

Texas Christian Advocate

Christmas-week Reading

An Answer to Prayer.

A Christmas and New Year's Sketch.

BY FLORENCE E. HOWELL.

It was Christmas Eve. A lady with a sweet, matronly face sat alone in a comfortably furnished apartment, her eyes fixed upon the glowing coals in the grate, the cheerful light of the fire filling the recesses of the room and chasing away the shades of the early twilight of the wintry evening. The lady's face wore the expression of a quiet spirit, save a few lines of care, which seemed to have fallen somewhat prematurely upon it, and as she sat with her hands clasped together, her gaze fixed upon the fire, an expression of anxious melancholy settled upon her features.

At this moment the door opened and a fair, lovely girl, apparently sixteen years of age entered the room.

"You are all alone, mother, and almost in the dark. Shall I not light the gas?"

The daughter spoke in cheery tones, advancing to her mother's side as she spake.

"I found the subdued light of the fire more in accord with my feelings," said the mother, an accent of sadness sounding in her tones.

Carrie knelt beside her mother's chair and put her arms gently around her mother's neck. "Try not to feel sad, mother," she said; "for this is Christmas Eve, and the children are in a glee over the thought of our Christmas tree. I have just finished decorating the tree, and have placed the wax tapers all in place, ready to light, and have closed the parlor door, before the children return from papa's office, so that they may not see the lighted tree until we are ready for them."

The mother's hand rested caressingly upon the daughter's head. "I am glad to see you so much interested in the pleasure of your little sisters and brothers, Carrie," she said in gentle tones. "I fear the preparations for enjoyment of this Christmas would not have had the attention customary in our home; but you have taken it in charge. I have left some to do, and today I have felt unusually sad thinking of him. Last Christmas I was with us here, and although he spent much of the holidays with companions whom we could not have desired for him, and though he kept late, irregular hours, still I could reach him occasionally with words of love and counsel; but now," she added, with a sigh, "he has wandered away from home; we have not heard from him in a long dreary time, and I can not reach him even by a letter."

"But we can pray for him, mother," Carrie said earnestly, and hesitating a moment, she seemed about to speak again, when a servant came to the door and called her from the room for some directions in household duties.

The mother, left once more alone in the room, fell herself aroused and conscience-stricken by her daughter's earnest words. She had prayed for her absent son day after day, but to-day she had allowed herself to despond, and in her sadness and gloom over the absence and prolonged silence of her son she found herself wavering in her faith that God could hear her prayer. But once more she felt her heart stirred within her to ask God's care for her wayward boy. She knelt beside the arm-chair, and in the silence of the chamber, alone with her God, she poured forth her heart to him in a mother's earnest supplication for the welfare of her erring boy, and that God, in his merciful providence, would restore her child to purity of heart and bring him back to parents and home. She rose from her knees cheered and comforted; and when a few moments later the three younger children—two bright-looking girls, respectively ten and twelve years of age, and a sturdy-looking boy of six years—came trooping into the room with their father, she met them with a cheerful smile, resolved in her heart to trust God to protect her erring boy in a distant State, and to do her duty toward making home attractive and happy for the remaining ones.

The tea-table soon rang, and the family gathered around the well-appointed table, and the children ate with the appetite of hungry children, talking merrily and joining occasionally in the merry talk. The next day, however, the family returned to the sitting-room, and the mother, noticing a shade of sadness resting upon her husband's face, placed her hand upon his arm and said softly, "Trust God to care for Will, and bring him back to us," and seeing his face brighten at her words, she quietly left his side and retired from the room. She entered the parlor as Carrie was giving the finishing touches to the Christmas tree, and after seeing that all was ready, she called the children, who came in eager haste, followed by their father.

The Christmas tree, standing in the arch of the long double parlors, was a marvel of loveliness, all loaded with gifts and glittering with burning wax tapers. After the children had admired the pretty trees to their hearts' content, the father distributed the gifts to each one, frequently detaching from the laden branches a package marked "for Willie," which Carrie would quietly take and place upon a table near by; seeing which, one of the little girls said, with a sigh checking her tears, "I wish brother Willie could be with us to-night to get his gifts." The parents themselves had received tokens of affection from the tree, nor were the household servants forgotten, but each was called forward from the hall, where they stood looking in upon the happy scene, and received each a substantial gift, which token of thoughtful kindness served to brighten their lowly lot in life.

When all had examined their gifts, and the children had spent an hour in playful games of different kinds, the evening's enjoyment was brought to a close, and the father calling the little group to silence, opened the Bible, and read a portion of the holy word, then he knelt and thanked God for all the blessings and benefits which they enjoyed, as a family, from his hand, and praying the protecting care of the Almighty Father upon their absent child, who instead of being with them to-night, had wandered into forbidden ways, away from the kind influences of parents and home, and was, perhaps, at that hour in company with the vicious and the depraved. "Oh, our Father in heaven,

saves our boy from all pernicious influences," he paused, "and brings him in thy good Providence back to us!"

The earnest, fervent petition being ended, the family dispersed for the night, and soon all around was quiet, and peaceful slumber fell upon that Christian household.

* * * * *

New Year's eve was near its close. The little family circle had gathered around a glowing fire; then the heavy damask curtains falling around the tall windows shutting out the wintry gloom of night, while a mellow light shone its soft radiance over the room and its occupants.

The children were full of chilblains, telling of the various pleasures and pastimes of the Christmas holidays which they had enjoyed, meeting a response of affection now and then from their sister Carrie, who sat at a nearby reading, while the mother and father looked on the group with love beaming from their eyes, at times laughing in their conversation, and speaking in subdued tones to each other of the absent son whose name was so often on their lips, and for whose course their hearts were burdened.

While sitting thus the doorbell rang with an uncertain sound, and thinking the servant had perhaps not heard the summons, Carrie started to answer the call, when they heard the servant open the front half-door, and after a few words, which they could not hear, some one entered. The servant opened the door of the apartment in which the family was gathered, and was about announcing the visitor to them, when he stepped forward into the full light of the room, and the parents with one glance recognized their long-absent son. The mother was the first to reach him and clasp him in her embrace; then came the joyous greetings of the other members of the family.

"Oh, my husband! God has answered our prayers," said the mother in trembling tones, looking with fond affection upon her boy, while Willie stood in agitation before them, not trusting his heart to utter a word lest he should betray his emotion.

"You have been ill," she said again, anxiously looking at him, as his father drew an arm-chair to the fire for him to be seated.

"Yes, mother, quite ill—sick both in mind and body," returned Willie, in unsteady tones; "but I shall now get well since I have reached home." He paused a moment in agitation, then burst forth, unable longer to control himself. "Oh, mother! I have been so sinful, have led such a wicked, miserable life away among the miners of New Mexico. I do not know when I would have stopped in my headlong career of gambling and drinking had not been attacked with a malignant fever common in that country, and prostrated upon a bed of suffering. I believe it was yours and father's prayers that saved me. They told me camp that when the fever was at its highest I would often call your name, mother, and beg you to pray for me. And that is why it is, I think, so fond of her I've grown:

For I was here that happy day when all the world was at peace, you know, they thought

"would be quite lame."

And all the year I've lain so still for fear I'd

But when my knee's pained most of all, I've had

my do I to nurse.

Her name is Eva, and, of course, she came with all the rest;

But though there was such lots of dolls, I think

she was the best.

And then she's been my own to keep—very own.

And that is why it is, I think, so fond of her I've

grown:

For I was here that happy day when all the

I work and play,

A few days ago, her neck was aching so, I could not

sleep last night;

And when my knee's pained most of all, I've had

my do I to nurse.

She's a small child and very

Over an arm-chair to sit.

And when the hours away,

Grandmother Brown, of eighty five,

Lies in her bed, and keeps her eyes closed,

As she's always been—she was grandmother.

That—nobody ever could tell.

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Continued from Fourth Page.

the steps of gold to his everlasting throne. He starts that walk amid a hissing mob, with Calvary's gloom hanging, pall-like, over him; he ends it in glorious brilliancy surrounded by angelic hosts. Begun thus in ignominy, his march ends in heaven, where the angels hail him "Lord of All!" Yes, the worlds are all his own! And, thanks be to God! he goes from the Prestonium not only to his own throne, but also to prepare a place for all that love him. O, blessed Jesus! how I thank thee for that march of thine from the Prestonium to Calvary! Ah! yes! this is my brightest picture. While I gaze upon it and these thoughts come to me, the privations of an itinerant's life fade from thought, my old log cabin becomes an ante-chamber to heaven, and I am shouting "happy!"

Reader, reflect upon these thoughts at the close of the dying year. Think what I have in my books—especially the Bible.

Holy Bible book divine.

Precious treasure that art mine—

in my thoughts, my pictures, my poverty, and then say whether in my log cabin, I may not be happier than many dwellers in marble mansions.

If this little offering shall but cheer some stricken heart in the battle of the new year, or show to any that "all that glitters is not gold," it will not have been offered in vain.

S. A. ASHAY.

(For the Texas Christian Advocate.)

A NEW YEAR'S TRAGEDY.

BY JULIA PHIFER FRUITT.

It was the first of January. In about an hour it would be the second, for the hands of the great clock in the hall were pointing remorselessly at eleven.

All was silent in the house, save where the jocund cricket raised its merry chirp from the warm corner by the sitting room fire; and the two women in the two easy chairs were so still that a mouse crept out of the closet, retreated hastily under the sewing machine, and then climbed upon the center table and banqueted on the remains of some cake it found there.

The mouse watched the two women stealthily, ready to fly at a moment's notice. One of them had on a long dressing-gown of curious construction, and the head was raised in a red silk handkerchief.

She was making rapid motions with her hands—swinging it from side to side like a pine tree in a storm, and sometimes nodding it in profound approval. Her eyes were closed; she was thinking like Wouter Van Twiller. The little mouse did not know this, however;

and when after a terrific sound issued from her open mouth, the poor little mouse was nearly frightened to death.

"My! what a scramble it had!

It almost fainted before it got down from the table, and it was panting with fright when it reached the safe shelter of the closet.

The woman opened her eyes, straightened up and gaped portentously. Then she happened to remember why she was sitting up, and instantly frowned.

"Not come home yet, Mary Jane?" said, addressing the other woman, who opened her eyes at that moment.

"Not yet," replied Mary Jane, pa-

tiently.

"Mary Jane," the elder lady burst forth vigorously; "Your husband is a mean man; that's all I've got to say for him. What does he mean 'sneakin' off this way and leavin' us alone all New Year's day, and not a dyin' as he knew we was goin' to go to that wedding at the church. Mary Jane if you don't know what you'd give that man piece of your mind when he does come home—but no, there you'll sit and look up at him and ask him if he's had a pleasant day. A pleasant day, indeed! I guess I'd make it a pleasant day if I had the fixin' of it! And here I must stand back and hold my tongue as usual. If you want to sit up any longer, you can do it. I've got a headache, for my part, and as soon as I take my medicine I am going to bed."

The woman arose, and the long dress-

ing-gown wailed airy about her as she took down a wine-glass from a shelf and began pouring various things into it. A little wine went in first—she always took her medicine with wine. Then a large tea-spoonful of quinine was stirred vigorously with the wine; then a few drops of tincture of capsicum were added to the mixture. She raised the glass, set her face resolutely—and the door-bell rang!

Without a word the glass was set down, and the lady hurried to the door.

When she came back, a few moments later, a gentleman followed in her wake. The gentleman was smiling steadily and systematically, and his eyes looked about in wandering.

"Thou knowest it which shall thrive.

The old or early snow,

and the previous gale alive.

When then where strown."

SAYS Gilderson (Verona, Miss.), in the Nashville Advocate: "I never knew so much trouble before in the work of the cabinet, and much of it was caused by the interference of laymen with the work of stationing the preachers." This remark was made by two old presiding elders at the close of our annual conferences. If the preachers surrender the right of selecting their fields of labor, the laymen ought to surrender the privilege of selecting their preachers. * * * It is perfectly proper and right for laymen quietly and modestly to lay the wants and needs of any Methodist bodies. We had never looked into each other's faces. We had a remote feeling of kinship, but the bond was not strong. That Conference subsequently drew together in heart these twenty-sixty organizations, and sent out over all the Methodist world the feeling of oneness in the great work of saving men. Had it not been for the three great annual feasts of Israel the vastness of their world would have crystallized into a feeble autonomy.

The Methodists of England and of the United States holds enough of the 'balance of power' to determine that question for all time to come. 2. It did bring into co-operation, as never before, all the Methodist bodies. We had never looked into each other's faces. We had a remote feeling of kinship, but the bond was not strong. That Conference subsequently drew together in heart these twenty-sixty organizations, and sent out over all the Methodist world the feeling of oneness in the great work of saving men. Had it not been for the three great annual feasts of Israel the vastness of their world would have crystallized into a feeble autonomy.

The New Orleans futures were steady at the third call. Sales 55,000 bushels.

Spots closed steady at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ decline.

Sale 6750 bushels.

This market closed dull and lower.

Sales 150 bushels.

COTTON.

GARRETTON Tare This Last

COTTON STATEMENT. Tare This Last

week season season

Net receipts... 12,500 20,415 72,625

From other ports... 12,500 20,415 4,450

Total... 12,500 20,415 77,075

Expts to Great Britain... 4,069 70,615 10,996

Exports to France... 3,785 7,875 17,862

To other countries... 3,677 58,188 1,125

Expts to Colonized ports... 18,9

TOTAL FOREIGN... 5,746 116,725 172,125

New York... 1,929 63,164 81,921

Other American ports... 1,929 63,164 8,091

Other domestic ports... 4,856 16,961 8,091

North Sea... 7,097 100,195 8,091

Total coastwise... 6,797 100,195 8,091

Total exports... 14,544 226,875 266,912

STOCK STATEMENT. This day last

On shipboard—^{to} Great Britain... 6,492 23,878

For France... 1,000 2,000

Other foreign ports... 7,499 10,802

For coastwise ports... 4,856 8,091

In com-press... 51,952 72,264

Total stock... 108,726 110,975

NEW YORK SPOT MARKET.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—Marked dull and nominal; ordinary, 95%; good

ordinary 100; low middling, 117%; e.

middling, 125%; good, 117%;

mod. middling, 131%;

high middling, 135%;

mod. high, 137%;

high, 141%; mod. high, 145%;

mod. high, 147%;

high, 151%; mod. high, 153%;

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high, 355%; mod. high, 357%;

mod. high, 359%;

high, 361%; mod. high, 363%;

Keep's Shirts.

MADE TO MEASURE.

152 CANAL ST., NEW ORLEANS.



DR. CLARK
JOHNSON'S
Indian Blood Syrup

CURES FEVER AND AGUE.
CURES SCROFULA AND SKIN DISEASES.



Texas Christian Advocate.

Family Reading.

For The Texas Advocate.

HOW MUCH I OWE.

BY MRS. HELEN A. GILLEPIE.

To These my savior and my friend,
My Lord and Father too!

To Thee who didst from heaven descend,
To thine incarnate self I owe.

Ten thousand thousand diamonds bright,
Nay, mines of precious gold;

With all their wealth and power and might,
Could never pay the whole.

I owe Thee all of sympathy,
Of joy, of grace, of love;

Not all, but every mite,

Thou'st glorified above.

Thine infant hand in mortal frame
Did not rest on woman's breast;

And now the curse, though once her shame,
Should be her joy till death.

I owe Thee all my home and hearth,
My home, e'en my mind;

The culture and the store of wealth,
In words and thoughts I had.

Protection from the wanton's touch,
The right to speak and act;

Oh! all I owe. Thee we must owe,
For life or word or tract.

So many woes, so much to do;
So many tears, so many woes;

And can I longer bear the view
Which light reflected brings of those.

My sisters, born of Adam's race,
Who light their funeral piles;

And can I longer bear the view
Which light reflected brings of those.

Have all earth's creation heard me,
That even the weakest king,

Heath died for man, e'en man loved,

Removed from death its sting?

Doth China know He wept with her,
Whom e'en your Lord's disciple?

Does India hear the jubilant,

The Christ bedimmed his eyes.

And knelt with Mary on the tomb,

With Martha wept tears for her,

And mourned over the skies.

How much we owe, no tongue can tell,

The weak helpless cry for light,

Life claims a funeral pyre;

Let voices sing and anthems swell,

The praises never pen can write.

In this light "our preacher" has in

it the charm of attachment, and ex-

presses the deep and true affection

cherished for him by those of his flock

who properly appreciate the toils and

tears, the trials and labors of our itiner-

ant ministry. It is uttered with

genuine heart ring, and expresses a

volume of Christian love and care for

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EXACT SIZE OF THE WESTERN BELT REVOLVER.

\$10.00 5 SHOT 38 CALIBRE CENTER FIRE BELT REVOLVER. \$5.00

WEIGHT OF PISTOL 16 OZ. LENGTH 9 1/4 IN.
STEEL BARREL HEAVILY NICKEL PLATED. CARRIES 300 YARDS.

Above we show an illustration of the **WESTERN BELT REVOLVER** giving the exact size and finish. We have contracted with one of the largest established manufacturers in New York to manufacture this **FIRST-CLASS FIVE SHOT, 38 CALIBRE BELT PISTOL** that will throw a large bullet 300 yards, and is the terror of every bandit in the country. Every Express Agent in the Country should secure one, and all other persons who are exposed to danger and wish a model pistol to carry with them, should do so, *before it is too late*, and secure one at the low price we offer them for until March 31st, 1882.

We are determined that these revolvers shall be extensivly distributed throughout the World, and in order to speedily accomplish this end our Company have resolved to place them before the public at the price of \$10.00. **ONE DOLLAR**. This is but a trifle above the actual cost but it will favorably introduce our **other goods** which we sell at a catalogue of which will accomodate each buyer, we will furnish the same Revolver with elegant **Handle**. For another dollar we will give with the Revolver a **WALLET** containing a **copy of our catalog** and a **list of express agents** in the United States and Canada, and a **list of express agents** in the **WESTERN BELT REVOLVER** and you can readily sell them to your neighbors at \$10.00 to \$12.00 each. Kindly send advertisements for future publication and **securely filed**, in fact, it is the **HANDEST AND MOST EFFICIENT** Revolver ever put before the public, and at a price that brings it within the reach of

Address SAXON IMPORTING CO., 116 Chambers Street,
NEW YORK CITY.

Texas Christian Advocate.

Secular Summary.

A settlement between the Spragues and their creditors, which has been virtually accomplished, will give the latter nearly one half the principal of their claims. It is understood that General B. F. Butler takes the pro parte and disburses \$3,000,000 to the creditors.

During the first fortnight after the arrival of the British court at Windsor-Court, a number of visitors will be "commanded" to the castle, including several of the ministers. The Empress Eugenie is expected shortly to visit Windsor.

The sale of the effects of the Russian Minister afforded a good illustration of the rage which exists among a certain class of fashionable society of Washington, regarding themselves of the effects of the foreign minister. Almost everything that was offered for sale brought first value, although it had been in use for a year, and choice articles of furniture were in many cases sold for a very considerable advance upon cost prices.

The laws of Canada prohibit the banks from loaning money on their stock. With the view of ascertaining whether this has been done the finance minister has called upon the banks of Toronto and Montreal to make a comprehensive return of their investments. The demand caused a fall in bank shares of from two to seven per cent. It is freely alleged that over \$25,000,000 have been advanced on stocks now held on margin.

The new Chinese minister is of noble family, fifty-eight years of age, and for ten years was superintendent of the arsenal at Shanghai. He still retains the collectorship of customs at Tien-Tsin. He is commissioned as ambassador to the United States, Spain and Peru.

Major Carlson, of Port Huron, reports that in the burned district of Michigan winter wheat looks very finely, but for the lack of fences is being badly trampled by cattle. The shanties are of green lumber, sixteen by twenty feet. Families have a reasonable quantity of bedding and a full supply of clothing. The provisions on hand will last until the middle of January. Sickness is on the increase. Many clergymen have been efficient in attending to the temporal wants of the sufferers. Food for stock will last through January. There is no seed for spring sowing. At least \$200,000 is deemed necessary for winter maintenance.

The Comptroller of the Currency will answer a congressional inquiry by stating that thirteen national banks reduced their deposit of bonds for circulation below the limit of \$50,000 fixed by the law of 1874, but such course is not now permitted except upon the return of circulating notes.

Commander Cheyne is going to Montreal, on the invitation of Sir John A. Macdonald and Sir Samuel L. Tilson, to interest the Canadians in raising money to reach the north pole by balloon.

The Western trunk-line roads recently received information that ten steamship lines are systematically directing all immigrant business over four Eastern trunk roads, and these to the Rock Islands. Representatives of the Burlington, St. Paul, Atchison, Illinois Central, Wabash, Missouri Pacific, Northwestern, Hannibal, and Pennsylvania roads held a meeting in Chicago and passed resolutions that they will no longer give the offending steamship companies any form of redress, or have any business relations with them in connection with passenger traffic, but that every effort shall be made to divert business to four other lines named.

The crop report for Michigan, published by the Secretary of State, compiled from reports made during the present month, indicates that wheat has been sown in 1,831,529 acres. The condition far better than last year at this time. There are scattered localities affected by the white grub and Hessian fly.

The annual report of the Lake Shore road shows gross receipts of \$17,970,000, and net earnings of \$6,684,000. After paying dividends and interest there remained only \$16,680, against \$1,632,662 last year at the same period. The railway war is therefore shown to have cost this road over \$1,500,000 during the past twelve months.

The steamship Westphalia, with 1200 immigrants on board, arrived at New York reeking with small pox. Health Commissioner DeWolf, of Chicago, and Dr. Ranch, secretary of the Illinois Board of Health, telegraphed to the health officer of New York requesting a strict quarantine, and protesting against the afflicted ones being allowed to come West.

The London fund for the defense of property in Ireland amounts to £7,000, and that for the relief of Irish ladies in distress to £10,000. The Daily News of London, having charged that the mansion-house fund is little more than a party demonstration against the government, the Lord Mayor has written to the Governor of the Bank of England that the money is wanted to uphold the rights of property against organized combination to defraud.



Only 5.00

It surpasses other revolvers in point of accuracy and **strength** and **durability**. The cartridges that are used are **reliable** and can be purchased at any hardware store, we will send them to you if you wish. Until March 31st, 1882, we will give a **full refund** of **\$5.00** to anyone who is not satisfied, or **money will be refunded**; or, we will sell to Express Co. D. with **terms** of **30 days** on account of \$1.00 to guarantee us against loss of expense charges, but the buyer may to sell the gun at any time, as when he has paid his **full amount** accompanied the order we will **pay prepaid all charges**. The cartridges come in boxes of 50 each and we charge 50 cents a box for them (cartridges can only be sent by express). We will also furnish the same Revolver with elegant **Handle**. For another dollar we will give with the Revolver a **WALLET** containing a **copy of our catalog** and a **list of express agents** in the United States and Canada, and you can readily buy something to **SPECULATE** on, send for a **catalogue** and to your Express Agent write to the Express Agent of our Company in this City, and to all whom we refer. **Order by Draft, Money Order, or Registered Letter.**

Persons were arrested at St. Peters-

burg last week for having dynamite concealed in oranges.

Owing to the total failure of the flas-

hinge population of the Island of

Antioch, the

Marine and Fisheries Department

have had to remove them to Quebec in

Government steamers.

A new law in Kansas forbids any

person to marry within six months

after procuring a divorce.

Business and Secular.

It appears from his "Leaves from an Old Diary" that the present Josiah Quincy was the originator of the express business between Boston and New York. In 1838, having, as President of the Boston and Providence Railroad, occasion to make a weekly journey to New York, he at last found himself so burdened with letters, samples and commissions, that he was obliged to devote a grip-sack to the business. This caused him to suggest to a young man named Harland to undertake the business for a compensation. The result was the enormous outgrowth of the express business which passed from Harland to Adams.

The annual revenue of the United States from applejack alone is about two-thirds of that is from Sussex County, N. J.

The Dr. HARTER MEDICINE COMPANY of St. Louis, Mo., is the holder of several valuable and substantial estates in the country. Dr. HARTER'S IRON Tonic is one of the standard and most highly esteemed preparations of the day, and justly enjoys a wide and increasing sale. This is brought about by the high merits of the goods and the judicious and enterprising manner in which they are advertised throughout the country. Laudatory columns might be easily written in their praise, but with goods so able to speak for themselves, simple facts serve a better purpose.—Des Moines, Iowa, *Western Farm Journal*.

Rev. Dr. Power, the new House chaplain, was a private soldier in the Confederate army.

Skin Diseases.

"Swayne's Ointment" cures the most Swaine's Ointment" in vetrerary Swaine's Ointment" cases of skin disease, such as Swaine's Ointment" tetter, salt Swaine's Ointment" scurvy, Swaine's Ointment" itch, sores, all Swaine's Ointment" crusty, scaly, Swaine's Ointment" itching, skin eruptions, and Swaine's Ointment" that distressing Swaine's Ointment" in complainitg Swaine's Ointment" itching piles, the only effective Swaine's Ointment" cure, no matter how old Swaine's Ointment" standing.

Ask for it and take no other. It cures where all else fails. Sold by all Druggists. Thompson, George & Co., Galveston, wholesale agents.

The island of Sicily still suffers from frequent earthquake shocks, and the gardens and vineyards have been terribly devastated. But the gardeners comfort themselves with the thought that the work of the earthquake heads off the fun of their neighbor's hens.

A Favorite Cough Remedy.—For

Colds, Sore Throat, Asthma, Cough, and other diseases of the bronchial tubes, no more useful article can be found than the well known "Brown's Bronchial Tonic."

Grimblers in England complain that the illustrative decoration of the Prince's *Birthday Book* has been excused at Leipzig with injustice to English art. It is also complained that the whole of the poetry quoted displays decidedly Catholic tendencies; that George Herbert and Longfellow and Hemans and Adelaide Proctor, all of them more Catholic than Protestant in their tone of thought, contribute their warmest religious strains. Then again, another grievance is that Messrs. Macon & Co., a Catholic firm, have been intrusted with the binding, which is rich almost beyond precedent. John Bell inquiries in alarm what all this means.

As a speaker the youthful King Alfonso, of Spain, is called aside, even in a country where oratorical gifts are prized, and predictions are made in the London newspapers that he will long rank next to Queen Victoria as the most popular constitutional sovereign in Europe.

An innocent looking servant girl kept her employer's family in a fright for six months, at Norwich, Connecticut, by ringing the door-bell and rapping on the windows at unseasonable hours. They were sure that a ghost was about, and it was only after watching for twelve nights that a detective solved the mystery.

The use of money in elections is an evil only less despised and demoralizing than the political system. The growing evil, and one whose cure is not guaranteed by the success of the movement, which is sure to come sooner or later, for the separation of the minor offices from politics. The cities of the United States are fast coming to control the elections, and money to control the cities. It is a notorious fact, that in the chief cities of the country, no man stands any chance in running for member of Congress, or even for a lesser office, in many of the districts, unless he is both able and willing to spend quaker bonnets, looked down upon him.

The locks affixed to the desks of members of the Ohio Legislature are of such an intricate pattern that they can not be opened by skeleton keys nor picked by the appliances of burglars.

In view of this fact the sergeant-at-arms announces that unless the twenty or thirty members of the last Legislature who took their keys home with them return the same he shall be obliged to resort to violence, thus ruining the locks and mutilating the desks.

Senator Ingalls has presented to the Kansas Historical Society a small piece of Plymouth Rock, and those explained how he got it. About a dozen years ago the upper portion of Plymouth Rock, on which the Pilgrims landed, was removed to the enclosure in front of Pilgrim Hall. In the process of removal several fragments were broken off, one of which I purchased at Plymouth while visiting there in the summer of 1864. A part of this I had polished and set in a ring. I have since worn. The remainder I loaned to you, to be deposited in my name among the treasures of the State Historical Society.

The ceramic craze is said to be worse than ever in New York, and nineteen years of Christian gifts are not enough to stop it.

The sale of these wares is not confined to such places as the *Art Galleries* and *Decorative Art Galleries*, but extends to all sorts of places, and the *Art Galleries* themselves are quite unheeded.

My throat is cured, and my voice is stronger than ever before. I surprise my friends by my greatly increased physical strength. The fact that I have induced several friends to try this treatment is an evidence of my faith in its curative power." Our reliance on Compound Oxygen, containing large reports of cases and full information, sent free. DR. STARKEY & PALEY, 1109 and 1111 Girard street, Philadelphia, Pa.

George G. Sickles, ninety-two years of age, a resident of New York, with a fortune of \$12,000,000, was a few days ago married to Mrs. Sawyer, aged forty. He is the father of General Daniel E. Sickles.

It is a joy to see the improvement in the health of the sick.

Our grandsons are quite unheeded.

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