"TREADWATER JIM."

BY SAM W. SMALL (OLD SL.)

"Who's dat? W'y dat's Treadwater Jim—
De wust little nigger in town—
What de folks what sez dey'll hang him,
'Kase w'y hit don't seem he kin drown.
He keeps himself dere in the watah
'Bout half ob his time in de year,
An' ef he's got enmy home round hyar,
Hit's out on de end ob dat pier!

"Well, de name what he's got—it was gin him
By folks what was kno'in de facks,
Fer dey sed dat sum title was due him
'Kase he'd done wun de nobles' of acks!
Ob kearse I kin tell yer de story,
'Kase I was right dar on de spot;
An' of Jim is entitul'd ter glory,
He fa'rly earnt all dat he's got.

"Yer see, hit wuz out on de wahf, dar,
Wun sunshiney mawnin' in May,
Dat er little chile up fum de Newf, sar,
Wuz tooken out dar fer ter play;
An' Jim wuz out dar wid his fish-line,
An' de nuss warn't a-watchin de chile,
So hit wa'k'd off rite inter de brine
At dat corner dar by de big pile!

"Well, den dar wuz skreamin' an' cryin'
From all de folks 'round on de pier,
But Jim seed hit warn't no use tryin'
Ter reskew de chile fum up heah—
So he tuk er long dive fer de watah
An' struck whar de chile hed gone down,
An' hit tuck him so long fer ter fine hit
De peepie tho't hofe 'em would drown.

"But purty soon out in de stream dar
Er kinky black hed come in site,
An' heit close ter his bres wif hofe hands, sah,
Wuz de baby ali limpy an' white!
Den de mouts ob de peeple wuz opin'd
In er long an' enkuridgin' shout!
'Cum on wid de bots, men!' Jim holler'd—
'I'll tread watah ontel yer git out!'

"Den dey bent ter der ores like Munsters
An' flew ter whar Jim, wid de chile,
Wuz doin' his bes' ter keep flotin',
But weak'nin' his lick all de while!
Dey brought de two heah fer de landin'
An' de mutther wuz crazy wid joy,
While de father jise retch'd fer dat darky
An' hugged him ez do' his own boy!

"So yer see, dat's de reesin dey gib him
De name dat yer heer'd me jess call—
A nobody bodders' along wid Jim,
An' he does ez he pleezes wid all!
Ob kearse, what he done wuz rite brave, sah,
An' mebbe wuz wurthy er crown—
But Jim!—Well, Jim's jess de blamedes'
No 'count little nigger in town!"

KATHIE'S WEDDING DOWRY.

"Only one silk and that not new! Dear me, dear me, it is dreadful!" and Mrs. Grayson caught up the pretty bodice of the garment in question, and gave it a spiteful little shake. Kathie, hemming ruffles by the window, laughed.

"What can't be cured must be endured; there's no help for it, auntie," she said.

"Yes, there was help for it," cried the lady, tossing the bodice from her, "if you had taken my advice; but you must go and act like a simpleton! The idea of a girl of your age giving away her hard earnings, and then getting married without a decent change of clothing! I declare it is too absurd. And you are making such a good match, too! Charles Montague comes of one of the very best families in the country, and he will be rich one of these days."

"At which time, let us hope, my scanty wardrobe will be replenished," said Kathie, merrily.

Her aunt frowned contemptuously.

"But what are you to do now?" she went on. "What do you think Mrs. Montague, of Oaklands, will think of you, when she sees your outfit?"

"Not one whit less than she thinks of me to-day," answered Kathie, stoutly.

Mrs. Grayson laughed in scorn.

"You poor little simpleton! Wait until you know the world as I know it, and you'll change your tune. I tell you, Kathie, appearance is everything. Your bridegroom himself will feel ashamed of you when he sees you in the midst of his stately sisters, in the grand rooms of Oaklands."

Kathie winced, but she answered bravely:

"I don't believe Charlie will ever feel ashamed of me."

"Wait until he sees you in your shabby garments."

"Shabby garments," said Kathie, opening her bright brown eyes. "My garments are not shabby, auntie. I am quite sure I never looked shabby in my whole life."

Mrs. Grayson glanced at the trim, graceful little figure. The close-fitting blue merino was faultless; the linen cuffs and collars were spotless as snow. Kathie was right; she never looked shabby. Her garments seemed to be part and parcel of herself, like the glossy feathers and black tuft of a canary. Yet these same garments were usually made of all sorts of odds and ends, for Kathie was poor, and obliged to be rigidly economical. But she was possessed of that tact, or talent, or whatever it may be called, which is more to woman than beauty or fortune; which enables her, by the mere skill of her willing fingers and artist soul, to make life, her home, her own person, "a thing of beauty and joy forever."

Mrs. Grayson, Kathie's well-to-do aunt, with daughters of her own, who trailed their silks in the dust and tumbled their laces and plumes and looked dowdy all the while, regarded the trim little figure by the window with a half-admiring, half-contemptuous smile.

"You're rather a pretty girl, Kathie, and you understand the art of getting your-elf up in good style. What a you've got will do well enough, but there's so little of it. Your bridal outfit is shameful, upon my word. What will you do for carriage dresses, and dinner dresses, and evening dresses, when you are Charles Montague's wife? Why, when I was a bride I had everything; a round dozen of silks of every hue, poplins, merinos, tissues and half a dozen sorts of wraps. I didn't go to James Grayson bare of clothes, I tell you."

Kathie said nothing. She bent over her ruffles, her bright eyes dim with tears.

"Such a simpleton as you've been," her aunt continued, "after toiling and teaching for your money, to turn round and give it away! I declare it puts me out of temper to think of it."

"What else could I do?" the girl burst out passionately. "Could I see poor George's cottage sold over his head and he and his wife and children turned out into the street?"

"Assuredly," answered the lady, coolly, "he could have rented a house easy enough. In your place, I should have kept my money in my pocket; but you wouldn't listen to my advice. You are sorry for it now, no doubt."

"I am not sorry for it. I would do the same thing to-morrow. I'm glad I had the money to pay poor George's debt, and I don't care if I do look shabby."

"Very well, I shall try not to care, either. I shan't help you; I told you that from the beginning; I can't afford it, and even if I could I should not feel it my duty. You would be headstrong and senseless, you must bear the consequences. I'll give you some lace for your neck and sleeves, and you may wear the garnet set of Josephine's.

"I don't want the lace, I've some that belongs to mamma; and I wouldn't wear Josephine's garments for anything."

"Oh! very well, don't snap my head off; I beg; you needn't wear them. Much thanks one gets for trying to assist you. You won't wear my hat, either, I suppose; how about that?"

"I have plenty of trimmings; I shall trim that light felt I wore last winter."

"And your jacket? Where's that to come from, pray?"

Kathie's tears were gone, her brown eyes flashed like stars.

"I intend to make myself a jacket of grandfather's old coat," she replied.

Her aunt threw back her head and laughed heartily.

"Grandfather's old coat! oh, that is too good! What would Mrs. Montague, of Oaklands, say to that? Kathie, child, what a goose you are!"

Kathie threw aside her ruffles, and, going to the clothes press, brought out the old coat.

"The material is very fine," she said, "and this rich, old-fashioned fur will cut into nice strips for trimming; I can make a handsome jacket out of it, and I think," she added, softly, "grandpapa would like me to have it, if he knew."

"Grandpapa, indeed!" echoed Mrs. Grayson. "I should think you'd have but little respect for his memory after the manner he treated you; never leaving you a penny after you nursed him and slaved for him as you did."

"I think he intended to leave me something," said Kathie. "I know he did, but he died so suddenly, and there was some mistake."

"Oh, nonsense! I wouldn't give a fig for good intentions! He had lots of money—everybody knows that; it has all gone to that scapegrace Dugald, and you haven't a shilling now for your wedding dowry."

"Charlie won't mind that," said Kathie, her cheeks blooming like a rose.

"Won't he? Don't tell me, child! Every one thought you would be old Tom Rowland's heiress when you first met him. Ten to one he'd never have given you a second thought but for that. Now that he's disappointed he's too much of a man to back out, of course, but he feels it all the same. Don't tell me."

Kathie uttered no word in answer. She took the old coat, and, crossing to the window, sat down to rip it apart. Her wedding day was drawing near, there was time to lose. Mrs. Grayson settled herself on the lounge, for her afternoon nap; the big Maltese cat purred on the rug, the canary chirped lazily in the cage, and without, above the waving line of the wooded ridge, the December sunset glowed.

Kathie began to rip the loosely stitched seams, her pretty, fresh face looking sad and downcast. Aunt Grayson's world-wise talk had put her out of heart.

All her life she had been such a brave, sweet little soul. Left an orphan early, she had lived with her grandfather, and made his last days bright.

"You're a dear child, Kathie; by-and-by, when you think of being a bride, I'll give you a wedding dowry."

He had said so a dozen times, yet, after his sudden death one midwinter night, there was no mention of Kathie found in the will, and so everything went to Dugald, the son of a second marriage.

Kathie did not complain, but it cut her to the heart to think that grandpa had forgotten her. She tried not to believe it; there was some mistake.

And when Dugald sold out the old homestead and went off to America she gathered up all the souvenirs and took care of them. The old fur-trimmed overcoat was one.

Then, lodging at her aunt's, she taught the village children, and saved up her earnings for her marriage day, for Charles Montague loved her, and had asked her to be his wife.

The wedding day was appointed and Kathie was beginning with a fluttering heart to think about making her purchases, when her brother George fell ill; and, worse, fell in trouble. He was rather a thriftless man and had been unfortunate; his little home was mortgaged, and unless the debt could be repaid the house would be sold over his head. Kathie heard, and did not hesitate an instant. Her hard earnings went to pay the debt.

She did not regret her generosity sitting there in the glow of the waning sunset; she would have done the same thing again. She did not doubt her handsome high-born lover's truth, yet her girl's heart ached, and tears dimmed her clear, bright eyes.

It was bad to be cramped for a little money, and one's wedding day so near. Her wardrobe was limited. She needed a nice seal brown cashmere dreadfully, and a light silk or two for evening wear. Aunt Grayson told the truth; she would look shabby in the grand rooms at Oaklands, in the midst of Charlie's stately sisters.

The tears came faster, and presently the little pearl-handled knife, with which she was ripping the seams, slipped suddenly, and cut a great gash right across the breast of the coat.

Kathie gave a shriek of dismay.

"There, now, I've spoiled the best of the cloth. I can't get my jacket out; what shall I do?"

Down went the bright, young head, and, with her face buried in grandpa's old coat, Kathie cried as if her heart would break.

Mrs. Grayson snored on the lounge, the Maltese cat purred before the hearth, the canary twittered, and out above the wintry hills the sunset fires burned.

Her cry out, Kathie raised her head, dried her eyes and went on with her ripping. Something rustled under her hands.

"Why, what's this? Some of grandpa's papers!"

She tore the lining loose, and there, beneath the wadding, was a package done up in parchment and tied with red tape.

Kathie drew it forth. One side was marked: "This package belongs to my granddaughter, Kathie."

"Why, what can it be?" cried Kathie, her fingers fluttering as she tugged at the tape.

At last the knot yielded, and she unfolded the package. Folded coupon bonds—a round dozen at least—and a thick layer of crisp bank notes. On the top a little note. She read it.

"My dear little granddaughter, here is your marriage dowry. Two thousand pounds. One day some fine fellow will claim you for his wife. You are a treasure in yourself, but take this from old grandpapa."

"Oh, grandpapa, you did not forget me!" sobbed Kathie.

A ring at the door startled her. She looked out and saw her lover. Gathering her treasures into the lap of her ruffled apron, she rushed out to meet him.

"Oh, Charlie, come in quick; I've some wonderful news to tell you!"

The young man followed her into the drawing room, wondering what had happened.

"Oh, Charlie! she cried, breathlessly, holding up her apron, her eyes shining, her cheeks aglow, "you see, I am rich! I've found my marriage dowry. A minute ago I was crying because I was so poor. I had to give George all my money, and I've only one silk, and I had to trim my old hat over, and auntie laughed at me so, and said you would feel ashamed of me. I was cutting up grandpapa's old overcoat to make a jacket, and I found this; only see, £2,000! Oh, Charlie! I'm so glad for your sake."

The young man bent down and kissed the sweet, tremulous mouth.

"My darling," he said, his voice thrilling with tenderness, "I am glad of all this because you are glad. For my own part I would rather have taken this darling little hand without a shilling in it. You need no dowry, Kathie; you are crowned with beauty and purity and goodness. In my eyes you are always fresh and fair and lovely, no matter what you wear. I love you for your own sweet self, my darling."

Kathie let the folded coupons and bank notes slip from her apron and fall to the floor in a rustling shower.

"Oh, Charlie!" she whispered, leaning her head against his shoulder, "I am so glad!"

"Glad of what, Kathie—grandpapa's dowry?"

"No, glad you love me for myself."

He clasped her closely, and at their feet grandpapa's marriage dowry lay unheeded.

THE city of Aurora, Ill., is lighted by the electric tower plan. The system consists of six electrical towers made of iron rods and network, each 150 feet high. They are crowned with electric lamps of 2,000-candle power each, or equal to 125 gas jets.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

In the House of Representatives, on Saturday, May 27, after several dilatory motions, Mr. Calkins obtained consent to submit a proposition to discuss the South Carolina contested-election case for six hours, the House then to vote on the question of recommittal. Mr. Randall objected. Roll-calls on filibustering motions showed the lack of a quorum. Mr. Dunn introduced a petition for an appropriation of $100,000 for the relief of sufferers by the overflow of the Mississippi, accompanied by a letter from Commissioner Mangum, of Arkansas. Mr. Reed presented an amendment to the rules to limit filibustering on election cases. The Senate was not in session.

Mr. Garland offered a resolution in the Senate, on the 29th inst., which was adopted, for an inquiry into the necessity of aiding sufferers by the overflow in Arkansas. Messrs. Cockrell, Sherman and McMillan spoke in opposition to the bill to reimburse the Creek Indian orphan fund, which was laid over. An act was passed for the sale of the old postoffice site in New York for $500,000. Mr. Lapham presented a resolution for the payment of $5,000 to the administratrix of John C. Underwood for prosecuting his claim to a seat in the Senate from Virginia. Mr. Plumb reported bills to set aside lands for a park in Arizona and to enlarge the powers of the Department of Agriculture. The Japanese Indemnity-Fund bill was discussed and laid over. In the House, Mr. Reed called up the proposed amendment to the rules prohibiting dilatory motions on a contested-election case. Mr. Randall raised a question of consideration. Mr. Kenna moved an immediate adjournment, and Mr. Blackburn proposed to adjourn over Decoration day. Lost—yeas, 2; nays, 145. Mr. Randall then moved that the House adjourn to June 1. On that, Mr. Reed made a point of order that on the proposition to amend the rules dilatory motions cannot be entertained. Mr. Randall denied the right of the Speaker to put any such construction on his motion. Mr. Reed proposed to discuss the point of order, and suggested a limit be put on that discussion. No agreement to that end, however, was made, and the Speaker said he would not make the limitation less than an hour on each side. Mr. Reed then opened the discussion. He claimed that the House had, under the constitution, certain powers expressly conferred upon it—powers which it could exercise without let or hindrance by any other body; powers which it could not surrender, which it could not trade away, which it must perform, and the first of these powers was to judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members. This House had been endeavoring during the last ten days to perform that duty, but had been prevented by dilatory motions. The best and most orderly way to put a stop to that course was to amend the rules, and that was the object now. He maintained the proposition that wherever there is a duty imposed upon Congress to accomplish a certain work, it is the duty of the Speaker to carry out that rule of law or of the constitution. He cited the ruling of Speaker Randall when there was filibustering against the execution of the Electoral Count law, and when an obstruction was attempted by Springer, to the effect that he (the chair) had allowed this, and had allowed that, and had allowed the other, in the way of motions, but the House was now brought to a point where it must act. Mr. Reed referred to the decision by Mr. Blaine to the effect that, pending a proposition to change the rules, dilatory motions cannot be entertained. He closed by stating that the minority had no right further to delay the action of the House. Randall proceeded to reply to Mr. Reed. He admitted that the rules of a legislative body were first for the orderly conduct of business, and next for the protection of the rights of the minority. In this latter point he quoted from the rulings of the Speakers of the English House of Commons. He argued that, just as the constitution prescribed the manner in which it should be amended, so the rules prescribed the manner in which they should be changed. As to his own decision in the electoral-count case, he put it on the ground that the law under which the House was then acting was greater than the rules, and cut off dilatory motions. In the present case, however, there was no law interfering with the rules. As to Mr. Blaine's ruling, or rather dictum, Mr. Randall asserted that it had never been pressed, nor any advantage taken of it, but that, on the contrary, efforts had been made on that occasion (when the Civil Rights bill was under consideration) to suspend the rules so as to cut off dilatory motions, but without success, so that, after Blaine's dictum, it had been conceded that only by a two-thirds vote could dilatory motions be cut off. In conclusion, he justified the action of the minority in this contested election. Messrs. Kasson, Carlisle, Haskell, Blackburn, Robeson, Cox, Hooker, McLean, Reagan, Randall and Hazelton aired their views on the issue, consuming three hours. The Speaker sustained Mr. Reed's point of order. Mr. Randall took an appeal, which was tabled by 150 to 0. Mr. Cox presented a protest by 100 Democratic members. The report of the Committee on Rules was adopted by 150 to 2. Mr. Miller, of Pennsylvania, obtained the floor on the South Carolina contested-election case, when the House adjourned for the day.

Immediately after the reading of the journal in the House, on the 30th ult., Mr. Springer, of Illinois, objected to its approval as it omitted mention of two important motions made by him and ignored by the Speaker. In proceeding with his argument he was called to order by the Speaker. "I have the right to speak," said Mr. Springer. "If I am not in order let my remarks be taken down. The Speaker in the chair can very well afford—" Mr. Springer attempted amid excitement and confusion to proceed with his remarks, but was cold peremptorily by the Speaker that the Sergeant-at-Arms would be directed to force him, at least to desist. The Democratic members gathered around Mr. Springer, giving him aid and encouragement, while many Republican members were also on their feet, protesting angrily against Mr. Springer's course. Mr. Springer informed the Speaker defiantly that he would not be taken from the floor. Mr. Humphreys—"You can and will; I can do it myself." [Laughter.] Mr. Springer—"It would take a larger pattern than you to do it." [Continued laughter.] The Speaker—"The chair can very well afford to allow the gentleman from Illinois to make improper remarks in so far as they apply to the chair alone, but it is quite another thing when the gentleman undertakes to destroy the dignity of the House by his own conduct." Mr. Springer—"That has been already destroyed." "That is so," said Reed, "by your side of the House." The Speaker—"Any proper motion that the gentleman may wish to make relating to correcting the journal will be entertained by the chair and submitted to the House. The Journal Clerk, in omitting motions that were not entertained, proceeded exactly in accordance with the rule." Mr. Knott claimed that the Speaker had made a mistake in refusing to entertain a legitimate motion. A proposition to correct the journal was lost by 89 to 134. Mr. Miller then argued for two hours in support of the report of the Elections Committee on the South Carolina contested-seat case, and exhibited tickets used in the elections in that State. The discussion was continued by Mr. Davis, of Missouri, against the report, and by Mr. Paul, of Virginia, in favor of the report. At the conclusion of Mr. Paul's speech Mr. Calkins inquired whether, if an evening session were dispensed with, and the House now adjourned, the discussion would be resumed to-morrow without any obstruction from the Democratic side. The answer came back resolutely from Messrs. Morrison, Atkins, Randall and other Democratic members, that no agreement whatever would be made. Mr. Calkins then gave notice that he would call the previous question on the contested-election case at 5 o'clock the following day. A recess to 8 o'clock was taken, at which hour Mr. Atherton moved to adjourn to morning. A claim that no quorum was present caused a call of the House, which consumed two hours. The House then adjourned. The Senate was not in session.

Mr. Sewell, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill to the Senate, on the 31st ult., for the relief of Fitz John Porter. The bill authorizes the appointment of Mr. Porter to the position of Colonel in the army, with the same grade and rank held by him at the time of dismissal from the army, provided he shall receive no pay, compensation or allowance whatsoever for the time intervening between his dismissal from the service and his appointment under this act. Mr. Logan presented the views of the minority of the committee, and both reports were ordered printed. Mr. Logan presented an act to allow the widow of Minister Hurlbut his salary for one year. A long debate took place on the bill to reimburse the Creek orphan fund. Mr. Garland called up an act to grant the right of way through Indian Territory to the Mississippi, Albuquerque and Inter-Ocean railway, but Mr. Ingalls objected. The Japanese Indemnity bill was discussed. In the House, the contested-election case of Mackey vs. Dibble was, after a most exciting and disorderly scene, finally disposed of, Mackey being seated by a vote of 150 to 3. Mr. McLane, of Maryland, then rose to a question of privilege, and sent to the Clerk's desk and had read a resolution reciting the fact that the House, in the exercise of power expressly conferred upon it by the constitution, has ordained and established a code of rules for the government of its proceedings and for the guidance of its presiding officer; also reciting the facts in connection with the Speaker's refusing to entertain motions and appeals of Mr. Springer on Monday, the 29th, declaring that he was not allowed his right as a representative of the people to submit motions affecting the merits of the measure then pending, and that this right of the House to construe its own rules was not accorded; also declaring that it is the duty of the House to maintain the integrity and regularity of its proceedings and to preserve the rights and privileges of its members, and therefore resolving that, in the judgment of the House, said motions and appeals were in order at the time, they were made and taken under existing rules, and ought to have been entertained and submitted by the Speaker to the House for its action thereon; also resolving that said decision and ruling of the chair and his refusal to allow appeals therefrom, were arbitrary and are condemned by the House. Mr. Reed, of Maine, immediately moved to table the resolution, and it was entertained by the Speaker, thus cutting off Mr. McLane. The scene which followed was the wildest ever known in the House, fifty members shouting simultaneously for recognition, and Speaker Keifer being pale with anger. Finally, by a party vote, the resolutions were tabled. The Republicans then called up the Florida case of Bisbee vs. Finley. The House voted to consider it, and then adjourned.

A bill authorizing the construction of a railroad bridge across the Sault Ste. Marie river, to connect with the Canadian roads, was passed by the Senate on the 1st inst. The bill to reimburse the Creek orphan fund was amended and passed. Mr. Allison reported the House bill to extend the charters of national banks, with sundry amendments. The Army Appropriation bill was called up. Mr. Bayard opposed compulsory retirement at 62, and Mr. Logan defended it. Mr. Butler gave notice of an amendment excepting Gens. Sherman, Sheridan, Hancock and Howard. Mr. Maxey announced a motion to strike the clause from the bill. A prolonged debate ensued, but no action was taken. The House took up the Florida contested-election case of Bisbee vs. Finley. Speeches were made by Messrs. Beltzhoover, Jones, McMillan and Bisbee, when a resolution declaring the latter entitled to a seat was passed by 141 to 9, and he was sworn in. Mr. Hazeltine called up the contested-election case of Lowe vs. Wheeler, from Alabama, and the House decided to consider it. Then Messrs. Kenna and Cox, of New York, rose respectively to a parliamentary inquiry and a point of order, and a stormy scene ensued which continued some time. Mr. Cox insisted that he had made a motion to adjourn (Mr. Hazleton having yielded to him for that purpose), which he had never withdrawn, "and [to the Speaker] you, know it." Mr. Page, of California, rose excitedly, and demanded that the gentleman from New York should be respectful to the chair. [Derisive laughter and shouts of "Oh," "Oh," on the Democratic side.] Mr. Cox (to Mr. Page)—"You cannot lecture me; you are not the Speaker." The Speaker stated that Mr. Cox had withdrawn his motion to adjourn, and that thereafter he had not been entitled to the floor. Mr. Cox asked to make a statement in reply, but the Speaker stated he had already made his statement, and the chair was willing the two statements should stand side by side. Mr. Reed then moved to adjourn, and the Speaker put the question, expounding Mr. Cox's efforts to be heard. "Well," said Mr. Cox, "that is what I call brute force—mere brute force." "It is not," replied the Speaker. The House then adjourned.

The Senate found itself without a presiding officer when it convened on Friday, June 2, owing to the absence of David Davis. He designated Mr. Ingalls to act for the day. The point was immediately taken that the Acting Vice President had no right to make such designation, and that the President would have to be elected by the Senate. The parliamentarians were instantly ready with precedents for and against the power of the President of the Senate to make the appointment. Meanwhile the Secretary of the Senate presided. Mr. Morgan said he viewed the position that the Acting Vice President could so delegate his authority with extreme alarm, since President Arthur might be stricken down, and Ingalls might then succeed to the Presidency, without having been elected by the Senate. Mr. Morgan said that to avoid difficulty he should move to adjourn until Monday, which would leave Mr. Davis' tenure perfect to the succession in the event of any accident to President Arthur. The motion was adopted. The House took up the Alabama contested-election case of Lowe vs. Wheeler, on which speeches were made by Messrs. Mills, Jones, Atherton and Horr. The General Deficiency bill and the Legislative, Judicial and Executive Appropriation were reported, and referred to the committee of the whole.

GOLDEN GRAIN.

Flattering Crop Reports from All Directions.

TEXAS.—The Secretary of the Dallas (Texas) Board of Trade makes the following statement regarding the crops in Northern Texas, made up from reports received by him from all sections within that part of the State: Within the past ten days heavy rains have fallen generally throughout Northern Texas, and unmatured crops are growing very fast. It is the subject of general remark among farmers that this has been the most favorable season for everything since 1870.

MINNESOTA AND DAKOTA.—Crop dispatches gathered at St. Paul from Southwestern Minnesota and Southern Dakota report favorable weather and small grains doing well at present. In Northern Iowa the acreage of wheat is 10 per cent. and that of corn 50 per cent. greater than that of last year. Corn is nearly all planted, but the weather is still too cold for it to grow well. It is beginning to come up, however, in some localities. In Southern Dakota wheat and small grains look fair, and corn is all planted. In the Minnesota valley all grain but corn is doing well. The corn planted before this last cold snap is nearly all frozen in the ground. Farmers are now replanting, and with warm weather hereafter the crop may come out all right.

NEBRASKA.—Crop reports collected by the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad Company and by leading grain merchants in Lincoln, Neb., are quite favorable to small grain, and show no uneasiness in regard to corn. The latter has suffered some from the weather and some replanting will have to be done, but in the main the crop promises well. Should the present warm, growing weather continue through June a large corn crop will be assured. There is but one opinion in the matter of small grain. It never looked better than at present.

KANSAS.—The reports from a large portion of the counties in Kansas show that the wheat never looked better at this season of the year and promises an abundant yield. The cold rains of the past week put an end to the work of the chinch-bug on the wheat for this year. The corn has most all been planted, and is nearly a foot high in some the counties, and looks well. Never in the history of the State has the prospect been so favorable for a big fruit crop. All kinds of fruit are looking well, and the farmers have commenced complaining that there is going to be too much fruit, and that the prices will be so low that it won't pay to bring it to market.

IOWA.—A Sioux City dispatch says: Acreage of corn over last year, 50 per cent., and, excepting a little coolness, prospects are good. Wheat prospects are also good, but the acreage is one-fourth less. Other grains are doing well, and the country generally is prospering.

WISCONSIN AND MICHIGAN.—Wisconsin has had trouble with spring wheat, but in parts of the State the area shows increase, and the condition of the crop is good; the yield ought to be considerably in excess of last year. Barley is being cultivated increasingly in Wisconsin, and it promises well. In Michigan the condition of the wheat is excellent.

ILLINOIS.—At Springfield dispatch to the Chicago *Times* says: Winter wheat on drained land is much above an average in condition, and, with favorable conditions until harvest, there will be more than an average yield per acre. Notwithstanding the fact that the winter-wheat area of the State is 10 per cent. less than last year, the prospects at this date when compared with the corresponding date last season is favorable for 32 per cent. larger yield per acre in Northern Illinois, 40 per cent. larger yield per acre in Central Illinois and 26 per cent. larger yield per acre in Southern Illinois. Corn planted before the cold weather in April and at intervals since, much to the surprise of old corn-growers, has made considerable growth during the period of low temperature, and, while lacking vigorous, healthy color, is, under the circumstances, doing well, and with a few days of warm sunshine will make rapid growth. The area of potatoes and oats is much larger than last year.

OHIO AND INDIANA.—A recent telegram from Cincinnati says: Reports of farmers visiting the city, mercantile travelers and correspondents of business houses daily received give flattering accounts of the prospect of wheat in the portions of Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky immediately tributary to Cincinnati. The acreage is from 15 to 20 per cent. greater than that of last year. The set on the ground is thick, the stem vigorous, the heads large, and the yield to the acre promises to be 20 to 25 per cent. greater than that of last year.

IN GENERAL.—In general it may be safely stated, at this writing, that the cool, wet weather has not been unfavorable for wheat, and has rendered it the conspicuous service of keeping back the fatal chinch bug. If it has injured the corn it may have more than compensated for it by the opportunity it has afforded the young wheat of getting a good start before the chinch bug was able to be out. But it is not yet certain that the corn has been seriously injured. It is backward; large tracts that should have been planted are not planted yet. The area of both corn and wheat is considerably increased, and the condition of the former is not such, with rare exceptions, as to discourage the farmers, who are confident that if the weather now becomes favorable no harm will have been done by the wetness and coldness of the season. Oats, rye and potatoes appear to have been planted in liberal quantities, and to be promising well.

SIXTEEN New York savings banks are in the hands of receivers. To depositors these gentlemen have paid $4,000,000 in even figures and $793,000 to themselves.

Great Writers at Work.

[San Francisco Post.]

How Dryden worked I cannot find recorded; doubtless at any time and all times whenever the need of money pressed him. Pope always required his writing desk to be set upon his bed before he rose. Gray, the author of the "Elegy," was perhaps of all writers the most curiously minute in his method; it is said that he perfected each line separatly amending and rewriting it over and over again, and never commenced another until the first had wholly satisfied his fastidious taste. Byron sat down to write without any premeditation his ideas flowed with his ink, and one line suggested the next. But after the poem was completed, and during its passage through the press, he was continually altering, interlining and adding. The first copy of "The Giaour" comprised of only 400 lines; to each new edition were added new passages, until it swelled to nearly 4,100 lines. During the printing of "The Bride of Abydos" he added 200 lines, and many of the original were altered again and again. One of the most constantly laborious writers of whom we have any account was Southey. In one of his letters he says: "Imagine me in this great study of mine (at Gesta Hall Keswick,) from breakfast till dinner, from dinner till tea, and from tea till supper, in my old black coat, my corduroys alternated with the long worsted pantaloons and gaiters in one, and the green shade, and sitting at my desk, and you have my picture and my history.

My actions are as regular as those of St. Dunstan's quarter bags. Three pages of history after breakfast then to transcribe and copy for press, or to make my selections and biographies, or what else suits my humor, till dinner time; from dinner till tea I read, write letters, see the newspapers, and very often indulge in a siesta. After tea I go to poetry, and correct and rewrite and copy till I am tired, and then turn to anything till supper, and this is my life, which, if it be not a merry one, is yet as happy as heart could wish.

"THEIR OCCUPATION GONE."

R. V. PIERCE, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y.: I was attacked with congestion of the lungs, soreness over the liver, severe pain in the joints, a burning fever and general giving away of the whole system. Failing to find relief in remedies prescribed, I tried your "Golden Medical Discovery." It effected my entire cure. Your medicines have only to be used to be appreciated. If every family would give them a trial, nine-tenths of the doctors would, like Othello, find their occupation gone. Yours truly,

L. B. MCMILLAN, M. D., Brecsport, N. Y.

PRENTICE was playing at poker on a Mississippi steamer. Prentice bet a thousand on his hand; his opponent raised him five hundred. Prentice raised a thousand; his opponent raised him five hundred. Prentice again raised the stake a thousand. "Mr. Prentice," said his opponent confidently, "you are betting more than your hand is worth." Prentice looked at his hand, turned it down on the table and said: "Sir, if I were playing with Jupiter, at a star ante, I would darken the heavens on the hand I have just turned down."

"Could Hardly Stand on Her Feet.'

R. V. PIERCE, M.D., Buffalo, N.Y.: *Dear Sir*—I must tell you what your medicine has done for me. Before taking your "Favorite Prescription" I could hardly stand on my feet, but, by following your advice, I am perfectly cured. The "Favorite Prescription" is a wonderful medicine for debilitated and nervous females. I cannot express how thankful I am to you for your advice. Yours truly,

MRS. CORNELIA ALLISON, Peosta, Ia.

FRIEND (cautiously)—"I have seen many a worse picture painted by professionals." Amateur—"O, hang it, don't! I've been painting these twenty years, an', pon me honor, this is the first time my work has been compared with those fellows!"—*London Judy.*

THE World's Dispensary and Invalids' Hotel at Buffalo, N. Y., destroyed by fire a year ago, is rebuilt and full of patients. For "Invalids' Guide Book," giving particulars and terms of treatment, address, with two stamps, WORLD'S DISPENSARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, Buffalo, N.Y.

Advice to Young Writers.

Style or composition, though to some it comes naturally, does not come to all. When I was young, an older and more-experienced writer once said to me: "Never use two adjectives where one will do; never use an adjective where a noun will do. Avoid italics, notes of exclamation, foreign words and quotations. Put full stops instead of colons; make your sentences as short and clear as you possibly can; and whenever you think you have written a particularly fine sentence cut it out."—*Mrs. Oliphant.*

A Sad Fact.

There is no cure for consumption, and yet consumption of lungs, liver or kidneys may be checked and decay arrested by using Dr. Guysott's Yellow Dock and Sarsaparilla. It strengthens every organ of life and restores all lost or impaired organic functions to their normal condition. A single bottle will convince you of its great merit. Ask your druggist to get it for you.

Boys and Girls.

"If I had a dozen children I would want them all boys," said Mrs. Thrifty. "Boys can take care of themselves, they are energetic, enjoyable, and it doesn't take half as much sewing to keep a family of boys along."

"Now, if I should have any choice," said Mrs. Workhard, "I should rather have my children all girls. Girls are so gentle, so hopeful, and have so much more refinement than boys; and then it is such a pleasure to sew for them, they look so prettily in the garments made for them."

"Very well, ladies," said Mrs. Sensible, "you are both right and wrong. I believe in a mixed family—part boys, part girls. The boys influence the girls to self-reliance, the girls refine the boys by their gentleness. A boy who is brought up with sisters makes the most manly man, and the girl who is brought up with brothers makes the most womanly woman."—*New Haven Register.*

MR. CLEMENS KNOWLTON, of Falmouth, Ky., writes: "I was quite an invalid, afflicted with a complication of diseases that showed a tendency to weaken and exhaust my brain and nervous system. I found myself quickly cured by using a bottle of Dr. Guysott's Yellow Dock and Sarsaparilla. It has given perfect tone and real strength to every part of my body, and my blood is free from all impurity."

EVEN the violet has its special enemy, and in Europe at least is menaced with destruction. An almost imperceptible spot appears upon the blue of its petals as it blooms, and rapidly extends. The flower soon becomes colorless and dies; and then is discovered the microscopic insect which has been feeding upon it. The provinces of the Rhone are already bereft of their choicest flowers.

SULPHURETTED hydrogen destroys the red spider without injury to the most delicate plants.

HABITUAL costiveness afflicts millions of the American people. Kidney-Wort will cure it.

UNDER certain conditions flour becomes as explosive as gunpowder, but the only drawback is that you can't point a barrel of it in fun at any of your dear friends and have it go off at the right instant.

"HERE rests his head upon the lap of earth; a youth to fortune and to fame unknown. Too much benzine crept underneath his girth, and played the mischief with his temperate zone."

THE Englishman enjoys fox-hunting more than any other kind of work. He has a horse to carry him, and a dog to do the smelling, and a servant to kill and skin the fox.

"A FELLOW must sow his wild oats, you know," exclaimed the adolescent John. "Yes," replied Annie, "but one shouldn't begin sowing so soon after cradling."

SIR WALTER RALEIGH made his way to fortune and fame by politeness. He was not one of the Elizabethan ruffs.

EVERY lady who shops by mail should send five 3-cent stamps for a copy of *Strawbridge & Clothier's Quarterly.* The present number contains 1,000 engravings, illustrating the new fashions, and four pages of new music. Strawbridge & Clothier, Eighth and Market streets, Philadelphia.

A Peculiar View of the Question.

It is refreshing to hear of a genuine conversion, if it be from darkness to light, especially when it is speedy and complete. A few years ago a friend of mine was taking a country walk with a friend, a clergyman, when the latter suddenly wheeled round his face toward home, with the remark: "Let us go back, I'm tired; was called up in the middle of the night to baptize a child that was dying."

"Were you in time?" asked my friend.

"Just," was the reply; "another half minute and I should have been too late."

"And if you had been, what then?"

"Why, then, I suppose the poor little thing would have been lost."

"Eternally?"

"Well, yes, according to our belief."

"May I ask what sort of boots you wear?" said my friend.

"Boots? Elastic-side, always."

"Now, suppose you wore laced, and they had taken two minutes to put on, the child would have been dead, and—lost eternally, ay?"

"That's a peculiar view of the question; and I must think over my position."

Two days after the clergyman met my friend and said: "I have thought that matter over and must alter my view. The boots did it."—*London Spectator.*

NEVER break a business engagement of any kind, if it be possible to meet it. Let nothing cause you to become careless of business etiquette, integrity, and promptitude.

SINCE the time of ancient Greece no country has produced so many eminent literary men, who were also soldiers, as has Spain. Calderon, Lope de Vega, and Cervantes all fought for their country.

His Gratitude.

ELEVENTH AND POPLAR STREETS, ST. LOUIS, MO., March 17, 1881.,

H. H. WARNER & CO.: *Sirs*—For twelve years I have suffered from kidney troubles until your Safe Kidney and Liver Cure wrought a wonderful restoration of health. JOHN M. WARD.

THAT was a wise little theologian on the Pacific coast who voiced the bitter cry of humanity in her evening prayer the other night. After the "Now I lay me down to sleep" she added the petition, in most fervent tone, "and now, O God, *if you can*, please catch the devil and kill him."

Kidney Disease.

Pain, Irritation, Retention, Incontinence, Depositions, Gravel, etc., cured by "Buchupaiba." $1.