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Devoted to Politics, News, Literature, Agriculture, Science, and Morality.

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Poet's Corner.

From Arthur's Home Gazette.

☞ There are few of our readers who are not familiar with Mrs. Howitt's sweet domestic poem, begining—

"The clock is on the stroke of six,
The father's work is done,
Sweep up the hearth, and mend the fire,
And put the kettle on."

In the same spirit, if it is not in fact an imitation of the above mentioned poem, and quite as beautiful, is the following, which a thoughtful friend has clipped from a newspaper, and sent us for insertion in the Home Gazette.—

I wait for Thee.

The hearth is swept, the fire is bright,
The kettle sings for tea;
The cloth is spread, the lamps are light,
The hot cakes smoke in napkins white,
And now I wait for thee.

Come home, love, home—thy task is done;
The clock ticks listeningly;
The blinds are shut, the curtain down,
The warm chair to the fireside drawn,
The boy is on my knee.

Come home, love, home—his deep, fond eye
Looks round him wistfully,
And when the whispering winds go by,
As if thy welcome step was nigh,
He crows exultingly.

In vain; he finds the welcome vain,
And turns his glance on mine
So earnestly that yet again
His form unto my heart I strain—
That glance is so like thine.

Thy task is done—we miss thee here;
Where'er thy footsteps roam,
No heart will spread such kindly cheer,
No beating heart, no listening ear,
Like these will wait thee home.

At last along the crisp walks fast
That well known step doth come;
The bolt is drawn, the gate is past,
The babe is wild with joy at last—
A thousand welcomes home.

Good Morning,

"Oh, I am so happy a little girl said,
As she sprang, like a lark, from a low trundle-bed;
"'Tis morning—bright morning! Good morning, papa!
Oh, give me one kiss for good morning, mama!
Only just look at my pretty canary,
Chirping his sweet good morning to, Mary;
The sun is peeping straight into my eyes—
Good morning to you, Mister Sun, for you rise.
Early to wake up my bridle and me,
And make me as happy as happy can be."

"Happy you may be, my dear little girl,"
As the mother struck softly a clustering curl;
"Happy you can be—but think of the One
Who wakened, this morning, both you and the sun."

The little girl turned her bright eyes with a nod—
"Ma, may I say, then good morning to God?"
"Yes, little darling one, surely you may,
Kneel as you kneel every morning to pray."
Mary knelt solemnly down, with her eyes
Looking up—earnestly into the skies.
And two little hands that were folded together,
Softly she laid on the lap of her mother.
"Good morning dear Father in Heaven," she said—
"I thank thee for watching my snug little bed,
For taking good care of me all the dark night,
And waking me up with the beautiful light;
Ah, keep me from naughtiness all the long day
Dear father who taught little children to pray."
An angel looked down in the sunshine, and smiled,
But she saw not the angel, that beautiful child.

Comforts of an Editor.

If he does not fill his sheet with news of importance, whether there be any or not, it is condemned for not being what it purports to be—a newspaper.

If he does not fill at least one column every week with something laughable, his folio is pronounced uninteresting.

If a public nuisance should exist, notice of it would be censured.

If he does not publish all marriages that occur in the world for twenty miles round, whether he hear of them or not, he is not fit for an editor.

If every paper does not contain a goodly portion of suicides, horrible murders, and melancholy accidents, it is dull, and an unwelcome visitor.

If half the gloomy transactions that occur are recorded, it is spurned as a vehicle only of calamities.

If his paper contains advertisements, the general reader murmurs; if it does not the business man will not patronize it.

If he publishes the laws of the State, old and young, maids grumble; if it does not, civilians frown.

If he steers an impartial course, he is said to be on the fence; if he jumps off, he is sure to be besmeared.

If a dozen friends call on him while he is correcting a proof sheet, and one error escapes detecting, he is the greatest blunderhead in the world.

[illegible] is it which Adam never saw, [illegible] to see of [illegible]

[PUBLISHED BY REQUEST.]

AN ADDRESS

Delivered before the "Union Literary Society," West Harford, December 22d, 1852.

BY REV. A. O. WARREN.

Respected Auditors:—We are assembled this afternoon for the furtherance of a cause at once important and deeply interesting to every lover of happiness, and true friend to our race. That cause is clearly set forth in the title of this society, by whose untiring perseverance and unprecedented prosperity this commodious hall has been erected, as a fit place for its future councils and seasons of rejoicing. The title to which I refer is this; *Union Literary.* Two worthier objects rarely engage the attention of mortals, yet, alas! how few, (I believe I speak advisedly,) how few labor zealously for both. While we study to promote the one, we overlook, and often trample under foot the other; seeming to regard these objects, as the two masters, which we cannot serve at once. But let us take courage and press forward, for the history of this society shows us, that the two objects may be united, and prosperity attend the union, and rest upon the society that labors for their promotion.

I congratulate you upon the great success that has hitherto rested upon your efforts, that has enabled you to collect choice gems from the inexhaustible treasure of mind and to store them for future use in this well chosen spot, this temple of progress. Here you may resort from time to time, and study the great past, encourage and strengthen each other by expressing your own convictions of the future, or you may delineate human duty, and the responsibilities that rest upon each American citizen, that would wish to see immortalized, not only the fame but the existence of his beloved country. A broad field and a great work are before you; and should your present prosperity continue, and your past exertions extend to the future, the borders of your influence, and the reign of your blessings would spread "from the rivers to the ends of the earth." What more appropriate theme can I select than the very title of your society? It opens a broad expanse before us, where are seen the choicest blessings mortals can possess. That you admire the idea expressed by it, I cannot doubt, but that you may the better [illegible] see how closely, both Union and Literary attainments are interwoven with the welfare of society.

Let what union now exists in the various departments of life, like a solitary lamp, that casts its friendly light upon the traveler's path that lays along the edge of the precipice, be stricken out, and what is the fate of man, or the prospect before the world? Could you keep the council fire replenished and burning, or could you retain the festive throng at their unfinished banquet! Indeed, could anything of value be accomplished, or one step towards prosperity be taken? Doubtless each individual is prepared to answer negatively. The history of the world shows us that every thing is dependent upon union. It is the great foundation upon which rests peace, happiness and every species of prosperity. The very pillars of the universe rest upon *union.* Without it confusion reigns over the earth, and society returns to barbarism, and each man becomes a wanderer alone, opposed to every one. This is not idle conjecture: the divine word shows us this fact in an item of history, and a maxim of truth. In history it tells us when men spoke one language, they planned for the erection of a tower for refuge. Union was there, both in tongue, desire, and toil, and the work went barely on till their language was confounded, and then in haste and fear, each separated from his brother and fled into the wilderness. There was no longer union among them, and the work went to ruin. The maxim of truth is "that every house or kingdom divided against itself cannot stand, but is bro't to desolation." If we are wise then, shall we not heed the voice of wisdom and labor more zealously than ever for union? No enterprise can be accomplished without union among its operators. Look at the works of art, whose ponderous fragments are scattered over all the east, and tell me by what means they were wrought. No single hand is adequate to the task. They are the work of thousands, for a term of years. Those age-lasting pyramids, those vast artificial lakes, that once spread far across the vallies of Egypt, or those dwellings of the dead, cut along the rocky mountains side, plainly show us that the spirit of union was no stranger among that people. It must have not only pervaded one age, but continued from age to age, and from generation to generation. A work began by one was prosecuted with the same zeal by another to its end. This should be the course adopted with every good work.

But not here alone is seen the beneficial work of union. It is met with in every department of society, and is developing in every work of progress. By it cities have been built from their beginning, and made to flourish in wealth and grandeur; nations have sprung up and extended their borders and their fame; forests have been changed to luxuriant fields of grain, and the dreary desert made to blossom as the rose. The trackless ocean has been explored and all the treasures of earth laid open to view.

And if we look at our country we behold [illegible] the shores with us. [illegible] the wilds of the west, [illegible] they went forth, pledged in fidelity, to each other, to battle against the foe of their peace, and falling, to water the tree of equal rights with their blood. Alas! many of them did fall around the very spot of its planting, but by the richness thus imparted, the tree has spread its branches from sea to sea. The same is true of every undertaking that engages the attention of man. Nothing can be done but by the spirit of union. No society can exist without it. It is the secret cord that binds hearts together that otherwise would be strangers; it makes a diversity of interests the same. It seems to give not only direction but makes speed, or adds dispatch and consolidation to every undertaking.

It has been well said, "Union is strength," each day's life demonstrates this fact. A work that would baffle the strength of one or that would require more than the life-time of one, is readily accomplished by many, in a few days. We see this in our internal improvements; our railroads and canals, that wind along our streams, and even mount our hills, are the work of union. If they had been wrought by only one hand at a time, this world is not old enough to have accomplished them, even if began by the first manual labor. The aged father impressed the importance of union upon the minds of his sons by a bundle of rods. Each one is but a mere twig, capable of sustaining but little, broken by the merest trifle, but when bound together no power can break the bundle. The same is true of man; alone he is feeble and can do but little, but when bound to his fellow by the cords of union, nothing can impede his progress. He has only to go forward, the elements conduce to perfect his desires, and to aid him to his desired elevation.

Well has it been inscribed upon our banner "united we stand divided we fall." Let me impress it upon the minds of all, especially the young, that *union* is ever to be sought after as the great prize of life. With this every thing else is attainable in the outer world.—By it nations mount the pinnacle of prosperity, cities spring up, internal improvements are wrought, wealth is acquired, and all that is needful for the permanent happiness of man is performed. How pleasant to contemplate upon the condition of that nation, society, neighborhood, or family, that are bound together as one man, [illegible] of prosperity and a full measure of happiness. Indeed we obtain a glimpse of that blessed society above who know no discord forever more. A man sensible of a tie of union binding him to his fellow can not be a bad man while he follows the direction of that impulse. O no, it is the fostering angel of our peace, that leads him direct to the temple of virtue. It ever aims to uproot the last root of bitterness in society, and thus to purify the world. But we need not confine ourselves to these facts alone, tho' not to be mistaken in their instruction, for when we look into the book of books the same truth appears distinctly in view. Says one inspired, "be of one mind," and again "stand fast in one spirit, with one mind, striving together." The reason for these, and similar exhortations, was because this union or oneness was sure to be followed by success in their great undertaking. A few men truly bound together will give stability and character to any cause, and roll it on to completion. Then lose not sight of union. It is the basis of all good society and with it no worthy object can fail of ultimate success.—As it has brought prosperity in the past to your enterprise it will continue to extend it in future. True it may be applied to an unworthy object, or directed to a bad end. This, however, will depend upon the influences which bear upon it, or the soil from which it springs. If the subjects bound together are enlightened with true wisdom, then will the result of union be to promote prosperity and shower down manna around the pathway of human society. Thus far I have spoken of union in the aggregate, or outward form, and even then we have seen it beneficial, but to see it extending through every purpose, desire, wish and seeming interest, or linking the whole soul it becomes doubly beneficial. But the first step must be taken and then the second follows more readily. Apprised of its outward benefits we more readily open the door of the soul, so to speak, that it may pervade the whole man and surround his path continually. Let your efforts then be for union in its broadest sense, that your cup of enjoyment may be filled to overflowing. It will indeed give the boon you seek.

We have thus far seen union blending with every enterprise of life and becoming the foundation, or propelling power in every department. *One thing* only is needed, as already hinted, to enable us, with its aid, to attain the very pinnacle of human acquirements in every respect; even to accomplish the full object of our creation. That one thing is direction. Where shall we obtain direction?—What shall constitute the helm to guide our bark in safety to its desired haven. Without some pilot to direct, pitiful is the lot of the doomed sailor. Numberless concealed rocks, quick sands and deceptive havens are before him, that seem to thirst for his destruction, yet rapidly he rushes towards them. The mere desires of mind cannot be that director, for they are mutable, ever varying, like twilight shades, or like the dancing auroras. Whenever men are bound together with no other director, but mere desire, we should expect shipwreck to be made of the ultimate [illegible] of every fair [illegible] of the soul. But we are not left alone [illegible] ted. We have the desired directory placed before us and within our reach. It is *Literary attainment.* With this we have union enlightened, or educated, for this I understand to be the meaning of the term. How great the blessings and wonders brought to view by a far-spreading, universal literature. What is man or what can society be without it?—What could we know of this world, or its inhabitants? I answer nothing. Like the untaught savage, the limits of our own vision, or the boundary marked by our own blue hills, would be all the world to us, and our family connections its inhabitants. Then no cities spring up by the side of our lakes and rivers, or along our sea-board; no gallant ship or steamer careers upon the rolling wave; no railroad cars, with their anxious burthen, are seen threading their way, in every direction across our land, swift as thought; nor does the telegraphic pulse beat out the converse of friends widely distant. The hum of the manufactory does not blend with the roar of the waterfall. None of these things are seen where literature is not found. And when the sun retires to show the beauty of the heavens, man gazes upon the twinkling host, without understanding their true character. They are to the untaught, as to the child, who thought them so many holes to let the glory shine through from above. And when the moon passes before the sun or itself falls within the shadow of the earth, causing the eclipse which we calculate with as much exactness as the miser casts his interest, the uneducated are overwhelmed with fear till it subsides. To them most of the phenomena in heaven, or on the face of nature, are blind mysteries, awakening only fear and gloom. O, how far removed from this is our lot. Who can hardly believe such is the condition of any part of our globe, or of any people enjoying the light of the sun. Yet such there are. Let us take up briefly one branch of literature namely history, and it will throw a world of light upon this very point. It shows us that little more than four hundred years ago, a majority of earth's inhabitants were thus situated.—Prior to that, literature or learning was confined to a very few; books were unknown, save in manuscript. But with the invention of type and the art of printing, literature received a new impulse. Books became more [illegible] years had now passed since the creation of man and what advance had society made during that period? Over what seas and oceans floated the white sail, or what land was traversed by the iron horse? What country was spanned by telegraphic wires, or in what cities were books and papers issued by thousands for the common people, or what nation had the means of general education? Alas! ignorance prevailed over the wide earth: the wealthy only were educated and they but poorly in contrast with the present generation of our beloved land. True, Greece and Rome had its constellation of philosophers and truly renowned orators, but the common people groped in darkness, or depended upon those philosophers and orators, rather than their own knowledge. They had indeed given attention to architecture, sculptor and painting, but letters were unknown, as we understand them. Mental darkness prevailed. Tyranny and oppression were prevalent, and the mass of the people knew not their rights or God's gift to them. The history of the most advanced nation shows us only crime and bloodshed, as their foundation, and only hope of future success. But with the art of printing, a new day dawned upon the world. The fetters of mind seemed broken, and it went forth to regale itself upon God's full bounty. Then first began the chase after wisdom, which prophets had said should increase in the earth.

Books began to be multiplied and offered so low that all might obtain them. To show the sudden change wrought by this single improvement, we are told that books which were written by hand upon parchment, and contained in a roll instead of our convenient form, that cost £300 fell at once to £60; then to £30. The same are now offered for a few shillings. In some places this change, so beneficial to all, was regarded as a dangerous innovation upon the rights of man, and the venders of those productions, though it were the Bible itself, were cast into prison, from which they escaped only by paying a heavy fine. But light cannot be retained forever under a bushel. It will break forth at length, and shine more brilliant for its concealment. The knowledge of letters increased, and with it a more complete knowledge of the earth, its products, extent and inhabitants. Man saw with interest his fellow wherever he cast his eyes; he studied more his own wants and rights and become, for the first, a thinking, sympathizing being. What advances society has made since that time, or within the last five hundred years in every respect. More has been accomplished than the keenest sighted dared to dream. We believe we can safely say more true advances have been made within fifty years, than for the two hundred last preceding, as we may have occasion to show before we close. At the time of which we speak, few nations only were known to each other. A single spot on the great earth only was known. Gradually men extend their search till the great waters meet their view. What lay beyond was conjecture; and before the more general diffusion of knowledge, the ardent were supposed the peculiar previnces of the gods, or their favorite hound in the habitation of mortals. O what advances the few last hundred years has wrought in our favor. [illegible] of this [illegible] has been enlightened, and hearts bound together by its influence for a march to the summit of fame. The western world has been discovered, then a howling wilderness, but now a most flourishing country, teeming with every production, the work and wealth of an enlightened, independent people. What obstacles are now in the way of man's complete triumph, or what can prevent him from enjoying his full measure of good? Time would fail me to hint at all the improvements that have blessed society within a few centuries. Since the invention of the art of printing, the discovery of America, and the great reformation, the last link in the chain of human bondage seems broken, and the last hour of darkness to have come. Rapid indeed has been the march in literary and scientific attainment. Every soul seemed alive with new life and enterprise.—Narrow limits no longer bind either the body or the mind. The one wanders over the earth; the other soars away to heaven, or follows the developement of God's laws to arrive at true wisdom. Man begins to study the wonders of creation, whose real characters were before unknown, and at once he explains them to his fellows. The sciences as yet had not been developed, and great was the field before the liberated mind; not merely to utter speculations, but to demonstrate facts seen by all. Though man had inhabited the earth five thousand years, yet he did not know its relationship or position in the great family of the Universe.—To ascertain this he now directs his inquiries. How great the sensation produced upon the public mind, when first it is proclaimed that earth turns upon its own axis, and revolves around the sun. The man who first advanced this theory suffered imprisonment, like him who first sold printed copies of the Bible in France. Such has ever been the fate of great benefactors; but we have learned this infallible maxim, that truth is mighty and will prevail. Prison bars cannot secure it or prevent it from spreading. They may hold the discoverer, and the cold world may fail to do him justice in his life, but the truth will not pass away. Thus it was here. The revolutions of earth were clearly demonstrated, and soon when mortals gazed upon the heavens, they could read and understand all their movements and appearance. The law of gravitation was no longer an unsolved problem. Wonder af- [illegible] explained, till every one might become acquainted in the great workings of Nature before unknown. A height was now attained of which ancient ages knew not, but this was far below us of the present day. What light is here enjoyed in contrast with age on age that has rolled to the tomb of the past. What aid to union is here given, but it is not a tithe of its favor.

Look again upon the face of nature; the vivid lightnings flash across the heavens, followed by the deafening thunder peal. They direct their course to earth, shivering to fragments the stoutest trees. The trembling soul beholding inquires, who shall deliver my life, or secure my property from the descending bolt? A few years only pass ere the whole phenomena is explained, and the power easily directed. The fluid is collected at will, and life and property is secure from its approach. The science of electricity is now discovered, revealing the wisdom and power of God to do beyond our full comprehension.

Thus we might go on minutely naming the improvements that have been made in each department of science, but is it needful? We find literary attainment blending in every cup of prosperity, and it gives new impetus to good wherever it extends. A few startling discoveries, each mark an important era in the history of the world, and the developement of scientific and literary attainment. We will refer to but one or two more, and we shall see the same stubborn refusal to acknowledge the first declaration of their usefulness, yet after their full establishment, we shall find them becoming swift messengers conveying literary and scientific attainments more widely than before, and with more ease and despatch. Though a great degree of knowledge and an increased strength of union had obtained generally, yet all the mind desired was far from being accomplished. So widely separated are the parts of the great body that sensations of joy and sorrow did not reach from one part to the other in season for a hearty and healthy co-operation. The cords of union, though felt, bound only loosely. But another leaf is about to be turned for the reading of the eager multitude. The ignorant and the wise alike had seen the steam escaping from boiling water, as in tiny clouds it floated upon the air till it disappeared, but no one supposed there was a talent power, there capable of electrifying the world by its developement. But so it was. A plain man thought to apply the expansive power of steam to propel machinery, and after some experiments moved a small boat by its power.—Rude was the apparatus, but it was successful. That was a proud day; for man when the inventor, seeing his craft propelled over the wave by steam, in ecstacy said, in the spirit of prophecy, "one day the ocean will be crossed by this agency." Time has proved the saying true, though his friends thought him visionary, if not bordering on insanity. Many are the changes and improvements made upon this discovery, but it is one of the greatest blessings ever put into the hands of mortals. By it the cards of union have been greatly strengthened, and remote sections brought [illegible] to near proximity. It is now [illegible] every enterprise [illegible] to [illegible] and [illegible] in all [illegible] It drives the [illegible] land to land; now it utters its shrill cry as it climbs the hill-side, now it flies along the valley, and with its ceaseless clatter plunges into the mountain's side, and arrives at its destination in safety. By its means the old and new world, four hundred years ago strangers, are now brothers within a few hours' distance, for we measure space by time rather than in miles. This same power works the printing press, that groans with its endless issuing of books and papers whereby information is given to the people. The beating pulsation thus put in motion vibrates in the mind and enlarges its desires and capacity for knowledge. How great the advantages enjoyed by man? How numerous and strong the cords of union binding soul to soul. How clear the mental light that shines upon the pathway of man?—It would seem as if the last enemy to human prosperity and perfection were taken away, and we had only to run and be glorified. With all these improvements science and literature has kept pace. Civilization has extended its borders, and the word of truth has been carried and expounded to every nation. The nations now are so many members of one great family, each anxious for its fellow and their ultimate prosperity. God's word seems fast fulfilling when "nation shall learn war no more," but "shall beat their swords into plow shares, and their spears into pruning hooks." The roar of the cannon and the clash of arms is the last resort to adjust difficulties, and ultimately when every mind shall become truly enlightened, intellectually and morally, peace shall become universal. It is your province to aid in this great work. Keep the mental vision clear, and the fund of knowledge well supplied, and the work will go on to its completion.

As auxiliaries in this cause are schools, whether select or free, and Library Societies of every cast. We cannot foster them with too tender care. Situated as we are, we have every needed aid and means to fulfill the high behest of heaven. Freedom and union reign around us only because the light of literature and religion shines in every breast. The mind is free and enlightened: it studies the laws of nature, developes her wonder-workings, soars into the heavens and regales itself amid its splendor and rolling spheres, or it descends to the bowels of the earth, and analyzes its con- [illegible]

[illegible] blessed? Do the same blessings fall upon all in every clime and land? Has literature and union asserted their mild yet potent influence the wide world over? Alas! less than one eighth of the great family are enlightened.—Great as are the improvements around us, numerous as are books and the means of instruction here, yet darkness reigns over many lands and people. Millions have not dreamed of the wonders and conveniences wrought out by steam, or the blessings arising from union literary societies. These words are unmeaning to them. But be not discouraged. Let the throbbings of the iron heart continue to beat—it will at length send sensation to every remote part. It will awaken life, and impart a healthy vigor. Literature and its light cannot be always obscured. It will shine forth upon grateful hearts. Union must ultimately prevail throughout the world, linking each to his fellow, and all to their ultimate happy destiny. Union and education are emanations from the throne above—are effectual means to dissipate mental and moral darkness from society.

We confidently predict this from past accomplishments and present indications. Where the people are the most enlightened there is found the most union and the least discord, the most deeds of benevolence and virtue, and the least crime and transgression. As the mind is enlightened it turns from evil; and I believe the history of crime would be the developement of the bounds of ignorance. Vast are the means for enlightening the mind with us. The wide world is before it. The mind grasps its vastness, and seems to comprehend its former wonders with ease. The American sees at a glance, drinks in the all knowledge of his own land, and in restlessness wanders over foreign lands, beholds their wonders, their wisdom and their folly, and in a twelve-month returns to his former home. All this is done speedily, because of the inventions sought out by enlightened minds, and put in operation by industrious hands. How great the overturns effected by the discovery of steam power! It did seem as if the last leaf in the book of progress was turned. What more could be done? Transportation could now be accomplished from any place in less hours than it formerly took days. But the end is not here. Next comes the telegraph, simple in its construction, but wonderful in operation. News is now communicated from land to land with as much despatch as friend talks with friend.—Stretch along its iron nerve then, over high hills and deep vallies, from country to country. It is a living agent with its thousand tongues, instructing anxious inquirers at every point it touches. Compare now the present with the past, and excepting the last few hundred years does it not seem a blank? Think not that I overlook the great light of revelation. O no. That light anciently was confined to a single people and a small country, and even then it was obscured by outward darkness, and at last completely veiled in the night of the dark ages, and its precious spirit crushed from the hearts of men. These improvements have blessed us for ever. The light of God's truth was permitted to shine free; and in its bright [illegible] [illegible] Bound [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]