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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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## Poetry.

### THREE WORDS OF STRENGTH.

FROM THE GERMAN OF SCHILLER.

There are three lessons I would write—  
Three words as with a burning pen—  
In tracings of eternal light  
Upon the hearts of men.

Have Hope.—Though clouds environ now,  
And gladness hide her face in scorn,  
Put, then the shadow from thy brow;  
No night but hath its morn.

Have Faith.—Where'er thy bark is driven,  
The calm'st disport, the tempest's mirth,  
Know this: God rules the host of heaven,  
The inhabitants of earth.

Have Love.—And not alone for one,  
But man, as man, thy brother call,  
And scatter, like the circling sun,  
Thy charities on all.

Thus grave these lessons on thy soul:  
Hope, Faith, and Love; and thou shalt find  
Strength when life's billows cease to roll,  
Light where thou else wert blind.

## A GEM.

What could be more tender in sentiment, or beautiful in expression, than the following lines from a poem of Mary Louis Chitwood?

If a pilgrim has been shadowed  
By a tree that I have nursed—  
If a cup of clear cold water  
I have raised to lips athirst;  
If I've planted one sweet flower  
By an else too barren way;  
If I've whispered in the midnight  
One sweet word to tell of day;  
If in one poor bleeding bosom  
I a woe-swept chord have stilled;  
If a dark and restless spirit  
I with hope of heaven have filled;  
If I've made for life's hard battle  
One faint heart grow brave and strong,  
Then, my God, I thank thee, bless thee,  
For the precious gift of song.

## Scraps.

If a man sells his watch for fifty dollars, buys it back for forty dollars, then sells it for forty five, how much does he make in the transaction? It looks as if he made fifteen dollars, but he didn't.

A clergyman, who was consoling a young widow upon the death of her husband, spoke in a very serious tone, remarking that "He was one of the few. You cannot find his equal, you know." To which the sobbing fair one replied, with an almost broken heart, "I don't know, but I'll try."

A writer in a Paris paper states that in England you can tell the rank of a visitor by the number of knocks he gives at your door. Thus a duke and a peer knock twelve times, a baron nine, a baronet six, a commoner three, a postman two, while the rest of the society is not worth one rap.

"Pa, I know why that old pistol of yours that grandpa fit with in the revolution is called a horse pistol." "Why, my son? " "Because it kicks so."

What is the difference between a mischievous mouse and a beautiful young lady? One burns the cheese and the other charms the host.

What a curious being a printer is! He stands when he sets, and sets when he stands, and when he wishes to set with ease he always stands erect. It is however, the nature of the case which causes him to stand.

At a fancy dress ball in Paris recently, a lady was seen in a very low bodied dress while floating and wading an abundance of green gossamer. She was politely asked by a gentleman what she personated. "The sea, monsieur." "At low tide, then, madame?" The lady blushed, and the gentleman smiled.

Perhaps the most remarkable wedding anniversary on record has just been celebrated at Olmutz, Bavaria. A landed proprietor of that place gave a feast in honor of his diamond wedding, and the united ages of husband and wife amounted to two hundred years. He was 108 and she 92, and they were married in 1791.

A dispatch from New York says: General Santa Anna has been arrested here and held to bail in the sum of \$20,000. He is charged by Mr. Montgomery with setting maliciously on having him arrested and imprisoned. He begs the ransom at \$25,000.

## THE WORLD UNITED.

### THE GREAT CONTEMPLATED INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPHIC LINES!

In connection with the success of the Atlantic Telegraph enterprise, conjecture will be awakened as to the effect of a permanent triumph in this direction upon other great projected lines. Besides the line now completed, there are three other contemplated lines, which, from their magnitude, and from the activity with which they have for some years been prosecuted, have commanded a great interest throughout the civilized world. They are described as follows:

**THE ANGLO-INDIAN LINE**, under the auspices of the British Government, has for its purpose the uniting of England and India. Two lines of communication are here contemplated, coinciding, however, from the Persian Gulf, across the head of the Arabian Sea, to Hindostan. The first attempt to carry the cable in this line, through the Mediterranean Sea, failing, a heavier cable, with stronger conducting powers, was some three years ago, submerged with success, thus connecting Alexandria and Suez with the European Continent. This line is to run onward across the Red Sea, through Arabia, and thence across the Arabian Sea; but the scheme was arrested by the complete failure to lay a cable through the Red Sea. The other route has been carried through Constantinople to Bussorah, on the Tigris, thence, by way of the Persian Gulf, through the Arabian Sea to the Indus, with lines branching to Bombay, Madras, Delhi, Calcutta, and other principal towns in India, reaching as far as Rangoon, some two years ago. From Rangoon, it is the plan to run the line along through Malay to Singapore, thence into Cochin-China and China to Hong Kong and Canton. A branch is contemplated through the sea to Java, Timor, and other islands, to the northern coast of Australia, upon which latter island are already in operation several thousand miles of wire. The lines both to Canton and Australia are expected to be completed in 1867.

**THE SIBERIAN OR RUSSIAN ASIATIC LINE**—This line had been extended from St. Petersburg to the great Siberian city of Irkutsk more than a year ago, a despatch having been sent, in 1865, from Queenstown, on the western coast of Ireland, to that city in two hours' time, a distance of six thousand five hundred miles. This line, which is to extend to the mouth of the Amoor river, at the Straits of Tartary, is hastening rapidly to completion, and will be done this year or next. There are five great subordinate lines branching southward from this route, contemplated—one from European Russia towards the Persian Gulf; another from Omsk, through Central Asia into China, connecting with the Anglo-Indian lines in the Punjab; a third branch from Irkutsk, following the route of the tea caravans to the Chinese Wall Gate, and thence to Peking; a fourth from the upper part of the Amoor to Vladivostok, which is to be the Russian naval station on the Pacific, and is situated opposite the great island of Jesso. There is also to be a fifth branch, land and submarine, extending from the mouth of the Amoor across the Straits of Tartary, Saghalien Island, the Strait of La Perouse Jesso, the Strait of Sangar, to Jeddo, the capital of Japan.

**THE COLLINS OVERLAND LINE**, which takes its name from its projector, who, as United States Commercial Agent, explored the region of the Amoor in 1857, has for its object what has now been accomplished by the Atlantic line—the connection by telegraph of the eastern and western continents. In May, 1863, Mr. Perry McDonough Collins, of California, secured the right from the Russian Government to run his contemplated line through its territory a distance of five thousand miles, and to maintain it for thirty-three years. In 1866 the British Government gave him the same privilege through British America, a distance of five hundred miles, to the northern boundary of the United States. In 1866 also the United States Congress granted him the right of way across the public lands, with the privilege of using all materials on such lands needed for construction. Mr. Seward made an elaborate and interesting report to Congress, favoring this scheme, upon which Congress acted. The length of cable required at Behring's Strait would be about forty miles, with an extreme depth of sea of about 180 feet, frozen half the year. The early certain completion of the Siberian line to the mouth of the Amoor, and the extension of the American line to San Francisco, and so on to Vancouver's Island, had given this enterprise (which is operated by the Western Union Telegraph Company) great encouragement, and last year not less than fifteen hundred men, with three supply vessels, were prosecuting the work up along the Fraser river, in the direction of Behring's Straits. The cost of a line by this route across Behring's Straits to the mouth of the Amoor, connecting with the Asiatic line, has been estimated by Mr. Collins at \$5,000,000. The whole distance by this Behring Strait route from New York to London is about seventeen thousand miles, of which not more than six thousand miles

remain to be completed. What the effect of the completion of the Atlantic line is destined to have upon the prosecution of this line—as we have already in a general way suggested, whether the prosecution of all of them will be stimulated or otherwise remains to be seen.

The expenditures for the Atlantic line, which failed last year, were estimated at about \$5,000,000, and the capital sunk in the previous attempt was, in round numbers, \$2,000,000. It is to be presumed that the cost of the cable now put down is not less than that of last year. This cable was laid in twenty-two days.

Among other great lines of a submarine character which are projected, and some of which will, if the Atlantic proves a permanent success, probably in process of time be established, are one connecting Marseilles across the Mediterranean with Tripoli, thence running to the mouth of the Senegal, and thence across the Atlantic to Brazil. The width of the Atlantic between these points is one thousand four hundred miles, water not excessively deep, with no ice. Parties in France, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Brazil are interested in this scheme. Another line from France to the Azores, and thence to New York, is contemplated. Still another is agitated, from San Francisco or Panama to the Sandwich Islands, and thence ultimately to China or Japan.

The following additional facts will be found interesting in connection with this subject:

There are fifty-four submarine telegraph cables now in successful working order, the insulated wires for these were manufactured by the Gutta Percha Company of London.

The first cable laid was the line from Dover to Calais, twenty-seven statute miles in length, with one hundred and three miles of insulated wire, which worked successfully for the last fifteen years.

The longest is the cable from Malta to Alexandria. It was laid in 1861. It is laid in three sections. It is one thousand five hundred and thirty-five miles long, and lies in four hundred and twenty fathoms of water. It has only one insulated wire. It has worked well for five years. The line across the Persian Gulf is one thousand four hundred and fifty miles in length. It was laid in 1864.

The line from England to Denmark is three hundred and sixty-eight miles in length, with one thousand one hundred and four miles of insulated wire. It has been in operation seven years.

The line from England to Havover is two hundred and eighty miles in length, with two insulated wires.

The shortest line is the cable from the Strait of Canso to Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, which is only one and a half miles in length.

The deepest laid cable extends from Toulon to Corsica. It is one hundred and ninety-five miles long and lies in 1,650 fathoms of water.

The total length of these various lines (54) is 8,111 miles, with 11,084 miles of insulated wires.

One has worked 15 years; five have worked 13 years; four have worked 12 years; two have worked 11 years; one has worked 10 years; three have worked 9 years; six have worked 8 years; eight have worked 7 years; eight have worked 6 years; five have worked five years; four have worked 4 years; seven have worked for six months to a year and a half. A note to this list adds that "a great many cables of short lengths, not included in this catalogue, are now at work in various parts of the world; and other cables, the wires insulated by the Gutta Percha Company, have been laid by Messrs. Felten & Guillaume, of Cologne, during the last eight years, amounting to over 1,000 miles, which are now in working order."

## At War.

Spain, with the Spanish American Republic.

Paraguay with the Argentine Confederation, including Brazil and Uruguay.

Mexico with Maximilian.

Russia with Turkestan.

China with Tae Ping.

Austria with Prussia and Italy.

Turkey with the Danubian Principalities.

Involving more than three fourths of the civilized world, concerning whose military operations we receive daily telegraphic dispatches.

Let us, at least, remain at peace. In feeding the rest of mankind, we can make up more than we have lost.

The *Scientific American* thus shows how time has been economized by the application of machinery:

One man can spin more cotton yarn now than four hundred men could have done in 1669, when Arkwright, the best cotton spinner, took out his first patent.

One man can make as much flour in one day now as a hundred and fifty could a century ago.

One woman can make as much lace in a day now as a hundred women could a hundred years ago.

It requires only as many days to reduce sugar now as it did months thirty years ago.

It once required six months to put quicksilver on a glass; now it needs only forty minutes.

The engine of a first-rate iron clad frigate will perform as much work in a day as forty-two thousand horses.

## SPECIAL TAXES.

### UNDER THE ACT JULY 13, 1866.

The following is so much of Circular No. 40, issued on the 31st ultimo by the Treasury Department, as concerns our people:

Attention is hereby called to the changes made in the Internal Revenue laws relating to licenses by the act of July 13, 1866, which act goes into effect, so far as special taxes provided for in said act are concerned, on the 1st of August 1866. Licenses are abolished and the special tax is substituted therefor. By the provisions of section eighty it becomes the duty of assessors to assess any person, firm or company holding a license for any excess of the special tax substituted therefor over the license fee which has been paid, from the 1st day of August, 1866, ratable, up to the 1st day of May, 1867. Under these provisions persons having a license as wholesale dealers in liquor, brewers, distillers and proprietors of gift enterprises will be liable to reassessment from the 1st of August, 1866. Every wholesale dealer in liquors, for instance, who has paid but \$50 for his license will be immediately liable to reassessment for the nine months ending May 1, 1867, the amount of reassessment being \$37.50.

Persons whose business it is to manufacture cigars, snuff or tobacco in any form, should be immediately assessed a special tax as tobaccoists, without reference to the amount of their products; but where such persons now hold licenses as manufacturers they will not be subject to the special tax until the expiration of their present licenses as manufacturers, unless they are engaged at the same time in the manufacture of other articles in such manner as to be liable to special tax both as manufacturers and tobaccoists; but no special tax is imposed upon journeymen employed in a cigar manufactory. Persons now licensed as tobaccoists should be assessed a special tax as wholesale dealers when their sales exceed \$25,000. Any person who is engaged in the manufacture or preparation for sale of any articles or compounds, or who puts up for sale in packages, with his name or trade mark thereon, any articles or compounds, is liable under the new law to special tax as a manufacturer.

Producers of ornamental and fruit trees and charcoal, selling the same at wholesale by themselves or authorized agents, at places other than the place of production, are exempt from special tax in respect thereto.

All boats, barges and flats, not used for carrying passengers, nor propelled by steam or sails, which are floated or towed by tug boats or horses, and used exclusively for carrying coal, oil, minerals or agricultural products to market, will be assessable under the new law with an annual special tax from and after the expiration of the time covered by their present enrollment fees and tonnage duties in lieu of such fees and duties. Such boats of a capacity exceeding twenty-five tons, and not exceeding one hundred tons, will be subject to a special tax of five dollars, and when exceeding one hundred tons, to a special tax of ten dollars, said tax to be assessed and collected as other special taxes provided for in the act. The above special tax on boats, barges and flats does not, however, affect the liability of the proprietors to special tax as express carriers or agents, when doing business as described in paragraph fifty of section seventy-nine of the act of June 30, 1864, as amended by the act of July 13, 1866.

Wholesale dealers are required, as soon as the amount of their sales within the year exceeds \$50,000, to make monthly returns of sales to the assistant assessor, and pay the tax on sales monthly, as other monthly taxes are paid; and in estimating the amount of sales, any sales made by or through another wholesale dealer, need not again be estimated and included as sold by the party for whom the sale was made. Wholesale dealers now holding licenses based on a certain amount of sales, will be liable to make monthly returns of sales as soon as their sales exceed the amount named in the license; wholesale dealers in liquors, as soon as their sales shall reach an amount which is less than the basis of their license by the sum of \$37.50.

Cattle brokers should be assessed on the excess of sales over \$10,000 in the same manner as of wholesale dealers. Under the new law, every person, other than one having paid the special tax as commercial broker, or cattle broker, or wholesale dealer, or retail dealer, or pedlar, whose occupation it is to buy or sell agricultural or farm products, and whose annual sales do not exceed ten thousand dollars, is to be regarded a produce broker.

The payment of the special tax of a hotel keeper permits the person so keeping a hotel, &c., to furnish the necessary food for the animals of travelers or sojourners without the payment of an additional special tax as a livery stable keeper.

Lawyers who have paid a special tax as such, are exempted under paragraph 25 from paying the special tax as real estate agents.

If the annual receipts of an insurance agent shall not exceed one hundred dollars, a special tax of five dollars only is imposed under the new law, and the paragraph relative to insurance brokers is omitted. No special tax is imposed by the

## COMPARATIVE GEOGRAPHY.

### The Relative position of North Carolina.

The Hon. DAVID L. SWAIN, of the University of North Carolina, writes a letter to a friend in Georgia, containing some interesting facts, which we call for the benefit of our readers. The ideas of unlimited time and boundless space baffle the grasp of the human intellect. We feel this inability in relation even to computed time and measured space. The distance of the sun from the earth, ninety-five millions of miles; and that a cannon ball coming at the rate of four hundred miles an hour, from the nearest of the fixed stars, would not reach the earth in five hundred and seventy thousand years, are facts of this character. That the earth is a sphere nearly 8,000 miles in diameter and 25,000 miles in circumference—that the area of its surface is equal in round numbers to two hundred millions of square miles, one fourth of which is land, and three-fourths water—are details which encumber the memory for a time, but are soon forgotten or inaccurately retained, and from which we derive no distinct definite ideas. There is no method by which we may gain tangible ideas of the comparative extent of the surface of the earth, and that portion of it which we call our country? By resorting to a systematic scale of comparison—useful information may be imparted. For example, the area of the State of North Carolina, in round numbers, is 50,000 square miles. From a knowledge of its surface, derived from observation, conceptions may be formed, more or less satisfactory, of its extent. But may not such conceptions be impressed more distinctly, vividly, and durably, by regarding North Carolina as a unit in a system of geographical computations and comparisons? A. the organization of our Government, in 1789, our territory was a million of square miles, or a fifth of the globe. After the purchase of Louisiana, it was two millions, or a twenty-fifth. And at the ratification of the treaty of Gaudaloupe Hidalgo, it was three millions, or about the seventeenth of the globe. At the first, North Carolina was equal to a twentieth; at the second to a fortieth; and at present, to a sixtieth of the Union. The globe might be divided into a thousand States of equal extent with North Carolina; into seven hundred and fifty States as large as the United States, as large as North Carolina. The State of North Carolina is equal in extent to the half of Italy, once the mistress of the world; to the fifth of Prussia, the fourth of France, the fifth of Austria, the fortieth of European Russia, and the seventieth of Europe. North and South Carolina and Virginia, are equal in extent to England, the most powerful Empire the world has ever known. Palestine, the most ancient and interesting of historical nations, similar in configuration to New Hampshire, is about equal to the extent of Maryland, and is somewhat larger than the fifth of North Carolina. Greece, as estimated by HAZARD, contained 29,600 square miles. South Carolina has 23,885, or three fifths of North Carolina. Greece and Macedonia combined under ALEXANDER, were somewhat smaller than North Carolina. Attica, renowned above all the Grecian States, and with an intellectual supremacy wider and more durable than the Roman Empire, was a little triangle of seven hundred square miles similar in outline, and equal in extent to the county of New Hanover, which embraces an area of a seventieth of North Carolina, or a seven thousandth part of the land surface of the globe.

## COMPARATIVE GEOGRAPHY.

These comparisons may be rendered more impressive and expressive by appealing to the eye, exhibiting them similar to the manner that the comparative heights of mountains and lengths of rivers are delineated on modern maps. Assuming North Carolina as the unit, she and England would be represented by the central

## The Southern Homestead Law.

The new homestead law for the Southern States is a measure which is destined to attract much attention in that quarter of the Union. It applies to the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi. The bill gives the public lands in these States to actual settlers, including the negroes, in eighty-acre lots; and excludes all who participated in the rebellion until 1867, when they may come in for a share.

The following is the amount of these public lands:

State	Acres
Alabama	6,782,050
Arkansas	9,298,018
Florida	19,879,686
Louisiana	6,228,102
Mississippi	4,760,786

Total acres . . . . . 46,868,587

This vast territory would furnish an ample homestead for every negro in the South; and if it were all in one body it would be desirable to appropriate it all to that class. There is an abundance of public land in the Western Territories for the white people to settle in, lots of 160 acres, and it were well to have the two races as much separated as possible, since it seems there can be no peace between them. But after the first day of January next there will be no further restraint upon the whites, and with more simple means and intelligence they will probably appropriate the greater part of these lands. The negroes are too poor to set up as independent tillers of the soil. To do so they must have the means of building houses, of buying agricultural implements, cattle, &c., and necessities for the first year. This capital, not one in a hundred will be able to raise, and the result will be that the homesteads offered them by Congress will be of no service, for the present at least.

Washington Chronicle.

Old Law Suits.—The Charlotte Times calls the attention of "all who are interested in any old law suits in that county," which may have become dormant during or since the war, to the fact that they all must be returned upon the Docket by original process, or else they will be dropped according to a recent act of Assembly. Hereafter they could be revived by *scire facias*, but such is not now the case. The same is also true of all cases and those interested in such matters would perhaps do well to inquire into them.

circle, or parallel gram; Prussia, by including double French guineas, or Austria, quadruple roubles. A circle and parallel gram, forty times as large as that representing North Carolina, will show the relative extent of Russia in Europe, sixty times the United States or British America, and the exterior circle, seventy times the extent of North Carolina, will delineate Europe.

The population of the globe is generally estimated at a thousand million, or twenty to the square mile. North Carolina, with a thousandth part of the land surface of the globe, has a thousandth part of the population, and the average density of each is twenty to the square mile, so that in both respects, North Carolina may be referred to for comparison and illustration. The average density of the population of the United States is somewhat more than half England, twice times Prussia and Austria, eight times, as great as that of North Carolina.

Belgium is the most densely populated country on the globe, having 400 inhabitants to the square mile, more than twenty times the average of North Carolina, and probably thirty times as great as the portion of North Carolina. Such a concentration in the neighborhood of Brussels, as at Atlanta, would have produced a spectacle at which the world would have stood aghast!

A comparative view of the financial condition of the country, at different times in our history, will exhibit facts not less impressive, suggestive and instructive.—The whole expense of the Government during the four years of the administration of JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, which the South complained of as extravagant, was \$49,813,213, less than the *fourth* part of the expenditures of the Confederate and Federal Governments, during the four years of the fraternal strife. The public debt of the United States was mainly created during the three years war with Great Britain. It reached its maximum in 1816. The aggregate is greatly less than the interest of our present national debt. The letter concludes with the remark that, as discouraging as these figures may seem to be at the first glance, with the blessing of God, patience, energy, industry and frugality at the South, with kindness, forbearance and magnanimity at the North, will enable us to retrieve our fallen fortunes in a shorter period than is ordinarily anticipated.

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Caeswell county has bought the stock of the Yanceyville and Danyille Plank Road, and will proceed to rebuild the Bridge and put the road in good order.—*Daviesville Times*.

THE UNIVERSITY.—We are greatly pleased to learn that the University has announced its new Catalogue year with the most encouraging promise. Ninety five students are a stimulus, with the probability of addition.