

POETRY
STRAYED FROM THE FLOCK.

(BY THE AUTHOR OF "JOHN BULL'S BROTHERS.")
The wind goes sobbing
Over the moor;
Far in the fold, and shut the door;
White and still—beyond terror or shock,
Lies the foolish lamb that strayed from the flock,
While overhead from the frozen branch,
With a tender pity, true and staunch,
Thus sighs the robin!

DRAINAGE.

Some time ago a discussion occurred in France in regard to the influence that an increase of population exerts in checking the spread of malarious fevers. We presume that this discussion was in some measure elicited by Edmond About's graphic and interesting work concerning that singular district in France which is known as "The Landes." In the work alluded to, and intermingled with a charming love tale, About has given facts and figures to prove that the marshes and sanded district in which the scene of his story is laid, though at present almost a barren and unproductive waste, could be brought under profitable cultivation and made to support a large population. This book, the production of a remarkable able writer, has excited much comment not only in France, but in other countries. Attention being thus drawn to the subject, other writers have taken up the matter, and among them two eminent medical men—M. Tripier and M. Tournon—both of whom contend that in districts containing but few inhabitants an increase of population has been attended by a decrease of fevers and other diseases having their origin in a marshy soil. The reason assigned is that the greater the population and the closer the dwellings and farms are to each other the more complete becomes the drainage. As the drainage becomes more general, the excess of moisture in the soil is carried off and the fruitful cause of malarious diseases is gradually but surely abated until it ceases altogether. It is a received axiom that the drier a soil is the more conducive it is to the general health. In England, where the climate is moist from the frequency of rains, men never build on a close, compact soil if it be possible to avoid it, but rather choose such as have a gravelly subsoil through which the excess of water can percolate, and so desirable is this considered that those building lots in the neighborhood of large cities fetch by far the highest prices where the subsoil is gravel and the drainage is most perfect.

THINGS PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE

Of the Quakers at home, the New York Commercial thus writes: The Friends present a model of interior home-life. They cultivate the amenities, the consideration, the cheer, and the abundance which make a home happy. They speak to one another with gentleness; they smile upon one another with a sweet benignity; they welcome the visitor to an astounding hospitality. Their religion consists in creating happiness in the household. They are gentle, loving, and attentive to the children. They seek to promote like docility and cheerfulness among the "rising generation." They are equally attentive to old age, with a chastened respectfulness of manner, which exalts the self-respect of declining years. Whatever can be done to make a home comfortable and cheery is first to be done. Other Christians deny to themselves home comforts for the sake of preaching the Gospel to the heathen; but the Society of Friends believe that charity begins at home. Their Gospel is one of home peace. Their heaven on earth is to win some foretaste of the "rest which remaineth for the people of God." They exemplify what the Christian fireside ought to be—warm without heat, cheerful without excitement, bright without dazzle. Long live the Quaker home.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE VIRGINIA CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION—SPEECH OF R. M. T. HUNTER.

RICHMOND, December 12.—The Conservative Convention met this morning. The convention adopted a series of resolutions; which were unanimously adopted. They are as follows:
First. Recognizes that by the result of the war, slavery has been abolished, and it is not the desire of the people of Virginia to reduce to slavery again a people emancipated by the events of the war and by an amendment to the Constitution of the United States.
Second. Asserts the right of Virginia to be restored to the Union, and declares her intention in good faith to perform her duties to the Union.
Third. Protests against the governing of Virginia in any way not defined in the Federal Constitution.
Fourth. Adopts the language of the resolution adopted at the Cooper Institute, New York, that a military government is subversive of the fundamental ideas of our Government, and its object, which is to subject the people of the Southern States to the rule of a race just emerged from slavery, is abhorrent to the civilization of mankind and to the Northern people, in surrendering, as it does, a third of the Senate and a quarter of the House of Representatives, which are to legislate over us, to the dominion of an organized class of emancipated slaves, who are without any of the training or tradition of self-government.
Fifth. Declines all hostility to the black population, and asserts that the people of Virginia sincerely desire to see their advancement in intelligence, and are willing to extend to them liberal protection; but, while any constitution adopted by the State should make all equal before the law, yet this convention distinctly declares that the government of the States and Union were formed by white men, to be subject to their control and suffrage, and should still be regulated so as to continue both under the control and direction of the white race.
Sixth. That the people of Virginia will co-operate with all men throughout the Union, of whatever name or party, who will labor to restore the constitutional Union of the States, and continue its Government under control of the white race.
Resolutions were adopted authorizing the Central Committee to take steps toward testing the constitutionality of the reconstruction acts in the United States Supreme Court.
In the discussion of this resolution Gen. Imboden, who has sued out a writ of mandamus against Gen. Schofield, stated that his case, with similar ones relative to suffrage in Alabama and Mississippi, would be carried to the Supreme Court.
A resolution that the object of the Convention was to organize a white man's party, and no subjects foreign to this should be discussed, was laid on the table.
The President was authorized to appoint a committee for the purpose of issuing an address to the people of Virginia and the United States, and the Convention adjourned sine die.
After the adjournment, Hon. R. M. T. Hunter made a short address in answer to calls. He said between the slave and military rule he preferred the latter, for the men who wielded the latter were of his own race. He cited Haiti and Jamaica as results of negro rule, and believed the radical majority in Congress, if they expected to control the blacks and prevent their excesses, would find themselves woefully mistaken. To give the blacks the power of government in the Southern States would be the highest crime against nature, and he believed when the North saw the results there would be a reaction which would sweep such governments from the face of America. This generation has suffered and may suffer more, but the State will live and look back to this period as its only dark epoch. The scenes now passing only make men truer to the States which gave them birth.
The chairman of the Conservative Convention appointed William C. Rives, R. M. T. Hunter, John Janney, James Marshall and J. R. Tucker as the committee to prepare an address to the people of Virginia and the United States.

TEACH YOUR CHILDREN INDUSTRY.

A certain historian remarks: "One law among the ancient Lydians deserves to be mentioned, and to be cherished in the memory. This was the punishment of idleness as a crime, and their inuring their children to hardships, consisting in the loss of their parents' property, to be initiated even by a Christian people. If the youth of our country were generally brought up to habits of industry, how much vice and misery would be avoided. Suffered to be idle, as they are in too many instances, they become the prey of the designing, a curse to their parents, and a pest to society. This is a crying evil in our day, and demands correction. Restraint over our offspring is required at our hands, and the parent who neglects it inflicts a moral injury on his child and his country, while he exposes himself to the wrath of his maker. If heathen parents appreciated the results of industrious habits, surely Christian parents ought not to undervalue them. They should keep their offspring employed in their learning and other occupations, suited to their tender age, that they may be preserved from temptation and ruin. All nature teaches the lesson of industry—the sun, moon and stars are constant in the performance of their Creator's will. The earth also, on which we live, unweariedly travels onward in its course, and the very insects teach us a lesson of industry. Shall we disregard the lesson?"

LANGUAGE OF THE TELEGRAPH.

There is a universal language, or at least, the foundation of one, found in the fact that one and the same telegraphic alphabet is used in Great Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, the German States, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Malta, Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Persia, Greece, Turkey, Africa and India; also for the Mediterranean, Persian Gulf and the Atlantic cables. This alphabet, the New York Commercial Advertiser says, was originated by the Germans.
—A musical dog in New Albany, Ind., plays on the piano and howls.

FOURTIETH CONGRESS.

SENATE.
MONDAY.—A resolution was presented directing the committee on Foreign Relations to inquire into the expediency of a reciprocity treaty between the United States and the Dominion of Columbia, and for the cession of British Columbia to the United States, on certain prescribed conditions, which was ordered to be printed. Mr. Chandler called up his resolution granting belligerent rights to Abyssinia, as revenge on England for her course during the American civil war, which was discussed.
TUESDAY.—Mr. Cole introduced a bill modifying the legal tender act, so that contracts made after July 4th, 1868, payable in coin, can be enforced; legal tender notes remaining as at present. Mr. Doolittle offered an amendment to Mr. Wilson's bill allowing a majority of the voters of the South to decide on calling the conventions. It proposes the educational and property qualifications.
WEDNESDAY.—A bill was presented and referred to the judiciary committee, declaring all acts of confiscation or forfeiture done under authority of the rebel government, null and void. The disposition of the funds received from the sale of captured and abandoned property was debated. Mr. Morrill spoke at length in favor of his financial bill.
MONDAY.—Mr. Buckland introduced a bill to amend the additional bounty act so as to extend its benefits to soldiers who had been discharged for expiration of their term of service a short time prior to the actual expiration of their term; referred to the military committee. The Speaker announced the following additional committees:
On Reconstruction—Stephens, Pa., Boutwell, of Mass., Bingham, O., Farnsworth, Ill., Hulburd, N. Y., Beaman, Mich., Paine, Wis., Brooks, N. Y., and Beck, Ky.
On Revision of the Laws of the U. S.—Poland, Vt., Spalding, O., Jencks, R. I., Farris, N. Y., and Woodward, Pa.
On Ordinance—Logan, Ill., Butler, Mass., and Schenck, O.
To fill vacancies as follows:
On Mines and Mining—Knott, of Ky.
On Public Buildings and Grounds—Jones, of Ky.
On Expenditures in Public Buildings—Grover, of Ky.
On Expenditures of War Department—Gulladay, of Ky.
The confiscation bill was discussed and postponed to January 21.
TUESDAY.—A lively debate took place on the question of appropriations to pay for the purchase of Alaska, and that part of the President's message referring to the matter was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. A select committee on reconstruction was raised. The Senate bill striking out the word "white" from all the laws and charters of the District of Columbia, so as to make colored men competent to hold office and act on juries, was passed 106 to 38.
WEDNESDAY.—The bill prohibiting brevet appointments, except in time of war and for distinguished services in presence of the enemy, was passed. Mr. Banks, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, presented a letter from the Secretary of State, informing him that the papers called for in reference to the trial of naturalized citizens in Great Britain were being copied, but they were very voluminous, and it would require considerable time to copy them.
ARE OUR FEET PROPERLY CLOTHED?—It is somewhat surprising that, with all our boasted improvements, we have not as yet produced a proper covering for the feet. Barbarous people, if their climate admits, go with bare feet, or wear sandals, covering only the sole of the feet. We, however, encase the whole foot, and a portion of the leg, in a material almost impervious to air and moisture, and generally uncomfortably hard and rigid. The color and polish of our boots are directly calculated to attract the sun's rays; and the enamel on patent leather, and the blacking on ordinary calf-skin, tending to harden and solidify the substance, closing the pores, and making air-tight creases for a portion of the body which exudes more perspiration than any other, and is subjected to greater strain.
Our boots in summer parboil our feet in a warm bath, and in winter freeze them in an icy envelope. It is doubtful if wet feet are, in themselves, very conducive to disease, some medical men to the contrary notwithstanding; but cramped confinement of the feet, in an icy cold envelope, generate by perspiration, and chilled by the external atmosphere, thus shutting the imprisoned feet almost air-tight, is as unhealthy as it is uncomfortable.
For hot weather there is hardly any shoe so agreeable as that introduced within the past three or four years, known as the army shoe, extensively used by base ball players. It is of a heavy canvas and unblackened leather. It is cool, and remarkably easy to the feet. The texture of the canvass allows the escape of the perspiration, and the color of the shoe does not attract the heat of the sun.
It would seem that the plan of covering other portions of our bodies with material pervious to air might advantageously be extended to our feet. There is no natural reason why our feet should be so much less sensitive than our hands. They become indurated and deprived of their natural activity by long close confinement. The people of warm climates, who use their feet as we do our fingers, and the bare-footed school-boy, who picks up and throws pebbles with his feet, show that the foot of the civilized adult in our climate is a much abused member.—Scientific American.
—E. F. Hill, a clerk in a dry goods store in Paducah, during the absence of his employer, sold out his stock of goods and ran away with his wife.
—Mr. Burgh secured the conviction of nine persons in New York for cruelty to animals during November.
—One lady lost a \$1,000,000 by the failure of the Bank of Liverpool.

SOCIAL EXTRAVAGANCE.

The Journal of Commerce is reading a lecture to a good many who, it is certain, are living beyond their means, and thereby preparing the way to bankruptcy and ruin. The editor calls on all such to moderate, and thinking wives and daughters could, if they would, make a good beginning. It says:
"It rests with the wives and children of ten times, we are told, 'to initiate such a reform' is needed. The head of the family cannot find it in his heart to deny those around him that which he thinks essential to their comfort, and he will not ask them to save him. They must move in the matter themselves. How many of our readers, whose eyes would glisten with tears at the bare thought of any trouble to one so kind to them, have ever asked themselves in earnest whether they were not personally responsible for overtaxing the means of the provider? It is a good time to ask that question now, before the winter sets in, and before the future is not altogether radiant with promise; the deepest purse has been a little drained, and some of the shallower ones are running low. If exhausted they may come to something worse than insolvency or honest beggary. The temptation to fraud and defaultation is very great in those times, and spendthrift stands in the thickest of the assault. There is a voice mightier than ours calling to all in the home circle for their aid in this emergency, and we trust that many will listen to their profit."
—A Louisville vagrant, who had been fined regularly every week for drunkenness, requested the magistrate to fine him by the year.
DELEGATES TO THE CONVENTION
We give below the delegates elected to the State Constitutional Convention:
Assessors—George Tucker, Henry E. Chilton, Abner—Henry M. Ray.
Darke—John S. Parker, W. A. B. Murphy, Bladen—A. W. Fisher, F. F. French.
Brunswick—E. Legg.
Burlington—W. B. Rodman, Samuel Stille, Craven—David L. Heaton, W. H. S. Sweet and C. D. Pierson.
Cleveland—Capt. Plato Durham, Conservative.
Cannell—Wilson Carey, Republican, Philip Hodnett, Independent.
Chatham—John A. McDonald, W. T. Gunter.
Cumberland—W. A. Mann, J. W. Hood.
Currituck—Abraham Congleton.
Columbus—Lennon, (Conservative.)
Cabarrus—W. T. Blume.
Catawba—James R. Ellis, (Conservative.)
Chowan—John R. French.
Davidson—Isaac Kinsey, Spencer Mulligan.
Duplin—Samuel Highsmith, J. W. Peterson.
Edgecombe—H. A. Dowd, J. H. Baker, H. C. Cherry, (Independents.)
Forsythe—E. B. Tenge.
Franklin—J. T. Harris, John H. Williamson.
Gaston—M. J. Adlyott.
Grainger—John W. Ragland, J. E. Moore, Coffee Mayo.
Guilford—Rev. G. W. Welker, A. W. Tourgee.
Haywood—Timothy H. Lassiter.
Hayswood and Jackson—W. B. G. Garrett.
Hatteras—John H. Renfrew, H. Eppes, J. J. Hayes.
Hertford—J. B. Hare, Conservative.
Hoke—James M. Turner.
Jones—David D. C. Groves.
Johnston—Dr. J. M. Hay, Nathan Gully.
Lincoln—J. H. King.
Lenoir—E. W. King.
Mecklenburg—Ed. Fullings, S. N. Stillwell.
Montgomery—Dr. G. A. Graham.
Mallon, Buncombe, Henderson and Transylvania—G. W. Galahad, Thos. J. Candler, James H. Duckworth.
Mitchell and Yancey—Julius Garland.
Macon, Clay and Cherokee—G. W. Dickey, Mark May.
Moore—Sween S. McDonald.
Northampton—Henry T. Grant, R. C. Parker.
New Hanover—J. C. Abbott, S. S. Ashley and A. H. Galloway.
Nash—Jacob Ing.
Orange—John W. Graham, E. M. Holt, (Conservatives.)
Person—Dr. Wm. Merritt, Conservative.
Pitt—Byron Laffin, D. J. Rich.
Prichard—Wm. Nicholson.
Plymouth and Camden—C. C. Pool and Match Taylor.
Robeson—O. S. Hayes, J. L. Nance.
Randolph—R. F. Trogden, T. L. L. Cox.
Rutherford and Polk—Rev. W. H. Logan, Jesse Rhoads.
Rockingham—Henry Barnes, J. H. French.
Rowan and Davie—Dr. Milton Hobbs, Allen Rose, Republicans, J. S. McCubbins, Conservative.
Sampson—Joseph D. Peersall, Alex. Williams, Conservatives.
Stanly—L. C. Morton.
Wayne—Wiley Daniel.
Wilson—Jesse Hollowell, Hiram L. Grant.
Warren—John Read, John Hyman.
Wake—James H. Harris, B. S. D. Williams, S. D. Franklin and J. P. Andrews.
Wilkes, Iredell, Alexander and Caldwell—J. Q. A. Bryan, Calvin J. Cowles, C. C. Jones, Wesley George and Jerry Smith.
Those marked with a star are colored.—Where not otherwise stated, the delegates are Republicans.
The vote for and against a Convention will be given as it is announced officially.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

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Right Rev. THOS. ATKINSON, D. D., Visitor.
Rev. Albert Smedes, A. M., Rector.
Rev. Bennett Smedes, A. M., Assistant.
The fifty-second term of this school will commence January 16th, 1868, and continue until the 7th of June.
The expense of board and English tuition is \$125 per term.
For a circular containing details, apply to the Rector.
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Transient or Regular.
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Surplus Assets, deducting Liabilities, over 6,000,000.
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No notes are required after the fourth year.
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Assurance can be effected in all the forms desired, and every person seeking the safest and most ECONOMICAL PLAN should not fail to compare other Companies represented in this State, with the Connecticut Mutual, as published in the reports of the Insurance Commissioners, New York and Massachusetts.
SAML. DOUGLAS WAIT,
General Agent N. C.
Office with P. F. Fessenden, Agent for Raleigh and vicinity. oct. 8-30
NORTH CAROLINA, RANDOLPH COUNTY.
COURT OF PLEAS AND QUARTER SESSIONS, November Term, 1867.
William Smith vs. Wesley Hancock.
Original Attachment.
It appearing to the Court that the defendant in this case is not an inhabitant of this State, it is ordered by the Court that advertisement be made for six weeks in the Raleigh Register, for said defendant, Wesley Hancock, to be and appear at our next course of Pleas and Quarter Sessions to be held for the county of Randolph, at the Court-house in Ashboro', on the first Monday of February next, and then to reply, plead, answer or demur, otherwise judgment will be taken according to law and an order of sale granted.
Witness, J. M. HANCOCK, clerk of said Court, at office in Ashboro', the first Monday of November, 1867. Issued 25th Nov., 1867.
J. M. HANCOCK, C. C. C.

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He is happy to announce that the fall in the price of supplies enables him to reduce the price to
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To citizens coming in to spend a week or so, he will make still greater reduction.
He is prepared to furnish board without room at VERY LOW RATES.
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