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The Newberry Herald.

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ADVERTISING RATES.

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Done with Neatness and Dispatch.
Terms Cash.

HARVEST HOME.

All safely gathered in
Is Autumn's golden grain;
How sweet to hear the ringing cheer
That greets the last full wain!

We may not even call
An ear of wheat our own,
But where's the heart that takes no part
In hailing Harvest Home.

Then let thanksgiving songs
Be o'er the country spread,
To Him to whom the praise belongs
For sending daily bread.

For He whose gracious eye
Has slumbered not nor slept,
Again has sent a rich supply,
And well His promise kept.

So let thanksgiving songs
Both far and wide be spread,
To Him to whom the praise belongs
For sending daily bread.

From the South Boston Inquirer.

THE DEVIL'S FOOTPRINTS.

—:o:—

BY J. A. JOHNSTONE.

—:o:—

Yes, this is a queer old house, and there is a story connected with it, which, perhaps, you would like to hear. It is a bitter night, so draw your chair near this crackling wood fire, and don't start so every time old Boreas whistles through the hall, or sends his imps to beat tattoo on the window panes. Now you look comfortable, I will begin.

An old gentleman and his two grand-sons once lived here, sole survivors of a numerous family. One was the son of the old man's eldest boy, and the other of his only daughter. When they were quite young, they were bright, handsome lads, and seemed to well merit the loving pride, with which their grandfather regarded them.

The eldest who was ten years of age and but six months older than his cousin, betrayed the Spanish blood which he derived from his mother in his clear olive skin, and dark curling locks; while the ruddy cheeks, frank blue eyes, and finely cut lips of the younger equally denoted the pure Saxon descent.

As time passed on, the grandfather became uneasy at observing the domineering spirit of Maurice the elder, over his cousin William; and as the latter had no idea of tamely submitting to imposition, altercations arose, which seriously alarmed the old gentleman, as he was anxious to foster a close and enduring affection between them.

He attempted to make them share everything in common, and as the school they attended was some distance from home, he gave them a pony which one was to ride a certain part of the way and then fasten to a tree for the other's benefit. He soon found, however, that when Maurice started first, it was all ride, and no tie with him.

Thus it was in all things. The selfishness of Maurice seemed to grow with his growth, and as the determination of William was constantly opposing it, they became more and more estranged from each other. The grandfather could not help approving many times of the conduct of William while at the same time he was compelled to gravely censure Maurice. This caused a fierce jealousy to take possession of the latter, which planted the seeds of a hatred which afterwards sprung up and bore bitter fruit.

The cousins now sought companions to suit their different tastes. Maurice would often be seen on the wharf watching the incoming or outgoing of some ship or else listening to some wonderful sea yarn told by a garrulous sailor, till he thought it would be a fine thing to run away and push his own fortune, with no cousin in the way for a stumbling block. It follows, of course, that one morning he was missing.

No trace of the misguided boy was discovered up to the death of the grandfather, who, indignant at the ungrateful behavior of Maurice, left the whole of his estate to William. The will was opened in this very room by the family attorney. As he was proceeding to read it, before the assembled friends and youthful mourner, a footstep was heard in the hall, the door opened, and Maurice with sunburnt face, and sailor clothing, stood before them. William started forward to receive him; but with a cold gesture the other waved him back, and motioned the lawyer to proceed. As soon as the contents of the will were known, a dark frown settled itself upon the face of Maurice.

William noticed this, and stepping to his side, laid his hand on his shoulder, saying: "Cousin, do not think I would defraud you of your rights. In our childhood we were taught to share alike, and thus it shall be now. In a few days we can arrange everything to our mutual satisfaction. We are children no longer; let us not act as such. Will you not be my friend?" Maurice turned hastily away, muttering something about his cousin "always making fine speeches when he thought any one was round to hear them."

William looked hurt; his face flushed, and he seemed ready to retort; but with an effort restrained himself. An awkward pause ensued, and then one by one, the friends took their departure, and the cousins were left alone. What passed between them was never known; but it was understood that some kind of a reconciliation had been effected. They went into society together, where Maurice when he chose, made himself quite brilliant. The demon jealousy, however, was but sleeping. Once in a while, one might see it flashing from his eyes, as he saw that his cousin was more trusted and loved than himself.

At length William brought a fair-haired bride to his home.—Never did the house seem so full of sunshine before. Everything that was staid and ugly was metamorphosed beneath her touch; and it was a delight, to hear her merry laughter, or sweet singing, as she passed through the rooms.

Maurice who had ever regarded woman as a sort of useless creation, began to notice the unusual brightness around him, and in reflecting on the cause, turned his eyes on his cousin's wife. Ah! why is it, that some unseen power seems ever to encourage the evil within us, impelling us on to our fate? Why could not Maurice perceive that it was to the magical touch of womankind in general we owe that enjoyment of comfort and refinement, which surrounds us, and not to one in particular?

Every day bright glances were thrown upon him from those more brilliant than she, who unconsciously opened his eyes to the value of woman. To him they were as nothing in comparison. He felt himself drawn more and more towards *her*. She was to him like a new volume, whose every page reveals some unexpected novelties.

In proportion as his love gained strength, the jealousy of his cousin roused itself within him; but this time it was hand in hand with deceit. He dared not show his feelings, for to quarrel with William would be to banish himself from her who had become necessary to his life and happiness.

He would sit in his room, often, picturing to himself what life might be to him if his cousin did not exist. To her who was the object of his unholy passion, he dared not breathe a word of his thoughts, for she was purity itself, and would have scorned him as he deserved.

The young couple occupied the room over this, opposite which is a covered stairway, outside the house, leading directly to the garden. Maurice had the back room, and as he sat there one winter night something like this, when demons seem to laugh and shriek round the house, in a fit of passion, he vowed he would sell his soul to the devil, if he could rid himself of his now hated cousin. His words seemed to be caught up by a mysterious voice, but he laughed and shook off the fancy.

Sometime after this, William's wife expressed a desire to visit her mother who lived a considerable distance from the city. William was quite willing she should do so as there was trouble about some property belonging to him, in what was then the far west, which needed his presence, and might take as long as three months.

When Maurice heard of this, he tossed all night on his pillow, at the thought of the separation.—At last he started up wildly, leaned his head on his hand, and thus remained until the gray light of morning stole in upon him.

At breakfast he laughingly said, "they seemed bent on forcing him to keep bachelor's quarters; but that he was going to rebel, and would go to Europe instead."—"Don't let your roving spirit catch you again," said William. "I think it has; but I shall charge you both with the cause, for I should not have thought of it if you had not spoken of going away yourself."

The conversation dropped, after some talk of the preparations necessary. Maurice suggested the propriety of discharging the servants and closing the house, as it was impossible for him to tell how long William might be obliged to remain out west. William approved of this, and so the matter was settled.

The vessel Maurice engaged passage in, would sail two days before William left for the West. William was to take his wife to her mother's, and leaving her there, would reach home at ten the next night, where he proposed to sleep, and start fresh again the next morning.

Both William and his wife saw Maurice off. The ship moved proudly from the wharf, as if sensible of the cheering of the throngs gazing after her. Friends strained their eyes, and waved their handherchiefs till the vessel disappeared from view; then they separated, each going his appointed way.

Maurice watched the movements of the pilot, and when his boat came alongside to take him ashore, he quietly stepped into it, as a returning friend of one of the passengers.

The wharf was deserted when they reached it, but Maurice folded a large cloak about him and drew his cap over his eyes lest he should meet some acquaintance. He then made his way to a hotel where he was unknown, and waited there until night-fall; under cover of which, he returned home, letting himself in with a duplicate key.

All was cheerless and deserted. After seeing that everything had been left secure, he retired to rest; but in William's room instead of his own.

The next day he busied himself collecting a number of bricks together, and mixing a certain quantity of mortar, which he carried into a room called the buttery.

This room had a brick flooring with the exception of a square place in the centre consisting of wooden planks, covering the opening to a long disused dry well.—As these boards were a step lower than the surrounding floor, William's wife had often expressed a desire to have it filled up even with bricks, in order to make the room more convenient for use.—William had neglected doing this, and now Maurice proceeded to take up the boards and examine the well. He found it to be about fifteen feet in depth with solid masonry all around.

He remembered his grandfather saying it had been used for the purpose of preserving winter stores of perishable articles. After examining the well, to his satisfaction, instead of proceeding with his work, he left it as it was, and busied himself with other matters till night again closed in, and with it a witches' revel seemed to be inaugurated; for the wind howled round the house, and the rain beat against the window shutters as if it would burst them in.

Maurice now lighted a fire in this very room in which we are sitting; he had not done so before, lest the neighbors should observe the the smoke rising from the chimney. He let the heavy curtains fall before the windows, for fear a ray of light should be seen from without. He then placed a light on a stand which he drew near the fire, and also rolled forward a lounge.

Then he went to the sideboard and filling a decanter with wine, brought it with glasses, and placed them on the table. Just here he seemed to be overcome for the first time with some inward emotion. Leaning his arms on the mantle with his head resting upon them, he stood gazing a long time into the fire. At length he roused himself with an impatient exclamation, and filling a glass with wine drank it off at once.

Taking up the other glass he poured into it a small portion of a colorless fluid from a vial which he replaced in his pocket. Next he lighted a cigar and with a book in his hand threw himself on the sofa with his face towards the door. All was silence now save the crackling of the fire, and steady pouring of the rain.

Time seemed an eternity to that gloomy watcher, whose every action up to this time, had been as coolly performed as if only of every day importance. Now, however, when all was prepared, and he but awaited his victim, Nature would have her sway; and the battle between right or wrong going on within him, showed itself in the clammy moisture of his brow, and alternately quivering and compressed lips. You will soon see which spirit gained the victory.

Not long after ten o'clock, a key turned in the lock of the outside door, footsteps moved along the hall, the door of this room opened, and William entered. He started as if he saw a ghost before him; and well he might for did he not believe his cousin to be far away on the broad Atlantic? Maurice broke the silence.

"You are startled, no wonder; but you need not tremble any longer for I am flesh and blood. You see our vessel sprung a leak just as we got outside, and as the carpenter could not find it, we were obliged to put back into port. As no other ship was in readiness to sail, I returned home."

William endeavored to recover himself and greet his cousin pleasantly, but his fright had almost unmanned him. "Pour yourself a glass of wine," said Maurice, pushing towards him the decanter, at the same time taking up his own glass, which he had previously filled. William did so, drank it to the last drop, and then seated himself by the fire.

At first he seemed much revived, thanked his cousin for the warm reception he had given him, but said, "why did you not open the shutters, and put back the curtains? I would have been prepared then to have found some one here, but never would have dreamed of its being yourself."—Maurice replied that he wished to surprise him and did not think of his being frightened.

Soon William exclaimed that he had never felt so sleepy before in his life; Maurice said it was probably the effects of the wine and heat of the fire, and advised him to lie down on the lounge for awhile. William complied and was soon asleep. Maurice stood over him watching him intently. In about half an hour the muscles of the face worked convulsively, a shiver passed through the form and William was no more for this world.

Maurice left the room, lighted three lamps, and placed one in the hall, one in the stairway, and one in the room with the brick flooring. Returning he attempted to lift the body, but found himself unable to do so. He then placed his arms under those of the corpse, and with almost super-human strength dragged it across the room all through the hall, and down the kitchen stairs; the heavy boots on its feet dropping with a thug, thug, from stair to stair which chilled even the heart of the murderer.

At length Maurice reached the opening to the well, and without pausing to rest, lowered the body into it, with a rope he had prepared. Then replacing the boards, he filled up the space even with the flooring with the bricks he had brought for the purpose in the morning.

He then removed all the debris, put out the lights and restored them to their places. Next he carefully washed the glass William had drank from, put it in its place, half filled the other with wine, commenced a letter to "My Dear Wife," on it placed a half smoked cigar, threw his cloak about him, and glancing about the room to see if all was as he wished, his eye fell on the window where the curtains had fallen aside and he started back with horror for he fancied he saw two eyes glaring at him. He strode to the window, but it only threw back his own reflection, so he turned round and hastily left the house.

Up and down through the streets he walked the remainder of the night, unheeding the wild storm which pelted against him, but, ever and anon looking round as if he felt again the gaze of those eyes upon him. In the morning he took the first conveyance for the west, in his cousin's name, after assuring himself that he was unknown, and travelled night and day, until he reached his destination. Arriving there he transacted his cousin's business, wrote letters to the unconscious wife, successfully imitating his victim's handwriting, and when the sweet replies came, would smother his jealousy, which was not dead yet, in the thought of how soon he would teach that sweet voice to talk lovingly to him.

All this took place, you will remember, before the day of railroads. Maurice busied himself buying the swiftest horses he could find and directed them to be left at certain places until he should call for them. Thus he established a direct and rapid line of communication with the nearest seaport. Ascertaining when a vessel would leave for Europe, he calculated his time, and then wrote a letter in a cramped illiterate style addressed to the wife of William, stating that while out hunting with him, he (the writer) had fallen from a precipice and was crushed to pieces. He had fallen in such a manner that it was impossible to recover the body. He had heard the deceased speak of his wife, and had mailed letters for him for her; therefore he deemed it his duty to inform her of his melancholy end. Such was the substance of the letter.

(To be concluded in our next.)

The Chicago Times thus indignantly squelches a Cincinnati journal for daring to insinuate that Boston had gone ahead of Chicago in the matter of a conflagration: "There is something inconceivably childish in the idea of the Cincinnati person chuckling over the thought that some other city has had a bigger fire than Chicago. The petty jealousy and malignant but impotent hate that are condensed in the above article become all the more ridiculous when it is considered that the Boston conflagration was not one-half so great an affair, measured in any way, as the Chicago conflagration. The latter must still be the standard of comparison for calamities of this character, just as the energy of the city in recovering from the disaster must remain beyond all comparison."

John Strong, of Wescbester, Pa., was hanged the other day, and smoked his cigar to the foot of the gallows. After he had finished the sheriff sold the "stub" for five dollars.

President's Message.

Washington, Dec. 2.

The following is a synopsis of the President's message, which was received and read at 1:40 p.m.

It commences with a recognition of the blessings which the American people have enjoyed the past year, the only exception being the great fire in Boston.—It refers to the Geneva Arbitration and its satisfactory results, which left the two Governments, America and England, without a shadow on their friendly relations, which it is hoped may forever remain unclouded. It recommends the immediate creation of a board of commissioners to decide upon the amounts to be paid to industrials. It compliments Messrs. Adams and Bancroft upon their eminent services in the matter of the Geneva and the San Juan arbitrations. The decision in the atter case leaving the United States for the first time without any question as to disputed boundaries.

In regard to the fisheries, and to our relation with the British North American provinces. The President says that he has received notice that the Imperial Parliament and the Dominion Government had passed laws to carry the provisions of the Treaty of Washington into operation, and he, therefore, recommends the egislation of Congress in the same direction. He speaks of the friendly relations of the United States with all the Governments of Europe. He refers to the Vienna International Exposition, recommends the fitting up of two National vessels to convey the goods of exhibitors to Trieste, and suggests that a proposition be made to have the next great exposition in this country in 1876, at the time of the Centennial Celebration in Philadelphia. He refers to the disturbed condition of Cuba, and says that no advance towards pacification in that Island has been made while the insurrection had gained no advantages and exhibited no more of the elements of power or prospective success than a year ago. Neither had Spain succeeded in repressing the insurrection. The parties to the strife were standing in the same attitude as for a long time past. The continuation of slavery in that Island, he regards as among the strongest causes of the continuance of the strife, and he thinks that the abolition of slavery and the institution of other reforms there could not fail to advance the restoration of peace and order. It was greatly to be hoped that the present Liberal Government of Spain will voluntarily adopt that view.

Referring to our relations with China and Japan, the President recommends provisions for maintaining four American youths in each of those countries, as part of the diplomatic family of ministers.

He gives details of the revenue received in the past year, and of the reduction to the amount of over $100,000,000 of the public debt. He expresses a doubt whether any further reduction in taxation is practicable for the present, and he recommends that no more legislation be had on that subject, except to correct errors of omission or commission in the present laws, until sufficient time shall have elapsed to prove that it can be done, and still leave sufficient revenue to meet current expenses, pay interest on the public debt, and provide for the sinking fund. He suggests, also, that the currency shall be as soon as possible brought to a par with gold. He says that various enterprises will be brought to the attention of Congress for the cheapening of transportation of produce from the West to the Atlantic sea coast, and suggests that steps should be taken to gain all available information to insure equitable and judicious legislation.

In this connection he refers favorably to the proposed route to connect the Mississippi Valley with the Atlantic at Charleston and Savannah by way of the Ohio and Tennessee Rivers, also to the proposed extension of the Kanawha and James Canal and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and to the proposed Canal around Niagara Falls. He says that there should be an almost continuous system of land locked navigation from Maine to the Gulf of Mexico, nature having provided a greater part of the route, and the obstacles to be overcome being within the skill of engineers

He calls attention to the weakness of the American Navy, and endorses the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy in that respect, he recommends subsidies for Steamship lines to Brazil, and between San Francisco, New England and Australia, also an increase of the salaries of heads of bureaus. He favors the abolition of the franking privilege, and recommends a modification of its existing evils.

He also recommends the adoption by Congress of the best method of acquiring title to all telegraph lines now in operation and connecting that service with Postal service. It is not probable that the subject can receive proper consideration at this session, but he thinks the movement might be initiated, so that future action may be had, fair to the Government and the private parties concerned.

He calls attention to the alarming falling off in the American carrying trades, and says that a yearly expenditure of five million dollars for the next five years to restore that trade would be a profitable investment.

Referring to the Ku Klux outrage, the President expresses his conviction that the time is not far distant when the obvious advantages of good order and peace will induce an abandonment of all such combinations, and when it will be unnecessary to carry on prosecutions or to inflict punishment in order to protect citizens from the lawless doings of such combinations.

He makes suggestions in regard to the Indians, that they shall be confined to the territory south of Kansas, and that farms be assigned them in fee and in severalty.

He recommends that a further census be taken in 1875, but that no reappointment of members of Congress be made under it.

In only one of the Territories—Utah—is the condition of affairs regarded by the President as unsatisfactory. It had seemed to be the policy of the Utah Legislature to evade all responsibility to the Government of the United States, and even to hold a position hostile to it.

He recommends a careful revision of the present laws, and the enactment of laws that will secure peace, the equality of all citizens before the law, and the ultimate extinguishment of poligamy.

He recommends an appropriation to reimburse the City of Washington for work done in front of the public reservations, and for the embellishment of the public buildings and grounds.

He favors action to give greater eclat and success to the observance of the Centennial anniversary of American independence.

In regard to civil service, he says he will carry out the rules during his term of office, but suggests that there should be direct action of Congress to make the system binding on his successors, so as to secure to the public service a practical method of obtaining faithful and efficient officers and employees.

The reading of the message was completed at 2:50, having occupied one hour and ten minutes.

THE TAX TO BE LEVIED AND THE INTEREST ON THE BONDS.—The recent tax levy has been declared unconstitutional. It appears, from the special telegram to the Courier, published this morning, that the administration to be inaugurated proposes a tax for State purposes of twelve mills on the dollar, exclusive of the tax for County purposes, which is to be three mills more. No provision is to be made for the payment of the interest on any portion of the public debt until it has been ascertained by a commission of citizens, selected irrespective of politics, what part of the debt is legal or illegal. Such a commission to avail should be selected from the tax payers, and should be above suspicion or reproach. It should be such a commission as will at once command the confidence and assent of the whole State. The tax of twelve mills, for other than State purposes, appears to us as unnecessarily large. The duty of the hour is retrenchment, retrenchment in the number of employees and in the long sessions and pay of the members of the General Assembly. This is of the first importance. The affairs of the State should be brought as near as possible within the same compass as before the late war. Hundreds of thousands of dollars would thus be cut off from useless and unnecessary annual expenses. This would afford the highest substantial guarantee of financial and honest reform.—Charleston Courier.

A FORGIVING WIFE DESERTED.—Here's a true tale of woe, all about a beautiful and abandoned wife in New York. She married a wretch who loved her money not wisely, but too well. When he got the money, he loved somebody else, and departed for the rolling prairies of the West. His earthly possessions were burnt up in the Chicago fire, and then he came back to New York, and put up at the Astor House, without a cent in his pocket. Remorse seized him—it must have been remorse—and ascertaining the address of his lawful partner, he thus wrote her:

"I am here and penniless. Forgive the past, and come to my arms again."

This is what she wrote back.

"I'll come as soon as I can. Excuse delay. I've gone to have a loaded head put on the cane you left."

He didn't wait. Remorse seized him again and carried him off.

Corn is cheaper than wood for fuel in Iowa lime kilns.

Oyster Babies.

An observer of the oyster says he is not as stupid as he looks. He can keep his mouth shut, and thereby defy all our arts to wile a secret from him. When spatting time with the oyster comes, it is said to be sick or milky. This appearance is due to the accumulation of the spat, which is, in the earlier stages of its development, of a creamy consistence of color. When the spat is natural, it assumes the appearance of the scrapings of a slate pencil; the parent oyster then opens its shell, and a kind of mistiness is observable in the surrounding water. This is caused by the myriads of young oysters scattered in every direction. No sooner are these tiny creatures free from their mothers, than they assume the most active state of life and motion, dancing and gyrating up and down in concentric columns, as midgits play in evening sunbeams. Under the lens of a microscope you will see how exquisitely these little fellows are fashioned. A pair of tiny shells, the counterpart of those of the mature oyster, inclose the yet rudimentary organs, while affixed to the mantle is a kind of tiny coronet, composed of minute, hair-like appendages (cilia.) The violent and ceaseless vibration of these living paddles serves to row the infant oyster rapidly from the place. Should it become the destiny of one of these fragile beings to become a steady, well-behaved oyster, it finally settles itself on some suitable resting place, to which it makes itself fast—no one ever clearly knows how—by the under valve or shell. The bristle-like pores or cilia, no longer of any utility, disappear, and now a permanent fixture, the baby oyster, begins to grow. At about a fortnight old it is not much bigger than a fair-sized pin's head, and at three months about that of a split pea. Having attained a year's growth under favorable conditions the young oyster will become as big as an ordinary half-penny; while at four years growth they are considered marketable.

MARRIAGE AND CELIBACY.—Those dry but useful people who delight in statistics have been investigating the effect of marriage and celibacy on mortality. They have demonstrated to their satisfaction the beneficial effect of marriage upon longevity. The last person who has devoted his attention to this subject is M. Bertillon. His statistics cover the States of France, Holland and Belgium. According to M. Bertillon, between the ages of 20 and 35, out of 1,000 married men there are 6 deaths; and out of 1,000 bachelors 10 deaths, and out of 1,000 widowers 22 deaths. Between 30 and 35 the deaths in the same number are: Married men 7, bachelors 11, and widowers 17. Between 35 and 40 years of age the mortality per 1,000 is: Married men 1, bachelors 13, and widowers 17. Continuing these calculations through different series of years, the advantage are on the side of the married men.

WHISKEY AND TOBACCO, NO CHANGES IN EXISTING LAWS TO BE PROPOSED.—Washington, November 12.—The commissioner of internal revenue estimates the receipts of the bureau for the present fiscal year at $105,000,000, or $30,000,000 less than last year, with a national increase annually of three per cent. The receipts of the first quarter were larger than those subsequently collected, being accumulalious on account of past indebtedness and other causes. So far as the bureau is aware, both the tobacco and the spirit interests are satisfied with the late law of Congress, and therefore there is no reason to believe that any modification of it will be recommended, unless in the manner of administration and reorganization of the districts, in order to render the system more compact and to reduce expenses; nor is it probable the tariff act will undergo any material change.

IMPORTANCE OF READING.—No matter how obscure the position in life of an individual, if he can read, he may at will put himself in the best society the world has ever seen. He may converse with the greatest heroes of the past; with all the writers in prose and poetry. He may learn how to live, how to avoid the errors of his predecessors, and to secure blessings, present and future, to himself. He may reside in a desert, far away from the habitations of man; in solitude, where no human eye looks upon him with affection or interest, where no human voice cheers him with the animating tones, if he has books to read he can never be alone. He may choose his company, and the subject of conversation, and thus become contented and happy, intelligent, wise and good.

The Greenville Railroad Case.

Judge Bryan has made the following decree in the case of Charles Madsen and others, petitioners for the involuntary bankruptcy of the Greenville and Columbia Railroad Company:

It will be seen that the issue made by the pleadings in this case are as follows:

1st. Whether this court has jurisdiction, the State of South Carolina having instituted proceedings as guarantor upon the bond of the respondent, and in the State court, under which all the property of the company has been taken possession of?

2d. Whether the Greenville and Columbia Railroad Company is a corporation subject to the provisions of the bankrupt act?

3d. Whether the interest coupons severed from the bonds are commercial paper, and the non payment thereof for fourteen days is an act of bankruptcy?

4th. Whether the Greenville and Columbia Railroad Company was bankrupt and insolvent at the time it suffered judgment to be taken against it by default?

5th. Whether being bankrupt and insolvent, the defendent suffered payment to be taken against it with intent thereby to give a preference to those creditors, or to defeat or delay the operation of the bankrupt act?

6th. Whether the respondent has suffered its property to be taken on legal process with intent thereby to defeat and delay the operation of the bankrupt act in the case of the State ex-relatione, the Attorney-General, vs. the Greenville and Columbia Railroad Company?

As to the first question, I hold that whatever the interest or lien the State may have in or upon the property of the said Greenville and Columbia Railroad Company, if said company be bankrupt, the jurisdiction of the bankrupt court is not ousted because the State is a creditor.

As to the second question, I hold that the Greenville and Columbia Railroad, under the act and decisions upon the act, is a corporation subject to the provisions of the bankrupt act.

As to the third question, I hold that the interest coupons severed from the bonds are commercial paper, and if the Greenville Railroad were "a banker, broker, merchant, trader, manufacturer or minor," the non-payment of its coupons for fourteen days would be an act of bankruptcy; but as it does not (in my opinion) fall within any one of these classes, the penalty for such stoppage does not attach.

As to the fourth question, (acting instead of a jury,) I have not been able to find the insolvency of the company, or decide that it is insolvent.

As to the fifth and sixth questions, not having found the Greenville and Columbia Railroad insolvent, it is unnecessary that I should decide them.

A young parson of the Universalist faith, many years since, when the Simon pure Universalism was preached, started westward to attend a convention of his brethren in the faith. He took the precaution to carry a phial of Cayenne in his pocket, to sprinkle his food with as a preventive of fever and ague. The convention met, and at dinner a tall Hoosier observed the parson as he seasoned his meat, and addressed him thus:

"Stranger, I'll thank you for a little of that ere red salt, for I'm kind o' curious to try it."

"Certainly," returned the parson, "but you'll find it very powerful; be careful how you use it."

The Hoosier took the proffered phial and feeling himself proof against any quantity of raw whiskey, thought that he could stand the "red salt" with impunity, and accordingly sprinkled a junk of beef rather bountifully with it, and forthwith introduced it into his capacious mouth.

It soon began to take hold. He shut his eyes and his features began to writhe denoting a very inharmonious condition physically. Finally he could stand it no longer. He opened his mouth and screamed "fire."

"Take a drink of cold water from the jug," said the parson.

"Will that put it out?" asked the martyr, suiting the action to the word.

In a short time the unfortunate man began to recover, and turning to the parson, his eyes yet swimming in water, a "Varselit, I believe?"

"I am," mildly answered the parson.

"Wall, I want to know if you think it consistent with your belief to go about with hell fire in your breeches pockets."

A virtuous landlord in Louisville has just been mulcted in a considerable sum for turning a young lady traveler away from his hotel because she was unaccompanied by a gentleman, the act being publicly done and creating considerable talk. The young lady, whose character was proved to be above reproach, incensed at the insult brought suit for defamation of character, with the result above chronicled.

Josh Billings, in his directions "How to pick out a good hoss," says: "Good hosses are skarse, and good men, that deal in enny kind of hosses, are skarser. 'An honest man iz the noblest work of God,' this famous saying was written in great auguish of heart by the late Alexander Pope, just after buying a good family hoss."

It is said that $75,000,000 worth of fuel is burned yearly in the United States, and $90,000,000 worth of lumber is used in building and in manufactures.