THE MONTROSE DEMOCRAT,
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MONTROSE DEMOCRAT.

We Join Ourselves to no Party that Does not Carry the Flag and Keep Step to the Music of the Whole Union.

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JOB PRINTING of ALL KINDS
DONE AT THE OFFICE OF THE
DEMOCRAT,
NEATLY AND PROMPTLY,
AND AT "LIVE AND LET LIVE" PRICES.

THE office of the Montrose Democrat has recently been supplied with a new and choice variety of type, etc., and we are now prepared to print pamphlets, circulars, etc., etc., in the best style, on short notice.

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Business, Wedding, and Ball CARDS, Tickets, etc., printed with neatness and dispatch.

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WM. HUNTING COOPER.....HENRY DRINKER.
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BANKERS.—Montrose, Pa., Successors to Post, Cooper & Co. Office, Lathrops' new building, Turnpike-st.

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McCOLLUM & SEARLE,
ATTORNEYS and Counsellors at Law.—Montrose, Pa. Office in Lathrops' new building, over the Bank.

HENRY B. McKEAN,
ATTORNEY and Counsellor at Law.—Towanda, Pa. Office in the Union Block. jy2 58 tf

DR. E. F. WILMOT,
GRADUATE of the Allopathic and Homeopathic Colleges of Medicine.—Great Bend, Pa. Office, corner of Main at 1st Elizabethsts., nearly opposite the Methodist Church. ap56 tf

DR. WILLIAM. W. WHEATON,
ECLECTIC PHYSICIAN & SURGEON DENTIST.
WITH DR. MYRON WHEATON.
Mechanical and Surgical Dentist, recently of Binghamton, N. Y. tender their professional services to all who appreciate the "Reformed Practice of Physic?" careful and skillful operations on Teeth; with the most scientific and approved styles of plate-work. Teeth extracted without pain and all work warranted.
Jackson, June 11th, 1860. y*

DR. H. SMITH & SON,
SURGEON DENTISTS.—Montrose, Pa. Office in Lathrops' new building, over the Bank. All Dental operations will be performed in good style and warranted.

J. C. OLMSTEAD.....J. L. READ.
DRS. OLMSTEAD & READ.
WOULD ANNOUNCE to the Public that they have entered into a partnership for the
Practice of MEDICINE & Surgery,
and are prepared to attend to all calls in the line of their profession. Office—the one formerly occupied by Dr. J. C. Olmstead, in DUNDAFF. my 7 3m.

DR. N. Y. LEET,
Physician and Surgeon, Friendsville, Pa. Office opposite the Jackson House.
DR. LEET gives particular attention to the treatment of diseases of the EAR and EYE; and is confident that his knowledge of, and experience in that branch of practice will enable him to effect a cure in the most difficult cases. For treating diseases of these organs no fee will be charged unless the patient is benefitted by the treatment. [August 30th, 1860.

SOUTHWORTH & VADAKIN,
MANUFACTURERS AND DEALERS in Italian and American Marble for Monuments, Head-stones, Tomb-Tables, Mantles, Sinks and Centre-Tables. Also dealers in Marble of Slate for Mantles, Centre-Tables, &c. ☞ Shop a few doors east of Searle's Hotel on Turnpike street, Montrose, Pa. oc4 y*

WM. A. SNOW,
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.—Great Bend, Pa. Office on Main street, opposite the Western House. ap4

JOHN SAUTTER,
FASHIONABLE TAILOR.—Montrose, Pa. Shop over L. N. Bullard's Grocery, on Main street. Thankful for past favors, he solicits a continuance—pledging himself to do all work satisfactorily. Cutting done on short notice, and warranted to fit. Montrose, Pa., July 4th, 1860.—tf.

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L. B. ISBELL,
REPAIRS Clocks, Watches, and Jewelry, at the shortest notice, on reasonable terms. All work warranted. Shop in Chandler and Stevens' store, Montrose, Pa. oct8 tf

WM. W. SMITH & CO.,
CABINET AND CHAIR MANUFACTURERS.—Foot of Main street, Montrose, Pa. aug 1f

C. O. FORDHAM,
MANUFACTURER of *BOOTS & SHOES*, Montrose, Pa. Shop over Tyler's store. All kinds of work made to order, and repairing done neatly. je2 y

ABEL TURRELL,
DEALER in Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Dye Stuffs, Glass Ware, Paints, Oils, Varnish, Window Glass, Groceries, Fancy Goods, Jewelry Perfumery, &c.—Agent for all the most popular PATENT MEDICINES.—Montrose, Pa. aug 1f

HAYDEN BROTHERS,
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
YANKEE NOTIONS
—AND—
FANCY GOODS.
WM. HAYDEN,
JOHN HAYDEN,
TRACY HAYDEN,
GEORGE HAYDEN.
NEW MILFORD, PA.

P. E. BRUSH, M. D.,
HAVING NOW LOCATED PERMANENTLY, AT
Springville,
Will attend to the duties of his profession promptly.
Office at J. Lathrop's Hotel.

AT SMITH'S!
NEW MILFORD, PA.,
IS THE PLACE TO BUY YOUR
HARNESSES,
CHEAP FOR CASH,
AND GET THE WORTH OF YOUR MONEY.
nov5 4m J. H. SMITH.

HOME
INSURANCE COMPANY,
Of New-York.
CASH CAPITAL, ONE MILLION DOLLARS.
ASSETS 1st July, 1860, $1,481,619.27.
LIABILITIES, " " 43,068.68.
J. Milton Smith, Sec'y. Chas. J. Martin, President.
John McGee, As't " A. F. Wilmarth, Vice "
Policies issued and rec'vd, by the undersigned, at his office, one door above Searle's Hotel, Montrose, Pa.
nov29 y BILLINGS STROUD, *Agent.*

H. BURRITT
HAS just received a large stock of new Stoves, for Cooking, Parlor, Office and Shop use, Stoves, for Wood or Coal, with Stove Pipe, Zinc, &c.
His assortment is select and desirable, and will be sold on the most favorable terms for Cash, or to *Prompt Six Months Buyers.*
New Milford, Oct. 25th, 1860.

Dandelion Coffee.
A HEALTHY beverage. One pound of this Coffee will make as much as two pounds of other Coffee. For sale by ABEL TURRELL.

MEDICAL CARD.
E. F. WILMOT, M. D., Graduate of the Allopathic and Homeopathic Colleges of Medicine, would return his sincere thanks to the people of Gt. Bend and vicinity, for the very liberal patronage with which they have fa, for him, and he hopes by a strict attention to business to receive a liberal share of the public confidence. Great Bend, January 22d, 1861.

TAKE NOTICE!
Cash Paid for Hides,
Sheep Pelts, Fox, Mink, Muskrat, and all kinds of Furs. A good assortment of Leather and Boots and Shoes constantly on hand. Office, Tannery, & Shop on Main Street.
Montrose, Feb. 6th. A. P. & L. C. KEELER

DAVID C. ANEY, M. D.,
HAVING located permanently at New Milford, Pa., will attend promptly to all calls with which he may be favored. Office at Tiddis' Hotel.
New Milford, July, 17, 1861

ABEL TURRELL
HAS for sale, Metallic Oil, for Sewing Machines; Clock & Watch Oil, Bed Bug, Rat and Mouse Poison; Homeopathic Remedies, Pond's Extract, and a great variety of Liniments, Salves, Pills, and Plasters, and an endless variety of Patent Medicines.

CONGRESSIONAL.

SPEECH OF HON. W. G. STEELE,
Of New York.

DELIVERED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JANUARY 20, 1862.

Mr. Steele, of New York. Mr. Chairman, it is not my intention to attempt a constitutional argument; and yet I had supposed, until the very extraordinary remarks of the gentleman from Ohio, the *de facto* Chairman of the Judiciary Committee for the time being, that every sane man believed Congress had no constitutional right to legislate on the subject of slavery in loyal States. I was not aware that the constitutional power of the General Government was unlimited. I had heard that in the constitutional convention there were those who favored a strong consolidated government, but I had supposed that the democratic idea, of certain State rights, and a general government of limited powers, prevailed. I supposed also, that the Constitution itself had a limiting clause, which provides that—

"All powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States, respectively, or to the people."

The last Congress, by unanimous resolution, expressed their opinion on this subject, and I supposed it was pretty generally admitted by this; but I will leave this constitutional argument to others, and proceed with what I understand to be a plain, common-sense view of this question.

At the opening of the present session of Congress, when extreme measures on the subject of slavery were inaugurated, and efforts made to secure their adoption with indecent haste, the great heart of the Republic was sad.

Afterwards, as those resolutions were, by the good sense of a majority of the members present, referred to a regular committee for consideration, the public mind was relieved, and hope revived.—The conservative men here and elsewhere breathed more freely, and sanguine anticipations were entertained that, whatever should come back from the committee, would be in such form as that all Union-loving men could assent to the report, and that in the mean time all discussions upon this troublesome question might be suspended. Unfortunately, however, some gentlemen, unwilling to await the deliberations of a responsible committee, have apparently sought to forestall their action by harangues of the most objectionable and offensive character; and thus we have been repeatedly compelled to consider this unwelcome subject.

In times of imminent peril, in moments of desperate emergency, men have appeared in all ages of the world adapted to the exigencies of the occasion; and yet it is greatly to be feared, if that portion of this government of the people more immediately representative cannot rise to the dignity and importance of their present position, no men will be found capable of grappling with and overcoming our difficulties. If this mighty democracy, which was to have been the pattern of governments, and show the world the road to liberty, has become so stained with corruption, with passion, or prejudice, that the direct representatives of the people cannot forget the necessity of tinkering for party advancement or the success of some favorite idea long enough to save our country, what hope have we?

Were the forked flames bursting in upon us, would any hesitate or cavil about the cause and probable effect; would we wrangle over a loaded magazine, while the lighted torch moved slowly on its certain mission, until ourselves, and every body and thing held sacred and dear were shivered to atoms, because not quite certain whose party or favorite theory would succeed if we avoided destruction?—Nothing can be more apparent than that we cannot aid in restoring peace and harmony to this distracted country by continually stirring up bad blood, and quarreling with the Executive Department, military commanders, and each other. We cannot all take control of everything; we are compelled to trust somebody, and undoubtedly we must trust those who are the regularly constituted authorities.

This administration is not of my choosing, and yet I know it is the duly elected and lawfully constituted head of the Government of these United States—holding authority under that Constitution we have all sworn before the world, and in the presence of Almighty God, to support, and as such is entitled to the kind consideration and hearty coöperation of every other department, and of every citizen, in whatever is necessary to reëstablish and preserve the integrity of the nation; and for one, I intend to give it with no grudging hand, until this monster rebellion is crushed; and the mighty moving masses of the people, let me tell you, throughout the entire extent of our loyal territory are resolved to do the same thing; and when the war is over, and peace again reigns within our borders, those same people, rest assured, will hold everybody in power, from the highest to the lowest, to strict account for the manner in which they discharge the sacred trust committed to their keeping.

If such times as these, and the responsibilities which surround us, cannot induce representative men to reject every personal and political consideration, and apply themselves unselfishly and resolutely to the salvation of their country, then there is very little hope of the permanent success of a republican government; for I am unwilling to believe we are worse than others who might be thus convened; and if the circumstances in which we are placed, the distresses which are but too manifest everywhere — the privations, hardships, sufferings and death to which our six hundred thousand brave men in arms, and many others, are exposed—are not sufficient to stimulate every needed sacrifice, insomuch that we would consider it a pride and a glory to lay down our lives, if need be, upon the altar of our country, what right have we to expect that other representative bodies will be more patriotic?

Mr. Chairman, it is shocking to hear men deliberately argue that certain measures are unconstitutional, and in the next breath urge their adoption, and counsel the overriding of all constitutions and laws, for the purpose of advancing a favorite theory. If we are to disregard the Constitution, and trample upon the rights guarantied by it to States or individuals, what better are we than the rebels we contend against?

It is not true, sir, that slavery is an outlaw in this Government. It is guarantied by the Constitution, and was part of the consideration for the orignal compact, upon which our Government and Constitution were founded. It has always existed with us, and with it we have prospered beyond every other nation of the earth.

It now occupies less territory than at any former period of our history; yet as long as there is a single State, nay any part of any State, which is loyal, and entitled to the guarantees of the Constitution in regard to slavery, it is their right; exactly as much as any of us are, entitled to any of our rights of person or property. We have no business to attempt any interference with the guarantees of the Constitution in reference to slavery; any such effort cannot fail to divide and distract the country, when harmony and concert of action are indispensable to its salvation.

Gentlemen tell us it is wrong, and, therefore, should not exist. So is impiety wrong, and yet it cannot quite be suppressed by force of law; and the bloody records of the past show that the strong arm of power is impotent for such purpose. Such is doubtless the case with numberless moral evils ten times more revolting than slavery, and, besides, men cannot agree about the abstractions of right and wrong; and the only way for us to save our Government is to stand by the Constitution. It was sufficient for our fathers, has been for us; and unless we would invite anarchy and confusion, accompanied by a reign of terror horrible to contemplate, we must adhere to it now. Of course, we cannot all think alike; but men united in a terrible struggle, not only for self-preservation, and national existence, but for the rights and interests as well, too vast and extended for human calculation, ought to have such respect for each other as not to insist upon measures distasteful to any unless believed to be indispensable; and if, acting upon such magnanimous principle, where disagreement is inevitable, we would sincerely and generously endeavor to bring our minds together with regard to preconceived opinions, or any consideration whatever inconsistent with an honest desire to act together for our country's good, undoubtedly we could agree; at least, so far as to prevent any serious embarrassment to the common cause.

It is sickening to witness the mad ravings of fanaticism at any time, but now infinitely more terrible at such a time as this; and yet the unaccountable fascinations of a strange insanity, even now and here, seem capable of charming men into submission to what appears an impious hallucination to all except those subjected to its influence.

It certainly seems that some among us have indulged their vivid imaginations in the exageration of one dark picture until so completely enveloped in an impenetrably black cloud of their own creation, as to exclude from their disordered intellects the sunlight of truth. And, sir, if the direction of affairs is to be given over to those whose minds are so maddened by the contemplation of this hideous object that they can understand no other right or interest except the necessity of its immediate removal, then farewell to the institutions and Government our fathers.

No doubt there are those who looks upon slavery as a great and crying evil, who can nevertheless, understand that there are interests of such paramount importance as to demand consideration; and yet there has been but too much reason to fear that their timid resolves in the right direction were likely to be overborne by the resolute and desperate determination of those who are immovably fixed to their one idea and its accomplishment, without regard to means or consequences.

Sir, it is high time that every member of this House, however humble, should arouse himself to a consciousness of personal responsibilty, and evince at least as great firmness and determination for the preservation of our Constitution and Government, and the protection of such rights and interests as are unquestionably guarantied to any and every section and portion of our loyal citizens, as any others have, or can exhibit for the advancement of a theoretic philanthropy to the overriding of all constitutions and laws.

Gentlemen tell us that the irresistible tide of war will sweep from the land this curse of slavery. Be it so. Then why divide our councils, distract our country, and demoralize our army, to provide theoretically what can only be accomplished practically by the power of conquering armies, and which, according to the theory of those who would urge us on past the Rubicon of constitutional safety, is so near its fulfillment?

The history of the world shows that the military power, when in the ascendant, is sufficiently regardless of individual or local rights, whenever they come in contact with its exactions; and it is scarcely necessary that the legislative authority should attempt to run in advance of the military, in efforts to destroy the rights of loyal people, upon the plea of *providing for possible contingencies, which should they arise, could and would be* promptly met by the inevitable necessities of war, and regard to which gentlemen themselves contend that the military authority is undoubted.

Sir, there is imminent necessity for legislation by this Congress of a legitimate and practical character; and yet, when the infamous sentiments of that class of men who have openly and solemnly proclaimed to the world over and over again that our glorious Constitution, hallowed by the most cherished memories and hopes of many millions of freemen, and sanctified by divine approval, is "a covenant with death, and a league with hell," are continually urged upon the consideration of this House, and through its published proceedings scattered broadcast over the land, it almost seems that one cannot sit silently and tamely by without becoming *particeps criminis* in such treasonable declarations.

I am in favor, I hope all of us are, of a vigorous, thorough prosecution of this war to the utter discomfiture and annihilation of treason and treasonable sentiments, North and South. But I am not so anxious to see the land drenched in the best blood of our nation, and emancipation, conflagration, and death moving hand in hand with slaughtering armies, for the mere accomplishment of an insane idea, as to threaten that the work of desolation shall go on, "either through the administration or over it." Nor am I impatient for the destruction consequent upon the coming together in battle of mighty armies in hostile array, unless indispensable for the preservation and perpetuation of our glorious Union; and for that, and its reëstablishment, as it was before the reckless folly of traitors and madmen North and South distracted it and divided it, so that it can be handed down to future generations with all the hopes of free government that once surrounded it, no needed sacrifice would be too great.

Do gentlemen of that class whose incendiary teachings of insanity or wickedness have for years alarmed and distracted the people of this otherwise harmonious and united Confederacy, expect that the abominable idea which would deify the miscreant John Brown, can be introduced into this war without inaugurating an era of blood, devastation, and death, such as the history of the world has never recorded? Do they expect us to forget or ignore the sacred memories of the past, and quietly subscribe to the detestable suggestion that the immortal Washington and the whole list of slaveholding patriots, conspicuous in our armies of the Revolution, were Achans in an Israelitish camp? The conclusion is irresistible, that some men of genius, if not actually crazy or devilish, have so cramped and contracted their naturally vigorous powers, by perpetually thinking and speaking upon an exaggerated idea, as to have become pigmies when they ought to have been giants.

It may be asked why it is, if I deprecate the discussion of this exciting subject, that I do not remain silent in regard to it?—Sir, the conservative men of the country have kept still too long, and allowed the devotees of this one-idea philanthropy an *ex parte* hearing, at all conceivable times and places, all over the free North. For thirty years or more they have been continually instilling their pernicious sentiments into the minds of the people thro' their pamphlets, periodicals, and books, in common conversation, and the family circle. From the school-room, the lecture-room, and the pulpit, their wild, extravagant, and dangerous assertions and theories have been forced uncontradicted upon the attention of everybody. The opposition to them has only been occasional and incidental; hence they have grown to formidable proportions; and here upon this floor, almost every day, this disagreeable subject is forced upon us, in season and out of season. All the interests of all the white men of the world seem to be forgotten or ignored by some gentlemen in their determination to hold the black man continually in the foreground. If we keep still and allow them to go on, even if we could escape demoralization here, it goes forth to the world, to the Union loving men of the North, to our armies in the camps and in the field, and to our loyal brethren in the slaveholding States, that we have an abolition Congress, and distrust and alarm is the consequence.

Do these gentlemen of the one idea expect that they can carry on this war successfully without the aid of the conservative men of the country? If not, why do they continually strive to insult and irritate us? They may consider it peculiarly their war; and perhaps in some sort it is; but, even then, so long as they ask us, and we are willing to fight their battles for them, they ought to treat them decently, at least until the war is over; or have they talked so long and so much about the crack of a certain lash that they wish to apply it to the backs of their white allies for the edification of their black friends?

These gentlemen, sir, who grow so ferociously eloquent over their emancipation idea, do not tell us what they propose to do with their black brethren when they get them? Possibly they think their equalizing and humanizing philanthropy has so far elevated the character and tastes of the white men that they will consider it a privilege to fight side by side with black slaves. Let them try it. No, sir, we will not let them degrade and disgrace our brave soldiers; but if they had the power to try it, they would find that human instincts were stronger than all their fine-spun theories.

I have the honor to be a representative upon this floor from a free State, the great State of New York—a State somewhat important in this crisis as regards men and money—and the district that honored me by confidence is one made sacred by the scenes of the Revolution; and no man can boast a more true and loyal constituency. Our people have not been surpassed by any in a prompt and continued response to the call of their country in her time of need; and we feel that we have a right to urge respect to the memory and institutions of our fathers. I stand not here, sir, as the advocate of slavery; I have no love for, or sympathy with, that institution in the abstract—quite the contrary; but I remember that it was introduced here by our fathers, and by them ingrafted upon our Constitution; so that to each State, as an independent sovereignty, was secured the exclusive power and right to retain or abolish the same within its own limits. I remember, too, that our brethren of the slaveholding States have it now as it was handed down to them by a justly venerated ancestry; and I wonder not that the loyal men of those States, considering the present condition of our distracted country and the cause, are jealous of their State rights, and sensitive to any external efforts to interfere with them, when they know, as we do, that there is no lawful power or authority for any such assumption; and if they are satisfied to trust to the inevitable necessities of war such interests as are undeniably guarantied to them by the organic law of the land, and so obviously periled by the onward march of armies—is it too much for them to ask that the unauthorized theories and abstractions of other men should be subject to the same arbitrament?

If it is supposed that I speak warmly, I have to say that I feel deeply—and the time and the occasion demand it. It is my firm belief that if abolitionism should rule the day, this war would become one of extermination and death all over the country. That "the blackness of darkness" would overshadow the land, and the sun of liberty go down in blood, thereby extinguishing the hopes of freemen for a republican government, and obliterating all reasonable grounds for expecting the permanent sovereignty of the people.

But let us not despair or despond. Let us trust in God and the Administration which is given us for the emergency. We have a right to suppose it is firm and determined—let us believe it will thus continue; and resolutely strive to do our duty without assumption or arrogance, and trust to the administration theirs. No doubt if we stand firm in our efforts to protect and preserve our Constitution and Government, in defiance of the ravings of madmen, or the machinations and treachery of wicked ones, the administration will help us. I will go further and say, that I believe if we are so facile as to yield to the rushing tide of fanaticism, the Administration will strive to save the Union in spite of Congress.

Patient Waiters no Losers.

BY ANNE J. WOOD.

It was one of those populous and charming villages so numerous in the environs of Paris, a collection of laborers' cottages built on the outskirts of a forest, amid vineyards and orchards. The morning sun was illuminating the little square covered with bold sparrows, who were disputing for the seeds scattered in the dust; the matrons, in their morning wrappers, were going from house to house for conversation and the provisions of the morning. The doors of the little shops established here and there were seen to open in succession, and the merchants were suspending before their windows the goods designed to attract customers.

One of them had already put everything in order, and standing at his door, was looking at his less diligent neighbors.

This was a young merchant with prompt movements and lively mien, whose sign bore this word in gilted capitals:

"GROCERIES."

The grocer (since we must call him by his name) had only been established in the village a short time. This was evident by the newness of his merchandise exposed, the splendor of the shutters, recently painted in arabasque, and the immaculate cleanness of the counter.

So he scarcely exchanged salutions with the passers by, and no one stopped to inquire as was the custom, how he passed the night.

Aristides Giraud (this was the name of our young merchant) had perhaps resolved not to render an account to his neighbors of his health and his sleep, but he resigned himself with more difficulty to the solicitude of his shop. Leaning against the frame of the door of entrance, he was casting an impatient glance over the square, and saw everybody pass his door without stopping. As, tired of waiting, he was about to re-enter, a hand hastily seized him by the arm; he turned, and recognized a former fellow apprentice whom he had lost sight of for several years.

Alexander Crepin wore one of those costumes common to fellows of the second class; a beaver hat negligently indented, a cravat with a flaunting knot, a scanty coat adorned with gigantic buttons, full pantaloons falling in spiral form over gaiters of striped drilling. Although there had never been any particular intimacy between himself and Giraud, the latter, whom his isolation had prepared for unreserve, received him with open arms. He compelled him to enter the back shop, while the boy whom he had for his assistant assumed his place at the counter.

"Well," said Crepin to him, when they were seated, "so you are established, my old friend, and to the satisfaction of everybody, it seems to me; for I have just traversed your six streets, and your shop is the finest in the place."

"Because it is the only one," replied Giraud.

"Then you should find the mines of Peru in it."

"I am afraid I shall find it the way to the alms house."

"How so?"

"For the reason that I sell nothing.—Though my sign has been out more than a month my merchandise is still here."

"It costs nothing to keep your goods where they are."

"On the contrary they consume much; we have a hotel, restaurants and coffee houses, not to speak of private dwellings; but everybody has been accustomed to buy groceries in Paris."

"You should offer them your services."

"Do you think I have not thought of it? They have replied that they hav laid in provisions, that they would see by and by. Here, you see, we take time to do things—we wish to know people; I must wait till the seed becomes an apple tree."

"And that does not suit you—you who are accustomed to do everything by steam," said Crepin, laughing. "I remember when we were with Father Devilliers, you wished to arrive before you had set out. Apropos, I hope Father Devilliers patronizes you."

"I depend upon him, at least, after the offers of service he had made me," replied Giraud, somewhat bitterly. "At the time of establishing myself I went to Havre to consult M. Devilliers, who repeated his promises. Thereupon I came here, sure that his house would advance me goods; but it is now a month since I wrote to him to ask for credit and have received no reply. It appears that on reflection, my old master had not thought best to assist me."

"As usual!" said Crepin, lighting a cigar, "promises are like feasts at the theatre; at the distance we think we see stuffed chickens and lark pies, and when we approach, it is only pasteboard. But be frank, Brother, it is not alone the promises of Father Devilliers which decided you to settle in this neighborhood, if my memory serves me, you were acquainted with a family here, which was adorned with an agreeable young lady whom you desired to unite with your establishment."

"Mademoiselle Garrot?"

"Yes, Rosalie Garrot, upon whom you made acrostics, in the flowery days of our youth. Well, does your plan still hold out? Is the bridal trosseau preparing? Are the cards of invitation being printed?"

"Ask the family since you are acquainted with them," replied Giraud hastily; "as for me, I cannot tell you."

"Why so, my son?"

"Because I have neither been refused nor accepted, and they have asked time to decide."

Crepin laughed.

"Decidedly, my poor comrad, you are here on probation!" exclaimed he; "happiness, credit, fortune, all are postponed. How can you endure those adjournments—you formerly wished the morrow to arrive yesterday?"

"How? repeated Giraud. Do you not see? I am desperate—I am gnawing my heart and brain; I am like St. Lawrence on his gridiron, without being able to induce my tormentors to turn me. So my patience is nearly exhausted, and some one of these days I will send the grocery after the old Moors."

"Ah, ha!" said Crepin, looking at him, "you have got so far as that; then? Well, if you do not indeed intend to make paper bags and weigh out brown sugar, I have an offer to make you."

"What?" asked Giraud, his eyes sparkling.

"Simply to seek fortune on a car which goes by steam, instead of a cart drawn by the snails. But it would take too long to explain the matter by fasting; let us commence by breakfast; you shall know all between the entlet and coffee."

The young grocer sent to a neighboring restaurant for the necessary provisions, and seated himself at the table with Crepin, who having conscientiously satisfied his appetite, communicated his project.

Disgusted with the trial of several employments in which he had eaten up the best of his patrimony, the former grocer's apprentice had just joined one of those California companies formed for the search of gold. A company of emigrants was to start in a few days for San Francisco, with an engineer, laborers, and all the necessary apparatus for digging in the golden sands. According to the most moderate calculations, each was to make a fortune in three years.

Crepin, who knew his California romance by heart, related to Giraud all he had read or heard. Besides the harvest of gold, which had to be gathered by the spadeful the new Eldorado offered laborers a thousand modes of enriching themselves.

Blacksmiths and carpenters earned fifteen dollars a day; barbers did not shave for less than a dollar; the most stupid servants received a thousand crowns; the merchants reckoned their daily receipts at hundreds of dollars; in a word, it required as much effort in this fortunate country not to be a millionare as elsewhere to become such.

The recitals of the Californian inflamed the imagination of the young grocer, who always liked tasks quickly accomplished. He compared his business, so slow in prospering with so small results in case of success, with triumphant successes of which Crepin talked. The more the latter multiplied particulars and anecdotes, the more his auditor hated his own situation. At last, vexation at not being able to share in these wonderful chances, made him interrupt the conversation.

"Let us talk of something else!" exclaimed he, striking the table with his fist—"of what use is it to show me a feast at which I can eat nothing, and only makes my mouth water?"

"Who hinders you?" asked Crepin.

"Do you ask me?" returned Giraud; "have you not told me that it would require some thousands of francs to emigrate with you?"

"Undoubtedly."

"And do you not see that I have transformed all I possessed into loaves of sugar and cakes of chocolate?"

"Well, transform your chocolate and sugar into money."

"How so?"

"Sell out and give up business. You will receive nearly the value of your goods, and, once master of your capital, we will start together for the land of gold. Come, summon your resolution, fortune calls you to the other side of the water. In three years we will be able to have a cook and keep a carriage."

Notwithstanding his quick and impatient disposition, Giraud hesitated; but Crepin gave him so many and good reasons, opposed so eloquently the long expectation and the eternal effort of his present profession to the rapid and splendid result of an expatriation of a few years, that the young merchant could no longer resist.—Seized with that malady which had been given the name of the gold fever, he decided to abandon his humble business for the chances of the country of the Arabian Nights.

His resolution once formed, Giraud would suffer neither compromise nor delay.—Profiting by the absence of Crepin, who had left him to pay two or three visits in the village, he wrote to the commission merchant to offer his goods for sale. A few days would suffice to terminate his business, and thenceforth he would be free. He would not stop to ask himself whether he might not regret this sudden resolution—the peaceful position he must renounce, and the hope of a union long desired. Urged by his fatal impatience, he sealed the letter, gave it to the boy that it might be mailed immediately, and resumed his accustomed place at the counter.

Freed from that inward disturbance which attends all desperate resolutions, he began to prepare old waste paper and transform them into bags.

While his fingers mechanically fulfilled his office, his eyes rested for a moment on the torn leaves, reading some words absently, and his mind continued to dwell on his project.

"It is better thus," thought he, "instead of remaining here, waiting for customers as a fisherman who extends his lines all day to catch a few gudgons, I will spread my nets in the open sea and catch the fishes by the handful. We shall see what my fellow citizens, who don't deign to honor me with their custom, will say when I return a millionaire! and M. Devilliers, who does not reply to letters I write him! I will take him my visiting card in a carriage. Perhaps the Garrott family and Mademoiselle Rosalie will then have finished their reflections.—It will remain to be known whether I have not finished mine!"

And as he talked to himself thus, with more vexation than satisfaction, the eyes of Giraud fell on the paper he was about to make into a bag, and rested on it in spite of himself. He read at first carelessly, afterwards with more interest, the following:

'Meng-Tren says—In human works we should do what is reasonable, without hurrying its accomplishment. Beware of resembling a man in the State of Soung. There was in the State of Soung a laborer who was in despair because his wheat did not grow, and pulled it half up, to make it grow quicker. At evening he returned with a weary air, and said to his family, 'I am much fatigued to day, for I have been helping the wheat to grow.' His son eagerly hastened to look at the wheat but the stocks were already withered.—Those who have not, like the laborer, seen the folly of helping their wheat to grow, are very rare in the world.'

Giraud remained thoughtful. He read it a second, then a third time, and at each perusal the story of the disciple of Soung Psin (Confucius) made him more thoughtful. Did he not resemble the peasant of Soung? Was not his impatience to have his harvest grow and his desire of hastening the future, urging him to a hazardous proceeding? Was he not about entering the ranks of those who were helping their wheat to grow, and exposing his, like the peasant, to see the stalks prematurely withered?

At this moment the boy, who had been in search of his jacket and cap, crossed the shop with the letter to the commissary. Giraud hesitated, then recalled him, and took the letter back.

'After all, said he, 'there is nothing very urgent.'

And he resumed the manufacture of his paper bags.

His resolution was somewhat shaken; he pleaded the two causes before the tribunal of his own reason, which had not yet given judgment; meanwhile it inclined to emigration to the gold regions.

In the meantime the postman came with a letter which bore the stamp of Havre. Giraud recognized the writing of his old master, and hastily opened it. M. Devilliers responded in a tone of cordial patronage. He explained that his absence had prevented him writing sooner, and granted the terms solicited by him.

This unexpected good fortune increased the uncertainties of the grocer. The conditions made by the Havre merchant were evidently an important advantage to him, but there still remained the difficulty of ensuring customers. He was reckoning over in his memory his insignificant sales during the month in which his shop had been open, when his neighbor, the keeper of the cafe, entered.

Surprised the preceding day by an unusual number of customers, he had exhausted his provisions, and had gone to obtain some of the grocer. He complimented Giraud on their quality, seemed satisfied with their price, conversed a long time with the young merchant, and ended by declaring that he would henceforth address himself to him for all he needed.

'Others will do so, also,' added he, 'but one does not easily lay aside old habits; give them time to perceive that it will be convenient and profitable to address themselves to you. Experience comes slowly, but it comes sooner or later. You are beginning to be known in the neighborhood; we see that you are an honest and industrious youth, and a good neighbor. Do not be uneasy as to the future; Paris was not built in a day.'

The keeper of the cafe went out, leaving him more perplexed than ever. Decidedly, circumstances seemed to be such as to give him courage to combat his first resolution.—Anxious and uncertain he continued to make his bags, now and then casting a glance on the fragment of Chinese philosophy. In this struggle between fear and hope, Crepin found him.

The future Californian was returning from visiting the Garrott family, whom he seemed to hold in much esteem, and he learned in conversation that a wealthy match had just been refused for Rosalie.

'I believe the good people are really thinking of you,' added he, for at the first word of your project at departure, they exclaimed, and the young girl changed countenance.—They had postponed their decision only to make themselves of consequence and to dictate conditions—but let them seek a son-in-law elsewhere.—Come one more glass and I will go in.'

Giraud filled the glass without replying. This last discovery had more importance to him than all the rest. The union which Crepin had just allowed him to hope for had been the ambition of his life; it was more than fortune, it was mutual affection, family joy, all the treasures of the domestic fire-side. So he left his adventurous companion to boast anew of his hopes of wealth, and to appoint a meeting in order to make their last arrangement for departure. Without say-