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For the Anderson Intelligencer.

The Dootchman and I.

Avoca, April, 1874.

MR. EDITOR: Are you much on immigration? Is this the panacea for all our ills, past, present and the future? The contagion is evidently spreading, and is now prevailing to some extent in our settlement, and, not to be behind our neighbors, we have got one—I mean an immigrant—where he hails from, what country, potentate, principality or power, I know not. He may be from the yellow Danube, the arroyo Rhone, or the blue Moselle, as he can't speak a word of any language I ever heard before. His name is Voost, or Joost, or Woost, with sundry grunts and jestures super-added. So, to be precise, we call him "the Dootchman." Of course, the first thing was for all hands, big and little, to commence anew the study of the languages, so as, among all, we could possibly hit upon some words and phrases common to each. Such an overhauling of old grammars, dictionaries and first readers, in French, German, Russian, &c. Such words! Oh, how my jaws ached, and my throat! If we don't all take Diphtheria I will be satisfied. Well, all hands gathered round, and the Dootchman was started to work. He was told in plain English, in broken German, in Irish, in everything; tools were brought, and finally the bright idea struck one of us to commence the work—that is, cut and clean off a terrace near the house, clean off the sprouts and such things as had not been planted. Things progressed swimmingly, and I left; and, of course, all left except our Dootchman. After awhile, here bounces in our little girl, with eyes like saucers:

"Ma, Ma, the Dootchman has cut down—all—the fig-bushes—and the raspberries, and dug up all the strawberries."

Oh, my! did you ever! And here I go to find everything just so. Fig bushes, strawberries and raspberries all in a heap. He did what he was told. He did clean that terrace effectually. It was late next evening before things were put back. No strawberries, no raspberries, no figs this year.

The next day a happy thought came across the brain of the wisest among us, that perhaps the Dootchman understood kitchen-gardening better; so all hands gathered, and we escorted him to the garden, gathered plows, hoes, rakes, &c., and then put him in a row of peas and showed him how to dig, and mulch, and rake. He seemed to take to that wonderfully; so well, that I left perfectly satisfied that we had now found his vocation. So next day, when the sun came out and everything looked smiling, with hat, gloves and parasol, I hid me into the garden. The Dootchman met me with bows and scrape, and, with seeming pride, led me to a great heap of roots, artichokes, &c., piled up in the walk.

"Yes," I said, "yes, very well; good for the cow—oo, pig, squeakie—you understand—oo and pig."

"Yaw, yaw,"

Well, I sauntered on, but alas, alas! I soon saw the point of the joke. I saw my asparagus bed, which cost five years of care and attention, and my burr artichokes all gone. Costly feed to the cow and pigs, I thought; but the old man was hilarious and jovial, and I was denied even the poor privilege of scolding. He could not understand a word of English, and I did not know how to scold in Dutch.

About that time I began to despair. I went to the house a sadder if not a wiser woman. Whilst ruminating over our misfortunes, and thinking that only woman was born heir to such, our little girl came in, looked inquiringly, and said:

"Mother, is this my bonnet?"

"Yaw, yaw—I mean yes, my child."

"Mother, may I go to fishing?"

"Nain, nain—Oh, I mean no, no. I believe in my soul I will lose the use of my native tongue if this thing goes on."

But, Mr. Editor, there is one feature in the case favorable. I was greatly troubled at first as to the food for our Dootchman. I looked into cookery books, German almanacs, etc., to find out the national dishes. I tried bean soup, saur kraut, black bread, butter-milk, etc., but, bless your soul, that was all trouble for nothing. I sent him ham, pork, cabbage, chicken, rice, pudding and pies, and he actually ate all these just like other folks, and, what surprised me, seemed to like each and all of them too. So we poor women are at least saved the trouble of learning how to prepare and serve up outlandish dishes.

Well, time passed, and Saturday 12 o'clock came, when our old servants were accustomed to knock off work and spend the evening according to their own pleasure. Old uncle Prime came along, and, as was his habit, stopped to pass his compliments, as he said: "Compliments of the evening, Miss, and hopes you are very well." [A pause.] "Miss, I want to express my sentiments on this individual you have fetched on the place. I 'clar to God he is gwine to ruin the dignifiedness of labor or wurk. Now, Miss, if that is anything we cullud pursuns do understand, it is the philosophy of wurk. We jest know how to work, when to work, and when to tek off. We learns our mules when the 12 o'clock horn blows to tek off, and we doo likewise. And we ain't in no pertickler hurry to reosom at 2 o'clock, or maybe 3 o'clock—dat depends on the karakter of the employee. Now look at dat individual down yonder; the first thing in the morning, dig, scrape, wurk—all day long the same thing. Lookee now, don't know it's 12; don't know how to tek off. I 'clar he will ruin the country and all the young and rising generation a-coming along. No use to talk to him; I tried it—I tried to 'splain, but no go—wurk, wurk, wurk. Now, Miss, s'pose we cullud pursuns had no more sense than that, s'pose we did not know how to tek care of our blessed bones and flesh, why, we would

all be dead or demoralized the first year. Den whar you gwine to get your garden hands, your field hands, your legislators, your judges and Congressmen? Ain't we the wards of the nation, the peculiar people, chosen by Gubner Moses and President Lincoln Grant to save the country? Does dey want any of you white people to go dar whar laws is made, an' a heap of stealin' goin' on? Dey is afeard you might tell on 'em. Not dey; we is called to that blessed work. And when I rests on my plow, or spade, or hoe, I just soliloquizes that to myself and to the young ones around me. 'Little Sam,' I says, 'never hurt yourself by doin' too much; just save yourself. No knowin', you may be specially called some of these days to go up higher, leave de shovel and de hoe, and perhaps become member to Congress, alongside of the never-to-be-forgotten Elliot.' Bress the Lord for all his mercies!"

Of course, I could say nothing to this outburst of eloquence and patriotism on the part of this ancient "ward of the nation."

Sunday morning beamed in on us with a glorious brightness, and I began to think that this day would pass without further annoyance. But how short-sighted! At breakfast, Old Prime broke in on us with horror and consternation depicted on his shining countenance:

"What did I tell yer? What did I say? Now, see whar the 'spectability of ole Master's family is agwine! Who would hab believed it, and all our nabors jist lookin' on and smilin'; I 'clar to God, jist look at dat old individual a-working away in the garden this glorious, blessed Sabbath morn. What did I tell yer? Ain't the dignifiedness and philosophy of wurk all gone to smashes? And jist think of the zample on the children who don't know any better. I gwine to leave. I can't have my blessed prospects for the future destroyed in no such way. Old Prime will leave, yes he will leave—dat is, if he can find a better place, more to eat and less wurk, yes he will."

Of course, all hands started up, breakfast spoiled, and here we went helter skelter to stop the scandal. 'Sontag! Sontag! Sontag!' all yelled. The old man worked on until he was literally forced away from his beloved work.

Heigho! Donner und tuefel! Mein Gott in himmel! The poor old Sabbath Schander! There, I am afraid these are bad words.

May the Lord pickle (I mean preserve) me from all such ejacula—(I mean provocations) in the future.

But the Dootchman will work, no mistake about this, and will eat just what we all eat, and enjoy it too.

Yours,
GRETCHEN,
(I MEAN GERTRUDE.)

From the Augusta Constitutional.
Louisiana and South Carolina.

The recent debate on the Louisiana case in the United States Senate is very significant. Very little hope can be entertained for the people of the Pelican State from the present Congress, but it is refreshing to hear that some Senators consider that the integrity of State Rights is infinitely of more importance than the everlasting conundrum proposed by Mr. Sherman on finance and kindred topics. It is not at all likely that the Radical-Republican majority in Congress will do justice to Louisiana, because such an effort would be too great a stretch of magnanimity and involve the in a self-stultification which might prove fatal to their schemes. The proposition of Mr. Bayard is the true one, namely: to raise the blockade of Federal power and intimidation, which monwealth to stand erect and robust. This, however, is almost the last thing that can or will be done. But indifference to the fate of South Carolina and Louisiana will work bitter wrong to those States which allow a gigantic wrong. Mr. Tipton, Senator from Nebraska, sees the danger and makes his point very emphatically thus:

"Tipton said he was not specially concerned about the people of Louisiana, but he was concerned about the people of Nebraska, and he thought the right of the people to administer their affairs was of more importance than questions of revenue, finance or anything else which could occupy the Senate. He wanted to know if hereafter a faction in Nebraska could appeal away from the constitution, laws and ballot box of the State, without a handful of men running the Custom House, United States Marshals and United States Attorney's Office could set up a government of their own, and with a promise of support to some future President could procure the support of the Federal power to maintain them in their position."

Mr. Tipton should evince great concern about Louisiana, as a preliminary step to preserve Nebraska from the wrath to come; but it is something for him to confess that, though careless of another State's degradation, he is specially apprehensive for the welfare of the one he represents. Showing that the wrongs of the South are obliged to react fatally upon the East and West, the St. Louis Republican says:

"While two of the States are undergoing this terrible ordeal to which they have been doomed by partisan policy and sectional hate, their sister commonwealths look on indifferently and fancy that the gigantic wrong flourishing so luxuriantly in South Carolina and Louisiana can never, by any possibility, invade them. As well might the man with a cancer festering in his foot flatter himself that the deadly poison will never spread through limbs and body and seize the citadel of life. This Union of ours is welded, for good or ill, into a common mass. We are one nation, and must stand or fall together. No divorce of interest is possible; the evil which afflicts one member of the Federal family must sooner or later affect the others, and the tyranny thoroughly imbedded in one section, however remote, must gradually creep in and overthrow the liberties of all. Missouri and Massachusetts are struck by the same blow which prostrates Louisiana and South Carolina in the dust—and we shall realize the fact when it is too late to avert the lamentable consequences."

In Denmark it has been made illegal to manufacture matches other than those which will ignite only when struck on a specially prepared surface. These matches are originally made in England, where they became very popular, and were imported into this country for a while, and were to be had at our stores; but of late years they have disappeared, greatly to the general regret. They are a real safety substitute he pleases, and his voluntary accept-

An Important Decision by the Supreme Court.

The case of Wm. Whaley, executor, vs. the Bank of Charleston, now decided by the State Supreme Court, is one of considerable importance. The case was argued on a motion for a new trial by the defendants, which motion has been dismissed by the court. The points of the case cited in the opinion, which was delivered by Chief Justice Moses, are briefly as follows: On or before the 6th of September, 1861, the testator, Joseph Whaley, had on deposit with the Bank of Charleston a balance to his credit in gold or its equivalent amounting to \$33,481.96. On that day the bank published a notice, "the knowledge of which was admitted by Mr. Whaley, that from and after that date all credits will be given and will be payable in currency" meaning Confederate notes. Mr. Whaley continued to draw upon the balance to his credit up to March 30, 1863, and overdraw the amount which in September, 1861, he had to his credit. The action was based upon the ground that the receipt of such amounts in Confederate currency was only a discharge of the liability of the bank to the amount of the value of the currency in which the checks were paid. In the Circuit Court the case was decided for the plaintiff. The defendants appealed, and the Supreme Court dismissed the appeal, after argument at the April term of 1873 and reargument at the November term of the same year. The points of the decision are embraced in the following extracts from the opinion of the court:

"On the day that the resolution was promulgated by the bank, Mr. Whaley had to his credit the sum of \$33,481.96, in value equal to gold. It was the result of his deposits and checks up to that day, and if there had been no subsequent transactions between them, it could not with reason be contended that at any after period he would not be entitled, on demand, to be paid the amount in a currency equal to that for which the bank was liable on the 6th of September, 1861. If he had, however, on the next day, drawn a check for \$100 and the bank had in his pass book struck a balance in his favor less the last check, the same agreement would hold that the whole balance thus made would be converted into a liability on the part of the bank to be removed by the payment of Confederate Treasury notes, now worthless, which might be their depreciation when compared with gold or national currency. A result so unreasonable cannot be found to have the sanction of law.

"A fair and legitimate construction must apply to the future 'credits.' It was to have effect from and after that day, on all credits which might be given out after that day. How could it act on credits for which the bank was liable? On what consideration could it find its right to convert a liability for money at par value, into one to be paid and satisfied by a depreciated currency, and the character of that to be determined by itself? The words of the resolution seem to lead to one conclusion, and in their application to Mr. Whaley, unless something has been done amounting to consent or acquiescence on his part, to treat his whole running account with the bank as based only upon Confederate currency, we can see nothing in the judgment below that requires our interposition.

"The argument assumes that by striking the balance, a new and lower value was given to the deposits as they stood on 6th September, 1861. How could this consequence follow when nothing was in fact done that could produce such a result? If a balance had never been struck between the two sides of the account in the pass book, the sum due would nevertheless have appeared upon it. Striking a balance from time to time was a mere matter of convenience, making the difference in the amounts of the two sides at once apparent and varied the result to be ascertained by casting up all the items on each side and then deducting the smaller from the larger. No item of the same to the credit of Mr. Whaley, on 6th September, 1861, could by possibility be converted into a new credit, or one to arise from and after a following day. It then had an existence—a credit to be given 'from and after' could not be one which had been given before. The credit of \$33,481.96 was really due him on August 15, 1861. Between that date and the 6th of November following he made no deposit and drew no check. On the day last named, his pass book was balanced, showing no change in his account as it existed on August 15, and yet it is claimed that, by merely prefixing the word 'balance' to the credit side as it actually stood before the passage of the resolution, its whole character as to value was materially changed. To sustain the construction given to the resolution in the argument on behalf of the bank, its language should have been of a different character; at least of a kind so plain and significant as to prevent any misapprehension on the part of its customers. To subject the amount due Mr. Whaley before the 6th September, 1861, to the provisions of the first section, chapter fifty-five, of the General Statutes, (p. 310,) would be treating it as a debt 'created or contracted in Confederate States notes.' It would determine its value by a provision intended only to affect obligations so arising. While it applies to a debt contracted with a view to Confederate money, as did that which resulted from the deposits and checks after the 6th September, 1861, we can see no reason why, in the particular case before us, the court is bound to give such a construction to the terms of the resolution as must change its whole tenor and apparent purpose, unless compelled to do so by some principle of law. We do not perceive such acquiescence on the part of Mr. Whaley, in the construction of the resolution for which the bank contends, as binds him to their conclusion. Was there any circumstance apparent from the book, with his view of the resolution, as was naturally calculated to prompt inquiry or explanation?

"It is urged that Mr. Whaley has himself afforded a construction to the language of the resolution by drawing at some time between November 6, 1861, and March 3, 1863, in excess of his deposits, unless his checks can be supposed to refer to the amount which on November 6, 1861, he had to his credit, as well as to the deposits he afterwards made. So far from exhibiting any inconsistency, it is reconcilable with the view which he took of the resolution of the bank. If it is correct, his supposed overdrafts were only to be valued at the rate of Confederate money, and discharged pro tanto the balance due him in good money.

"The other grounds of appeal object to the judgment of the Circuit Court because it affirms the doctrine that the payment of a running account in Confederate money is invalid, and the payment cannot be set aside or opened, though there was no fraud, coersion, or misrepresentation. We do not see how this conclusion can be reached from anything which appears in the judgment to which it refers. In no regard, in affirming it, do we consider ourselves as at all impugning the principle which we have maintained in several cases, that a creditor, though entitled to demand payment in lawful money, may waive his right and accept any substitute he pleases, and his voluntary accept-

ance of such substitute as payment, makes it so.' It has no application here, because the resolution which we think affected all the transactions after 6th November, 1861, looked to a continuance of their dealings to be regulated, determined and settled in a mode which was to be consistent with the terms and conditions which it imposed. The motion is dismissed."

Another Memorial to Congress.

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 14, 1874.

At an unusually large meeting of the Board of Trade of this city, held on the evening of the 13th instant, the following memorial was adopted and signed by all the members present. A committee was appointed to obtain the signatures of the merchants, bankers and business men of the city, not present at the meeting, and to forward the memorial, with signatures attached, by telegraph, to the Sub-Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, United States Congress, Washington, D. C. The names of eighty-nine of the principal merchants, bankers and business men have been attached to the memorial, and sent forward, as directed by the Board of Trade, to Washington.

JOHN T. SLOAN, JR.,
Secretary Board of Trade.

COLUMBIA, S. C., April 13, 1874.

To the Hon. Lyman Trumbull, Chairman of Sub-Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, United States Congress, Washington, D. C.: The undersigned, members of the Board of Trade, citizens residing at Columbia, South Carolina, engaged in Commercial pursuits, and not in any manner identified with politics, deem it our duty at this time to endorse the efforts made by the committee of the Tax-Payers' Convention, to procure from the Congress of the United States such legislation as will give to South Carolina and all her sister States an honest republican government, by such enactments by Congress as will provide for the summary punishment of all conspirators who have or may in future, individually or collectively, combine to defraud the public, whether the actors are members of the Legislature or otherwise. Residing at the capital of the State of South Carolina, engaged in mercantile pursuits, and composed of that class of citizens whose occupation brings us in constant contact with men of all shades of politics, we hold the position of neutrals between the old regime and the present State Government of South Carolina. We are witnesses of the fact that taxation is enormously increased, that the State debt increased to an extent beyond the ability of the tax-payers to pay the interest; that property is assessed and taxes levied on valuations much beyond the cash value of the property, and in direct conflict with the Constitution of the State; that combinations are formed by which a large amount of the taxes, wrung from the hard earnings of an impoverished people, are only used to enrich the few at the expense of the many. We are witnesses of the fact, that members of the Legislature of South Carolina, and others connected with the State Government on small salaries, without any other ostensible employment or means of earning money, have become wealthy, drive fine equipages, and spend many thousands per annum, which cannot be shown to be acquired by their legitimate occupations. This state of affairs, if permitted to continue longer, will destroy, as it has already sapped, the prosperity of the State. We believe that the committee now at Washington to represent the Government of the State of South Carolina, and to counteract the efforts of the committee of the Tax-payers' Convention, are interested in the continuance of the present system, by which the people are dispossessed, and have more or less enriched themselves by their connection with the Government of our State, and we regard their statements made to the President of the United States and others as not sustained by the facts of the case.

We are indifferent as to the politics of our rulers, provided they are honest; and we are always ready to extend the hand of friendship to all who may come amongst us to better their fortunes by honest labor, regardless of their place of birth or private opinions.

As the committee before whom the tax-payers of this State are to receive a hearing, we earnestly invoke your aid to correct by legislation the evils we complain of, assuring you most solemnly of our truthfulness. And as in duty bound, we will ever pray.

THE PLEA OF EX-GOV. R. K. SCOTT.—Gov. Scott is out in a long letter to the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States Congress. The ex-Governor first repels the charge, made by Col. Lathers in the Taxpayers' Convention, that he (Scott) had spent three hundred thousand dollars of the funds of the Freedmen's Bureau to secure his election to the position of Governor of the State. He claims that but twenty thousand dollars were expended before his election, and that it was used in distributing corn and provisions to the white planters of the State who were employing colored laborers. "Hundreds of the proud and once wealthy families of the State," he says, "were subsisted by these charities, will doubtless feel surprised when they learn that bread was furnished them for expected services in securing the election of the nominees of the Republican party." The ex-Governor also denies the charge that, while Governor of the State, he lived beyond his means, and hazards the assertion "that there were probably not half-a-dozen members of the Taxpayers' Convention whose estates were worth as much as mine at that time." The rest of the letter is confined to a vindication of the financial policy of his administration, which, in his view, was a brilliant success, considering the circumstances. He says he would be the last person who would attempt to interpose any influence to prevent the correction of abuses that actually exist, but begs that if Congress takes any action intended to correct the evils complained of, a committee of its members may inquire minutely into the charges concerning himself.—*News and Courier.*

What the Northern Press says of the Plight of South Carolina.

From the New York Tribune.

The fact that a committee of gentlemen, representing the aristocracy of old families and State Rights, is now in Washington supplicating for redress by the interference of the general government, tells the whole sad story of oppression and humiliation. It is not a spectacle that should gratify anybody. We believe every count in their indictment of the negro majority in South Carolina can be sustained. No American Commonwealth ever suffered more from the domination of depravity and ignorance. The outlook seems hopeless. How a State thus afflicted may be restored to a healthy condition is a question demanding the serious consideration of statesmen. We are not surprised to find the sufferers proposing quack remedies for the disease; but with all sympathy and concern for the patient it is the duty of the wise physician to deny the request. The proposition of the South Carolina memorialists as expressed by individual members is that the reconstruction acts be so amended as to wrest the State from the hands of the negro majority now in power, and place it under the control of the tax-payers and the educated class. It is always desirable that intelligence and respectability shall rule; but it is not right that even this good end should be accomplished by over-riding the popular will by congressional interference. No such dangerous precedent should be set, even for a good purpose; and if such a precedent already exists, it should not be followed. If this plan is adopted in South Carolina, it would seem to justify not a few of the political crimes which have made the Republican party, as it exists in some other Southern States, odious in the eyes of the world. It will not do. Special legislation is not the proper remedy for political wrongs. If the distressed people of South Carolina ask "What, then, shall we do?" we answer, in the language of Gov. Kemper, that "there can be no security for liberty but in an immovable adherence to fundamental principles." Precedents of the kind which ascribe unlimited power to a legislative body and assume that it may subvert the dearest principles of liberty at will, are but "bloody instructions, which, being taught, return to plague the inventor." Abandon party alliances; strive for a union of honest men irrespective of their nativity, color or previous condition; neglect no opportunity of exposing the rascality of your present rulers; show the nation that you are not fighting on dead issues, but for living principles, for good government, honesty in high places, and equal rights before the law; purge your registration lists and keep the ballot-box free at any cost. With such a policy and by the use of such means you must succeed, though patience may be necessary to await the day of your victory. In the meantime know that the oppressed South Carolina has the sympathy of all friends of good government, and that the battle now going on everywhere between honesty on the one hand and corruption on the other cannot but redound to your advantage.

[From the Springfield (Mass.) Republican.]

The story of the prostrate State has been told too often and too fully in these columns to need another retelling. It is a pitiful story, a shameful story. It has about it something at once of the hideous unreality and the sickening oppressiveness of the nightmare. It does not seem possible, we can hardly bring ourselves to believe, that such a story can be truthfully told of an American Commonwealth, one of the Old Thirteen, theoretically the sister and equal of Massachusetts. The evidence, however, is too voluminous, coherent and cumulative to admit of doubt. To all the other proofs, a fresh and convincing one is now added in the spectacle of the white citizens of the State, the ex-slaveholders and ex-rebels, begging at the hands of a Republican President and a Republican Congress the boon of a Federal intervention. These men, not so very long since, were the fiercest sticklers for State rights to be found in the country, as their fathers and grandfathers had been before them. They would have gone to the death sooner than tolerate any intermeddling on the part of the general government in the internal affairs of South Carolina. Now they invite and even implore it. The fact is more eloquent than anything in their memorial. * * *

The appeal to the Federal authority having proved a failure, the question recurs, What to do? Two courses are open to these South Carolina tax-payers. We assume that an armed rising against the existing State Government is out of the question. The first of these courses is, to organize a passive, peaceable rebellion; in other words, to refuse to pay their taxes, after the Louisiana precedent. Some of the delegates are quoted as having told the House Committee that this plan would be tried, unless relief was speedily forthcoming. The idea is, of course, to coerce Congress into doing what it will not do voluntarily. The adoption of this plan would, of necessity, cause great confusion and excitement in the State; it might easily lead to bloodshed; even if it did not, it might not prove so feasible and efficacious as to those who favor it profess to believe. A much better and safer plan, as it seems to us, will be to steadily and hopefully persevere in the path upon which they have already entered; discouraged by the disappointments and meagre results of the past, to redouble their efforts to secure the confidence of the colored voters, detach them from the carpet-baggers and the scoundrels, and educate them to the duties of citizenship. Conciliation, education—in these two words lies the hope of South Carolina. The ex-slaveholders have already made a good beginning in divesting themselves of much of their old partisan-ship and prejudice of race. Their best and most hopeful plan is to go straight ahead in this line. The circumstances and conditions are more favorable than ever before. Let the tax-payers be of good courage. They have reaped the harvest from a bad sowing. Let them now sow kindness instead of contempt, sympathy instead of arrogance, justice instead of oppression. This seed, too, always come up. They shall reap in due season, if they faint not.

A New York paper says an extensive conspiracy to cheat the United States Government of the tax on whiskey has just been discovered. Attention was first called to it from the fact that there has recently been a large falling off in the revenue from distilled spirits. This decrease, however, was attributed to the women's temperance movement. The real cause is said to be the extensive growth of new whiskey frauds in the West, and the fraud is conducted in such a manner as to cheat the government out of ten million dollars a year.

Prince Frederick Charles, of Prussia, intends to start on a tour around the world in July, and expects to be away from Berlin about a year and a half. His route will be across Russia and Siberia; thence to Japan; thence to China, from where he will come to the United States. A Prussian war vessel will convey him from New York back to Germany.

A Snake Story.

THE RULING PASSION STRONG—AFTER DEATH—IN A BATTLESLAKE.

Across the Westfield river, where it rolls down among the rocky hills of Berkshire, just before it sweeps out upon the plain to join the smooth Connecticut, there is a massive stone dam. The vexed waters beat against it; it never trembles. They seek to burrow beneath; its bed is upon the very bones of the everlasting hills. A few of the topmost waves look over the brink and, pushed by those behind, fall white and shivering down the abyss below. But those that tumbled the loudest as they rushed down the mountains, and railed at the stony barrier with many a noisy echo, just bruise their sides against the steadfast wall and glide submissive through a hidden culvert, glad to escape by toilsome service, working an underground passage for themselves through the iron wheel of Jessup & Laffin's paper mill. Here is one of those rugged fastnesses that seem more and more out of place amid our all-conquering civilization, but which will remain wild and rugged till every valley shall be exalted, every mountain and hill laid low.

Among such solitudes, rough, rocky and unsubdued, slowly sinking crests of dead and dying mountain chains—are still found, from time to time, dark witnesses of creation's fateful mystery, loathsome reptiles bearing death in their fangs, malice in their hearts and rattles on their tails! While the workmen were building this mill at Salmon Falls on the Westfield River, one of these crawling outcasts of creation, descendants no doubt of that "pesky serpent" renowned in Springfield's ancient ballad, crept unawares within reach of his hereditary foe. As his great ancestor was merciless were his captors. He was beaten by the lay with clubs and matted with stones till he lay limp and lifeless, but horrid still. Brought thus near the building, he was laid upon a piece of timber, an object of curiosity and merited disgust. At length, moved by that caution which dreads a fallen foe, or by a strange though not uncommon spite, one of the men chopped off the head—the flat, evil skull, hard flinty eyes, the jaws closed grimly upon the cruel fangs within—chopped it off and brushed it away. Later, the engineer coming out thought to save the taper chains of rattles, a ghastly memento. But these had just been severed from the lifeless trunk, which still lay bruised and bleeding where it had been thrown.

Among those looking on, a boy stood near in homespun dress, stout boots enveloping his pants. A gray-haired denizen of the region, drawing nigh, bade the youngster stamp on the serpent's tail. Nothing loath, the heavy boot came down where the rattles used to grow—came down and, straightway up it came, while a sickly pallor blanched beneath the tan and wholesome dirt. No wonder! The "spirited, sly snake" had been drinking sunshine, as he lay outstretched, and, mangled as he was, he gathered strength to resent the insult, as instinct prompted him. Quicker than a liberated spring his headless trunk, he struck the offending boot with the same malicious violence, as when the poison fangs were set erect to do its fatal bidding! Happily, the head was quite severed from the body, and lay in the dirt several feet away.

It's not pleasant to tread on a sprightly rattlesnake, even though one wear thick boots and the reptile has neither head nor tail. So these unscientific investigators pursued their experiment with a piece of board, but 'twas quite conclusive. Every time the smaller end of the body was struck the other retaliated with a spiteful blow. Surely a strange phenomenon, from which many interesting theories might be drawn aside from the obvious caution—don't handle rattlesnakes till their heads are taken off; but who shall say what occult law of life's mystery is shadowed in a fact like this? As often as that ghostly carcass coiled and struck the offending boot, so often, and at the self-same instant, the grim, repulsive head, lying dismembered in the dust, opened its jaws, with deadly fangs protruding, and closed them with a snap! Again and again this was done, till the broken and divided—or was it the indefinitely extended?—ghost of the reptile at last departed.

Whoever wishes to satisfy himself of the truth of this relation can easily do so. Always the belief or unbelief of those who do not care to investigate is a matter of no importance.—*Springfield Republican.*

HEAVY SUPPERS.—Says Dr. Denison: Eating a hearty meal at the close of the day is like giving a laboring man a full day's work to do just as night sets in, although he had been toiling all day. The whole body is fatigued when night sets in, the stomach takes its due share, and to eat heartily at supper and then go to bed is giving all the other portions and functions of the body repose, while the stomach has thrown upon it four or five hours more of additional work, after having already labored four or five hours to dispose of breakfast and a still longer time for dinner. This ten or twelve hours of almost incessant work has nearly exhausted its power; it cannot promptly digest another full meal, but labors at it for long hours together, like an exhausted galley slave on a newly imposed task.

The result is that by the unnatural length of time in which the food is kept in the stomach, and the imperfect manner in which the exhausted organ manages it, it becomes more or less acid; this generates wind, this distends the stomach, this presses itself against the more yielding lungs, hence every breath taken is insufficient for the wants of the system, the blood becomes foul, black and thick, refuses to flow, and the man dies, or in delirium or fright leaps from a window or commits suicide.

REST FROM BRAIN WORK.—The *Watchman and Instructor* makes the following sensible remark upon an important subject:

"Study out of school hours is once more receiving a little attention, but not half so much as it deserves. We protest against the practice as injurious to both the mind and the body of the pupil. The hours assigned for school-room duties are as many as health or propriety require; a child needs all the rest of the twenty-four hours for physical and mental health and growth. We do not want to see or hear of precocious children; we want no such hot house pressure; and if, perchance, some boy or girl has an inclination to overwork, let it be checked instead of encouraged. This precocity seldom reaches mature life; the lamp burns brightly for a while, but soon exhausts itself. If parents and teachers would be content with a reasonable progress in studies—would think that a child's body is of some importance as well as the mind; would realize the power in the old maxim, *Sana mens in sano corpore*;—in a sound mind in a sound body—they would be wise in their generation. There is a false pride in this matter that works only mischief."

Father Ryan, a distinguished clergyman and celebrated poet, has accepted an invitation to address the Literary Society of the University of Virginia on the 1st day of July next.