

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1869.

H. A. LONDON, Editor.

"Ring out the old,
Ring in the new!"

STANDING today upon the threshold of another year, we reluctantly bid farewell to the old year and yet gladly greet the new year. And thus it is year after year, as they chase each other in rapid succession, we reluctantly part with the old and yet gladly welcome the new year. And so it is with our friends, going out the journey of life, for we reluctantly bid farewell to old friends when they must depart, and yet gladly greet new friends when they arrive.

The last day of every year is always solemn, and oftentimes sad, owing to the mind of every one. Not so death of the old year is mournful like the death of a friend, but as it "lies dying" our thoughts are voluntarily recalled by its passing away, its blessings and its woes. And though the old year may be reluctantly given up, yet persons would wish to recall and live it over again. Humanity stands so strangely constituted that persons always desire a change, something new—and we have to trust to the uncertainties of the year than again realize the experiences of the past year.

The past year has been very materially from his point of view. The world generally was for saving 1860 as heretofore. Our country has been free from famine, dear and pestilence. Weather has been favorable, the crops have not been so abundant as wished, though it has been throughout the year. The year has been as good as could be expected, and the exciting political campaign which followed the civil war or indeed any political contest, and the wheels of our government revolve without jar or noise. The defeated generally feel that the will of the majority will triumph, and that the latter will govern in their interests of all.

Many who started out on the old year, travelling with us on the journey, have dropped by the wayside, and yet one year's march has thought that they were near the end of their journey. They seem to be more hopeful and experienced persons than any of us who have conceived them. Surely the thought of the year to come make us all, who now will start on the new year, more sensible of the duties as well as the uncertainty of life. How sad is the thought that many, who have now begun the new year, who have with hope, will not experience as much as all the men whom we see, they are. What reader, can say he is one of them?

Let us all then profit by the experience of the past, which should not be forgotten throughout the coming year, that we may be prepared. It is best that this should be our last year, in which to survive, that one has had so prolonged in vain. Let us drop off in the new year with new resolutions and a few debts paid, and live more for others and less for ourselves, and by making over less happy in contributing to the happiness of those around us.

To each and all, may the Bacon wishes that 1867 may indeed and in reality be a Happy New Year!

The public utterances of Hon. W. J. Bryan since his defeat promises patriotism and sincerity as truly as those before the election. One of his latest public utterances deserves especial consideration and commendation, and should be heeded by all his friends and followers. In a recent published interview with us on the subject of "McKinley's way of reducing prosperity", he is reported as saying that he can not yet see any such way, and added "but we are not poor because in the prudence of any man cannot give prosperity".

These patriotic words should be heeded and acted upon by all men who wish their country to prosper and no better advice could be given or followed in starting off on the new year. If, as some persons assert, the election of McKinley can give us prosperity, let us have it. Let no man "put a stone in the pathway", but let us all assist in helping it, whether we be Democrats, Republicans or Populists.

The official reports recently made show that the cost of the public printing in this State for the past two years was \$8,500 greater than for the two years previous. This is a clear indication of the want of economy in the public service, and the public evidently went off.

The highest judicial tribunal in the state of New York has recently decided that the bequests of \$639,000 for free libraries in the ward of the late Hon. Samuel J. Tilden are invalid and void. This is another striking instance of carelessness in writing a will. It would seem an easy matter to write a will \$100 in such a manner as to have no trouble in carrying out one's wishes, and yet the legal and proper construction will be a painful source of litigation, and the people are taught by the example of the Tilden case that it is better to leave the will to the executors of the will, as it is in the case of Mr. Tilden, to be disposed of as the executors see fit. This is another lesson to all who are writing wills, to leave the will to the executors, and to trust to them to do what is right.

State news items report,

that the new Legislature of N.Y. has been adjourned to January 10th, and that the

new session will be opened on the 1st of February.

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Washington Letter.

By George H. Chapman.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27, 1869.

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