THE STAR OF THE NORTH.

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THE STAR OF THE NORTH

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ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding one square will be inserted three times for One Dollar, and twenty-five cents for each additional insertion. A liberal discount will be made to those who advertise by the year.

Choice Poetry.

ROBINS COME.

BY WM. COLDWELL.

From the elm-tree's topmost bough,
Hark! the robin's early song,
Telling, one and all, that now
Merry spring-time hastes along;
Welcome tidings thou dost bring,
Little harbinger of spring!
Robins come.

Of the winter we are weary,
Weary of its frost and snow,
Longing for the sunshine cheery,
And the brooklet's gurgling flow;
Gladly when we hear thee sing
The reveille of the spring!
Robins come.

Ring it out o'er hill and plain,
Through the garden's lonely bowers,
Till the green leaves dance again,
Till the air is sweet with flowers;
Wake the cowslip by the rill,
Wake the yellow daffodil,
Robins come.

Then, as thou wert wont of yore,
Build thy nest and rear thy young,
Close beside our cottage door,
In the woodbine leaves among;
Hurt or harm thou needst not fear;
Nothing rude shall venture near,
Robins come.

Swinging still o'er yonder lane,
Robin answers merrily,
Ravished by the sweet refrain,
ALICE claps her hands in glee;
Shouting from the open door,
With her clear voice o'er and o'er,
"Robins come!"

Miscellaneous.

RATS AND MICE EXPELLED FROM DWELLINGS. Mix almost any sort of meal, as Indian corn or wheat shorts, and arsenic, in the proportion of about two quarts of the former to one ounce of the latter. Place it in protected places under your barns and out-houses, where the children, pigs and chickens will not be likely to get it.

I advise thus to place it some little distance from human dwellings, both on account of greater safety to human beings, and the probability that the rats and mice getting the poison, would die at a distance from them. My own way is to remove a stone in the underpinning of my barn, and shove under a narrow board, to which a tin pie pan is fastened—by driving shingle nails each side of it,—and on which I place some of the mixture. I also place it in sheltered places in my wood house, where there are known places of the entrance of these creatures.

Where the ordinary provisions of the family are well secured during the summer, rats and mice usually take to the fields and hedges. They return during the summer, as provisions become scarce in their summer haunts. This is the very time to interrupt them in the manner I have mentioned. Thus I did during the past autumn. The result is that but one rat has been heard about my premises for a long time; and that one was but once heard, and at a long time ago. My family contains but one servant and no small children, and the whole arrangement of the thing is in my own hands, otherwise it might not be safe to use so powerful a poison as arsenic. There are numerous other substances that may be used besides arsenic. And I write now not so much to commend it as the especial ingredient of poisonous mixtures, as to describe what I consider the safest and most effectual mode of its application.—C. E. Goodrich, Utica, N. Y.—*Country Gentleman.*

MARSHAL NEY'S DEATH SCENE.—The vengeance of the allied powers demanded some victims and the intrepid Ney who had well nigh but the crown again on Bonaparte's head at Waterloo was to be one of them.—Condemned to be shot he was led to the garden of Luxemburg on the morning of the 7th of December and placed in front of a file of soldiers drawn up to kill him. One of the officers stepped up to bandage his eyes but he repulsed him saying:

Are you ignorant that for twenty-five years I have been accustomed to face both ball and bullet?

He then lifted his hat above his head, and with the same calm voice that steadied his columns so frequently in the roar and tumult of battle said:

I declare before God and man that I never betrayed my country. May my death render her happy. *Viae la France.*

He then turned to the soldiers and striking his hand on his heart, gave the order "Soldiers fire!"

A simultaneous discharge followed and the brave of the brave sank to rise no more.—He who had fought five hundred battles for France, not one against him, was shot as a traitor?

MOULDINESS.—Fruit jellies may be preserved from mouldiness by covering the surface one fourth of an inch deep with finely pulverized loaf sugar. Thus protected they will keep in good condition for ten years.

FAMILIAR QUOTATIONS.

From "Things not Generally Known,"
BY D. A. WELLS.

There are many phrases and quotations which are as "familiar in our mouths as household words," whose origin is either unknown or misconceived, and, without encroaching upon the sphere of the works devoted to this purpose, we may mention a few of them:

"There is death in the pot," is from the Bible, 2 Kings, iv. 40. "Lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in death they were not divided," is spoken of Saul and Jonathan, 2 Samuel, i. 23. "A man after his own heart," 1 Samuel, xiii. 14. "The apple of his eye," Deut., xix. 21. "A still small voice," 1 Kings, xix. 12. "Escaped with the skin of my teeth," Job, xix. 20. "That mine adversary had written a book," Job, xxi. 35.—"Spreading himself like a green bay tree," Psalm, xxxvii. 35. "Hanged our harps upon the willows," Psalm, cxxxvii. 2. "Riches make (not *take*, as it is often quoted,) themselves wings," Proverbs, xxiii. 5. "Heap coals of fire upon his head," Ibid, xxv. 22. "No new thing under the sun," Ecclesiastes, i. 9. "Of making many books there is no end," Ibid, xii. 12. "Peace, peace, when there is no peace," (made famous by Patrick Henry,) Jeremiah, viii. 11. "My name is legion," Mark, v. 9. "To kick against the pricks," Acts, ix. 5. "Make a virtue of necessity," Shakspeare's Two Gentlemen of Verona. "All that glisters is not gold," usually quoted "All is not gold that glitters," Merchant of Venice. "Screw your courage to the sticking *place*," (not *point*) Macbeth. "Make assurance doubly sure," Ibid. "Hang out our banners on the outward (not outer) walls," Ibid. "Keep the word of promise to *our* (not *the*) ear, but break it to our hope," Ibid. "It is an ill-wind that turns none to good," usually quoted, "It's an ill-wind that blows no one any good," Thomas Tasser, 1580. "Christmas comes but once a year," Ibid. "Look ere thou leap," Ibid; and "Look before you ere you leap," Hudibras, commonly quoted, "Look before you leap."—"Out of mind as soon as out of sight," usually quoted, "Out of sight, out of mind," Lord Brooke. "What though the field be lost, all is not lost," Milton. "Awake, arise, or be for ever fallen," Ibid. "Necessity, the tyrant's plea," Ibid. "That old man, eloquent," Ibid. "Peace hath her victories," Ibid. "Though this may be play to you, 'tis death to us," Roger L'Estrange, 1704. "All cry and no wool," (not little wool,) Hudibras. "Count their chickens ere (not before) they're hatched," Ibid. "Through thick and thin," Dryden. "When Greeks joined Greeks, then was the tug of war," usually quoted "When Greek meets Greek, then comes the tug of war," Nathaniel Lee, 1692. "Of two evils, I have chose the least," Prior. "Richard is himself again," Colley Bibber. "Classic ground," Addison. "As clear as a whistle," Byron, 1763. "A good halter," Johnsoniana. "A fellow feeling makes one wondrous kind," Garrick. "My name is Norval," John Home, 1808. "Ask me no questions, and I'll tell you no fibs," Goldsmith. "Not much the worse for wear," (not none the worse,) Cowper. "What will Mrs. Grundy say," Thomas Morton. "No pent up Utica contracts your powers," Jona. M. Sewell.—"Hath given hostages to fortune," Bacon.—"His (God's) image cut in ebony," Thomas Fuller. "Wise and masterly inactivity," Mackintosh, in 1791, though generally attributed to Randolph. "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his fellow-citizens," (not *countrymen*,) resolutions presented to House of Representatives, December, 1799, prepared by Gen. Henry Lee.—"Millions for defence, but not one cent for tribute," Charles C. Pinckney. "The Almighty Dollar," Washington Irving. "As good as a play," King Charles, when in Parliament, attending the discussion of Lord Rosa's divorce bill. "Selling a bargain," is in Love's Labor Lost. "Fast and Loose," Ibid. "Pumping a man," Otway's Venice Preserved. 'Go snacks," Pope's prologue to Satires. "In the wrong box," Fox's Martyrs. "To lamm in the sense of to heal," King and no King, by Beaumont and Fletcher. The hackneyed newspaper Latin quotation, "Tempora mutantur, nos et mutamus in illis," is not found in any classic or Latin author. The nearest approach to it was "Omnia mutantur," &c., and this is found in Borbonius, a German writer of the middle ages.

"Smelling of the lamp" is to be found in Plutarch, and is there attributed to Pytheas. "A little bird told me," comes from Ecclesiastes, x. 20, "for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter."

"He that fights and runs away
May live to fight another day."

These lines, usually ascribed to Hudibras, are really much older. They are to be found in a book published in 1676. The same idea is, however, expressed in a couplet published in 1542, while one of the few fragments of Menander, the Greek writer, that have been preserved, embodies the same idea in a single line. The couplet in Hudibras is—

"For those that fly may fight again,
Which he can never do that's slain."

"There's a good time coming," is an expression used by Sir Walter Scott in Rob Roy, and has doubtless for a long time been a familiar saying in Scotland.

Eripuit cœlo fulmen, sceptrumque tyrannis, was a line upon Franklin, written by Turgot, the minister of Louis XVI. It is, however, merely a modification of a line by Cardinal Polignac, *Eripuitque Jovi fulmen, Phœboque sagittas*, which in turn was taken from a line of Marcus Manilius, who says of Epicurus, *Eripuitque Jovi fulmen viresque Tonanti.*

Vox populi, Vox Dei. The origin of this familiar phrase in not known, but it is quoted as a proverb by William of Malmesbury, who lived in the early part of the twelfth century.

Ultima ratio regum. This motto was engraved on the French cannon by order of Louis XIV.

"Whistling girls and crowing hens
Always come to some bad end."

In one of the curious Chinese books recently translated and published in Paris this proverb occurs in substantially the same words. It is also an injunction of the Chinese priesthood, and a carefully observed household custom, to kill immediately every hen that crows, as a preventive against the misfortune which the circumstance is supposed to indicate. The same practice prevails throughout many portions of the United States.

JOHN PHŒNIX IN THE LADIES CAR.

It may not be generally known that "John Phœnix has been a passenger on the Central Railroad, but such is the fact. He tells an incident connected with his ride, in a letter to the *Knickerbocker Magazine*, which he puts on record to serve as a caution to future innocent travelers. He says:

"I had observed at each change of cars, and they were frequent, when the general scramble took place, one car was defended from the assault by a stalwart man, usually of Irish persuasion, who deaf to menaces, unsoftened by entreaty, and uncorrupted by bribes, maintained his position for the benefit of the "leddies." "Leddies' car, sir, av ye plase; forrid car for gintlemen without leddies." Need I say that this car so reserved was by far the most comfortable of the train, and that with that stern resolve which ever distinguishes me in the discharge of my duty toward myself, I determined to get into it *coute qui coute*. So when we changed cars at Utica, I rushed forth; and seeing a nice young person, with a pretty face, bonnet and shawl, and a large portmanteau, urging her way through the crowd, I stepped up by her side, and with my native grace and gallantry, offered my arm and my assistance.—They were gratefully accepted, and proud of my success, I ushered my fair charge up to the platform of the ladies' car. My old enemy was holding the door. "Is that your lady, sir?" said he. With an inward apology to Mrs. Phœnix for the great injustice done to her charms by the admission, I replied, "Yes." Judge of my honor when this low employee of a monopolizing and unaccommodating Railroad Company, addressing my companion with the tone and manner of an old acquaintance, said—"Well, Sal, I guess you've done well, but I dont believe his family will think much of the match."—However, I got into the ladies' car, and having repudiated the young person, Sally, got an exceedingly pleasant seat by the side of a very warm and comfortable young lady of sleepy turn and quiet disposition. I would not have exchanged her for two buffalo robes, but alas! she got off at Syracuse, and then frosty Caucasus, how cold it was!—And so grinding and jolting, jarring, sliding and freezing; wore away the long night.

In the morning we were at Buffalo. I saw nothing of it but a railroad depot; but I remember thinking as I stamped my feet and thrashed my arms to restore the circulation, that if that sort of weather continued, "the Buffalo girls couldn't come out to night," and probably have to postpone their appearance until the summer season."

TO SAVE VINES FROM BUGS.—I would give my experience in regard to the enemies of the vine. On my vines first appear, as a general thing, the small black bug or fly; the only thing I ever found to drive them off is Scotch snuff sprinkled on the vines. I have found that the most effectual preventive against the effects of striped bugs, cut worms or black flies—and in fact all the enemies of the vine, (or cabbage), as follows: Make a box about seven inches deep by six inches square on top, and eight on bottom. This is to be placed over the hills as soon as the vines begin to break the ground. I have had my vines eaten off when the blow was just breaking into sight. These boxes are the only thing that I know of that will prove effectual. R.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR BEAN POLES.—How many gardens have their appearance spoiled by unsightly bean poles, as the old saying is, 'standing seven ways for Sunday.' I have a way that looks better, and as for the productiveness, there is a full difference in favor of my plan. Set posts twenty feet apart, six feet high, and fasten No. 8 or 10 wire on the top. Plant under the wire in hills two feet apart, leaving two plants in a hill to grow. Stick with willow or any kind of sprouts, peeling the ends to prevent growing. Tie them to the wire and cut off the tops of the vines two or three inches above the wires. The rows should run north and south, and be four and a half feet apart. R.

PATRIOTIC.—Dr. Bandreth proposes to finish the Washington Monument himself, and, it is said, devotes the proceeds of his business, annually $40,000, to that patriotic purpose. The Doctor is a very public-spirited man and knows the benefits of advertising. For the purpose of putting the monument up, every man, woman and child in the country will take down a full box of the doctor's pills. A greater sacrifice to duty than this, patriotism ought not to exact of any individual who has a prudent regard for his health, and does not like the taste of aloes.

From "The States."

THE COMET OF JUNE 16, 1857.

Geology teaches us that there have been three great eras when the surface of the earth has undergone changes such as might have resulted from a universal deluge, effected, perhaps, by the collision of comets with the earth, giving a new direction to its rotary motion, or making it revolve around a new axis.

Geology teaches, as plainly as anything in Holy Writ, that the seas have thrice forsaken their beds, and, by the universal rushing of the waters to a new equator, have overwhelmed continents, the abode of men and animals.

Now, however, men may differ in regard to the Mosaic history of the flood, as to whether it ever took place in the manner in which it is literally set forth in the Bible, and however they may ridicule the probable or possible contact of a comet with the earth on the 16th day of June next, one thing is certain that neither their sneers, ridicule, nor unbelief will affect the laws of geometry and motion nor the mechanism of the universe. What has been, may be again; like causes produce like effects. If there have been three deluges, which at different eras have overwhelmed and destroyed every vestage of the races of men and animals then on the surface of the earth, what astronomer or philosopher is prepared to show that there will not be a fourth, a fifth, a sixth?

Of 99 comets whose elements have been calculated by astronomers, 30 passed between the sun and Mercury, 23 between the orbits of Mercury and Venus, 21 between the orbits of Ceres and Jupiter.

It is not a well known fact that Biela's comet, whose diameter is nearly twice that of the earth passes so very near, that at the moment the centre of the comet is at the point nearest to the earth's path, the matter of the comet extends beyond that path, and a portion of it within it? This is the comet which it was predicted would come in collision with and destroy the earth on the 26th of November, 1832; but happily the comet anticipated the earth by passing the point were the fight was to come off on the 26th of October, so that either the astronomers were 32 days behind, or the comet 32 days before time.

It was the opinion of Dr. Whiston, the friend and successor of Newton, that the comet known as Halley's deluged the world in the time of Noah. This is the same comet which, in 1456 spread universal terror throughout Europe, inspiring the belief that it would destroy the earth, and that the day of judgement was at hand; to avert which awful doom, Pope Calixtus added to the Ava Maria the prayer, "Lord save us from the devil, the Turk and the comet."

Now, there are men in the world so hardened in sin, that they will say in regard to the predicted smash-up in 1832, that a miss is as good as a mile; and in regard to the one which so horribly frightened old Calixtus, that "it is of no sort of consequence, as it will not arrive at its perihelion again until 1911," but let these sinners remember that there are other comets which are continually crossing the earth's path; and whether we shall escape the one of the 16th of June next, as luckily as we did that of 1832, time may or may not unfold to us. The collision of the earth with comets at certain epochs is not only possible but unavoidable; and the writer of this article believes that all the deluges which the different strata of the earth prove to have taken place, (in an antiquity to be measured, perhaps, only by millions of years,) have taken place through cometary influences.

There is no doubt in the minds of most astronomers that the asteroids between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter are the fragments of a great planet, which, from some cause, has been burst asundsr. If that cause was exterior, it must have been cometary, for there are no bodies in our solar system whose orbits interaect those of the planets.

The fact is well known to astronomers, that the remarkable comet of 1770, which was found to revolve in moderate ellipse in a period of about five years, was thrown out of its orbit by the attractions of Jupiter and has not been heard of since. What the effect of the collision was to that planet it is impossible to state; for although no perceptible change took place in its motions, yet a change might have taken place in its auxiliary motion sufficient to have thrown its oceans from their beds, and to overwhelm every inhabitant on its surface.

There are a great many phenomena ascribed to the influence of comets; it is even the opinion of some that Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by one of these erratic visitors, molten with perihelion heat; but who knows? ALPHA.

THE LAND FEVER.—Speculation in the lands has reached a height in the West, that the Government land offices are besieged by the buyers. Recently, at Osage, two thousand persons arrived for the purpose of purchasing, and the rush was so great, that some posted themselves before the doors of the office on Saturday night, with their provisions in their pocket, and remained there till Monday morning, when the sales began.—Several persons had their ribs broken in the pressure of the crowd. This beats the scramble for bank stock, which was once witnessed in Philadelphia though now new bank stock seems rather unattractive to those who have capital to invest.

☞ Friendship is a silent gentleman that makes no parade!—the true heart dances no hornpipe on the tongue.

AMERICAN SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The THIRTY-THIRD Anniversary of this important Insitution was held in Philadelphia, on the evening of the 12th inst., in the capacious Hall of Dr. Jayne; Ambrose White, Esq. in the chair. Earnest and appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Brantley, Rev. Mr. Jenkins, Rev. Mr. Breed, and Abraham Martin, Esq., to which the large and intelligent audience listened with marked attention. The opening and concluding religious exercises, were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Stork, and the Rt. Rev. Bishop Eastburn. The abstract of the annual report was read by the Rev. R. B. Westbrook Sec. of Missions, from which the following facts are gathered.

The receipts of the Missionary department have been: in donations, $71,982 37; in legacies, $11,954 87, and a balance on hand from last year, being specially designated by the donors, $769 43, making the total resources of the department for the year, $84,697 67.

This sum has been faithfully appropriated in accordance with the wishes of the donors. A large corps of Missionaries have been sent forth into 26 different States and Territories, who have established more than 1800 *new* schools, gathered into them about 80,000 children, and secured for the instruction of these children, over 13,000 teachers: supplying poor and needy schools and children with books and other Sunday-school requisites. In addition to planting these new schools, they have visited, supplied with books, and otherwise assisted, nearly 3000 Sunday-schools, containing more than 100,000 children; making a total of Sunday-schools organized and aided of nearly 5000.

If we take into our estimate the result of the last six years, we find that the Society has organized in that time, through the direct labors of its Missionaries, more than 12,000 new Sunday-schools, containing about 78,000 teachers, and nearly 500,000 children!

The *Missionary* labors of the Society are entirely distinct from the publishing department. Indeed, the latter is quite subordinate to the former. As a missionary institution, the Society has two chief objects: 1. To open new Sunday-schools in neighborhoods and settlements where they would not otherwise be established; visiting and reviving old Sunday-schools; and 2. To supply them with books for carrying on the schools successfully, when thus begun.

All donations made to the Society, are scrupulously applied to the objects designated by the donors. In no case are they applied to carry on the publication department of the Society's operations.

The Publishing department has distributed during the past year, books, &c., to the amount of $177,563 13.

It should be remembered in this connection that it is the policy of the Society to arrange the price of books as to merely sustain, and enlarge as the occasion may require, this branch of its operations, and not with a view of creating a revenue for the missionary department.

The Society now publish a complete Library for Sunday-schools, containing 841 volumes, and 4 selections from the general Library of 100 volumes each, for $10; also two "Five dollar Juvenile Libraries" of seventy-five volumes each; Child's Home Library 50 volumes, $3.50; the Village and Family Libraries, twenty-four volumes, $3 each, and the Child's Cabinet Library of fifty volumes, $2.50.

The "Sunday-school Journal" and "Youth's Penny Gazette," are published as formerly; and in order to increase the usefulness of the latter, and to bring it within the reach of all, the price of subscription has been reduced to *ten cents* per annum, where one hundred copies are taken.

A full report of the Society's operations may be obtained gratuitously, upon application at any of the depositories.

RICHES.

It is a miserable thing to be rich! We aver it not from experience, but from observation. Solomon Southwick, the veteran Rhode Island editor, once published a poem, entitled the "Pleasures of Poverty;" and, although nobody read more than the first page, it was the best thing that Solomon—and he really was a man of genius—ever did. It was the perversity of mankind, not the "absence of caloric" in the poem, that prevented the "Pleasures of Poverty" from becoming as immortal as the "Pleasures of Memory."

We pity a rich man—and why? Because he is like the unlucky fellow who used to adorn the first page of old-fashioned Almanacs. Aries, the ram is eternally jumping over his head, ready to butt out his brains for the sake of getting at his purse. Taurus, the bull, is goring him with horns, to make him bleed freely. [Gemini, the twins, generally fall to the lot of the poor man, so we will pass over them.] The claws of Cancer are fastened on his breast in the shape of needy relations. Leo is the couchant before him, watching the opportunity to prey upon his possessions. Virgo is laying snares for his heart. Libra is weighing his losses. Sagittarius transfixes him with the arrows of envy. Capricornus is bearding him with the spirit of rivalry. Aquarius (changing the sex) is keeping him in a whirlpool of routes, parties and balls, to please a dashing wife and money-spending daughters. And to sum up his miseries, the slippery fishes render his footing unstable, and his standing uncertain—for they are neither more or less than the changes and chances of life. Who, so hard-hearted as not to pity the rich man?

Who is dogged in the streets, and knocked down at midnight? Whose house is broken into by robbers? The rich man's. Who has his pocket cut out, and his coat spoiled in a crowd? The rich man. Who is in doubt whether the people are not laughing at him in their sleeves, when they are eating his dinner? The rich man. Who adds to his trouble by every stone he adds to his house? The rich man—for the higher he ascends, the colder is the atmosphere. A bank breaks, and who suffers? The rich stockholder and depositor. War blows his horn, and who trembles? Death approaches, and who fears to look him in the face?—Why, the rich man—and yet, all the world envies the rich. Depend upon it, reader, the length of your face will always be proportioned to the length of your purse. If you live in a two-storied house, be thankful and covet not the lofty mansion of your neighbor. You but dishonor yourself, and insult your destiny, by fretting and repining.

ORIGIN OF MILLS.

In early ages, coin was planted in mortars by hand. Solomon alludes to that custom, when he says: "Though thou shouldst bray a fool in a mortar with a pestle among wheat, yet will not his foolishness depart from him." The hand mills, of later times were of very simple construction, and were operated principally by women. In process of time, shafts were added to these machines, and they were worked by cattle. Water mills were invented about the time of Julius Cæsar but they did not come into general use till A. D. 400. It is supposed that wind-mills originated in the east and were introduced into Europe by the Crusaders. This however, is doubted, as such mills were in use in Europe as early as the first Crusade. Feudal lords claimed the privilege of erecting all corn mills and requiring their vassals to grind at their mills, called *ban-mills*. The building of such mill was then very expensive, and none but lords and barons could afford the expense; hence they claimed all tolls, from their dependants, by way of remuneration. At one time the monks of Holland desired to erect a wind-mill for their own convenience; the lord of the soil opposed their purpose saying that the wind in that district belonged to him.

The monks appealed to their bishop, who in great indignation, claimed spiritual control of the winds, in his diocese, and granted letters patent to the holy fathers. By improvements introduced in France, in the grinding of corn, about the 1760, the amount of flour obtained was nearly doubled.

Saw mills are more recent in their origin, than corn mills. The earliest method known for procuring planks, was by splitting the trunks of trees with wedges, and hewing the sides with axes.

Until the middle of the sixteenth century all the plank in Norway were thus manufactured. The saw is an instrument of very remote antiquity. The inventor of it like all other benefactors ranked among the gods.—Ovid celebrated his praises, in his metamorphoses. He says the idea was suggested by the spine which projects from the back-bone of a fish. By others, the discovery is attributed to the accidental use of the jaw-bone of a snake in severing a piece of wood. The saw was used in pit sawing during most of the dark ages. It was first adapted to mills, in Germany, in 1322. Saws were not introduced into England until 1767. The first constructed mills were destroyed by mobs.—The invention of the circular saw added greatly to the efficienoy of modern mills, and now almost every variety and form of timber used by mechanics is cut into the proper shape for use, by such saws.—*Ohio Farmer.*

OUR COUNTRY.

The greatest cataract in the world, is the Falls of Niagara, where the waters accumulated from the upper lakes, forming a river three quarters of a mile in width, are suddenly contracted and plunged over the rocks, in two columns, to the depth of one hundred and sixty feet.

The greatest Cave in the world, is the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky, where one can make a voyage on the waters of a subterranean river, and catch fish without eyes.

The greatest river in the world is the Mississippi, four thousand one hundred miles in length. Its name is derived from an Indian word, meaning "The Father of Waters."

The largest Valley in the world is the Valley of the Mississippi. It contains five hundred thousand square miles, and is one of the most prolific regions on the globe.

The largest Lake in the world is Lake Superior, 430 miles long.

The greatest Natural Bridge in the world, is that over Cedar Creek, in Virginia. It extends across a chasm 80 feet in width, and 250 feet deep, at the bottom of which a creek flows.

The greatest solid mass of Iron in the world is the Iron Mountain of Missouri. It is three hundred and fifty feet high, and two miles in circuit.

The largest Railroad in the world, is the Central Railroad of Illinois, which is 731 miles long and cost fifteen millions of dollars.

The greatest number of miles of Railroad, in proportion to its surface, of any country in the world—is in Massachusetts, which has over one mile to each square mile of its area.

The greatest number of clocks manufactured in the world, is turned out in the small State of Connecticut.

The largest number of whale ships in the world, are sent out by Nantucket and New Bedford.

The greatest grain port in the world is Chicago.

The largest aqueduct in the world, is the Croton Aqueduct, in New York. It is forty and a half miles long, and cost twelve and a half millions of dollars.—*Bridgeport Chronicle.*

GOD MADE THE HEART.

God made the heart with every chord
Responsive to his love;
To cheer, to bless, and keep his word—
Like angel hearts above!

'Twas made to feel for others' woe,
Life's sorrows, to beguile;
To soothe the tears the wretched know,
And bid the mourner smile.

'Twas made to be the charm of earth,
Where all affections meet;
Where every human bliss hath birth,
And every hope is sweet.

'Twas formed the weak and sad to aid,
To bid misfortune flee;
If man ne'er marred what God had made,
How heavenly earth would be!

From the Newark Advertiser.

LORD PALMERSTON.

The last time I saw Palmerston was in the summer of 1854, in the House of Commons. It was a field day, and he had been running a tilt against every Parliamentary knight that dared break a lance with him in the encounter of debate. His face was flush, his eye was bright, and with the snows of seventy winters on his head, he appeared to me a perfect miracle of intellect. There is age in his hair, his limbs and his voice; but this is physical decay only—the intellect is unconscious of the decline; the sword is not the less sharp that it gradually cuts through the scabbard.

The late Dr. Maginn, writing of the mythically old Mr. Rogers, said, that after passing the first eighty or ninety years of his age in the dissipation of youth, he began to think him of a profession; and in the same way the illustrious career of Palmerston commenced when his lordships was attaining half a hundred years. It is true he was in the House of Commons before he was in a beard; but the silence of some twenty years would appear to intimate his profound conviction, that the Romans were right in admitting to the Senate only those who had attained the dignity of forty years. But although he came late upon the House of Common's arena, his whole life had been spent in office.

He held office nineteen years under the tories, and about sixteen under the whigs.—He was the Secretary of War who signed warrants for the conveyance of Napoleon I. to St. Helena—and he was the Secretary of State who offended his sovereign by recognising that Napoleon III. had commenced to reign. As the English cricketers would say—"he has had the longest innings on record." His offices, too, appear to have been sinecures. He was Secretary of War at war time; and his sixteen years of Foreign Secretaryship were sixteen years of attempts to break the peace.

With the pressure of age he has nothing to do—the daring and indifference of youth are the salient points of his character to this day—and from the time when he, on behalf of Canning, undertook to crush "The Duke," to that manifesto of a few years since, when in answer to some Scotch clergyman who petitioned him to advise Her Majesty to fix a day for a national feast on account of the cholera, and he suggested "they had better look after the town drainage," he has always manifested the same energy, spirit and humor; and now in 1857, in his seventy-fourth year, the veteran statesman has triumphed in one of the fiercest popular struggles England has ever witnessed since the days of the great reform agitation.

The high position of Lord Palmerston in the House of Commons is attributed, not only to the fact that he is a first rate intellect leading the century, but to his most emphatically practical character, polished into statesmanship by the experience of more than 40 years of responsible office.

He is said to be the only peer of pure Saxon descent, and he has always appeared to me the intensest Englishman in English public life. No one has perused his recent Parliamentary efforts, but has been struck with the vigor and variety of his intellect. Practically comprehending all the details of English statesmanship, and thoroughly conversant with the political history of European politics, he is a perfect giant in debate. Cool and sagacious, he is ever prompt and ready at self defence. Full of humor, and abounding in sarcasm, he is a most formidable adversary in the running tilt of an off-hand debate. J. W.

BLACK TEETH.—The cause of this disease in hogs, is close confinement from the ground. Its symptoms are these: The hog loses appetite, becomes dizzy, and is weak in the hind legs; the teeth are black. Prevention and cure may be affected by giving the animal a clean, dry pen well strewed with wood and ashes, and plenty of turf for him to root over; feed him well, too. In bad cases, removal of the worst teeth is thought good, but this may be avoided by due care. Many farmers and agricultural writers, ridicule the idea that swine are liable at all to such a disease. They deny that a well authenticated case has ever been proven.

☞ It is estimated that more than ten thousand sewing machines were made and sold in this country during the last year. This is too low—say twenty. More than two hundred patents have been granted and applications for new ones are so numerous at Washington that it requires the entire service of one individual to examine them. The inventors of reaping and mowing machines are equally numerous.

☞ The highest price ever given for a horse of which there is any authentic account, was paid in 1851, for a race horse that brought $32,500.