

Jolly Under Creditable Circumstances.

BY GAIL HAMILTON.

We call attention to the following very article on "damnation," which in these days of "revivalism" it may not be amiss to publish.

It is difficult to say from what depth of shadow an ingenious mind may not be able to extract "sunshine"; but a late religious writer seems to have overcome as many difficulties in this direction as is reasonable to ask of finite human nature. He finds in the present attitude of the Universalists a more hopeful aspect than in the past. "The Bible," he says, "is admitted to teach the doctrine of the existence of hell and future punishments. The step is shorter from the eternity of those punishments, as the scriptures teach, than from the former position, and so more hopeful." And when our Universalist brethren not only have their hell well established and under full headway, but security that the infinite multitudes who go into it will never come out; I suppose hope will change to glad fruition.

This is a theme not new to any of us, but I do not think we generally apply the term "hopeful" to that particular aspect of it.

I suppose the peculiar juxtaposition of his words did not strike the writer. What he probably meant was that hell, being founded on a permanent basis, an increase in the number of people who are aware of it marks an increase in the number who will beware of it. Nevertheless, it seems rather an airy way of talking about a matter so wide in its sweep, so lasting in its hold, so momentous in all its consequences.

And those who are occupying themselves with reviving and discussing the doctrine of infant salvation seem to the untheologic vision but wasting breath. It is of vast importance, they allege, since it involves the eternal fate of nearly one-half the human family.

"Does it? What involves it—the doctrine, or our understanding of the doctrine, or our clear comprehension of the fact? One would say that if there be any subject on earth with which we need not concern ourselves, it is infant salvation. Because as the late Mr. Tweed was wont to remark: "What are you going to do about it?" There may be an avoidable hell for grown people; but if there be a hell for babies, into it they must go, and there is no use in talking. If you give a Bible to the pudgy little fellow in the cradle, he may manage to get a corner of it into his drooling little-mouth; but he cannot read a word.

If you preach righteousness to him long enough, he may throw up his milk gently, but he will not repent and reform. No backsliding church was ever more cold and dead—and buried in trespasses and sin—more absolutely impenetrable to appeal and unchangeable of moving than this laughing, cowering, crying, "probate infant." It is difficult to draw the line between irresponsibility and responsibility; but I think I hazard nothing in saying that no agency known to the church is capable of converting a week-old baby from the error of his ways. If he dies at that age, and if he is not saved without human instrumentality by the natural workings of Divine laws, he is not saved at all.

There is something grotesque—at once lurid and comical—in the spectacle of groups of grave divines putting their heads together, either to get the babies out of hell or to get them in. The babies themselves, who are chiefly concerned, are so profoundly indifferent to the whole subject! Salvation and damnation are all one to them. Not for the one or the other do they babble the more or bawl the less—Catholic, Presbyterian and Calvinistic—we have all tried our hand at consigning them to endless torment; and they will still try a great deal longer and harder to get their toes into their mouth than their souls out of the eternal flames. One church is willing to undertake the salvation of elect infants, and one damns his non-elect, and a third makes it hard for the unbaptized infant. But whether that young reprobate is "leniently damned" by the sound logic but kind heart of the great and good St. Augustine, or whether he is put on the "top floor of hell, where the fire does not reach," by the equally logical and kind hearted Roman Catholic, is a matter that gives him not the smallest apprehension. Furnish him with a rattle, a black doll, an old parasol handle and food, like Mrs. Gramp's porter, brought "regular and draw'd mild," and he will unhesitatingly let you put him wherever your logic can find place for him.

And he is right. He is perfectly safe in the hands of God, however precarious his position in the five points or the thirty-nine articles. Luther and Calvin and the rest of us reformers have to construct a logical system of the universe for God to govern his work by; and it is incredible up hill work, because such a very small part of the universe comes under our notice, and that part stays under our notice so very short a time. In this inexorable system we have never been able to adjust the little ones quite to our satisfaction. They can be easily damned in a syllogism—but they are so winsome. Save them, then, surely—but instantly a dozen points bristle between premise and conclusion. Happily their Creator has no system to defend. His plan is so symmetrical that it stands alone. He can afford to be reasonable without fear of damage to his reasoning. We ought to remember that any complete theory, founded on partial knowledge is

necessarily defective. A theological system that does not leave open spaces for fresh truths or for the new phases of old truths, is, by that token, constructed on wrong principles.

It is not to be for a moment doubted that Augustine and Luther and the other divines were as loving and tender toward children as any great-hearted men be; and the world has saved us the trouble of extolling their intellect. All the same we see how great men can labor their brains in vain, while the solution of their problem is close at hand; and the way-faring man, though a fool, does not err therein. The children are saved simply because God has so planned the nature of things that they cannot be lost. Why travel back to Adam's transgression to get the baby damned, and then plod down to baptismal regeneration to get him redeemed again, when the seal of his salvation is set upon his own pure brow and the loving smile of God shines out of his innocent eyes? More than this is not wanted; but if more than this were wanted Jesus Christ himself confirms the law written in our hearts. He took the little children up in his arms and said: "Suffer the little children to come unto me; for, though they germinally participated in Adam's transgression and are only in a state of relative innocence, being born into a sinful state and with a disposition, still they have been freely elected, and baptismally regenerated, through my atonement and the regenerative efficacy of the Holy Spirit. Therefore forbid them not. That does not sound quite like it. It is only necessary to put our bulky and clumsy theories about the simplest of matters into the mouth of Christ, to see how needless—not to say ridiculous—they are. Jesus, himself, is as simple and natural and straight forward as the sunlight.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of God."

What an easy cutting of the Gordian knot! They go to heaven because they belong there. That is the place for them. No wonder the people were, and have not to this day ceased being astonished at Christ's doctrine; it is so clear, and sweet, and sane. For he taught as one having authority and not as the scribes.

Charles O'Connor.

Inquiry in regard to the illness of Charles O'Connor was to-day made at his house, at Fort Washington, by a reporter of the Evening Post. A great change for the better was announced, Mr. O'Connor himself sending word that he considered all danger past and that he was improving rapidly. From his son-in-law, Mr. McCracken, the following particulars were learned: Mr. O'Connor has been slowly but perceptibly gaining for at least a fortnight. For about ten days he has been sitting up most of each day, and occasionally he has left his chamber though he has not yet descended to the first floor. He rises at about 8 o'clock and remains up, wearing a dressing-gown and slippers, until about 10 o'clock at night, save that he usually takes a nap in the course of the day. He takes a breakfast of tea and toast and at 2 o'clock p. m. eats a dinner of mutton chops, rice and ginger ale. These are his only meals, but his appetite is about as good as when he was in his normal state of health. When well it was not uncommon for him to eat but twice a day.

Mr. O'Connor has the newspapers read to him daily, and is able to do some writing, though he usually dictates his letters. He is able to give a little attention to business, and occasionally receives visitors. His physicians now visit him but once a week.

The history of Mr. O'Connor's sickness make this great improvement appear as remarkable as it is gratifying. He has suffered from general debility since about the first of last August, but did not become seriously ill until Thanksgiving Day, the 25th of November. He was out riding the day before. On the 25th he did not leave his bed, and for a week after he lay at the point of death. His condition was so critical during this time that Mr. McCracken did not dare to leave the house for even a few minutes, lest Mr. O'Connor should die in his absence. Several weeks after this the physicians had no hope of his recovery. He has been visited daily by Dr. Keyes till within the last fortnight. Dr. Van Buren and Dr. Alonzo Clark have also been consulted.

Mr. O'Connor's trouble was an almost total lack of ability to digest food, and consequent great prostration.

A Lady Hugged by a Bear.

The Liverpool Post says that compensation for being hugged by a polar bear in Lime Street Station was claimed at the Court of passage on Jan. 6 from the London and North Western Railway Company. The victim of the alarming embrace was a Mrs. Montgomery, who was waiting for a train with her husband and brother. The bear was confined in a barrel which was placed on a hand truck; and it was alleged that Mrs. Montgomery, unconscious of the proximity of the bear, found herself in the grasp of its paws, and squeezed so severely that her breath was quite taken away. As soon as she could scream the uncomfortable plight she was in was discovered, and she was rescued without suffering from broken bones, but not without painful and nervous sensations, which have not yet left her. She wore at the time a seal-skin jacket, and the learned assessor suggested that the conduct of the bear might

be referable to an association of ideas between this article of dress and the animal's former seal hunting expositions in the Arctic regions. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £90.

A Silver Quarter with a History.

Fifteen years ago Mr. Louis German lost a silver twenty-five cent piece, upon one side of which he had engraved his name and place of business. The piece was bright and new when he engraved it and wore it as a charm to his watch chain. As the trinket was of small value it was, of course, forgotten soon after its loss, and, after a year or two, Mr. German never expected to see it again. A few days ago an Indiana farmer drove into New Albany to purchase goods and in the money paid for them was the identical piece of coin bearing Mr. German's name. The gentleman (a New Albany merchant) who received the money came over to Louisville yesterday and returned it to the owner. The piece bore upon its surface the appearance of having been in constant use. As there has been no specie circulation during the last fifteen years, the finder of the quarter adopted it as an ornament for his guard or chain.—Louisville Journal.

Telegraphic Brevities.

The bill to repeal the Grey Nunn act has passed the New York Assembly. The Ohio Republican State Convention will meet in Columbus on March 29. The scale shops of E. & P. Fairbanks, St. Johnsbury, Vt., were destroyed by fire last week. Captain General Jovollar, on assuming command in Cuba, has issued a proclamation conciliatory but firm in tone. Five dollars to swear in Camden, S. C. Swearing excursions to the country are the natural result. Mr. Barriole, of Troy, N. Y., who recently swallowed a solution of nicks, proposes to return to specie payments. The mule-spinners at Blackstone, Rhode Island, where a strike has stopped the mills, have agreed to return to work on Monday. Most of the female employees in the Goodyear Glove Company's works, Nantucket, Conn., have resumed work on their employer's terms. In the Virginia Legislature, the bill appropriating \$5,000 for the representation of the State in the Centennial was finally defeated. Moody and Sarkey will find a hard text to preach from in the fact that a New Castle, Ill., woman raffled off her Bible to get her husband out of jail. The employes of Harman & Bendish, shoe manufacturers, New York, have struck because the firm refused to discharge three foremen not belonging to the Crispin Society.

Mr. David L. Fleming, one of the editors and part proprietor of the Pittsburg Gazette, died at his residence in that city last week, of brain fever, after an illness of about two weeks.

E. P. Smith, late commissioner of Indian Affairs, has been invited by the American Missionary Association of New York to visit Africa to inspect the missions of the society in that country.

The women of Henry, Ill., where the notorious Glendinning is now preaching, say he talks so sweet and looks so guileless they don't see how folks can say he's guilty.

A valuable bed of marl, capable of furnishing a good cement, has been discovered at Kalamazoo, Mich., and a company with a capital of \$500,000 has been organized to develop it.

The Maquoheta, Wis., authorities have adopted a very simple but effective method of regulating the liquor saloons. They have passed an ordinance prohibiting the use of blinds, screens, stained glass, or anything that hinders observation through the windows.

At the bottom of a mound cut through by railroad cutters near Alton, Ill., last week, inclosed in a hard cement, perfectly water-tight, were found large quantities of beads, shells, necklaces, stone implements and weapons, including a spear about two feet long, made of clear white flint, with a handle wrapped with copper wire. It is thought the spear was a present to the mound-builders from Father Marquette or La Salle two hundred years ago.

WASHINGTON, January 21.—As soon as the Centennial appropriation bill is disposed of the House post office committee hope to bring up the bill to restore the old rate of postage on transient mail matter. There will probably be quite a strong opposition developed to the bill. A very formidable lobby is already here working against the measure in the interests of the express companies, but the force of public feeling will doubtless be too strong for them, and the bill will pass by an overwhelming majority.

WASHINGTON, January 21.—The committee on expenditures in the Post Office Department have discovered new irregularities. It is said that they have fallen upon evidence leading to the conviction that the old Hiaes ring have been successful in at least two instances since their exposure in recurring contracts from the Department. In both these cases it is alleged that the same means as formerly were used, and the celebrated counterfeit stamp played its accustomed part. The committee are determined to get at the facts, and have sent for persons and papers connected with the cases.

LONDON, January 21.—The annual meeting of the Anti-Slavery Society to Earl De-

launcey, on the Cuban question states that they have reliable information that Spain is willing to place Cuba in the same relation that Canada now occupies toward England, on condition that slavery is retained. The memorial points out that in view of the recent American circular the obstacle no longer exists which was advanced by Earl Derby last year that Great Britain's interference in the Cuba question would cause jealousy in the United States.

BILLINGS STROUD, GENERAL.

FIRE, LIFE AND ACCIDENT.

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Capital Represented, \$100,000,000!

FIRE.

Table listing fire insurance companies and their assets. Includes Fire Association of Phil., Capital & Assets, \$3,500,000; Insurance Co. of N. A., Phil., 5,000,000; Pennsylvania Fire, Phil., 1,700,000; etc.

LIFE.

Table listing life insurance companies and their assets. Includes Conn. Mutual Life Ins. Co., Assets, \$50,000,000; American Life, Phil., \$5,000,000.

ACCIDENT.

Table listing accident insurance companies and their assets. Includes Travelers Ins. Co., Hartford, Capital and Surplus \$2,000,000; Railway Passengers, \$500,000.

The undersigned has been well known in this county for the past 20 years, as an Insurance Agent. Losses sustained by his Companies have always been promptly paid.

Office on stairs, in building east from Banking Office of Wm. H. Cooper & Co., Turnpike street.

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DO YOU Male or Female. Send your address and name to a marriage guide, showing a list of MONEY honorably over \$150 a month, sure.

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How either sex may fascinate and gain the love and affections of any person they choose instantly. This simple, mental acquisition all can possess, free, by mail, for 25c, together with a marriage guide, showing a list of MONEY honorably over \$150 a month, sure. Hints to Ladies, Wedding-Night Shirt, &c. A queer book. Address T. WILLIAMS & CO., Pubs. Phila., Pa.

GREAT OFFER.

We will during the holidays dispose of 100 Pianos and Organs of first class makers including Walters' at lower prices than ever before offered. Monthly installments received running from 12 to 36 months. Warranted for 6 years. Second-hand instruments at extremely low prices for cash. Illustrated Catalogue Mailed. Agents wanted. Warehouses 451 Broadway, N. Y. HORACE WALTERS & SONS.

FOR COUGHS, COLDS, HOARSENESS, AND ALL THROAT DISEASES.

WELL'S CARBOLIC TABLETS. PUT UP ONLY IN BLUE BOXES. THE TRIANGLE REMEDY. Sold by Druggists generally, and Johnston, Holloway & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

"NIP AND TUCK"

(Chromo.) The Great American Tea Company 31 and 33 Vesey Street, N. Y. Beautiful Oil Chromos, of different sizes, presented to purchasers of 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 pounds of Tea, in clubs of \$20 and upwards. The Company has now ready for delivery a splendid Chromo, entitled "Nip and Tuck" a new (three pound) picture, showing a lively skirmish between a baby and a pet dog for the possession of a doll. It is so full of roaring fun that no description can tell the story so well as the simple title of the artist. The battle is just Nip and Tuck and must be seen to be appreciated. Send for circular of prices, terms, &c. The Great American Tea Company, 31 and 33 Vesey Street, P. O. Box 5643, NEW YORK CITY.

TUNKHANNOCK MARBLE WORKS.

BURNS & WHITE, Manufacturers of and Dealers in MARBLE AND SLATE MANTLES.

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MARBLE AND SLATE MANTLES.

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A Specialty. Cemetery Lots Enclosed.

P. C. BURNS, GKO. WHITE, Tunkhannock, Pa., Jan. 19, 1876—ly

RECKHOW & BROTHER, General Undertakers.

DEALERS IN ALL KINDS OF COPPER, BRASS, AND IRON PINS, CASKETS, ETC.

GREAT BEND.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO. April 23, 1875—ly V. RECKHOW & Bro.

TO THE PEOPLE OF SUSQUEHANNA CO.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—The question of WHO WILL BE OUR NEXT PRESIDENT,

is not of as much importance to you as the fact that CHEAP JOHN,

of Montrose, is selling his entire stock of goods consisting in part of

Mens' and Boys' Ready-Made Clothing, Hats and Caps.

DRY GOODS,

NOTIONS AND HOSIERY, UNDERWEAR LADIES' CLOAKS, FELT SKIRTS, TRIMMED HATS, AND BONNETS, SHAWLS, SHOES, WATER-PROOF, TIES, RUFFLES, ETC., ETC.

At 10 per cent less than first cost, (the proof of the pudding is in the eating thereof) for you can find out the truth of this by giving him a call at his store in Post Building.

Our reasons for the above enormous reduction are several, first, our large and well assorted stock wants selling. Second, we are making preparations to remove into Berries.

New Brick Store,

now being built next door to the NEW BANK, and we do not want to move any more goods than we can help. Third, we want your custom for the future and the only way for us to gain and retain the same is to convince you that it is to your interest to purchase now and in the future, from very respectfully yours,

S. PILLMAN & CO., (Cheap John.)

Montrose, December 15, 1875.

The Place to Get Your DRUGS & MEDICINES

is at M. A. Lyon's,

Where you will find a full assortment of Pure Drugs and Medicines, Chemicals, Dyestuffs, Jewels, Perfumery, Violins and Viola Strings, Fancy Goods, Yankee Notions, Pocket Books, Cigars Tobacco, Fine Toilet Soaps, Brushes, Table Cutlery, Solid Silver Spoons, Plated Spoons, Knives and Forks, Guns, Pistols, Amalitions, Shoulder Braces, Trusses, Medical Instruments, Dental Materials, Lamps and Lamp Chimneys, Teas, Spices, Baking Powder, Sea Moss, Fatine, Gelatine, Tapioca, etc., etc.

A full assortment of Machine Oils and all kinds of Varnish, kept constantly on hand.

We are selling our Wall Paper at cost, and are also closing out our Glassware at a Very Low Figure.

Get a can of our Mixed Chemical Paint, ready for use, and do your own painting.

With our large stock of goods, we feel confident that everyone visiting Montrose, will find it for their interest to call and examine for themselves before purchasing elsewhere. Montrose June 9, 1875.

WHERE NOW?

WHY TO A. N. BULLARD'S,

AT THE HEAD OF NAVIGATION,

to get some SPRING SEED WHEAT, CLOVER AND TIMOTHY SEED.

Garden Seeds of all kinds, the very best Flour, Sugar, Tea, Coffee, Fish, Hams, Lard, etc., etc.

—ALSO—

Forty cases of choice canned goods, consisting in part of Canned Peas, Plums, Cherries, Quinces, Strawberries, Pine Apples, Corn, Beans, Tomatoes, Peas, Duck, Turkey, Lobster, Succotash, Peach, Quince and Apple Butter, Deviled Ham, and lots of other things, all of which are requested to mention, all of which will be sold at all kinds of "PATRONS" for ready pay at prices that will

Defy Competition and strictly upon the principle of live and let live.

Montrose, April 7, 1875. A. N. BULLARD'S.

A NEW ENTERPRISE.

A practical workman, at

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has opened a shop under E. L. Weeks & Co's store, on Public Avenue, where he is ready to do all kinds of work in his line. Can execute new work, and repairs with neatness and despatch. JAMES BIRNEY.

Montrose, October 13th 1875.—3m.

JOB WORK AT THIS OFFICE, CHEAP.

Legal Notices.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the estate of Samuel Lindley, late of Brookdale, dec'd. Letters of Administration in the said estate having been granted to the undersigned all persons owing said estate are requested to make immediate payment and all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present them without delay. JOSEPH LINDLEY, Administrator. Jan. 12, 1876.—6w3

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the estate of Ellen O'Brien, late of St. Joseph, dec'd. Letters of Administration in the said estate having been granted to the undersigned all persons owing said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present them without delay. JOHN J. LANNON, Administrator. Jan. 12, 1876.—6w2

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the est. of Charles Powers, late of Apolonia township. Letters of Administration in the said estate having been granted to the undersigned all persons owing said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present them without delay. C. A. WARREN, Administrator. Jan. 12, 1876.—6w2

NOTICE.—All persons are hereby cautioned not to purchase a note alleged to have been given by Thomas Colford, about four years ago payable to Anastasia Madock, as the same is believed to be a fraud, and will not be paid unless compelled by law. Said note is drawn for five hundred dollars.

THOMAS F. COLFORD. Dec. 29, 1875.—5w*

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the estate of John Conley, late of Chester, dec'd. Letters of Administration in the said estate having been granted to the undersigned all persons owing said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present them without delay. JAMES W. CONLEY, Administrator. Dec. 15, 1875.—6w*