# SULLIVAN REPUBLICAN.

W. M. CHENEY, Publisher.

Terms---\$1.25 in Advance; \$1.50 after Three Months.

VOL. VIII.

### LAPORTE, PA., FRIDAY, MAY 23, 1890.

NO. 32.

#### Seeds and Words.

I dropped a seed beside a path,
And went my busy way,
Till chance or fate—I say not which— Led me, one summer day, Along the self-same path, and lo! A flower blooming there,
As fair as eye has looked upon, And sweet as it was fair.

I dropped a sympathetic word, For little tending's needed when The seed is good we sow; But once I met the man again, And by the gladsome way He took my hand I knew I sowe The best of seed that day.

#### Working for Uncle Sam.

A WOMAN CLERK'S STORY.

The life of a feminine clerk in one of the Government Departments at Washington is not by any means a bad existence. I have tried it and speak from experience.

One day not long ago I found my way to the office of the Secretary in the Interior Department. A colored man of great dignity sat outside of the door. and upon my entrance into the anteroom rose respectfully and, taking my card, waved me to a seat to await results while he disappeared through a doorway opposite me.

In a few minutes I was ushered into a large room, half office, half library, and facing a dignified gentleman who rose and politely asked me to be seated. He still held in his hand the letter I had sent in by the porter together with my card, the black border of which looked as strange and forlorn as my life was then. In as few words as possible I told him my history up to that moment and why I had applied to him. Would he give me a position as a clerk in the Department?

He silently turned over several packages of paper lying on the desk beside him, and then said: "Do you know your application makes 1001 that I now have before me, asking for clerkships in this Department?"

One thousand and one! How quickly my thoughts flew back to the strains of a favorite waltz, "One Thousand and The room and the man before me faded before another visiona group of gay young girls dancing to the music of that waltz as it dripped from my careless fingers. "One Thousand and One Nights!" Less than that many nights before I had been one of a party listening to that music played by a German band, 'Under the Linden" in Germany, loved and cared for, with no thought of sorrow.

I was brought sharply back to the present, with its bitter contrast, by the entrance of the porter, followed by two gentlemen. The Secretery shook my hand as a farewell, and promising to send me an answer in the morning, bade the porter see me safely to the car in the next street. In arranging my veil a watch guard unclasped and dropped with a rattle to the floor. One of the gentlemen who had just entered picked it up, and looking significantly at it and then to the Secretary, handed it to me. It was the square and compass set in large white diamonds, belonging to my husband. Ido not know whether that little incident helped me thought possibly it did, as I saw the same design hanging from a chain worn by the Secretary of the Interior.

Next morning the bell boy brought a note and a large official document containing my appointment to a clerkship in the Pension Office at a salary of \$1000 a year. I was to go the following Monday morning at 9 o'clock for examination and to be assigned to a room with others thus employed. The next two days were spent in search for a boarding-house. Of these I found plenty, but at not one desirable place could I get room and board without that all-important thing, some recommendation, a thing I had never once even dreamed of having.

I think my experience those two days ought to be written, and would be interesting, to say the least, to students of human nature. My only crime, unfitness or whatever you may term it, as expressed or hinted, was my being "so young." "so pretty" and "a widow!" Think of it. I wished most heartily that day that I might be old, gray and hideously ugly. I am gad there were no wicked fairies about that could change peop'e at their own wish. I fear I should have been left repenting, a clerk to this day in that old

could not change my face, and certainly it was not my forture, I decided to change my tactics, and through the means of the telegraph I was enabled to secure satisfactory references, even for that particular and pampered class, Washington landladies.

On the Monday following I went to a building on Tenth street-I think the same one where President Lincoln was carried mortally wounded; if not, it was next door to it-where the examinations were held. In answer to my rap I was admitted to a long, lowceiled room filled with writing tables and chairs. At one of these tables two ladies were busily bending over pen and ink, evidently undergoing the ordeal through which I must pass. A short, stout gentleman with a pair of large green glasses surmounting his nose looked over my paper of appointment, and giving me a chair at one of the vacant desks, put before me some printed questions. I think I passed creditably, for I was not requested to rewrite or given any hints, as one of the other two was. While my papers were being folded

and written upon I looked with curiosity at my comrades. One was undoubtedly a "schoolmarm." It showed for itself in many ways. Tall, thin, plain, with an intellectual face. She wrote carefully and without study her answers to the questions and folded her papers with a precision and neatness that spoke well for any work entrusted to her, and made me feel green with envy. Both ladies had reached that stage in life called one of "uncertain Why uncertain I could never see plainly. But the other writer interested me. A lady without doubt; once "of the world," but of it no more, was written plainly on the strong, thoughtful face and in the dignified, queenly figure. Age and care had lined the once handsome face and whitened the hair. Later I learned her history and that my surmises were correct. By a stroke of fate our desks were next to each other for many months and through her eventually my life's story was changed. She was the widow of a once noted army officer. Through the carclessness of trustees her fortune was swept away. The same government that honored her husband while living soon gave her means of earning L bread. A bill had been introduced in congress to give her a suitable pension, but was delayed and seemed almost hopelessly cast aside. Later it was granted and she gladly resigned her position to others more needy and less interesting.

went to the pension office on Twelfth street. It was a relief to me to be with the two older ladie; and they both assumed a care and helpfulness that I have never ceased to remember gratefully. Another office, with several desks, occupied by men busily writing and messengers coming in and going out, carrying papers. We waited some time, and at last, our papers being seen and approved, we were given cards, with our name and number of building and room thereon. The "schoolteacher" said "good-by" and went to another building, while the other lady and myself followed a messenger up a lighted room. It was filled with desks, men, women and chairs, and all swam in a confused circle before my frightened eyes. In a moment of composure I began counting, and found that there were eighty clerks assigned in this room, seventy of whom were men and ten women. The desks were arranged in rows, as at school, eight rows, with six in a row.

The ladies (all, with one exception, looked like ladies) had the lightest, warmest side of the room and were in row by themselves. The scratch of pens, or rattling of papers, with an oc-casional subdued remark, was all that broke the silence. At the end of the room and facing the others were the desks of the Chief and Assistant Chief of the division. I almost expected to see apples, knives and marbles there; it seemed like a "grown-up" school-room over which two teachers presided. A soldierly looking gentleman came forward, and offering chairs, looked at our cards. In a few minutes we were shown the ladies' cloak-room, a small, neat room, cared for by an elderly colored woman (once a maid to one of the mistresses of the White House), and upon our return were given desks at the

for pension cases, copying old war records and trying to rewrite the records of the revolutionary war. These last were really interesting, containing many quaint historical facts, that lie hidden in the old yellow parchments. In one of the payrolls was pinned a receipted bill, made out to "George Washington for ye shoeing of one horse' by one "Phineas Seely." have forgotten the amount, but the debt was paid. There were many funny applications for pensions, the reasons for applying being absurd beyond belief. One old fellow applied because "his wife's first husband had been killed in battle, and he, having married her and endured her temper and bad cooking for many years, until death released her from this world and himself from the two above trials, he desired a pension on that account."

From 9 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon we wrote at our desks, with a half hour for lunch, every day but Sunday. Of the men employed as clerks nearly all had suffered in some way from the war, through which most had passed. Some few were there through influence. Of the twelve (counting the last two assigned) women employed; eight were widows, either wives or daughters of men killed in battle. The four young women were orphans. The most perfect decorum prevailed and I can assert that no lady could fail to be treated with greater respect by all with whom she may come in contact.

I speak from only a brief month's experience, but in that time, on account of rapid penmanship, I was sent from one room to another to assist in work needed in a hurry, I saw and heard enough of the different people to write many novels that would verify the old adage that "truth is stranger than fiction."-New York World.

Peculiar Prescriptions.

"We have the queerest kind of prescriptions called for sometimes," said a pharmacist a few days since. very many days ago a reputable physician sent to ask me if I could get him some of the virus from a bee sting, to be used, I think he said, in scarlet fever. And another physician once told me that he had secured marvellous results in a case where powerful opiates had failed, by using virus from the bite of a rattlesnake.

"But the mass of queer prescriptions are brought in by ignorant people, and are not vouched for by any member of the medical profession. Not long ago a young colored man brought in a bit of paper that called for nearly twenty different substances, among which were a lock of hair from the head of a baby, five whole black peppers, the tooth of a cat, a nail from the left hind paw of a dog, a bit of gum bezoin, and a drop man. All these were to be put together at midnight when the moon was in a certain quarter. To be taken internally? Oh, bless you, no. It was to be worn in a bag about the neck. and was, I fancy, the relic of some old superstition of plantation days."-N.

Migration of Big Game. that the caribou are fast leaving the Maine forests and are going north into Nova Scotia. John Darling informs us that John Francis of the Trout Brook region and Captain Barker of the Rangeley lakes, two well-known hunters, report that the caribou have been leaving their localities for the past five years and now only a stray one is found in the woods. The deer, on the contrary, are growing more plentiful in these parts and are fast leaving the Machias and Union river region. The hunters are unable to assign any reason for these movements of game. - Bangor (Me.) Commercial.

### The Question is Unanswered.

"You are an authority on feasts of strength, I believe?" remarked a stranger to the sporting editor,

The latter bowed, and replied: "What can I do for you?"

"I wish you would tell me which is he stronger, the female shoplifter or the woman who holds up a train?"-Munsey's Weekly.

The Best He Could Do. Mrs. Brown-What made you chalk your name on my new table?

Littie Johnnie- Cause I'd lest glosmy building on the avenue. As I The work was making out papers inchknife " ... Epoph.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

There is no end of new and beautiful designs in white suitings and in embroideries for trimming white dresses, children's dresses and underwear. showy open work, which is voted vulgar, but delicate and dainty patterns like old French hand work. This might be called the vandyke season, as they appear in everything, in all the new embroideries of whatever width, as well as in passementeries, laces and all kinds of trimming. The narrow vandyked bands will be used as ruffles on wash dresses and underwear. Ladies' Home

WOMEN'S SHOES.

"Women should be as particular about wearing good shoes in the streets as they are about headgear," said a society lady, "but there seems to be a disposition just the other way. It is not an unusual sight to see a young woman on the avenue handsomely dressed, and with an attractive-looking glazed sailor hat on her head, but a most disreputable looking pair of shoes peeping out from under her skirts. Men are very quick to notice such things, and while handsome walking costumes may pass almost neglected, hats and shoes always in vite attention. A word to the wise will probably result in more attention being paid to these details of street attire, and when it can be afforded a glazed sailor hat should invariably be accompanied by a pair of patent leather-tipped shoes or gaiters, either well blacked or bronzed .-Washington Post.

MARRIAGE RELATIONS REVERSED.

Miss Amelia B. Edwards says that from the time of the pyramids to the reign of the Ptolemys woman was, legally and socially, man's equal in every way, and at times his superior. Women carried on business in their own names, entirely distinct from their husbands. Marriage contracts which have been discovered show that a state of affairs prevailed contrary to present customs. Then the man promised to serve the wife in all things.

The man accepted the woman to be his wife and she became possessed of not only her own property but all of her husband's. It was her's absolutely. On the other hand the wife engaged to provide the husband with food and clothing and to see that his body was properly embalmed after death. The man when he married took the name of his wife, and the sons that were born to them took their mother's name. -N.

## KISSING MOTHER.

How many young ladies of today would laugh at the absurd idea, as they express it, of kissing mother; but you can not, dear girls, imagine how it will brighten her dear face. Besides, you owe her a kiss or two. Away back, when you were a little girl, she kissed you when no one else was tempted by your fever-tainted breath and swollen face. You were not as attractive then as you are now. And through those years of childish sunshine and shadows she was always ready to cure by the magic of a mother's kiss the little, dirty, chubby hands whenever they with the rough world. And then the midnight kisses with which she routed so many bad dreams, as she leaned above your restless pillow, have all been on interest these long, long years. Of course, she is not so pretty and kissable as you are, but if you had done your share of work these last ten years, the contrast would not be so marked. Her face has more wrinkles than yours, and yet if you were sick, that face would appear far more beautiful than an angel's as it hovered over you. watching every opportunity to minister to your comfort, and every one of those wrinkles would seem to be bright wavelets of sunshine, chasing each other over the dear face. - Locomotive Firemen's Magazine.

CARE OF THE HAIR.

An Austrian who has a hair shop in West Forty-second street keeps a carriage and goes from house to house every morning in the week to singe, cut, dress or shampoo the tresses of his customers. Here are some of his theories regarding the care of the hair: "In my judgment, actresses are the only class of women who need to wash their heads. They live in a powdered atmosphere on the stage, the injurious effects of which nothing but soap and

warm water will avert. Ordinarily water is bad for the head; it chills the scalp and rots the hair. I have customers who have not put water on their hair since they were children. One lady, with a suit of the most beautiful black hair I can recall, told me she had not washed her head since her wedding day, and that was thirteen But the hair must be years ago. kept clean for all that. I know nothing better than a good brush, which, if well applied, will invigorate and cleanse the head and give a gloss to the hair that nothing else will secure. I consider the comb a most deleterious instrument unless handled correctly. To begin at the head as most people do in combing is to tear out or break the hair. The proper way is to begin at the ends. Get the tangles out first and ascend by degrees. The tresses smoothed out should then be divided into three or four parts and combed in sections. By this method some good and small damage is accomplished. In using a fine-tooth comb never drag it through the length of the hair unless you are anxious to become bald. The dandruff is not in the hair; it is in the scalp, and the scalp only should be combed or scraped. By carefully dividing the hair the head can be bared and combed. A little practice will enable a maid to glide the comb out of the hair, removing much of the dandruff and dust with it. What remains in the hair can be brushed off. It is difficult for an individual to clean her own head. The duty should be performed by some one. A very excellent shampoo can be prepared at home that will keep the head in a healthy condition. Put into a toilet bottle a mixture containing the following ingredients: One pint of water, five cents' worth of powdere! Castile soap, two tablespoonfuls of alcohol, half the quantity of borax and the yolk of two eggs. The egg contains iron, which will be absorbed; the soap and borax will cleanse the skin, and the alcohol supply a sufficiency of heat to prevent cold. -N. Y. World.

FASHION NOTES.

Flat gold braid is now being used to trim woolen dresses.

The "effects" in the new sunshades are nothing, if not striking.

Its very light weight commends the polonaise dress for summer use.

Gold and silver embroided jackets for house wear are among stylish gar-

Some of the handsomest woolen gowns have square yokes of velvet and velvet mutton-leg sleeves.

Lawns of white grounds with wide black stripes, edged with open lace patterns are made for mourning wear.

Alpaca dresses are made up with jacket bodices opening over a very full vest and with the plain skirt straight.

The revival of draperies and polonaise garments separate from the underskirt is one of the predictions for sum-

Finely striped and crossbar ginghams are the best dresses for babies to wear while traveling. They look neat and wash well.

A scarfpin that is finding favor i some circles is a moonstone mask, which can at will be lowered to show an onyx profile at the back.

While sleeves increase in size, the skirts seem to be diminishing in proportion. Steels have disappeared and pads are much smaller.

The Greek Fillet worn with very tousled heads of auburn-brown hair is a favorite style of hair dressing with ultra-fashionable women.

Accordion-pleated skirts are still worn and will be for some time, also straight full skirts of net, crepe, with rows of moire or other ribbons as a

Many of the transparent gauze fans are mounted on very light wood, one-half the fan covered with large loosely made flowers formed of pink or white silk crepe.

Very elegant camel's hair fabrics are imported with brocaded borderings in richly shaded silks. Those in gray, mohogany, and reseda are particularly

Skirts for outdoor dresses are cut full and fall in richer folds, the back breadths drape 1 slightly, while the front breadths, when plain, have two ends of wide ribbon falling from the

gentleman who chanced to mee wee child crying in the street, Paused in his course to ask it why And what it was that made it cry.

"I lost my penny, sir," it said. But hardly had he turned to go

Returning to the child said he: "Now, why are all the tears I see?"
"I'd have two pennies now," it wept, 'If I the other one had kept."

How often with enough we've sighed for something we have been denied. Our natures are with longings filled For cream that is forever spilled.

#### HUMOROUS.

When a turtle wants to look into nything he puts out his head.

The man who lacks nerve never ought to hesitate about going to the lentist's.

The man who is willing to take things as they come finds usually that they never come.

Clergymen may not amount to much as carpenters, but they make the best joiners in the world.

A paper has been started at Melbourne called the policeman. If it doesn't give club rates it may have to

If the present prices for horses continue to prevail, even a man with a nightmare may be able to get rid of it at a profit. "Don't you think that doctors are

usually handsome men?" said one Washington girl to another. "Some of hem are just killing."

Many a man is supposed to be spoiled by success, when he only had enough merit to last him a season. You can't get water out of a dry well.

Mr. Figg-If you were out in a boat with your wife and your sister and the boat should upset, which one would you save? Mr. Hogg-Myself.

"Do you like your new mamma, Charlie?" was asked of a precocious youngster of six. "No," he said loftily; "I do not care for ladies' society."

Piercing the ears is said to quicken the sight. Is this the reason that concert singers try to attract attention to themselves by a shriek at the close of their performances?

Book Agent-But, sir, perhaps I am annoying you and interrupting your business. His victim-Not at all sir: you don't disturb me in the least, I'm uot listening to a word you say.

Division Superintendent-Didn't I tell you to come 'round here only once a week? Applicant -- Yes, sir; but Saturday, when I called, it was last week; and now, Monday, it is this

"Have you selected your bridesmaid yet?" asked the happy mamma. "Yes," replied the happy girl. "Susie Elder." "But she's so ugly!" "That's why I chose her, mamma, dear. I'm not particularly handsome myself."

"Oh, no, there isn't any favorites in his family!" soliloquized Johnny; "oh, no! I guess there ain't. If I bite my finger nails I catch it over the knuckles. But the baby can eat his whole foot, and they think it's just cunning."

Who chattered at such a great rate Oh! dear, what a terrible fate!

#### Saved by a Dog.

About four thousand anecdotes have been published under the above title. in which dogs have figured in preserving human life. We had a dog once noted for saving thing; but there wasn't a life among them. He kept the things he saved under the summer kitchen, and his hiding place wasn't discovered for a long time; not, indeed, until it became necessary to tear up the kitchen floor to find a good place te deposit some chloride of lime during a cholera season; then we found what had been "saved by a dog."

There were a couple of kittens, a cat, two or three rats and a chicken, all very dead; a large assortment of bones, the remnants of an ottoman, for the theft of which the best hired girl we ever had was discharged; a tomato can; couple of teaspoons, a torn volume of Hoyle's games, an old hoopskirt, a canary bird, a nutmeg grater, a plaster of paris pigeon and a cook book. It is rarely that there is so much saved by a dog, for they are generally improvi-