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SONG FROM A DRAMA.

I know not if moonlight or starlight
Be soft on the land and the sea—
I catch but the near light, the far light,
Of eyes that are burning for me;
The scant of the light, of the roses,
May burden the air for thee, sweet—
Tis only the breath of thy sighing
I know, as I lie at thy feet.

The winds may be sobbing or singing,
Their touch may be fervent or cold,
The night-bells may toll or be ringing—
I care not, with thee in my hold!
The feast may go on, and the music
Be scattered in ecstasy round—
Thy whisper, "I love thee! I love thee!"
Hath flooded my soul with its sound.

I think not of time that is flying,
How short is the hour I have won,
How near is this living to dying,
How the shadow still follows the sun;
There is nought upon earth, no desire,
Worth a thought, though 'twere had by a sign
I love thee! I love thee! Bring nigher
Thy spirit, thy kisses, to mine!

—*E. C. Stedman, in Scribner.*

What Constitutes Warm Clothing.

The London Sanitary Record has an article on "Warm Clothing" in which the following appears: Experiments conducted by Dr. Krieger tend to show that flannel and woolen materials answer this purpose more fully than any other manufactured materials. The same series of experiments also demonstrate that loose-fitting garments tend to keep us much warmer than tight-fitting ones. The reason of this is that our clothing not only renders the air still around us, but it also regulates its temperature by the heat that leaves our bodies. We heat our garments, and they continually heat the air passing through the meshes and pores of the skin. We do not feel the loss of heat which our clothing undergoes as we should if the air were to strike our surface without having been previously prepared by our dress, the differences of temperature balance themselves within the material we are clothed in, and of which the ends of our cutaneous nerves form no part. Inside our dress our temperature average about 75 to 94 degrees Fahrenheit, which is best kept in by rough, loose woolen textures, while garments of silk and linen should be avoided. Another correspondent points out the value of hair as a non-conductor of heat from the body, and recommends a more general use of the cheapest kinds of furs and skins, especially for persons obliged to be much in the open air. A fur is so arranged that the finer projecting hair intercepts all the heat which flows from the surface by radiation and conduction, and distributes this heat through the air which circulates between the single air-cylinders; the finer the hair of the fur the more it takes up the outgoing heat, and, however cold the air may be, it reaches the nerves of the skin as a warmed air. Furred animals in winter, when douched superficially, give a very cold sensation. It is only near the skin that their hair feels warm. In a severe cold, certainly little of our animal heat comes as far as the points of the hair, from which it would radiate or be conducted into the air. The current of air in the fur cools the air from its points toward the roots, and a severer cold penetrates only a little further into the fur, without necessarily reaching the skin of the same. The researches made to all go to prove the soundness of the conclusions arrived at in favor of furs clothing, and demonstrate beyond doubt that all persons, old or young, feeble or strong, who value the preservation of their health or their lives should, as far as possible, in inclement weather, clothe themselves in flannel and the lighter materials until the advent of a more favorable season."

The Opinion of Chief Justice Pearson in the Case of Cloud vs. Wilson.

The following opinion in the case of Judge Cloud vs. Judge Wilson, covering also the case of Judge Hilliard, will be found of much interest to the general public:

People en re, Cloud vs. Wilson.

1st. D. H. Starbuck, at the first election after the adoption of the Constitution, was elected the Judge of the 8th Judicial District; he did not accept the office and declined to qualify, therefore the Governor appointed the relator to fill the vacancy.

The question is, was this a vacancy which the Governor had the power to fill?

One of these conclusions must be adopted:

1st. On the refusal of Mr. Starbuck to accept, the General Assembly had power to order a special election for a Judge of that District. In the absence of a grant of this power to the General Assembly by the Constitutional, this conclusion must be rejected.

2nd. This is *casus omissus* in the Constitution, and that instrument is so defective as to have provided no way to fill the office, so that the administration of the law in a judicial district must stop, should it so happen that the person elected Judge declines to accept or dies before he qualifies and takes out his commission. This conclusion must be rejected.

3rd. We adopt the conclusion that although Starbuck declined to accept, and did not qualify and take his commission, a vacancy did occur in the office; by an unexpected event, there was no one to fill the office; thus, for all practical purposes, the office was vacant, and it can make no difference whether Mr. Starbuck declined before, or the moment after he qualified, or whether he was eligible to the office for taking it in either of the three ways, there was the same mischief. No one to administer the law in that judicial district, and to avoid this detriment to the public welfare, the power to fill vacancies is conferred upon the Governor.

2. The act of 1873-'74, chapter 118, directs an election for judge in the 8th judicial district on the 1st Thursday in August 1874, which was a regular election day for members of Congress, members of the General Assembly, and some other State officers, and was also a regular election day for the judges of the Superior Court belonging to the short term.

Under this statute Mr. Wilson was elected by a vote of the people judge of the 8th judicial district. He qualified, and in spite of the protestation of the relator, took possession of the office. The question is, had the General Assembly power to order election? This depends upon the construction of act 4, sec. 31: "All vacancies occurring in the offices provided for by this article shall be filled by the appointment of the Governor, unless otherwise provided for, and the appointees shall hold their places until the next regular election."

It is settled that the words "otherwise provided for" mean otherwise provided for by the constitution. Clark vs. Stanly, 66 N. C., 59 People vs. Bledsoe, 68 N. C., 457.

The question now is, what is the meaning of the words, "until the next regular election?" Taken by themselves, they are too indefinite to have any particular meaning; as they cannot stand alone, it is the province of the courts to find, by the rules of construction, other words to support them—that is, to find a definite meaning.

1. It is suggested, the addition of the words, "for members of the General Assembly," would fix a definite meaning. That is true, but what warrant is there for adding these words? We know of no rule of construction to justify it; there is no association of ideas by which the election of *judicial* officers is connected with the election of members of the General Assembly; there is as much, if not more, reason for making the sentence read, "until the next regular election for Justices of the Peace," that being a judicial officer.

It is unnecessary to say more upon this view of the question. Indeed, after the consideration of the matter which the appointment of Judge Cloud gave rise to in connection with the election for members of the General Assembly in 1872, the position has, by general consent, been abandoned as untenable—was not pressed in the argument before this Court.

2. It is suggested—the addition of the words, "for Judges of the Superior Courts" will fix a definite meaning. This seems to have been the construction adopted by the General Assembly in the act above referred to. It is obvious, that the addition of those words so as to make the sentence read, "until the next regular election for Judges of the Superior Courts" does not meet the whole question; for, the section under consideration embraces all vacancies in the judicial department, except those otherwise provided for by the Constitution, and includes the Justices of the Supreme Court, Clerks of the Superior Courts and Solicitors, as well as the Judges of the Superior Courts; so, to make the sentence full, it must be made to read, until the next regular election for Justices of the Supreme Court, in respect to vacancies occurring in the office of the Justice or of any one of the Associate Justices; for Clerks of the Superior Courts, in respect to vacancies occurring in the office of the Justice or of any one of the Associate Justice; for Clerks of the Superior Courts, in respect to vacancies ocurring in the office of a Superior Court Clerk, and for Solicitors, in respect to vacancies occurring in respect to the office of a Solicitor, and for Judges of the Superior Courts in respect to vacancies occurring in the office of a Superior Court Judge."

It would seem this was the construction adopted by the General Assembly in respect to Justices of Supreme Court, from the omission to provide for the election of two Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, to take the place of two who now hold the office under the appointment of the Governor, to fill vacancies.

We think this construction the true one, in respect to Justices of the Supreme Court, Clerks of the Superior Courts and Solicitors, because elections are to be held at *one time* for *all* of the Justices of the Supreme Court, and so as to the Clerks and Solicitors respectively. But, in regard to the election of Judges of the Superior Courts, this is not the case. There is another section of Article IV which varies the question and calls for a change in the words, which it is suggested should be added section 26: "The Judges of the Superior Courts elected at the first election, under this constitution, shall after their election, under the superintendance of the Justices of the Supreme Court, be divided by lot into *two equal classes*, one of which shall hold office for four years and the other for eight years." Here is an express provision by which the Judges of the Superior Courts are divided into two equal classes, one class to be elected every four years. Whether this provision will effect any important purpose, it is not for us to say, it is so ordained; and it is the duty of the Courts to give effect to it, and to see that it is not departed from or evaded. No construction of the constitution can be sound which defeats an *express provision* of that instrument. Such is the effect of the construction contended for. We have eight of the Judges instead of six elected at one time and may have had nine or ten or the whole twelve according to the result of accidents.

To preserve these two equal classes and to have an election for six of the Judges of the Superior Court, held every four years, it is necessary to modify the additional words suggested, so as to make the sentence read, "until the next regular election for Judges of the class in which a vacancy has occurred.

This construction, which we adopt in reference to all judicial officers, may be expressed by the use of a very short elipsis, so as to make the section read: "The opposites shall hold their places until the next regular election *for the office* in which a vacancy has occurred."

This conclusion makes everything fit and there is no "jar" or dislocation of any part of the instrument.

In one case the office which had become vacant, belongs to the second class, to wit: that of the Judges to whom was allotted a full term; it follows, that the regular election for the office is not to be held until 1878, at which time the terms of the Judges of the second class expires; that the act of the General Assembly, under the Constitution, which attempts to hasten the time for the election of a Judge of the 8th District, violates the Constitution.

It was urged on the argument, "by this construction the appointee of the Governor may hold office, as in this instance, for many years, whereas the general policy of the Constitution is to have frequent elections." It is "not ours" to conjecture the considerations which caused a provision by which the appointee to fill the office of Judge in case of a vacancy holds until the next regular election for the office, or for the want of a provision by which a vacancy in the office of a Judge of the Superior Court can be filled by an election of the people. Suffice it, there is no such provision. The term of office for a Judge elected by the people is fixed at eight years, and there is no provision for filling a vacancy by an election. As another objection to this construction, it was urged, other parts of the Constitution, to wit: sec. 30, 34 of the same article IV, "judicial departments" in providing for filling vacancies use the words "for the unexpired term," and if the words, "until the next regular election" are to have the same meaning, why were not the same words used?

The objection is plausible, but the reply is: the Constitution cannot be held up as a model of precision in language, and the duty of the Court is to declare the meaning, whether it be expressed in one set of words or in other equivalent words—for illustration, section 30, "in case of a vancancy existing for any cause," &c.; section 34, "when the office shall become vacant;" here the same meaning is expressed in different words, so the use of different equivalent words does not include the construction that the same meaning was intended.

But allowing that the change of words is an objection to the constitution adopted, it is weighed down by the fact that any other constitution would nullify and put at naught the provision by which the judges of the Superior Courts are divided into two classes, and by the further fact that should the judge of a district having at the outset the long term be elected at the time that the judges of the other class are elected, the question will arise, does this judge elected out of his class hold for eight years, or only for the unexpired part of the term? If the former, the classification is entirely destroyed; if the latter, the classification is restored in that instance, but is open to other disturbances, occurring by vacancies, and we have the anomily of a judge elected by the people to fill a vacancy for four years or other less time, which is in conflict with the provision that the term of office shall be eight years. There is this further objection; the election of a judge out of his class may come on unexpectedly, as if a judge out of the class dies or resigns, say twenty days before the regular election for judges of the other class, there will be no reasonable time for making a selection of candidates, but the election must be made, or the district will have no judge. The fact that this contingency is not provided for, shows it was not the intention to have an election by the people to *fill a vacancy* in the office of judge. This conclusion is put beyond all doubt, by reference to other parts of the constitution by which provision is made in so many words for the election of other less important officers, to fill vacancies that occur more than thirty days before a general election for such offices. If the election comes off within thirty days after the vacancy, the appointee of the Governor is to hold until the next general election, art 3, sec. 13. No provision of the kind is made in respect to an election to fill a vacancy for the office of a judge out of his class; thus we are forced to the conclusion that no election of a judge out of the class was contemplated. We declare our opinion to be that the defendant, Thomas J. Wilson, is not entitled to the office of judge of the 8th Judicial District, and that the relator, J. M. Cloud, is entitled to the office.

There is error. Judgment below reversed. Let judgement be entered according to this opinion.

PEARSON, J.

Civil Rights Bill.

The following is the bill as passed, omitting the preamble:

That all persons within the jurisdiction of the United States shall be entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges of inns, public conveyances (on land or water), theatres and other places of public amusements, subjecct only to the conditions and limitations established by law, applicable alike to citizens of every race or color, regardless of any previous condition of servitude. That any person who shall violate the foregoing section, by denying to any citizen except for reasons by law applicable to citizens of every race and color, and regardless of any previous condition of servitude, the full enjoyment of any of the accmomodations, advantages, facilities and privileges in said section enumerated; or by aiding or inciting such denial, shall, for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of five hundred dollars to the person aggrieved thereby, to be recovered in an action of debt with the full costs, and shall also, for every such offence, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than $500 nor more than $1,000, or shall be imprisoned not lese than thirty days nor more than one year, provided that all persons may elect to sue for the penalty aforesaid or to proceed under their rights at common law and by State statutes, and having so elected to proceed in the one mode or the other their right to proceed in the other jurisdiction shall be barred, but this proviso shall not apply to criminal proceedings, either under this act or the criminal law of any State; and provided further, that a judgment for the penalty, in favor of the party aggrieved, or a judgment upon an indictment, shall be a bar to either prosecution respectively.

Sec. 3. That the District and Circuit Courts of the United States shall have, exclusively of the Court of the several States, cognizance of the all crimes and offences against and violations of the provisions of this act, and actions for the penalty given by the proceeding section may be prosecuted in the Territorial, District or Circuit Courts of the United States wherever the defendant may be found without regard to the other party, and the District Attorneys, Marshals and Deputy Marshals of the United States and Commissioners appointed by the Circuit and Territorial Courts of the United States with powers of arresting and imprisoning or bailing offenders against the laws of the United States are hereby specially authorized and required to institute proceedings against every person who shall violate the provisions of this act, and cause him to be arrested and imprisoned or bailed, as the case may be, for trial before such Court of the United States or Territorial Court as by law has cognizance of the offense, except in respect of the right of action accruing to the person aggrieved, and such District Attorneys shall cause such proceedings to be prosecuted to their termination, as in other cases; provided that nothing contained in this section shall be construed to deny or defeat any right of civil action accruing to any persen, whether by this act or otherwise; and any District Attorney who shall wilfully fail to institute and prosecute the proceedings herein required, shall for every such offense, forfeit and pay the sum of $500 to the person aggrieved thereby, to be recovered by any action of debt, with full costs, and shall, on conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be fined not less than $1,000, nor more than $5,000; and provided further, that a judgment for the penalty, in favor of the party aggrieved, against any such District Attorney, or a judgment upon an indictment against any such District Attorney, shall be a bar to either prosecution respectively.

Sec. 4. That no citizen possessing all other qualifications which are, or may be prescribed by law, shall be disqualified for service as grand or petit juror in any Court of the United States, or of any State, on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude; and any officer or other person charged with any duty in the selection or summoning of jurors, who shall exclude or fail to summon any citizen for the cause aforesaid, shall, on conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and be fined not more than $5,000.

Sec. 5. That all cases arising under the provisions of this act, in the Courts of the United States, shall be reviewable by the Supreme Court of the United States without regard to the sum in controversy, under the same provisions and regulations as are now provided by law for the review of other causes in said Court.

ONE CAUSE OF SOUTHERN POVERTY.

First, then, I assign as one of the reasons of our continued poverty and want of progress the fact, that we do not produce enough of what we eat or wear, and buy to much on credit. To present an elaborate argument in defiance of this position would require a volume. One or two practical facts will suffie to prove my assertion true, and the answer that every farmer will give when applying the idea to his own case will coroborate these facts.

In 1859, the South produced over five million bales of cotton, of four hundred pounds each, which sold at average of eleven cents per pound, realizing less than $250,000,000.

In 1869, the cotton crop of the South was less than three and a half millions of bales, four hundred pounds each, and sold for an average of twenty-two cents per pound, realizing over $300,000,000.

The cotton crop of 1873 reached considerably beyond four million of bales, and sold for less than $275,000,000. And this has been the history of our crops annually in the past; have we any reason to anticipate that similar effects will not follow the same course in the future? Then if the all cotton policy, or a large cotton crop has actually tended to impoverish us as a people, who will assert that the same policy will not have similar effect upon individuals?

On paper it can be easily proven, that cotton, as a crop, will pay better than any or all other products. But these figures are far more unreliable than the oft-abused labor of the country. There is no question but that individual farmers, having lands peculiarly adapted to the growth of cotton, can net more money growing cotton and buying their breadstuffs and provender than by cultivating a diversity of crops. But it is an egregious error to think, that because A, B, or C, can do so, therefore every Southern farmer can pursue the same course, anticipating the same result.

Through a series of years, regardless of the price of cotton, (I reiterate here what I have often asserted before in these pages), on ninety-nine out of every hundred Southern farms, it is cheaper to grow oats for plough animals than to haul corn from the nearest depot, because oats will follow cotton with no cost but the seed and harvesting, both of which can be paid for every winter in the mutton that can be fatted on the growing crops; it is cheaper to raise all the pork the farmer's family can consume annually than to buy bacon at ten cents per pound; it is cheaper to grow a pound of wool, up to a certain number of pounds, than the same number of pounds of cotton; and it is cheaper to grow anything that can possibly be grown upon the farm than to buy it *on a credit.*

Few farmers understand properly what is meant by "buying on a credit." They know they get the article and pay more for it than if they paid the cash, but they never once calculate the premium of percentage they are paying for this privilege of getting time or "credit." Let me illustrate. The average farmer may raise meat enough to do him till the 1st April. By that time he has to buy, but having no cash, though good credit, he "goes to the store" and buys bacon at 15 cents per pound, payable 1st November following. He learns the cash price is 12½ cents per pound, but necessity compels him to buy on a credit. He thus pays 2½ cents per pound for the privilege of buying on a credit, or one-sixth the price to be paid which is simply 16⅔ per cent. per annum for the use of money. But he buys in April, and has to pay 1st November, only eight months' credit, and thus pays *twenty-five per cent. per annum* for the use of money. What farmer can afford to do this and live? What is applicable to bacon is equally so to corn, hay, flour, implements, mules, and every article the farmer buys on a credit.

It is estimated that the average increase of the agricultural wealth of the United States is about four per cent. per annum. The average increase of agricultural wealth in any Southern State, annually, since the war has not been one per cent. Indeed, some of the States have travelled the other road, and are now lost in the wilderness of debt; and there is no more potent cause for this condition of things than that of buying on a credit the necessaries of life to enable them to grow cotton, and this, too, very frequently at a cost that exceeds its market value. There is an infatuation about this cultivation of cotton that amounts to an hallucination. Can there be nothing invented to so far dispel it as to induce the Southern farmer to live more within himself and less at the mercy of the Shylocks of the land?

COL. D. WYATT AIKEN, *in Rural Carolinian for February.*

While on her way to leap into the river, a Minneapolist girl met a man, who proposed marriage, and she turned back and was happy. Almost any day now one can count four or five Minneapolist girls wandering along the river banks.

SOCRATES.—While Athens was governed by the 30 tyrants, Socrates, the philosopher, was summoned to the Senate House, and ordered to go with some other persons, whom they named, to seize one Leon, a man of rank and fortune, whom they determined to put out of the way, that they might enjoy his estate. This commission Socrates positively refused. "I will not willingly," said he "assist in an unjust act.„ Chericles sharply replied, "Dost thou think, Socrates to talk in this high tone and not suffer?" "Far from it," replied he, "I expect to suffer a thousand ills, but none so great as to act unjustly."

LONG WOOL SHEEP ON A WORN OUT FARM.

Mr. R. G. Hill, in an address delivered before a farmers' meeting at Morrisville, Va., upon Cotswold sheep and their value said:

the Cotswold are just the kind to improve springy, swaley pastures. They will thrive on rank, coarse feed bringing in the white clover, and doubling its value in a short time. It is generally admitted that sheep are the best stock that can be kept for the pasture; but knowing that it was generally considered that they were equal to cows to keep up the mowing, I determined to satisfy myself which was the best, and some ten years since commenced feeding the hay on a small farm exclusively to sheep. This lot was in fair condition, yielding about one ton per acre. I let the sheep have the stable, spread the manure on the grass, going over one-half of it each time. The grass continued to increase until it yielded not less than ten tons to the acre. The manure from this yield gave it a heavy dressing. For a year or two the grass has not been as heavy; the ground appears to be hurt with manure. Last spring I plowed a part of it to re-seed, and sowed it with wheat. It grew very rank, but the seed grew ranker, such weeds as grow on very rich ground. This land has been dressed with clean manure from the stable, and the grass has been free from weeds. There has been no manure put on previous to plowing.—That such weeds should grow on a sward well turned, shows the ground to be very rich.

The demand for good mutton is constantly increasing, and we think the mutton breeds will pay the best when they are kept in small flocks, and given that special attention required to produce the best animals.

It is well known to sheep grazers that Merinoes do not thrive on low, wet pastures, but prefer high and dry hills, so those contemplating sheep husbandry would do well to take into consideration the character of their soil, and select such breeds as are best adapted to it.

Hiding the Villanies of Grantism.

From the Journal of Commerce.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Though the President last year intimated threats of a veto, it is now understood that he is willing to sign the Civil Rights bill, the enforcement of which can be so shaped as to provoke resistance. The reasons of the desire for a war may perhaps be found in the facts hidden by the suppression of the Government cash accounts for years, and in the corruptions believed to exist in the Navy Department and other executive offices. The publication of the accounts and an unspairing investigation of the practices of those departments would (it is believed) astound and horrify the public. The civil rights struggle may be partly intended to defeat investigation of the Navy Department and of the failure of the trial of the safe burglary conspirators; also, to postpone and prevent action by the Banking and Currency Committee against the Treasury Printing Bureau, and leave the Treasury, after the adjournment of Congress, with power to cancel the agreement with the bank note companies and take complete control of the manufacture of the currency, including the power of overissue, the existence of which was lately indicated.

Burning the Evidences of Grantism.

From the Journal of Commerce

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—The Capital the anti-Administration paper here, confirms my previous statements as to the origin of the Navy Department fires. It says the Treasury and nearly all other records will be burnt or destroyed before the next House can investigate. It also says when the Interior Department is investigated Secretary Delano will have to fly the country.

An effort is to be made to account for the fires by charging a messenger with incendiary monomania, and sending him to the lunatic asylum.

The fifth fire Saturday morning appears to have broken out in the document room of the Engineering Bureau. Money is broadly stated to have been paid in large amounts from this bureau without authority of law, hence the desire for concealment.

Important records are said to have disappeared from the Treasury and War Department also. At the close of the war $850,000,000 worth of war material remained on hand. Much of this (it is charged) has since been sold, and the money spent without any appropriation, such expenditures constituting penal offences. At the same time that a call was made for detailed idformation of a like kind from the Navy Department, a call was made by Congress for a detailed account of the sales and expenditures in regard to this war material. The department asked an appropriation of about half a millon for clerk hire to make up the accounts; whereat the partisan majority smothered this investigation too, on the score of economy. An investigation being now threatened by the next House, the records relating to the subject are thought likely to burn or otherwise vanish.

We never get excited in reading of the mysterious disappearance of "a handsome young lady about eighteen years old." They are generally heard from in about a week, asking the old man if he will forgive and forget, and if they may bring Charles Henry home.

Putting on More Taxes.

The Treasury of the United States is getting out of money, and unless a new squeeze is made upon the pockets of the people, the Government will not be able to meet its obligations. This all comes from that compound of incompetency, extravagance, and downright public robbery which is known as Grantism.

It will not be easy for the people, already exhausted by taxation, to furnish the additional millions that are now wanted; but the taxes must be imposed nevertheless. Economy in the expeditures of the Government is not now to be expected. Instead of curtailing, it is much easier for Grant and his agents to pile on new taxes. They must run the machine at hight pressure, no matter how hard it is for the masses of the country to furnish the money.

If people wish to be relieved from these outrageous and intolerable burdens, if they wish to see economy and moderate expences once more prevailing in the Administration, they must turn out Grant and the corrupt and rascally set of office-holders that he has imposed upon the country.—N Y *Sun.*

A Good Diamond Story.

The Boston *Transcript* tells this glittering story:

"A lady blazed all over with diamonds at a Fifth avenue party last week. On each shoulder she had four stars, the size of a dollar, made of diamonds. Her hair was thickly set with diamonds; there was a diamond bandeau on her brow; she had diamond ear-rings, and a diamond necklace. Upon the sides of her chest were two circles of diamonds, from which depended lines and curves of diamonds reaching to her waist, upon which she wore a diamond girdle. On her skirt, in front, were large peacocks wrought in lines of diamonds. There were rosettes of diamonds on her slippers, and diamonds large and small, all over her dress and person, wherever they could be placed. This lady's grandfather was a cartman, her father a pawn broker, and her husband—well, he lives upon the father.—But it doesn't matter. The old gentleman is worth his millions, and still follows his business, and adds to his store. He is never present at these parties, though.

When to Cut Timber.

An Arkansas correspondent of the Scientific American says: "I came here 30 years since, and began clearing land and building houses with hewn logs and boards split from the trees. After several years' residence I noticed that very often pieces of the same kind of timber decayed more quickly than other; and after much thought and observation I came to the conclusion that timber felled when the leaf first commenced to grow rotted the sap off very quickly, but the heart remained sound; that timber felled after the fall of the leaf rotted in the heart, even when apparently sound on the outside. When firewood cut in the winter was put on the fire the sap came out of the heart, but when cut in the summer the sap came out of the sap wood, and next the bark. I notice also that all our lasting wood has but little sap at any time in the heart—such as cedar, mulberry, sassafras, and cypress. A cypress post cut in the summer of 1838 is still sound, although exposed to all weathers, while one of the same kind of timber, cut in the winter of 1856, and painted, has rotted in the heart. I saw yesterday a piece of gum plank, which I sawed in the summer of 1856, that has lain ever since, and is perfectly sound; while oak timber that was felled in the winter before is now entirely rotten. My conclusion then is: Cut timber after full leaf, say in July and August, to get the most last from it. The sap goes into the heart of the tree after leaf-fall and causes decay.

THE STORY OF A LIFE.—One of the representative men of St. Louis was Thos. Pratt, who was president of a gas company, a member and susporter of a Baptist Church, and always foremost in public movements. He had lived in that city thirty years, and had a wife and children who were leaders in society. About a month ago he was killed by an explosion in the gas works which he managed, and the general regret found expression in the usual way. His fortune reached half a million dollars, and the squabble for it has revealed astounding things. The lauded citizen was a bigamist. In 1821 he married in England, and by his first wife had several children. After ten years of apparently happy wedded life he deserted his family and came to New York, where in 1835 he married again. His crime was exposed three years afterward, and again he ran away, this time going to St. Louis, where he acquired character and fortune. He sent money to his family in England, and took his family to live with him. Several years ago he confessed his history to some of the officers of his church, and they, deeming the evil of a religious scandal should be averted anyhow, advised him to keep his secret close. The exposure now comes through the efforts of the first wife and children to get at the estate, which they probably will do, as the second marriage was void in law.

Spain's ecclesiastical scandal is a distressing one. Bishop Caixal of Urgel, is charged with assassinating a priest, cutting him up and burying the *disjecta membra* in a cellar of the Episcopal residence. The Bishop is also charged with many acts of dissoluteness of the Beecher order, but as he has himself away to the army of Don Carlos, the authorities cannot get at him very well.