

MORO LEADER.

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plication.

L. W. HUNTING..... Editor.
WEDNESDAY..... DEC. 14, 1898.

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E. B. Wheat, Constable.

MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE.

At 10 o'clock Sunday morning
the jury in the Magers case brought
in a verdict of murder in the first
degree, for the murder of Ray
Sink. Probably a motion for a
new trial will be made by the de-
fense, and maybe the case will go
to the supreme court.

Much ado about a very little
thing was that about Senator Si-
mon not obtaining a seat the day
he was sworn in. It is safe to say
that he will have not only a seat
in the senate chamber, but also in
a short time his executive ability
will be recognized, and he will have
a seat in more than one important
committee. He began at the bot-
tom, and will surely work his way
upward to a place where he will be
of great benefit to our state. He is
a hard worker, and we look for re-
sults that will tell for the state.

The treaty of peace between the
United States and Spain was signed
at 8:45 Saturday evening, and
all that is required is the formal
ratification of same of the respective
governments. Thus ends the war
of our country not for conquest,
but for the sake of humanity. May
it be a lesson to all who, like Spain,
would tyrannize over the weak who
may be at their mercy.

Settled At Last.

A story appears in the "Youth's
Companion" concerning the applica-
tion of a man to President Lin-
coln for appointment to a position
as army chaplain.

Attached to the original docu-
ment are a number of indorsements
which are not only interesting in
themselves, but as disclosing the
character of the two men whose in-
fluence largely moulded the policy
of the government in those turbu-
lent times. The indorsements read
as follows:

Dear Stanton: Appoint this man
chaplain in the army.—A. Lincoln.

Dear Mr. Lincoln: He is not a
preacher.—E. M. Stanton.

The following indorsements are
dated a few months later, but come
just below:

Dear Stanton: He is now.—A.
Lincoln.

Dear Mr. Lincoln: But there is
no vacancy.—E. M. Stanton.

Dear Stanton: Appoint him
chaplain at large.—A. Lincoln.

Dear Mr. Lincoln: There is no
warrant of law for that.—E. M.
Stanton.

Dear Stanton: Appoint him any-
how.—A. Lincoln.

Dear Mr. Lincoln: I will not.—
E. M. Stanton.

The appointment was not made,
but the papers were filed, and re-
main as evidence of Lincoln's
friendship and Stanton's obstinate
nervous.

About the only difference between
a saloon and a cafe is the prices
charged for drinks.

LITERATURE.

[The following paper on litera-
ture was read at the local institute
at Grass Valley on Dec. 31. By
the kindness of the author, Mrs.
Hattie Smith, we publish it in full.]
Owen Meredith, in his poem
entitled "Lucile," gives expression
to the following lines:

"We may live without poetry, music and
art;
We may live without conscience and
live without heart;
We may live without friends, we may
live without books;
But civilized man cannot live without
books."
He may live without books,—what is
knowledge but grieving?"

That there is more truth than
poetry in the lines no one will
deny, but the author evidently
never pictured to himself what a
dreary, "uninteresting" place the
world would be were we compelled
to live without books. Fortunately
the world-to-day is not such a barren
waste; it is full of good books, and
they are within reach of all, even
the cooks. Every intelligent per-
son of the present day must be im-
pressed with the advantages to be
derived from reading. Contrast
the man of no culture, the man
who does not read with the man of
high culture, the man who has on
his book-shelves at least a few of
the best authors. Look at the
illiterate rustic who has never been
taught to think or read. His in-
tellect is confined to his five senses.
He takes in nothing but the im-
ages of the highways and byways
along which he plods, the beasts of
the field and the slow-paced rou-
tine of agricultural life. The dis-
tant and the past are to him a
complete void. He is tied to the
present and to the small area in
which he moves on his daily
rounds. Again, look at the man
who reads. He is possessed of a
clear head, sympathetic heart and
lively fancy. You will find on his
shelves books on almost every sub-
ject. He is a man of magical
powers, and it is by means of
these treasured volumes that he
works his magic spell. To him
they are instruments of almost
miraculous power, companions
ever ready to entertain and in-
struct, friends who never desert
him.

The most important question
that presents itself to us just here
is, "What books shall we read?"
The great difficulty in answering
this question is the incalculable
number of books. Ever since the
days when the shepherd boy of
Israel gave to the world the sweetest
of songs, men and women have
been making books, and the num-
ber is increasing yearly. The
mania for scribbling has become
an epidemic. At no distant date, I
imagine, it will be difficult to find
any one who has not been guilty of
authorship. There are different
ways of dealing with the multi-
plicity of books. One man buys
all the new books that may be rec-
ommended to him, arranges them
on his shelves and contents himself
with looking at their gilded titles.
Another reads everything that
comes to hand, from "Locke on the
Understanding," to a treatise on
the healing virtues of "St. Jacob's
Oil," and he will tell you with a
self-satisfied air that he is fond
of reading. A third imagines be-
cause he reads everything in the
shape of a review, that he is mas-
tering the works themselves when
he has read only distorted frag-
ments. It is unnecessary to say
that all these methods are unsatis-
factory. The best way is to read a
few standard works in each depart-
ment of literature.

Let us see how these standard
works come to be of use. Men
have a natural tendency to imi-
tate each other in opinions and pe-
culiarities; they would rather bor-
row an idea than to take the
trouble to make one for
themselves. We often hear one
opinion echoed from one hollow
skull to another round the whole
circle of a political party. When
we know Brown's views on the
Education Act, we can easily infer
what those of Jones and Smith
will be. This is also true of
authors. They read each other's
works and borrow from each other,
and we get wearied out when we
attempt to read all the works on a
certain subject. It is here that the
standard author comes to our aid,
and, like a special dispensation of
Providence, saves us from mental
bewilderment. He explores and
ransacks the wilds of literature,
picks out whatever is excellent, and
adding new ideas of his own, he
gives us a work which embodies
everything which is good in that
line—what Ruskin calls a "Work
of Time."

Who are the standard authors?
Does some one ask? Milton,
Shakespeare, Bacon, Gibbon, Burns,
Scott, Lytton, Tennyson, Emerson,
Carlyle. These are some of them,
and if we master these, we master
the whole of English Literature.
Every young student should master
these classic masterpieces; or

if that be impossible, he should
master at least one of them. It is
better to know one book thor-
oughly than to know many imper-
fectly. The man who has thor-
oughly studied Shakespeare is a
formidable antagonist; what grasp
of intellect he has, how broad his
sympathies, what knowledge of hu-
man nature, what command of wit
and wisdom.

Beyond a list of standard works,
I would not attempt to prescribe
further, but would say do not waste
your time in purposeless reading.
Our time is precious, and our read-
ing should be select. The books we
choose must have three character-
istics: first, they should interest;
second, they should call into play
the mental faculties; third, should
make us more fit for the duties of
life. A book must possess not one
but all of these characteristics. A
book with all its interest may be
some inane novel whose only use
is to kill time. The crowning merit
of a book is its usefulness, and the
great end of life is not to think but
to act; not alone to be learned, but
to be good and noble.

After selecting the books we ought
to read, the next thing to be taken
into consideration is, "How should
we read them?" In the first place,
we should know something of the
author of a book before we read it.
To know something about the life
and character of an author, makes
a book doubly interesting. For ex-
ample, when we know Milton's
nobleness of mind we do not wonder
how it was possible for him to en-
dure His Satanic Majesty with all
the attributes of a brave warrior
and maneuvering general. When
we know Longfellow's love of na-
ture and domestic animals, we must
admire his description of
Evangeline's white heifer and the
noble watch-dog of the Acadian
peasant. When we know how the
poet Burns was tossed on the sea
of misfortune, what pathos we find
in the following lines:

"Then gently scan your brother man,
Still gentler sister woman,
Though they may gang a kenin wrang,
To step aside is human."

Who made the heart—'tis He alone
Decidedly can try us;
He knows each chord—its various tone
Each spring its various bias."

Although most people skip the
preface of a book, the perusal of it
is really the test of an accomplished
reader. In it the writer takes us
into his confidence and tells us his
motives and reasons for writing the
book, and gives us a foretaste of
what we are to have later on. It
is hardly necessary to say that we
should give our whole attention to
whatever we read. In order to
thoroughly understand what we
read, we should be able to shut out
our surroundings and circumstan-
ces, a most difficult thing to do
sometimes. But lose ourselves we
must in the work before us if we
would follow him closely through
all his lines of thought, understand
his ideas and enter into his feelings.
Anything less than this is not wor-
thy the name of reading. If we
take up Roman History, we should
get so interested in it that we can
hear the cackling of the geese that
saved the Capitol; and if Arctic
explorations, you find yourself
bending over the freezing forms of
the poor fellows who followed
Franklin on the long march to
their icy graves. Perhaps you will
say that such concentration of
thought, such abstraction, is not
possible. The great Italian poet
Dante went, on a certain occasion,
to see some grand procession.
While waiting for it to arrive, he
took up a book from a stall near by
and became so absorbed in it that
he did not stir until he had fin-
ished it. Then he found, to his
consternation, that the procession
had passed by. In order to be an
intelligent reader, it is necessary to
make notes of the most striking
passages. By this method we learn
to be discriminating. Another
good method is to write out a sum-
mary of what you read. Some may
find this impracticable. For the
benefit of such I shall quote the
words of Grote. He says: "I have
always found that to make myself
master of a subject, the best method
was to give an account of it to my-
self." So if it be impossible to
write out a summary, you can at
least give an account of what you
read to yourself. A good way to
cultivate the memory is to tell what
you read to every one you meet.
Whitlaw Reid, when a young man,
just starting out in life, made it a
custom to read a few pages every
day and relate what he read to the
first person he happened to meet.
This custom he kept up daily for
years, and to it he attributes much
of his success along these lines. Does
anyone say that it is impossible to
read according to such rigid rules?
If so, to such I would say, there is
just one of two alternatives to
choose. If we have no desire to be-
come wiser and better, we will con-
tinue to doze over whatever chance
may happen to throw in our way;
but if we are active and earnest, if
we are would succeed in life, if we

desire the title of rational beings,
we will choose the best books and
follow a well defined and rigid
method of reading.

[Continued in next issue.]

He who does a kindness to an
ungrateful person sets his seal to a
flint, and sows his seed upon the
sand; upon the former he makes
no impression, and from the latter
finds no production.—South.

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Wasco.....	10 a. m.	Antelope.....	3 a. m.
Moro.....	1:30 p. m.	Kent.....	7 a. m.
Grass Valley.....	4 p. m.	Grass Valley.....	9 a. m.
Kent.....	7 p. m.	Moro.....	1:30 p. m.
Arrives at Antelope.....	10 p. m.	Arrives at Wasco.....	4 p. m.

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Time Schedule No. 3.—To Take Effect Friday, July 1st, 1898.
12:01 A. M. Pacific Time.

No. 3.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 4.
LEAVE.	LEAVE.	ARRIVE.	ARRIVE.
5:00 a. m.	4:00 p. m.	Wasco.	8:15 a. m.
5:40 a. m.	4:40 p. m.	Biggs.	7:30 a. m.
Arrive.	Arrive.	Leave.	Leave.
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