

# THE STAR OF THE NORTH.

R. W. Weaver, Proprietor.

Truth and Right—God and our Country.

[Two Dollars per Annum.]

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sertion. A liberal discount will be made to  
those who advertise by the year.

### Choice Poetry.

**I OWE NO MAN A DOLLAR.**  
BY CHARLES P. SHIRAS.  
Oh, do not envy my own dear wife,  
The wealth of our next door neighbor,  
But tell me still to be stout of heart,  
And cheerfully follow my labor.  
You must know the last of those little debts  
That have been on my lingering sorrow,  
It paid this night! So we'll both go forth,  
With happier hearts to-morrow.  
Oh, the debtor is but a shame-faced dog,  
With the creditor's name on his collar;  
While I'm a king and you a queen,  
For I owe no man a dollar!  
Our neighbor you saw in the coach to-day,  
With his wife and his flaunting daughter,  
While we sat down to our covetous board,  
To a crust and cup of water.  
I saw that the test-drop stood in your eye,  
Though you tried your best to conceal it,  
I knew that the contrast reached your heart,  
And you could not help but feel it;  
But knowing now that our scanty fare  
Had freed my neck from the collar;  
You'll join my laugh and help me shout,  
For we owe no man a dollar!  
This neighbor whose show has dazzled your  
eyes,  
In fact is a wretched debtor,  
I pity him of from my very heart,  
And wished that his lot was better.  
Why, the man is the veriest slave alive,  
For his dashing wife and daughter  
Will live in style though ruin should come—  
For he goes as the lamb to the slaughter.  
But he feels it lighter every day,  
That terrible debtor's collar,  
Oh, what would he give could he say with us,  
That he owed no man a dollar!  
You seem amazed, but I'll tell you more,  
Within two hours I met him  
Sneaking away with frightened air,  
As if a fiend had beset him;  
Yet he fled from a very worthy man,  
Whom I met with the greatest pleasure,  
Whom I called by name and forced to stop,  
Though he said he was not at leisure.  
He held my last note! So I held him fast,  
Till he freed my neck from the collar,  
Then I shook his hand as I proudly said,  
"Now I owe no man a dollar!"  
Ah! now you smile, for you feel the force  
Of the truth I have been repeating;  
I knew that a downright honest heart,  
In that gentle breast was beating!  
To-morrow I'll rise, with a giant's strength,  
To follow my daily labor;  
But ere we sleep, let us humbly pray  
For our wretched next door neighbor;  
And we'll pray for the time when all shall be  
free.

### Miscellaneous.

#### Life of an Engineer.

The life of a railroad engineer is graphically  
depicted in the following extract from the  
Schenectady Star:  
"But the engineer—he who guides the  
train by guiding the iron horse, and almost  
holds the lives of passengers in his hands—  
his is a life of mingled pain and pleasure. In  
a little seven-by-nine apartment, with square  
holes on each side for windows, open behind  
and with machinery to look through ahead,  
you find him. He is the "Patfinder," he  
leads the way at all times of danger, checks  
the iron horse, or causes it to speed ahead  
with the velocity of the wind, at will. Have  
you ever stood by the track, of a dark night,  
and watched the coming and passing of a  
train? Away off in the darkness you discover  
a light, and you hear a noise, and the earth  
trembles beneath your feet. The light comes  
nearer; you can compare it to nothing but  
the devil himself, with his terrible whistle;  
the sparks you imagine come from Beelze-  
bub's nostrils—the fire underneath, that  
shines close to the ground, causing you to  
believe the devil walks in live coals. It  
comes close to you; you back away and  
shudder; you look up, and almost on the  
devil's back rides the engineer; perhaps the  
"machine" shrieks, and you may imagine  
the engineer is applying the spur to the de-  
vil's sides. A daring fellow, that engineer—  
you can't help saying so, and you wonder  
wherein lies the pleasure of being an engi-  
neer. But so he goes, day after day, night  
after night. Moonlight evenings he sweeps  
over the country, through cities and villages,  
through fairy scenes and forest clearings.  
He looks through the square holes at the side  
and enjoys the moonlight, but he cannot stop  
to enjoy the beauty of the scenery. Cold,  
rainy, muddy, dark night, it is the same—  
Perhaps the tracks are undermined or over-  
flowed with water; perhaps some soundrels  
have placed some obstructions in the way,  
or trees been overturned across the track;  
and, in either case, it is almost instant death  
to him, at least he stops not. Right on  
is the word with him, and on he goes, re-  
gardless of danger, weather, and everything,  
save the well-doing of his duty. Think of  
him, ye who shudder through fear in the  
cushioned seats of the cars, and get warm  
from the fire that is kindled for your benefit.  
When the Irishman first tried peach-  
es, he said he liked their flavor, but the  
seeds lay hard on his stomach.

### ELECTION OF COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS.

This may be the last No. of our Journal  
that will meet the eyes of Directors before  
they assemble to elect County Superintendents  
for the next three school years. The  
proper performance of that duty, so as to ef-  
fect the original design of the liberal and  
far-seeing Legislature which established the  
office, will be of incalculable benefit to the  
State; and the contrary will be equally inju-  
rious. It is, therefore, our design, as one  
amongst the thousands of Pennsylvanians  
who are watching the workings of this new  
feature in our educational system with in-  
terest, frankly to state the conclusions to  
which our observations have led.

Three years ago, few Directors or others  
had any clear view of the necessity, nature,  
mode of operation, or probable results of  
this office. The natural consequences were,  
in the first instance, numerous mistakes in  
selection and compensation. These have been  
made, we think erroneously, attributed in  
and out of the State, to a settled purpose to  
defeat the office, out of general hostility to  
the system itself. In a few cases, this feel-  
ing may have had its influence; but in most,  
the action complained of really grew out of  
mere want of knowledge of the nature of  
the office itself, and an honest belief that  
such an addition to the expense and the  
working machinery of the system was wholly  
unnecessary. Whatever may have been the  
cause, it is certain that the duty of selecting  
County Superintendents was so performed as  
to produce one of the three following results:  
Either,  
1. An incompetent person was chosen,  
who failed, no matter what the salary. Or,  
2. A competent person was chosen, who  
failed, or was crippled in his operations, by  
total inadequacy of salary. Or,  
3. A competent person was selected, with  
adequate salary, who fulfilled the just expec-  
tations of the friends of the law.

From this it would appear that fitness in  
the person and adequacy of compensation  
are the elements—the essential conditions—  
of success. Of course, as in all other com-  
plex affairs, there are instances that appear  
to conflict with this conclusion; but on close  
inspection they will be found rather to con-  
firm it. For example: one Superintendent  
may have been so well qualified for the sta-  
tion, and so devoted to the system, that he  
discharged his duties at a most shamefully  
inadequate salary. But who will argue from  
this, that it is the right of the public to im-  
pose such a burden on private means as to  
dividual patriotism? Or it may have been  
that all the conditions appeared to be secured—  
both adequacy of salary and "skill and  
experience in the art of teaching"—yet fail-  
ure ensued. But who will condemn the of-  
fice, because here and there, a good teacher  
may have made a poor Superintendent?—  
Many an able lawyer makes a miserable  
Judge; few of the most successful practicing  
physicians are qualified for the Professor's  
Chair; so a capital teacher of boys may not  
succeed as Teacher of Teachers and admin-  
istrative officer of a complicated school sys-  
tem.

It would be no difficult task to run over  
the whole State and show the correctness of  
the conclusions just stated. But it is neither  
proper nor necessary.

Taking it for granted, that experience has  
fully justified the wisdom of the Legislature  
in requiring the selection of a fit person and  
the payment of a sufficient salary, for this  
office, two questions arise:  
1. Who is a fit person for the office?  
2. What is a sufficient salary?

1. "Literary and scientific acquirements." These are both indispensable, and the de-  
gree of them should be considerable. In  
every county, schools of every rank and  
grade—from the lowest primary to the high  
school, with its full round of branches—are  
or soon come into existence; and to  
discharge the office properly, the Superin-  
tendent must be qualified "to examine" all  
the Teachers, "to visit" them, and "give  
such instructions in the art of Teaching and  
the method thereof in each school" as the  
condition and grade of each shall require—  
How can this be done, except by one who  
is scholar enough to teach the Teacher of  
the highest branch taught in the highest  
school in his county?

2. "Skill and Experience in the Art  
of Teaching." is another requisite—not only  
skill to know, but practice to do. It is no  
doubt true, that, in some instances, the office  
has been well filled by persons of no great  
actual experience in the art. This is owing  
to the known fact that some men have nat-  
urally in them so much of the elements of  
the Teacher, and such a love for the work  
and the cause, as to supply, to a great degree  
all other defects. But the exception only  
proves the rule, for the instance of failure  
for want of this element have been too nu-  
merous to leave the question doubtful. But  
mere learning and professional skill are not  
sufficient, unless, as the law and the neces-  
sity of the case everywhere intimate, they  
are accompanied "with power to make them  
efficient. Hence,  
3. Ability to impart knowledge, and give  
information, publicly as well as privately, is  
indispensable. Since the passage of the act  
of 1854—in addition to the public meetings  
for the examination of Teachers, and the  
visitation of schools in the presence of di-  
rectors and parents thereby prescribed—the  
holding of district and county Institutes, As-  
sociations and Meetings, for the improve-  
ment of Teachers, and the delivery of pub-  
lic lectures and addresses for the furtherance  
of the system and the explanation of the  
law, have become so general, and are found  
to be so beneficial, that they may now be

### regarded as an integral part of the Superin- tendent's duties.

All these occasions impose  
the duty of addressing the public; and the  
officer who does not do it, fails in his duty.  
Some ability therefore to speak in public  
should be embraced among the requisites of  
fitness for the office.

4. Energy of character and love for the  
work, are the 'last essentials that need be  
specified. Without these, the highest de-  
gree of scholastic attainment, of professional  
skill, and of power of expression, will fail,  
for the great moving forces of the required  
character will be wanting. With these present  
in large degree, even a medium of qualifi-  
cations in other respects may succeed.

Amongst the qualifications necessary to  
this most important office, it is, of course,  
not deemed requisite to speak of temper-  
ance, honesty or industry, nor of common  
sense, suavity of manners, or knowledge of  
human nature. These are requisites to the  
safe and efficient discharge of every public  
trust; the one in question being no exception  
to the general rule, but rather demanding  
them in greater degree than most others—  
In a word, and aside from special requisites,  
the nearer the character of a County Superin-  
tendent approaches to that of the Christian  
gentleman, the greater will be his acceptance  
and success.

The answer to the question, What is an  
adequate salary? will depend mainly on the  
locality; and the experience of the past three  
years will, in many cases, modify past action  
in this point. Many of the Conventions  
fixed the salary in 1854, under a total or  
very material misapprehension of the nature  
of the office, the amount of service required,  
and the degree of good to be effected. Now,  
in many parts of the State, all these points  
are clearly comprehended, and the action of  
the directors will no doubt be different. No  
one who knows the people of Pennsylvania  
will, for a moment, suppose that injustice  
will be done in regulating the compensation  
of those who are found to be amongst the  
most useful, most laborious and most impor-  
tant of our public agents. The salary must,  
as just remarked, depend on the circum-  
stances of each case; still, certain general  
principles are indicated by the nature of the  
office and the wants of the schools, which  
it may be useful to state.

The first point to be determined is, whether  
the whole, or only a portion, of the offi-  
cer's time will be required for the full dis-  
charge of the office. This will wholly de-  
pend on the number of schools in the county.  
If they are materially over 100 and  
should be increased, and the office is a  
and the course most productive of good,  
will be to pay for his whole time and ser-  
vices. In such cases more than half of the  
year may be most beneficially devoted to  
school visitation, which, to be effectual,  
should be full and frequent. The rest of the  
year can be profitably devoted to the improve-  
ment of the Teachers in one or more Insti-  
tutes of greater or less duration, to the offi-  
cer's own improvement and to the prepara-  
tion of his reports, &c.

In smaller counties a less portion of the  
officer's time will be needed, and the salary  
may be in proportion; but in all cases enough  
should be given to secure his whole time  
and efforts to the service of the schools while  
in operation, and to the improvement of the  
teachers during a portion of the recess.

The only other general principle to be kept  
in view in arranging the salary, is that of  
making it large enough to command the  
very best professional talent within the reach  
of the Convention. For reasons already given,  
no other should be thought of.

The man, then, whom Law, Experience  
and the Wants of the System demand for  
County Superintendent, is: A *Practical Teacher*,  
who is also an *accomplished scholar*, and a  
*ready public speaker*; with *sufficient love for it*  
*to undertake, and energy to perform, the great*  
*work before him; and the salary should be suf-*  
*ficient to compensate him, as far as money can,*  
*for the efficient discharge of so great a labor.*

Wherever such a man is found, he should  
be selected. Wherever he has already been  
found, he should be retained.

At the present time it may be proper to re-  
call to the attention of Conventions to elect  
County Superintendents, that Section 40  
of the school law of 8th May, 1854, confers  
upon the State Superintendent of Common  
Schools, very considerable powers in refer-  
ence to the commissioning of the persons  
elected. The words allude to are these:  
"If objection be made within thirty days  
to the issuing of such commission, the Su-  
perintendent of Common Schools may re-  
quire such evidence, under oath or affirma-  
tion, in regard to the election or qualification  
of the person elected County Superintendent,  
as he shall deem necessary, and shall then  
issue his commission to the person properly  
qualified who shall have received the highest  
number of votes."  
Under this provision it is competent for  
any citizen, and it would seem to be his du-  
ty, to make objection to the commissioning  
of an unqualified person, and to set in op-  
eration, for the good of the system in this  
respect, the powers vested in the State Su-  
perintendent. In view of this fact, the true  
course for Directors in their Convention will  
be, to vote for none unless such as by learn-  
ing and professional skill are fully qualified  
to discharge all the duties of the office.—  
*Pennsylvania School Journal for April.*

It is said of Paris that one of every three  
thousand persons commit suicide; that two  
thirds of the population cannot afford the  
expense of burial; that in every three births  
one is illegitimate; that 30,000 persons be-  
sides those assisted by regular charities,  
arise every morning without knowing how  
they will get a dinner, and that 17,000 ha-  
bitual drunks, of the most brutal char-  
acter, disgrace the city.

### A SWEDISH TALE.

#### TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF REBEL.

In Falun, a mining town in Sweden, a hun-  
dred years or more ago, a young miner kis-  
sed his fair bride and said to her:  
"On St. Lucia's day our love will be blessed  
by the priest's hand. Then we shall be hus-  
band and wife, and we will build us a neat  
little nest of our own."  
"And peace and love shall dwell in it,"  
said the beautiful bride, with a sweet smile,  
"for thou art my all in all, and without thee I  
would choose to be in my grave."  
But when the priest, in proclaiming their  
banns in the church for the second time before  
St. Lucia's day, pronounced the words, "If,  
now, any one can show reason why these  
persons should not be united in the bonds of  
matrimony," Death was at hand. The young  
man, as he passed her house next morning  
in his black mining garb, already wore his  
sroud. He rapped upon her window and  
said good morning, but he never returned  
to bid her good evening. He never came  
back from the mine, and all in vain she em-  
brodered for him a black cravat with a red  
border, for the wedding day. This she laid  
carefully away, and never ceased to mourn  
or weep for him.

Meanwhile, time passed on; the Seven  
Years' War was fought; the partition of Po-  
land took place; America became free; the  
French revolution and the long war began;  
Napoleon subdued Prussia, and the English  
bombarded Copenhagen. The husbandman  
sowed and reaped, the miller ground and the  
smith hammered, and the miners dug after  
the veins of metal in their subterranean work-  
shops. As the miners of Falun, in the year  
eighteen hundred and nine, a little before or  
after St. John's day, were excavating an open-  
ing between two shafts, full three hundred  
ells below the ground, they dug from the rub-  
bish and vitriol water, the body of a young  
man, entirely saturated with iron vitriol, but  
otherwise undecayed and unaltered—so that  
one could distinguish his features and age as  
well as if he had died only an hour before,  
or had fallen asleep for a little while at his  
work.

But when they had brought him out to the  
light of day, father and mother, friends and  
acquaintances, had long been dead; no one  
could identify the sleeping youth, or tell any-  
thing of his misfortune, till she came who  
had one day gone to the mine and never re-  
turned. Gray and shriveled, she came to the  
place, hobbled upon a crutch, and recognized  
her bridegroom, when more in joyful ecstacy  
than pain, she sank down upon the beloved  
form. As soon as she had recovered her  
composure, she exclaimed, "It is my betroth-  
ed, whom I have mourned for fifty years,  
and whom God now permits me to see once  
more before I die. A week before the wed-  
ding time he went under the earth and never  
returned."

All the bystanders were moved to tears, as  
they beheld the former bride, a wasted and  
feeble old woman, and the bridegroom still  
in the beauty of youth; and how, after the  
lapse of fifty years, her youthful love awoke  
again. But he never opened his mouth to  
smile, nor his eyes to recognize; and she,  
finally, as the only one belonging to him, and  
having a right to him, had him carried to her  
own little room, till a grave could be prepared  
in the church yard. The next day, when all  
was ready, and the miners came to take him  
away, she opened a little drawer, and taking  
out the black silk cravat, tied it around his  
neck, and then accompanied him in her Sun-  
day garb, as if it were their wedding day,  
and the day of his burial. As they laid him  
in the grave in the churchyard, she said—  
"Sleep well now, for a few days, in thy cold  
bridal bed, and let not the time seem long to  
thee. I have now but little more to do, and  
will come soon, and then it will be day again."

As she was going away, she looked back  
once more and said, "What the earth has  
once restored, it will not a second time with-  
hold."

### TALLEYRAND'S APHORISMS.

#### From the Public Ledger.

Our welcome to a stranger depends upon  
the name he bears—upon the coat he wears;  
our farewell upon the spirit he has displayed  
in the interview.  
There is so great a charm in friendship,  
that there is even a kind of pleasure in ac-  
knowledging oneself duped by the sentiment  
it inspires.  
Unbounded modesty is nothing more than  
unavowed vanity; the too humble oblation  
is sometimes a disguised impertinence.  
The reputation of a man is like his shadow—  
gigantic when it precedes him, and pigmy  
in its proportion when it follows.  
Beauty, devoid of grace, is a mere hook  
without a bait.  
He who cannot feel friendship is alike in-  
capable of love. Let a woman beware of the  
man who owns that he loves no one but her-  
self.  
The Count de Coigny possesses wit and  
talent, but his conversation is fatiguing, be-  
cause his memory is equally exact in quoting  
the death of the Princess de Guemones's pool-  
dle.  
To contradict and argue with a total stran-  
ger, is like knocking at a gate to ascertain if  
there is any one within.  
The love of glory can only create a hero;  
the contempt of it creates a great man.  
The errors of great men, and the good  
deeds of reprobates, should not be reckoned  
in our estimates of their respective charac-  
ters.  
It is something quite enough for a man to  
feign ignorance of that which he knows to  
gain the reputation of knowing that of which  
he is ignorant.  
Both erudition and agriculture ought to be  
encouraged by government; wit and manu-  
factures will come themselves.  
Too much sensibility creates unhappiness;  
too much insensibility creates crime.  
It is an attribute of true philosophy never  
to force the progress of truth and reason, but  
to wait till the dawn of light; meanwhile,  
the philosopher may wander into hidden  
paths, but he will never depart from the main  
track.  
A generous man will place the benefits he  
confers beneath his feet—those he receives  
nearest his heart.

"The World owes me a Living!"  
That's the, sir! It doesn't owe you a  
farthing. You owe the world for the light of  
its days, the warmth of its sunshine, the  
beauty of its earth and sky; and for its love,  
affection and friendship, bestowed around  
and clung to your worthless trunk. For all  
these, and other blessings of countless num-  
bers, you are a debtor. You have never  
even thanked God for health and life. You  
never made the world better for your living.  
You owe for the breath you breathe and the  
strength you enjoy. You have nothing to  
your credit on the day book or ledger of life  
—not a cent. You have never taken a dol-  
lar's stock in Heaven. You are a miserable,  
aimless, indolent bankrupt. You float down  
the stream of your lazy existence like flood-  
wood on water. Were you to sink to-day to  
oblivion, you would not leave a bubble.

The world owes you a living! Where is  
there a manly thought uttered, or a noble  
deed performed? Where are there evi-  
dences of your labor? Nowhere. You are  
lounging through life with your hands in  
your pockets, an indolent loafer, swearing  
and slandering nonsense. You drink, gamble  
and chew tobacco, but never earned your  
board. A pile of lumber would be of more  
account, for that could be worked into forms  
of usefulness and beauty; but you will not  
make anything of yourself, or allow society  
to do it. A world of such as you would  
be the place to live in, indeed! You have  
degraded our common manhood, instead of  
ennobling and elevating it, and in nothing  
but the form and vulgar speech, are you  
above the brutes that perish. And because  
you are too lazy to work, you claim that the  
world owes you a living!  
Don't tell that to me again, you slogger!  
The world or society would not suffer loss  
were lightning to strike you, or the cholera  
to take you off. There are too many of such  
Were you treated as droves are treated in  
the lives, you would have been kicked out  
of creation years ago. You are a sponge,  
swollen with what you have absorbed from  
society. You dwarfed the intellect given  
you, and neglected the endowment it would  
have brought you. So effectually have you  
wasted the boon of life, that unless your  
bones shall go to the dissecting room, and  
your pickled carcass as a fertilizer upon some  
God forsaken spot, you have passed through  
life to no purpose. The tobacco you have  
chewed, has only defiled everything around  
you, and the liquor you have drunk has only  
been adulterated by your miserable, and  
vile nature turned into rosydium and pre-  
parations. You contaminate everything you  
touch, and even those like you, who keep  
their children from the leprosy of your teach-  
ing and example.  
No, sir, you owe the world a better life—  
You never can pay all the debt, but you can  
do better and commute for twenty-five cents  
on the dollar. Do and say something noble  
and manly; and for some honorable purpose,  
and not unkind God's pure air for nothing,  
and grant through assistance like a dog, hav-  
ing only two aims in life—to reach the bar  
and dinner table, and only two ambitions—  
to eat to gluttery and drink to drunkenness.  
The world owes no such a man a living.

"A lady told her husband she read the  
"Art of Love," on purpose to be agreeable  
to him. "I had rather have love without  
art," replied he.

### decisive Battles of the World.

The decisive battles of the world, those of  
which, to use Hallam's words, "a contrary  
event would have essentially varied the  
drama of the world in all its subsequent scenes,"  
are numbered as fifteen by professor Creasy,  
who fills the chair of ancient and modern his-  
tory of the University of London. They are  
the grand subject of two volumes by him,  
just from Bentley's press. These battles are:  
1. The battle of Marathon, fought 490 B. C.,  
in which the Greeks under Themistocles,  
defeating the Persians under Darius, thereby  
turning back a tide of Asiatic invasion, which  
else would have swept over Europe.  
2. The battle of Syracuse, 413 B. C., in  
which the Athenian power was broken, and  
the West of Europe saved from Greek domi-  
nation.  
3. The battle of Arbella, 331 B. C., in which  
Alexander, by the defeat of Darius, estab-  
lished his power in Asia, and by the introduction  
of European civilization produced an effect  
which as yet may be traced there.  
4. The battle of Meturus, fought 207 B. C.,  
in which the Romans under Consul Nero  
defeated the Carthaginians under Hannibal,  
and by which the supremacy of the great re-  
public was established.  
5. The Victory of Arminius, A. D. 9, over  
the Roman legions under Varus, which de-  
stroyed Gaul from Roman domination.  
6. The battle of Chalons, A. D. 451, in  
which Aetius defeated Attila the Hun, and the  
self-styled "Scourge of God," and saved Eu-  
rope from entire desolation.  
The battle of Tours, A. D. 732, in which  
Charles Martel, by the defeat of the Saracens

### From the Public Ledger.

It is no unprofitable study in natural history  
to trace back the history of an instinct. Teach  
a spaniel to beg for food, and you often trace  
in its pups a tendency to the same habit. Let  
a setter be trained to set, and its progeny will do  
so instinctively, though they may never even witness  
the action performed. The chicken, though  
countless generations, pick up crumbs and insects  
from the ground, while the woodpecker, with  
beak adapted for it, sits "tapping the hollow  
beech tree."  
We may take the eggs of the duck, and the  
unconscious hen will sit upon them and hatch  
them, and guard the progeny as her own; but no  
sooner have these little ones cracked the shell, than  
by the inward impulse, they seek for the water and  
swim off, to the infinite terror of the poor hen  
who hatched them, and who vainly tries to lure  
them away from what seems to her to be their  
certain destruction.  
This wisdom of the web foot, this propen-  
sity, or instinct, whence comes it?—Neither by  
education nor example, that is clear; neither is  
it anything communicated by the hen, nor her  
instincts in any way transferred; neither is it  
peculiar to the matter of the egg, as analysis  
could probably show. Is it then the result of  
organization? And if so, what does this mean  
but the result of motion?  
If we take an egg, and put the wet tip of  
the tongue to the large end of it, we at once  
become sensible of a gentle heat, if the egg  
is alive. This is then the germ of all the  
after vibrations of life, stimulated by the  
vital warmth of the hen, and these pulsations  
transmit the instinctive tendency that impels  
the duck to the water, embodying a kind of  
memory, or impulse, from former generations,  
quite distinct from that of the hen. These  
vibrations organize the fluid of the egg into a  
form corresponding with the idea of which the  
whole part suggests as the intended future of  
the bird.  
The uneducated but honest Christian sees  
or thinks he sees, in this, however, the im-  
mediate finger of God, a part of the all per-  
vading mind of Him in whom we live and  
move, and have our being; His wisdom  
directly imparting wisdom to each creature  
according to its wants.  
But, as we have already seen, a more ex-  
tended observation will indicate a reflecting  
mind that instinctively, after all, a part, at  
least the result of fixed laws, and but an in-  
stinctive tendency to reproduce actions that are  
habitual in the parent. And this very law,  
so far from allowing us to lose sight of a  
designer, will conduct us back to a pre-con-  
ceiving mind, comprehending, arranging  
and rewarding all actions, so that each viola-  
tion shall consolidate into an habitually  
recurring purpose, each purpose into an in-  
stinct, and each instinctive habit shall en-  
tirely mould even the physical system in  
accordance with the whole—sharpening the  
beaks and hollowing the bones of birds, gir-  
ing web feet to water fowl and claws to  
beasts of prey, the immaterial thus forming  
the material.  
It then the differences of instincts are all  
merely those of development of the inten-  
tions and habits of the various animals,  
through the course of ages and generations,  
and if every exercise of every habit has in  
it the tendency to reproduce itself and to  
become hereditary and instinctive, it is no  
measure lessens the marks of a purpose in  
creation. Should it seem to remove us a  
step further from the designer, it only thus  
enables us to take broader views of His pro-  
found design.

DRINKING WELLS IN QUICKSAND—How to  
Make a Cure.—The following from a Mich-  
igan paper, is a simple and ingenious meth-  
od for the construction of the curb:  
"When they came to the water, as was  
always the case there on the openings, they  
found an abundance of quicksand. So to  
stop that out they went to the woods and cut  
a white oak tree about three feet over, and  
cut off three feet of the butt, then mark off  
about three inches thick around the outside,  
and split it off in pieces like stove bolts,  
being careful to number them so as to set them  
up, hoop them together—having first chamfered  
off the outside so as to sharpen the lower  
end, then let them down into the  
quicksand, a little at a time, being careful to  
keep them in their natural place, dipping out  
the sand from the inside, and thus settling  
them down till the top was even with the wa-  
ter. Being under water it would never let  
out, and the thickness of the staves would  
prevent them from ever moving out of their  
place. It kept the seal on perfectly, the  
water came in from the bottom, and after the  
first six months, was as clear as the crystal  
liquid."

A New Law is Omen.—A bill has become  
a law in Ohio which provides that all prop-  
erty held for religious purposes shall be  
deemed to be the property of the congre-  
gation and shall be held by a corporation  
for that purpose. For organizing which the  
bill also provides, but in cases where it has  
already been decided to be an individual, it  
has already been decided to be an individual,  
the church, exclusive of any rights of the  
congregation, it may remain in his hands  
till his death or removal, after which it  
must pass into the possession of the con-  
templated corporation. But if such cor-  
poration has been formed, it shall pass to  
the State, to be held in trust for the congre-  
gation. This, of course, would interfere  
with the present system of holding church  
property among the Catholics.