Humorous Department.

WHEN DID YOU SHAVE?—In one of the towns of Arkansas, a man had been drinking until a late hour at night. When he started for home, honest folks were in bed, and the houses were all shut and dark. The liquor he had taken was too much for him and he did not know where to go. He at last staggered into an empty wagon-shed and fell upon the ground. For a long time he lay in the unconsciousness of a drunken sleep, and would have frozen (for the snow on the ground showed the night to be very cold) had not others less insensible than himself been around him. This shed was a rendezvous of the hog: they rushed out when the new comer arrived, but soon returned to their bed. In the greatest kindness, and with the truest hospitality, they gave their biped companion the middle of the bed, some lying either side of him, and others answering the place of a quilt. Their warmth prevented him from being injured by the exposure. Toward morning he awoke. Finding himself comfortable and in blissful ignorance of his whereabouts, he supposed himself enjoying the accommodation of a tavern, in company with other gentlemen. He reached out his hand and, catching hold of the bristles of a hog, exclaimed: "WHY, MISTER, WHEN DID YOU SHAVE LAST?"

CARPENTER'S BEST.—The following capital hit was made by Judge Carpenter, while speaking in front of the Columbia hotel, at an impromptu meeting on Tuesday last. It has been the custom of many of the radicals to interrupt the Judge by asking impertinent and often insulting questions, but the Judge is never at a loss for a quick and cutting reply, and seldom fails to cause the intruder to hide his diminished head under a shout of derisive laughter from the audience. On the night alluded to, a wissen-faced, stiff-collared, official looking fellow, interrupted the Judge by asking him "if he (the Judge) did not expect to secure a large practice in his profession, from this campaign, after he was defeated for Governor?"

To which the Judge replied: "Well, I don't expect to be defeated, but if I am, I shall go to practising law again; and I expect the first case I shall have will be to defend you or some other of the present officials of the State in a case for stealing."

The fellow wilted, and the crowd, white and colored, roared.—*Union Times.*

A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE.—In a certain family where the good lady prides herself upon the excellence and daintiness of her salads, she sent a new servant, the other day for oil for the castor. The servant went as far as directed, and returned with a rather thick-looking fluid, which was, nevertheless, used. At dinner the guests partook sparingly of the salad. The first taste seemed to produce the most unpleasant sensations. The good lady perceived that something was wrong. She urged the salad on her guests repeatedly, but without avail. At last she tasted it herself; the rancid taste was horrible. Calling to the servant, she demanded to know what was the matter with the salad. "I don't know, madam, unless it's the castor oil." "The what?" screamed the lady. "The castor oil, ma'am. Didn't you tell me to go and get some castor oil?" replied the innocent daughter of Ham. "No; I told you to get some oil for the castor." "I thought it was castor oil you wanted." The effect of this announcement may be readily conceived, and the good lady from thenceforward has had a wholesome horror of salads and new servants.—*N. O. Picayune.*

"FLIPPITY FLOPPITY.—A country girl once went to the city to pay a visit to one of her old and best friends; this friend was married to a rich city merchant, and was a leader of fashion. In city etiquette, of course, the visitor was verdant, and made numerous mistakes. Her friends wished to initiate her fully into the "mysteries;" and as they were going to a large ball, gave her the following instructions, viz: "Eat only one small cake and one saucer of ice cream and when your attendant presses you to take more, answer that you have masticated a sufficiency, and more would be a superfluity." Things went on smoothly until her attendant asked her to partake of more refreshments, when, to the horror of her friends and the amusement of the company, she answered in a loud voice: I have evaporated insufficiently; and more would go flippity floppity."

☞ The wives of men of sentiment are not always the most appreciative of women. Jean Paul represents Siebenkas as reading one of his beautiful imaginings to his wife, who listened with eyelids cast down and bated breath. As he closed, the sharer of his joys beamed with, "Don't put on your left stocking to-morrow, dear; I must mend that hole in it." So when Sir Walter and Lady Scott were rambling about their estate, and came upon some playful lambs frisking in a meadow, "Ah," said Sir Walter, "'tis no wonder that poets, from the earliest ages, have made the lamb the emblem of peace and innocence." "They are indeed delightful animals," answered her ladyship, "especially with mint sauce."

☞ "Massa's berry sick—de doctor says he can't lib mo' dan two, three, four days longer!" exclaimed Peter Snow, with a sad countenance.

"Berry sorry for you, Pete, but the best of massas will die, dat am a fac'—dar ain't no help for dem. What am de particular diagosense ob his case, Pete?"

"De doctor say he hab got *two-buckles* on his lungs, an' *tu-more* on his stumic; den he habs a digestion ob de brain, a palpatation ob de alemantary canawl, an' de hydrofogy in de kid-knees, an' sumfin or udder am de matter in de region ob de gizzard! Oh! it am a dredful case!"

☞ Josh Billings says of a new agricultural implement to which the attention of farmers is invited: John Rovers' revolving, expanding, unceremonious, self-adjusting, self-contracting, self-sharpening, self-greasing, and self-righteous hoss rake iz now for ever offered tew a generous publik. These raks are az easy tew keep in repair az a hitching post, and will rake up a paper of pins sowed broad kast in a ten aker lot of wheat stubble. Theze rakes kan be used in the winter for a hen roost, or be sawed up into stove wood for the kitchen fire. No farmer of good moral karakter should be without this rake, even if he have to steal one.

☞ A citizen of Arkansas recently said to a traveler in that State, "Things are gettin' to be too nice here for comfort. Why, even the church committee of this town, in advertisin' for a preacher, said he must not only be a Christian, but also a man of good moral character."

☞ A gentleman recently found himself in company with three young ladies, and generously divided an orange between them. "You will rob yourself," exclaimed one of the damsels. "Not at all," replied the innocent, "I have three or four in my pocket!"

☞ A man and his wife stopped at a Keokuk hotel, where codfish balls were a legal tender. He broke up one, tasted of it, and thus addressed his partner: "Matilda, don't eat them doughnuts, something has crawled into this one and died."

☞ A husband advertises thus: "My wife, Maria, has strayed or been stolen. Whoever returns her will get his head broke. As to trusting her, anybody can do so if they see fit; for, as I never pay my own debts, it's not likely I'll pay her'n."

☞ "And Satan smote Job with sore boils" is thus rendered by an ultra fashionable, new-fangled clergyman: "And Satan smote Job with circumscribed subcutaneous inflammations, characterized by pointed tumors, and suppurating with central cores."

Reading for the Sabbath.

CONDUCTED BY
REV. ROBERT LATHAN.

[Original.]

REPENTANCE.

Prominent amongst the doctrines of the Bible is repentance, and although it is in the order of nature, not the first grace that is bestowed upon the sinner, it is, nevertheless, not the least in point of importance. Without repentance, no man is prepared to enjoy the blessings of the gospel in this life, nor the glories of redemption in the life which is beyond the tomb. In the Bible there are two kinds of repentance spoken of. The one is usually called a legal repentance; the other is called evangelical repentance. A legal repentance, unless it results in an evangelical repentance, never results in the salvation of the penitent. Hence, there is a repentance which is not unto life, and a repentance which is unto life.

Legal repentance, in the order of nature, precedes evangelical repentance. This is true, perhaps, in every case. This, we are disposed to think, is the teachings of God's word, and the history of converted sinners does not contradict the doctrine. If this be true, it is not proper to say that legal convictions always spring from improper motives. Legal repentance consists in the sinner having revealed to him either by God's word, God's works, or God's spirit, his sins in their heinousness, and the consequences of his sins. So soon as this revelation is made, fear takes hold of the sinner. His soul is filled with trepidation. This state of mind is denominated conviction. The character of these convictions depend upon a multitude of circumstances. Some individuals are so constituted, or are of such temperaments, that they will be overwhelmed with the turpitude of their transgressions; others will be covered with shame; others will fear the punishment which awaits them as violators of God's law. Conviction always precedes repentance, whether that repentance be legal or evangelical.

Repentance, literally, means a change of mind. Hence, the Scripture definition of it is "a breaking off sin by righteousness." In simple legal repentance, there may be a breaking off of some particular sin or sins; but there is no turning to righteousness. The mere legal repentant abstains from sin sometimes for one cause, and sometimes for another. The individual who is addicted to some sin which is calculated to ruin his health and ultimately take away his life, ceases to practice it because he feels that the way of the transgressor is hard. Another individual, accustomed to indulge in some vice which is bringing disgrace upon his own name and infamy upon his offspring, breaks it off because of pride of reputation amongst his fellow men. Such cases as those just enumerated may, with strict propriety, be called repentance, but they are not examples of evangelical repentance. In every case of evangelical repentance, there is a conviction of sin. No man ever repented who had no convictions. There is another thing in true evangelical repentance which characterizes it clearly from that which is only legal. In that repentance which is unto life, there is always faith. Faith gives the sinner a title to heaven; repentance makes him fit for the inheritance. There may be convictions and conversions where there is no faith. Devils have convictions, and bad men in this life often are the subjects of conversions, but the former have no faith, and their convictions result in nothing good; and if the conversion of the latter are not preceded by faith they will equally be worthless. In the order of time, faith and repentance are simultaneous; but in the order of nature, faith always preceeds or goes before repentance. This being true, it follows that repentance is the work of the believer.

So soon as the sinner believes in Christ Jesus he is justified, and so soon as he is justified he is adopted into the family of God; so soon as his adoption takes place he begins the work of change. He changes his manners and customs. Before these gracious operations took place he was a child of Satan, and his language, his thoughts, his works and ways were in conformity to the source from which he sprung, and the confederations which he held. Now that he has been changed by God's grace, he begins the practice which is common to God's children.

Repentance is a work—it is not an act. It begins as soon as we believe, and must continue so long as there remains any of Satan's works and ways to leave off. Some people labor under a grave and dangerous error when they conclude that they did all the repentance that was necessary when they connected themselves with the church. So long as we sin we must repent. As God gives us more light, we will be enabled to see our sins in a clearer light, and our duty as children, is to break off from them. The life of every good man is a continued scene of sinning and repenting.

There is one fact connected with repentance that none should ever forget. It is this: Repentance must de done in this world. There is no repentance after death. There will be convictions in the next world. The bitterest element in the cup of woe which the impenitent in this world will have to drink in the next, will be that they knew their duty and did it not. Their convictions rend their souls and cause them to gnash their teeth in anguish indescribable.

NEARING THE OTHER SHORE.—When after the weary voyage that I first made across the ocean, sick and loathsome, I arose one morning and went upon the deck, holding on, crawling, thinking I was but a worm, I smelt in the air some strange smell, and I said to the Captain, "What is the odor?" It is the land breeze from Ireland." I smelt the turf, I smelt the grass, I smelt the leaves, and all my sickness departed from me; my eyes grew bright, my nausea was gone. The thought of the nearness of the land came to me, and cured me better than medicine could cure me. And when, afar off, I saw the dim line of land, joy came and gave me health, and, from that moment, I had neither sickness nor trouble; I was coming nearer to the land.

Oh! is there not for you, old man, and for you, wearied mother, a land breeze blowing off from heaven, wafting to you some of its sweetness? Behold, the garden of the Lord is not far away; I know from the air. Behold the joy of home. Do I not hear the children shout? The air is full of music to our silent thought. O, how full of music when our journey is almost done, and we stand upon the bound and precinct of that blessed land! Hold on to your faith. Believe more firmly. Take hold by prayer and by faith. Away with troubles and buffetings. Be happy, you are saved. In a few hours, visions of God and all the realities of the eternal world shall be yours, and you shall be saved with an everlasting salvation.

☞ "My burden is light," said the blessed Redeemer. A light burden indeed, which carries him that bears it. I have looked through all nature for a resemblance of this, and I seem to find a shadow of it in the wings of a bird, which are indeed borne by the creature, and yet support her flight toward heaven.—*Bernard.*

Miscellaneous Reading.

THE WAR IN EUROPE.

The Paris correspondent of the New York *Times*, writing on the 3rd ultimo, furnishes a number of interesting statements in relation to the battle of Saarbrucken, the movements of the French Emperor, etc. We make the following extracts:

THE BATTLE OF SAARBRUCKEN.

The Emperor, Prince Imperial and General Froissard left Metz about 8 o'clock yesterday morning, took command of the troops on the frontier, and led them against Saarbrucken, a small town, occupied by a Prussian garrison, at a few miles distant from Forbach, (occupied by the French.) The engagement began at 11 o'clock and lasted only two hours. The effects of the French matrailleur is described as frightfully formidable, mowing down everything before it. The French troops bore down with such rapidity upon the enemy's forces that the loss of the latter is insignificant. The Prussian loss is considerable.

NAPOLEON AND HIS SON.

The Emperor directed the manœuvres of the troops in person, accompanied everywhere by the Prince Imperial. The first impulse of the Emperor in taking his son with him to the war was regarded as a most heroic one, and made a most favorable impression upon the public, but the coolness and intrepidity evinced by one so young has aroused enthusiastic admiration for him.

CHARACTER OF THE WAR.

I can corroborate the testimony in what relates to the terrible character this campaign is taking. It is a struggle without quarters or remission, a hatred of race to race, which demands to be appeased by an ocean of blood and of tears; the ruin of two flourishing countries, perhaps, consummated, and the world and civilization in Europe retarded for half a century. I was returning from Germany three days after the declaration of war made by the Duc de Grammont to the French Parliament, and it would be impossible to describe to you the state of fury in which the population on the borders of the Rhine were lashed. I felt, myself, the long-tired affections of old and dear friends diminish with a strange rapidity. I was no longer the friend, the loved companion, but a Frenchman, that is to say, the bugbear, the abhorred creature above all, by all the Germanic nations. This hatred has broken out in most significant fashion in this sudden union of nations only yesterday enemies, and among whom the wounds inseparable from a recent struggle were not yet cicatrised. Bavaria, Wurtemburg, Hesse, countries conquered by Prussia, in 1866, and only a short time since filled with a profound aversion to the Bismarck regime, rose as one man to the magic appeal, "Let us save Germany against France."

The special correspondent of one of the New York papers writes on Thursday, (11th,) from the headquarters of the Crown Prince an account of

THE BATTLE OF WOERTH.

The correspondent says:

The swift and skilful movement against Weissenburg, resulting in complete success to the German arms, was but a foretaste of the storm which threatened the northern part of Alsace. On the second day after that of Weissenburg came the battle of Woerth, and the Crown Prince gained a victory over the ablest General in France. It is admitted that the French fought with reckless courage, and that they inflicted heavy loss on their opponents, but the fact of this hard fighting and of this heavy loss shows how serious a defeat was sustained by McMahon.

BATTLE-FIELD SCENES.

I traversed the field while the dead still lay unburied on the trampled ground, and could form a good notion of how the fight had gone by the ghastly evidence which remained. Woerth is at the bottom of a fertile valley, between two ridges of cultivated ground. There is much of wooden land in the neighborhood; and especially behind the French position on the western side of the valley, there is a strip of forest which forms a cover to retreating troops.

The little river Bruder, not big enough in summer time to float a skiff, flows through the village, and a high road comes winding down toward the village on the eastern side of the valley, flanked by trees. Here was the Prussian position. Stretching far to the right and left along this road were heaps of spiked helmets to be seen, and cart-loads of needle-guns were collected under the trees. At a distance the French musketry fire had told more heavily than the German, and I heard that the French artillery had been very well served.

PILES OF THE DEAD.

But though the burying parties were busy with the German dead on the eastern side of Woerth, there was more than an exchange of slaughterous work on the western side. Here the Prussians and Bavarians had pushed forward in strong force, and their fire had told fearfully upon the French. The high spirit and rigid discipline of the one army had been more than a match for the desperate resistance of the other. Whole companies of Frenchmen had been mowed down in their wild attempts to check the enemy's advance. It had been a tolerably equal fight in some places, for the ground was strewed with German dead; but more and more Frenchmen had fallen in proportion. Black Turcos and wide-trowsered Zouaves lay thick at many points, and the cuiraissers had suffered much. There were steel breastplates and brass helmets scattered thickly on the line of retreat, while the dead horses in all directions might be counted by hundreds.

And so westward through the wood went the traces of increasing disaster; officers and men lying grimly where they had fallen. Some in quiet, shady spots, as though upon a picnic, seemed asleep. Pools of blood remained where the wounded had been found. There were knapsacks, rifles and overcoats, either thrown away in flight or left by the wounded on the field. Then I came upon a spot where the French had rallied, and where the dead of both sides lay thick. Turcos were there who had evidently fought to the last, and had tried to fire their pieces as they lay. Frenchmen of the line regiments had here and there fallen in numbers, as though they had halted and faced about in regular order.

But the aspect of the fields beyond the wood seemed to indicate a hasty retreat. Wagons were overturned, baggage was thrown out upon the roadside; many knapsacks were to be seen. No one who had passed over that battle-ground of Woerth when I did, could have failed to realize that a great disaster had befallen the French arms, though my observations were made when most of the wounded had been removed.

THE LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES.

On so large a scene of action it would have been impossible to judge of the exact loss sustained. I see no reason, however, to doubt the official return on the German side, which gives about 10,000 Frenchmen and 7000 Germans *hors de combat*, and 7000 prisoners taken by the victors—4000 in the battle and 3000 in the pursuit. These losses, with the further loss of cannon and colors, made the battle of Woerth an evil day for France. Well might the wounded Germans raise themselves to cheer the Crown Prince as he passed, and cry that Germany was safe. It will often be told how the armies met on the 6th of August, and how McMahon made his unsuccessful effort to repel the invasion of Alsace; how the Prussians held the left of the line, and the Bavarians and Wurtemburgers the right, and how a few Baden troops held in reserve by the Crown Prince were brought up just in time to share the honors of the day. There was a fierce attack on both sides, it being difficult to say which party began the fight. Gradually, as the German troops pressed round upon their opponents' line of retreat, the French were forced to so hasty a retrograde movement that the retreat became very nearly a rout.

THE NEEDLE GUN AND THE CHASSEPOT.

The neddle gun proved itself to be fully the equal of the chassepot, and perhaps more than that—at least so say the German soldiers, with apparently good reason. Moreover, the Prussians knew their weapon better, having long been accustomed to it, and the Crown Prince handled his army so as to make the most of the deadly fire of his infantry. The cavalry was not used for an attack in the first instance, but was sent in pursuit when the enemy began his retreat.

It was a victory due to the patriotic ardor of the German troops as much as to anything in their discipline of tactics, but we must not forget that the French showed ardor likewise, and the scale was turned for the Germans at Woerth by their intelligent understanding of the breech-loader drill, and by their steadiness in firing. These matters take time to learn. We see the glorious results which Germany is reaping from her careful preparation.

THE FRENCH PRISONERS.

The prisoners were assembled near the first station of the reopened railway through Weissenburg. I could distinguish many Turcos and Zouaves among them, though the greater part were soldiers of the line. We drove past them very slowly, for the road was blocked with ammunition wagons, and I noticed that they seemed wofully discouraged. There were no songs and no laughter to be heard among them, and the few that were occupying themselves in picking fruit in trees that they had climbed, had not a very lively air for Frenchmen in such a position as fruit picking. Then came the convoys of wounded men moving to the rear. Suffering had made them brothers in misfortune. The Germans and Frenchmen mingled, sat or lay quietly side by side, as if they were old comrades; the only enemy and the common enemy being the jolting wagon.

As we neared Woerth there was a constant stream of wagons, bringing down wounded men, Prussians and Bavarians, Turcos and Frenchmen of the line. They bore the misery of the road in equal silence. It was rare to hear a cry, though the poor fellows' faces showed much pain. They were a sadder sight in their blood-stained bandages than the men who lay grimly on the hillside.

Woerth itself was a mere hospital, and all the inhabitants were either nursing the wounded or burying the dead. It was an evil fate for the picturesque little place, that more than 100,000 men on one and the other side should have settled their quarrel so near at hand.

Of coming movements, I must not say a word. The event of yesterday was the capture of the little fortress of Leuchtenburg, where a large amount of military stores are reported to have been captured. The assailants fired heavily into the place, and we heard their guns booming all yesterday forenoon.

A dispatch under date of August 16, gives

THE SITUATION IN PARIS.

All parties seem to concur that every consideration must give way to the necessities of the hour. The ministry is desirous to be designated as the Ministry of Action. They work unceasingly. The new Minister of War has done wonders. Within the last few days, he has sent enormous reinforcements to the front, and others are following rapidly. Munitions of war and all kinds of provisions are dispatched as fast as trains can convey them.

The levy en masse proceeds now with immense rapidity, to close the organization of the National Guard. For this measure, on so vast a scale, no adequate provision had been made. Routine would probably have accomplished the same operation in time, but the new War Minister says, and the Minister of the Interior repeats: "If you cannot get uniforms, go in blouse, shoes, gaiters and *kepi*' (military cap.) "Your ancestors drove back fourteen armies, and had no shoes, scarcely bread; do as they did." Corps of free-shooters are organizing all over the country, and those of Vosges are already beginning to torment the enemy.

There is to be an immediate issue of 25-frank notes. Change for notes of over 50 francs is difficult to procure; 100-franc notes are useless for ordinary purposes.

The people here are bewildered at the silence of the government. The preparations for the defence of Paris are progressing rapidly. The beautiful iron gateway at the entrance of the Bois de Boulogne at the end of the Avenue de l'Imperatrice is removed. Blocks of trees have been cut down. The wall of circumvallation is nearly finished, uniting the two formerly open spaces, and pierced with loopholes. The great ditch is dug across the road and a draw-bridge is ready to be thrown across it. Earthworks are also in process of construction in front of what were the gates, and will now contain the only entrances, guarded by sentinels instead of custom house officers. Some of the big guns are mounted and the little ones are craftily concealed in unsuspicious corners. Many of the barriers are entirely closed, and the people throng the ramparts, holiday-making and commenting on the novelty of the thing.

Notwithstanding all their preparations, an impression prevails that after a French victory—looked upon as quite certain—the neutrals will interfere and make peace, and Paris will not be bombarded.

A FRENCH ACCOUNT OF THE FIRST BATTLE OF METZ.

The Paris Figaro, of the 19th, has the following details of the battle of Longueville: The battle occurred at Barny, 4 kilometres from Metz, and not at Longueville, as has been stated. The battle occurred on Sunday. Half of our army, which was about 200,000 strong, was passing the Moselle at that place, on one bridge. The Prussians made a mistake and attacked about an hour too soon. The corps of Generals L'Admirault and De Caon were able to face the enemy in about a half hour from the time the first attack was made. The Prussians had evidently a plan of the fortifications at Metz, but which did not contain any indication of Fort Quentin, for in trying to avoid Fort St. Julien they marched directly towards Fort St. Quentin, which, when they came within easy range, opened a very destructive fire on them. In their confusion, the Prussians retreated and came within range of the guns of Fort St. Julien, which also opened fire, increasing the loss of the enemy. The Prussians then attacked another part of the position, which was defended by only one regiment of infantry and a masked battery of mitrailleurs. The latter immediately uncovered and made great havoc in the ranks of the Prussians. The firing ceased at half-past seven in the evening, having lasted from four o'clock. We had about 1,000 killed and perhaps as many wounded. The Prussians sent a flag of truce demanding an armistice for the purpose of burying the dead. They admitted a loss of 8,000 killed. The armistice was refused. In this battle the First Corps of the Prussians was commanded by General Mauteuffel, and the Seventh Corps by Count Zastrow. They had 50,000 infantry, 33,000 cavalry and 96 guns.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BATTLE OF GRAVELLOTTE.

NEW YORK, August 21.—The New York *Tribune's* special at the Prussian headquarters sends the following account of Thursday's battle: The battle fought to-day, August 18th, we call to night the battle of Gravellotte. It began at 10 o'clock in the morning and lasted until after 9 in the evening. Until noon it was an artillery duel.

The French lines stretched along the hills, covering the two roads leading from Metz to Verdun, having on their right flank a farmhouse, known as La Villette, with a walled garden, which they held in great force. A sunken road led straight from Gravellotte to the centre of their position. On the French left the road wound over the crest of a hill, on which twelve earthworks had been thrown up.

Eight mitrailleurs, besides artillery, were posted to command every approach to this strong position, and their guns swept the crowning hills, along which the French lines ran, and up the valley reach, from Gravellotte eastward, by which the Prussians had to advance. Behind this line of strong defense lay Forts St. Quentin and Conaeras, a position of apparently impregnable strength, and completely protecting the French rear.

The position at first held by the Prussians was to the east of the French, facing towards Metz, occupying the southernmost road from Metz to Verdun, and reaching over the chain of hills lying between Gravellotte and Rezonville. The result of the artillery contest was to compel the French to abandon their most advanced positions and the line by which they had hoped to cover both roads, was pierced and driven back.

At noon the Prussians were able to push forward their artillery, the French finding their guns unable to resist the weight of the Prussian fire, and the Prussian batteries shortly after noon were in position on either side of Gravellotte, so that neither of the roads which at that point branched off to Verdun, north and southwesterly, were any longer open to the French army. I reached the field just as this forward movement of the Prussians had been accomplished.

By two o'clock the French batteries covering the Verdun road from the north and east were silenced, and the Prussians had advanced so far from south of that road as to occupy a farm-house at Malmaison, a little northwest from Gravellotte.

Twenty minutes later the French fire so slackened and wavered that the Prussian batteries were pushed forward and took up a new position in front of Gravellotte.

At 20 minutes past three the Prussian cavalry went into action, and they proceeded capitally under a hot fire from the French guns. The attack was made in considerable force by the uhlaere curiassiers and hussars, but they were at first without infantry support, and could make no serious impression on a position naturally strong and still held in force by all the army of the French. But half an hour later, it being now nearly four o'clock in the afternoon, a portion of the Third Prussian Corps had come upon the ground.

Infantry regiments were formed, as fast as they came, into a position from which a serious attack was to be expected upon what appeared the key of the French lines. At four o'clock the 33rd regiment of the Prussian line was lauched against the same position which the cavalry had failed to reach.

It moved forward with the utmost determination, but by this time the French had reinforced their defense more strongly, that the Prussians had the attack, and they still outnumbered their assailants, and steadily maintained the second line which they had occupied.

As different divisions of the Prussian army came into position they attacked successively, but were repeatedly driven back with heavy loss. The struggle lasted with varying fortunes on different portions of the lines until 8 o'clock the Prussians, massing heavy forces on their left, attacked and carried La Villette.

THE BATTLE UNDECIDED.

LONDON, Aug. 21.—(Special to the *World.*) The battle at Rezonville (Gravellotte) was without a decisive result. It is claimed by the Prussians, but the French fell back to Metz in good order, their ammunition having given out.

The losses of the Prussians greatly exceeded those of the French, the former losing 40,000 men on Thursday alone, Steinmetz's whole corps being literally cut to pieces and his magnificent cavalry no longer exists.

THE SITUATION AT METZ.

NEW YORK, August 22.—F. Gaillairdet, in his dispatch to this morning's *Courrier des etats-Unis*, says: It is with much difficulty that I can obtain positive information concerning the situation of affairs in the neighborhood of Metz. Marshal Bazaine still insists on the necessity of silence. I have myself seen the latest dispatches from Bazaine. He declares positively that he is the victor, and that his strategic movements have been accomplished with success, but attended with serious losses.

To sum up, I believe that the incessant combats of the last seven days have been favorable to us, but they have not yet brought about decisive results. One fact is certain, the army of the Prince Royal of Prussia continues to march on Paris. Yesterday it was at Vitry le Francaise, and if we may believe a report which has reached the Corps Legislatif, it has the appearance of moving to turn the camp at Chalons and fall upon the capital.

CHALONS AND PARIS.

The Emperor and McMahon are at Chalons. They have too great a revenge to take to permit any movement not likely to be successful. Meanwhile measures are being taken by Gen. Trochu which indicate that we are on a point of being besieged. Yesterday he issued a proclamation calling on all defenders of the capital to rally to his support, and declaring that the hour of danger had arrived. It is for Paris to prove to the world, he added, that long years of prosperity have weakened neither her nor her patriotism.

The armament of the National Guard is complete. Yesterday more than 50,000 guns were distributed, and Chevesul declared to the Chambers that in a few days 100,000 National Guards would be under arms.

Grain is arriving in great quantities. The city is provisioned for more than eight months. All this indicates that if we are threatened with a siege we are certainly prepared to sustain it. The people of Paris are in excellent spirits and full of patriotism. They would rise in this crisis to the height of the situation.

Convoys, with provisions, have gone forward to supply both armies. One hundred and sixty thousand men have passed through Paris to the front since Friday morning. It is generally thought there, however, that the march of the Prussians cannot be arrested before reaching Paris. It is said that there are now nearly 300,000 good troops at and near Paris. It is believed that one more decisive battle gives Paris to the Prussians.

MARSHAL BAZAINE'S POSITION.

LONDON, August 22.—It is said that Marshal Bazaine is absolutely cut off from his resources. The Prussians are between him and Paris. Gen. McMahon is also believed to be surrounded.

THE SIEGE OF STRASBOURG.

PARIS, August 22.—Late advices have been received here from Ernstein, a town near Strasbourg. The Prussian army besieging Strasbourg has caused the people of Ernstein to change the course of the little river Ill, in that neighborhood, in order to stop the supply of water for the city. The General in command of Strasbourg had driven out of the defenses all who consumed army stores without affording aid.

PEACE PROPOSALS.

PARIS, August 22.—The *Gaulois* says that the diplomatic corps now meets daily. The English embassy in this city is anxiously awaiting a favorable moment to introduce proposals of peace. It is said that, let the turn of events be what it may, the interposition will certainly be made, and that before the end of this month.

THE SITUATION AT PARIS.

PARIS, August 22.—There are preparations for combat all along the lines. Paris is virtually in a state of siege, and every one accepts the situation. It is generally conceded that the issue of the campaign will be decided under our walls, if we are able to hold out for a week, and we are able against an enemy destitute of material for carrying on a siege.

Cannon of very heavy calibre have been mounted on the ramparts, and across the roads draw-bridges have been thrown. On the side of the city towards Passy and Autenil a large number of houses have been demolished. In short, this part of Paris, once so beautiful, is entirely unrecognizable. On the Vincennes side I am told the work of defense is pushed with still greater energy. An entrenched camp has been established in the plain of St. Maur, which commands the passage of the Marne.

The inhabitants of all the surrounding localities have abandoned their houses and taken refuge in Paris. As for the really effective force of the troops to whom our defenses is committed, I estimate, upon authentic data, in the neighborhood of 200,000, of whom 15,000 are soldiers of the regular army, 5,000 municipal guards and gendarmes, 10,000 sailors and marines, 70,000 Gardes Mobile of reserves and battalions de depot, and about 100,000 National Guards, firemen, &c. With this effective force and provisions in abundance, we can hold the enemy in check for some time.

News from the Army of the Moselle is always scarce. What I am permitted to send you is in substance this: Bazaine preserves intact his communication with Paris by the western route. The last battle, delivered at Jaumont, had no other result. Bazaine, greatly strengthened by the vast fortifications of Metz, is still master of the line of retreat by way of Montmedy, Stenay, Vaussiers and the Valley of Aisne. He can doubtless, by the same route, receive reinforcements, and I have reason to believe that part of the forces lately assembled at Chalons set out for that destination yesterday morning.

The enemy's army around Metz had always been superior in numbers, but decimated, by late battles, is incapable, for the present at least, of resisting violent attacks. The reinforcements which it has received are composed of landwehr and levies from the Southern States, hastily gathered for the invasion of our country. The enormous losses which the Prussian army has sustained will hardly be encouraging to these new comers, and there is the marked advantage in favor of our troops at Chalons, who defend the soil of their country from the invader. Indeed, we are all awaiting a brilliant revenge for Woerth and Forbach, in the military circle around Metz.

Prussia seems to provoke a war unworthy of two nations, but one which, instead of self-preservation, she forces upon the weaker party. She has inundated our country with her spies, and we have been compelled, as a measure of safety, to expel all suspected Germans at the risk of injuring some innocent persons. In Alsace and Lorraine the necessities of the Prussians and exorbitant demands of their commissaries have exasperated the people, who, plundered, harassed and abused, have inaugurated a guerilla war against their invaders. Moreover, King William has launched a proclamation declaring that every individual not belonging to the French army and taken in open hostility to the Prussian army shall be shot. A rising of the people en masse will bring a day of justice for all these insults and injuries.

THE DEMANDS OF PRUSSIA.

The following statement, from a semi-official source, foreshadows the demands likely to be make by Prussia in case of a successful termination of the war:

"The time has arrived when Germany must be free from French interference and measures, and have a long period of unbroken peace. A mere change of dynasty in France would not be sufficient to insure this, for the next sovereign would seek as soon as possible to recover the lost military prestige of France, and the burthens of armed peace would be perpetuated. Suppose France issues from the struggle with strength unimpaired, and with her strongholds (whence she menaces the valley of the Rhine and the Palatinate) intact, the war from which the incapacity of the French generals and the bravery of the German army have delivered will be renewed. There can be no trustworthy peace. Not thus must this costly struggle terminate. We will only resign our arms when we have guaranteed security against a fresh contest whenever it may suit the political necessities of a French ruler to renew it."

HOHENZOLLERN AGAIN.

MADRID, Aug. 23.—The successes of the Prussian armies have caused a revival of the question of the Hohenzollern candidature. There are rumors that General Prim is in favor of submmitting the subject to the people by means of a plebiscitum.

The Yorkville Enquirer.

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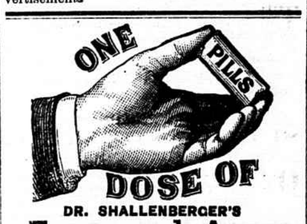

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