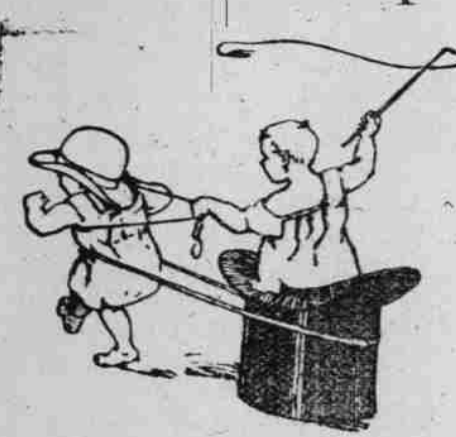


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DREAMING OF HOME.

BY EUGENE FIELD.

It comes to me often in silence,
When the first light puts the low—
When the black uncertain shadows
Seem wreaths of the long ago;
That thrills each pulse with
The thrill of the pulse again,
Comes the old, unquiet longing
For the peace of home again.

I'm sick of the roar of cities,
And of faces cold and strange;
I know where there's warmth of welcome,
And my yearning fancies range
Back to the dear old homestead,
With an aching sense of pain,
But there'll be joy in the coming,
When I go home again.

When I go home again! There's music
That never may die away,
And it seems the hands of angels
On a mystic harp at play.
Have touched with a yearning sadness
To which is my fond heart wording—
When I go home again.

Outside of my darkening window
Is the great world's crash and din,
And slowly the autumn shadows
Come drifting, drifting in.
Sobbing, the night wind murmurs
To the splash of the autumn rain;
But I dream of the glorious greeting
When I go home again.
—Chicago News.

AS TO POLITICS.

The Stanley News comes out strongly for Hill for President.

The Goldsboro Argus declares unequivocally for Gov. Holt.

The Times has been able to find only two Hill men in Concord.

The Winston Sentinel puts Col. F. H. Fries, of Salem, in nomination for Governor.

New York Republicans have called their State convention to meet at Albany April 28th.

The Charlotte News says of the 99 members of Pineville Alliance, Mecklenburg county, 65 are Hill men.

It begins to look like Gov. Holt would be nominated for Governor without opposition.—Mecklenburg Times.

A special from Raleigh informs the Durham Globe that State Auditor Sanderlin is to be the Alliance candidate for Governor.

The Reidsville Review understands that Mr. R. B. Glenn, of Winston, will be a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Attorney General.

A colored man who was made a member of the executive committee of the People's party for Vance county, is out in a card declaring the honor.

Ex-Governor Campbell, of Ohio, says he will not have second place on the Democratic ticket, and intimates that if he "can't be corn he won't be shucks."

Col. A. K. McClure, editor of the Philadelphia Times, believes that Cleveland will be nominated and says he can be elected without the aid of New York.

Senator Hill says he will not cross the free silver bridge until he comes to it. Perhaps the Senator expects some one to burn this bridge in front of him.—Washington Post.

There are five candidates for the Presidential nomination from Illinois, not including Hon. Adlai E. Stevenson, who the Statesville Landmark considers the best of the lot.

A Democratic State ticket is talked of in North Carolina, headed by Capt. S. B. Alexander, which is looked upon as a concession to the Farmers' Alliance.—Washington Post.

We see it stated that Marion Butler, President of the State Alliance, will probably be a candidate for the Congressional nomination in the third district, which is now represented by Mr. B. F. Grady, an Alliance man.

Congressman Springer, of Illinois, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House, has abandoned ex-President Cleveland and pronounced for Senator Palmer, of Illinois, as the Democratic Presidential candidate.

On May 31st, at Syracuse, the kickers in New York State will hold an anti-Hill Convention. The State Chronicle thinks that Grover Cleveland should speak his mind in regard to these bolters, for that is what they are.

The Charlotte Chronicle is informed by a prominent Republican that Judge W. P. Bynum, of Charlotte, will probably be nominated for Governor by the Republicans. The Chronicle does not think he would have it.

It is stated by the Charlotte Chronicle, and of course by authority, that Mr. Frank I. Osborne, the brilliant Solicitor of the Eleventh District, will be a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Attorney General.

The Charlotte Chronicle hears that Col. J. R. Webster, of Reidsville, ex-Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives and editor of Webster's Weekly, will be a candidate for the Congressional nomination against Capt. A. H. A. Williams in the Fifth District.

Senators Vance, Ransom and Hill will be invited to deliver addresses in Charlotte on May 20th—the anniversary of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. The State Chronicle calls upon Mr. Joe Caldwell, editor of the Charlotte Chronicle, to ask Senator Hill if he favors free coinage of silver, and secure a plain answer. Now, that's right, Senator Hill must answer this question before he can get our people to vote for him.

THE AURORA BOREALIS

A FINE DESCRIPTION OF OUR WONDERFUL NORTHERN LIGHT.

From the Pen of Henderson's Distinguished Lawyer-Student, Walter R. Henry, Who is so Well-Informed on all Subjects.

MR. EDITOR:—Saturday night between the hours of seven and nine God hung His crimson banner out upon the Northern sky. One quarter of the firmament blushed gradually into a lovely pink and deepened in color until the home of the North star seemed to have been suddenly painted blood red; arches and columns and swords and spears of a mellow white light shot upward and about amid the heavenly panorama, vanishing rapidly while new ones in turn appeared to disappear at once, while through the lower portion of the awe inspiring celestial glory a few stars were visible shining feebly with a sickly yellow light as if offended at the interposition of this stranger between their glittering glory and the earth; nor was the moon too great to pay due attention to this visitor, for she floated onward surrounded by a distinct halo in honor of its presence in our latitude. Many of our most intelligent citizens thought at first that it was the reflection of some town or city on fire, but soon came to the conclusion that it was the Aurora Borealis, or Borealis, as it is more generally known, sometimes called streamers or Polar Light, and when seen in the Southern Hemisphere, called the Australis. It has been many years since an Aurora has been visible in this part of the country, and it was new to many who saw it on this occasion. It may be that a few words collated from the authorities and mostly in their very language, descriptive of the same, will prove of interest to some of your readers.

The word Aurora is derived from two Greek words meaning the golden hour, and is generally applied to day-break or the morning.

In mythology the Goddess of Morning is represented as riding in a rose-colored chariot scattering roses from her hand and preceded by the morning star.

The Aurora Borealis, meaning Northern day-break, might be described as the Goddess of Night riding in her crimson car, down the ways of darkness tainting the world with her beauty and creating about her beams of living light such gorgeous images as appals the genius of man and forces him to acknowledge the glory and omnipotence of his God. Wherever we turn our eyes throughout the scene of nature and fix our attention on its plans and movements we find the Creator acting like Himself; and in no case is this more strikingly displayed than in the grandeur and magnificence of the orbs and wonders of the Heavens, and the immense spaces with which they are surrounded. "Great is Jehovah and of great power: His understanding is infinite; His greatness is unsearchable. Canst thou by searching find out God? Canst thou find out the Almighty to perfection? Who can utter the mighty operations of Jehovah? Who can show forth all His praise? Lo, these are but parts of His ways, but the thunder of His power, or the full extent of His omnipotence who can comprehend?"

"The Aurora Borealis is a nocturnal luminous meteor supposed to be electrical, often very splendid, especially in high Northern latitudes. It consists of white crimson, pale greenish yellow and steel-colored mellow light, and exhibits various and changing forms and appearances as the arch, columnar up-shooting streams, and beautiful coronations, which sometimes cover the whole heavens. It takes its name from its resemblance to the dawn."

A rare form of the Aurora is that in which the rays appear to hang from the sky like the fringes or folds of a mantle. The one that has just visited us was of an unusual form, size and color.

Crimson Aurora like ours have often been imagined by the superstitious to be omens of war, pestilence, and famine.

"The flaming splendor,
Threatening the world with famine,
To princes death, to kingdoms many
Curst, to all estates, inevitable losses;
To herdsmen rot, to ploughmen hapless seasons,
To sailors storms, to cities civil treasons."

And people of poetic temperament have easily imagined that they have seen on the bosom of the Aurora

"Fierce, fiery warriors fight upon the clouds
In rank and squadrons and right form of war."

In many parts of Ireland a scarlet Aurora is supposed to be a shower of blood, and under that name it is mentioned in the annals, always in connection with some battle or the murder of a great chief.

Our Aurora came too late to play any part in our Chilean embroilings. Perhaps if our President could have had it to come a little earlier his premature message might have matured and borne bloody fruit.

It did not know what the late scarlet Aurora was, I should hope that it was the bloody shirt that the North has been waving at the South for a quarter of a century, snatched away from the lying fanatics by the hand of a just God, outraged beyond endurance by the infamous slanders of those South haters and the true traitors and only true traitors to this government—Ingalls, Shepherd,

Sherman, Foraker, and their coadjutors.

Auroral displays are frequent, if not continuous, near the magnetic poles, while in middle latitudes they are the invariable accompaniments of all considerable magnetic storms. Near the equator they hardly ever occur.

There is considerable variety in the forms they assume. (1.) A horizontal light like the morning Aurora or break of day. (2.) An arch of light which frequently extends across the heavens from East to West; five of such arches have been seen in the polar region at one time. (3.) Slender luminous beams or columns well defined and with bright light. (4.) The corona. (5.) Wave or flashes of light.

The Aurora Borealis of the Arctic winter is said to be the most magnificent spectacle that relieves the gloom of that region.

"It bursts with the suddenness of a storm upon the Northern horizon, and speeds to the zenith in a great arch of flame, heaving and waving to and fro, sending out flashing beams, and playing the tricks of meteors in color and velocity. Then there is a gathering of splendors in the centre of the magnificent arch. The brilliancy of the meteoric streams grows more intense, the red color of their base, the green of their middle, the yellow of their tips, becomes deeper and more vivid. They dart and dash, greater vivacity through the skies. The earth itself glows with the magical light. The sea, when unfrozen, and the ice fields, gleam with a strange and weird beauty. Heaven and earth tremble in their outlines as if all were unreal, and night heightens the charm of the spectacle by her imposing silence."

Gradually the crown fades, the brilliant bow dissolves, the streams shorten, the meteoric play is less vivid and frequent, the storm subsides, and the gloom of winter succeeds the midnight magnificence.

"There is much discussion in scientific circles as to whether Aurora are attended by a cracking, hissing, or whizzing sound as has been repeatedly affirmed by those living in high Northern latitudes. The conclusion reached is that there is no improbability of such sounds being occasionally heard since a somewhat similar phenomenon accompanies the brush discharge of the electric machine, but the sounds are generally attributable to the cracking and straining of ice."

The average height of Aurora are one hundred miles, but they have been known to approach within two miles of the earth, some of their rays shooting downward.

Siberian asserts that Aurora are preceded by the same general phenomena as thunder storms, and concludes that the storm clouds, instead of bursting into thunder, are drawn into the upper parts of the atmosphere, and their vapor being crystallized into tiny prisms by the intense cold, the electricity in the atmosphere becomes luminous by flowing over the tiny particles.

It may be taken as conclusive that the Aurora is some sort of an electric discharge; there is much discussion and doubt as to the origin of the electricity.

The nearest reasonable hypothesis is that of De la Rive, say the authorities, who declares that the Aurora is an electric discharge between the magnetic poles of the earth, leaving the vicinity of the North magnetic pole in the form of clouds of electrified matter which float toward the South pole through the atmosphere at a height of forty miles or more from the earth, and while they are thus moving forward bright streams of electricity are from time to time shot out from them, observable only under certain exceptional conditions.

Aurora appear most frequently about every ten or eleven years, and this periodic appearance of Aurora in conjunction with the appearance of spots on the sun, has excited investigations, and science concludes that there is some connection between the two (there is an immense and unusual spot on the sun at this), and out of this grows the theory that Aurora are caused by a direct flow of electricity from the sun.

The only remaining theory is, that the Aurora is caused by clouds of ferruginous meteoric dust, which is ignited by friction with the atmosphere, but the scientists declare that though this theory is plausible, it is not sound.

All the writers on the subject of the Aurora Borealis confess that its causes are very imperfectly explained, insisting, however, that it will be found as science progresses that the same causes that produce hurricanes in the solar atmosphere thrill synoptically to the furthest planets of our system, in waves not only of light and heat but of magnetism and electricity.—Walter R. Henry in Henderson Gold Leaf.

It is probable that Stephen B. Elkin, now Secretary of War, will be the Republican candidate for Governor of West Virginia this year. It is said that Representative W. J. Wilson, one of the best informed Democrats in Congress, will be selected by the Democrats to defeat him.

The statement was recently published that some Raleigh lawyers were looking for a Miss Mary Puttick, who is interested in a legacy of \$2,000,000 left by relatives in England. The Wilmington Messenger says she has been located; that she lives in Johnston county and is the wife of W. H. Saunders. Now that the heir is found when will the money be found?

EX-GOV HOLDEN DEAD

A FAMILIAR FIGURE IN NORTH CAROLINA PASSES AWAY.

He was a Good Man, But He Did Some Things That Our People Could Not Forget. Although They May Have Forgotten.

Gov. Holden, whose health had long been failing, died here yesterday morning. William Woods Holden was born in Orange county in November, 1818. He was at an early age apprenticed to the late Dennis Heartt, Esq., editor and proprietor of the Hillsboro Recorder, where he learned the art of type-setting. After completing his apprenticeship he worked for a time as a journeyman printer with Mr. Heartt, for whom he ever cherished the most grateful and tender recollection, when he concluded to settle in Raleigh and try his fortune here. He accordingly packed up his scanty supply of clothing, and taking it on his back walked to Raleigh, and secured a position on the Raleigh Star, the edited by Thos. J. Lemay. Being a very intelligent and bright young man, he not only set type in the office, but became a constant contributor to that popular journal, his articles often appearing as editorials. The Star building, still standing nearly opposite the First Presbyterian Church on Salisbury street.

Following the teachings of Father Heartt (as he was known in his later years as the father of the North Carolina Press), Mr. Holden was an earnest advocate of the principles of the Whig party, which was then in the ascendancy in the State. About the year 1844, he, however, was led to change his party affiliations, and having purchased the North Carolina Standard from the late William Loring, who afterwards, removed to Wilmington, he continued that paper as the organ of the Democratic party in North Carolina. He infused new life into the Standard, and made it a power in North Carolina.

The Democratic party gradually but constantly increased in strength until at length in 1852 David Settle Reid was elected the first Democratic Governor chosen by the people.

He was succeeded by Gov. Thomas Bragg, of Northampton, and during the last years of Bragg's administration Mr. Holden appeared on the stage as a candidate for gubernatorial honors. Circumstances favored his nominations. A majority of the county conventions, it is said instructed their delegates to vote for him.

The convention met at Charlotte and the Whig party having fallen into a hopeless minority, there was great Democratic enthusiasm.

Hon. John W. Ellis, then a Judge of the Superior Court, was the opponent of Mr. Holden, and many of his friends attended the Convention.

The late Col. Edward Cantwell, an ardent friend of Mr. Holden, arose and moved that inasmuch as the Democratic party of North Carolina was present, the convention should resolve itself into a mass convention and proceed to vote for a Governor.

The motion was adopted by acclamation. When the ballot was taken, however, Judge Ellis was declared the nominee of the convention for Governor.

Mr. Holden acquiesced in this decision and gave Judge Ellis the support of the Standard—but it was generally understood that he felt that an injustice had been done him, and that he was sore.

In 1860 Mr. Holden was a delegate to the National Democratic Convention at Charleston, and stood firmly for Stephen A. Douglas for President. That Convention not being able to make a nomination, adjourned to Baltimore, where finally two nominations were made—Douglas on the one side, and Breckinridge on the other.

Mr. Holden, according to our recollection, supported Mr. Douglas, but better authority informs us that he gave the Breckinridge ticket a lukewarm support.

When Mr. Lincoln was elected, and the whole South was thoroughly aroused over the election of the first Republican President, Mr. Holden sounded the "Watch and Wait" slogan through the Standard.

In April 1861, Mr. Lincoln having called on George Ellis to support the Union cause, a convention of the people was called, Mr. Holden and the late Hon. George E. Badger and Kemp P. Battle were elected as the delegates from Wake county.

This ticket was known as the Union ticket.

Mr. Badger, however, introduced an ordinance of secession which Mr. Holden voted for, and he signed the ordinance of secession.

During the war he urged peace measures and became widely known as an opponent of the Confederate administration. He ran for Governor against Vance in 1864, but was defeated.

In 1865, after the war was over, President Johnson appointed him Provisional Governor of North Carolina. In the succeeding election held in 1866 he was a candidate before the people but was beaten by Gov. Jonathan Worth.

In 1868 he was, under the reconstruction acts, when the negroes were first allowed to vote, elected Governor over the late Thomas S. Ashe. Troubles arose during his administration and he was impeached by the Democratic Assembly of 1870 and declared incapable of holding office. He afterwards was appointed postmaster at Raleigh, but soon separated himself from all political parties, and led a quiet and

NEWS OF A WEEK.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD AROUND US.

A Condensed Report of the News From Our Contemporaries Gleaned Here and There For Busy Readers.

Prof. W. Skinner, of Seven Springs, will open a military school at Clinton soon.

Rev. J. L. White's meeting at Rocky Mount resulted in seventy-five conversions.

The State Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association will be held in Greensboro March 24-27.

The Republican State Convention meets at Raleigh, April 14th, to select delegates to the National Convention.

It is thought in Raleigh that Jeter Pritchard, of Madison county, will be the Republican nominee for Governor.

OUR BOOK TABLE.

Some of The Periodicals on The Editor's Desk for Review.

ROMANCE.

The March number of "Romance" offers the varied and attractive table of contents which the reading public has come to expect every month from this magazine. There are no less than eighteen complete stories in the present issue, and writers of half-a-dozen nationalities are represented. The magazine is issued by Romance Publishing Company, Clinton Hall, Astor Place, New York. The price is 25 cents per copy; \$2.50 a year.

AN EGYPTIAN CURIOSITY.

In July, 1881, there were discovered in the ancient city of Thebes, the mummies of Egypt's mightiest Pharaohs, among them that of Rameses the Great. There were also found seals, coins, statuettes, preserved food and a few rolls of papyrus, some of the latter being of great value, curiously bound together, and, notwithstanding the mould and mildew ages upon them, as easily read as if written yesterday. A queer little book entitled, "A Night with Rameses II.," has been executed to cleverly that the oxidized seal, suggestion of mould, antique coloring, and partially decayed and ragged-edged papyrus carry at once to the mind the possession of a veritable relic from the dawn of civilization. Mailed to any address on receipt of 6 cts. in stamps, by J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

A TEMPTING FEAST.

The official life of a nation has probably never been so fully represented in a single issue of a periodical as in the March number of North American Review. It contains articles on Spending Money, by Ex-Speaker T. B. Reed, and the Hon. W. S. Holman, Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations; on the World's Fair, by Director-General Davis of the Columbian Exposition; on the Issues of the Presidential Campaign, by United States Senators McMillan, Hiscock and Hale, and Representatives McCormick, Bland and Breckinridge; on the Need of an International Monetary Conference, by the Hon. Wm. M. Springer, Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, and on Our Commercial Relations with Chili, by Wm. Eloy Curtis, Chief of the Bureau of American Republics. The same number will contain the second of Mr. Gladstone's articles on the Olympian Religion, and other contributions by Dr. Cyrus Edson, under the head of Do We Live Too Fast? by the Belgian Minister at Washington, on the Anti-Slavery Conference; on the Degeneration of Tammany, by the Hon' Dor-man B. Eaton; on Free Ships, by Captain John Codman, and on the Highlands of Jamaica, by Lady Blake wife of the Governor of that island.

IT WILL.

It is the opinion of conservative, thinking men that the Democratic mugwump meeting in New York Thursday night has helped Senator Hill more than anything else that could have happened. It has unmasked his enemies, and they prove to be the same bushwackers who have fought the strange Democratic in New York for years past. Hill can be nominated and elected without the support of mugwumps and bushwackers. Mark that.

To the foregoing, from the Greensboro Record, we give a hearty amen. Unmask the enemies of the matchless and unconquerable leader, David B. Hill, in New York, and you can count the simon-pure Democrats among that number on the fingers of your two hands. Hill is everywhere recognized as the one man of all others who most successfully routed the Republicans of the "Empire State," horse, foot and dragon, in the last campaign, whereat Republicans, mugwumps and their sympathizers are naturally up in arms against him. Nothing is more natural. Should not this fact alone rally Democrats everywhere in his support? We think so.—Fayetteville Observer.

A Concord correspondent of the Charlotte Democrat, noting the death of J. J. Cross, an inmate of the Cabarrus county poor house, says he was formerly mayor of Concord, and further that only two white males have ever gone from that town to the poor house and singularly enough both were ex-mayors of the town.

A prominent farmer named R. M. Burke, of Chatham county, fell into a vat at a distillery and was drowned. He was seventy-eight years old and was not a drinking man. His visit to the distillery was by curiosity, the distillery being a licensed one.

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