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Ephraim Maxham

Daniel Ripley Wing

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The Eastern Mail.

A Family Newspaper.....Devoted to Agriculture, Literature, the Mechanic Arts, and General Intelligence.

VOL. IV.

WATERVILLE, MAINE, THURSDAY, SEPT. 26, 1850.

NO. 10.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING, BY
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TERMS.
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If paid within six months, 2.00
If paid within the year, 3.00
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ORIGINAL POETRY.

TO CLARA.

Dear friend, accept the proof of love
These simple lines contain,
And may they precious be to thee,
As I have done to me.
And may they, as they seek to wake
In thee an answering love,
Read the happiness of home,
In former days we knew.
Though now the deep blue waters roll
Between our home and me,
Though you're bright and far away,
Since last I greeted thee,
Though I feel with love and love
Have changed each passing hour,
And pleasure, in its brightest form,
Has tried its utmost power.
To win me from my love, my friend,
And every thought to change,
And though the light of day is here,
Has not been all in vain.
Yet have I not forgotten thee,
My ever gentle friend,
But loved thee with the added strength
That days of absence lend.
And when again we meet, and clasp
Once more the friendly hand,
While joy complete and mutual love
Our happy hearts expand,
Oh, shall not the friendship true,
So oft we've pledged to give
Through life, through death, and e'en beyond,
In heaven's pure regions, live?
LEILA.

TO THE LILY.

Our senses, flowers, like music, lead to charm:
Aside from busy scenes, from every harm,
Their most delightful influence we feel,
When calm their mystic pleasures o'er us steal.
Yet flowers differ, in their beauty and grace,
In hue and beauty, in their soothing power.
We may choose; and, in prepossession before,
We'd seek, upon some river, or the shore
Of some still lake, to see the lily shine,
And which, for virtues owned, we most desire.
We'd seek the lily. Often on the reach
It nods defiance to those on the beach;
And shows its unadorned and unadorned face,
And lends to evening's wind her choicest lays,
And as more lasting, so the more enjoyed:
While willing victims she oft decoys;
Feasting their eyes, and breathing such perfume,
It leads them on half drunk but to consume.
We found one once upon a river's side,
That is borne back each day before the tide;
She had just opened, and her face was bright,
What to the novice is a chief delight.
She differed much from others of her kind;
She had dark eyes, the rest you know are blind;
She breathed, and had a voice, and thought so rare,
That others' thoughts with hers could scarce compare.
Though many barks had glided round her form,
And tried so far to take by storm,
She scarcely had a lover, and she still
Oh! noble flower! apart from all the rest,
How talented, and how by nature blest:
With such as thou possess none need fire,
Nor fear to have what most they may desire.
That young productions tell to us a mind,
That on among the gifted is hard to find,
And show that nature truly may attain
The very greatness others failed to gain.
In name and beauty true a noble flower,
Thy name's assumed and greater far thy power:
Thy name, death dignifies, and gives it aim,
To fall a victim, but to live a flame.

POPULAR READING.

NOT SO FAST.

BY H. B. NYME.

"THERE is nothing I so detest in a man, Arthur, as a want of punctuality," said uncle Ben to his sister's son, as he gave several rapid whiffs from his pipe and looked sourly over his shoulder at the young man, who was seemingly reading attentively.
"I have often heard you say so, dear uncle," replied his nephew, with a smile; "but I am glad that this feeling of detestation towards men's failings does not extend to men; you are not misanthropic for all."
"Come, come, jackanapes, you want to enjoin the old man, do you?" replied uncle Ben, with something more than an affection of anger.
"You want to have me all smiles to this James Jones, when he pleases to wait upon his humble servant, because he's a friend of thine, forsooth?"
"I am sorry that he has disappointed you, uncle," said Arthur seriously; "not so much for your sake as his. Your recommendation cannot be of advantage to him; this disappointment cannot affect you. You have cause to be angry, I do confess; and perhaps the idea that he is to be favored, and is in dependent circumstances, may have infused a little more of the sentiment of offended pride into your temper just now than would otherwise have been the case; but I could bet a good round sum that there is some sufficient cause for his detention."
"None of your college education here sir!" said uncle Ben, rather testily, as he rapidly drew several mathematical diagrams on the floor with his feet, causing his chair to perform sundry military evolutions, and emitted a platoon of tobacco puffs before he settled down to rest again.
"I detest betting; it is a vulgar practice; and in discussion it is the only argument of the greatest of fools. You speak plainly to me, young man," continued the burly old merchant, in a tone of some feeling; "when did I ever despise poverty or treat it with disrespect?"
"Never, my own uncle," said Arthur, apologetically; "yet I am certain that you judge hastily of poor Jones."
"Punctuality is a part of veracity, sir; veracity is the very soul of business; and this James Jones, though he was as deep in mathematics as Sir Isaac Newton, and as great a feeder of events as Moore's Almanac, will never make a clerk worthy of bread and butter."
"Ah, is a sad story, uncle."
"But uncle Ben laid his hand on Arthur's mouth and interrupted him; he proceeded with the sentence: 'I know what you would say, sir, because you have already said it—' young man of talent—high principle—widowed mother and orphan brothers and sisters—his father an old acquaintance of my own—he is an old schoolfellow of yours—met him by accident heard his tale—recommended him to your old uncle Ben, who recommended him to Jackson Brothers as a clerk, upon whom, forsooth, he has never called. Ah, ah, Arthur, you shall find me so good natured again.'"
"Perhaps some accident prevented him from some fortuitous circumstance over which he had no more control than over the elements," said Arthur warmly.

"Circumstances, pooh! what merchant ever pleaded fortuitous circumstances for non-fulfillment of engagements, or admitted them either on cash days. I have received a lesson never to try to push along a load-stone."
"And is it thus that our charities are chilled?" said Arthur feelingly; "perhaps causes which demand a surcharge of our benevolence are those which for want of knowledge extinguish it. We should be cautious, even in the most glaring apparent circumstances, when they are only circumstances and not established facts."
"I never disappointed any man in my life," said old Ben, with a look of pride, "and have a right to demand that the world shall do by me as I have done by it. It is but fair, no body will deny it; the sum I owe you shall be fully squared per contract. It is a safe maxim in trade, and it is as safely applicable in the common transactions of life."
"I deny that you have a right to demand your pound of flesh from the world, uncle," said Arthur mildly; "for the deuces it owes you—because you have been punctual, precise, and prosperous, that is no reason why all men should be so. They are not so, dear uncle, and have never been so, therefore you have only reason to give thanks to Providence, and exercise more common charity towards your less fortunate fellow-men. But poor Jones," he continued, recurring to the cause of this discussion, "I wish I knew what has prevented him from waiting on Jacksons."
The room in which the uncle and nephew sat was comfortably and even elegantly furnished. The wall was papered with a warm and elegant Parisian design of flowers done in the brightest of colors, tipped with gold leaf and enlivened with twigs bearing birds of paradise. A rich red moreen hanging, laid gracefully over two large brass supporters, fell with a fine sweep upon the floor. The carpets and sofas were beautiful; the fire bright and inspiring, and the wind whistling with a wild savage sound without, which gave additional cheerfulness to the crackle of the coals and the light of the gas within. Benjamin Bell had been a merchant, and a highly respectable and reputable one; he made a fortune and retired from business when, as he said himself, his constitution was as sound as that of the father of all the bells. Great Tom of Lincoln. He still retained the punctilious habits which he acquired from an early and careful discharge of all the maxims laid down in "Poor Richard's" code of moral and social economy; got up at seven, breakfasted at nine, read the *Lloyd's* and exchange columns in newspapers to eleven, maintained all his old friendships and returned to dinner at four, supped at eight, and went to bed at the last stroke of eleven. His nephew Arthur, a physician, a profession which is more fruitful of heroes than any other in the world. They face the most infectious of death-breathing diseases, and invade with modest valor the vilest haunts of poverty. They fall, and no monumental marble tells how or where; yet they are followed to the breach by noble, devoted men, whose years have been spent in study and the acquirement of knowledge; and so they go on in their silent yet glorious crusade against the life to which man is heir, without dreaming of the deed of fame. In one of his visits to the house of a poor widow, Arthur had discovered in the only support of this decayed gentlewoman and her family an old and esteemed school companion of his own. James Jones was a promising scholar, and a youth of generous feelings; but necessity is too capacious regarding the primal requisites of bread and butter to pay much attention to mental capacity and the aspirations of genius, so that when he quitted the university, at the death of his father, he wore his last surtout out as light porter in a large warehouse. It was to this young man that, at his nephew's solicitation, uncle Ben had given a letter of recommendation, and this letter not having been presented when the punctilious old citizen had called to personally support its prayer, had produced the foregoing disquisition on punctuality.
"Letter, sir," said Mary, as she presented a sealed missive to Arthur, with a courtesy, and then left the room.
"Who can this be from?" said the young man, as he hastily broke the seal. "Ah, uncle," said the physician feelingly, "this is from poor James! He informs me that he was apprehended for a small debt, which he owes to an inexorable creditor, just when passing along to Jacksons with your note and a happy heart. Well! there is many a slip between the cup and the lip."
"But I said the old merchant hastily, as if an adler had stung him. "One so young and already in debt! Well, how merciful!" "I think these trifles," I assure you "I do; they have prevented the commission of my part of a crime—I would have introduced a spendthrift, and perhaps a gambler, into the house of Jackson Brothers, but for this lucky accident."
"You were not wont to be so charitable, uncle," said his nephew softly; "may not this debt have been contracted at some period of distress?"
"Bah, distress!" said the old merchant sharply; "when I was a lad I lived on a half a crown a week; I took dinner like Whittington, who was lord mayor of London, on a poor step; and being a member of the abstinence society, always had my tea at a pump. I never owed a shilling."
"When we make ourselves the scale by which we weigh out to others our allowance of charity, it may be less kind than partial," said the young man smiling. He was independent of uncle Ben, and he was not afraid to be candid to him; and as uncle Ben was really far from being unkind, and certainly was as favorable to candor of opinion as to punctuality, the uncle and nephew got along pretty considerably to each other's satisfaction, none the worse for little occasional fits.
On the morrow, Arthur Elmer was early gone on some professional business, and as Benjamin Bell, Esq. had nothing particular to engage him, he called upon Jackson Brothers, moralized a little upon the degeneracy of human nature, and the difficulty of judging men even after a long life of observation, and then by took his leave, congratulating himself and the senior partner of that concern upon their reciprocity of opinion regarding human nature. Uncle Ben trudged along, however, musing and muttering to himself now and again upon this young Jones in spite of all his endeavor to the contrary. Uncle Ben had been left to fight his way through the world when young;

but if he had no one to back him or push him along, he had none to draw him back. It is comparatively easy to crush one's self through a crowd, when your coat, tightly buttoned, covers all incumbrances; but every body who has tried it knows that it is no joke to take some five or six dependents with you. Ben's hat covered all that he required to care about as the head of his family, and when he took his dinner daily he had performed the most important provisional service to his household, so that his mind had become as individual as his body, and owned very few relations in all the broad world of sympathies. As the old merchant walked along, however, the rate began to patter, and then it began to fall rather heavily, and then it came down in drops that put the resistive power of the crown of uncle Ben's hat very much to the test, and then it whipped into his face, and sported on his shoulders, until he took refuge in an entry which led to several humble dwellings, and there he internally lectured himself upon the necessity of continually carrying an umbrella. As he stood and looked upon the large aqueous drops that were falling with loud smacks upon the pavement, and rebounding in a thousand particles, his ear was suddenly attracted by the sound of voices, and stepping farther into the doorway, he thought one of the speakers' tones were familiar to him.
"Mr. Jones had been unfortunate in business," I believe," said a voice, which was attuned to the soft and gentle cadence of humanity, and which uncle Ben at once recognized as his nephew Arthur's.
"He died in bankruptcy," replied the woman softly.
Uncle Ben started, and muttered something about a nest of hornets and hereditary dissonance.
"Was there not some blame attributable to the folly of a partner?" inquired Arthur in a sympathetic tone.
"There was; but he was more callous than my husband, and he lives," replied the widow mildly.
"And you have had no support since then, save what you obtained through your son?" pursued the young physician.
"He has been a blessing to us all," replied the widow meekly; "so cheerful, so hopeful, so contented; ah, we shall know what it is to be alone now!"
"I have had a note from him, and he tells me that it is for debt that he is arrested; he was not like you to contract debts."
Old Ben rubbed his hands, and Arthur rose in his estimation ten per cent, for the observation.
"He contracted debt, sir!" replied the widow, somewhat proudly; "ah, not he! It is for the medicine which his poor father used upon his death-bed; week after week he laid by a portion of his earnings to discharge the little expenses of that weary time; he has succeeded with all save this Mr. White, who is now disposing of his business, is retiring into private life, and is peremptory in collecting what is due him."
"But your son was not liable for this?"
"He went and voluntarily rendered himself liable," said the widow; "he has often said that he should live on bread and water before any one should suffer from having known his father. Many, many nights has he sat and copied papers, when others slept, in order to earn a little to assist in discharging his father's obligations; and now, when he was so hopeful, so sanguine, the cup is dashed from his lip."
"No; it is not!" shouted uncle Ben as he crushed his hat almost over his eyes, and hastily buttoning up his coat, again hurried into the street.
"Poor boy, noble fellow!" muttered the burly merchant, as he hurried along toward Jackson Brothers, alike regardless of rain or dinner time. "I'm a positive old mule!" he exclaimed, as he caught himself by the breast and attempted to shake himself fiercely; "to be so harsh! so unjust!"
Arthur Elmer had heard his uncle's interjectional apostrophe to the widow's narrative, and starting with amazement, hastily bade farewell and pursued his relative; he was only in time to see the brass buttons on the broad skirts of his coat, and the wide brim of his low crowned hat, vanish in the door of Jackson's counting house. So, feeling that it would be dangerous to break in upon his uncle just now, he turned his footsteps towards Mr. White's apothecary, and in a very short time had so operated upon the heart of the dealer in compounds and simples, that the prison doors were opened for poor Jones, and that evening he was sitting once more in his own humble dwelling.
"I have thanked you every day since," said Jackson, senior, as he confronted uncle Ben at his own fireside, and laid himself back with an easy air in his chair. "The old clock is not more punctual than he, and you know what sort of a clock ours is." And then, again, he expels you in calculating foreign rates of exchange; and every body knows that you were something at that business once. He's a treasure, sir; is James Jones, exclaimed the kind old man, waxing warm; "I mean to advance him a good deal of my own money."
"I think you Arthur, considers that Emory Jones a treasure, too," said old Ben smiling. "It is not to feel her mother's pulse that he goes to that pretty cottage so often."
"If she is so modest, intelligent, faithful, and clever as her brother, so she is a treasure," said Jackson warmly.
"Arthur is a romantic fellow," continued the old man, with a little of his accustomed severity; "he would not take such an old fish as me."
"Well, uncle, you are forming hasty conclusions again?" exclaimed the gentleman in question, as he entered the room, shook Mr. Jackson warmly by the hand, and caught the last words of his relative's sentence. "By the way, I wish you to go to Jones's with me to-morrow. They are quite anxious to get a peep at this old man about whom I frighten the younger children in spite of the veneration which the elder members of the family entertain for him. Will you go?"
Uncle Ben did not go to visit the house of his protegee, and this Emory, with her black glittering curls and her eyes so full of glowing kindness, and her modest cheeks that flushed and dimpled when the old man patted them; gathered flowers for uncle Ben, and presented them with such modest grace, that he declared she was quite a pretty girl. What an admission for uncle Ben! and he further was heard to assert, that had he been Arthur Elmer, that was the girl he should choose for a wife.
"Uncle Ben now sits in his arm chair, with his hand touched with gout, and consequently a little

crabbed in temper, but at the intervals of rest, he is constantly lecturing the young Jones and Elmers upon the folly of forming hasty judgments. Suspicion may be a positive injustice to innocence, and is as often wrong in its positions as correct. Charity that hopeth all things, believeth all things, may lead to suffering too, but then no man is injured by it save him perhaps from whose heart it exhales; and around whom it sheds a fragrant balm of heavenly incense.
THE SULK.
In Christopher North's new series of articles, in *Blackwood*, entitled "Christopher under Canvas," we find the following capital picture of a boy—a bit of autobiography that is well worth quoting:
"I hereby authorize the boys of this Empire to have what tempers they choose with one sole exception—The Sulks. Once and once only, during one of the longest and best spent lives on record, was I in the mood described, and it endured most of a whole day. The anniversary of that day I always observe, in severest solitude, with a salutary horror. And it is my birth day. Ask me not, my friends, to reveal the cause. Aloof from confession before men, we must keep to ourselves, as John Foster says, a corner of our own souls. A black corner it is; and enter it with or without a light, you see here or there something dismal, hideous, shapeless, nameless, each lying in its own place on the floor. There lies the cause. It was the morning of my ninth year. As I kept sitting high up stairs by myself, one family face after another kept ever and anon looking at me, all with one expression. And one familiar voice after another all with one tone kept muttering at me, 'He's in his sulks!' How I hated them with an intense hatred, and chiefly them I had loved best, at each opening and each shutting of that door. How I hated myself as my blubbed face grew hotter; and I knew how ugly I must be, with my fixed fiery eyes. It was painful to sit on such a chair for hours in one posture, and to have chained a child would have been great cruelty. But I was resolved to die rather than change it; and had I been told by any one under an angel to get up and go to play, I would have spit in his face. It was a lonesome attic, and I had the fear of ghosts; but not then, my superstitious fancy was quelled by my troubled heart. 'Had I not deserved to be allowed to go? Could any one of them give a reason for not allowing me to go? What right had they to say that I did go? I should never be able to find my way, by myself back? What right had they to say that Roundy was a blackguard, and that he would lead me to the gallows? Never before in all the world had a good boy been so used on his birth-day. They pretend to be sorry when I am sick; and when I am sicker now, and they are not sorry, but angry, there is no use in prayers, and I won't read one verse in my Bible this night should my aunt go down on her knees.' And in the midst of such unworded soliloquies did the blubbed face fall asleep.
"I know not how long I slept, but on waking, I saw an angel with a most beautiful face, and most beautiful hair—a little young angel—about the same size as myself, sitting on a stool at my feet. 'Are you quite well now, Christopher?' Let us go to the meadow and gather flowers.' Shame, sorrow, remorse, contrition, came to me with those innocent words; we wept together, and I was comforted. 'I have been sinful.' 'But you are forgiven.' 'Down the stairs hand in hand we glided, and there was no longer anger in my eyes; the whole house was happy. All voices were kinder, if that were possible, than they had been when I rose in the morning a boy in his ninth year. Parental hands smoothed my hair, parental lips kissed it, and parental greetings, only a little more cheerful than prayers, restored me to the love I had never lost; and which I felt now had animated that brief and just displeasure. Never has Christopher been in his sulks since that day. Beyond doubt I was that day possessed with a devil; and an angel it was that drove him out."
Merit.
They who do good with a view to merit, do not do good from the love of good, but from the love of reward, for he who will to have merit, will be rewarded; they who do thus; regard and place their delight in the reward; and not in good; wherefore they are not spiritual, but natural.
To do good, which is good, must be from the love of good, thus for the sake of good. They who are in that love are not willing to hear of merit, for they love to do, and perceive satisfaction therein; and, on the other hand, they are sorrowful if it be believed that what they do is for the sake of anything of themselves. The case herein is nearly the same as with those who do good to their friends for the sake of friendship; to a brother for the sake of brotherhood, to wife and children for the sake of wife and children, to their country for the sake of their country, thus from friendship and love. They who think well, also say, and insist, that they do not do good for the sake of themselves, but for the sake of them to whom the good is done.
They who do good for the sake of reward, do not do good from the Lord; but from themselves, for they regard themselves in the first place, inasmuch as they regard their own good, and the good of their neighbor, which is the good of their fellow-citizen, of human society, of their country, and of the church; they regard not otherwise than as means to this end. Hence it is, that the good of the love of self and of the world lies concealed in the good of merit, and that good is from man and not from the Lord; yes, so far as self and the world lie concealed, in it is evil.
Genuine charity and genuine faith, disclaim all merit, for good itself is the delight of charity, and truth itself is the delight of faith; wherefore they who are in that charity and faith know what good not meritorious is, but that they who are not in charity and faith, do not know that good is not to be done for the sake of reward, the Lord Himself teaches in Luke: "If ye love those who love you, what grace have ye; for signers do the same; rather love your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing; then shall your reward be great, and ye shall be the sons of the Most High," vi. 32, 33, 34, 35. That man cannot do good that is good from himself, the Lord also teaches in John: "For man cannot take anything; unless it be given him from heaven," vi. 27; and in

another place, "Jesus said, I am the vine, ye are the branches; as the branch cannot bear fruit from itself, unless it abide in the vine, so neither can ye unless ye shall abide in Me: He who abideth in Me and I in him, he beareth much fruit, for except from me ye cannot do anything," xv. 4 to 8.
Forasmuch as all good and truth is from the Lord, and nothing of them from man, and, forasmuch as good from man is not good, it follows that merit belongs to no man, but to the Lord alone; the merit of the Lord consists in this, that from His own proper power He has saved the human race, and also, that He saves those who do good from Him. Hence it is that in the Word, he is called just to whom the merit and justice of the Lord are ascribed, and he is called unjust to whom are ascribed his own justice and the merit of self.
The delight itself, which is in the love of doing good without regard to reward, is a reward which remains to eternity, for heaven and eternal happiness are insinuated into that good by the Lord.
To think and believe that they who do good will come into heaven, and also that good is to be done in order that they may come into heaven, is not to regard reward as an end, nor yet to place merit in works; for even they who do good from the Lord think and believe so; but they who thus think, believe, and do, are not in the love of good for the sake of good, have regard to reward as an end, and place merit in works.
Encounter with a Lioness.
Suddenly I observed a number of vultures seated on the plain about a quarter of a mile ahead of us; and close beside them stood a huge lioness, consuming a blebok which she had killed. She was assisted in her repast by about a dozen jackals, which were feasting along with her in the most friendly and confidential manner. Directing my followers' attention to the spot, I remarked—"I see the lions," to which they replied—"What? what? Yahi! Almagtig! dat is he!" and instantly reining in their steeds and wheeling about, they pressed their heels to their horses' sides, and were preparing to betake themselves to flight. I asked them what they were going to do, to which they answered—"We have not yet placed caps on our rifles." This was true; but while this short conversation was passing, the lioness had observed us. Raising her full, round face, she overhauled us for a few seconds, and then set off at a smart canter, toward a range of mountains some miles to the Northward; the whole troop of jackals also set off in another direction; there was, therefore, no time to think of caps. The first move was to bring her to bay, and not a second was to be lost. Spurring my good and lively steed, and shouting to my men to follow, I flew across the plain, and, being fortunately mounted on Colesberg, the flower of my stud, I gained upon her at every stride. This was to me a joyful moment, and at once made up my mind that she or I must die.
The lioness having had a long start of me, we went over a considerable extent of ground before I came up with her. She was a large, full-grown beast, and the bare and level nature of the plain added to her imposing appearance. Finding that I gained upon her, she reduced her pace from a canter to a trot, carrying her tail stuck out behind her, and slewed a little to one side. I shouted loudly to her to halt, as I wished to speak with her, upon which she suddenly pulled up, and sat on her haunches like a dog, with her back toward me, not even deigning to look round. She then appeared to say to herself—"Does this fellow know who he is after?" Having thus set for half a minute, she sprang to her feet, and facing about, stood looking at me for a few seconds, moving her tail slowly from side to side, showing her teeth, and growling fiercely. She next made a short run forward, making a loud, rumbling noise like thunder. This she did to intimidate me; but, finding that I did not flinch an inch, nor seem to heed her hostile demonstrations, she quickly stretched out her massive arms, and lay down on the grass. My followers now coming up, we all three dismounted, and, drawing our rifles from their holsters, we looked to see if the powder was up in the nipples, and put on the caps. While this was doing, the lioness sat up, and showed evident symptoms of uneasiness. She looked first at us, and then behind her, as if to see if the coast were clear; after which she made a short run toward us, uttering her deep-drawn, murderous growls. Having secured the three horses to one another by the reins, we led them on as if we intended to pass her in the hope of obtaining a broadside. But this she carefully avoided, to expose, presenting only her full front. I had given Stofolus my Moore rifle, with orders to shoot her if she should spring upon me, but on no account to fire before me. Kleinboy was to stand ready to hand me my Purdey rifle, in case my two-grooved Dixon should not prove sufficient. My two men, as yet, had been steady, but they were in a precious stew, their faces having assumed a ghastly paleness, and I had a painful feeling that I could place no reliance on them.
Now, then, for it, neck or nothing! She is within sixty yards of us, and she keeps advancing. We turned the horses' tails to her. I knelt on one side, and taking a steady aim at her breast, let fly. The ball cracked loudly on her tawny hide, and crippled her in the shoulder, upon which she charged with an appalling roar, and in the twinkling of an eye she was in the midst of us. At this moment, Stofolus's rifle exploded in his hand, and Kleinboy, whom I had ordered to stand ready by me, danced about like a duck in a gale of wind. The lioness sprang upon Colesberg and fearfully lacerated his ribs and haunches, with her horrid teeth and claws; the worst wound was on his haunch, which exhibited a sickening, yawning gash, more than twelve inches long, almost laying bare the very bone. I was very cool and steady, and did not feel in the least degree nervous, having, fortunately, great confidence in my own shooting; but I must confess, when the whole affair was over, I felt that it was a very awful situation, and attended with extreme peril, as I had no friend with me on whom I could rely.
When the lioness sprang on Colesberg, I stood out from the horses, ready with my second barrel for the first chance she should give me of a clear shot. This she quickly did; for, seemingly satisfied with the revenge she had now taken, she quitted Colesberg, and, slewing her tail to one side, trotted sulkily past, within a few paces of me, taking one step to the left, I pitched my rifle to my shoulder, and in

another second the lioness was stretched on the plain a lifeless corpse. In the struggles of death, she half turned on her back, and stretched her neck and fore arms convulsively, when she fell back to her former position; her mighty arms hanging powerless by her side, her lower jaw fell, blood streamed from her mouth, and she expired. At the moment I fired my second shot, Stofolus, who hardly knew whether he was alive or dead, allowed the three horses to escape. These galloped frantically across the plain, on which he and Kleinboy instantly started after them, leaving me standing alone and unarmed within a few paces of the lioness, which they, from their anxiety to be out of the way, evidently considered quite capable of doing further mischief.
Such is ever the case with these worthless, and with nearly all the natives of South Africa. No reliance can be placed on them. They will, to a certainty, forsake their master in a most dastardly manner in the hour of peril, and leave him in the lurch. A stranger, however, hearing these fellows recounting their own gallant adventures, when sitting in the evening along with their comrades round a blazing fire, or under the influence of their adored "Cape smoke," or native brandy, might fancy them to be the bravest of the brave. Having skinned the lioness and cut off her head, we placed her trophies upon Beauty, and held for camp. Before we had proceeded a hundred yards from the carcass, upward of sixty vultures, whom the lioness had often fed, were feeding on her remains.
Conjugal Endearments.
"My dear, I'll thank you for a little more sugar in my coffee, if you please."
"My dear! Don't, dear me. I'd as soon have you call me my devil as my dear."
"Well, my devil, then, I'll thank you for a little more sugar in my coffee!"
At this proof of affection on the part of her husband, Mrs. Snappdragon burst into tears. She had got up as the saying is, "wrong end foremost" that morning. She was not better pleased with being called my devil than my dear, though she had a moment before declared that she preferred it. On the contrary; she took her husband bitterly to task for his ready compliance with her suggestion.
"Oh, you vile, wicked, good-for-nothing man!" she exclaimed, "is it thus that you treat your affectionate wife? Is it thus you apply names to her—names which I dare not mention?"
"My devil, you did mention it just now.—You suggested the idea; you put the very words in my mouth, and I always like to comply with your wishes, you know. So my dear—my devil, I mean—a little more sugar, if you please."
"Sugar! I won't give you a grain more.—I'll see you hanged first. You use more sweetness than your neck is worth!"
"I have acquired that habit from having a sweet wife. Besides, I pay for it all with my own money."
"Now, reproach me with that, do you? If I didn't bring you any money, I brought you respectable connexions, and—"
"True, you brought all your connexions."
"Now you reproach me with that, do you? I dare say you grudge my relations every mouthful they eat while they are here."
"I grudge nothing, my dear—I would say, dev—"
"Don't use that word again, Mr. Snappdragon—if you do, I'll leave the table."
"I thank you, my love; then I could help myself to sugar."
"Yes, and you would help yourself to another wife, I dare say, if I was gone."
"I am afraid there is little chance of that.—But my coffee is cooling while I am waiting for the sugar."
"Then it will be like your love, which has been cooling ever since we were married."
"Thank you, my love; there's nothing like a sharp acid for a cooling draught."
"Sharp acid! Do you call me a sharp acid? I'll not endure your taunts any longer. I'll go home to my connexions. I'll have separate maintenance."
"Whenever you please, my dev—darling!"
"I won't take such peevy language from you—I won't. (Tears, and going with the sugar-bowl in her hand.)"
"My dear, do leave the sugar-bowl, if you please."
"Here—take it!" (Throwing it at his head; and exit Lady Snap.)
TO THE LAWYER.—Remember that the profession you have chosen imposes, as a condition precedent to success, the necessity for constant and arduous labor. In it there is no disguising of one's capacities or merits. The physician's art is concealed, and by flippant technicalities, and an air of professional wisdom, he may produce the belief that he is what he is not. The clergyman has time, a choice of subjects, and a world of other men's throats, to aid him in his preparations for the pulpit.—But the lawyer, whether in the office or before a court and jury, can assume nothing which he does not possess. His legal opinions are soon to be tested by the severest ordeal, and his pretensions as an advocate must be real, or they will avail him nothing. And I would also have you remember, that you will be beset with constant temptations to swerve from the standard of high moral integrity. The very obligations of the lawyer to defend his client, right or wrong, tend to familiarize him with error, and to blunt his natural abhorrence of depravity; and by obligations, I mean such only as would lead him to seek the great ends of justice. Beyond this, even though it should result in your own aggrandizement, I would not have you put forth a single exertion. In the defence of one whom you believe to be guilty, proceed no further than is necessary to elicit the truth by an even balance of testimony. I am aware it will often be difficult, in this respect, to draw a precise line between the duties you will owe to your client, and those due to yourself and the community. But a cultivated and refined moral sense, the basis of all that is grand and beautiful in human character, and which I trust, above all things else, you will seek to incorporate into your own, will generally be a safe and accurate guide.—[J. C. Calhoun.]
If men would but follow the advice which they gratuitously bestow upon others, what a reformation would be effected in the world?
The difference between fair ladies and ladies' maids, is this—the former fasten upon a heart, the latter their pockets.

MISCELLANY.

Strange Incidents Attending a Death.

Under this head the Christian Register relates the following remarkable incident. We do not think it improper to state that the individual referred to is the late Mr. Greigg, who was lost at Gloucester, Friday, August 16, '50, by the capsizing of a boat in a squall. It was at Gloucester, also on the day previous to this casualty, that his adventure with the robin occurred; and it was at Brighton, in our neighborhood, that his family met with a similar encounter.

The following is a statement of facts as they occurred, simple and short as we can make it. It would be easy to give wide play to sentiment and fancy, in connection with so striking and unusual an occurrence. Superstition might attach to it irrational fears, or hopes as groundless. We confess we hardly know what to do with events like these ourselves—breaking in, as they do, upon the settled order of our experience, and starting us with some new exception to the common course of our observations. They evidently belong to no system of distinct and intelligible communications from the other world to this. It is not easy to imagine a satisfactory plan of spiritual disclosures on which they could be harmoniously adjusted. In that sense they teach nothing; and yet to us they appear capable,—all explicable and exceptional as they clearly are, and though we cannot take the first step towards interpreting them—they appear capable of leaving us more pure, more reverential, and more believing, than they find us. We rejoice in a religion which does not exclude from its subordinate conformation the vaguest and most unintelligible mysteries, nor forbid even creatures less than human to be humble and dumb witnesses to its spiritual promises.

A gentleman, with some friends, was lately rambling over the rocks near the water, in one of our sea-shore towns. His attention was presently attracted by a robin, full grown, and apparently quite unharmed, running in his path, flitting about his feet, and, contrary to the proverbially shy instincts of that bird, keeping very near him. He took it up in his hands, fondled it, patted its feathers, and after showing it to the company, and remarking on its tameness, tossed it into the air. The next day, this gentleman, having put out from an adjacent beach, in a boat, with four others, for a sail—on his return, and when within sight of land, by the capsizing of the boat, or a sudden leak sprung in her, was drowned with all his companions. His body was recovered, and a few days afterwards was buried, in a cemetery, some twenty or thirty miles distant from the scene of the disaster.

The day after the burial, the grave was visited by his wife and daughter. As they approached the spot, they were in hesitation for a moment,—not being familiar with the place,—which, of several new made graves, was the one they were seeking. At this instant a tame but sprightly robin ran on the ground, before them, and stood by them, before the grave of the husband and father. One of them took it up and caressed it, and, after some remark about the singularity of its conduct, let it go—when it flew down, alighted on the raised mound over the grave, and laid itself close to the earth. The daughter immediately took it up again, and it was dead.

JOKES UPON SCRIPTURE.—It is very common with some persons, to raise a laugh by means of some ludicrous story connected with a text of Scripture. Sometimes it is a play on the words, a pun; at other times, a blunder; and not seldom a downright impiety. What-ever be its form, even when tinged with what is venial offence, leading as it does to profane contempt of God's word. Those who practice this, have never been celebrated for genuine wit. The laughter which they call forth is provoked solely by the unexpected contrast between the solemn words of Scripture and some droll idea. There is no real wit in the case; and the dullest persons in society are most remarkable for these attempts.

The evils arising from this practice are greater than appear at first. It leads, in general, to irreverence of Scripture. No man would jest with the dying words of his father or his mother; yet the words of God are quite as solemn. When we have heard a comic or vulgar tale connected with a text of Scripture, such is the power of association, that we never hear the text afterwards without thinking of a jest. The effect of this is obvious. He who is much engaged in this kind of false wit, will come at length to have a large portion of the holy Scripture spotted over by his unclean fancy.

Beware of jesting with sacred things. Shun the company of any one who practises this, as you would shun a loathsome disease. Frown upon every attempt to provoke your smile by such means.—[Christian Messenger.]

SOUPS.—The delicate and proper blending of savors is the chief art of good soup making. Be sure and skim the grease off the soup when it first boils, or it will not become clear. Throw in a little salt to bring up the scum. Remove all the grease. Be sure and simmer softly, and never let a soup boil hard. Put the meat into cold water, and let it grow warm slowly. This dissolves the gelatine, allows the albumen to disengage, and the scum to rise, and diffuses the savory part of the meat. But if the soup is over a hot fire, the albumen, coagulates and hardens the meat, prevents the water from penetrating, and the savory part from disengaging itself. Thus the broth will be without flavor, and the meat tough. Allow about two table spoonfuls of salt to four quarts of soup, where there are many vegetables, and one and a half where there are few. Be sure not to leave any fat floating on the surface. A quart of water, or a little less, to a pound of meat is a good rule. Soup of uncooked meat is as good the second day, if heated to the boiling point. If more water is needed use boiling hot water, as cold or lukewarm spoils the soup. It is thought that potato water is unhealthy, and therefore do not boil potatoes in soup, but boil elsewhere, and add them when nearly cooked. The water in which poultry or fresh meat is boiled should be saved for gravies, or soup the next day. If you do not need it, give it to the poor. Keep the vessel tight, in which you boil soup, that the flavor be not lost. Never leave soup in metal pots, as sometimes a family is thus poisoned. Thickened soups require more seasoning, nearly double the quantity used for thin soups.

MRS. SWISHELM ON DRUNKARDS.—We could not live near one, for we should die of sick stomach. It may be very angelic for a pure minded, virtuous woman to love and caress a great Drunken Beast, but for our share we make not the slightest pretensions to being an angel, and the coil of an Ananias would be quite as pleasant a corse as the entwining of a drunkard's arm. From the smell they have, on the street, one would imagine the angel that staid near them would require to be strongly scented with brimstone. Evil communications corrupt good manners, and people

are forbidden to be unequally yoked! We can think of no yoke so unequal as that which would bind a decent woman to a drunkard; and we must firmly believe, that so far from its being the duty of a wife to live with a drunkard, it is a violation of the laws of God, and the dictates of common sense and common decency. A woman who will persist in so living, should be shut up in a lunatic asylum.—Grant it, that she has a right to dispose of herself as she pleases! Has she any right to entail misery and degradation upon a helpless offspring? Has she any right to furnish the State with paupers and criminals? Has the drunkard any right to hand down his vices and their consequences to posterity?

The Eastern Mail.

WATERVILLE...SEPT. 26, 1850.

The following is the circular referred to by O. P. Q.

(For the Eastern Mail.)

To the Stockholders of the Androscoggin and Kennebec R. R.

A Meeting of the Stockholders having been called in compliance with the petitions of a large number of members of the Corporation, for the purpose of re-considering the plan adopted by the Directors for providing for the floating debt of the Company, and restoring its credit, and to consider whether some other more favorable mode may not be devised for this purpose, it seems proper that we should explain to the stockholders, as briefly as may be, the reasons that induced us to adopt the mode that we have proposed.

At the commencement of the present year, when the present Board of Directors came into office, we had a floating debt to an ascertained amount of about 360,000 dollars, but including some debts of unsettled amount, or not precisely ascertained, of not less than 375,000 dollars. There were, in possession of the Company, assets which might be applied to the liquidation of this debt, which might, it was supposed, amount to about 50,000 dollars, but which probably would not amount to that sum, leaving, at the lowest figures, not less than 325,000 dollars, but more likely 350,000 dollars, to be provided for.

These facts were presented to the Company at its annual meeting on the 2d of July, and a committee of the stockholders was appointed at that time to act in concert with the Directors, in devising some mode for the liquidation of this debt. At the adjournment they reported a plan, recommending the issue of bonds to about 700,000 dollars, or equal to the amount of all the shares taken, and offering to each stockholder, of the bonds, a sum equal to the amount of his stock at the rate of one hundred dollars of bonds for fifty. This, it will be seen, if all the bonds are taken, will give about the amount of our debt. One year is to be allowed for the payment for the bonds, and this, with such further indulgence as to the time of payment, as the Directors will be able to allow in cases which require it, it is supposed, will enable nearly every stockholder to avail himself of the privilege. The report was accepted and referred to the Directors, not with an express order, but with authority to carry it into execution. The Directors, after maturely considering the subject, came to the conclusion that no better mode, under the present circumstances of the Company, could be devised, and substantially adopted that recommended by the Committee.

Our creditors were very urgent in their demands, and we immediately provided subscription books, offering to each stockholder the liberty of taking his share of the bonds, but no more. Considerable progress had been made in obtaining subscriptions, when we were informed that there was some dissatisfaction with this plan among a portion of the stockholders, and soon after petitions were received for calling another meeting of the stockholders for the purpose of re-considering the subject. A due respect for these petitioners seems to require us to state briefly the reasons that induced us to resort to this mode of raising the means of paying our debts.

All admit that money must be obtained to satisfy our creditors, and that it can only be obtained by borrowing. The only question, that remains open, is whether we shall issue bonds and offer them in the market for the best price we can get, or apply to our stockholders and offer them at such a fixed price as will enable us to pay our debts. The committee recommended the latter mode and the Directors adopted it, and whatever sacrifice is made will be made to themselves; in other words, we propose ourselves to pay our debts, instead of borrowing money for that purpose, at a great sacrifice, and thus increasing our debt and augmenting our embarrassments. If we believed that we could have sold our bonds at a reasonable price, we might have preferred that course. But we were convinced that we could not and were unwilling to make the experiment. The mode we have proposed, we thought altogether the most judicious, and that which every prudent man would take in the management of his own business. We will shortly state the reasons which brought us to this conclusion.

In the first place all rail road securities are now looked upon with disfavor, and we must encounter in the market this general prejudice against us.

In the second place, our road, at present, labors under peculiar disadvantages. Our credit is very materially impaired. On the 2d of July, the close of the last year, there was due on claims, which had come to maturity, the following sums:

On orders which had been presented to the Treasurer which he had been unable to pay, \$15,790.24
On the pay roll, 8,538.92
For iron on which a suit was commenced, 37,753.64
On notes due and protested, 33,213.72
Total, \$155,901.52
Our creditors were very urgent and the late Board of Directors had felt the necessity of

making immediate provision for a portion of these as well as other debts, which were, from time to time, coming to maturity. In order to procure the means they executed a mortgage to the Trustees in January last of all the running and working equipment of the road, including not only the present, but such as should, from time to time, be added to it, as security for a loan of 100,000 dollars. This, it will be seen, would pay but little more than one quarter of our debts, if all the bonds had been negotiated at par. But on this mortgage they effected a loan of only about 24,000 dollars.—This being insufficient to meet the most pressing exigencies of the Company, bonds were put into the hands of Messrs. Ware and Taylor, two of the Directors, to the amount of 60,000, with authority to sell them at not less than 70 dollars, or pledge them at not less than 60 dollars, on a hundred.—A few operations of this kind, it will be seen, would place our Company in a state of irremediable insolvency. If we had borrowed money at this rate of seventy dollars for a hundred, our debt would at once be increased from 375,000 dollars to 535,000 dollars. Those gentlemen had before been employed for similar purposes and been successful in negotiating the bonds of the Company to a large amount. Had it been possible to procure a new loan on this security, they, without doubt, would have effected it. We verily believe that no efforts were spared on their part, but these terminated in an entire failure. Of these 60,000 dollars they were able to dispose of but a single bond of 300 dollars.

It seemed to us that this experiment conclusively proved that we could not relieve our necessities by offering our bonds in the market. The late Directors offered, as security, the whole working furniture of the road. The business came into our hands with all our tangible property under mortgage. We had nothing left to offer as security but an equity of redemption, and that together with the franchise of the road under attachment for about 100,000 dollars. In this state of things we could not expect that our bonds would be taken by any but speculators, and that on such terms as they chose to offer. But we did not rest on the result of this experiment alone. We made all the inquiries in our power as to the prospect of negotiating our bonds. We inquired not only at home, but went to Massachusetts, the great money market of this part of the country, and we applied to those whom we knew to be friendly to our road. The answer we received from every person we consulted was that, in the present state of our credit, our bonds could not be negotiated at all; that there was but one way in which the stockholders could save what they had put into the road, and that was to come forward and pay the debt themselves.

We have a most firm conviction that the only way, by which we can save our interest in the road, is by paying this debt ourselves.—Borrowing money for this purpose does not relieve us; it only changes our creditors. And we cannot possibly borrow but by such a sacrifice as will greatly increase our debt. Every movement of this kind only augments our embarrassments. All we can do is to apply to the stockholders in such a form or with such a plan, as will be effectual. For this purpose we were compelled to offer the bonds to them on such terms, as will make it for their interest to take them; and we put them at such rate as will just pay our debts. If these are taken the stockholders will own the road, and be free from all debt but that already funded, and this may be easily so managed as will not endanger their interest. If we had attempted to raise money by the offering shares to the stockholders at par, none would take them, unless all or nearly all took their proportion, and this we could not expect. If we offered them at a reduced price, besides the objection of the great increase of stock that it would require, it is doubtful whether a sufficient amount of stock could be disposed of at any price to pay our debts. We repeat that we believe that the mode of raising money proposed by the committee of the stockholders is the only one, by which we can save what we have already put into the road, and that this mode, we are sure, will do it. In carrying it into execution every practicable indulgence as to the time of payment for the bonds will be allowed, and we believe that there are very few stockholders, who will not be able, within a few years, to pay for bonds to the amount of one half their stock.

It is our belief that we have too valuable an interest in the road to be sacrificed to the cupidity of speculators in stocks. Our road is worth over and above our debts too much for us to think, one moment, of abandoning it. It is the opinion of those who are best acquainted with the resources of the road, and most competent to form a sound judgment of its prospective increase of business, that in a few years our net earnings will be sufficient to pay, beyond the interest of our debt, six per cent. on the whole of our stock. If this be true, though our stock may not be worth par in cash, no one will doubt that it has a large intrinsic value.—Every one will see that if in twelve years the road will pay six per cent. on the stock, the present value of a share is 50 dollars; because that in twelve years, at compound interest, it will amount to a hundred dollars. We believe that it is worth more, for if prudently managed, in our opinion in short of that time, the road will pay to all its stockholders six per cent. provided we pay our debts ourselves and keep it out of the hands of speculators.

It has been thought by some that we ought, at this time, to make provision for the payment of our former loan of 550,000 dollars, which becomes due two or three years hence. The mode proposed for making this provision is to issue new bonds to pay our former bonds as they become due. We think this to be entirely unnecessary. Those bonds are now secured by a mortgage of the whole road. The security is most ample, and we can give no other

curity that is so good. The bonds were taken and are held as an investment by persons who do not want the money. All they desire is that the principal should be secure and the interest punctually paid. When the four years expire there will be no difficulty in leaving to the bond-holders the same security they now have, issuing new coupons and extending the credit for five or ten years more, as may be agreed by the Company and holders of the bonds. Or, if any one wishes for his money, there will be others ready to take his bond.—As these creditors are secured by a first mortgage we can get these bonds to extend on more favorable terms than we can possibly borrow money on new bond to pay them. It will be for the interest both of the bond-holders and the Company to make this extension of credit, and we do not apprehend the slightest difficulty in effecting it. But if, when they become payable, we shall be able to borrow at less than six per cent. we may borrow and pay them.

It may be suggested that one resource remains without appealing to the stockholders, and that is to enter into some contract or arrangement with capitalists or money dealers to advance the amount necessary to relieve us from our embarrassments. We will dismiss this with a single observation. If capitalists and money dealers come forward to our relief, we all know that they will require to be well paid for it, and that it will only be done on a calculation of making a profitable speculation out of the Company. When they have advanced the money, they will be our creditors, not only to the whole amount of our present debt, but that increased by bonuses, brokerage, and the various percentages so well understood by money-dealers and speculators, together with the profits they are to make in the business. Our debts will not be paid, but it will be found that we have only changed pasture on an uneasy bed, with an accumulated weight pressing upon us. We shall be in the hands of new creditors, and we ask the stockholders to consider in what state we shall be likely to come out of their hands.

We observe in the petition, that the proposed mode of raising money to pay our debts is objected to, on the ground that it is particularly injurious to the preferred stockholders. We are unable to comprehend the reasons of this objection. The same offer of the bonds of the Company is made to the preferred and to the original stockholders. Both have the same interest in having the debt paid. Both are subject to the same personal liabilities for the debts of the Company. We cannot conceive what diversity of interest there can be. If any one has entertained the idea of so managing the affairs of the Company as to save the preferred by the sacrifice of the original stock, we ask them to reflect for a moment what our position will be. If we get up a rivalry and quarrel between the two classes of stockholders we may be pretty sure that the interests of both will be sacrificed. The original compared with the preferred stockholders are about two to one. In this contest they will have the control of the corporation. We will not venture to speculate on the probable consequences that would follow such a quarrel, should it arise.—The truth is, that there is not the slightest difference of interest, in this matter of providing for our debts, between the two classes of stockholders, and we extremely regret that any such suggestion is made.

If any more favorable plan had been offered to us of relieving the Company from its necessities, we would gladly have adopted it. But no plan, of any kind, has been presented to us. And yet we must either raise money to satisfy our creditors or we must lose what we have paid for our stock. Our whole road is under attachment for \$100,000, and when judgment is obtained in that suit, unless it is paid, the whole road, with all its depots and working equipments, that is the equity of redemption of them, for they are all mortgaged, together with the furniture of the road, will be sold to satisfy this judgment. The plan we have adopted, on recommendation of the committee of the stockholders, gives to every member of the corporation an equal chance, and it excludes all opportunities of speculation on our necessities. We have proceeded so far in it that we have no doubt of its ultimate success. We believe, that this is not only the best but the only plan which can be adopted, that is sure to save the interests of the stockholders.

By order of the Directors,
ASHUR WARE, President.

To the Stockholders of the And. & Ken. R. R. Co.

A second Circular, dated 23d inst., addressed to you, has been just issued by the Directors of the Road, and as in the first one urging you to take Bonds on their plan. Whether they felt that additional reasons to those contained in the first circular were necessary to convince you of the excellency of their plan, or that their own faith in it was lessened by time and reflection, and needed to be fortified by new reasons, is a question I shall not undertake to decide. They say the floating debt of the Co. necessary to be provided for is 350,000 dollars, and this they propose to pay by issuing Bonds to the amount of 700,000 dollars, to stockholders only, each one taking to the amount of his stock. They say "no plan of any kind has been presented to us." They surely must have been greatly enamored of their own plan, or they would not have forgotten that there was a plan materially different from theirs presented at the last meeting of the stockholders, and by their vote was referred to the favorable consideration of the Directors. They must also, for a like reason, have forgotten that when they came to Waterville shortly after that meeting, and at their request, were met by some of the principal stockholders there, the stockholders referred to the plan last mentioned, and urged its adoption in preference to the Directors' plan, which they attempted to demonstrate would prove fatal to the fair prospects

and best interests of the Co. These stockholders were not then informed by the Directors, that, at that time, "considerable progress had been made in obtaining subscriptions." What are the reasons urged by them in favor of their plan, and are they sound, or only specious?—They say a committee was appointed by the stockholders on the 2d of July "to act in concert with the Directors in devising some mode for the liquidation of the [floating] debt. At the adjournment they reported a plan recommending the issue of Bonds to about 700,000 dollars, or equal to the amount of all the shares taken, and offering to each stockholder, of the Bonds, a sum equal to the amount of his stock at the rate of one hundred dollars of Bonds for fifty." In this I am well advised the circular is not exactly correct. That committee reported a plan in some particulars like the plan of the Directors, but it did not recommend that the Bonds should be issued 100 dollars for fifty. This is a most important feature in the plan, and one of that committee assures me, they never contemplated or reported such a condition, and that, in the present shape of the plan, he is totally opposed to it, and so he told the President of the Road when he was last at Waterville. The plan, then, is not that of the committee, but the whole merit of it belongs, of right and exclusively, to the Directors. The Directors say, "we propose ourselves to pay our debts, instead of borrowing money for the purpose at a great sacrifice, and thus increasing our debt and augmenting our embarrassments." But, on this plan, how are our debts paid? Is not by issuing the Bonds of the Co. at 50 per cent., and because the holders of the Bonds are stockholders, are they any the less creditors of the Co., and is not its indebtedness increased just as much, as if these Bondholders were not stockholders but strangers? The At. & St. L. R. R. Co. have a certain amount of City of Portland scrip, say 500,000 dollars, to dispose of for their benefit, the Road and its Franchise being mortgaged to the City for the due payment of the interest and eventual payment of the principal. So that, in effect, they are the Bonds of the Co. Now, suppose that it should be gravely proposed by the Directors of that Road to dispose of these Bonds to stockholders in that Co. at 50 per cent. instead of selling them at par to those who are not stockholders—would not every body, but the fortunate stockholders who had purchased the Bonds, cry out at once, that the interests of the Co. had been sacrificed to the cupidity of the few stockholders who had purchased the Bonds, which might otherwise have been sold in the market at par or at least at a much less sacrifice than 50 per cent.?

The plan seems to assume that all our stockholders will take Bonds to the amount of their stock. If it should be so, I am ready to admit that the Company, and of course all the stockholders, will be just as well off, and not a whit better, than if they had taken the Bonds at par; because the loss and gain will be equally borne by all the stockholders—each one in proportion to his interest; but in strictness there is neither loss nor gain. Suppose a town has occasion to contract a debt of 10,000 dollars, and it is proposed to issue bonds to the amount of 20,000 dollars, or 100 dollars for 50 dollars, to each inhabitant of the town in proportion to his property or the tax he pays. It could hardly be expected that more than one-half of the inhabitants would feel themselves able to take any portion of the bonds, and yet the bonds are really worth par or nearly so, and would command that price if offered to others out of the town. Would not those who could not take their proportion of the bonds cry out, and with good reason, too, that their interests had been sacrificed to the cupidity of their townsmen, who had thus made a speculation at their expense? And would they not justly complain that they had been essentially gulled by the specious argument that the debt was all owned among themselves or by inhabitants of their town? The cases supposed I deem to be parallel, and the argument in one case is as unsound and fallacious as in the other. But our Directors, in fact, have too much good sense not to view it in this light; because they say, in effect, in both circulars, that an inducement must be held out to stockholders to take these bonds, and the inducement, we all know, is that they get the bonds at 50 per cent. And out of whom does this discount come? Why surely out of the Company, or rather out of the pockets of those stockholders who are unable to take their proportion of the bonds. Disguise it then, as you will, all the profits made on the bonds, by stockholders who take them, are made at the expense of those who are not able to invest; or, in other words, the old adage is verified: "The great fish eat up the little ones." It is said in the circular, "If we believed that we could have sold our bonds at a reasonable price, we might have preferred that course." But how could the Directors or any one have known without a trial? More than two months have elapsed since the committee, appointed to devise measures, reported, and since a majority of the Directors were chosen; quite a sufficient length of time, one would suppose, to have tested the value of these bonds in the market. But the Directors say that the bonds, secured by a mortgage of the furniture of the road, could not be pledged to raise money at 60 per cent., or sold by Messrs. Ware and Taylor at 70 per cent.; and the inference intended to be drawn from this, I suppose, is, that the bonds now proposed to be issued being secured by a mortgage of the road subject to two other mortgages to former bondholders, could not be sold for more than 50 per cent. Now Taylor and Ware did not report to the Board of Directors that they had attempted to pledge the bonds at 60 per cent. to raise money; but they said they could not sell them out of the State, because they were secured by a mortgage of personal property only, and those to whom they were offered knew nothing about the value of the property mortgaged; that, as valued by the Directors, it was very little ex-

ed in value the amount of the bonds issued. I am advised that of the 24,000 dollars, of those Bonds disposed of by sale, more than 23,000 dollars, were sold at 85 per cent., and none were sold at less than 80 per cent. The balance of these bonds, not sold, were lodged as collateral security, by the late Directors, in the hands of creditors of the Company, at 67 per cent., and the present Directors have very properly redeemed some 20 or 30 thousand dollars of them, and have given assurances that the residue will in no long time be redeemed. How it happens that these bonds, in the opinion of our Directors, can be worth 17 per cent. more than the bonds they propose to issue, they can best answer.

The circular says, "It is our belief that we have too valuable an interest in the road to be sacrificed to the cupidity of speculators." To this just sentiment we all respond. And yet none of the bonds of the New England Road, some of whose stock is less than 26 per cent., are now sold at less than 58 1-2 per cent., while those of good paying roads are sold at par and above. The truth is, great pains have been taken, and not without effect, in Portland, for some months past, by some few individuals, to depreciate the preferred as well as the old stock; and, as I am told, it has been there recently offered at 20 per cent., and is expected shortly to be still lower. The fact that our bonds are now offered at 50 per cent., and by those two who must be supposed to know their real value and not disposed to undervalue them, is of itself eminently calculated to reduce our stock to nothing, and, as some would say, even worse; for we are about to increase the debt of the Company from 900,000 dollars, to 1,250,000, and all this by way of bonus; for all which the stockholders are supposed to be individually liable; and this liability a stockholder cannot, by any act of his own, throw off, if he would, except by a sale, and then his liability does not cease till a year after such sale. The net earnings of the road, it is said by those who know, are now sufficient to pay the interest on the funded and floating debts, to wit, 54,000 dollars, on 900,000; but add to this 350,000 dollars, the interest on which is 21,000 dollars, per annum, and judge ye, how long it will be before the net earnings of your road will be equal to 75,000 dollars a year.

In Jan. 1849, the Co. had debts to the amount of 166,000 dollars, pressing on the treasury, and new debts constantly becoming due on the contracts for grading the Road, and the Directors of that day were obliged to raise 50,000 dollars, in cash in 30 days, or suspend work on the Road, and probably to abandon, for the time, the whole enterprise. No part of the Road mortgaged to secure Bonds for 360,000 dollars, to wit: from Winthrop to Waterville, was then completed, nor was it expected to be finished and opened to Waterville short of about 12 months from that time. Bonds to the amount of 200,000 dollars, were sold or subscribed in 30 days, the cost of which was 8 per cent.—And for this operation, the Directors were severely censured at that day by some, if not all those men, who are now loudest in their praises of this what seems to me so ruinous plan.—There is, however, this difference, they did not share in the bonus of 8 per cent., but expect, no doubt, to participate largely of the bonus of 50 per cent. I am aware that this plan addresses itself to the cupidity of all such stockholders as are able to take their proportion of Bonds; because what they lose by the depreciation of their stock, they will make up by the bonus on their Bonds, and besides, they will no doubt, be able to get the stock of those, who are unable to take Bonds, for little or nothing. Thus a large portion, probably a majority in number, of the stockholders, will be thrown bound hand and foot into the power of the other portion.

It may be proper to remark, that the preferred stockholders, whom I consider a meritorious class of creditors to the amount of 12 per cent. interest till the whole stock shall earn six per cent., have been especially obnoxious to the same persons who have found fault with the 8 per cent. operation above referred to. Their interests, as it seems to me, will be very injuriously affected by the adoption of this scheme. The whole road is to be mortgaged to these new bondholders, subject to prior mortgages; and if the interest is not punctually paid to them as well as the other bondholders, your road will become forfeited in their hands; but your road must pay 75,000 dollars, for interest on the old and new bonds, besides 12 per cent. interest on 250,000 dollars, of preferred stock, which will be 30,000 dollars more, making an all 105,000 dollars a year; which sum those most sanguine in their calculations of the increased net earnings of the road will not venture to predict will be likely to be realized in one or two years.

If this plan should be adopted, I, with many others, should deem it a great calamity to our road; not only because I believe it entails a great and unnecessary loss upon that class of stockholders who cannot share in the spoils, and thereby does them great injustice, but also because it inflicts a deep and lasting wound on the honor and good name and fame of our Company.

Our editorial department for this week is mainly surrendered to the discussion of the railroad question. Most of our subscribers have a deep interest in the prosperity of the road, and consequently are interested in this discussion. The Stockholders' meeting, to act upon the proposed plan of the Directors, is to be held on Monday, at Winthrop.

RUM-SELLERS.—Somebody has said of rum, seller that they charge their customers as soldiers do guns, to have widows and orphans weep at the discharge. Oh! that is a terrible warfare in which they are engaged. The man who acquires his fortune on the ruins of his neighbor, is engaged in a business which should sink him to the lowest point in the scale of human respect.—[Banner.]

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