, not in an hour nor in a minute, but in a single second; one swing of the pendulum and it would be water, seven more and it would be dissipated in vapor.

Wounds of the Heart.

It is generally supposed that wounds of the heart kill immediately, and a correspondent has sent to us a stag's heart with the left auricle practically annihilated and the upper half of the left ventricle torn completely through by a bullet; so that three fingers can be readily passed through the wounds into the cavity. Notwithstanding the extent of the injury "the stag ran about sixty yards, the first ten yards up hill." The fact is that wounds of the heart are but seldom immediately fatal, if ever so We know of no case of absolutely instantaneous death from a wound of the heart, in any part or however extensive. The experience in the battlefield corresponds with that of the sportsman, who never saw a deer shot through the heart that did not run some distance. Wounds of the apex kill comparatively slowly, in from one hour upward; and in one case mentioned by John Bell, in which the apex was completely severed from the rest of the organ by a sword cut, the man lived twelve hours. Indeed, out of twenty-nine collected cases of injury to the heart, only two were fatal within forty-eight hours, and in the others death resulted in periods varying from four to twenty-eight days. Recovery may take place even when the wound is extensive, for a bullet has been found imbedded in the substance of the heart after a lapse of six years from the date of the injury, the patient having died from a disease of an organ in no way connected with the lesion. Some little time elapses before the blood wholly escapes from or fails to enter the cavities, and the walls continue to contract and propel some of it into the vessels for a much longer period than is usually thought to be the case.—London Lancet.

Unknown Regions.

According to an English geographical writer, there are four vast areas still to be opened up or traversed by civilized man, and which among them constitute about one-seventeenth of the whole area of the globe. Of these there is the Antarctic region, which in extent is about seventy-five times that of Great Britain; the second lies about the North Pole; the third is in Central Africa, and the fourth in Western Australia. The South Polar region referred to is almost continuous with the antarctic circle. The vast African area reaches on the west very closely to the coast, and it is only near the equator that it has more than a superficially been driven inland. In Australia the great undeveloped region is that which lies west of the track explored from north to south by Stuart, and which now forms the line of telegraphic communication across that continent.

FABULOUS WEALTH.

A Sunken Ship with \$52,000,000 in Money and Jewels on Board—Efforts to Recover the Treasure.

The International Submarine Diving Company, whose vessel, the Mary D. Leech, has been quietly engaged in searching for the location of her Britannic majesty's brig De Brook, which foundered June 10, 1798, off Lewes, Del., has been rewarded with unmistakable evidences of the lost vessel. During the past eighty-three years no effort, with the exception of that made by the British government in 1880, has been made to recover the fabulous treasure which is known to have been sunk. It has been abandoned as being irrevocably lost, because the depth of water is so great that all appliances heretofore invented for raising heavy bodies were useless. The International company, which was organized in Philadelphia for no other purpose than to raise the abandoned treasure, is fitted up with all that ingenuity can devise. The most wonderful piece of mechanism on board is an immense diving-bell, in which a diver might live comfortably for a week. He has communication with the upper world by telephone wires. He is supplied with the means of making his own air, and for light in his exploration he is provided with a powerful electric flame, which, when in operation, reveals to him every outside object with vivid distinctness. At the side of the bell is a mechanical arm with machinery so perfect that in every movement it resembles the action of the human arm, even unto the picking up of a pin.

According to papers in the possession of Samuel S. McCracken, a pilot, whose grandfather was the only survivor, and who was engaged in piloting the vessel into the harbor, about \$52,000,000 of specie and jewels went down with her. The money was taken by the De Brook from an intercepted Spanish fleet while on her way to Halifax, England, from a successful cruise on the Spanish Main. With the specie were taken two hundred prisoners. When the vessel foundered the prisoners were in irons on the lower decks, and were all lost. Captain James Drew, who commanded the vessel, and whose body was recovered two days afterward, lies buried in St. Peter's churchyard in Lewes. Two years after the wreck the British government sent two frigates to raise the De Brook, but without success. Forty years ago, while McCracken was on a cruise, circulars were posted around Sussex county offering \$60,000 for information that would lead to the discovery of the sunken vessel. It had been supposed up to the present that the hull had been swept away by the action of the tides. The International company, to keep its real object from view, had been since September working in another sunken vessel, near where the De Brook was supposed to have foundered. McCracken, who is to receive a majority of whatever treasure is discovered, in an interview, says that the De Brook lies in fifteen fathoms of water. The divers, in going down, found a long, irregular ridge, about fifteen feet high, eighteen feet wide and sixty feet long. On each side are piles of loose stone, supposed to be the ballast thrown from the frigate in the effort to raise the wreck in the year 1800. Rough water interfering with further operations, the company was compelled to postpone further investigation, and the divers returned to Philadelphia. The work, however, will be vigorously pushed forward as soon as favorable weather sets in.—Reading (Pa.) Times.

A Little Busy Bee.

A certain restaurant in this city, apparently to proclaim the unlimited resources of its cuisine, has in its show window a huge tank, wherein glittering goldfish, sullen horned pouis, dignified bull frogs, and sprawling turtles dwell together in a greater or less degree of amity. The other day a bee fell into the water, and was gobbled by a goggle-eyed fish. Hardly had the insect been engulfed, however, when the fish was seen to be strangely excited. He leaped into the air, drew in great volumes of water and blew them out again, and acted so insanely that the turtle scuttled away in hot haste, and the frogs tumbled off the rocks to right and left in sheer consternation. Meanwhile the bee reappeared and crawled out of the tank in safety, evidently congratulating itself as it dried its wings upon its possession of a sting and the presence of mind necessary to use it to advantage in an emergency.

Queen Victoria's Long Reign.

Queen Victoria on October 25 completed a reign of forty-four years and 128 days, which is just the length of time that Queen Elizabeth sat on the throne, that queen reigning from November 17, 1558, to March 24, 1603. Consequently she has reigned longer than any other English queen regnant, and longer than any English king, with the exception of George III., who reigned sixty years (1760-1820); Henry III., who reigned fifty-six years (1216-1272), and Edward III., fifty years (1327-1377).

Thanksgiving.

Cart-loads of pumpkins as yellow as gold, Onions in silvery strings, Shining red apples and clusters of grapes, Nut and a host of good things, Chickens and turkeys, and fat little pigs— These are what Thanksgiving brings.

Work is forgotten and play-time begins; From office, and schoolroom, and hall, Fathers and mothers, and uncles, and aunts, Nieces and nephews, and all Sped away home, as they hear from afar The voice of old Thanksgiving call. Now is the time to forget all your cares, Cast every trouble away; Think of your blessings, remember your joys, Don't be afraid to be gay! None are too old, and none are too young, To frolic on Thanksgiving day.

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

Does not the man who gets lammed in a fight feel a little sheepish?

"Laugh and grow fat," if you are lean; weep and grow lean, if you are fat.

A correspondent writes to inquire if he can secure a berth on board a courtship.

The man who had a fist thrust at his nose said he was shaken to the center.

Cards announcing the birth of a child are now the fashion. Bawl tickets, so to speak.

The schoolmaster is a very inquisitive person. He is always asking questions.

Speak gently; it is better far To rule by love than fear; Besides, some chap might raise a chair And lamn you on the ear.

There is one branch of etiquette that the tree is prolific in, viz., the bough. And the tree also knows when to leave.

The following typographical error shows the vast importance of a comma. At a banquet this toast was given: "Woman—without her man, is a brute."

The most horrible case of insanity in the Massachusetts asylum is that of a man who imagines he is a Chicagoan. He gets up in the middle of the night to brag.

Some one has discovered that the big, wide brim hats the ladies are wearing this winter will hold a bushel of oats. Now we know what the hats are good for.

She (of a literary turn): "Doesn't this remind you of a lawn fete under Louis XIV.?" He (matter of fact): "Beg pardon, that was rather before my time, you know." (Silence).

A French writer remarks: "If a lady says to you, 'I can never love you,' wait a little longer; all hope is not lost. But if she says, 'No one has more sincere wishes for your happiness than I,' take your hat."

It is rumored that Edison is inventing a talking machine, and excited women all over the coast are shaking their fingers at him and telling him they will brook no rival. He is treading on dangerous ground.

The Chinese government is going to build some railroads, and soon will be heard in the land the voice of the Celestial brakeman: "Hoopee! Yang-tze-kiang junction! Trainee stopee ten minutes, eatee and drinkee!"

Political equality is well enough, but social equality is out of the question. Newspaper men are very self-sacrificing, but it is too much to expect them to associate with shoddy millionaires who murder the English language every time they open their mouths.

An Iowa dog has cost its owner \$950 in damages for bites, and the man declares that impecunious neighbors hang around on purpose to be bitten, knowing that he settled the claims promptly. It is hard to decide whether to class this as a fact or as biting sarcasm.

A very gushing young lady turned to Mr. Snap and asked him in passionate tones: "Oh—ah—Mr. Snap, tell me! What—what—is your idea of real happiness?" Mr. Snap—"Never reached the full meaning of the word yet, but I guess pork and beans would cover the ground."

An old fellow whose daughter had failed to secure a position as teacher, in consequence of not passing an examination, said: "They asked her lots of things she didn't know. Look at the history questions? They asked about things that happened before she was born. How was she to know about them? Why they asked her about old George Washington and other men she never knew. That was a pretty sort of examination!"

Peter Cooper's Success.

Peter Cooper was asked to what rules in life he attributed his success. "One was," he said, "that I determined to give the world an equivalent, in some form of useful labor, for all that I consumed in it. I went on and enlarged my business, all the while keeping out of debt. I cannot recollect a time when I could not pay what I owed any day. My rule was: Pay as you go. Another thing I wish to say: 'All the money I ever made was in mechanical business, and not in speculation.'"