JEAN INGELOW'S NEW POEM

Roberts & Co. issue, at the same time with the English publishers, Jean Ingelow's new poem, "The Monitions of the Unseen." A hard-worked curate, in the wretchedness of an English parish, needs comfort, and, in a vision in the ancient minster, it comes to him in these "Monitions of the Unseen." They are monitions which many feel over-worked man and woman needs, who have made the mistake of thinking that God has, for His kingdom's coming, no other agency than theirs, or than that which they can see.

Without attempting a digest of this poem, we copy the conclusion:

"The curate answered him:
'Art thou content, O great one from afar?
If I may ask, and not offend?' He said,
'I am.' Behold! I stand not all alone.
That I should think to do a perfect work
I may not with to give; for I am one
The best for me that I receive. For me,
God is the only Giver, and His gift
Is one.' With that, the little child sighed out,
'O master! master! I am out of leaven
Since noonday, and I hear them calling me.
If yes be content, and one, let us go:
Hark! hark! they call.'

"Then did the beggar lift
His face to heaven, and spoke forth a cry
As of the pangs of death; and every tree
Stood still as if shaken by a sudden wind.
He cried again; and there came forth a hand
From some invisible form, which, being laid
A little moment on the curate's eyes,
It thrilled him with light that brake from it,
So that he saw no more.

"'What shall I do?'
The curate murmured, when he came again
To himself and looked about him. 'This is
A strange place
My troubles are all astray; and yet, methinks,
A weight is taken from my heart. Lo! Lo!
There lieth at my feet; frail, white, and dead,
The sometime beggar. He is happy now.
There was a child; but he grew old
Is also happy. I am glad to think
I am not neither the wrong nor the right;
But only to discover, and to do
With reverent heart the work that God appoints.

"With that, he did compose, with reverend care,
The dead; continuing, 'I will trust in Him,
That He—who, if I know aught of my Lord
His will, above the work He sendeth me,
To be my chiefest good.'

"Then went he forth,
'I shall die early' thinking: 'I am warned.
By this fair vision, that I have my work
To live.' Yet he lived on to good old age,—
Ay, he lives yet, and he is working still.

"It may be there are many in like case;
They dream of no great deed, and are in misery
Because the gift is small, and doth not make
The world to ring with honour and fame.
Would have it. 'Tis a faint; but, as for us,
Let us not blame God, lest we be a fault
More kindly looked on by The Majesty
Than our best virtues are. We are what are we!
What were we given, and what have we desired
To give, the world?

"There must be something wrong,
Look to it; let us mend our ways. Farewell."

COMMUNICATIONS.

[For the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.]

A SITE FOR A CITY HALL.

Alas! Philadelphia—rich enough to spend on a building for the permanent lodgment of the municipal offices five or six millions of dollars—one-third of the sum in decorative trimmings and ornamentation—but deeming herself too poor to purchase a site whereon to construct it. Instead of determining first where the municipal pile should be, in order to best answer the convenience of citizens who are for a long series of years to come, and then placing it there, the citizens, through the agency of a commission, are endeavoring to realizing money from public jobs mainly of their own creation, have been brought to wrangle about the expediency of utilizing this or that spot, on the ground that either of the two can be used without the cost of purchase. Whether either of the two is absolutely the most eligible location, or whether neither will answer, are questions not mentioned.

One set of schemers urge that to ruin the beauty and convenience of both Market and Broad streets, by the erection of a massive centre of eight hundred thousand people, are not worth considering when expenditure for a proper site of the City Hall can be avoided by such trifling sacrifices. To place a huge and magnificent quadrangular structure of stone upon the intersection of Broad and Market streets will be, of course, an obstacle in the route of vehicles of pleasure and use, even through a street a hundred feet wide around it. Pedestrians will find a direct passage through the pile by corridors or lobbies provided for the purpose. It is admitted that the view of Broad street, as well as of Market street, from end to end, must be destroyed. But, in exchange, there will be two Broad streets, one looking north and south, facing north, and both clearly to be seen from the roof of the building; and two Market streets, one east and one west.

Another party argues flatly using Washington Square as a suitable locality will be secured without expending anything for it; without disturbing the business centre, and without marring the continuity of Broad or Market streets, although some too straitlaced people think this square cannot be built upon consistently with the conditions on which this square was given to the city. But Independence Square, being left open, will answer all the purposes of ventilation and a lounger's walk just as well as if it were intersected, diagonally opposite. Besides, if Washington Square cannot be legally occupied in the manner proposed, there can be no doubt that the courts of Pennsylvania are competent to adjudicate the question, and decide it satisfactorily to all unprejudiced minds. Under this view those who are most scrupulous to observe the conditions of the gift of Washington Square to the city may safely vote in favor of placing the municipal structure upon it, because it is very certain that the courts will not sanction a perpetuation of any wrong in the premises.

There is also a third, but very small party of gentlemen, who would keep the public faith inviolate in any cost, and are also strong on application to remedy the manifold inconveniences from the existing centre to Broad and Market streets, as well as to interrupting the continuity of those streets.

Is Philadelphia so poor in purse and spirit, they ask, that she cannot afford to do what her faith reposed in her by William Penn, or to preserve Broad and Market streets' continuous lines of travel, and at the same time provide a site for a municipal hall? The vicinity of the glorious old State House is the proper locality for the public buildings now and forever. The suggestion has been made more than once by far-seeing men that the south side of Walnut street, from Fifth to Sixth street, is a proper place for the proposed city edifice. Let the block bounded by Fifth and Sixth streets, Walnut and Locust streets, be taken for the purpose, paying the present owners liberally for their property, and then let the city's buildings be constructed. Pennywise and pound-foolish people object at once, Rather than incur the expense, they would ruin Broad street, or be recreant to the trust reposed in the people by William Penn, and vacate the right to erect a monument to the Father of his Country on Washington Square, for which the foundation has been laid.

Washington Square is the site nearest to the proper place for the public buildings, and it is hoped the vote of the people will be in favor of that locality in preference to the Penn Square. Being thus determined, the courts can decide the question of the right of the Legislature to occupy that square for any purpose whatever. Then, if the courts determine against its occupation, still let us adhere to that vicinity, and take the site just suggested, and not think of Penn Square at all. Whether it be determined to keep that also as it is or not is unimportant.

That it would be a great advantage to the city to possess free museums, library and art galleries in juxtaposition, no one who has seriously considered the subject doubts, provided they can be obtained without cost to the public treasury. It is generally supposed that it is entirely too poor to expend any sum whatever to provide for its citizens such means of free culture and entertainment. But the wealth and citizens would very cheerfully permit liberal gentlemen or corporations at their own expense to supply the want—nay, they will even brand them as beggars, robbers, or sinners if they do not giving to the public all they have collected with labor and money during a half century, even for suggesting that they should be allowed a place to display their treasures of art, science and literature, for the free use of the community. Virtually the Academy of Natural Sciences offered to give the use of its collections, worth more than half a million of dollars, to the people on condition of receiving simply a lot of ground on which to construct a suitable building, which the Academy was to keep with its contents in proper order for public use during all time. And for making this generous offer, its members were held up before the people as swindlers, robbers, &c., without stopping to think that the proposition might be declined without injurious and insulting epithets. Now it is questionable whether the Society can be brought to renew the offer or to accept a similar one, if tendered by those commissioned by the law to allow the use of part of the Penn Squares for its purpose, should the vote of people be in favor of placing the public buildings on Washington Square. It is clearly conjectured that the Society will not wrangle long with such men and temperance and community to accept its property as a free gift, and also purchase a lot and construct an edifice to keep it in, in exchange for gunpowder, ingratitude, and nothing else. If there be any spirit, patriotism "nothing in the political corps who have distinguished themselves by their senseless attacks upon the Society in this connection, let us hope they may learn better manners and improve their judgment about the management of the community in municipal culture, science and art. TAXPAYER.

SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE GERMAN AND FRENCH ARMIES.

To the Editor of the Evening Bulletin:

I propose to see in the EVENING BULLETIN a phrase or two founded on our conversation of yesterday—and especially the last one of the article—which are not altogether correct, and certainly convey an impression which is unlike to a large body of most devoted and admirable workers (male and female) in what has struck me as the grandest and most fruitful movement and characteristic, as well as redeeming feature of this horrible war. I refer, of course, to the brothers and sisters of St. John—the members of the HILFSGEBRAU, the *Sanitats Commission*, or International Commission of Geneva, *Commission Sanitaire*, as they are variously named in different tongues and places. Americans are doubtless actively and efficiently engaged on both sides; and especially on the French, under Dr. Evans and Dr. Martins Sims and others; but I should be sorry to have it said by any one, having even far better opportunity for observation than I have, that the American Commissions were not as efficiently engaged on both sides; and especially on the French, under Dr. Evans and Dr. Martins Sims and others; but I should be sorry to have it said by any one, having even far better opportunity for observation than I have, that the American Commissions were not outnumbered (although not excelled) by the English and by the many other neighboring commissions. Of course, vastly exceeded in numbers and quite equalled in zeal are the Germans and French.

I have come could witness even the little that I was able to see without cordial admiration and sympathy for these universal efforts of a patriotism and humanity which, whether first roused by our American example and teaching or not, were at least born of a civilization, and significant of a progress immeasurably higher and greater than could have been hoped for, much less experienced in any previous European war. As a matter of course, and as strange our own ranks, there have been accusations, sensation messages, drawn and other such dead weights and false-pretending springs on the good faith and will of generous philanthropists; but the number of earnest and thoroughly capable men and women of all ranks engaged in the work of aiding and attending the sick and wounded is very large, not only in the field but in the cities and on the lines of communication, and at every railway station. My own impression and of observation was too limited to justify much direct and personal testimony; but on the authority of others, in whom I have conversed upon the subject, near the most important centres, the difficulties arose most frequently from a want of the complete organization and consequent discipline which distinguished the great American body. The clashing of authority among the leaders and crowds of idlers and insubordinates, were seriously felt; but they have not prevented the accomplishment of a wonderful amount of invaluable work by large numbers of educated Germans, Swiss, Belgians, as well as English, and others from more distant countries, including Russians. There no doubt that the same may be said of the French, and still more of the energetic and accomplished Americans, with their English associates, on the French side—but I know less of them, except from hearsay and the papers. I had no idea, however, of presuming to give any account of the Sanitary Commission operations now going on throughout Germany and in France and Belgium. My only desire was to put the question of the work of women so far as I know, an erroneous impression—that these operations are, or have been conducted and directed to any great extent (except possibly in Sedan or some such particular field) by American aloof. Receiving their inspiration from the American Commission and, appreciating the work done by them so perfectly in some respects, the Europeans have nevertheless profited by our experience enough in a few others to have improved upon us in some of their materials and methods.

We must certainly admit (and I do so with great pleasure) that, in view of the international character of their arrangements and obligations, the universality of their operations, and the large numbers, intelligence and entire self-devotion of these brothers and sisters of the Red Cross Banner—and considering the terrible amount and nature of the suffering to be relieved—a good deal more has been effected by them, under all their difficulties, in the past six weeks, than seem to have been accomplish in more than as many months. Their work, however, is confined and always treated within a field of less extent than a single one of our States, while ours has spread over half a continent, and might have covered the whole. Notwithstanding the magnitude of their struggle, some time must still elapse before it can approach comparison with ours, except in the fearful concentration of its horrors. That such a time may never come is the prayer and wish from the inmost heart of every one who has seen anything of either war. But, if it should, we have the strongest consolation and the brightest prospect ever yet vouchsafed to man in the midst of an adversity unparalleled in modern times, and unknown, except to the actors and victims, of any previous time—a glorious uprising of the spirit of good will towards men, which is greater in its acts, and must, sooner or later, become infinitely greater in its power than the fearful hate which has led to its present beneficent and magnificent growth among the nations.

E.

[We publish the letter of our correspondent with pleasure, at the same time correcting a misapprehension of his. We did not say that the sanitary operations were carried on to any great extent by Americans. We simply said that "the best arrangements were made in the hands of Americans."—ED. BULLETIN.]

THE TEHUANTEPEC SHIP CANAL.

The Government Survey Expedition Ready to Start—Feasibility of the Project—Co-operation of the Mexican Commission.

It will be remembered that during its last session Congress made an appropriation for the expenses of surveying a route for a ship canal across the American Isthmus, specifying more particularly the Tehuantepec and Nicaragua routes as the fields of exploration.

The naval corps of officers appointed by the department for the expedition is now organized, and will sail for Tehuantepec about Monday, the 10th of October. The officers composing the party intending to operate in the interior and on the Pacific coast consist of Lieutenant Commanders G. C. Remey, J. C. Hartlett and P. H. Cooper; hydrographer, Sargent J. C. Spear; naturalist, Capt. Bartlett, U. S. Marine Corps, photographer; Master Harper, hydrographer; E. A. Foster, chief civil engineer; Assistant Civil Engineer P. W. Rae, who is second assistant engineer in the navy, and Mr. Somers, draughtsman. The vessels comprising this small squadron, the officers of which are to do the hydrographic work on the Atlantic side, are the Kansas, Lieutenant Commander Farquhar commanding, and the Mayflower, Lieutenant Commanding Captain H. W. Shufeldt is in command of the expedition, and will go in the Kansas. A steam launch and a service steam launch are also added for use in rivers or shallow waters. Government will also order one of the men-of-war of the Pacific squadron to sail from San Francisco for the mouth of the Tehuantepec river, for the purpose of sounding its beds in sounding and surveying the large lagoons on the Pacific, to ascertain with accuracy their adaptability for the construction of a harbor. If it shall be found that a good harbor can be made, the bar can be cut and a route made as at Suez, and as is now being done for the Amsterdam canal, on the coast of the North Sea.

Secretary Fish has instructed our Minister Resident in Mexico, Mr. Nelson, to request of the government of Mexico the necessary permission to make the survey, and although time enough has not elapsed for a formal reply to be transmitted, assurances have been received through the Tehuantepec Railway Company that the request will be readily granted. In fact, the government of Mexico, as well as the most influential citizens of that republic, have from the first manifested the deepest interest in the success of the enterprise.

Captain Shufeldt expects to meet the necessary documents containing this permission for the prosecution of his labors at Vera Cruz, and the receipting thereof will be accompanied by a ceremonious exchange of formal national salutes.

From Vera Cruz the expedition is to proceed directly to the mouth of the Coazacoalcos river, and here a scientific party will be detailed to make an accurate hydrographic survey of the coast lines, bar and harbor. The latter is to be the river itself, which furnishes some more undoubtedly, with the best perfect security, for thirty miles above the bar. Captain Shufeldt proposes to explore the upper waters of the Coazacoalcos, with reference to their utilization, in the steam launch, which is well calculated for such service.

The scientific party, to whom is entrusted the important duty of exploring and surveying the "summit level," will at once proceed to Tarifa, which is on the dividing ridge between the Atlantic and Pacific slopes of the Cordileras, and from thence connections will be made with those similarly engaged on the Pacific side.

Previous surveys greatly facilitate the direction and the systematization of the work, and the undertaking is shown to be quite feasible by the report of Colonel G. G. Williams, Civil Engineer of the Tehuantepec Railway Company, who has lately returned from a reconnaissance of the line, made by himself and the Commissioners appointed by the Mexican government to locate the surveys of the Tehuantepec Railway.

WAR AND WET WEATHER.

Some Curious Facts.

Speaking of the effect of cannonading in producing fall of rain a German letter says:

The Germans bring to mind some very interesting American experiences. In 1861 Lossing called attention in Sullivan's *American Journal* to the fact that violent rains and heavy cannonading appeared to stand in intimate connection. He said (I quote the German): "In October, 1861, I observed a plentiful rain immediately after the cannonading which took place in celebrating the connecting of Lake Erie with the Hudson. I published my observations of this event in the year 1841, expressing the opinion that the firing of heavy guns produced rain in the neighborhood. After the first battle in the last war between France, Sardinia and Austria, there followed such important rains that even small rivers were impassable, and during the battle of Solferino there broke out such a violent storm that the fighting was interrupted. In July, 1861, McClellan's troops on the upper Potomac had fought for several successive days, and before the close of each violent rain fell. On the 21st of July fell heavy rain in Virginia, and on the 22d rain fell the whole day till late at night." I refer the reading, "Can we produce rain when and where we like?" the Cincinnati *Wochenblatt* of the *Volksfreund* for the 15th of July, 1862, remarked: "The cannonading (during the war) on the York River and James River, as well as the cannonading of Corinth and on the Mississippi, were followed by such fearful storms that the land was inundated."

The Bohemian campaign of 1866 was accompanied during the whole course by violent rains. After the battle of Koniggratz violent rain storms hindered the harvest from being properly garnered. The letters of the soldiers in the field in the present war are full of accounts of "sleeping on the wet ground," and complaints of the inclemency of the weather. The battle of August "Gravelotte" battle of Wissembourg was intensely warlike the writer of this can testify, as he yielded at one of the Frankfort open depots for the arrival of the first batch of captured Frenchmen. The night of the 6th was rainy, and the morning following the battle of Woerth, when the telegraph of victory came, found the streets full of waterpools and the sky overcast with cray, heavy clouds. Since then we have not had six fine cloudless days. "From the 6th to the 12th of August," says the *Illustrirte Zeitung*, "it rained every day, often accompanied by thunder, and these continuous and violent rains have caused great damage in those districts where the harvest was not in before the 6th; the corn has been washed out, the straw has been rotted, and the crops have no more value."

The Scene of Lentze's Picture—Westward Ho!

Through the Trout Creek Pass along the south corner (somewhat like the Hiacus of San Luis) of South, over the alkali white plains, down into the valley of and across the South Platte, up again on to a high land to the north, and you rein your steed in the streets in the promising little town of Fairplay. There are some fifty or sixty houses arranged to form three streets, and a population of farmers and miners. Recently the discovery of rich lodes in the bordering mountains of this park have given this town a great impetus; and if I know what its name imports, it may yet be a flourishing city. Twenty miles to the south of the town are the salt works of Rawlings & Hall, where, from a salt spring, they produce a very good article, and find their demand in the wants of the farmers and the smelters up in Central City and Denver. From here we pushed on through the remainder of the Platte river valley. We gorge in the Eastern hills, stopping at the Cascade House, on the summit of the divide—the Tip Top House of the Rocky Mountains—with one step to look at the view to the westward. In the Platte valley Washington has put in the rotunda called "Westward Ho," and this picture is familiar to all who look upon bank notes as works of art, or interest themselves in anything more than the figures indicating upon their face the value. The artist has been reproduced upon some of our bank notes, and the Lentze's Scenery, as it represents an emigrant's wagon slowly threading its way through a magnificent valley surrounded by high mountains. This is the repose of motion, of the view to which I referred, and falls far short of the beauty of the original.—*Penn Monthly.*

CONCERNING JEALOUSY.

[From the Saturday Review.]

There are two sorts of jealousy—the passion and the habit. There is the jealousy which, by the common consent of poets and dramatists, is the line of a lady's lip, the gnawing at its vitals; and there is the jealousy which, affecting neither complexion, digestion, nor bile, indicates its presence solely by a certain rigidity of outline. Perhaps there is no vice more respectable than this form of jealousy, which is a quality wholly independent of passion. It is the cold blood of vice. The jealous nature does not need a lover or a mistress to exercise itself upon; it rises out of a certain consistency of character, or generated idea of one's own claims, a craving for their recognition by others, and not the hot tempre in the world. As an example of the jealousy rising out of an insatiable need of recognition, we may take the case of Mr. Wilkins, on the occasion, we think, of his being elected Consul for the Cinque Ports. Mr. Wilkins were fixed on him, when he noted a temporary turn in three multinolious eyes from himself to some new object of curiosity. The instance was the appearance of a tall young Frenchman of youthful beauty had caused this diversion, and a jealousy of that kind was felt to be found his displeasure—a lasting displeasure—against a rival who for a few moments reduced him to a second rank. For the moment the jealousy of the observer we may refer the reader to the Chancellor of an adverse party, and he may be sure it is fortunate enough to possess the services of one confident in herself as a real treasure of honesty, industry and practical and solid virtues as grounds of perpetual ill-temper. Respectability in the abstract is nothing, and a hand-to-hand fight with temptation that we should not perhaps wonder at their valiant resistance. We do not know the temptations which could not to pass for much with their letters. We do fact, we know, they observed that the self-complacency arising from an orderly life, religious observance and trustworthiness, generally enacted into a form of jealousy, which, issues in an exclusive claim to everything good and honourable in going on. Such a person grows to regard every recognition of another's merit as a deliberate personal slight to be avenged by a jealous intolerance of aspect.

Between these two exponents of the quality there are infinite degrees. We ought never to consider either quality as a disease, or, if it be wholly free from it, or purely dispassionate and clear of personal bias not to be otherwise explained. We cannot, we repeat, however, they seem to be forgotten or disowned, it is always wise to steer clear of any course that may awaken a sensation which is much more likely to be slumbering than wholly dead. We have, in fact, no more dangerous stances a bar to its presence. Wherever there is a sense of dependence on others there is room for jealousy.

There are certain people so tempted to jealousy by circumstances that it is a merit in them to keep remarkably free from it. We know an whose life and credit hang on popular favor, all whose business it is to amuse the public, and who in their temperaments are so