

WAITING.

Waiting and waiting, what does it avail? The sun will shine, the moon will wax and wane, the stars will twinkle, the clouds will drift, the water will flow, the wind will blow, the earth will tremble, the sea will roar, the sky will burn, the hell will burn, the world will burn, the world will burn, the world will burn.

On the Field of Death.

Translated from the French of George Le Faure.

The battle had begun at daybreak. The firing of guns and roar of cannons had sounded the alarm for the combatants, and over the battle-field there hung a thick veil which the sun's bright rays could hardly penetrate.

Blood flowed in rivers, watering the ground with a horrible dew, and on every side were seen corpses. Mutilated, crushed, mangled forms and faces which in death retained the agonizing expression of fierce hatred that they had worn in life.

For several hours Russians and Turks had disputed the ground, the former attacking and the latter defending the position, but at last, the Russian battalions and squadrons had weakened, and the czar's flag had retreated before the standard of the Sultan.

Now, every thing was quiet; the terrible noise of grape-shot was succeeded by profound silence, and little by little, the black clouds of smoke which enveloped the country like a winding sheet, tore themselves apart and went floating to earth.

The next instant, the silence of this immense tomb would be broken by the sound of a low sad song, from the throat of a bird in the woods near by, mourning the loss of its brood which had been destroyed the day before.

It was now-day: the hour at which the earth slumbers beneath the sun's rays, and the silent meadows seemed to be smiling at the blue sky, and awaiting the arrival of the former with his pleasant morning as if with breath of wind stirring, not even the flight of crows, those dead marauders of the battle-field, was heard.

Suddenly two crows, flying might be seen coming slowly from the direction of the Russian camp, stepping over the corpses and slipping on the bloody ground. One of them wore a shawl, and with silver embroidery which glittered in the sun-light; he carried a golden censor from which arose the smoke of incense; his head was bare, his eyes gleamed, and his lips moved as if in prayer. This was a Russian priest.

Behind him walked a soldier, carrying a book and a silver cross. As the two men approached, between the bloody furrows of the human harvest, the priest was filled with pity, but the soldier's face was stolid-looking.

Now the priest stopped and looked around as if over his shoulder, and the light which presented itself on every side, and the soldier, silent and with lips compressed, piled up some knapsacks to form a sort of altar, on which he laid the book and silver cross.

FAULTS AND FAVORS OF OUR SOCIAL SYSTEM.

By CLINTON MONTAGUE.

In ancient Sparta and Rome, society was more than the individual. Everything was subordinated to the State. Men surrendered even the rights of nature to the demands of their respective governments. Stronger, more imperative than the instincts of love, of home, of individual freedom, was that of patriotism. The true citizen was taught to be always ready to surrender personal privilege for the welfare of society.

Among the Greek democracies and the modern Italian commonwealths, we notice the prevalence of a contrary sentiment. Man, who was nothing but a machine in Rome and Sparta, was here the creator of the machine, the destroyer of the commonwealth. The individuals who were strong by wealth, birth or talents, did not care for the welfare of the whole, but for the welfare of the individual, as corporate societies, as Romans, as Spartans there was too dead-level, a corresponding weakness. The state was not the result of the aggregation of individuals for the good of the whole, but as corporate societies, as Romans, as Spartans there was too dead-level, a corresponding weakness.

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A MISSISSIPPI JUDGE.

Bound to Work Up Business for His Elector was Low.

Business has been dull; remarkably dull. The town jail—called by courtesy a jail, for a tramp could have occupied it for some weeks. This jail was a remarkable affair; it had bars before the windows and no one could get out that way. It had a ponderous lock on its massive door and no one could get out that way. If it means of excess were closed, so that the building might be put to other uses, it would be a pity. The jail was a remarkable affair; it had bars before the windows and no one could get out that way.

At the time of writing the Judge was getting desperate. Fines had been usually slow. He had not a case for over a month and was out of tobacco and hardly supplied with the ordinary luxuries of life. "Tony, you must arrest some one to-day," he said to the Constable.

"I'll try, Judge, but those fellows are dead on us. They do their fighting just beyond the line." "Tony, I thought you a lad of discernment. The official treasury is low, and this is a delicate matter. We would have no way of satisfying our creditors. A deplorable condition of affairs, Tony."

"That night about sundown Tony came in with a prisoner who was named with old-fashioned handcuffs, as though he was a desperado. The crowd indignantly roared, and the man had been fighting beyond the line. It was the old argument. How many times had the Judge stood on the boundary and gazed over the fence, while the crowd jeered at him because he was powerless to make an arrest."

"We can prove by witnesses that the fight took place beyond the line," continued the Judge. "How is that, Tony?" "I'm not sure that I noticed. But the man fought me after we got over the line, Judge."

"Then we will put him in jail for resisting an officer of the law. This community has got to be purified. Take him away, Tony, and see that there are plenty of guards at the jail, so that he shall not escape." "I'll try, Judge, but those fellows are dead on us. They do their fighting just beyond the line."

"No right to hold him?" "No, he was out of your jurisdiction." "Well, sir; I see that you know little about law," said the Judge, impressively. "Out of my jurisdiction, indeed? What would you say, sir, if I met the exigencies of the case by extending my jurisdiction? What would you say to that, sir? Tony, take the man to jail. Lock him up for resisting an officer of the law, and to-morrow justice shall be meted out."

Years ago, when James Monroe was President and John Quincy Adams Secretary of State, the ingenious English engraver obtained permission of the two dignitaries mentioned to take the Declaration of Independence and engrave it facsimile on copper. He carried the precious document to the printing office of one Peter Force. When everything was in readiness he placed it upon the imposing stone and laid a sheet of India paper of the same size upon it. This India paper was next moistened with water in which gum arabic had been dissolved. A heavy proof roller was then drawn across each end, with a weight hanging from each end, and then rolled several times over the historic document. When the India paper was removed from the face of the engraving it took with it at least one-half of the ink used in writing and signing the document. The document is less than a century and a quarter years old, and according to the St. Louis Republic, with proper care should be almost as legible as it was on the 5th day of July, 1776. As it is, only eleven signatures out of the fifty-three can be read with any certainty.

The king of Spain, at his own expense, has decided to make an interesting display in the manufactures, agricultural and forestry buildings at the World's Fair, and will also erect a royal pavilion of elaborate carved woods.

SMILES OF CONTENTMENT

ISSUED FROM THE PENS OF VARIOUS HUMORISTS.

Pleasant incidents Occurring the World Over—Saying that Are Charitable to the Old or Young—Jokes that Everybody Will Enjoy Reading.

A Cranky Patient. Doctor (to patient)—I do not wish to frighten you but if you have no objection I'd like to call in a couple of my brother physicians. Irascible Patient—All right. If you need any assistance in murdering me call in your accomplices.—Texas Siftings.

Wanted a Pound of Cure. Mrs. Kane—I read in a paper that sugar was a sure cure for hiccup, and I tried it on Dick. Mrs. Beetroot—Did it work? Mrs. Kane—Temporarily; but he has had a relapse about every twenty minutes ever since.—Puck.

A Verminous Error. Sporting Gentleman (after a five-mile walk)—Great Scott! Is that the mill you wanted me to see? I thought somebody else was gone? I stand up against somebody else to see which was the best man.—Southern.

One Good Reason. "Why not live forever?" says a recent writer. Well, the principal objection is that one would get so awfully tired of it.—Norwich Bulletin.

Might Be Worse. Capt. Mahan, Farragut's biographer, mentions these instances of the Admiral's passion for knowledge, and adds this suggestive anecdote: "Ah, Mr. Tucker," said Earl St. Vincent to his secretary when planning an attack upon Brest, "had Capt. Jervis (the Captain and Earl were the same person) surveyed Brest when he visited it in 1774. Lord St. Vincent would not in 1800 have been in want of information."

Robbing a Prison. It is perfectly natural that thieves should be sent to prison for having stolen, but it is somewhat of a novelty that they should of their own free will and accord go there—to steal.

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Only One Way. Hicks—Hamfatter is bound to rise in his profession. Wicks—At any rate he's got an excellent chance. He can't get any lower than he is now unless he dies a hole in the ground and crawls into it.—Boston Transcript.

His Post-Graduate Course. She—Are you going abroad to complete your education? He—Not much—going to marry to complete it.—Puck.

FIGS AND THISTLES.

Weekly Window of the Epigrammatic Man's Mouth.

A MAN with a double in a man in the ark. To lose time is to get started wrong in eternity. WHEN people get religion right it is always contagious. A MAN with the big head is always a stranger to himself.

OUR only real possessions are the blessings God gives us. UNTIL God is known as a Father He is never truly worshipped. THE blossoms may smell very sweet and yet the fruit be bitter.

THERE is often more religion in a smile than there is in a tear. THE devil likes to be called by names that sound respectable. NO ARMY is ever made weaker by putting the cowards out of it.

THE man who does all his praying on his knees doesn't pray enough. THE man who looks at everything through money never sees very far. THE justice that a wicked man never wants is the justice he deserves.

TAKE a mountain to pieces and you will find that it is made out of atoms. THE only work God pays for is that which somebody tries to do for nothing. NO MAN ever finds out that he lives in the dark until he has seen the sun.

THE man who tries to accumulate a great fortune has no mercy on himself. WHEN you get a giant down it is not safe to stop until you cut off his head. "BETTER is a little with righteousness, than great revenues without right."

EVERY one who is angry with his brother shall be in danger of judgment. WHEN a child does its best its work looks as well in Heaven as that of an angel. IF you look at the top side of a cloud you will always see something bright.

IF you want to help the Lord, don't find too much fault with your preacher. THE one-talent man is very apt to believe that God requires too much from him. PUTTING God's love in a man's heart makes him a full brother to everybody.

THE devil never gets a chance to ride up hill in the neighborhood of a busy man. WITHOUT money it would be hard for one man to show another just how mean he is. WHENEVER you find anybody who knows Christ you find somebody who loves Christ.

GOD don't care how weak a man may be in the legs if he is only strong in the heart. REPENTANCE is sure to come the minute the sinner really believes that God loves him. A BACKSLIDING man in the pulpit is always one who has misunderstood the Lord.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

The ostrich is the swiftest runner known. Rats will not eat oranges though very partial to apples. The price of parrots in South America is only ten cents. The valuation of the state of Maine is placed at \$285,000,000. President Diaz of Mexico is reported to be worth \$3,000,000.

The statistics of electric railways are expanding at a great rate. Paper was made from rags as early as the Fourteenth Century. The cost of the Capitol at Washington has exceeded \$30,000,000. Three of the first four presidents of the United States married widows.

The turtle lives for nearly a century, and the pike for about 175 years. It is said that pigeons have been used as mail carriers for about 700 years. Turned-in toes are often found with procreant, absent-minded persons. An Indian girl student at Haskell, Kan., is named Jenny One Feather.

One-fourth of the land surface of the globe is occupied by English-speaking people. One of the commonest salutations in Hawaii is "Alo ha," which means "I love you." The wide skirt, under the name of faringale, first appeared in 1530 at the court of Francis I.

Over 600 varieties of cotton are said to exist in Asia and Africa and 200 in America. Ruskin has the finest collection of illuminated missals in the world, numbering about 1,300. The youngest amateur editor is Miss Ethel Stott of the Florida Midweek. She is 10 years old.

Men attending the pans in salt works are never known to have cholera, smallpox, scarlet fever or influenza. The Prussian Cabinet has unanimously approved a bill to reform the present system of voting in Prussia. Governor Claves of Maine selected three of the hundred best men in his own town to be members of his staff.

A recent estimate places the amount of standing timber in the state of Washington at 30,000,000,000 feet. One of the stones in Mrs. Haggis's basket is the most valuable ruby in the world. It formerly belonged to Lola Montez. Mr. Charles Villiers, father of the British house of Commons, has just completed a 14,900 year, having been born on Jan. 2, 1823.

Sir Arthur Sullivan is said to have struck a carriage with a piano in eight hours. The performance was the result of a challenge. It has been discovered that Sunles, the female rhinoceros in the Central Park menagerie, New York, has two perfectly developed tusks. A dog at New Haven, Conn., being the object of much abuse, committed suicide recently by jumping out of the third-story window of a factory.

Hawaii's flag bears stripes of red, white and blue—a sort of outward and visible sign that the little island has a kind of filiality for the great Republic. Charles Emory Smith, who was minister to Russia, says the czar is "a sensible, sensible, sober minded, fearless man—firm and resolute in action." A dead and dumb book character sold seventy-five books within four days recently in three small New Hampshire towns, with commissions amounting to \$150.

Henry Taylor who is said to have invented baby carriage was found by the Waltham (Mass.) police recently in a staving and recently unbalanced condition. The word "preface" used in the beginning of books was originally a word of welcome to the reader, and equivalent to "Much good may it do you." Lady Ingram Watkins has allowed her South Lincolnshire tenants a return of two-thirds of their half year's rent in consequence of the agricultural depression. There are 300 depositors in the Boston Five-cent Savings bank with sums ranging from \$25 \$2000 who haven't been heard from for over twenty years.

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There is an aged negro in middle Tennessee who rejoices in the name of Nigger Falls, though he was really christened after the great cataract. Glory Hallelujah Jones is the imposing name of the document which declares our independence. The king of Spain, at his own expense, has decided to make an interesting display in the manufactures, agricultural and forestry buildings at the World's Fair, and will also erect a royal pavilion of elaborate carved woods.