

DECORATION-DAY.

The war-cries thro' the land is stifled, The cannon's sullen rills are dumb;

We see thro' mists of falling tears The wild, fierce strife of armed hands;

We see the lines of Blue and Gray Massed for the fight, as in the past;

The Gray now mingles with the Blue In that eternal sleep called death;

The empty grave a Northern bears Is matched with one of Southern lands;

Their strife is o'er and in the end We mourn them all with equal breath;

SPOOPENDYKE'S PIE.

He Shows Mrs. S. How His Mother Used to Make Em.

"My dear," said Mr. Spoopendyke, folding his napkin and pushing his chair back from the table,

"I thought this was nice," returned Mrs. Spoopendyke, with just a little quiver resting on her lip.

"And you'd better put it right back in the book as a warning to other amateurs," continued Mr. Spoopendyke.

"How did your mother make the mince pie, dear?" asked Mrs. Spoopendyke.

"Come!" exclaimed Mr. Spoopendyke, jumping impetuously from his chair.

"Let me put this big towel around your neck, so you won't grease your clothes," suggested Mrs. Spoopendyke.

"What's that for?" demanded her husband, contemplating it with no amount of favor.

"I didn't your mother peel the apples before she chopped them?" asked Mrs. Spoopendyke, quietly.

"Eh!" ejaculated Mr. Spoopendyke, slowing up a little and looking into the tray distrustfully.

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triumph of pie over puttering! Lead out the pan whom the gods would honor,

"Got to lift your teeth pretty high to get around some of the meat," he observed,

"I'm not sure whether mother used to grate the meat or crack it with a hammer,

"It's really wonderful how well you remember how your mother made them,"

"You won't feel badly because it beats yours?" said Mr. Spoopendyke,

"I'll try not to," replied Mrs. Spoopendyke, casting her eyes down,

"Let's see. You stick in a broom splint, don't you, when you want to know if the pie is done?"

"It won't go in," he remarked, rather dolefully, selecting another with similar results.

"Hadn't you better try the handle, dear?" suggested Mrs. Spoopendyke.

"No, I hadn't better try the handle, dear!" mimicked Mr. Spoopendyke.

"Come out here, and let's see what the occasion of this uncalled for resistance!"

"You're up in pie, what d'ye suppose is the matter with the thing?"

"I don't know how you're going to get lard in a crust that you can't penetrate with a bayonet!"

"I've almost forgotten how mother did try pies to see if they were done."

"Did she ever try a club?" inquired Mrs. Spoopendyke, timidly.

"Listen to the voice of the siren inquiringly within!" he dropped it on the floor,

"Your mother must have been very vigorous for her age," observed Mrs. Spoopendyke, calmly.

"It's those gasted lumps of meat," snarled Mr. Spoopendyke, picking up his pie,

"I suppose your mother put in the spices and cider after the hired man had wrenched the pie open,"

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cial intercourse, just because you ain't half baked!"

"I don't care," murmured Mrs. Spoopendyke, as she swept up the debris,

"And with this charitable view of the situation, Mrs. Spoopendyke sat down to the consideration of whether she'd better make a false train for her new black silk."

In *Vick's Floral Magazine* we read of a flower which creates laughter.

This reminds us of an experiment we made many years ago.

They are a great absorbent, both as to root and leaves, and are one of the best preventives of malaria that is to be had.

"How do they compare with the eucalyptus, that have been so extensively used for this purpose in Italy in the last few years?"

"They compare very favorably here, for the eucalyptus will not thrive here, or in any part of the country, except probably southern California."

"Are there many poplar trees in the city then?"

"Yes, something in the neighborhood of a thousand of them."

"Oh, less than 10 per cent. You see we have more than a hundred thousand trees in the city of Washington."

"More than a hundred thousand?"

"Yes, considerably more; probably the total now reaches about 125,000 in streets and parks."

"How many miles, then, of trees are there on the sidewalks, about?"

"Pretty nearly 150 miles of them."

"And how does that compare with other cities of this country?"

"It surpasses that of any other city of this country, or of the world."

"There is not a city in the world that has as many trees in proportion to its population as Washington has."

"How long has this accumulation of health and beauty been going on?"

"Well there has been more or less tree planting here ever since Washington was a city, of course."

"Bos's" Shepherd in 1871. There was some opposition to it at first, of course, but everybody sees the value of it now."

"Yes. We set out six or eight thousand trees a year, and are able to furnish many more. We have a hundred thousand young trees which we expect to furnish for the flats as they are needed."

"What is the cost of the care of these trees and the yearly adding to them?"

"About \$18,000 a year only. We have studied it carefully, raise our own trees from seeds or clippings, and reduce the cost to a minimum."

"What do you find the greatest part of the work of caring for the trees?"

WASHINGTON'S TREES.

Our Nation's Capital Leads the World in Shady Sidewalks—Their Effect on Health.

The air of Washington is full, at this season of year, of a white, downy substance.

It flies into it; if you wink at a pretty girl on the avenue you get it in your eyes.

It flies into the white house on the wings of the wind, and rolls up in fluffy white balls in the corners of the great vestibule through which the disappointed office-seekers go out from their calls on the president.

It penetrates to the rooms of the private secretaries, and the cabinet-room, and even the office of the president himself.

It attends the cabinet meetings, flies in the faces of the stately heads of the departments, and tickles the nose of the president.

It looks like down, and to the stranger who is not accustomed to the ways of Washington it appears to be down, perhaps coming from the "downy beds of ease" in which all statesmen and government employees are supposed to spend most of their time.

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subject we have a good many inquiries from various cities, and have prepared a list of those used by us.

The maples, poplars, box-elders, and lindens are the most used, but they do not complete the entire list by any means.

There are some thirty-five kinds used on the streets alone, to say nothing of the large numbers in the parks."

Cruelty to Sullivan.

The sympathies of tender-hearted people will go out towards John L. Sullivan, the pugilist.

His wife has commenced proceedings against him for a divorce, and in his answer Sullivan charges his wife with cruel treatment and drunkenness.

This is indeed hard. The poor man can have no peace. His business is fighting, when away from, and it certainly is discouraging, after going about knocking out people, and coming home for a little quiet rest, to be knocked out by a wife who ought to love and protect him.

Mr. Sullivan could get all the fighting he wanted away from home. He could whip the biggest man and the smallest waiter girl, could take possession of a saloon and throw everybody out of doors, could unmercifully beat his horses on the streets, and any one could see that what he needed when he got home was rest, but he was met by a cruel woman who would whip him.

O, cruel woman, how could you hurt the man who came home to be loved, and to sober up? Those who have seen the great Boston pugilist in the ring, or on the rostrum, admired by thousands, and seen strong men try to injure him, and seen him knock them silly, little thought that when he got home his wife would cruelly maul him, knock him down and sit on him.

Had the condition of things been known his enemies would have matched against Sullivan an "unknown," and placed his wife in front of him when the hour came for battle, and frightened him under the ropes and in the woods.

Picture to yourself, gentle reader, that strong man coming back from New Orleans, a victor over Paddy Ryan's truss, with the laurel wreath on his brow, and a keg of beer in his stomach, wavering as he approached his own door, trembling at the knees as he entered his house, pale and weak as he meets his "cruel" little wife, crawling under the bed in abject fear as she lands him one in the ear. She snatches the laurel wreath from his brow and in its place puts a wash bowl, and he begs to be allowed to come out from under the bed. Of what use is it for him to win reputation as a hard hitter, and have his cruel wife make him toe the mark at home? Away from home he was a terror, and no one could stand up before him. After a victory he would fill up with champagne to prepare himself for the inevitable licking which he must receive when he got home. Poor Sullivan! What a fall it must be for the "brave" brute to go into court and charge his little wife with "cruelty." He ought to be made the laughing stock of the whole country, gayed by all the people, the object of the contempt of all mankind; and the waiter girl whom he struck down should empty slops on him out of a second story window, until he should call the police to protect him from "cruelty." *Peck's Sun.*

Amenities of War.

While we were in front of Chattanooga it became fashionable along the picket line to exchange papers.

The plan was for a Confederate who wanted a paper to come to the front, shake a Southern paper as a flag of truce, and in this way invite exchanges.

The pickets on either side in that immediate vicinity would cease firing, the Union soldier would start from his line and the Confederate from his line, and they would meet half way, shake hands, exchange papers, and if there were no officers in sight, sit down and have a chat.

This had been kept up for several days, when there came an order from headquarters that no more papers should be exchanged. But the boys, choosing their time for exchange, continued the practice against orders.

There came a week, however, in which no rebel responded to waving, or shaking, or flutterings of paper or handkerchief, and we knew then that orders against exchange had been issued on that side as well as ours.

But one morning quite early my partner discovered a man on the rebel line frantically waving a large paper. He suggested that we slip away from the reserve and go out and see what the man wanted. He took a paper waved it, and we started toward the rebel in front. When we had proceeded about half way to the point of meeting the fellow ceased to wave his paper. We were puzzled at this, but finally concluded that he was down in a hollow, and we would see him when he came up on high ground. So we walked on and walked without warning into a group of soldiers at the rebel picket post. The men were just ready to take breakfast, and after the first flurry they joked as a good deal about our extraordinary willingness to get into their clutches at breakfast time. When we spoke of the exchange of papers the officer in charge informed us that orders were positive against exchange, and that all his men understood it. As this was the case, he took the position that we had come willingly into their lines, and that he could not allow us to return. I saw at once that his men disagreed with him, but the question was how we were to get away.

My partner, who had been a soldier in Germany, joined in the jokes at our expense, and proposed that he make the boys some coffee that was coffee. The Confederates had a very poor excuse for that article, and without more ado he proceeded to make a kettle of coffee, the aroma of which seemed to fascinate the coffee hungry sharpshooters. When he had poured the coffee into the cups and had expatiated on the good it would do the men, he took up his rifle and said to me: "Now let us start for our own line." I followed him, and not a soldier on that picket post lowered the cup of coffee from his lips or looked our way. *Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

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Crop Prospects.

The growing wheat crop having reached a critical stage and winter wheat having approached a condition sufficiently near maturity to approximate the acreage and probable yield, the *Farmers' Review* has followed up its usual weekly summary by a complete survey of all the Western and Southern wheat growing states, reports having been received from over 3,000 correspondents, covering every wheat producing county in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Dakota, together with a very accurate and recent summary from the Pacific coast region made by the associated press, it is believed, makes the most complete report ever issued. The review has been carefully prepared, and the information is believed to be most exhaustive and the latest that has yet been obtained and foreshadows the state and government reports. In summing up its detailed reports, the *Review* says:

The gloomiest views which have been advanced concerning the winter wheat outlook for 1885 must now be accepted as the most accurate. The promising conditions of 1884 have this season been completely reversed. The absolute uniformity of the returns indicate that the winter-sown wheat this year is the worst in ten years, and it may be now set down as positive that under the most favorable conditions the total winter and spring wheat yield is to fall considerably under the short crop of 1881, when the total product was 380,000,000 bushels.

With the exception of Michigan and Oregon and Washington territory on the Western slope, the causes leading to a decreased output of winter wheat are almost identical. In Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas and Missouri the ground was bare of snow during the severely cold weather at the close of the winter, which was followed by cold, dry winds later on. There was also a decreased acreage owing to the low prices which prevailed for the crop of 1884. In California the decreased acreage was accompanied by a severe drought, which has tended to almost ruin the growing crop. Oregon and Washington territory were saved by bountiful showers which came in time to save the grain. When the states are considered in detail the situation can be better appreciated.

Turning to the spring wheat belt the outlook is altogether more promising. Full returns from Nebraska show a slightly enlarged acreage as compared to last year, while in Iowa, Wisconsin and Minnesota the decrease in acreage will be about 10 per cent, while condition is about 95 per cent. The acreage of Dakota is about 8 per cent less than last year, and the conditions fully equal, though the season is from ten to twelve days later. The probable spring wheat yield based upon continuing favorable weather will be 130,000,000 bushels. The total wheat crop of the country, therefore, from the present outlook, will be from 320,000,000 to 380,000,000 bushels, against an average yield, for the last five years of 464,000,000 bushels.

In the Days of Stage Coaches.

A book recently published in England, called the "Royal Mail," tells this story of the old coaching days: "Speed was of the first consideration, and the stoppages at the way-side stages were of very limited duration. At an inn the travelers would hardly have made a fair start in appeasing their hunger when the guard would be heard calling upon them to take their seats, which, with mouths full, and still hungry, they would be forced to do, though with a bad grace and a howl—the acknowledged privilege of Englishmen. A story is told of one passenger, however, who was equal to the occasion. Leisurely supping his tea and eating his toast, this traveler was found by the landlord in the breakfast-room when the other passengers were seated and the coach was on the point of starting. Boniface appealed to him to take his place, or he would be left behind. "But," replied the traveler, that I will not do till I have a spoon to sup my egg." A glance apprised the landlord that not a spoon adorned the table, and rushing out, he detained the coach while all the passengers were searched for the missing articles. Then out came the satisfied traveler, who also submitted to the search and afterwards mounted the coach; and as the mail drove off he called to the landlord to look inside the coach, where the article was found, and placed the dozen spoons, with the double object of cooling the tea for his second cup, and detaining the coach till he drank it."

The Invention of paper.

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