THE MOTHER'S PRAYER.

BY ANNE CHARMES BRADFORD.

They sleep. Athwart my white
Moon-marbled casement, with her solemn mien,
Silently watching ever the first rest secure,
Gareth the star-eyed night.

Ye who are wooed
By tune—as playful as a summer-breeze,
Or grave as night on star-lit southern seas,—
Serene, strange woman-child.

My boy, my strangest star!
The whitest lamb in April's tenderest fold,
The bluest flower-bell in the shadiest world,
His fairing emblems are.

They are but two, and all
My lonely heart's arithmetic is done
When these are counted. High and Holy One,
Oh, hear my trembling call!

I ask not wealth nor fame
For them, my jewels. Diadem and wreath
Soothe not the aching brow that throbs beneath,
Nor cool its fever-flame.

I ask not length of life,
Nor earthly honors. Weary are the ways
The gifted tread, unless the world's best praise,
And love in strife.

I ask not that to me
Their pure them, though they dearer, dearer be
Than rain to dearest, early flowers to the bee
Or sunshine to the sea.

But kneeling at their feet,
While smiles like summer-light on shaded streams
Are gleaming from their glad and sinless dreams,
I would my prayer repeat.

In that alluring land,
The future—where, amid green, stately bowers,
Grows with proud and crimson-shadding flowers,
Pleasure, with smooth white hand,

Beckons the young away
From glen and hillside to her banquet fair,—
Sin, the grim ghoul, crouches in her lair,
Ready to seize her prey.

The bright and purpling bloom
Of Nightshade and of Death-cup lures aside
The charmed and bleaching tones that are denied
Taper, and dawn, and tomb.

Lord, in this midnight hour
I bring my lambs to Thee. Oh! by thy truth,
Thy mercy, save them from the ravenomed tooth
And tempting poison-flower!

Oh, Crucified and Crowned,
Keep us! We have no shield, no guide but Thee!
Let sorrow come—let Hope's last blossom be
By Grief's dark tempest drowned.

But lend us by Thy hand,
Oh, Sacrificial! lest we rest beside
The still, clear waters, in the pastures wide
Of shine-own shelter land.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The University.—This is a monthly magazine, of which the first number has just been received. It is devoted to the interests of the University of Pennsylvania, and promises to be a valuable aid to the venerable institution. The list of contributors contains the names of some of our leading literary men. The present number opens with an interesting biography, by provost Stillé, of the Rev. Mr. Smith, whom the writer regards as the true founder of the Institute. This is followed by an article on the antiquities of Hindostan, by Professor Henry Morton. It shows a considerable amount of classical reading, and is full of originality and quaint humor. "What is Philology," by Professor McElroy, is well written and instructive, and a short poem, "In War Time," by G. P. A., is excellent in rhythm, but very comprehensible as regards point. "Types of the Devil" is a clever article by Henry Budd, Jr., and a notice of Dr. Augustus Schelcher, by Professor Leon Seldensticker, will interest many who are curious about the subject of philology. The editorials are well done, but some are wan in tone of harmony in the two literary societies connected with the University which we sincerely hope may soon be remedied by the good sense and "esprit decorps" of the students. Altogether the first number of the magazine gives promise of good things to come.

A HISTORICAL DISCOVERY.

Slave Marriages in Massachusetts—An old Document.

The forthcoming number of Mr. Dawson's *Historical Magazine* will contain a paper by Mr. George H. Moore, librarian of the New York Historical Society, on the "Slave Marriages in Massachusetts," in which an interesting discovery of an old manuscript is announced.

Mr. Moore begins by citing the controversy which occurred in Massachusetts in 1746, concerning slave marriages. He says: "The Rev. Noah Hobart, in his 'Serious Address to the Episcopal Separatists in New England,' published in 1748, challenged the authority of the Church of England, as tending to introduce Irreligion and Profaneness—especially in the use of the Office of Matrimony for marriages contracted between slaves. . . . In reply to Hobart, Dr. John Barnard took up this alleged source of wickedness, responding in substance that as a slave was capable of being made free, and so of having property in a large estate, there was no phrenzy in the man's solemnly promising to make his wife copartner with him in all his worldly goods, if ever it should please God to bestow an estate upon him."—*Calm and Dispassionate Vindication, &c.*, p. 20.

"Whatever may be thought of the state of the argument between these reverend champions, there can be no doubt that in a community like that of Massachusetts during the time when slavery prevailed there, some thoughtful and considerate men must have felt the absurdity of solemn religious sanction for such contracts, governed in every way by the humor or interest of masters or mistresses, to the owners of the slaves. And in proportion to that reverence for marriage and the sanctity of the marriage-tie which has always been ascribed to Puritan orthodoxy, there must have been some repugnance to profaning the ceremony by which God's first ordinance, confirmed by Christ's first miracle,' has always been guarded in all Christian countries. The simplicity of form in use for such a ceremony were profaned, when mutual pledges of enduring love and fidelity were given and taken by those who were liable to separation at any time at the will of their owners."

While admitting that marriage in Massachusetts, for many years after the first settlement, was regarded as a mere civil contract entered into before a magistrate, Mr. Moore contends that it is not certain that the prayers proper for the occasion, which were made by the magistrate upon giving the covenant to the parties, were as severe as the Puritans and no more to be lightly profaned than the solemn ritual of their fathers, which they had rejected as savoring of Popery and elevating marriage into a sacrament; and when, in the next generation, the ministers began to assume the practice of performing the marriage ceremony, there can be no doubt that they regarded their simple service as substantially holy and deserving of the honor and reverence claimed for any Protestant ceremony of the kind.

He continues:

"How, then, was it that Parson Hobart, in 1748, could put his Episcopal brother to the blush for profaning the marriage service in the manner alleged, unless the more accommodating spirit of his own sect enabled him to adapt its formulas at discretion in the cases which came before him? The inference is obvious, and sustains the tradition that in Massachusetts the marriages of slaves, while they were unquestionably more formal in some respects than merely procuring a mistick, had in reality little more practical significance in their obligations, limited as these were in control and duration by the necessary conditions of servitude. This tradition is now corroborated by contemporary documentary evidence, which proves beyond doubt that the kind of wedlock in which Sambo and Dinah, Pompey and Chloe, became nominally husbands and wives under Massachusetts laws, was very uncertain and precarious, and in religious relation in very truth a 'solemn farce.'

"One of the most accomplished historical scholars in the country, Mr. J. Wingate Thornton, of Boston, has recently printed in the form of separate marriage prepared and used by the Reverend Samuel Phillips, of Andover, Massachusetts, whose ministry there, beginning in 1710 and ending with his death in 1771, was a prolonged and eminently distinguished service of more than half the eighteenth century. His immediate successor was the Reverend Jonathan French (born in 1803) in the family of whose son Mr. Thornton found the document at North Hampton, N. H., on the 10th of December, 1868. I am indebted to his liberal courtesy for the opportunity to make use of it at the present time.

"It is copied exactly from the original now before me, and the italics are as marked by the author (Mr. Phillips), who would certainly have been none other than of the most approved and orthodox practice. *Ex uno dice omnes.*

"'A FORM FOR A NEGRO MARRIAGE.

"'You S. do now, in the presence of God, and these Witnesses, Take R. to be your *Wife*;

"'Promising, that so far as shall be consistent with ye Relation wch you now sustain, as a Servant, you will Perform ye part of an *Husband* towards her: And in particular, you Promise, that you will *Love her*, And, as you shall have ye Opportity & Ability, you will take a proper *Care* of her in Sickness and Health, in Prosperity & Adversity:

"'And that you will be True & *Faithfull* to her, and will Cleave to her *only, so long* as God, in his Providce shall continue you and her Abods in Such a Place (or Places) as that you can conveniently come together:—Do You this Promise?

"'You R. do now, in ye presence of God, and these Witnesses, Take S: to be your *Husband*;

"'Promising, that so far as your present Relation, as a Servant, shall admit, you will Perform the Part of a *Wife* towards him: And in particular,

"'You Promise, that you will *Love* him: And that, as you shall have the Opportity & Ability, you will take a proper *Care* of him in Sickness and Health, in Prosperity & Adversity:

"'And that you will be True & *Faithfull* to him, and will cleave to him *only, so long* as God, in his Providce shall continue his & your Abode in Such a Place (or Places) as that you can conveniently come together:

——Do You this Promise?

——Do you Promise to ye Your Request, and with ye consent of your Masters & Mistresses, Do Declare, that you have license given you to be conversant and familiar together, as *Husband and Wife*, so long as God shall Providentially order and decide as afore-said; And so long as you Shall behave your-Selves as is becometh Servants to do:

"'For, you must, both of you, bear in mind, that you Remain Still, as rigally as truly as ever, your Masters Property, and, therefore, it will be justly expected, both by Chamber Jice sounding the voters. The struggle will be fierce between the opposition and government, and the issue will in a great measure depend on the tactics employed by the various sections opposed to personal government. By some it is proposed that where the government candidate is too strong to be resisted single-handed, the difference between other parties shall be effaced, that the legitimist, Orleanist, democratic and republican shall join to overthrow the imperialist candidate. Fortunately for the government, this plan, which has M. Prevost-Paradol for one of its advocates, is vigorously opposed by a portion of the democratic press.

The chiefs of the opposition appear to think that they will have fifty seats in the next Parliament, and that there will be a great number of independent members who will form a *tiers parti* favorable to the present dynasty in connection with liberal measures. A large number of opposition candidates will take the field. Several men who hitherto lived in what may be termed voluntary exile are coming back to France and addressing constituencies. For instance, M. Pascal Duprat, one of the members of the Provisional government, has left Spain and appeared in the South, where he has met with a reception which leads him to reckon on being returned to the Parliament. The government has at its disposal a vast organization; all the bribery and corruption in the shape of public work dangled before the eyes of submissive constituencies are in the hands of the authorities, who, however, will have a hard battle to fight against not merely the Democrats and the "ancient parte," the protectionists and other lukewarm friends.

A PACIFIC RAILROAD TOWN.

Curious Scenes at Bryan, Eight Hundred Miles West of Omaha.

"Carleton" writes to the Boston *Journal* the following account of the present terminus of the Union Pacific Railway—the town of Bryan, eight hundred miles west of Omaha:

"The United States at the present time exhibit one thing not to be found in any other country—a Pacific Railroad town. We do not mean a town like that of Omaha, which is an old established city, but one of the numerous places which grow up in a night, last a week or two, and then are torn down and moved on to another locality. The railroad is pushed forward so fast, and the terminus changed so often, that a town only gets under way before it is pulled down and sent forward to a new place. You can find houses at the present terminus, Bryan, eight hundred miles west of Omaha, which have been put up and taken down fifteen or twenty times. The people who live in them are American Arabs. They are not only nomads over on the move, but they can steal and plunder as adroitly and with as little compunction of conscience as their brethren the Bedouins. Civilization and Christianity have not refined or softened their inhuman nature.

Let me not be understood to say that every man in one of these railroad towns is a villain, or a blackleg; on the contrary, honest men are to be found who, after bearing patiently with ruffians till patience ceases to be a virtue, and there being no law or order, or organized society, take matters into their own hands and become a terror to evil-doers. When some flagrant crime has been committed—murder or assassination—these law-abiding men purify the place by hanging the murderers to the nearest tree, or if there is none, they extemporize a gallows by tilting up the tongue of a wagon, and sending the villain swinging into eternity before the sun of the victim is cold. Such sudden punishment is like lightning on a sultry day—purifying and invigorating.

It was late in the evening when we entered the new town of Bryan, then about two weeks old. We rode up a wide street, bright with lights flaming in the windows of the gambling saloons and saloons, each shouting and barkeeper trying by arrangement of kerosene lamps and colored glasses to outshine his neighbor in his endeavors to attract a crowd.

"There was a sound of revelry, and Bryan had gathered the largest part of her population for a high time. There was such dancing and fiddling, such drinking of healths, shuffling of cards and rattling of dice, as we never saw before. From the dance saloons came the sound of hurdy-gurdies, violins and banjoes, the rattle and clatter of the double shuffle and plantation breakdown, mingled with shouts and oaths, the jingling of glasses, as the rude men, mill with whisky, and ruder women, decked in tinsel, satin, flounced and ruffled, and glittering with trumpery jewelry, went whisking in each other's arms round the room.

The railroad company have laid out the town, and are selling lots at high prices. Of course, these lots will have very little value after the road is opened, but that is not, or at as if there was a limited amount of land available for a city. The shops and houses are of crowded together, and if a fire were to break out on the windward side all would go.

Here is a town two weeks old, with a population of five thousand! On every side we hear the sound of saws and hammers. Here is a man putting up his shop, which he has just brought from the late terminus at Green River. The boards are all numbered like those of a window shutter. He will have it complete in an hour or two, his goods in and ready for trade.

Here is a German and his wife unpacking the chests which contain mugs and glasses. In a few minutes he will have a lager-beer saloon in operation.

Yonder a Yankee has established a bakery, building his oven of bricks made on the spot. He is selling hot gingerbread and seed cakes, and has a large pile of bread in one corner and pumpkin pies on his shelves.

The saloons during the day are not much patronized, but are thronged at night. It is a lively town. The whole population live on a small territory, and are dependent wholly upon the railroad for supplies. Were the cars to stop running the community would be brought to the verge of starvation in a week; but that contingency is not thought of, and this crowd of railroad followers are here to gather up the spoils which pass from the treasury of the company through the workmen into their hands.

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TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

JUDGE HOAR was qualified as Attorney General yesterday.

Mr. DELANO took the oath as Commissioner of Internal Revenue yesterday, and entered upon the duties of his office.

The President yesterday issued the commission of J. N. Marks as Collector of the Port of Portsmouth.

One hundred and forty lowas, in New Hampshire, gave Pike, democratic candidate for Governor, 27,824, and Bedell, Democrat, 23,076.

The Senate has confirmed the following postmasters in the vicinity of Manassalla and Santa Fe:

MAJOR-GENERAL DIX will soon return home. His resignation as Minister to France has been accepted, and the usual letter of recall has been forwarded by the Department of State.

The Republican State Convention of Virginia yesterday nominated H. H. Wells for Governor, and Dr. J. D. Harris, a negro, for Lieutenant-Governor.

Another snow storm, the severest of the season, raged yesterday in Canada. At certain points along the Grand Trunk railroad there are drifts twenty or thirty feet high.

The cholera has entirely disappeared in the neighborhood of Santiago. The negroes and mulattoes have tendered a serenade to General Pecile at Santa Espirita.

SECRETARY BOUTWELL has relieved Isherwood, Lenthens, Wood, Johnson and Hunt, of the Naval Engineer Corps, and ordered a court of inquiry to investigate the operations of that corps since its organization.

In the Criminal Court in Baltimore, on Tuesday, John Wesley Phillips, a boy of fourteen years, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to imprisonment during the pleasure of the Democratic majority in Maryland, for the crime of having voted at the last election.

The agreement had originally been to come to a vote at half past nine o'clock, but when that time arrived the Senate was engaged in a long discussion, which occupied the time, and the joint resolution was not reached until after the hour by a party vote of 18 Republican yeas to 10 Democratic nays.

The bill comes up on final passage to-morrow.

Interior.—A Senate bill, as follows, was passed: "That so much of the fourth section of the act of 24 February, 1854, as prohibits any member of Congress, during the term for which he shall have been elected, holding any office or employment created or provided for of a municipal character, be and the same is hereby repealed. Thus a member of Congress may be a member of the Board of Aldermen or school director and one passenger. The lives of the passengers were in his hands, giving it a rich glossy lustre and a grateful perfume.

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GIRARD'S CITRATE OF CAFFEINE
INSTANTANEOUSLY CURES
ALL NERVOUS DISEASES.
This vegetable substance which grows in the tea plant, is now used by the Physicians of Paris in place of the hazardous Quinine. It has proved to be one of the greatest service in cases of Cholera, as it is a preventive and a cure in cases of Diarrhœa.
Agents in Philadelphia,
FRENCH, RICHARDS & CO.,
No. 714 Market and Market streets.
fs7 6m

(PAPIER DENTALLINE.—A SUBSTANCE ARTICLE FOR Dentists, Jewelers, Artists, Photographers, which is not liquid, getting one to the gums, and leaving a feeling of the teeth as if they were sandpapered. Sample pkg. to be used daily, and will be found a strengthen wash and preserver of the teeth. Sold by Druggists generally, and recommended by Dentists, Physicians and Microscopists. It is a perfect preparation for the purpose, and is the certain washes formerly in vogue.
Dentalline is put up in packages with the constituents of the Dentalline (Papier Dentalline) in compact form, and is a most economical and elegant article. Made only by
JAMES DENTAL PAPER MANUFACTORY,
Rittenhouse Square and Spruce streets.
Sold by Druggists generally.
For sale by Druggists generally:
Jas. T. Shinn, Jr.,
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GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.

GENTS PATENT SPRING AND BUTtoned Kid Gaiters, Patent Leather, Polish and Brown Linen; Children's Cloth and Velvet Gaiters, Ladies' Gaiters.
GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS,
of every description, very low, 509 Chestnut
Ladies' Patent Leather Sacks, Ladies' Gaiters, for ladies and misses, at KLEINFELDER'S BAZAAR,
mh6-tf OPEN IN THE EVENING.

MEDICAL.

Ayer's
Hair Vigor,
For the Renovation of the Hair.
The Great Desideratum of the Age.

A dressing which is at once agreeable, healthy, and effectual for preserving the hair. *Faded or gray hair is soon restored to its original color and the gloss and freshness of youth.* Thin hair is thickened, falling hair checked, and baldness often, though not always, cured by its use. Nothing can restore the hair where the follicles are destroyed, or the glands atrophied and decayed. But such as remain can be saved for usefulness by this application. Instead of fouling the hair with a pasty sediment, it will keep it clean and vigorous. Its occasional use will prevent the hair from turning gray or falling off, and consequently prevent baldness. Free from those deleterious substances which make some preparations dangerous and injurious to the hair, it will be found the cheapest and most reliable dressing.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co.,
PRACTICAL AND ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS,
LOWELL, MASS.
PRICE $1.00,
Sold by all Druggists everywhere. At wholesale by J. M. MARIS & CO., Philadelphia. mh9 tu th ow&w 6t

MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. LOWRY (Rep.) commenced his remarks by reading a portion of his speech, made some years ago, in reply to Mr. Cunningham, on negro suffrage in the District of Columbia. He then said that in the present Congress, however, there is no reason to submit to the vote of the people; for, as he had said on a previous occasion, there were more votes in a barrel of whisky than in the entire population of Georgia.

He declared that the amendment was the easy way to secure the negro vote from the gulf of Georgia, and to do justice to the African race, which, he said, he would be proud of. By it, too, the rights of chorea would be taken from the loyal men of the South.

He deemed it the height of injustice to force the negro into the South, and decline to receive it in Pennsylvania.

Mr. White, (Dem.) denounced the Republican Senators for objecting the bill of their own caucus, as determined at a night meeting, instead of heeding the views of the Democratic Senatorial constituents on a question that concerns every citizen of the present and of unborn generations. He, then, at length, proceeded to show that the sovereignty of the Republic was not in the State, or in the United States, but in the people; and that the power of Congress was not in the Legislature, but in the people, and to them alone, should this amendment be submitted. He argued further that the elevation of the black man to suffrage was the degradation of the white man, and was urged only because the now votes were a political necessity.

During the discussion of the Constitutional Amendment, the Senate was frequently thrown into crowded with citizens, strangers and members of the House. The Republican Senators, except those generally found on the committee, Carpenter and Sumner spoke earnestly in favor of immediate action, and the Democratic Senators, on the other hand, will occupy at least one month, and after that the Senate will probably remain more than a special session, to act on appointments and treaties.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, of which Mr. Sumner is the chairman, yesterday gave notice that he intends leaving Washington next Tuesday, and is very anxious to have the Senate adjourn next Monday for Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, Doorkeeper and Assistant Doorkeeper and Chief Clerk and Executive Clerk.

Military Orders.

General Sherman has commanded the following assignments to duty:

Brevet Colonel James Simons, Surgeon, has been relieved of duty as Medical Director of the First Military District, and ordered to Baltimore, there to be on duty as such.

Brevet Colonel John Moore, Surgeon, has been relieved of duty as Medical Director of New York, and is ordered to report to the commanding officer of the First Military District for duty as Medical Director.

The President has directed Brevet Major-General Adelbert Ames, Lieutenant-Colonel 25th Regiment of Infantry, to command the Fourth District, according to his brevet rank.

Brigadier-General Thomas Francis Meagher, Major-General Lorenzo Thomas, Brigadier-General, retired, is ordered to report in Washington for duty as part of the inspection of cemeteries, but is not to make further inspections. This order to date from the 1st instant.

Brevet Colonel Henry A. Morrow, Thirty-third Infantry, is ordered to report to Texas, and relieve Brevet Brigadier-General John S. Mason, Major Thirty-third Infantry, of his present duties.

Brevet Major-General R. B. Marcy, Inspector-General, will report to this city, and report for duty to the General of the Army.

By direction of the President, Brevet Brigadier-General Thomas Ewing, Jr., remains on duty as Chief Medical Purveyor in New York city. Brevet Major-General Joseph Hooker, retired, will remain on duty in St. Louis as Assistant Medical Purveyor.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

AT A MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE Fourth National Bank, held this 9th day of March, their business was transacted, and the following named gentlemen were elected directors: Henry Lee, Francis Rawle, Samuel Grant, Edward Y. Townsend, Charles Wheeler, Jr., John B. Alter, Charles Rockwell, William G. Boulton, Thomas Dolan, Jr., John Fries Smith, John Price Wetherill, Jr., John C. Sims, Edward Lafourcade, Edward Lafourcade, Jr., George W. Bernadou, Jos. Ripka, Jr., Henry C. Gibson, Henry Sloan, John F. Sonntag, Jr., Jos. Ripka.
THOMAS H. HAND, President.
HENRY LAFOURCADE, Cashier.
mh9 3t

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS of the Philadelphia Insurance Company of Philadelphia, will be held at their office, No. 34 Walnut street, on Monday, March 15, at 12 o'clock, M.
SAMUEL WILCOX, Secretary.

OFFICE GIRARD MINING COMPANY, NO. 24 WALNUT STREET.
PHILADELPHIA, March 3, 1869.
Notice is hereby given that an instalment of Fifty Cents per share on each and every share of the Capital Stock of the "Girard Mining Company" has this day been called in by the Board of Managers, payable on and after the 15th of the ensuing September, to the Stockholders, or their legal representatives, on the 24 Walnut street, Philadelphia.
By order of the Directors.
B. A. HOOPES,
mh4 1t52 Secretary.

TEEKTON, N. J., FEBRUARY 20, 1869.
Notice is hereby given that the Delaware and Raritan Canal will be opened for navigation Monday, March 15.
JOHN G. STEVENS,
1-6t 1869 Engineer and Superintendent.

OFFICE OF THE DELAWARE COAL COMPANY, No. 234 SOUTH FOURTH STREET.
The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of this Company will be held at their office, on Tuesday, the 16th day of March, at 4 o'clock, P. M.
THOMAS C. HILL, President.
THOMAS C. HILL, Secretary.
PHILADELPHIA, March 1, 1869. jal-6t th s f

THE COUNTY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—OFFICE, No. 510 WALNUT STREET, below Vine street,