

The Waynesburg Messenger.

A Family Paper---Devoted to Politics, Agriculture, Literature, Science, Art, Foreign, Domestic and General Intelligence, &c.

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Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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J. D. COSGRAY,
Boot and Shoe Maker, Main street, nearly opposite
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Boots and Shoes constantly on hand or made to order.
Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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Boots and Shoes of every variety always on hand or
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Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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Cash paid for good eating Apples.
Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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JESSE HOOK, President. J. LAZEAR, Cashier.
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Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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Saddles, Harness and Trunk Maker, Main street, three
doors west of the Adams House.
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Tobacco, Segars and Snuff, Sugar Cane, Pipes, &c.,
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At the Waynesburg Foundry, on Greene street,
near the bridge, and opposite the Court House, they
execute all kinds of Foundry and Machine Work,
such as Steam Engines, and Castings of all kinds.
Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

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AMBIOTYPE AND PHOTOGRAPH
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Corner of Main and Up streets,
Waynesburg, Pa.
Sept. 11, 1861--1y.

Select Poetry.

THE SENTRY.

FROM THE GERMAN OF LOTHER.

They're gone—the watch-fires they have set
Glow round the mountain passes yet;
Out through the darkness of the night
They flash a silent, flickering light.

They shine on victory's distant track,
Whence none, alas! for me comes back;
They let me bleed to death, to night,
True sentry, on the field of fight!

Hushed is the tumult of the fray,
The powder smoke is blown away;
Faint, broken shouts fall on my ear,
My comrades are all far from here.

Yet, though my comrades all are far,
There gleams full many a golden star,
And angel bands light up, on high,
The eternal watch-fires of the sky.

On, comrades, brave, to victory!
Farwell, ye banners, high and free!
I can no longer be with you;
Another camp is near in view!

While banners, in the moonlight spread,
Float through the heavens above my head,
Slow sinking now I see them wave
And flutter o'er a soldier's grave.

O loved one, 'tis the thought of thee
Alone weighs down this heart in me;
Yet weep not, love, be this the pride
That bravely at my post I died!

The Lord of Hosts, unseen, on high
Leads out the armies of the sky;
Soon shall He call my name out clear,
And I, true sentry, answer: Here!

Select Miscellany.

MOSCOW A FIRE-DOOMED CITY.

Of all the cities of the modern epoch, and perhaps in ancient times, Moscow has suffered the most fearful from fire. In 1536, it was nearly consumed, and two thousand persons perished. But this calamity was trifling to the dismal catastrophe of 1571, when beleaguered by the Tartars. They fired the suburbs, and a furious wind carried the flames into the heart of the capital, which the inhabitants could not quit except to die by the sword. A Dutch merchant, who was present at the scene, and whose account is preserved in the Harleian MSS., speaks of the event as like a storm of fire, owing not only to the wind, but to the streets being "paved with great fir trees set close together, oily and resinous, while the houses were of the same material." Thousands of the country people had taken refuge in the city from the public enemy. The poor creatures ran into the market-place, and were "all roasted there, in such sort that the tallest man seemed but a child, so much had the fire contracted their limbs—a thing more hideous and frightful than any can imagine. The persons," he adds, "that were burnt in this fire were above two hundred thousand—an exaggeration, doubtless, but an indication of a horrible incident.

A still more stupendous conflagration was the burning of Moscow in 1812, owing to its increased extent. If attended with fewer horrors, they were sufficiently rife, for all who could not fly—the sick, infirm, and wounded—inevitably perished. Upon the approach of the French invaders, and the loss of the great battle of Borodino, it was determined to abandon the old capital of the czars; and on Sunday, Sep. 15th, its three hundred thousand inhabitants were suddenly aroused from a sense of security by a peremptory order to quit their houses, while the Russian army of defence filed through the midst of them in full retreat. On the morrow, the officers of the government and the police withdrew; the prisons were thrown open; and none were left but the incapable, and those who remained to execute the secret orders of the authorities. Toward evening the advance guard of the enemy arrived, and before midnight Napoleon was in the Kremlin. The city, with its churches and palaces of semi-Asiatic architecture, rising above an immense mass of private dwellings, must have presented a strange, solemn, and even awful spectacle to the newcomers. Not a Moscowite was to be seen; not a chimney smoked; not a sound was heard. An unclouded moon illuminated those deserted streets, vacant hotels, and empty palaces. "How doth the city sit solitary that was full of people."

Scarcely were the French established in their new quarters, when smoke and flames were observed issuing from houses closely shut up in different districts. By Tuesday evening, the 15th, the fires had assumed a menacing aspect, distracting by their number the efforts made to quench them, while a high wind rapidly connected them with each other, and wrapped Moscow in a vast sheet of flame. Midnight was rendered as bright as day, for at that hour, at the distance of nearly a league, Dumas could read the dispatches forwarded to him by the light of the burning metropolis. Thirty thousand houses, seven thousand private edifices, and fourteen thousand interior structures,

were reduced to ashes. The private loss is supposed to have exceeded thirty millions sterling. "Palaces and temples," writes Karamsin, the Russian Historian, "monuments of art and miracles of luxury; the remains of past ages, and those which had been the creation of yesterday; the tombs of ancestors and the nursery-craddles of the present generation, were indiscriminately destroyed." Napoleon shuddered at the sight as ominous of a series of disasters, and was compelled to decamp precipitately. Much mystery has been affected with reference to this transaction. But there can be little doubt that, as it was intended to dislodge the French, it was the work of Rostopchin, the governor, carefully prepared for, with the full consent of the cabinet of St. Petersburg. He was observed to bring along with him, on joining the army, a number of fire-engines. On being asked why he had brought such things, he replied that had "good reasons for doing so. Nevertheless," he added, "as regards myself, I have only brought the horse I ride and the clothes I wear."

"By their own hands their much-loved homes were fired,
By their own hands their thousand fanes expired;
Fierce burn the flames, that wait to yonder skies,
The incense of the patriot's sacrifice.
The wide bazaar, within whose stately walls,
A kingdom's ransom fill the golden halls,
Rich as the fabled Phoenix' funeral bed,
In one full blaze of perfumed flame has fled;
Tower kindles tower, and fires on fires arise;
To aid the dreadful death the tempest flies,
Speeds with the swiftness of the mountain storm.
To where the Kremlin rears his iron form;
With wreathed flames his regal towers are crowned,
While hollow whirlwinds dance and moan around."

It is a curious fact that, the year after the fire, seedling aspen plants sprang up everywhere among the ruins of the city. That tree is very abundant in Russia, particularly in the woods around Moscow. The seeds had been waited by the winds; and if the inhabitants had not returned to the site, it would speedily have become an immense forest.—*Leisure Hours.*

The Effect of Pardon.

In the garrison town of Woolwich, a few years ago, a soldier was about to be brought before the commanding officer of the regiment, for some misdemeanor. The officer entering the soldier's name, said, "Here is—, again; what can we do with him; he has gone through almost every ordeal." The sergeant-major, M. B., apologized for intruding, and said, "There is one thing which has never been done with him, sir." "What is that, sergeant-major?" "Well, sir, he has never been forgiven." "For-given?" said the Colonel. "Here is his case entered." "Yes, but the man is not yet before you, and you can cancel it." After the Colonel had reflected for a few minutes, he ordered the man to be brought in, when he was asked what he had to say, relative to the charges brought against him. "Nothing, sir," was the reply, "only that I am sorry for what I have done." After making some suitable remarks, the Colonel said, "Well, we have resolved to forgive you." The soldier was struck with astonishment; the tears started from his eyes—he wept. The Colonel, with the Adjutant, and the others present, felt deeply, when they saw the man so humbled. The soldier thanked the Colonel for his kindness, and retired. The narrator had the soldier under his notice for two years and a half after this, and never during that time was there a charge brought against him, or fault with him. Mercy triumphed! Kindness conquered! The man was won! [A very rare case.]

GENERAL SHIELDS ACCEPTS.—We learn with satisfaction, says the *Tribune* of Tuesday, that General Shields, of California, has concluded to accept the Brigadier Generalship offered him by the President. He sailed from San Francisco on the 11th instant for Panama, on his way to New York, and may be expected there about New Year's. The Irish Brigade is already in the field, the last two regiments having taken their departure yesterday, so that when the General arrives he will find his command awaiting him.

STEEPLES OF SAVANNAH IN VIEW.—Letters from Port Royal say that from our vessels, riding at anchor in Warsaw Inlet, ten miles from Savannah, the steeples of that city were plainly visible. Were Sherman ready, the city could be easily captured. The deserters and contrabands bring information that all the people on the coast have fled into the interior, except wreckers, who are ferocious. One deserter said old Tattall was so much affected, while telling of affairs at Port Royal to some ladies at the dinner table of the Pullaski hotel, that he burst into tears.

—Hon. Jeremiah S. Black has been elected reporter for the Supreme Court.

Rebel Forces in the Field.

The recent Messages of the rebel Governors, and other official documents put forth by the State authorities, enable us to form a pretty correct estimate of the strength of the rebels now in the field. It is, leaving off old hundreds, as follows:

State. AUTHORITIES. NUMBER.

Georgia	Governor's Message	37,000
Louisiana	Governor's Message	25,000
Virginia	Governor's Message	35,000
Tennessee	Governor's Proclamation	35,000
Kentucky	Estimated	10,000
Missouri	Price's Proclamation	3,000
Alabama	Estimated	22,000
Mississippi	Vicksburg Sun	21,000
Florida	Estimated	10,000
Texas	Estimated	20,000
S. Carolina	Governor's Message	35,000
Arkansas	Report of Adjutant of State	34,000
Maryland	Estimated	2,000
Total		319,000

The Enemy at Centerville.

A contraband, who came within our lines the other day, reports that the enemy has, at Centerville, a fort or earthwork for every letter in the alphabet, and designated by the letters, also a strong fort called Beauregard, and one called Davis, besides another not yet finished, and unnamed. The forts are connected by rifle pits, and the embankments are so prepared that the field artillery can be wheeled into the embrasures, the caissons being disposed in the rear. There is a drill of the artillery every day in placing the guns and caissons in position. There are four guns to each fort. In Fort Beauregard there are three rifled guns pointing down the Fairfax road.—There are two regiments of colored men at Centerville, under the command of Jordan, an old colored veteran of 1812, having been a drummer boy under General Jackson. One of these number eleven hundred.—Two other colored regiments were sent to Missouri since the last battle there. These regiments are composed of both free and slave. They are not allowed to do picket duty, but are drilled and encamped separately from the white men. Their officers are all white men.

A SCENE IN CONGRESS.

Mr. Conway, of Kansas, rising to a question of privilege, alluded to a dialogue between himself and Mr. Fouke, on Thursday. The former had included the battle of Belmont as in the series of defeats to our arms. Mr. Fouke had ineffectually asked Mr. Harding, who had the floor, to yield it to him, that he might in his own language nail the falsehood to the counter. Mr. Conway had explained that he obtained his information from the newspapers, and, as he did not at that time hear the offensive remark with distinctness, he now desired to know whether Mr. Fouke intended to make the charge of falsehood personally applicable to him.

Mr. Fouke, of Illinois, replied that he never heard of any newspaper paragraph to that effect, excepting in the *Chicago Tribune*, which was afterwards contradicted. He then made a brief statement of the battle of Belmont, to show that it was unknown in Mr. Conway to insist on characterizing it as a defeat. He would permit the gentleman to make the application of the language he had heretofore uttered, as he (Mr. Conway) was the only judge in the matter.

Mr. Conway, in reply, said Mr. Fouke had refused to avail himself of his generosity; he submitted to the candid judgment of the House whether such conduct did not clearly manifest a deliberate purpose to bring on a personal collision without cause, and whether such conduct was not unbecoming a member of the House—but rather that of a blackguard and scoundrel? (Sensation.)

Mr. Richardson, of Illinois, immediately called the speaker to order, saying this was not the place to settle such difficulties. (Cries of order, order.)

Mr. Fouke wanted to say one word in reply.

Mr. Stearns of Pennsylvania, and others, objected; they had enough of such things.

The Speaker informed Mr. Fouke that no debate was in order.

Mr. Fouke, amid cries of order, was understood to say that Mr. Conway was a disgrace to the nation and to humanity. Here the matter ended in the House.

The latest news from Mexico is interesting. The *Mexico Extraordinary* (newspaper) of the 28th publishes quite an elaborate article on the circumstances that led to the present disturbed condition of affairs between Mexico and the Allied Powers. The condition of the country, is represented as deplorable. Robbers exist on the highways and by-ways—even in the principal streets in the city of Mexico. The feeling in the interior against foreigners is growing more and more bitter. Gen. Doblado is looked upon as the chief man in the present crisis. General Urugo has assumed command of the army of the east, and General Tapia is to command the defences on the line of Tampico. The Spanish Government has decided to increase the expeditionary force to 20,000 men.—They have negotiated a loan of one million of dollars with the Spanish Bank of Havana.

RETURNED TO HIS ALLEGIANCE.—A

letter from an officer of the Gulf blockading squadron, received by the Connecticut, states that a naval lieutenant named Baker, who forgot his duty to his flag early in the rebellion, has recently returned to his allegiance, and has joined the Gulf squadron. He is thoroughly convinced that he made a great mistake in joining his fortune with that of the rebels. The writer of the letter adds: "There are doubtless many others in a similar state of mind, who would forsake the enemy if they had an opportunity."

THE WAR WILL BE SHORT.—Hon.

Schuyler Colfax, of Indiana, writing from Washington, under date of the 5th inst., says: "In justice to Gen. McClellan, the Commander-in-Chief, whom I met on Monday morning, and had an interesting conversation with, I must state, that he repeated to me with emphasis a former declaration, that the war should be short, although it probably might be desperate, and that he saw the way clearly through to success in conquering the rebellion."

GENERAL SUMNER.—The injury sustained by General Sumner on Saturday afternoon last, which gave rise to a prevalent rumor of his death, was by no means as serious as was first thought. He was riding at a rapid gait, when his horse stepped into a foot hole, and falling, fell heavily upon him, jarring and bruising him greatly, but not so as to endanger his life. His condition has since been constantly improving. He is expected to be out again in two or three days.

Mrs. Douglas and Her Children.

Very few people indeed, says the *Detroit Free Press*, have been placed in a more trying position and sacrificed more for the sake of the Union than has Mrs. Douglas. She has persistently refused to entertain the proposition, forwarded to her by a special messenger, under a flag of truce; from the Governor of North Carolina, asking that the two sons of the late Senator Douglas be sent South, to save their extensive estates in Mississippi from confiscation. If she refused a large property would be taken from the children, and in her present reduced circumstances they may thereby eventually be placed in straitened circumstances. Here, then, was an appeal made directly to her tender regard for them, which, if she should refuse, would work disastrously against them in after years. But her answer was worthy of herself and of her late distinguished husband. If the rebels wish to make war upon defenceless children, and take away the all of little orphan boys, it must be so, but she could not for an instant think of surrendering them to the enemies of their country and of their father. His last words were: "Tell them to obey the constitution and the laws of the country," and Mrs. Douglas will not make herself the instrument of disobeying his dying injunction. The children, she says, belong to Illinois, and must remain in the North. Illinois and the North, we take it, will see that they are not sufferers by the devotedness and patriotism of their mother.

WHY HE IS NOW A UNION MAN.

A very intelligent Maryland gentleman, who has always been a Democrat, and in the last campaign was an ardent Breckinridge man, was in this city last spring, and was at the time one of the most ultra Secessionists to be found. He shortly afterwards left here on a business tour through South America, and returned a few days since. He is now in favor of preserving the Union at every hazard. When asked what caused the change in his views, he replied that a few years since he was through South America, and, as a citizen of the United States, was everywhere treated with the highest consideration and respect. This time everything has changed. In every little State of Central and South America he was insulted, and when he spoke of his nationality was laughed at and flouted with the rupture here.—"You talk of the United States," said they; "you have no country now; you are no longer in a condition to fit out filibustering expeditions, and prey upon your weaker neighbors. You will soon be as weak as the weakest." Our friend was so forcibly struck with the contrast between his position as a citizen of the United States a few years since and now, that he is in favor of any and every effort and sacrifice to preserve the Union.—*Washington Star.*

A Washington letter affirms that President Lincoln has expressed himself very decidedly within a day or two as favoring a cautious, pacific policy towards foreign Governments at this peculiar time. "One war at a time!" was his remark to an impatient gentleman who was endeavoring to show the power of this country to beat England in a conflict upon off-shore, should such a result ensue.

England and the Slidell Affair.—The Pro-

bable Course to be Pursued.

PHILADELPHIA, December 19.—An editorial in this morning's *Herald* says: "Notwithstanding the flying rumors that the Cabinet at Washington had decided unconditionally to surrender Mason and Slidell, we are in a position to state that no such conclusion has been come to by the Administration, inasmuch as no such demands have been made, nor had any communication whatever upon the subject reached the President or Mr. Seward up to eleven o'clock last night, either from England or from Lord Lyons."

The Queen's messenger had not arrived in Washington up to that time, nor is there the least intention on the part of the Cabinet to deliver up Mason and Slidell under any circumstances now contemplated.

The excitement in England does not appear to create any alarm in the mind of Mr. Lincoln or his constitutional advisers. On the contrary, they are said to take the matter very easy.

PHILADELPHIA, December 19.—The *Times* special of to-day say that the course of the Government towards England is to be conciliatory, so that our putting down rebellion may not be interfered with. Our Government does not desire a foreign war, and will do every thing fair to avoid it. If England demands Mason and Slidell, she must hereafter curtail her right of search.

The Navy Department has sent orders to have the "Constitution," at Plymouth, and the "Macedonia," at Boston, when they shall have been refitted, to cruise in foreign seas for the protection of our commerce from privateers. Both are sailing vessels. Similar orders will be sent to the steamer "Wyoming," in the Pacific squadron, to cruise on the coast of China.

The question was to-day informally discussed among a number of senators as to the propriety of an adjournment for two weeks, and the sentiment was very generally expressed that, owing to the present alarming condition of affairs abroad, Congress ought not to adjourn for more than three or four days.

The extraordinary proclamation of General Phelps, at Ship Island, has excited the amazement and indignation of the President. Its revolutionary and fanatical spirit, and total disregard of the policy of the Administration, render his instant removal imperative. The only excuse offered for General Phelps is that he is crazy.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The Queen's messenger, and the messenger for the State Department, with dispatches concerning the Mason and Slidell affair, arrived here last night. A Cabinet meeting was convened to-day to consider the subject.

Proceedings in Congress.

Yesterday, Harding, of Ky., made a noble and temperate speech on Eliott's Emancipation resolutions, after which Kellogg, of Ill., moved that these, as well as kindred resolutions, be referred to the Committee on Judiciary, which was agreed to by a vote of 77 to 67. The Government Contract Committee then made their report, and made several important economical suggestions. Consideration of report postponed till Tuesday.

Mr. Cox, of Ohio, reported a bill appropriating \$1,000 as full compensation to the owners of the British ship *Perthshire*, in consequence of her detention by the steamer *Massachusetts*, in June last, for a supposed breach of the blockade at Mobile.—The bill was passed, after a real and patriotic speech by its author, as an earnest that this Government will be as ready to indemnify for a wrong as to defend a right. A bill was reported authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to construct twenty iron-clad steam gunboats, by contract or otherwise. He stated that each would cost from \$500,000 to \$580,000. After a brief debate, the consideration of the bill was postponed. Adjourned.

Mr. Lincoln's Sentiments.

A Washington correspondent says that Mr. Lincoln, last week, uttered the following words to a friend who had called upon him:

"Emancipation would be equivalent to a John Brown raid on a gigantic scale. Our position is surrounded with a sufficient number of dangers already. Abolition would throw against us irretrievably, the four States of Missouri, Kentucky, Virginia and Maryland, which it is costing the nation such efforts to retain. We have our hands full as it is, and if there is to be any such suicidal legislation, we might as well cut loose at once, and begin taking up the arteries to prevent our bleeding to death."

GENERAL BANKRUPT LAW.—A special committee was raised at the July session charged with the subject of a general bankrupt law, and there is good ground to expect favorable action upon it. A committee of gentlemen of the highest character, representing the Western and Atlantic

States, has been selected for the purpose of urging the speedy action of Congress on the subject.

A Mild Winter in Prospect.

Every year about this time, the question starts up as to whether there is to be a close or open winter, and the idiosyncrasies of the beaver, the squirrel, and other animals that are supposed to know a thing or two about the weather, are consulted as carefully as were the oracles of old. The Milwaukee *Wisconsin* says, "But we think we have a sure thing this time, that it is going to be a mild winter. Joel Hood, the celebrated mountaineer, who has been all over the North-western territories, the Pacific States, and the Sandwich Islands, and who probably knows as much about the peculiarities of wild animals (not to say anything about their furs) as any other man in the West, stakes his reputation upon the prediction that we are to have a mild winter, with the prevailing winds from the South for the next six months. He bases his knowledge upon the doings of the muskrats, beavers, and other animals that fall. He also says that it has been reduced to a certainty, by scientific and ordinary observation, that whatever winds prevail when the equinoctial line is passed, they will prevail throughout the winter. This fall it was Southern winds and therefore he is certain they will be the prevailing winds throughout the winter."

The Cobra de Capello in Ceylon.

A friend of the author's saw a man bitten in 1854 by a cobra de capello, which he had seized by the head and tail. The blood flowed, and intense pain appeared to follow almost immediately; but with all expedition, the friend of the sufferer undid his waistcloth, and took from it two snake-stones, each of the size of a small almond, intensely black and highly polished, though of an extremely light substance. These he applied, one to each wound inflicted by the teeth of the serpent, to which they attached themselves closely, the blood that oozed from the bites being rapidly imbibed by the porous texture of the article applied. The stones adhered tenaciously for three or four minutes, the wounded man's companion in the meanwhile rubbing his arm downwards from the shoulder towards the fingers. At length the snake-stones dropped off of their own accord; the suffering of the man appeared to subside; he twisted his fingers till the joints cracked, and went on his way without concern. Whilst this had been going on, another Indian of the party who had come up, took from his bag a small piece of white wood, which resembled a root, and passed it gently near the head of the cobra, when the latter immediately inclined close to the ground; he then lifted the snake without hesitation, and coiled it into a circle at the bottom of his basket.—*Townsend's Ceylon.*

A Hint to Young Women.

A sensible, prudent man knows how to estimate outside adornments and artificial smiles at their real worth, which is, in fact, very low. He knows that the gay, dresy flirt often makes a slatternly wife and a still worse mother; that the girl who tries to make herself so very agreeable and bewitching while angling for a husband frequently turns out a very vixen when she has caught her fish; that the attractions she exhibits in public are, in most instances, the very reverse that are to be seen at home; in short, that though she may be such an one as many young men love to flirt with, she is the very last whom prudence would select for a wife. A female whose sole recommendation is a pretty face and a showy dress, may excite a little attention; but when it is discovered that the attraction is external, and all its emptiness within, then the prudent man shies off, saying to himself, "This is not the girl to make a wife of."—*British Workman.*

A SAVING CLAUSE IN THEOLOGY.—At a

criminal term of the supreme court recently held in Lawrence, Massachusetts, a little boy, six years old, was called as a witness in an assault case. The district attorney having some doubts whether a boy of so tender an age knew the nature of an oath, proceeded to ask him a few questions. District attorney: "Little boy, do you know what it is to testify?" Little boy: "I suppose it is to tell the truth." District attorney: "Yes; but what would be the consequence if you did not tell the truth?" Little boy: I suppose I should be sent to jail." District attorney: "But would not God punish you?" Little boy: "No, I guess not; dad is a Universalist."

EXPERIENCE IN THE WORLD.—I've had

friends—plenty of them; fine, jovial fellows, who would back me for all they were worth, as long as I was in luck; and I never found one of them that I could depend upon when the wheel turned. There was a time in my life, to be sure I was very young, when I thought a sworn brother would have seen me through anything. I have learned better since then; but I don't think I owe those any thanks who taught me the lesson.