

SAD CHANGE OF FORTUNE.

"Oh he's nobody but a printer!" exclaimed a Miss Ellen Dupree to one of her friends, who was speaking in terms of praise and commendation of Mr. Barton Williams, a young and very intelligent printer.

"Ellen, you speak as though a printer was not entitled to respectability. I hope you will explain yourself," replied Miss Mary Crossman.

"Well, hope you will excuse me; I do not think it becoming for a young man who has to labor for a living, to try to move in the society of those who are his superiors, and moreover, he might win the affections of a young girl superior to him in rank, and then do you think her parents would be pleased? I know I would rather live an old maid all my days than marry a printer—a man that has to toil all day and night and then, oh, to think of being ranked among the poor," whined out Miss Dupree.

"Then you think they are beneath you?" "Yes, of course." "Both in worth and intelligence, too, I suppose, do you not?" "Yes, everything!"

"Are you superior to a Franklin, to a Blackstone, to a Campbell, and many other eminent men who were printers? Or do you believe your intellectual powers soar above many other distinguished printers of the present day?" "Oh, now and then you come across one that is respectable, but they are few and far between. And as to Mr. Williams, I do not consider him a Franklin, or a Blackstone, or anyone else much."

"Nor do I consider him beneath my notice. Now Miss Dupree I think you ought to reflect seriously upon what you are saying and have some regard for my feelings. You know not what you may come to before you die."

"Well, I don't think I shall ever come to be the wife of a printer, or anybody who has to labor, nor do I intend to countenance such either."

and unnecessary expenditures of money, we were dispossessed of a home and reduced to abject poverty; and then my husband took to drink, and now I am a beggar, and those children depending on my success for a living and I beseech you in behalf of my poor little children, to bestow upon me such charity as you feel disposed to grant."

Her story was told and met a kind response from a generous heart.—The lady of the house recognized the poor woman; but she did not feel disposed to make herself known, but ushered them into the dining room and sat down with them to a warm supper.—

"Madam," said the lady, "what was your maiden name?" "Ellen Dupree."

"She thought her's a familiar voice; she had heard it before, but she could not remember when or where; and after a long time she murmured—

"I think I have known you in times gone by, but I cannot remember your name, my good lady?"

"Mary Crossman was my name when I knew you."

"Mary who?" "Mary Crossman."

"My God! who is your husband?" "Oh he's nobody; only a printer!"

The poor woman remembered being introduced before her marriage, to Mr. Williams—and she remembered, too, how cold and indifferent she was on that occasion. Yes, "nobody but a printer" went like a dagger to her heart. That printer now was her benefactor.

THE BACK-COUNTRY ELDER AT THE COUNCIL.

MR. EDITOR: Rank is a thing of much more consequence and more distinctly defined in the British Empire, and especially in Scotland, than it is with us in America. It is therefore noteworthy that, of the order of the nobility in Scotland, several are elders in the Presbyterian Church, and one at least is a minister. As the Council drew toward its close, we had each a card of invitation from one of the members—an elder—to spend a day with him at his residence, thirty or forty miles southeast from Edinburgh, on his estate. The note of invitation was in the customary phrase of polite society: "Lord and Lady Polwarth request the pleasure of the company," &c.

In lieu of the customary note of acceptance or regrets, those who would come were to signify it by their autograph in his Lordship's book, opened for the purpose in the reading-room of the Council.

BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM.

By the way, "autographs" were in great request. Several obtained the signatures of all, or nearly all, the delegates in one book. One beautiful method prevailed among the ladies—so generally as to seem like a custom there. That was a small album, with a section of a page on one side dated like a diary, and opposite each a verse of Scripture for that day. You were asked to write your signature under the day (not the year) of your birth—it being understood that on every return of that day the owner of the book would, in secret prayer to God, mention the names of those whose birthday fell on that anniversary.

But to return to Lord Polwarth's invitation: Anxious as most of the delegates were by this time to start on their several tours to the Continent and elsewhere, in order to make the most of their short leaves of absence from home—such was the very general regard for Lord Polwarth as an eloquent, earnest and useful man in the Church—that probably as many as two hundred persons, including many ladies, availed themselves of the invitation; and I may safely say that none that day found anything wanting that could contribute to their enjoyment.

DRY-NURSING REPUTATION.

(New York World.) Reputation, even of a moderate sort, is so desirable to have that it is entirely natural for men to make great and continuous efforts to secure it. It is their misfortune often that they confound reputation and notoriety, and labor for what they conceive to be fame by unbecoming and unremunerative means. In a democracy like ours honors are so much easier and plentier than in aristocracy that there is always a struggle for them by persons unfit to wear them.

DRYBURGH ABBEY.

Our excursion train made a final halt at a railway station called "St. Boswell's." From this point a pleasant walk, crossing the river Tweed on a skittish suspension bridge of iron—so shaky that only ten persons at one time were allowed to pass—soon came to the ruins of "Dryburgh Abbey" a sweet spot, embowered among the trees in a cozy bend of the river; and even more interesting than Melrose, although not by any means so remarkable for architecture, or in such good preservation. Here lie buried, side by side, the remains of Sir Walter Scott and his lady; and across the two, at the head or the feet, is the grave of Lockhart, their son-in-law.

MERTOUN HOUSE.

The estate and residence of Lord Polwarth, whose invited guests we all were that day lay in the next bend of the river Tweed, and lower down. Mertoun House is the name of the place. A slight-ly location, extensive park and cultivated grounds. Many grand old trees and gardens of flowers. It is a fine thing to be a lord, if they all are as nicely fixed as this one.

The duty of personal introduction to my Lord and Lady over—indeed while that shaking of many hands was going on—an excellent lunch was provided; and the same had to be without stint, for by this time we excursionists came in with roaring appetites. No doubt the servants' hall of that hospitable mansion will hand down to future generations of servants a marvelous tradition of the quantities consumed that day. Happily, while we were eating in the dining-room, the neighboring tenantry had their lunch provided out of doors, in the park; and it is to be hoped his Lordship's steward will never know certainly that we delegates got more than our share of the enormous stock of provisions that must have disappeared in that festive hour.

I could extend this article beyond a reasonable limit, telling the many good things said and done that day. We were all in fine spirits, like youngsters broke loose from school, bent on recreation and enjoyment. I saw no disturbed countenance there, except an American gentleman who had previous notice he was to come in for his speech of five minutes; the same being in him bottled up and corked down in momentary danger of effervescence, he paced up and down the room, each hand grasping firmly the collar of his coat, his whole frame quivering with impatience until his turn came. After that he seemed to feel relieved.

The religious exercises following the lunch were in the open air; the speakers standing on the stone steps of the house; the large audience collected from the country round about there seated on benches and otherwise over the lawn. Later in the day there was tea, and after that a cordial leave-taking, with appropriate religious exercises.

OLD PLANTATION LIFE.

I have described it sufficiently to show that the whole entertainment was a success. It was happily conceived, and so arranged as to make it a memorable day to persons from abroad, and to Americans especially, who have a very natural desire to see all they can of the interior life among a wealthy class whose position in society is assured by hereditary descent. And every Southern man present must have noted—with many, many regrets—how very nearly the things we saw that day resembled the habits and style of a first-rate plantation in any old settled State before the dreadful war.

The manners and personal department we found to be much the same. His Lordship received us in every-day dress, as though he had just come in from riding over his plantation in a hurry to see us, that gave him no time to change his clothing, or even brush his hair. His manner was loving and cordial, as if he was heartily glad to see us, and felt our coming to be more an honor to him than to us—the very reverse of patronage.

A PRESBYTERIAN LADY.

Her Ladyship, with an infant but two weeks old, received in a gentle manner all she had strength to see; talked motherly of her children, who appeared without boldness in their Highland costume. The mother of Lady Polwarth, who in the Countess of Aberdeen, filled her daughter's position as mistress of the house with that quiet, thoughtful air of dignity, with characteristic of her class, that characterizes the first-class Presbyterian lady wherever one has the good fortune to be a guest. I could name many an American lady, rich or poor, who would receive the ministers and elders at a meeting of Presbytery or Assembly without any perceptible variation from the department of this lady in the highest rank abroad. The fact is, to be ladylike and to be a gentleman is to be one and the same thing anywhere, from the backwoods of America to the environs of a foreign court. It is to be modest, sincere, unselfish.

A FREE TRADE PARTY.

At Saratoga on September 7, a conference of Free Traders met and adopted the following resolutions, drawn up by David Dudley Field, Parke Godwin, Horace White and Francis A. Walker:

Resolved, That the present depression of industrial, commercial and financial interests in this country is largely due to our inability under present laws to dispose of the surplus products of our industry which other countries want, and which but for restrictive and injudicious legislation the United States would to a great extent produce and sell better and cheaper than any other nation.

Resolved, That this general depression has been caused mainly by the erroneous financial and commercial policy pursued by the Federal government since the war, in forgetfulness of the economic axiom that it is utterly impossible for us to dispose of the surplus product of our industry to other nations unless we are to accept in return the surplus products of their industry.

Resolved, That by imposing taxes for purposes other than revenue, and by preventing us from cheaply and advantageously buying ships, our shipping which had become the second in the world, and was fast becoming the first, has been almost swept from the seas.

Resolved, That in view of the fact that large and important interests have grown up under the erroneous fiscal policy which the United States have maintained during a period of sixteen years, due regard must be paid to the security and welfare of these goods; but seeing them prostrate and suffering in common with others, we are persuaded that if protection has ever done anything for them, it has done all it can, and that they, no less than others, need for their revival and healthy growth a thorough revision of the existing tariffs.

Resolved, That as one means towards the revival of commerce and general prosperity, we ask concurrently with informed legislation a thorough revision of our commercial treaties with foreign nations, many of which are unsuited to the present industrial and productive condition of this country; and we ask also the negotiation of treaties of commerce with countries such as France and Spain, with which we have no such agreement.

Resolved, That as one means towards the revival of commerce and general prosperity, we ask concurrently with informed legislation a thorough revision of our commercial treaties with foreign nations, many of which are unsuited to the present industrial and productive condition of this country; and we ask also the negotiation of treaties of commerce with countries such as France and Spain, with which we have no such agreement.

Resolved, That as one means towards the revival of commerce and general prosperity, we ask concurrently with informed legislation a thorough revision of our commercial treaties with foreign nations, many of which are unsuited to the present industrial and productive condition of this country; and we ask also the negotiation of treaties of commerce with countries such as France and Spain, with which we have no such agreement.

Resolved, That as one means towards the revival of commerce and general prosperity, we ask concurrently with informed legislation a thorough revision of our commercial treaties with foreign nations, many of which are unsuited to the present industrial and productive condition of this country; and we ask also the negotiation of treaties of commerce with countries such as France and Spain, with which we have no such agreement.

Resolved, That as one means towards the revival of commerce and general prosperity, we ask concurrently with informed legislation a thorough revision of our commercial treaties with foreign nations, many of which are unsuited to the present industrial and productive condition of this country; and we ask also the negotiation of treaties of commerce with countries such as France and Spain, with which we have no such agreement.

IS LIFE A MODE OF MOTION?

It can be demonstrated that motion is all-pervading; that absolute rest is inconceivable and that, in whatever form motion may appear, whether as motion or as light, heat, chemical affinity, magnetism or electricity, all are but phases of it, and one and the same great force. Science however does not stop with the enunciation of this truth, but following the same pathway onward is now brought face to face with the greatest problem within the ken of human conception, the question of the nature of life itself. There is something startling and overwhelming in the recognition of the fact that perhaps the greatest scientific minds on earth are keenly pressing forward toward the resolution of the mystery, not as speculators or dogmatists, not as metaphysical advances of abstract hypotheses; by progressing step by step, proving and re-proving, leaving no by-path unexplored, no thread loose or weak in the wonderful fabric of facts which are slowly being interwoven. If Bastian and the believers in spontaneous generation are right, then life is the legitimate consequence of chemical affinity, for they claim to have substantiated by the clearest experimental proof that organisms in certain solutions previously free from life are due wholly to the proper chemical composition of such solutions. If this be true, then life must stand in the same category as heat and light and other sequences of chemical affinity—it is a mode of motion into which other modes of motion are convertible, and reciprocally it would follow that life itself is transformable into other phases of the all-pervading force.—Scientific American.

COLORED WOMAN IN A TRANCE.

(Wilmington Star.) A rather remarkable incident occurred in Cape Fear township, about three miles from this city, on Friday morning last. It appears that on Thursday afternoon, about 3 o'clock, a colored woman whose name we did not ascertain, who had been complaining of being unwell, being troubled with sore throat, &c., to all appearances died. The news of the supposed calamity soon spread throughout the neighborhood and quite a number of the colored people gathered at the house, when the body was laid out in the usual manner and preparations were commenced for the funeral. That night, in accordance with the usual custom among the colored people, a crowd was present to sit up with the supposed corpse, and singing and other ceremonies incident to such solemn occasions were indulged in. It was among the small hours approaching dawn, and the devout worshippers had become warmed up to about the highest pitch of animal excitement, when all of a sudden the supposed corpse jerked herself up into a sitting posture and demanded to know what "all dat fuss was about?" There was a sudden cessation in the vocal performance—a break in the devotion of the sympathizing crowd—dire consternation took the place of grief and condolence in the hearts of the mourners, and in less time than we have taken to tell it the resurrected woman (who it seems had only been in a trance) had been left in solitude and wonderment to unravel the mystery of her condition and surroundings.

A TREMENDOUS GIRL.

(Warren County (Ky.) Letter in the Franklin Post.) This child, a girl, was four years of age on the 20th day of last March. She weighs 100 pounds, measures eighteen inches across the chest, and is four feet eight and one-half inches high. There is a thick growth of hair covering her entire body while her face is covered with whiskers, including a moustache. Up to about eighteen months ago she was a healthy girl. At about that time her body became very hot and was covered with perspiration, lasting several days. The odor occasioned by the perspiration was very offensive, and within fifteen minutes after being cleanly dressed her body and clothes would become saturated as if by some black colored liquid. When the perspiration ceased the hair began growing, only leaving the soles of her feet and the palms of her hands bare. Her voice attained a remarkable depth, sounding as though it came from the inside of a barrel. Her strength is astonishing. She can carry her ten-year old sister under her arm with apparent ease, and her mother states that the child actually does not know her own strength. The statements herein made are strictly true, and, if necessary, the testimony of the child's parents and many people living in the neighborhood can be produced for corroboration.

A FAMILY OF CHILDREN GONE.

A few weeks ago we published the sad death of three of Mr. John Andrew's children, who died in three days. He had only four, the youngest was spared, for only a few weeks, however, as that died last Friday. Thus an entire family of children has fallen in the pathway of diptheria.—Alamance Gleaner.

George B. Keenan, of San Francisco,

was heir to an estate worth \$300,000. He was dissolute and destitute, and rather than wait a few months for possession of the property, sold his right to a lawyer for \$5,000. Now he has begun a suit to annul the bargain.

Indications of a prehistoric people,

which are plentiful in southwestern Colorado, have lately been discovered in western Nevada. Antique pottery and undecipherable writing on the rocks are the most common tokens. At one place, engraved upon a rock, is the nude figure of a man, holding in his right hand a shrub, the outlines of which show considerable artistic skill.

SINGULAR.—The diptheria has been very prevalent in the Knapp of Reeds section in Granville county, and on Little River in Orange.

A singular feature about it is that the diptheria attacks the children in the feet and ankles instead of in the throat.—Raleigh News.

Black Walnut Stain.—Asphaltum thinned with turpentine will stain a beautiful black walnut color. It must be varnished over.

It is claimed, though the fact does not rest on sufficient authority, that the organ is the invention of Archimedes, about 200 years B. C. The invention is also attributed to a barber of Alexandria, named Ctesibus about 150 year B. C.

Very little is known of the first introduction of toothed wheels, and toothed gearing. Two centuries before the Christian era, Hero, of Alexandria, spoke of toothed wheels in a manner that would indicate that he was conversant with this mode of transmitting motion.

Put a tablespoonful of sulphur in the nest as soon as hens or turkeys are set. The heat of the fowls causes the fumes of the sulphur to penetrate every part of their bodies, every louse is killed, and, as all nits are hatched within ten days, when mother leaves the nest with her brood, she is perfectly free from nits or lice.

Mortgaging Crops Not Yet Planted.—It is a surprising fact that on yesterday there were recorded in the office of the register of deeds, four mortgages upon crops of 1878, which will not be put in the ground until next spring.—Char. Observer.

The young lady had coquetted until the victim was completely exhausted. He rose to go away.—She whispered, as she accompanied him to the door, "I shall be at home next Sunday evening." "So shall I," he replied.

Levi Coffin, well known in ante-bellum days as President of the Underground Railroad, always a prominent anti-slavery man, died at his residence in Avondale, near Cincinnati, Sunday afternoon. His age was about seventy-five years.

The officers of the United States army stationed at Atlanta, Ga., have bought the plot of ground upon which Gen. McPherson was killed during the late war. The spot has been marked with a Parrott gun firmly set in the ground, and the lot has been enclosed with a substantial iron fence.

Nearly a dozen of the strikers who bore a conspicuous part in the late railroad riots, are now in prison in Warren county, N. J., awaiting trial. One and all, they profess the sincerest penitence and regret the folly which made them the dupes of mischievous men, who have abandoned them to their fate. They are thoroughly cured of striking.

"The South was defeated," remarks the obsessions Key, "and, as men and soldiers, they were bound to submit with good grace, and admit that the result was right." From which it would appear that in the gospel according to Key success is the only measure of principle.—N. Y. Sun, 11th.

"What do you mean by humbugging, madam?" asked a homely barrister of a lady who was being cross-examined. "I don't know as I can exactly say, sir; but if a lady was to say to you that you're a handsome man, that would be what I'd call humbugging."

The keeper of a candy and ice cream store in San Francisco discharged a waiter for fondling the keeper's child in business hours, and paid him at the rate of \$30 a month, instead of \$40, as previously agreed. The waiter carried his case into a Justice's court, pleading that he was not particularly fond of cats, but that he considered the one in question because the employer had just chipped off the heads of two of her progeny. He recovered his rightful wages, but the Justice decided that he was lawfully discharged.

BONE MEAL FOR GRAPES.—The editor of the London Horticulturalist asserts that among all the fertilizers proposed for the grape, none embody more of the necessary ingredients than bone meal. It should be applied as early in the season as possible. About a ton to the acre makes a dressing that will prove valuable for two or three years.

Cement for Leather Belting.—Take common glue and American isinglass, equal parts; place them in a boiler and add water sufficient to just cover the whole. Let it soak ten hours, then bring the whole to a boiling heat, and add pure tannin until the whole becomes ropery or appears like the white of eggs. Apply it warm. Buff the grain of the leather where it is to be cemented; rub the joint surfaces so together, let it dry for a few hours, and it is ready for practical use; and if properly put together, it will not need riveting.

The Formica Pennsylvania.—There is a general notion that only tropical countries are infested with ants that are capable of doing serious damage. This, it appears, is a mistake.—There is a black "carpenter ant," whose name, Formica Pennsylvania, indicates its residence, that is capable of effecting much destruction in woodwork. The Rev. Dr. McGookin has seen a raft of which these ants penetrated to an extent of five or six feet of its length, completely homecoming it. The raft was in the roof of a porch. The attention of the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences was called to the matter, as it is evident that such penetration of wooden structures, and especially bridges, might cause their unexpected fall. Wooden bridges need at least as frequent and as thorough inspection as iron structures.