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Greensboro Patriot.

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GREENSBORO N. C.,

Wednesday, October 19, 1881.

The Yorktown Centennial.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SIEGE, OCTOBER, 1781.

One hundred years have elapsed, says a cotemporary, since the Continental Congress joyfully voted to erect a monument on the field where the last and decisive blow was struck for American independence. It was on Ociober 25, 1781, that the resolution was adopted pledging the new nation to this act. The news of Cornwallis' surrender had reached Philadelphia the night before, almost a week after the occurrence. Great was the rejoicing thereat, and although it was near midnight when the courier arrived, not many minutes elapsed before the entire city knew the glad tidings.

When Congress met, its President, Thomas McKean, read the despatches from General Washington, and then the members decided to march in a body to the nearest church and return thanks to the Almighty. After that the resolution for the building of the monument was passed. The subsequent financial difficulties of the new government led to the silent neglect of the project, and when money was more plentiful it was entirely forgotten, the approach of the centenary of the important victory led to the appropriation of $140,000, wherewith to redeem the pledge made so long ago.

On the 18th of October next the cornerstone of the monument will be laid on the Yorktown battlefield by the Grand Master of Masons in Virginia, assisted by the Grand Masters of the thirteen original States. This is the centennial aniniversary of the surrender of 8,000 British troops to the allied French and American forces, and arrangements have been made on a scale worthy of the occasion by a joint commission appointed by both branches of Congress and the committee acting as the representatives of the various States of the Union. It will not only be a national affair, for another nation shares with us in the glory of the achievement, and France will be fitly represented both by delegates from its Government and by thousands of her citizens, who will cross the Atlantic to the great event which it commemorates. The celebration is to begin several days earlier, and the festivities are to be prolonged for a full week. Military delegations from various parts of the country will participate, and the display will undoubtedly be the most magnificent seen in the South for many a day.

The siege of Yorktown and its result has been aptly termed the one great surprise of the American Revolution. Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga was not unexpected. His march from Canada through New York to the Hudson was a wild enterprise at the best, and its utter failure did not much astonish either friends or foes. Quite different was Cornwallis's grand overthrow in the northeastern corner of Virginia. He had gained the reputation of being the ablest British commander the war had produced. His conquest of the Carolinas had shown him to be both daring and cautious. Layfayette had given him the name of "the terrible Britisher who made no mistakes," and both Generals, Greene and Gates, who had commanded the American forces opposed to him, had to acknowledge his skill as a leader. How, then, did it come to pass that he allowed himself to be caught like a rat in a trap?

The answer to this question has puzzled historians not a little, and the acrimonious correspondence concerning it, which in after years passed between Cornwallis and Sir Henry Clinton, his then chief, rather obscures than illuminates the subject. Three years and a half after the beginning of actual armed resistence to the British domination, the effort to overcome that resistance at the North was confessedly a failure. Although the efforts of the combined American and French forces to drive the English from Rhode Island in the previous August had proved unsuccessful, the close of 1778 saw the American cause far more stronger than at any time since the outbreak of actual hostilities. It was therefore decided to try another plan than that hitherto pursued by the British. The war was to be transferred to the South in the hope that after Georgia, the Carolinas and Virginia had been subdued, the Middle and New England States could be more easily handled. An army and fleet were despatched to Savannah, and afterwards another to Charleston, and in both places success crowned the movement. Cornwallis's operations in North and South Carolina followed, and Tarleton's troopers ravaged both States. Successive Generals who had been sent by Congress to oppose Cornwallis, were defeated, and although King's Mountain and Cowpens gave the Americans hope, the outlook at the South especially was dark in the spring of 1781. The battle of Guilford Court House was fought in March, and was almost a necessary antecedent to Yorktown. It was a British victory, but it was bought dearly, and it led Cornwallis to decide that before the more southerly States could be thoroughly subjugated Virginia would have to be conquered. Hence his march northward in May—a march which his superior at New York, Sir Henry Clinton, did not approve of, however.

Before Cornwallis arrived in Virginia, Sir Henry Clinton had sent two expeditions to ravage the coast. To oppose them Washington had despatched Lafayette with 1,200 men. On May 20, 1781, Cornwallis arrived at Petersburg from Wilmington, and there the expeditionary forces were joined to his own, thus giving him a body of 5,000 veteran troops wherewith to operate in the State. Lafayette retreated before him without fighting an engagement, to North Anna, where Cornwallis turned southwest and made for the Upper James River, there to cover a cavalry raid upon some stores at the Point of Fork, which Steuben was guarding with some 500 militia. In the meantime, Lafayette had received reinforcements in the shape of 1,000 Pennsylvania infantry, under Wayne, a command. He followed Cornwallis, and prevented any further destruction of stores. Steuben's troops were joined to his own, and Cornwallis went to Richmond. He did not remain there long, though, but moved to Williamsburg, closely watched all the time by Lafayette.

Exactly why Cornwallis went to this extreme corner of the peninsula it is difficult to understand. It was not because he could not hold his own elsewhere, for his troops greatly outnumbered those of Lafayette. Presumably he intended to await further developments, and to mature his plan for completely subjugating Virginia. Whatever his intentions were, he was given no opportunity to carry them out. At Williamsburg, he found orders from Sir Henry Clinton to send 3,000 of his men North, and to establish a defensive post on the cost. Before the troops had actually been embarked, another order allowed him to keep them, and told him definitely to fortify Old Point Comfort as a basis for future naval operations. He found that the Point could not be defended, and pushed on to Yorktown, where he began throwing up fortifications. This was in the first week of August, 1781.

Sir Henry Clinton's orders were the result of the junction of the American and French armies and the consequent threatening aspect of affairs around New York. The allied army was at least a match for the British stationed around New York, the capture of which city was generally supposed to be its object. When Washington, however, heard that Cornwallis was entrenching himself on the Virginia peninsula, he began to entertain a scheme for a movement southward. This scheme was adopted when it was learned that the Count De Grasse, commander of the French fleet, then in the West Indies, would sail no further north than Chesapeak Bay.

It was late in August when, by a dexterous feint, Sir Henry Clinton was deceived, about the real plan of campaign adopted by the allies. The Ameticans and French were far on their way to Virginia when the British commander discovered the truth. It was too late to pursue the allies by land, and the only alternative was to send reinforcements to Cornwallis by sea. This would take time, however.

Washington reached Lafayette's camp at Williamsburg, on September 14. De Grasse and the French fleet, and 3,000 French troops that De Grasse had embarked in the West Indies were already there. Washington's arrival was made the occasion of great rejoicing, which lasted until night. The troops from the vicinity of New York arrived a few days later; being taken down the Chesapeak Bay in transports, while Washington and Rochambeau had come overland, in order to visit Mount Vernon, which its owner had not seen for six years.

Cornwallis did not find Yorktown a very strong position. He threw up earthworks, which were protected on the right by a deep ravine, and on the left by Wormsley Creek. It was on the morning of September 28, that the allied French and American army moved forward from Williamsburg to the investment of Yorktown. It was a march of eleven miles, and was made without any incident worth noting. At night the troops encamped within a mile and a half of the enemy's position, and the following morning they advanced still nearer, and had several skirmishes. Cornwallis now evacuated his outworks, much to the surprise of the allies, but, as he claimed, in consequence of information from Sir Henry Clinton that reinforcements would be sent on October the 5—information which determined him to save all his strength until they arrived.

The allied army now began a regular siege. The French took possession on the left from the river, and the Americans on the right, thus forming a semi-circle. The American wing consisted of three divisions of two brigades each of Continentals—about 5,000 men altogether—and of 4,000 Virginia militia. Lafayette's division held the extreme right of the line. General Muhlenberg commanded the first brigade, General Hazen the second. Steuben's brigadiers were Wayne and Gist, and Lincoln's, James Clinton and Dayton. The French contingent consisted of seven regiments, called by the names of Bourbonnais, Deuxponts, Soissonais, Saltogne, Agenois, Touraine and Gatenoise, divided into three brigades commanded by Baron Viomenil, Viscount Viomenil and Marquis St. Simon. This, with the artillery, comprised the besieging force, numbering in all about 16,000 men—7,000 French and 9,000 American. The French fleet lying in the harbor numbered thirty-seven sail.

Washington established his headquarters about the middle of the investing line, two and a half miles back from the entrenchments. The first week of October was taken up entirely with the making of the necessary appliances used in siege works. On the evening of the 6th of the month, the operations began in earnest, however. Digging was kept up all night, and by daylight a good sized trench had been excavated. From this time on the life of the besieged was not a pleasant one. The fire of the besiegers was so well directed, that by the 13th the British guns were nearly all silenced. Cornwallis had established his headquarters in the fine mansion of Mr. Nelson, formerly secretary of Virginia, but he left it on the 10th, and the story goes, that he sought refuge in what is still called "Cornwallis's cave." Lafayette's headquarters were on the head of the line, and not far from the road to Hampton.

The most heroic fighting of the siege was seen on the night of October 14. There were two outer redoubts held by the British near the river, and these it was decided to take by storm. About 400 men were toled off from Lafayette's division to take one of these, and an equal number of the French regiments of Gatenois Deuxponts to take the other. It was bravely done on both sides in less than half an hour, and now the British position was practically untenable. A sortie was made for the purpose of destroying some unfinished batteries, but it failed of its object, and Cornwallis realized his extreme danger. He tried, on the 16th to gain the opposite side of the river, but a storm which came on at midnight frustrated his design.

At last, at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 17th, a red-coated drummer sounded a parley, and an officer who accompanied him waved a white handkerchief. The officer was met and blindfolded, and conducted to the rear of the American lines. His message from Cornwallis was that hostilities be suspended for twenty-four hours, and commissioners appointed to arrange the terms of surrender. Washington's reply was, that he would rather have the British commander's proposal in writing first, and to secure them agreed to cease firing for two hours. Before the two hours had expired Cornwallis had offered to capitulate on condition that his troops be sent back to England under parole not to serve again during the war against either France or America, unless they were regularly exchanged. This was rejected at once and the messenger sent back with Washington's ultimation that the British army be surrendered as prisoners of war on the same terms as the Americans surrendered at Charleston, in the previous year. Cornwallis acceeded to this, and the next day, the 18th, the commissioners met to formally ratify the terms. This meeting was held in the Moore House, on the bank of the York river, a short distance behind the American lines. The articles of surrender were fourteen in number, and were submitted to Cornwallis at daylight, on the 19th, accompanied by a note from Washington, intimating that he expected them to be signed before eleven o'clock, and that the troops would march out and lay down their arms at two in the afternoon.

Washington's request was complied with. At two o'clock sharp the army of Cornwallais marched out. The march was along the Hampton road, on the right of which they found the Americans drawn up in their buff and blue uniforms, rather the worse for wear, and on the left were the French in the clean white affected by the armies of the Bourbon kings. The British had donned their best scarlet, and their band played an old march called "The World Turned Upside Down."

The next step was the grounding of arms by the surrendered troops. They marched the entire length of the Franco-American lines—about a mile—to a field on the right, where a squadron of French huzzars had formed a circle, into which each regiment marched and deposited their guns and accoutrements. In silence they marched back to their own tents, and American independence had benn achieved.

REV. DR. STUART ROBINSON, who died at Louisville, Ky., last week was one of the most prominent Presbyterian divines in this country. He was born at Strabane, near Londonderry, Ireland, November 26, 1816, and came to the United States while a boy. He graduated at Amherst College in 1836; studied theology at U. T. Seminary, Prince Edward, Va.; taught two years, then spent part of a year at Princeton. After a rural pastorate in West Virginia he was called to Frankfort, in 1847. From there he went to Baltimore 1852. and in 1856 he was elected professor of ecclesiology in the Danville Seminary. Since 1858 he has been pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church at Louisville. He was the author of several theological works and the editor at different times of several denominational journals.

RAILROAD MATTERS.

REPLY OF THE CLYDE SYNDICATE TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD—THEY DECLINE TO SELL TO MR. BEST—THEY PROPOSE TO BUILD THE DUCKTOWN BRANCH.

NEW YORK, Sept. 27, 1881.

To Hon. Thomas J. Jarvis, Hon. Z. B. Vance, Hon. J. M. Worth, Commissioners, Raleigh, N. C.:

GENTLEMEN:—In reply to yours of the 14th, we beg to express our regret that our letter of the 25th of August to the commissioners should have been so materially misconceived by them as to its import, tenor and spirit. We think any impartial judge would say we had succeeded reasonably in the effort.

Your communication, bear in mind, was not merely your brief letter, but also the agreement of the commissioners with Mr. Best of the 25th of May, of which a copy was sent and intended to be taken as a part of that communication. That agreement revealed a new, an unknown and an unexpected attitude of the commissioners towards us. Was it not most natural that we should be startled by such a revelation, and to feel the uprising inquiry, What does this mean? Do these commissioners mean to put their official and personal pressure upon us, to make it necessary for us to abandon this contract, and return it again to Mr. Best? The communication looked that way—the letter and communication, taken together, very much that way.

But, recurring to what we understood of the history of the whole matter, we did not see any conceivable reason for such a reversal of position by the commissioners towards us, and thought it was due alike to the commissioners and to ourselves that we should not mistake the true purport of their communication. Hence the reply we made. Nothing in it was intended, nor, as far as we can now perceive, can anything be found in it disrespectful, either in expression or implication.

We attempted to make a plain statement of facts, as we understood them, without color or exageration, and for the reason assigned by us in our reply. We are not conscious of any inaccuracy in that statement, or of having done the slightest injustice to any party referred to therein. We did not in anything we said to the commissioners, make any reference to their motives. We referred to facts only and for the purpose assigned, that our transactions with the commissioners should be in no sense ambiguous or the results inconcinsive. While we were thus without motive, disposition or apparent effort to be in any sense discourteous in our reply, we are at a loss to conceive why it should be charged. We respectfully and absolutely disclaim it, and refer to a careful and dispassionate judgement of the document for our vindication.

In reply to your proposition to surrender to Mr. Best and his associates our rights and interests acquired by assignment from him, we beg to assure you that it would give us great pleasure at any time to gratify your personal desire, but in this matter our situation compels us respectfully to decline your proposed request. When by the final assignment from Mr. Best we became the absolute proprietors of the Western North Carolina Railroad, the requisements and restrictions in the act of March 29th, 1881, compelled the creation of very large obligations in the necessary organization of the capital adequate to the undertaking, and the better to secure the success of the enterprise we have deemed it expedient, at a large outlay, to acquire other interests, connected with and dependent upon the Western North Carolina Railroad.

In the accomplishment of these arrangements our interests, as derived from the assignment, have become so blended with those of others that we no longer have the sole personal control of this property, and, therefore, cannot properly agree to surrender it without the consent of others, who decline to release their interests.

We are performing all our obligations as we understand them under the contract, and desire and intend to continue to do so if permitted. We, therefore, recognize no just or reasonable ground on which its surrender can be claimed or expected from us.

In declining the request proposed to be made to us, we desire further to say that we do not wish to hinder Mr. Best and his associates in any purpose entertained by them to construct another road to Salisbury. If they do so, it will be alike our interest and policy to accord to such road impartial access to the Western North Carolina Railroad, and upon terms just and equitable to every portion of the State to be benefited thereby.

We take this occasion to express the strong interest we have felt in the successful prosecution of this enterprise from the date of our present connection with it, and by some of us long anterior to that date; and to signify our cordial sympathy with the citizens of North Carolina in their desire to see this important work fully completed, and even extended according to its original design, until connected with the railroad systems leading to the Mississippi Valley; some of our strongest and most influential associates urging with earnestness the direct extention of the line from Murphy to Chattanooga.

We assure the commissioners that it is our intention and purpose to have the work prosecuted on both lines of the road with diligence and energy until they are completed to Murphy and Paint Rock; and in everything to cause the contract we have entered into to be faithfully and literally complied with.

We hope to receive from you encouragement and co-operation, that nothing which may hasten the work or help its utility shall be left undone, nor anything done which may retard or impair it.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

WM. P. CLYDE,
T. M. LOGAN,
A. S. BUFORD.

The Warrior's Home.

I.

A sword, a sash, and a soldier's coat
Are hung on the cottage wall—
With a manly face in a golden frame,
And a banner enwreathing all;
The banner is tattered and battle-worn,
But its union hath all the stars:
And the captain's coat hath a bullet mark
Just under the shoulder-bars.

II.

I read in the record, "He bore the flag
In the teeth of a fiery hell;
And the sword was grasped in his cold right hand
In the morning where he fell."
Swift over the wires a reinless steed
A message of sorrow bore,
That tied with a never-dissolving knot
The crape on the cottage door.

—*John W. Storrs.*

Two women stopped a train near Waterbury, Conn., recently by waving a red shawl, and told the engineer that a man who apparantly wanted to kill himself had just gone down the track. The train moved on slowly and found the man lying drunk across the rail.

Blood as a Beverage.

[Statesville Landmark.]

Rev. J. H. Fesperman, of this place, has joined the army of blood drinkers. Up North there are many persons who drink warm blood regularly and, it is claimed, with excellent results, but it is a new idea down South, notwithstanding the belief of our Northern brethren that the woods of the South are infested with beastly Ku-Klux who subsist entirely upon the blood of their negro victims.

Mr. Fesperman has for a long time been in feeble health. He has had an abcess to form upon one of his lungs, and the dread of consumption which this symptom inspired was augmented by the fact that he has had seven uncles to die of consumption under the age of forty years. He has taken much medicine without any very beneficial results. Last fall he took to blood-drinking, but continued it only a few days. A few weeks ago he read in THE LANDMARK an article from the Philadelphia *Times* upon the subject, and this put him in the notion of trying it again. We had heard of his experiment and, encountering him upon the street Wednesday evening, proceeded to question him upon the subject.

"Yes," he said, "it's so. I've been drinking blood regularly for two weeks." Drawing from his pocket a glass which would hold perhaps a gill, and which was stained with gore, he added: "I drink this empty twice a day."

"Where do you get the blood? Do you drink it warm as the beef is slaughtered?"

"Yes, I go from one slaughter pen to another. All of the butchers do not slaughter the same day, and by going from one to another I am able to supply myself every day. I do my drinking in the afternoon. As the throat of the beef is cut I hold my glass to it and catch the blood. I drink my two glasses—a half-pint, perhaps—before the animal is dead."

"Well, how does it taste? Don't it make you sick?" was asked.

"It tastes just like warm milk. A person who did not know would hardly detect the difference. There is this about it, though; the blood of all animals is not alike. The blood of a young, healthy beef tastes exactly like milk; that of an older animal has a salt taste which is not so agreeable. No, it doesn't make me sick at all. At first I had to shut my eyes and think about things way off yonder but my prejudice has subsided with a better acquaintance with the beverage. What I most hate about it is to see the sufferings of the animals whose blood I drink. Why, the other evening at one stroke of the knife Simonton cut a beef's head clean off and threw it to one side. While I was drinking its blood it tried to get up without any head and walk about. It made me feel bad to look at it, but that is the most disagreeable feature of the business."

"What effect has the blood had upon you? Do you notice any beneficial results from drinking it?"

"Well, two weeks is not a long enough time for a fair test, you know. I notice, though, that my appetite has improved since I commenced the experiment, and as the blood is very nutritious, I have also gained strength from drinking it. Some of my friends think, too, that my color is better, but I haven't gained any flesh so far."

Mr. Fesperman is a well known Lutheran minister who has retired from the active labors of the ministry on account of the low state of his health. He has considerable faith in the final efficacy of the blood treatment, and will stick to it four weeks longer any way.

The Elections This Fall.

Elections will be held this fall in the States of Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Ohio, Virginia, Wisconsin, for governors and other state officers, and in Colorado, Maryland, Nebraska, New Jersy, New York and Pensylvania for minor officers. The legislatures to be elected in Iowa, Minnesota, Mississippi and Virginia will choose U. S. Senators. In Iowa and Minnesota, Senators, to fill out the unexpired terms of Messrs. Kirkwood and Windom, who resigning to accept positions in President Garfield's cabinet, will be elected. In Mississippi a successor to Senator Lamar is to be chosen, and in Virginia a successor to Senator Johnston; in Colorado the election is upon the question of locating the capital, in Minnesota amendments prohibiting special legislation, providing for equal taxation, and fixing the pay of the legislators at $5 per day, not to exceed $450 for any regular session or $200 for any special session, are to be voted on. Nebraska will pass upon a proposed suffrage amedment, and Wisconsin upon one providing for biennial instead of annual sessions of the lgislature. The only State in which the canvass excites much intetest are Virginia, Ohio, Mississippi and New York. In Virginia a combination of republicans and readjusters opposes the regular democracy. An exciting campaign is being waged, and the result is doubtful, though the chances are rather favorable to the democracy, as far as the state ticket is concerned. With regard to the legislature the readjusters have an advantage in the number of senators whose terms continue through the next legislature. The last Senate stood: democratic debt payers 14; readjusters 17; republicans, 0. Of the hold over senators the readjusters have a decided majority, giving them that much start in the race for control of the legislature. In many of the legislative districts of Virginia the republicans are running straight-out candidates, and it is not improbable that they may hold the balance of power in the next legislature. The state debt question is the chief issue in Virginia, and should the republicans elect members enough to hold the balance of power, there is no means of telling which side of this question they would take. The republicans are divided, some supporting Mahone and others the democrats; and it is likely that straight out republicans who may be elected to the legislature will unite with the debt-payers while readjuster or coalition republicans will go with the readjusters. In Ohio the death of President Garfield seems to have created an apathy in politics, which will, it is, believed considerably decrease the vote. The result is looked upon as doubtful, with the chances, of course, in favor of the republicans.

Some of the leading republicans fear that the apathetic feeling referred to will decrease their votes in greater proportion than the democratic.

In New York the election this year is not intrinsically important, but because of the influence it will have upon the campaign for governor next year both parties are anxious to win. The factional fights in both parties in New York put speculation as to the result of the coming election out of the question for the present.

In Mississippi, republicans, greenbackers and independents have united upon a state ticket in opposition to that of the democrats.

The indications point to a democratic victory, but a factional feeling, engendered by a bitter fight over the nomination for governor, has not entirely allayed, and this invests the canvass with doubt.

The Republican Senators have nominated Judge David Davis for President *pro tem.* of the Senate, and are credited with the intention of bringing the matter before that body in open session at an early day. Judge Davis will be elected unless he votes against himself. As the Senate is now constituted the Republicans have thirty-eight votes and the Democrats thirty-seven. Davis, the unknown quantity, possesses the controlling power. If he votes with the Republicans there will be two, and if he does not vote at all there will be one majority in favor of ousting Mr. Bayard from the chair.

Born With a Caul.

Superstition begins with infancy, and by general consent Sunday is regarded as a most lucky day for birth, both in England and on the Continent. Importance is also attached to the hour of birth, and faculty of seeing much that is hidden from others is said to be granted to children born at the "chime hours," *i. e.*, the hours of three, six, nine or twelve—a superstition found in many parts of the Continent. A highly popular superstition refers to the caul—a thin membrane occasionally found covering the head at birth and deemed specially lucky as indicating that the child will never be drowned. It has been termed the "holy" or "fortunate hood." Advocates purchased them, that they might be endued with eloquence, the price paid having often been from twenty to thirty guineas. Apart from the ordinary luck supposed to attach to the "caul," it may preserve the child from a terrible danger to which, according to the old idea, it is ever exposed, namely, that of being secretly carried off and exchanged by some envious witch or fairy for its own ill-favored offspring.

Waste Nothing.

Everything has its use, and both reason and time are well employed in finding out the uses of the various objects in creation. The Creator is glorified, and man is made happier by such discoveries. It is true not only of great, but small matters. It is overlooked by too many, that there is "power in little." By carefulness in little things fortunes are made, and vast good done. Particles of good make ingots; moments, years; drops, oceans. Crumbs are trifles, but they feed birds and barn fowls. Scraps of cotton and linen make the finest paper; and decayed, moth-eaten garments may be wrought into beautiful rugs and carpets.

All such things should be gathered up, and the inventive faculties should be taxed to discover the uses for articles now thrown away as refuse. *Scavengers* are not to be despised, though the office is not to be coveted. Every useful employment is worthy of respect. Ruth's poverty caused her to glean in the field, but neither her piety nor subsequent fortune was the worse for it. True humility condescends to men of low estate, disposes one to take hold of everything by which good may be done, and "does not despise the day of small things."

Many families waste yearly enough to reduce their expenses a third or a fourth; or to increase their contributions that much to benevolence. The bees teach us a lesson. They carefully save the parings of their cells, and construct others with the material. An agent of some benevolent purpose once called on a gentleman of wealth for his contribution, but before any application was made he over-heard him charging the servant to take care of the candle ends. He immediately gave up the hope of anything but a pittance from such a man; but what was his surprise when the subscription was made, to find that it exceeded the sum originally expected. He was ingenuous enough to confess his hard thoughts, and he received for reply; "Sir, that is the way I have it in my power to give. I waste nothing, as our Lord said, "Gather up the fragments, that nothing may be lost."

That man understood the nature of a Christian virtue—not sufficiently practical—economy. It is not meanness or parsimony. That is covetousness and is counterfeit. All goodness is counterfeited. Shall that prevent us from seeking and using the true coin?

So much the more ought Christians to live virtuously, because the wicked counterfeit the good.

At the same time, the saving will degenerate to selfishness and avarice unless the proper motive is cultivated—the habit of giving is kept up. Save, so as to give as you save. Every steam-boiler must have a scape-pipe, every receiving runner must have an outlet for his receipts, a safety-valve. One virtue thus feeds another, and all virtues hang together. Oh! how good causes everywhere languish for the want of these associated graces among God's people.

There are not too many calls, each. Save to give. God wastes nothing. Christ gathered up the fragments. It is one of his plainest precepts—it is one of life's great lessons—waste nothing!

THE PUBLIC DEBT STATEMENT FOR SEPTEMBER.—The statement of the public debt of the United States for September, 1881, shows a total indebtedness of $2,049,542,473, which, diminished by $250,686,547, the amount of cash in the treasury, leaves a net indebtedness on October 1 of $1,798,855,925. Of this latter amount $431,553,392, consisting of greenbacks, certificates of deposit, gold and silver certificates and fractional currency, pay no interest, and there are $10,039,595 of bonds matured and on which interest has ceased. The net interest-bearing debt is therefore but $1,593,102,250. The amount of interest paid during the last fiscial year was $82,508,741, against $95,757,575 the year before, and $105,327,949 in the year 1879. The government pays interest on bonds issued to the Pacific railway companies to the amount of $36,325,947 annualy.

There has been a decrease of the public debt of $17,483,641 during the month of September, against $14,181,221 in August. The decrease since June 30, 1881, has been $41,742,886. The surplus revenue applicable to the reduction of the debt during the year just past was $100,070,405, but if the decrease of the debt goes on during the remaining nine months at the rate attained in the last three, it will pe lessened in the fiscial year ending June 30, 1881, by the handsome sum of $166,971,544.

It is easy to see that at this rate the whole national debt can be paid in less time than ten years if the income of the government remains what it is and expenditures are not materially increased. But as the result of debt paid is to stop interest, the effect on the increase of the government surplus will be cumulative, so that it is perhaps reasonable to expect to see the entire debt extinguished in less than nine years if the financial policy of the government remains what it has been. An important result of the extintion of the debt would be the national banks as at present organized. They rest upon the national debt, and without a debt the whole theory of their relation to the government would have to be abandoned.

"To-morrow is Too Far Away."

To-morrow is too far away!
A bed of spice the garden is,
Nor bud nor blossom that we miss;
The roses tremble on the stem,
The violets and anemones:
Why should we wait to gather them?
Their bloom and balm are ours to-day,
To-morrow who can say?

To-morrow is too far away.
Why should we alight the joy complete,
The flower open at our feet?
For us to-day the robin sings,
His curved flight the swallow wings,
For us the happy moments stay.
Stay yet, nor leave us all too fleet!
For life is sweet and youth is sweet,
And love—ah; love is sweet to-day,
To-morrow—who can say?

Ina D. Coolbrith.

The Newspaper of To-day.

But the newspaper of to-day bears little or no resemblance to the personal organ of olden times. Telegraphy, fast mails, the march of education and thirst for knowledge have built up the press, a modern institution, profession and craft in one, which overshadows the small strifes of place-hunters, and is the superior, not the servant, of the politicians, because it typifies the people. The journalism of to-day offers within its own limits all possible opportunities for advancement, all proper incentives to ambition, all worthy rewards to those who deserve them. It embraces in its ranks—thanks perhaps to the absence of protection for other forms of American literary industry—the best heads, the clearest minds and the most facile pens in the land. As an instructor and mentor it has dwarfed the school room, the pulpit and the rostrum.—As an interpreter and guide of public opinion, it has a power which no tribune like Cicero nor premier like Pitt ever swayed in ante-journal days. Its service is one upon which young men of brain and industry can enter with a devotion to their task, a commanding sense of its dignity and responsibility, and a certainty of appreciation for good work which belongs to no other profession.

Flunkyism, Flunkyism, Flunkyism. Give us a rest.

MARVIN THE BIGAMIST COMMITTED TO THE PENITENTIARY.—Marvin, the forger and bigamist, was arraigned for trial in Richmond, Va., last week and to the astonishment of every one pleaded guilty to the charges of bigamy and forgery. The jury at once fixed his term of confinement in the penitentiary at five years in each case, making a total of ten years. Previous to sentence being pronounced Marvin made a lengthy harangue full of invective and denunciation of those charged with his custody, and the witnesses in attendence from the North. When he concluded his counsel, Mr. Samuel Page, said that he depreciated his client's language. He found the old man (Marvin) in jail without friends and without money, and he told him he would defend him. He advised Marvin to plead guilty. He denied that the old man had been deprived of a single right to which any prisoner was entitled. Judge Bondsall, of New York, said he had done all he could to ameliorate the condition of the prisoner, and that now he felt that he had done injustice to himself and the state of Virginia. Marvin made another effort to speak, but was prevented. He was at once taken to the penitentiary, and now wears a convict's garb.

A STRONG DEMOCRATIC ENDORSMENT FOR JUDGE SETTLE.—Judge Thomas Settle, has been prominently mentioned for the position of Secretary of the Navy, in President ARTHUR'S Cabinet. His many friends in North Carolina would rejoice to hear of his promotion. His high moral character and splendid intellect, would make him a valuable acquisition to the new Administration.—Wilson *Advance.*

SENATOR ALDRICH—Nelson W. Aldrich, the newly-elected Senator from Rhode Island, is said to have entered the city of Providence in the same modest manner that the illustrious Whittington entered London—on foot and with his clothes slung over his back. Being a bright, active youth he soon procured employment in a wholesale grocery house; but with a genius superior to his station he rose in life, till he is now the head of one of the largest firms in the State, and a Senator representing a prosperous and conservative community. Mr. Aldrich is not quite forty years old.

COTTON IN THE CAROLINAS.—The Norfolk Cotton Exchange reports of the condition of the cotton crop in North Carolina that the crop has been damaged greatly by the drought, rust and hail storms in some districts as much as 32 per cent. About 40 per cent. of the crop has been picked, and the yield will be 35 per cent. less than that of last year. The Charleston Cotton Exchange makes a report based on 62 replies from 29 counties, from which the crop is estimated at from 30 to 50 per cent. less than last year.

TALKING of the Mississippi plan and of tissue ballots and ballot-box frauds in the South, it is very distressing to find that such things are charged upon the party of morals even by certain factions thereof. For instance, a startling headline in *The New York Times* runs: Conkling's Bitter Fight. Brazen Fraud and Bribery in Brooklyn. Shameless Bulldozing by Conkling's men in the Twelfth Kings District. How Four Men Swindled Twelve. Charges of Attempted Bribery."