Mechanic's Institute

Oregon City Enterprise.

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LITTLE SAMMY.

We mourn thy death, dear boy—
Thou wast so good and kind,
Thy pleasant smiles, thy gentle look,
Displayed a generous mind.

It makes us weep, dear boy,
To miss thee at thy play,
And see thy form in weakness
Consigned to native clay.

We oft had hoped, dear boy,
To see thee in manhood blest;
While some may wish to call thee back,
We'll not disturb thy rest.

Yet at thy grave, dear boy,
We'll often spend an hour;
And think that, though thou'rt gone,
Thy life still leaves a power.

O'er thy grave the wind may rage, dear boy,
But not disturb thy peaceful sleep;
And as the autumn days return,
We'll gather round thy grave to weep.

Adieu to thee, dear boy—
Words, our grief cannot dispel;
But with afflictions strongest ties,
We bid to thee farewell, farewell!

D. F. M.

BEAVER CREEK, March 17th, 1873.

The Hand that Rocks the World.

BY WILLIAM ROSS WALLACE.

Blessings on the hand of Woman!
Angels guard its strength and grace
In the palace, cottage, hovel.
O, no matter where the place!
Would that never storms assailed it;
Rainbows ever gently curled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

Infancy's the tender fountain;
Power may with Beauty flow;
Mothers first to guide the streamlets;
From their souls unresting grow,
Grow on for the good or evil,
Sunshine streamed or darkness hurled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

Woman, how divine your mission
Here upon our natal sod!
Keep, O keep the young heart open
Always to the breath of God!
All true trophies of the Ages
Are from Mother Love impearled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

Blessings on the hand of woman!
Fathers, sons, and daughters cry,
And the sacred song is mingled
With the worship in the sky.
Mingles where no tempest darkens,
Rainbows evermore are hurled;
For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rocks the world.

The Cottage by the Sea.

GRANT BEAUTIFYING HIS PROPERTY IN LONG BRANCH AT THE PUBLIC EXPENSE.

Washington Cor. of New York Sun.

The *Daily Critic*, a sprightly evening paper of this city, in an issue of last Saturday, contained the following interesting item of news:

"A few days since there was shipped from Washington to Long Branch, the Summer house of President Grant, three wagon loads of choice flowers in pots, two rustic settees, and forty hanging baskets, which the keen eye of the practical observer will miss for some time from the Botanical Garden. Long Branch, in the meantime, will present to Washingtonians the home attraction of having the President's garden environing his cottage around with the array of floral gems and rustic property hereinbefore described."

This is all very nice, and doubtless very home-like and attractive for the President and the few office-holding Washingtonians who may accompany him or from time to time visit the Executive Mansion by the sea. But what will the people that are taxed to provide these luxuries say? The Botanical Garden is no more the private property of the President than of the humblest citizen in the country. He has no more right to ship rare plants, choice flowers and beautiful hanging baskets from this conservatory than he has to take the Goddess of Liberty from the dome of the capitol and set it up on his private grounds at the Long Branch to frighten away trespassers. Not only was the Botanical Garden despoiled, but a large portion of the furniture which the Government provides for the White House was shipped to Long Branch. Eight wagon loads of it, according to the *Herald*, arrived last Friday. They contained enough apparently to fill a couple of such Swiss cottages as the President resides in, and comprised all varieties of household furniture, from *tete-a-tetes* and sociables to flower-pots and soap-boxes.

A Washington special to the *Tribune* says the investigation which followed the passage of the Montana War claims, in the Treasury Department, uncovers some of the operations of an old Indian ring. It is alleged that some time since, M. H. Insley desirous of securing an Indian contract, sought the influence of Mrs. Anna Sackett, mother-in-law of the late Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Parker. A contract was secured in addition to the appointment obtained for Insley to proceed with goods and take charge of their disdistribution. For services thus performed by Mrs. Sackett, Insley paid her in Montana war claims to the amount near $11,000. Mrs. Sackett made a verbal statement to Controller, stating that she performed valuable services in obtaining the passage of the law by Congress recognizing the validity of the Montana Indian war claims. Her counsel makes the same statement in her behalf and interest. It is also alleged she procured an appointment in the Indian Department through her son-in-law Col. Parker, at that time Commissioner.

"He fell down dead and expired in about two minutes," says a Georgia paper of the death of a negro.

"I got some boot in that bargain," as the loafer said when he was kicked out of doors.

Population and Subsistence.

From the S. F. Examiner.

The employment of steam in ocean navigation has virtually lessened the distance between Asia and America to such a degree that if immigration be not checked from the regions where population is superabundant it will tend to our shores in numbers so great as to affect the well-being of our people. The difficulty of transporting large numbers and the time required to do so, are the least important facts to be considered in this proposition. If the lower strata of labor are partially filled with a population which can subsist on a scanty and inferior diet, in time, be it remote or near the occupations that are filled by classes requiring a higher character of food must fall to those who will work the cheapest. Then the laborers driven from the lower positions, to the extent of their ability to replace a higher class, will become competitors with the latter. But that can be only on a small scale, for the better-skilled can maintain their position until time enables the displaced to become their rivals. In the meantime, the unskilled laborer must accept the condition which is created for him by the influx of cheaper laborers, want of employment, lower wages and longer hours of toil.

The population of China appears to have reached its limit of increase in the present condition of the arts and sciences in that Empire. It has gone so far that the means of subsistence for additional numbers from its own resources have been exhausted; but it is possible that free intercourse with Western nations may permit the manner of living of its people to be improved, and the value of life so enhanced that female children, now sacrificed to prevent their increase, be saved from destruction. The free migration of such a race would entail derangement of the industrial system of any nation encouraging it; and that means suffering and privation to the classes living by the labor of their hands. If our present treaty with China be maintained, it is argued, we have no right to prevent the free migration of the Chinese to our shores. Thus far the efforts to obtain the abrogation of that portion of the treaty have proved ineffectual. The people of California who have foreseen the evils that may result from the free migration of the Chinese, have been told by influential citizens, through the Press, in public meetings, and oftentimes from the pulpit, that the question of receiving the Mongolian was national, not local, and by their utterances it is becoming evident that no modification will be asked by the present Administration.

The supposed importance of the commerce with China, for the promotion of which the Burlingame treaty was made, is one of the greatest delusions of the age. Every article received from that country can be obtained from other regions at rates not higher, and in most cases of superior quality. We obtain teas from Japan, sugar and coffee from Brazil, the West India Islands, the Central and South America States, and silks from France and Italy. The importance of trade with the Celestial Empire is due to the fact that from long use we are accustomed to Chinese tea, and consume it to the extent of $16,000,000; and that preference drains us of specie to the amount of seven or eight millions a year.

Whenever the working-men of California have demanded the abrogation of that portion of the Chinese treaty which promotes the immigration and importation of coolies, specious reasons have been advanced by the friends of the Mongolians that similar argument were formerly made against the Irish and Germans. Such assertions are not based on reason, for Europe is so much less populated than China, and so many men, the flower of her population, are engaged in the military and naval service, that immigration has raised wages throughout every European country. The total population of Europe is less than 300,000,000, occupying an area of 3,700,000 square miles, of which the sparsely inhabited peninsulas and islands comprise about 800,000 square miles, so that except in a few sections the density of population does not exceed one-half that of China, and in these intercourse with the surrounding nations makes them to a large degree the manufacturers and producers of the old and new continents.

China, according to recent authorities, has a population estimated at from 367 to 397,000,000 of inhabitants; the total area of the country is set down at 1,298,000, square miles. It is only now that they are beginning to realize the advantages that the Burlingame treaty has conferred upon them. Since its ratification by the Senate there has been an increase in the numbers purposing to leave the Flowery Kingdom, and we are now experiencing what the influx may be with competition among the steamers to bring them thither.

The Rockford (Illinois) *Journal* says: "During the season of 1871, Mrs. S. C. Wilder, of Harlem, made and sold, from three cows, a little over six hundred pounds of butter, besides having sufficient milk and butter to supply a family of three persons all the time, and five during the busy seasons of seeding, haying and harvest. The calves were raised until they were six weeks old, when they were weaned and disposed of. Mrs. Wilder made from the same cows, during 1870, more than six hundred pounds of butter, which was marketed in this city."

Why is a dog biting his his tail like a good economist? Because he makes both ends meet.

Why Young men Ignore Agriculture.

A large proportion of the young men of this country have no love for agricultural pursuits. This is true enough in the Eastern States, and it is strikingly so in California. One reason for the aversion which prevails here is that no effort has been made to render agriculture attractive. In fact, most young men are not aware that it is possible to make the results of intelligent agriculture more satisfactory in the long run than any other pursuit. They are not made to understand how a dull plodding business can be redeemed and made one of the most attractive pursuits in the world. In whatever way wealth is acquired, it does not comprise much more than the comforts and luxuries of a good home with some leisure for books and travel.

But in agriculture we have strangely dropped out the idea of a good home. Nine-tenths of the farmers' homes on this coast fail to inspire a single desire in young men for anything of the sort. Here and there may be found an attractive homestead. But the primary truth that a young man ought to choose agriculture because he can early lay the foundations for a desirable home, and that from first to last he can bring all his skill and science to bear in prolific husbandry, in adorning a homestead and in the gratification of the most cultivated tastes—this truth is rarely enforced. The young man's idea of farming here is a dusty plain, a farm house little better than a shed, hired men sleeping in blankets, stowed away in out-houses, hard work, and doubtful results. Just this ideal is realized in many instances—so many in fact that this is taken as standard farming. The young dislike it and turn away to any pursuit which will afford them a precarious living.

Practical agriculture involves hard work here, as everywhere else. But there never was a country where so much could be accomplished in that line by resolute and intelligent young men who are willing to put muscle and brain into agriculture for what can be got out of it. There is not a single treatise extant on farming which is adapted to this coast. We have an almost endless variety of soils and climates. The seasons are unlike any east of the Rocky Mountains. In the place of frost which locks up the soil for six months in the year we are comforted with rainless weather, and are slowly learning how to turn this to the best account.

Suppose a young, man resolute and intelligent, starts out with the purpose to make agriculture his lifelong pursuit, and to confine his energies to such a moderate area of land as he may call a homestead. He will not become rich rapidly. But doing his best and never losing sight of the fundamental idea that he is to make an attractive home, and that all efforts are to center in this leading purpose, what ought to be the result of his first ten years labor? His three or four hundred acres are fenced, and cross fenced, gates all in the right places, a grove of hard wood trees well set and growing, good out-buildings, a farm-house well built and large enough for guests and a growing family, water utilized for irrigation and domestic purposes the best breeds of cattle and sheep—in short, every accessory of intelligent agriculture, including a library that never stops growing.

Now, modest as these results may be, has not this man had a successful career? How many in other pursuits arriving at middle age have had fewer ups and downs or have come out better than he? If he has found leisure to read, and has applied the result of his knowledge to his pursuit he has been a growing man all these years. If he has some cultivated tastes, is there any better sphere for their indulgence than in the life of a country gentleman? The fact is we have shown young men the ugly side of farming. Naturally enough they hate it and run away from it. Let us do something to show them the higher possibilities of such a life, and we shall find a better account.—*S. F. Bulletin.*

Farmers' Anti-Monopoly Movement.

An Illinois paper, commenting upon the election of Craig, the farmers' candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court, says that that election is only an incident in the movement. It is not the end aimed at, nor the beginning of the end. It serves only to draw the dividing lines distinguishing those who are heartily in sympathy with the anti-monopoly movement, for those who tremblingly gave it a quasi endorsement, not daring to take a positive stand on either side. The farmers have no idea of stopping their action with this election; indeed, no one thought of this election when they began operations; but they will go on until they elect a legislature, Governor, member of Congress, and a President, if need be, if their objects are not attained otherwise. They are fully aware that it would be convenient, in a great movement of this kind, to have "friends at court;" to have men in public positions who are in sympathy with them, and will render them assistance in organizing and keeping together. Hence they will endeavor to see that the various county offices, to be filled next Fall, are supplied with men who have already proved to be with them in sentiment and sympathy.

The *Horticulturists* describes a rose hedge of Lord Middleton, of Applecross, England, which the past season was five feet high, over two hundred feet long and one sheet of flowers. The variety was the Gloire de Dijon, and the hedge was used to screen a kitchen garden. The variety is a tender tea rose.

Domestic Economy.

DON'T BOX A CHILD'S EARS BUT FAN HIS BAY WINDOW WITH A SLIPPER.

Children's ears ought never to be boxed. We have seen that the passage of the ear is closed by a thin membrane, especially adapted to be influenced by every impulse of the air, and with nothing but the air to support it internally. What then can be more likely to injure this membrane than a sudden and forcible compression of the air in front of it? If any one designs to break or overstretch the membrane he could scarcely devise a more effective means than to bring the hand suddenly and forcibly down upon the passage of the ear, thus driving the air violently before it, with no possibility of its making its escape but by the membrane giving way. And far too often it does give way, especially if, from any previous disease, it has been weakened. Many children are made deaf by boxes on the ear in this way. Nor is this the only way; if there is one thing which does the nerve of hearing more harm than almost any other it is a sudden jar or shock. Children and grown persons alike may be entirely deafened by falls or heavy blows upon the head. And boxing the ears produces a similar effect, though more slowly and in less degree. It tends to dull the sensibility of the nerve, even if it does not hurt the membrane. I knew of a pitiful case once, of a poor youth who died from a terrible disease of the ear. He had a discharge from it since he was a child. Of course his hearing had been dull; and what had happened was that his father had often boxed his ears for inattention. Most likely that boxing on the ear, diseased as it was, had much to do with his dying. And this brings me to a second point. Children should never be blamed for inattention until it has been found out whether they are a little deaf. This is easily done by placing them at a few yards' distance, and trying whether they can understand what is said to them in rather a low tone of voice. Each ear should be tried while the other is stopped by the finger. I do not say that children are never guilty of inattention, especially to that which they do not particularly wish to hear; but I do say that very many children are blamed and punished for inattention when they really do not hear. And there is nothing at once more cruel and more hurtful to the character of children than to be found fault with for what is really their misfortune. Three things should be remembered here: (1) That slight degrees of deafness, often lasting but a short time, are very common among children, especially during or after colds. (2) That a slight deafness, which does not prevent a person from hearing when he is expecting to be spoken to, will make him very dull to what he is not expecting. (3) That there is a kind of deafness in which a person can hear pretty well while listening, but is really very hard of hearing when not listening.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

Congressional Gamblers.

The Washington gambling houses have never been supported to any considerable extent by the resident population. Members of Congress, particularly from the South, Southwest, and West, were the largest contributors to the income of the sporting men. Contractors and Indian traders were generally bold and sometimes desperate players. Members of the House frequently staked their mileage and per diem at the faro table, and they played all sorts of round games, "short cards," as they were called in the club rooms. Probably the amount risked would not constitute what is called "high play" in these days, but the losses of these men of limited means were often sufficient to keep them impoverished and embarrassed during their entire Congressional career. Some men played for the excitement chiefly, not caring much whether they won or lost. Thadeus Stevens was one of this description. He was like Fox, who described winning at hazard as the greatest pleasure in life, and losing at the same game as the next greatest. Thaddeus lost and won with the same apparent indifference. He played with consumate coolness, never lost his temper, and never increased the amount of his bet either to retrieve his losses or increase his winnings. His sarcastic remarks upon the discomforture of his fellow-players, who sometimes exclaimed with rage and profanity at their ill luck, were always witty as well as cutting. While they were eating and drinking with the voracity of cormorants, he never indulged in anything more stimulating than a cracker and a sip of water. The contrast between his coolness and apparant apathy and the eager, fierce excitement of others sitting at the same table and engaged in the same pursuit, was amazing. I have never seen a more pitiable and painful exhibition than was often presented by the ungoverned passions of a gamester after a run of ill luck. To Mr. Stevens such displays of weakness seemed to afford amusement rather than to excite sympathy or compassion. He was hard, cynical man, capable of acts of benevolence under strong emotion, but gentleness or tenderness was not his ordinary mood. He threw off more good things in conversation without effort than any man I ever saw, and his sayings were pointed with a degree of epigrammatic force that I never have witnessed in any other man.—*Harper's Magazine.*

The only safe way to put up a stove is at auction.

How Railroads are Built.

From the Atlantic Monthly for March.

* * Forty years ago, when railroad construction began, it was the universal custom to build roads "on stock." A number of men subscribed the amount required to lay the track and equip the line, and in turn received certificates of indebtedness, in the shape of stock. If more money was needed after the railroad was finished, money could be raised on bond and mortgage. The stockholders were in those early days the real owners just as much as a man is the owner of a house for which he has paid though some one else may hold his note for part of the purchase money. The stockholders were therefore entitled to elect Directors, and through them to manage the property. Before long, however, as the wealth of the country, and with the wealth, credits increased, it was discovered that this process might be reversed; that as soon as a charter was obtained the promoters of the enterprise, instead of paying money into the treasury and constructing the road with it, might, if they pleased, mortgage the road to begin with, issue bonds, and with the proceeds of those bonds build the line. Then the stock could be divided among the promoters, and as soon as it became valuable they could sell it, and count their sale as so much clear gain. The next step was the invention of "land grants," which made the mortgage a far simpler matter. At present the system is this: Half a dozen patriotic gentlemen go to Washington and urge the necessity of building a road through some unsettled part of the West, for the purpose of developing the resources of that section, or making a connecting link in one of the great national highways between the Atlantic and the Pacific, or moving the crops to tide water, or some other equally important object. As they are generally gentlemen who have friends in Congress, and who pay their political assessments with even more regularity than their taxes—Thomas C. Durant testified the other day in the Pacific Railroad matter that he had contributed $10,000 to the election of a Senator from Iowa; and Barbridge, that he had contributed $5,000 toward the election of another from Nebraska, and that he always contributed from $1,000 to $1,500 a year toward politics—their petition is listened to readily. According to their representations it is impossible to build the road without a subsidy. Congress at once gives them a grant of land by way of assistance. This they immediately mortgage, and at the same time put into their own pockets the stock. The sales of the bonds yield enough to build the road; and the income is perhaps enough to pay the interest on them. But meantime the projectors are getting no returns for their money. By this time the stock, if the road looks at all well, has some value; they begin to sell it. Gradually, as they want more money, they sell all of it, and very likely by this time they have made a profit out of the road quite sufficient to reimburse them for their trouble. But what has become of the road? The stockholders own it, and the stockholders are now speculators who have bought up the shares on the market, and have no interest in the stock, except to get rid of it at an advance. Here begins a series of speculations in the stock which generally end in "corners," new issues, and general depreciation of the property. The speculative stockholders elect a speculative Board of Directors, and with their help issue new mortgages, enter into contracts with other roads of the lease or guarantee kind, and at last they cease to be able to pay interest on their debt—the original mortgage. Meanwhile the real owners of the road, the people who paid for the bonds, have no voice in the management, and are, throughout, at the mercy of the "stock." They can, of course, foreclose the mortgage but, for this purpose, there must be united action on the part of several hundred small investors, widows, orphans, and trustees, scattered over the country, and foreign countries, not accustomed to act together, and ignorant of one another's whereabouts; besides this, by the time that foreclosure is possible the work has been done and the property has lost its value. * *

The Cuban correspondent of the New York *Herald* a short time since was arrested by the authorities and has since been sent to Spain. The *Herald* says that the Spanish authorities "refuse the consuls representing the countries of which our correspondents are citizens leave to see the prisoners. Could there be a more humiliating spectacle than this? Two of the most powerful nations in the world are defied by a petty satrap in the West Indies, and yet they look on dumbly while their authority is derided and the rights of their citizens are outraged. The United and Great Britain, Mr. Fish and Earl Granville, present a pretty figure before the world, and will no doubt be long remembered for the vigor with which they uphold the honor of their countries!"

There is not an acre of cultivated cranberry marsh in Minnessota, and yet hundreds of people make almost an exclusive business of gathering wild fruit for market. Cranberry marshes abound in numerous regions throughout the State, and wherever found are, owing to some peculiar fitness of the soil and climate, not only very prolific, but produce fruit of superior excellence.

Paragraphs for the Farmer.

Mr. B. Goldwin, of Robeson county, N. C., made last year 3,600 pounds lint cotton on two acres of land.

A company of bird-fanciers is about to be formed at Sandusky, O., for the purpose of sending a man to Europe to bring to this country a number of different varieties of birds which are native to that clime, but seldom met with here.

The farmers in the vicinity of Colebrook, Massachusetts, have a ready market for their potatoes at the starch mills of that place. The past season, over 300,000 bushels of potatoes were worked up in the manufacture of starch, which netted the farmers over $90,000.

Elisha Briggs, of Parkham, Me., as the produce of forty-eight sheep, last year sold 274 pounds of wool, and raised forty-five lambs, the sales reaching $265. He has the old sheep and fifteen of the best lambs still on hand, and for the latter had been offered $5.

Nearly all dairymen now unite in the opinion that milk is injured for any purpose by being cooled too suddenly, as by the use of ice or the employment of patent appliances. They also agree that warm milk should not be mixed with that which is cold, as is frequently done.

Walnut stumps are becoming valuable as articles of merchandise at the East. Some one has discovered that the curly grain of the roots can be used for veneering purposes with great success, and the result is that they are in demand, and are worth $150 per stump.

A correspondent from Raleigh, N. C., says that great preparations are being made by farmers for a large cotton crop. The weather has been unfavorable thus far, but a great deal of work has been done. One firm in that city has sold more guano than was ever before disposed of by all the business men of the city.

American cheese, at first so contemptuously rejected in England, not without cause, is now in favor there. Since the establishment of cheese factories, which gather up the milk from whole neighborhoods, our machine made uniform cheese is now exported to the extent of sixty millions of pounds a year.

A novelty in brandy has made its appearance in the San Francisco market, and promises to be used by consumers of that article. It is stated that from eight to ten pounds of dry figs wil make a gallon of brandy, which can be sold at $1 50 per gallon. As figs are very plentiful in California, it is very probable that that State may be enabled to add another large industry to its products.

A curious incident is related in a French paper as having occurred in a little village not far from Paris. Some bees were swarming on an oak tree, and a wood-cutter named Guiot climbed the tree and cut off the extremity of the branch upon which the swarm hung. Instead of falling to the ground, however, the swarm dispersed and settled on the head of Guiot, who was still sitting on the branch, forty feet from the ground. The bystanders believed that, tortured by the stings, he would fall to the ground. But, with great presence of mind Guiot remained perfectly still till the swarm had formed two long wreaths hanging from his temples; then, half-blinded by the insects, which also covered his face and body, he contrived to descend from his elevated position, taking the greatest care not to irritate this living mantle. When he reached the ground a hive was placed on his shoulder, but three hours elapsed before the bees would take possession of their new home. When this happy change was effected the poor wood-cutter's wild delight testified to the intensity of the anxiety and discomfort he had endured.

It is stated by some of the French journals that a new breed of sheep is to be introduced into that country from Algeria, and subjected to the same treatment which the Merinos received when they were first introduced. The introduction of the Merino certainly conferred great benefits on France—similar to the benefits the same useful breed has conferred upon every country which his given them attention—and the results of the French treatment were certainly satisfactory. We have doubts, however, whether the same results will be realized from the introduction of these Algerine sheep, notwithstanding it is stated that they are entirely unknown in Europe, and that they give "as much milk as goats, and yield as much wool as Merinos." Our doubts are largely based upon the fact, that if there were a valuable breed of sheep in Algeria, they would have long since become known; and it is more than probable that with this breed of sheep private individuals have already experimented without success. If of the same type as the Merino, which is not stated, we do not see what is to be gained by devoting years of labor to their development, when we have the same thing already developed.—*National Live Stock Journal.*

A well preserved tooth, measuring 16 inches in length, 18 inches in circumference, and weighing 13½ lbs, and a piece of jawbone 20 inches long, and weighing 16½ lbs, were recently found on the Marion county side of the Willamette River, a short distance above the mouth of the Yamhill. The relics were twenty-five feet below the top of the bank and two feet above the water.

COURTESY OF BANCROFT LIBRARY,