

BY D. W. CRAIG.

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The Oregon Argus.

—A Weekly Newspaper, devoted to the Interests of the Laboring Classes, and advocating the side of Truth in every issue.—

Vol. V.

OREGON CITY, OREGON, JUNE 18, 1859.

No. 10.

ADVERTISING RATES. One square (12 lines or less, breviter mensure) one insertion, \$3.00. Two insertions, 4.00. Each subsequent insertion, 1.00. Reasonable deductions to those who advertise by the year.

JOB PRINTING.

THE PROPRIETOR OF THE ARGUS IS HAPPY to inform the public that he has just received a large stock of JOB TYPE and other new printing material, and will be in the speedy receipt of additions suited to all the requirements of a locality. HANDBILLS, FORTIFIES, BLANKS, CARDS, CIRCULARS, PAMPHLET-WORK and other kinds, done to order, on short notice.

WOMAN'S VIRTUE HER SURE PROTECTION.—Mr. Ould, the prosecuting attorney in the late trial of Daniel E. Siskles, uttered the following noble sentiments:

"Standing here, not as a public prosecutor, but as a private citizen, I, on the part of the people of this District, denounce the doctrine that the protection of the wife or the sister's virtue is to be found in the husband's or brother's revolver. It may do for other countries, for other climes, and for other religions—where the law of force as applied to woman is carried out in all its violence and wrong. But in a Christian community, where woman is ennobled and dignified, and elevated by Christian law and Christian love, the true and only protection to female chastity is to be found in woman's own virtue, and in her own character. The flash of woman's virtue is as quick as God's lightning, and as sure—far more effectual is it for silencing seducers or revellers in licentiousness, than a Derringer or a revolver. Every pure woman necessarily, and by the gift of God, in Christian communities, carries that weapon along with her. There is no seducer, no villain, I care not from whence he comes, or how he may have trained himself in the arts of seduction, who does resist the showing of that weapon for one solitary instant. I thank God that the matrons and maids of our land have a surer protection than the pistol or the bowie-knife. Sad, indeed, would be their fate, if it were not so. If it were not so, one half of this whole community would not use a weapon, and the other half would use it wrongfully and improperly. The spirit of virtue which God has implanted in the woman's heart, tells her, as if by the flash of lightning, what are the intentions toward her of a man, whether honorable or dishonorable; and she has but to use, for one moment, this gift which God, in his benevolence and bounty, has given her, for the purpose of silencing and stifling, not in death, but in shame to the proposer, every offer that would imply the slightest touch of contamination or of insult. It is found everywhere. It is a circle of glory which adorns the female brow, and sheds its blessed and happy light alike on the hovel and on the palace. It stands there as the protector of the wife, though the husband may be on distant seas, far away from home with his protecting arm. It is there, ready to resist at a moment, and to resist effectually, the advance of every sly reprobate, who, under the guise whether of friendship or fraud, walks into the house of purity for the purpose of defiling one of its inmates. The very moment you bring the law of force for the purpose of protecting female honor, that moment you sacrifice female honor. If it is to be protected by the sword, the knife, or the pistol, it is unworthy of protection. Unless it be that God-ennobling nobility in and of itself, and unless it exist of itself, and for itself, it is unworthy to be cherished or known. The history of the world in past times had shown that to be true. Go back as far as you please, and trace history from the earliest dates down to the present—examine all the eras and all peoples, and you will find that it stands out on the pages of history, at all times and throughout each one of its lustres, as the fixed and recorded truth, that wherever woman has been left alone to the vindication of her own virtue, and wherever man has kept the contaminating hand of violence from her, she has risen in her purity, God-ennobled and self-vindicated. The great God of Heaven has laid his hand with consecration and blessing on the fair head of virtue, and when the virtuous woman ceases to be her own protector and her own guardian, by force of the power which God has given to her, she and her virtue both sink into the dust, and in its stead rises the crest of murder and of violence, of wrong and of debauchery."

BEWARE OF OFFICE.—When a wild animal once tastes human flesh, nothing can ever alter, says Buffon, dissuade him from human slaughter. When a politician once obtains a public office, no persuasion can ever induce him to go to work—at anything but a nomination for another and another, during the term of his natural existence. If you want to spoil a good citizen for ten years, secure him a berth in the Custom House. He will never be socially a well man afterward. Send him to Congress and you ruin him for life. He may carry around placards and tickets at the polls, accept a subordinate situation in the police, or run errands for the doorkeeper of a political meeting-house, but he will never have independence enough to emancipate himself from his morbid appetite for the "spoils," and go to work like an honest man and a Christian.

GUTTA PERCHA TYPE.—Gutta percha stereotypes with gutta percha matrices, are among the objects produced from that wonderful article at the present day. The matrix is just taken by pressure from the block of types while the sheet of gutta percha is hot and soft, and a sharp and fine impression is quite capable of taking. When cold and hard, this stereotyping plate of gutta percha is ready to have a like impression, or reverse of itself, taken also by the pressure of a second soft and moist sheet of gutta percha upon it, and this, when cold and hard, is ready at once for the press, plate, or cylinder. The specimens of printing from letters and engravings thus formed are as sharp as if taken in metal, and the flexible nature of the substance admits of its being curled round a cylinder, to the action of the cylinder printing machine.

You may insert a thousand excellent things in a newspaper, and never hear a word of approbation from the readers, but just let a paragraph slip in (by accident) of one or two lines not suited to their tastes, and you will be sure to hear of it.

The Pro-Slavery Democracy and the Methodists.

The Richmond (Va.) Dispatch of the 18th April has the following paragraph:

"NORTHERN METHODISTS EXPELLED FROM TEXAS.—The Texas papers give the particulars of the proceedings of several meetings recently held in Fannin county, for the purpose of taking measures to expel the members of the Methodist Church North, who are accused of being abolitionists. At one meeting, a committee of fifty was appointed to wait on Bishop Jayne, with a warning. They performed their duty on a Sunday, while the Bishop was engaged in the morning service in Church. It is also resolved that the Methodist Church North could not be tolerated in Texas, and that it must be put down, if necessary. A committee was appointed to draft other resolutions, to be acted upon at an adjourned meeting."

There are still some Methodists in the North who vote the Democratic ticket. In the above extract all such have an opportunity of seeing the character of their political allies.

PIKE'S PEAK AND FILLIBUSTERISM.—The report that a movement is on foot among the Pike's Peak emigrants for a descent upon Northwestern Mexico, in the most approved fillibuster style, only anticipates what we have expected would happen in process of time. It is undoubtedly the destiny of a considerable portion of these emigrants to move on still farther to the southwest, on failure of their hopes in the new gold region. Nothing would be more natural among such a crowd as will assemble there the present season, in any event. But we may now even suspect that designing parties have had this end in view from the first, in "arraigning" for the Pike's Peak excitement. Perhaps this secret has been prematurely disclosed, yet to many adventurers such an expedition will be still more inviting than the mere gold-hunting.—Cincinnati Commercial.

HE DIDN'T READ THE PAPERS.—In the trial of the Doyan Brothers recently in Michigan for murder, much difficulty was experienced in obtaining a jury free from prejudice. At last, after a large number had been rejected, a man from the back part of the country was called, who, in response to the questions propounded, said that he did not take or read a paper, and had never heard of the murder. This was too strong a case, and Mr. Torry, one of the counsel for the prosecution, said: "We object to your sitting on the jury in this case; a man that don't take a paper, and never heard of this brutal murder, don't know enough to be a jurymen! We don't want you!"

SEEKING HIS NAME IN PRINT.—The most remarkable instance of a love of notoriety with which we have ever met, was that of a man who, under the laws of Virginia, in the olden times was advertised by the Sheriff of Fauquier county to be sold on a certain day as a vagrant. So pleased was he with a sight of his name for the first time in print, that he procured a copy of the newspaper containing the advertisement of his sale, and carried it ten days through the country showing it, with evident satisfaction, to all his friends and acquaintances.

SPIRITUALISM.—Says a thoughtful writer on the claim of communication with the spirit-world: "The secret of Heaven is kept from age to age. No imprudent, no social angel ever dropped an early syllable to satisfy the longings of saints, the fears of mortals." If the secret cannot be better told than by our modern mediums, it is to be hoped that it will be kept, forevermore. It is no boon to the human race, to have their dim and shadowy conceptions of that mysterious bourne profaned and vulgarized by these travelers' returns. If these are the fruits of knowledge, let us pray for a little blessed ignorance. The world is always ready enough to receive any truth which commends itself to its better instincts. Men are willing enough to believe, but reasonably require, as a condition precedent, that the doctrine shall be worth believing. They cannot reverence what is poor and vulgar, and they will not respect that which is not respectable. All these spiritual revelations, from Jackson Davis to Cora L. V. Hatch, contain no new spiritual or moral truth that is of any value.—Cra. Com.

"Oh, passing a night in a certain neighborhood of A—, we inquired of our host, a fair Christian man, how the Church got on, for we passed a neglected frame chapel at the cross-roads. 'Oh, poorly,' said he, 'poor enough.' 'Why, what's to pay?' You, in a thick settlement of intelligent people, and not able to keep a minister and support the gospel! 'Just so,' said he, 'but one troublesome man has broken up the society, and keeps it broken up. It was an unlucky day for the church when he moved here. He is a person of good parts, and has an interesting family. Before he came here, we had no troubles in the way.' We suggested that perhaps the troublesome man's peculiarities were not consulted; 'Indulge him a little. May be, he wants to lead.' 'Oh, as to that, we have tried him in the lead, and every way. He is not satisfied with leading, but turns round and bitts the wheel horse.' We gave it up. Our host was a farmer, and the illustration cut like an argument. David had a few of that sort in view when he wrote the 12th Psalm.—N. O. Christian Advocate.

MINISTERS' WIVES.—Some ministers' wives would be relieved of a great burden of responsibility that does not belong to them, if the following just principles were generally assented to: First, the relation of a pastor's wife to a congregation is the same as that of every other woman; her marriage with a minister, in no wise, with no office, and gives her no pre-eminence. Secondly, her duties are the same as those commanded by the Apostle Paul, to be performed by every other Christian woman in her married state—no more and no less. Thirdly, when she performs these to the best of her ability, nobody ought to complain.

CARLYLE'S STYLE.—Come now, O my Thomas! thou doubtful doubter of doubts, thou founderer on the flat, miry and bilgy, of needless Toryism. I have somewhat to show thee. Look! what seest with those staring eyes of thine; those eyes so big and bullet-like, globed in such spheric speculation? It shall be told thee what thou seest: A car, four wheeled and many-sized and springless. No two of the wheels are of the same size—in order prescript and irrevocable. It goeth forth backwardly, hind-quarterly, and stern-foremostly, and joineith in many directions at once, and therefore hath no locomotion. Time and half a times it is half top-sy-turvy, and otherwhiles the senseless traveler therein ensconced, knoweth not whether he is sitting on his head, kneeling on his heels, or standing on his elbows. Loud rumbleth and rough stumblith this mystic and portentous car; and yet it stayeth where it listeth, and where that is no man knoweth, not even its inventor. And what sort of a car is that? Ho! ho! Peter and Paul! Ha! ha! Mrs. Grundy and Dame Partington! Why, man, dost thou ignore this car? Why, man, it is Thyself—it is Carlyle! But is it "Himself," or is it his lingual "Goblin damned?"

FANATICS OF THE LOWER LAW.—The Baltimore Patriot, referring to the acquittal by a Charleston Jury of the Echo sailors, makes a comparison between this case and that of Anthony Burns, where a late-law law was faithfully executed by a law-loving and law-abiding people. The Patriot says:

"It is mortifying to every right-minded man in the Southern States to note the difference between the conduct of these two cases in Charleston and in Boston. For the sake of our own consistency let us hear no more abuse of a Northern State for the vagaries of some of its citizens. Let us have no more denunciations of 'higher law fanatics' by those who may hereafter be, not without some show of cause, called fanatics of the lower law."

THE COTTON MANUFACTURERS OF GREAT BRITAIN.—There are employed in spinning and weaving, printing, dyeing, and bleaching cotton goods in Great Britain, about 700,000 persons, and if to these be added the machinists, builders, chemists, &c., it is said that it will be found that nearly one million of individuals are dependent upon the prosperity of the cotton trade for their livelihood. The cotton manufacture of Great Britain and of other manufacturing nations has increased with such wonderful strides during the last fifty years, that the demand for cotton is outstripping the supply, and the English manufacturers have long been casting about for new regions where the great staple may be produced in such quantities as to prevent a scarcity of it. On their success depends the prosperity of the cotton classes of Great Britain. It is a singular fact that in the silk and flax crops, also, there are expectations of short supplies in the future.

THE MOTHER OF PHILIP BARTON KEY.—A Baltimore correspondent of the Washington Star says that Mrs. Key, the mother of the deceased, now lies very ill. She supposes her son died of apoplexy, and will likely be kept in this blissful ignorance. When told there was bad news from Washington, the old lady exclaimed, "My son Barton is dead," and asked if he did not die of apoplexy; as she had always a presentiment that his life would terminate in that way. Her next inquiry was; "did he die in the street?" which was answered in the affirmative, without compromising the truth. The impression is that she cannot survive.

The New Orleans Bee is not at all afraid of a dissolution of the Union. Alabama, Arkansas, and Mississippi alone, of all the Southern States, it thinks, would join South Carolina in the pursuit of such "an ignis fatuus as independent existence," though Georgia and Florida might possibly take it into consideration. It concludes, therefore, "that the delusive idea of disunion is wholly unlikely to assume a practical character, at least in the existing phase of popular opinion. It is of little avail that the South is unremittently assured of her inevitable ruin. She listens not to the voice of the charmer, charm he never so wisely. While cotton is sold at prices which enrich every planter, and negro labor increases daily in value, the advocates of dissolution are preaching sermons to the deaf."

BATHING IN MOLTEN LEAD.—A scientific correspondent sends us the following: We have often astonished the uninitiated by passing the fingers and a portion of the hand through melted lead. This may be done with impunity if the hand is slightly moist—not wet. In many persons the natural moisture of the hand is sufficient. The metal is repelled by the slight moisture, and the hand can be passed through it without danger or inconvenience. A peculiar liquid velvet sensation is felt, which is not at all unpleasant. A writer in the Courier des Etats Unis says that the same thing can be done, and even that the hands can be bathed in jets of melting iron at a temperature of one thousand six hundred degrees without any ill results.

The opposition have nominated Hon. Humphry Marshall for re-election to Congress from the Seventh Congressional District, Ky.

A NEW EXPEDITION UP THE NILE.—The Times Paris correspondent of March 30th says:

"A letter from Marseilles, of Saturday, states that a fresh expedition has been organized for discovering the source of the Nile. The expedition is conducted by M. Miani, a Venitian, who has inhabited Cairo for the last ten years. He is a member of the Geographical Society of Paris, and the author of a map of the Valley of the Nile. He has carefully studied the various difficulties attending his perilous enterprise. He came to France two months since to complete the materiel and personnel of his expedition. The Emperor Napoleon authorized the Minister of War to deliver to M. Miani the arms and ammunition necessary for his escort. The director of the arsenal of Marseilles has consequently forwarded 100 flint muskets and 3,000 cartridges to Alexandria. The expedition is composed of the Parisian painter, Dumas; Captain Peyouhou, of the French commercial navy, whose mission is to make observations and fix the degrees of latitude and longitude, and to construct boats to traverse the lakes which the expedition may meet; of M. Pausset, of Avignon, secretary to the expedition; a physician, a naturalist, and a chemist who are now in Egypt. The expedition will fix its headquarters at Chartoum, in Upper Egypt, a town in which about twelve natives of Marseilles or Genoa reside. M. Miani is supplied with a formidable materiel, and his escort is to be numerous. He takes with him a quantity of French trinkets to present to the chiefs of Arab tribes, or to African princes, or for traffic. M. Miani's expedition has a double character—first scientific, and next commercial. M. Miani has already contracted with merchants in Paris for the delivery of elephants' teeth, gold dust, copper, coral, indigo, lion, panther, leopard, and tiger skins, which are of great value in Paris. The members of the Miani expedition are armed with Minié rifles, which kill at 1,000 yards, and with sabers similar to those of the Chasseurs of Vincennes, which fit to the rifles. They are likewise furnished with cuirasses and metallic masks, to protect them from the bite of poisonous insects. They carry with them likewise a supply of frightful masks calculated to frighten the most savage tribes. The members of the expedition, who will feed themselves as they can, and chiefly by the chase, will traverse Nubia, Sennar, and Abyssinia. They expect to go far beyond the Equator, and to ascertain whether such a tribe of negroes exists as the Niam-Niam; and, if they find protection, they will traverse Africa in its entire length, and come out on the coast opposite Zanzibar. When the preparations are completed, M. Miani and his colleagues will embark on board the English steamer which carries the India mail, or on Sunday next, on board the Tamise, of the Messageries Imperiales Company. On arriving at Alexandria they will claim the protection of Said Pacha, Viceroy of Egypt."

COST OF AN ELECTION IN ENGLAND.—Alluding to the dissolution of Parliament and the election which will follow it, the London correspondent of the Philadelphia North American says: "It is calculated that the general election will entail an expenditure of \$10,000,000, and the London tradesmen who depend on the London season for their harvest will be half ruined. Depending upon a prolonged, as well as full season, the stocks laid in are both heavy and expensive, and at the moment the expectant shopkeepers are prepared to exhibit articles of luxury and magnificence to their customers, those customers are scouring over the country, practising humble blows, dry-washing their hands, getting up bland smiles, and inwardly cursing the eldopoles whose 'sweet voices' they are trying to win."

THE CHAMPIONSHIP.—John Heenan, the "Benicia Boy," now the fistie champion of America, sent out by a recent steamer a challenge to Tom Sayers, the Champion of England, to fight him. The gallant Tom replies by the Europa, that if his three coming fights with Bill Benjamin, "the Unknown," and Bob Brettle are decided in his favor, thus leaving him still the champion, he "will be most happy to fight Heenan for £200, and bet him £500 or £1,000 that he wins the fight." The winner of the battle would also be entitled to the champion's belt. As the affair between Sayers and Benjamin has now been decided in favor of Sayers, there are but two other gentlemen to be attended to before Mr. Heenan's claim to the personal attentions of the English champion will be taken into active consideration.

A NEW SEXT IN EUROPE.—A Paris correspondent writes: "A curious new sect of Christians, to whom we have before alluded, called Transmigrationists, have of late become very numerous in France. Quite different from the Mormons, their character is highly moral, and their creed Christian, only they include all animals in their idea of universal morality. They profess to believe that being changed after death into some animal will be their purgatory. In Germany their increase is immense."

Irving is 76 years of age, the oldest of our literary men. Indeed, he was about the first American who gained in Europe a distinguished reputation as a writer. He is the cotemporary of Byron, Walter Scott, and other writers long since deceased. He remembers distinctly seeing the inauguration of General Washington as President of the United States, which event took place in 1789.

Lord Campbell's bill substituting the verdict of the majority for the unanimous verdict of juries in civil cases, has been thrown out of the House of Lords. Only seven votes were given for the measure.

center of Italy, has always furnished the Emperors of Germany with a basis of operations against the peninsula, and has been the great obstacle to the independence of this country. Even at the present day, it is at the outlet of the gorges that we meet with the fortress in which Austria has established the center of her military domination; it is in the mountains themselves, in the upper valley of the Adige, where the junction occurs of all the military routes. Austria's skilful arrangements for making the most of this position, already formidable in itself, induce us naturally to study the strongholds of Upper Italy.

Mr. James Porter, reputed the tallest man in the world, died in Louisville on Monday. He was seven feet nine inches in height, and when in perfect health, weighed near three hundred pounds. At the age of seventeen, being smaller than ordinary, he fairly began to grow. Measuring himself every Saturday night, he found in one week that he had added an inch to his stature. A cooper by profession, he soon became too tall to work upon barrels, and was presently obliged to give up even hogheads and become a hack-driver. In the years 1836-7 he came East and appeared on the stage in one or two pieces written especially for him. He returned to Louisville, and a few years later bought the coffee house which he was keeping at the time of his death. The Louisville Courier, from which we glean these facts, recalls the following anecdote.

"At the time that Charles Dickens came to this country, there was a perfect furore to see 'Boz.' As he passed through the canal at Louisville, he sent a messenger to Mr. Porter, of whose remarkable proportions he had heard, intimating a wish to see him. Mr. Porter replied to the messenger: 'If Mr. Dickens wishes to see me more than I to see him, he will come to me.' Mr. Dickens took the hint, and it was during the conversation that Porter told the novelist that, while he was growing, his mother had to sow a foot on his pantaloon every night."

THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF KANSAS.—A correspondent of the New York Evening Post gives a graphic description of John Pettit, of Indiana, the newly appointed Judge for Kansas Territory: "Judge Pettit's appearance is singularly judicial. His height is medium, but his proportions are immense; so large, in fact, that he is obliged to pull off his chair whenever he rises from his seat. His smoothly shaven countenance wears a smile of gracious deference. A well defined river of baldness flows from the crown, between two accurate shores of hair, and discharges itself into the broad bay of his face. Gold spectacles, raiment of the glossiest and most elegant black, and linen of the exactest outline, complete a tout ensemble well calculated to excite awe in the ignorant and admiration in the intelligent."

I wondered why Old Ballou called him on the floor of Congress 'D. D.' or 'Dirty Dog.' There must have been a most marvellous change, for now, surely, if dog at all, he is a most snug, smooth, and cleanly dog. Apparently, his only objectionable habit is the emitting of immense quantities of tobacco, which is an epidemic among Kansas officials. 'John Pettit, Dirty Dog!'—but my wonder was of short duration. His private conversation is a puddling of oaths and obscenity. No matter how slight or recent the acquaintance, of what sentiment or calling, he belches out an unbroken torrent of blasphemy and filth, never yielding the customary tribute of reserve to the conceded rights or presumed prejudices of total strangers."

Joseph Parks, for a long time the head man of the Kansas Shawnees, died early last April, and was buried at Shawnee on the 5th, with Masonic ceremonies. Many whites and Indians were present at the obsequies, and before the body was lowered into the grave an aged Shawnee woman addressed her people in their own tongue, saying: "There lays the last of our best friend here, my people. He's gone! No more will he lead and advise us. We have no head man now. Like forest leaves on the frozen ground, we will be blown about by every wind of winter. Who will be to us what he was?"

A NEW COMET.—James C. Watson, of Ann Arbor, communicates the following to the Detroit Advertiser, on the 22d April: "I have the pleasure to inform you that I discovered a new comet at 9 o'clock this evening, near the star numbered 17 in the constellation Lynx. Its right ascension is 6 hours 58 minutes and 30 seconds, and its declination 60 degrees and 57 minutes north. It has a tail about a quarter of a degree in length, and the nucleus is as bright as a star of the eleventh magnitude. The observations made this evening show that it is moving west about two degrees, and south one degree and fifty minutes, daily."

OUR NAVY.—The New York Evening Post concludes a long article on the Navy as follows: "It is very plain to be seen that the reign of canvas in naval vessels ought to be well nigh over. It has been practically proved that a steamer of moderate size—say 600 tons burthen—carrying about 250 hands, all told, can make a three years' cruise, always steaming, at a sea, attended by less expense than a sailing frigate, not to mention the immeasurable superiority in the quality of service performed."

Lord Campbell's bill substituting the verdict of the majority for the unanimous verdict of juries in civil cases, has been thrown out of the House of Lords. Only seven votes were given for the measure.

Pay the Printer. All honest men, attend to hear The serious fact—the times are dear; Who owes a bill, 'tis just as clear As a night in the winter. That he shall come with what delay— 'Tis if he can—that will to say— And ere he puts his purse away, 'Tis 'Folk-er' to the Printer. The Printer's cheek is seldom red, The fine machinery of his head, Is working when you are in bed, Your true and faithful "Meator"; All day and night he wears his shoes, And brain, to furnish you with news, But men of course nice ne'er refuse To pay the tolling Printer. 'Tis known, or ought to be, by all, His dues are watered and they're small, And if not paid he's bound to fall In debt—for fuel, bread, rent, or Perhaps his paper;—then to squime Up with his help—a double care Doves down his head—now is it fair That you don't pay the Printer? His wife and little prattlers, too, Are now depending upon you, And if you pay the score that's due, Necessity can't stint her; But if you don't, as gnaws the mole, 'Twill through your conscience eat a hole! And brand the 'ole'—I'll thus—'No soul!' Of him who cheats the Printer. The cats will mew between your feet, The dogs will bite you on the street, And every archin that you meet Will roar with voice of Stentor, "Lo! to your pockets—there he goes— The chap that wears the Printer's clothes! And proud, though everybody knows, The grub, he gnawed the Printer!" Be simply just, and don't disgrace Yourself, but beg the "Lod of Grace" To thaw that harden'd 'iey' of ease; That honesty may enter; This dose, man will with man act fair, And all will be as 'tis to spare; Then will the "Elliott's" "Chin" Support a well-paid Printer.

The Battle-ground of Upper Italy—Military Character of the Country.

The April number of the Revue des Deux Mondes contains an article on the Austrian-Italian armaments. In the first division or chapter of this article, the military strength of Austria in Lombardy, at the beginning of February, is estimated to have been 140,000 men. These figures, however are given with diffidence, as resting on official statements which are often purposely incorrect. At the same time, the writer considers the calculation to be by no means over the mark, and thinks the number to have been greatly increased since the time named. [Since the date of the article, 60,000 additional troops have been ordered to Italy by Austria.] In fine, he says, we believe that Austria, without stripping her of her fortresses, and without imposing on herself efforts too extraordinary for continuance, could marshal in Italy 200,000 men able to bear a comparison with any army that exists. Upper Italy, which this army would have to defend, forms a sort of arena almost entirely enclosed by the Alps and the sea. It opens only to the south, toward the peninsula, so as to unite itself with the petty States that, by their dissimulations, are placed under the complete domination of those more powerful monarchs who have for ages past, dom. don. dom. over Lombardy and the sloping sides of the mountains.

Unless the army enter by sea one of the few ports lying beyond the line of mountain ridges, it will be necessary to cross these in order to operate in the plain, and, in case of war, whichever be the power has been able to assume the most favorable system of strategic routes, will, from this very act, have a great superiority.

The writer then proceeds to examine the various routes for entering Italy, and says that at this moment Austria possesses alone the advantage of these most rapid routes as far as the limits of her frontiers. France and Piedmont would be obliged to undergo the delays of crossing their confines and journeying by land or sea. The writer continues as follows: "The difference of position constitutes in itself an advantage for Austria, who would have chances in her favor of being able to crush Piedmont by the superiority of her forces, before her ally could possibly support her; but the geographical conditions of the country offer her other advantages that she has endeavored to make the most of. In fact, the two adversaries are far from finding themselves equally favored, because they possess a mountain slope on a portion of the plain, and the nature of the country renders the invasion of Piedmont easier than that of Lombardy. The vast space enclosed by the Alps, presents at some distance from the mountains a plain of fertile level. The Po bounds it on the south, beginning from its entrance into the plain of France; it is only there that this river, by the junction of numerous tributaries, possesses a volume of water great enough to acquire any real importance. All the rivers of Piedmont are in a higher or lower degree like torrents, and the streams rising in the Apennines are of the same nature; not one of them can serve as a line of defense. The rivers of Lombardy, on the contrary, having a longer course, and passing through deep lakes, lose a part of their rapidity, flow in wider beds, and have a volume of water that creates serious obstacles. The navigable canals and those for irrigation, as very numerous in the Milanese district, form artificial lines that sometimes have a value equal to that of rivers.—The battles of Areola and Lodi, in 1796, have proved that these difficulties can only be triumphed over at the cost of heroic effort."

Whilst Piedmont possesses between the Alps and the Ticino merely courses of water converging toward the plain of Alessandria, we find, on the contrary, in the more favored duchies of Milan and Venice a series of rivers all running from north to south, perpendicular to the march of armies, and which, in fact, some into the Po, others into the Adriatic. Nearly all of them are of an identical nature; they terrify near the mountains gorges, they subsequently traverse a country more peevish for armies, and form lakes on their reaching the plain, which they fertilize by their numerous armlets; then, whilst constantly slackening their speed, they surround themselves near their mouths with vast marshes, where rice is abundantly grown, but which contribute to render these tracts aguish and unhealthy. We everywhere meet in this country with canals, heigs, gardens and vines, all of which form a broken ground most favorable for defensive operations. Owing to this characteristic of the soil, the reader will not be surprised to learn that the proportion of cavalry, usually a fifth or sixth in armies destined to act as a level country, is reduced so low as a tenth in those which have to operate in Lombardy.

The Venetian rivers, that rarely flow lakes, are more torrential than those of the duchy of Milan, and flow themselves in more extensive marshes that are invading the entire coast of the Adriatic; but with the exception of the Po, they form but poor lines of defense. Temporary fortified works have been raised at different periods on the banks of the Pave and the Tagliamento, but their importance is slight. Such long lines can always be crossed at any point less carefully guarded than the rest, and the scattered defenders are compelled to make divergent and disastrous retreats. For the rest, these transversal lines are not the only ones, nor even the best basis of defense for the country. The greatest advantage to the Austrians in Italy consists in the possession of the Tyrol, a mountainous district that extends into the plain and overtops it like a citadel. It leaves only a narrow strip of ground between the Milanese district and Venetia. The small breadth of this strip is further limited by the lake of Garda, and by the marshes which the Mincio forms before it joins the river in which it is absorbed. The Alpine mass of the Tyrol, thus thrown into the very