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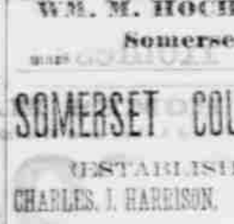

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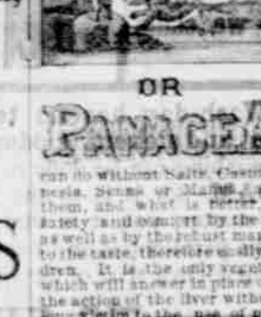

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WHAT I LOVE.

I love all sights of earth and skies,
From flowers that glow to stars that shine;
The comet and the penny show,
All curious things, above, below,
Hold each in turn my wondering eyes:
I claim the Christian Pagan's line,
Humani nihil,—even so,—
And is not human life divine?

When soft the western breezes blow,
And strolling youths meet sauntering maids,
I love to watch the stirring trades
Beneath the Vallombrosa shades
Our much-enduring elms bestow;
The vender and his rhetoric flow,
That lambent stream of liquid lies;
The bait he dangles from his line,
The gudgeon and his gold-washed prize.
I halt before the blazoned sign
That bids me linger to admire
The drama time can never tire,
The little hero of the hunch,
With iron arm and soul of fire
And will that work his fierce desire—
Untamed, unscared, unconquered Punch!
My ear a pleasing torture finds
In tones the withered sibyl grinds—
The dame sans merci's broken strain,
Whom I, erewhile, perchance have known,
When Orleans filled the Bourbon throne,
A siren singing by the Seine.

But most I love the tube that spies
The orbs celestial in their march;
That shows the comet as it whisks
Its tail across the planet's disks,
As if to blind their blood shot eyes;
Or wheels so close against the sun
We tremble at the thought of risk
Our little spinning ball may run
To pop like corn that children parch,
From summer something overdone,
And roll, a cinder, through the skies.

—O. W. Holmes in May Atlantic.

"LITTLE PHIL"

TELLS THE STORY OF THE LAST GREAT BATTLE OF THE WAR.

The Famous Scene of Lee's Surrender Told by the Man who Brought it About.

From the North American Review.

Public attention having of late been occasionally called to some of the events that occurred in the closing scenes of the Virginia campaign, terminating at Appomatox Court House, April 9, 1865, I deem it my duty to give to history the following facts:

When, April 4, 1865, being at the head of the cavalry, I threw across the line of Gen. Lee's march, at Jettersville, on the Richmond and Danville Railroad, my personal escort the First United States Cavalry, numbering about 200 men, a tall, lank man was seen coming down the road from the direction of Amelia Court House, riding a small mule and heading toward Burkesville Junction, to which point General Crook had, early that morning, been ordered with his division of cavalry, to break the railroad and telegraph lines. The man and the mule were brought to a halt, and the mule and himself closely examined, under strong remonstrances at the indignity done to a Southern gentleman.

IN A SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN'S BOOTS

Remonstrance, however, was without avail, and in his boots two telegrams were found from the Commissary General of Lee's army, saying: "The army is at Amelia Court House, short of provisions; send 300,000 rations quickly to Burkesville Junction." One of these dispatches was for the Confederate Supply Department at Danville, the other for that at Lynchburg. It was at once presumed that, after the dispatches were written, the telegraph line had been broken by Gen. Crook north of Burkesville, and they were on their way to some station beyond the break, to be telegraphed. They revealed where Lee was, and from them some estimate could also be formed of the number of his troops. Orders were at once given to General Crook to come up the road from Burkesville to Jettersville and to General Merritt, who, with the other two divisions of cavalry, had followed the road from Petersburg, on the south side and near the Appomattox river, to close in without delay on Jettersville, while the Fifth Army Corps, under the lamented Griffin, which was about ten or fifteen miles behind, was marched at a quick pace to the same point, and the road in front of Lee's army blocked until the arrival of the balance of the army of the Potomac the afternoon of the next day. My command

WAS PINCHED FOR PROVISIONS,

and these dispatches indicated an opportunity to obtain a supply; so, calling for Lieutenant-Colonel Young commanding my scouts, four men, in the most approved gray, were selected—good, brave, smart fellows, knowing every cavalry regiment in the Confederate army, and as good "Johnnies" as were in the army, so far as bearing and language were concerned. They were directed to go to Burkesville Junction, and there separate. Two were to go down the Lynchburg branch of the railroad until a Confederate telegraph station was found, from which they were to transmit by wire the above mentioned rebel dispatches, representing the suffering condition of Lee's army, watch for the trains, and hurry the provisions on to Burkesville, or in that direction. The other two were to go on the Danville branch, and had similar instructions. The mission was accomplished by those who went out on the Lynchburg branch, but I am not certain about the success of the other party; at all events no rations came from Danville that I know of.

I arrived at Jettersville with the advance of my command—the First United States Cavalry—on the afternoon of the 4th of April. I knew the condition and position of the rebel army from the dispatches referred to, and also from the following letter (erroneously dated April 5th), taken from a colored man who was captured later in the day:

A TELL-TALE LETTER.

"AMELIA C. H., April 5, 1865.—DEAR MAMMA: Our army is ruined, I fear. We are all safe as yet. Shyron left us sick; John Taylor is well; saw him yesterday. We are in line of battle this morning. General Robert Lee is in the field near us. My trust is still in the justice of our cause, and that of God. Gen. Hill is killed. I saw Murray a few minutes since. Bernard Terry, he said, was taken prisoner, but may get out. I send this by a negro I see passing up the railroad to Michlenburg. Love to all.

Your devoted son,

WM. B. TAYLOR, Colonel."

I accordingly sent out my escort to demonstrate and make as much ado as they could by continuous firing in front of the enemy at or near Amelia Court House, pending the arrival of the Fifth Corps. That corps came up in the course of the afternoon, and was put into position at right angles with the Richmond & Danville road, with its left resting on a pond or swamp on the left of the road. Toward evening General Crook arrived with his division of cavalry, and later General Merritt with his two divisions, and all took their designated places. The Fifth Corps, after its arrival, had thrown up earth-works and made its position strong enough to hold out against any force for the period which would intervene before the arrival of the main body of the army of the Potomac, now rapidly coming up on the line over which I had traveled.

THE FIGHT OF THE FIFTH.

On the afternoon and night of the 4th no attack was made by the enemy upon the small force in his front—the fifth corps and three divisions of cavalry—and by the morning of the 5th I began to believe that he would leave the main road if he could and pass around my left flank to Sailor's creek and Farmville. To watch this suspected movement, early on the morning of the 5th I sent Davies' brigade of Crook's division of cavalry to make a reconnoisance in that direction. The result was an encounter by Davies with a large train of wagons, under escort, moving in the direction anticipated. The train was attacked by him and about two hundred wagons were burned, and five pieces of artillery and a large number of prisoners captured. In the afternoon of April 5, the main body of the army of the Potomac came up. Gen. Meade was unwell and requested me to put the troops in position, which I did, in line of battle, facing the enemy at Amelia Court House. I thought it best to attack at once, but this was not done. I then began to be afraid the enemy would, in the night, by a march to the right from Amelia Court House, attempt to pass our left flank and again put us in the rear of his retreating columns. Under this impression I sent to General Grant the following dispatch:

SEES NO ESCAPE FOR LEE.

CAVALRY HEADQ'RS, JETTERSVILLE, April 5, 1865, 3 p. m.—Lieut. Gen. U. S. Grant, Commanding Armies of the United States. General: I send you the enclosed letter, which will give you an idea of the condition of the enemy, and their whereabouts. I sent General Davies' brigade this morning around on my left flank. He captured at Fames' Cross-roads five pieces of artillery, about 200 weapons, and eight or nine battle flags, and a number of prisoners. The Second Army Corps is now coming up. I wish you were here yourself. I feel confident of capturing the army of Northern Virginia if we exert ourselves. I see no escape for Lee. I will put all our cavalry on our left flank except Mackenzie, who is now on the right.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Major General.

On receipt of this he immediately started for my headquarters at Jettersville, arriving there about 11 o'clock April 5th. Next morning, April 6, the infantry of the army advanced on Amelia Court House. It was found before reaching it that the enemy had turned our left flank and taken another road to Sailor's Creek and Farmesville. The cavalry did not advance with the infantry on Amelia Court House, but moved to the left and rear at daylight on the morning of the 6th, and struck the moving columns of the enemy's infantry and artillery, with which a series of contests ensued that resulted in the battle of Sailor's creek, where Lieutenant General Ewell lost his command of about 10,000 men, and was himself taken prisoner, together with ten other general officers.

SURROUNDING THE GREAT CONFEDERATE.

We now come to the morning of the 7th. I thought that Lee would not abandon the direct road to Danville through Prince Edward's Court House, and early on the morning of the 7th directed General Crook to follow up his rear, while with Merritt, (Custer and Devin's divisions) I swung off to the left, and moved quickly to strike the Danville road six or eight miles south of Prince Edward's Court House, and thus again head or cut off all or some of the retreating Confederate army. On reaching that road it was found that General Lee's army had not passed, and my command was instantly turned north for Prince Edward's Court House. A detachment ordered to move with the greatest celerity via Prince Edward's Court House reported that Lee had crossed the Appomattox at or near Farmville, and that Crook had followed him. On looking at the map it will be seen that General Lee would be obliged to pass through Appomattox Court House and Appomattox Station on the railroad to reach Lynchburg by the road he had taken north of the Appomattox River, and that was the longest road to get there. He had given the shortest one—the one south of the river—to the cavalry. General Crook was at once sent for, and the three divisions, numbering at that time 7,000 men, concentrated on the night of the 7th of April at and near Prospect Station on the Lynchburg and Richmond railroad, and Appomattox station became the objective point of the cavalry for the operations of the next day, the 8th.

THE SCOUTS WERE NOT IDLE.

Meantime my scouts had not been idle, but had followed down the railroad, looking out for the trains with the 300,000 rations which they had telegraphed for on the night of the 4th. Just before reaching Appomattox station they found five trains of cars feeling their way along in the direction of Burkesville junction, not knowing exactly where Lee was. They induced the person in charge to come further on by their description of the pitiable condition of the Confederate troops. Our start on the morning of the 8th was before the sun was up, and having proceeded but a few miles Major White, of the scouts, reached me with the news that the trains were east of Appomattox station, that he had succeeded in bringing them on some distance, but was afraid that they would again be run back to the station. Intelligence of this fact was immediately communicated to Gens. Crook, Merritt and Custer, and the latter, who had the advance, was urged not to let the trains escape, and I pushed on and joined him. Before reaching the station Custer detailed two regiments to make a detour, strike the railroad beyond the station, tear up the track and secure the trains. This was accomplished, but on the arrival of the main body of our advance at the station it was found that the advance guard of Lee's army was just coming on the ground.

A SANGUINARY ENGAGEMENT

at once ensued. The enemy was driven off, forty pieces of artillery captured, and 400 baggage wagons burned. The railroad trains had been secured in the first onset, and were taken possession of by locomotive engineers, soldiers in the command, whose delight at again getting at their former employment was so great that they produced the greatest confusion by running the trains to and fro on the track, and making such an unearthly screeching with the whistles that I was at one time on the point of ordering the trains burnt; but we finally got them off and ran them to our rear 10 or 15 miles to Ord and Gibbon, who with the infantry were following the cavalry. The cavalry continued the fighting all that night, driving the enemy back to the vicinity of Appomattox Court House, a distance of about four miles, thus giving him no repose, and covering the weakness of the attacking force.

I remember well the little frame house just south of the station where the headquarters of the cavalry rested, or rather remained, for there was no rest the night of the 8th. Dispatches were going back to our honored chief, General Grant, and Ord was requested to push on the wearied infantry. To-morrow was to end our troubles in all reasonable probability, but it was thought necessary that the infantry should arrive in order to doubly insure the result. Merritt, Crook and Custer were, at times, there.

HAPPINESS WAS IN EVERY HEART.

Our long and weary labors were about to close; our dangers soon to end; there was no sleep; there had been but little during the previous eight or nine days. Before sunrise General Ord came in, reporting the near approach of his command. After a hasty consultation about positions to be taken up by the incoming troops we were in the saddle and off for the front, in the vicinity of Appomattox Court House. As we were approaching the village a heavy line of Confederate infantry was seen advancing, and rapid firing commenced. Riding to a slight elevation, where I could get a view of the advancing enemy, I immediately sent directions to General Merritt for Custer's and Devins' divisions to slowly fall back, and, as they did so, to withdraw to our right flank, thus unmasking Ord's and Gibbons' infantry. Crook and Mackenzie, on the extreme left, were ordered to hold fast. I then hastily galloped back to give General Ord the benefit of my information. No sooner had the enemy's line of battle reached the elevation from which my reconnoissance had been made, and from whence could be distinctly seen Ord's troops in the distance, than he called a sudden halt, and a retrogade movement began to a ridge about one mile to his rear. Shortly afterward I returned from General Ord to the front, making for General Merritt's battle-flag on the right flank of the line. On reaching it the order to advance was given, and every guidon was bent to the front, and as we swept by toward the enemy's line of battle he opened a heavy fire from artillery. No heed was paid to the deadly missiles, and, with the wildest yells we soon reached a point some distance to his right and nearly

OPPOSITE APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE.

Beyond us, in a low valley, lay Lee and the remnant of his army. There did not appear to be much organization except in the advanced troops under General Gordon, whom we had been fighting, and a rear guard under Longstreet, still further up the valley. Formations were immediately commenced to make a bold and sweeping charge down the grassy slope, when an aid-de-camp from Custer, filled with excitement, dashed up to me with this message from his chief: "Lee has surrendered! Do not charge; the white flag is up!" Orders were given to complete the formation, but to make no charge.

Looking to the left of Appomattox Court House, a large group was seen near by the lines of Confederate troops that had fallen back to that point. Custer had not come back, and, supposing that he was with the group at the Court House, I moved on a gallop down the narrow ridge, followed by my staff. The Court House was, perhaps, three-fourths of a mile distant. We had not gone far before a heavy fire was opened on us from a skirt of timber to our right, and distant not over three hundred yards. I halted for a moment and, taking off my hat called out that the flag was being violated, but could not stop the firing, which now caused us all to take shelter in a ravine running parallel to the rigde we were on, and down which we then traversed. As we approached the Court House, a gentle ascent had to be made. I was in advance, followed by a sergeant carrying my battle-flag. Within 150 yards from the Court House and Confederate lines some of the men in their ranks brought down their guns to an aim on uss, and great effort was made by their officers to keep them from firing.

A PLUCKY FELLOW.

I halted, and hearing some noise behind turned in the saddle and saw a Confederate soldier attempting to take my battle-flag from the color-bearer. This the sergeant had no idea of submitting to, and had drawn his sabre to cut the man down. A word from me caused him to return his sabre and take the flag back to the staff officers, who were some little distance behind. I remained stationary a moment after these events; then, calling a staff officer, directed him to go over to the group of Confederate officers and demand what such conduct meant. Kind apologies were made, and we advanced. The superior officers met were Gens. J. B. Gordon and Cadmus M. Wilcox, the latter an old army officer. As soon as the first greeting was over a furious firing commenced in front of our own cavalry from whom we had only a few minutes before separated. General Gordon seemed to be somewhat disconcerted by it. I remarked to him: "General Gordon, your men fired on me as I was coming over here, and undoubtedly they have done the same to Merritt's and Custer's commands. We might just as well let them fight it out."

To this proposition General Gordon did not accede. I then asked: "Why not send a staff officer and have your people cease firing? They are violating the flag."

He said, "I have no staff officer to send." I replied, "I will let you have one of mine," and calling for Lieutenant Vanderbilt Allen he was directed to report to General Gordon and carry his orders. The orders were to go to General Geary, who was in command of a small brigade of South Carolina cavalry, and ask him to discontinue the firing. Lieutenant Allen dashed off with the message, but on delivering it to General Geary, was taken prisoner, with the remark from that officer that he did not care for white flags; that

SOUTH CAROLINIANS NEVER SURRENDERED.

It was about this time that Merritt, getting impatient at the supposed treacherous firing, ordered a charge of a portion of his command. While Generals Gordon and Wilcox were engaged in a conversation with me, a cloud of dust, a wild hurrah, a flashing of sabres, indicated a charge, and the ejaculations of my staff officers were heard, "Look! Merritt has ordered a charge!" The flight of Geary's brigade followed; Lieutenant Allen was thus released. The last gun had been fired and the last charge made in the Virginia campaign.

While the scenes thus related were taking place, the conversation I now speak of was occurring between Gen. Gordon and myself. After the first salution General Gordon remarked: "General Lee asks for a suspension of hosilites pending the negotiations which he has been having for the last day and night with General Grant." I rejoined: "I have been constantly informed of the progress of the negotiations, and think it singular that while such negotiations are going on, Gen. Lee should have continued his march and attempted to break through my lines this morning with the view of escaping. I can entertain no terms except the condition that General Lee will surrender to Gen. Grant on his arrival here. I have sent for him. If these terms are not accepted, we will renew hostilities." General Gordon replied: "General Lee's army is exhausted. There is no doubt of his surrender to Gen. Grant on his arrival."

AN OLD FRIEND IN GRAY.

General Wilcox, whom I knew quite well, he having been captain of the company to which I was attached as a cadet in the military academy, then stepped to his horse and taking hold of the saddle-bags, said, in a jocular way:

"Here, Sheridan, take these saddle-bags, they have one soiled shirt and a pair of drawers; you have burned everything else I had in the world, and I think you are entitled to this also."

He was alluding, of course, to the destruction of the baggage, trains, which had been going on for some days.

When the terms above referred to were settled, each army agreed to remain in instatu quo until the arrival of Gen. Grant, whom Col. Newell, my Adjutant General, had gone for. Gens. Gordon and Wilcox then returned to see Gen. Lee, and promised to come back in about thirty minutes, and during that time Gen. Ord joined me at the court house. At the end of thirty or forty minutes Gen. Gordon returned in company with General Longstreet. The latter, who commanded Lee's rear guard back on the Farmville road, seemed somewhat alarmed lest Gen. Meade, who was following up from Farmville, might attack, not knowing the condition of affairs at the front. To prevent this I proposed to send my chief of staff, Gen. J. W. Forsyth, accompanied by a Confederate officer, back through the Confederate army and inform Gen. Meade of the existing state of affairs. He at once started, accompanied by Col. Fairfax, of Gen. Longstreet's staff, met the advance of the Army of the Potomac, and communicated the conditions.

GENERAL GRANT ARRIVES ON THE SCENE.

In the meantime General Lee came over to McLean's house in the village of Appomattox Court House. I am not certain whether General Babcock, of General Grant's staff, who had arrived in advance of the General, had gone over to see him or not. We had waited some hours, and, I think, about 12 or 1 o'clock General Grant aarived. Gen. Ord, myself, and many officers were in the main road leading through the town, at a point where Lee's army was visible. General Grant rode up, and greeted me with,

"Sheridan, how are you?"

"I am very well, thank you," I replied.

He then said, "Where is Lee?"

I replied, "There is his army down in that valley; he is over in that house (pointing out McLean's), waiting to surrender to you."

General Grant, still without dismounting, said:

"Come, let us go over."

He then made the same request to General Ord, and we all went to McLean's house. Those who entered with General Grant were, as nearly as I can recollect, Ord, Rawlins, Seth Williams, Ingalls, Babcock, Parker, and myself; the staff officers, or those who accompanied, remaining outside on the porch, steps, and in the yard.

WHERE LEE WAS FOUND.

On entering the parlor, we found General Lee standing in company with Colonel Marshal, his aid-de-camp. The first greeting was to General Seth Williams, who had been Lee's adjutant when he was Superintendent of the Military Academy. General Lee was then presented to General Grant, and all present were introduced. General Lee was dressed in a new gray uniform, evidently put on for the occasion, and wore a handsome sword. He had on his face the expression of relief from a heavy burden. General Grant's uniform was soiled with mud and service, and he wore no sword. After a few words had been spoken by those who knew General Lee, all the officers retired, except, perhaps, one staff officer of General Grant's, and the one who was with General Lee. We had not been absent from the room longer than about five minutes, when General Babcock came to the door and said: "The surrender has taken place, you can come in again."

THE HISTORICAL TABLE.

When we re-entered, Gen. Grant was writing on a little wooden, elliptical shaped table (purchased by me from Mr. McLean and presented to Mrs. G. A. Custer) the conditions of the surrender. General Lee was sitting, his hands resting on the hilt of his sword, to the left of General Grant, with his back to a small marble topped table, on which many books were piled. While General Grant was writing, a friendly conversation was engaged in by General Lee and his aid with the officers present, and he took from his breast pocket two dispatches, which had been sent to him by me during the forenoon, notifying him that some of his cavalry, in front of Crook, were violating the agreement entered into by withdrawing. I had not had time to make copies when they were sent and had made a request to have them returned. He handed them to me with the remark:

"I am sorry. It is possible my cavalry at that point of the line did not fully understand the agreement."

About one hour was occupied in drawing up and signing the terms, when General Lee retired from the house with a cordial shake of the hand with General Grant, mounted his chunky, gray horse, and lifting his hat, passed through the gate, and rode over the crest of the hill to his army. On his arrival there we heard wild cheering, which seemed to be taken up progressively by his troops, either for him, or because of satisfaction with his last official act as a soldier.

P. H. SHERIDAN.

Coral Fishing.

The largest vessels employed in the coral fishery on the Italian coast are of about fourteen tons, and employ a dozen hands. They have to work night and day, the men relieving each other every six hours. They fish from March to October, and their food consists chiefly of macaroni and biscuit. Each boat makes from 300 to 900 pounds, according to its size. The coral is usually found attached to rocks, never in mud, nor in muddy waters. The coral rock is formed of different species of madrepores. Sometimes it is also found attached to shells and other marine objects. It spreads out its branches in all directions, attaining a height of about a foot and thickness of about an inch.

The mode of fishing coral is very primitive and might be improved with advantage. A frame, consisting of two bars of wood or iron, about fifteen feet in length across each other, is weighted in the middle with a large stone. This frame is hung with tangles of hemp and nets, one of which is attached to each of the four extremities of the crossbar frame. This is then let down by means of a thick rope onto the coral bed and forwarns till the coral branches are tangled in it. The rope is then attached to a windlass, and the frame is thus brought heavily to the surface. Precious coral varies in color from a deep red to a pale pink. It is also sometimes marble black and white; and there is even black and white coral. Red coral was once the most esteemed; now a delicate pink is the most valuable. The finest pink coral is worth from $400 to $600 per ounce, whilst ordinary red color may be had for $10 per ounce.—*Boston Transcript.*

What it did for an Old Lady.

Coshocton Station, N. Y., Dec. 28.

GENTS—A number of people had been using your Bitters here, and with marked effect. In one case, a lady of over seventy years, had been sick for years, and for the past ten years has not been able to be around half the time. About six months ago she got so feeble she was helpless. Her old remedies, or physicians, being of no avail, I sent to Deposit, forty-five miles away, and got a bottle of Hop Bitters. It improved her so she was able to dress herself and walk about the house. When she had taken the second bottle she was able to take care of her own room and walk out to her neighbor's, and has improved all the time since. My wife and children also have derived great benefit from their use.

W. B. HATHAWAY,
Agt. U. S. Ex. Co.

Delevan, Wis., Sept. 24, 1878.

GENTS—I have taken not quite one bottle of the Hop Bitters. I was a feeble old man of 78 when I got it. To-day I am as active and feel as well as I did at 30. I see a great many that need such a medicine.

D. BOYCE.

Miscellaneous Items.

There is a war cloud hovering between France and China, with England incidentally involved.

Digging for sandworms is an industry in which $200,000 are invested and which employs 1000 men in New York.

Rumor has it that General Sherman's youngest daughter, Rachel, is betrothed to ex-Secretary Blaine's second son, Emmons.

Mr. James Russel Lowell is pronounced in London a more graceful after dinner speaker than Mr. Gladstone, and more forcible than Granville.

A snake wrapped itself about the leg of a negro boy at Lynchburg, and lashed the limb severely with its tail. It then unwound itself and fell off.

Henry Ward Beecher, who will be 70 years old on the 24th of this month, is getting ready to pass the summer on the Pacific coast. His son, Herbert, will entertain him at Seattle, W. T.

Mary Anderson says that for her part she thinks Edwin Booth very unreasonable to object to being kissed by men. If she knows anything about it they are just the parties for the business.

The Japanese language, they say now, has no word for hell. The nearest approach to it is "jikogu." An Indianapolis editor learnedly argues that this is only a corruption for Chicago, and says it will answer very well indeed.

The definition of "gentleman" is given as "a human being combining a woman's tenderness with a man's courage." This is new to us. We have always understood the term "gentleman" to mean "a traveling salesman wearing a plug hat."

In one of the Yorkshire churches two shelves are filled each Sunday with loaves of bread for the poor. No person is entitled to a loaf unless he sits the entire service out. Were it not for this restriction it would be very expensive to keep the custom up.

The Supreme Court of Illinois decides that a man has a right in this country to dispose of his money in accordance with his religious convictions, and, consequently, that a bequest of money to be used for procuring masses to be said for the soul of the testator will stand in law.

It is reported of "slugger" Sullivan that he once listened to a sermon delivered by Mr. Talmage, and as he left the church he remarked sotto voce: "I hope he'll stick to preaching. If he should ever take to the manly art I'm gone. I wouldn't stand up before him for big money.

It is said that the way to fight the cankerworm, which robs elms of their foliage, is to dig up the ground under the trees in winter, when frostbirds and hogs may get at them. The moth that lays the eggs in the branches cannot fly, and anything kept about the tree from January till May, that will do the work.

The "Reform" Democrats of the State Legislature, now receiving their third pay, are reminded of the days of the old Portage Railroad, when they sold their ties over three or four times at double price each time, or made hollow blocks and measured them as of 128 solid cubic feet to a cord. The "good old times have come again," to them.

The heavy rains of the past few days have done great damage in Eastern Pennsylvania. The rivers are all swollen far beyond ordinary experience and at Wilkesbarre the flooding of the mines and the caving in of the ground have caused serious alarm. The railroads also have suffered much from wash-outs, but happily there are no reports of loss of life.

Pope Leo XIII., seeks relaxation in the composition of Latin poems, all of which are printed under his careful supervision. After a few copies have been taken the type is distributed. He is fond of displaying his mastery of the Latin tongue in the presence of scholars, to whom he occasionly presents elegantly-bound copies of his poems as a particular mark of favor.

A citizen of Camden, Mo., recently found a sparrow's nest in the hay field, and carrying one of the eggs home put it in the clock. Some time afterward it was noticed that the clock, usually a very reliable affair, had stopped. Investigation showed that the egg had hatched inside the clockcase and the pendulum had colided with the infant sparrow. The bird, strange to say, lived and grew.

The Lancaster *Examiner*: The thirty-six Republican counties of the State contain nearly two-thirds of the population of the State, while the thirty-one Democratic counties have a little over one-third of the State's population. The Republicans mean to obey the Constitution and apportion the State according to the Constitution, and not as the Democratic House and the *Patriot* demand, by a gerrymander."

How fast we are progressing in this country finds a fitting illustration in the fact that since the census of 1880 was taken we have built and put into operation nearly thirty thousand miles of railroad, and still the government report of its census is not yet completed. Thirty thousand miles of railroad laid down between the taking and publishing of the census is an example of the speed with which we are making history.

There is a movement on foot in Montana to establish a town somewhere in the neighborhood of the mouth of the Judith, to be called Giantville. The programme is to secure 320 acres of land, to divide the same into town lots and streets, establish laws and regulations allowing only "six-footers" to obtain possession of any of the lots, and allowing no female thereon below the standard of five feet eight. By this means it is proposed to establish, in due course of time, a race of giants.

Another colored cadet experiment is to be made at West Point. Of 152 persons who applied for admission to the Academy, 37 were rejected. Among these was an Ohio man from the Oberlin district, whose alternate, however, John H. Alexander, a dark mulatto, "passed a most creditable examination." A West Point officer thinks the latest colored cadet will get on very well and will have no trouble with his white associates, because "the old feeling has largely died out." The officer's pleasant anticipations will be strengthened by the report that the new cadet in many respects is very different from his predecessor, the celebrated Whitaker.