

The People's Pilot.

RENSSELAER, INDIANA.

The News Condensed.

Important Intelligence From All Parts.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Second Session.
The second session of the Fifty-second congress convened at Washington on the 5th. Vice President Morton called the senate to order and Chaplin Butler opened proceedings with prayer. The usual committees were appointed to inform the house and the president that the senate was ready for business, after which an adjournment was taken for the day. Speaker Crisp called the house together and the blind chaplain, Rev. Dr. Milburn, delivered a prayer. The credentials of new members to fill vacancies were presented. Bills were introduced to open the world's fair on Sundays; to change the time of the meeting of congress to the first Monday in March after election; to repeal the federal election law, and to provide for the issue of \$75,000,000 in bonds redeemable in coin at the option of the United States after ten years, to be applied to the payment of the deficiency in the United States treasury.

DOMESTIC.

The electric light plant at Des Moines, Ia., valued at \$100,000, was ruined by fire.

Mrs. ADA DELONG has been acquitted of murdering her husband at Birmingham, N. Y., November 4 last. He beat her and she shot him.

AGENT TINGLE, in his report of the operations of the division of special agents of the treasury department during the last fiscal year, says that smuggling of dutiable merchandise across the Canadian and Mexican frontiers has largely increased during the past year.

A FAST train on the Erie road struck a wagon at a crossing in Elmira, N. Y., and Edward Blanchard and his wife and Mrs. W. Conklin and Mrs. Maggie Pitts were killed.

At Webb City, Mo., in the zinc-mining region, a shaft was run into a bed of subterranean fire.

The heaviest snowstorm prevailed on Long Island since the blizzard of 1888, the fall being 2 feet.

A FIRE broke out in Hart's sawmill in Tacoma, Wash., causing a loss of \$100,000.

The public debt statement issued on the 1st showed that the interest and non-interest bearing debt decreased \$897,452 during the month of November. The cash in the treasury was \$16,035,117. The national debt, less the cash balance in the treasury, amounts to \$834,913,881.

The annual reports of the postmaster general's assistants show that during the past year the inland mail service cost \$41,335,373 and the foreign mail service \$806,145. The net increase of post offices over the year was 2,790, and the total number in the United States is 67,119. There were 5,920,788 domestic mailable letters received at the dead letter office and 557,643 domestic unmailable letters.

The annual report of Superintendent Kimball, of the life-saving service, shows that there were 243 lives saved last year, 181 on the Atlantic and forty-eight on the lakes, and twenty were drowned. The total wrecks numbered sixty, the loss being \$5,673,510.

The government receipts last month aggregated \$28,750,000, against \$27,000,000 in November, 1891, and in the five months of the current fiscal year amounted to \$163,640,979. The expenditures in the past five months were \$161,000,000.

JOSEPH KANE, a Lake Shore railroad employe at Erie, Pa., killed his wife and himself. Domestic trouble was the cause.

By the explosions of a locomotive boiler at Brownsville, Pa., Engineer Barry was killed and Fireman Neifert was fatally hurt.

A PACKAGE containing \$2,000 was stolen recently from the United States Express Company from a train on the Illinois, Indiana & Iowa railroad near Dwight, Ill.

The aggregate internal revenue collections of the United States during the last fiscal year were \$158,857,544.35. SEVERAL boats were capsized near West Berkeley, Cal., and seven Italian fishermen were drowned.

The street railroads of New Orleans have been sold to a New York syndicate for \$10,000,000.

In the United States the leading clearing houses reported exchanges of \$1,382,066,386 during the seven days ended on the 24, against \$1,108,000,048 the previous seven days. As compared with the corresponding week of 1891 the increase was 3.3.

JACK FIELDS was hanged at Wharton, Tex., for the murder of Henry Kearby and his wife.

SEVEN safes in the Equitable building in Chicago were blown open by burglars in one night and about \$1,500 in cash secured.

The county seat of Bayfield county, Wis., has been removed from Bayard to Washburn.

DURING the seven days ended on the 24 the business failures in the United States numbered 269, against 299 the preceding week and 330 for the corresponding time last year.

FOUR of the desperadoes who held up a Great Northern train near Malta, Mont., were captured at Great Falls.

A FIRE in a tenement house in Brooklyn, N. Y., resulted in the deaths of Michael Doyle and his little daughter. An earthquake shock was felt in Chattanooga, Tenn., extending to the summit of Missionary Ridge, an area of about 2 1/2 miles square.

A HUNDRED-WIRE trust has been formed with headquarters in Chicago to control the output in the country.

NEAR Sanford, N. C., two elderly sisters named McDonald were killed by a burglar.

CHARLES ANDERSON, aged 10, killed his younger sister at Wichita, Kan., with a shotgun which he thought empty.

THREE new banks with an aggregate capital of \$1,400,000 opened their doors in Milwaukee.

CHARLES BUDDENIEK, the New York builder who was sent to prison June 24, 1888, for manslaughter, has been discharged from Sing Sing, his term having expired.

The efficiency of the different corps is the subject of comment in the annual report of Secretary of War Elkins, and the revival of the grade of lieutenant general is urged. The expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1892, were \$51,218,970.52.

The superintendent of immigration shows that 979,603 immigrants arrived in this country during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1892.

The annual report of Secretary Noble to the president covers in detail the doings of the interior department. The work accomplished during the present administration is shown to greatly exceed that of any like preceding period in the history of the department.

GEORGE W. REED, press agent for the Leslie Davis Dramatic Company, committed suicide at a hotel in Fort Wayne, Ind.

The Elm Park Methodist church at Scranton, Pa., which had just been completed at a cost of \$200,000, was destroyed by fire.

FIRE on the Northwestern coal dock at Superior, Wis., caused a loss of \$100,000.

ERNEST NICHOLSON, a farmer, his wife and two children, were drowned in a creek near their home at Pleasanton, Cal. They were driving through the creek when the wagon upset.

By the caving in of a bank at Woodville, Miss., the three little girls of Dr. J. P. Carro were killed.

The entire business portion of Cumberland Gap, Tenn., was destroyed by fire.

Most of the business part of Cranford, N. J., was burned.

The treasury department has decided that a Chinese boy may enter the United States for the purpose of receiving an education, provided he has the permission of his own government to visit the United States.

COL. T. H. BOYD, editor and proprietor of the Morning Olympian at Olympia, Wash., was shot and killed at Seattle by his wife. Domestic trouble was the cause.

For many months a comparison of outgoing and incoming steamer passengers in New York has shown the arrivals greatly in excess of the departures, but now the tide is turned the other way and the departures are in excess by the thousands daily.

SURGEON GENERAL WYMAN, of the Marine hospital service, in his annual report to the secretary of the treasury recommends that immigration be suspended for at least one year from the first of January next.

SECRETARY FOSTER, of the treasury department, has submitted to congress the book of estimates for the fiscal year 1893-94. They aggregate \$421,612,215. The appropriations for 1893-94 were \$423,361,970.67.

DAVID BLOCK, manufacturer of tinware in New York city, failed for \$193,000.

POSTMASTER GENERAL WANAMAKER in his annual report says \$5,000,000 have been added to the gross revenue, the deficit has been reduced \$1,000,000, 2,790 new offices have been established, and the experiment of free delivery in villages has been successful. He also says that one-cent letter postage is a near possibility.

At the annual meeting in Baltimore of the National Prison association Judge Wayland, of New Haven, said the three principal causes of crime were unrestricted immigration, the saloon and neglect of children. He suggested as the remedy the perpetual imprisonment of all habitual criminals, paupers and drunks.

LOUIS NEWMAN, managing editor of the German edition of the New York Evening News, fell dead while at lunch in a restaurant.

The pianoforte workers of Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Boston and other centers of the industry have decided to organize a national union.

ARTHUR WILLMEAN commenced a fifty days' fast at Cleveland, O.

PARKER CRANE was arrested at Middletown, O., and identified as an escaped prisoner who was under sentence of death at Vincennes, Ind., in 1888.

FRED MARSH, one of the most dangerous counterfeiters in the country, was arrested in Milwaukee.

An explosion of powder at Scottsdale, Pa., wrecked J. M. Bradley's house and fatally injured his two children.

A FLOOD carried away part of the dam of the Honey Lake Valley Land & Water Company in Lassen county, Cal., causing a loss of \$50,000.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

Gov. TILLMAN, of Edgefield, and Lieut. Gov. Eugene B. Gary, of Abbeville, were inaugurated at Columbia, S. C.

CHAUNCEY MORLAN and Annie Bell were married in a New York city museum. The bridegroom is 31 years old and weighs 443 pounds. The bride is a year younger and tips the scale at 570 pounds.

ALICE MAUD STONE, for whom the celebrated trotter Maud S. was named, was married at her home in Cincinnati to Albert Carey, of New York.

HENRY HAYT, who was governor of Pennsylvania from 1878 to 1883, died at his home in Wilkesbarre, aged 63 years.

The funeral services of Dr. Scott, the president's father-in-law, took place in Washington, after which the remains were taken to Washington, Pa., for burial.

The official count of the presidential vote in Texas gives Cleveland 239,148; Harrison, 17,475; Weaver, 99,988; Bidwell, 2,165.

The official vote shows that at the late election in Minnesota Harrison received 122,735 votes; Cleveland, 100,579; Harrison's plurality, 22,157.

HARRIET FOSTER ORR, widow of the late Gen. Joseph Orr, died in La Porte, Ind., aged 90 years.

The official canvass in Kansas for members of the legislature gives the house to the republicans and the senate to the populists. On joint ballot the populists have a majority of one.

JAY GOULD, the great financier and railway king, died at his home in New York of pulmonary consumption, aged 56 years. He leaves four sons and two daughters, his wife having died three years ago, and a fortune estimated at from \$60,000,000 to \$150,000,000.

COMMANDER ROSEWELL D. HITCHCOCK, Jr., U. S. N., died in New York after a few hours' illness.

The oldest theatrical manager in the United States, Jake E. Esler, proprietor of a theater in St. Louis, died at the age of 64 years.

MARY ALLEN WEST, of Chicago, editor of the Union Signal, and for several years one of the leading lights in W. C. T. U. work, died in Tokio, Japan, aged 55 years.

CAPT. E. H. VIRGIL, one of the pioneers in the express business and one of the organizers of the National Express Company, died in Troy, N. Y., aged 55 years.

The official returns from the recent election in Nebraska give the vote as follows: Harrison, 87,218; Weaver, 82,256; Cleveland, 24,943. Harrison's plurality over Weaver, 4,957; over Cleveland, 62,270.

The funeral of Jay Gould took place at his late residence in New York city. MAJ. GEN. BENJAMIN W. BRICE, U. S. A. (retired), died of congestion of the lungs at his residence in Washington, aged 76 years.

FREDERICK BRADLEY, one of the best known marine underwriters in the country, died at his home in Brookline, Mass.

FOREIGN.

FLAMES at Buena Ventura, South America, destroyed seventy buildings.

GEN. DIAZ was inaugurated president of the republic of Mexico for his fourth term and the third consecutively.

The famous church of St. Michael at Vienna, erected in 1231 and visited by tourists from all parts of the world, was destroyed by fire. The church contained many tombstones from the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries which were badly damaged by the flames.

The Russian government has appropriated \$3,000,000 to be devoted to the relief of the inhabitants of the famine-stricken districts of the empire.

The Japanese cruiser Sheshinarukan collided with the British steamer Ravenna in the Island sea and was sunk and eighty-five of the cruiser's crew were lost.

ROBERT OLSEN was hanged at Dorchester, N. B., for the murder of Policeman Joseph Steadman in Moncton, August 1.

M. HANNAN & Co., wholesale cheese and produce merchants at Montreal, failed for \$115,000.

GEN. OPPERMANN, who had the reputation of being the actual planner of the siege of Paris, died at Hanover, Germany.

TWENTY children ventured on the ice at the Biederitz pond at Sagan, Germany. The ice gave way and eight of them were drowned.

CHINESE pirates penned up eighty women and children in the caves at Quang Huyea and smoked them to death.

TWENTY-THREE persons concerned in the cholera riots in Saratoff, Russia, have been sentenced to be hanged and fifty-six to be imprisoned in Siberia.

The lunatic wing of the poorhouse at Lampis, Finland, was burned and seven of the inmates were cremated.

A SEVERE famine was prevailing in Kiangmai, Burmah, and the American missionaries were feeding the starving people.

FIVE miners lost their lives by a fire in the sulphur mines at Lucia, Sicily, and ten others were fatally injured.

LATER.

In the United States senate on the 6th, after the president's message had been read, bills were introduced to repeal all statutes relating to supervisors of election and special deputies and for the suspension of immigration for one year.

In the house the president's message was read and a bill was introduced for the better protection of commerce and to establish a national quarantine. Mr. Outwaite (O.) announced the death of Representative John G. Warwick, and in respect to the memory of the deceased the house adjourned.

DR. WEINER SIEMENS, the eminent electrician, died in Berlin, aged 75 years.

The annual report of Superintendent White, of the railway mail service, shows that for the year ended June 30 last the service handled the enormous total of 9,585,862,589 pieces of mail matter.

NELS OLANDER, a hardware dealer at Hallock, Minn., was robbed in his store of \$2,300 in cash.

A TORNADO near Atlanta, Tex., swept houses and outbuildings and left death and destruction in its path. The home of Samuel McAdams was destroyed and he and three children fatally hurt.

A BAND of Chitrali tribesmen attacked a Cashmere guard near Chitral, India, and fifty of the former were killed.

The handsome building in Philadelphia of the Public Ledger, owned by George W. Childs, was partially gutted by fire entailing a loss of about \$225,000.

DURING a gale in the province of Catania three vessels in the harbor of Santa Venera, Italy, were wrecked and ten persons were drowned.

A BURLINGTON freight train broke in two near Corona, Cal., and the two parts collided, wrecking the greater portion of the train and killing four carpenters.

A FIRE in Raymond, N. H., destroyed twenty-five buildings. Loss, \$110,000.

The wholesale mercantile firm of Wilczinski & Nelson at Greenville, Miss., failed, carrying down with it three other firms, the total liabilities being \$400,000.

The entire business portion of Alexandria, Ind., was destroyed by fire.

The complete official returns of the late election show North Dakota to have been the closest state in the union. Two republicans and one fusion elector are chosen. Dahl (rep.) for secretary of state has 733 majority.

On the remainder of the ticket the fusionists have from 1,000 to 2,000 majority.

THE STORY OF RIZPAH.

Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage Pays a Tribute to Female Heroism.

The Greater the Need the Greater the Courage Displayed by Woman—Every Age Has Produced Its Notable Heroines.

The following sermon was delivered by Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage in the Brooklyn Tabernacle from the text:

And Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah, took sackcloth and spread it for her upon the rock, from the beginning of harvest until water dropped upon them out of Heaven, and suffered neither the birds of the air to rest on them by day, nor the beasts of the field at night.—II Samuel xxi, 10.

Tragedy that beats anything Shakespearean, or Victor Hugoian. After returning from the Holy Land I briefly touched upon it, but I must have a whole sermon for that scene. The explosion and flash of gunpowder have driven nearly all the beasts and birds of prey from those regions, and now the shriek of the locomotive whistle which is daily heard at Jerusalem will for many miles around clear Palestine of cruel claw and beak. But in the time of the text those regions were populous with multitudes of jackals and lions. Seven sons of Saul had been crucified on a hill. Rizpah was mother to two, and relative to five of the boys. What had these boys done that they should be crucified? Nothing except to have a bad father, and grandfather. But now that the boys were dead why not take them down from the gibbets. No. They are sentenced to hang there. So Rizpah takes the sackcloth, a rough shawl with which in mourning for her dead she had wrapped herself, and spreads the sackcloth upon the rocks near the gibbets, and acts the part of a sentinel watching and defending the dead. Yet every other sentinel is relieved, and after being on guard for a few hours someone else takes his place. But Rizpah is on guard both day and night and for half a year. One hundred and eighty days and nights of obsequies. What nerves she must have had to stand that. Ah! do you not know that a mother can stand anything.

Oh! if she might be allowed to hollow a place in the side of the hill and lay the bodies of her children to quiet rest! If in some cavern of the mountains she might find for them Christian sepulture. Oh! if she might take them from the gibbet of disgrace and carry them still further away from the haunts of men and then lie beside them in the last long sleep! Exhausted nature ever and anon falls into slumber, but in a moment she breaks the snare, and chides herself as though she had been cruel and leaps up on the rock shouting at wild beast glaring from the thicket and at vulturous brood wheeling in the sky. The thrilling story of Rizpah reaches David and he comes forth to hide the indecency. The corpses had been chained to the trees. The chains are unlocked with horrid clank and the skeletons are let down. All the seven are buried. And the story ends.

But it hardly ends before you cry out: What a hard thing that those seven boys should suffer for the crimes of a father and grandfather! Yes. But it is always so. Let everyone who does wrong know that he wars not only as in this case against two generations, children and grandchildren, but against all the generations of coming time. That is what makes dissipation and uncleanness so awful. It reverberates in other times. It may skip one generation, but it is apt to come up in the third generation, as is suggested in the ten commandments, which say: "Visiting the iniquities of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation." Mind you, it says nothing about the second generation but mentions the third and the fourth. That accounts for what you sometimes see, very good parents with very bad children. Go far enough back in the ancestral line and you find the source of all the turpitude. "Visiting the iniquities of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation." If when Saul died, the consequences of his iniquity could have died with him, it would not have been so sad. Alas, no! Look on that hill a few miles out from Jerusalem and see the ghastly burdens of those seven gibbets, and the wren and wasted Rizpah watching them. Go today through the wards and almshouses, and the reformatory institutions where unfortunate children are kept, and you will find that nine out of ten had drunken or vicious parents. Yea, day by day on the streets of our cities you find men and women wrecked of evil parentage. They are moral corpses. Like the seven sons of Saul, though dead, unburies. Alas for Rizpah, who, not for six months, but for years and years has watched them. She can not keep the vultures and the jackals off.

Furthermore, this strange incident in Bible story shows that attractiveness of person and elevation of position are no security against trouble.

Who is this Rizpah sitting in desolation? One of Saul's favorites. Her personal attractions had won his heart. She had been caressed of fortune. With a mother's pride she looked on her princely children. But the scene changes. Behold her in banishment and bereavement. Rizpah on the rock.

Some of the worst distresses have come to scenes of royalty and wealth. What porter at the mansion's gate has not let in championing and lathered steed bringing evil dispatch? On what tasseled hall has there not stood the solemn bier? Under what exquisite fresco has there not been enacted a tragedy of disaster? What untainted couch hath heard no cry of pain? What harp hath never trilled with sorrow? What lordly nature hath never learned against carved pillar and made utterance of woe? Gall is not less bitter when quaffed from a golden chalice than when taken from a pewter mug. Sorrow is often attended by running footmen, and laced lackeys mounted behind. Queen Anne Boleyn is

desolate in the palace of Henry VIII. Adolphus wept in German castles over the hypocrisy of friends. Pedro I., among Brazilian diamonds, shivered with fear of massacre. Stephen, of England, sat on a rocking throne. And every mast of pride has bent in the storm, and the highest mountains of honor and fame are covered with perpetual snow. Sickness will frost the rosiest cheek, wrinkle the smoothest brow and stiffen the sprightliest step. Rizpah quits the courtly circle and sits on the rock.

Perhaps you look back upon scenes different from those in which now from day to day you mingle. You have exchanged the plenty and luxuriance of your father's house for privation and trials known to God and your own heart. The morning of life is flushed with promise. Troops of calamities since then have made desperate charge upon you. Darkness has come. Sorrows have swooped like carrion birds from the sky, and barked like jackals from the thicket. You stand amid your slain, anguished and woe-struck. Rizpah on the rock.

So it has been in all ages. Vashti must doff the spangled robes of the Persian court, and go forth blasted from the palace gate. Hagar exchanges oriental comfort for the wilderness of Beersheba. Mary Queen of Scots must pass out from flattery and pomp to suffer ignominious death in the castle of Fotheringhay. The wheel of fortune keeps turning, and mansions and huts exchange, and he who rode the chariot pushes the barrow, and instead of the glare of festal lights is the shimmering of the peatfire, and in place of Saul's palace is the rock. The cold rock, the desolate rock.

But that is the place to which God comes. Jacob with his head on a stone saw the shining ladder. Israel in the desert beheld the marshalling of the fiery baton. John on barren Patmos heard trumpeting and the clapping of wings, and the stroke of seraphic fingers on golden harps, and nothing but Heavenly strength nerved Rizpah for her appalling mission amid the scream of wild birds and the stealthy tread of hungry monsters. The grandest visions of glory, the most rapturous experiences of Christian love, the greatest triumphs of grace have come to the tried and the hard-pressed and the betrayed and the crushed. God stooping down from Heaven to comfort Rizpah on the rock.

Again the tragedy of the text displays the courage of woman amid great emergencies. What mother or sister or daughter would dare to go out to fight the cormorant and jackel? Rizpah did it. And so would you if an emergency demanded. Woman is naturally timid, and shrinks from exposure and depends on stronger arms for the achievement of great enterprises. And she is often troubled lest there might be occasions demanding fortitude when she would fail. Not so. Some of those who are afraid to look out of door after nightfall, and who quake in the darkness at the least uncertain sound, and who start at the slam of the door, and turn pale in a thunder storm, if the day of trial came would be heroic and invulnerable. God has arranged it so that woman needs the trumpet of some great contest of principle or affection to rouse up her slumbering courage. Then she will stand under the cross fire of opposing hosts at Chalons to give wine to the wounded. Then she will carry into prison and dark lane the message of salvation. Then she will brave the pestilence. Deborah goes out to sound terror into the heart of God's enemies. Abigail throws herself between a raiding party of infuriated men, and her husband's vineyards. Rizpah fights back the vultures from the rock.

Among the Orkney islands an eagle swooped and lifted a child to its eyrie far up in the mountains. With the spring of a panther the mother mounts hill above hill, craig above craig, height above height; the fire of her own eye outflashing the glare of the eagle's, and with unmailed hand, stronger than the iron beak and the terrible claw, she hurled the wild bird down the rocks. In the French revolution Cazore was brought out to be executed when his daughter threw herself on the body of her father and said: "Strike, barbarians! You can not reach my father but through my heart!" The crowd parted, and, linking arms, father and daughter walked out free. During the siege of Saragossa, Augustina carried refreshments to the gates. Arriving at the battery of Portillo she found that all the garrison had been killed. She snatched a match from the hand of a dead artilleryman and fired a twenty-six pounder, then leaped on it and vowed she would not leave it alive. The soldiers looked in and saw her daring, and rushed up and opened another tremendous fire on the enemy. The life of James I. of Scotland was threatened. Poets have sung those times, and able pens have lingered upon the story of manly endurance, but how few to tell the story of Catherine Douglas, one of the queen's maids, who ran to bolt the door, but found the bar had been taken away so as to facilitate the entrance of the assassin. She thrust her arm into the staple. The murderer's rushing against it, her arm was shattered. Yet how many have since lived and died, who never heard the touching, self-sacrificing heroic story of Catherine Douglas and her poor, shattered arm. You know how calmly Mme. Roland went to execution and how cheerfully Joanna of Naples walked to the castle of Muro, and how fearlessly Mme. Grimaldi listened to her condemnation, and how Charlotte Corday smiled upon the frigate mob that pursued her to the guillotine. And there would be no end to the recital if I attempted to present all the historical incidents which show that woman's courage will rouse itself for great emergency.

But I need not go so far. You have known some one who was considered a mere butterfly in society. Her hand had known no toil. Her eye had wept no tear over misfortune. She moved among obsequious admirers as careless as an insect in a field of blossoming buckwheat. But in 1876 financial tempest struck the husband's estate. When a man loses his positive conviction of the existence of God, his belief in the immortality of the soul can not survive, nor can he hold on to his conception of the absoluteness of morality. There can be no absolute morality without a God and a soul.

Before he had time to reef sail and make things snug the ship capsized and went down. Enemies cheered at the misfortune and wondered what would become of the butterfly. Good men pitied and said she would die of a broken heart. "She will not work," they say, "and she is too proud to beg." But the prophecies have failed. Disaster has transformed the shining slug into a practical worker. Happy as a princess, though compelled to hush her own child to sleep and spread her own table and answer the ringing of her own door bell. Her arm had been muscled for the conflict against misfortune, hunger and poverty and want and all the other jackals Rizpah scares from the rock.

I saw one in a desolate home. Her merciless companion had pawned even the children's shoes for rum. From honorable ancestry she had come down to this. The cruse of oil was empty and the last candle gone out. Her faded frock was patched with fragments of antique silk that she had worn on the bright marriage day. Confident in God she had a strong heart, to which her children ran when they trembled at the staggering step and quailed under a father's curse. Though the heavens were filled with fierce wings and the thickets gnashed with rage, Rizpah watched faithfully day after day and year after year, and wolf and cormorant by her God-strengthened arm were hurled down the rock.

You pass day by day along streets where there are heroines greater than Joan of Arc. Upon that cellar floor there are conflicts as fierce as Sedan, and Heaven and hell mingle in the fight. Lifted in that garret there are tribunals where more fortitude is demanded than was exhibited by Lady Jane Gray or Mary, Queen of Scots.

Oh, despise not a mother's love! If heretofore you have been negligent of such an one, and you have still an opportunity for reparation, make haste. If you could only just look in for an hour's visit to her you would rouse up in the aged one a whole world of blissful memories. What if she does it without talking much; she watched you for many months when you knew not how to talk at all. What if she has many ailments to tell about. During fifteen years you ran to her with every little scratch and bruise, and she doctored your little finger as carefully as a surgeon would bind the worst fracture. You say that she is childish now; I wonder if she ever saw you when you were childish. You have no patience to walk with her on the street, she moves so slowly. I wonder if she remembers the time when you were glad enough to go slowly. You complain at the expense of providing for her now. I wonder what your financial income was from one to ten years of age. Do not begrudge what you do for the old folks. I care not how much you did for them, they have done more for you.

But from this weird text of the morning comes rushing in upon my soul a thought that overpowers me. This watching by Rizpah was an after-death watching. I wonder if now there is an after-death watching. I think there is. There are Rizpahs who have passed death, and whose are still watching. They look down from their supernal and glorified state upon us, and is not that an after-death watching? I can not believe that those who before their death were interested in us have since their death become indifferent as to what happens to us. Not one hour of the six months during which Rizpah watched, seated upon the rocks, was she more alert or diligent, or armed for us, than our mother, if glorified, is alert and diligent and armed for us. It is not now Rizpah upon a rock, but Rizpah upon a throne. How long has your mother been dead? Do you think she has been dead long enough to forget you? My mother has been dead twenty-five years. I believe she knows more about me now than she did when I stood in her presence, and I am no Spiritualist either. The Bible says: "Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister to them that shall be heirs to salvation." Young man! Better look out what you do and where you go, for your glorified mother is looking at you. You sometimes say if she knew this?" She does know. You might cheat her once, but you can not cheat her now. Does it embarrass us to think she knows all about us? If she had put up with so much when she was here, surely she will not be the less patient or exoneratory now.

Oh, this tremendous thought of my text, this after-death watching! What an uplifting consideration. And what a comforting thought. Young mother, you who have just lost your babe, and who feels the need of a nearer solace than that which comes from ordinary sympathy, your mother knows all about it. You can not run in and talk it all over with her as you would if she were still a terrestrial resident, but it will comfort you some, I think, yes, it will comfort you a good deal, to know that she understands it all. You see that the velocities of the heavenly conditions are so great that it would not take her a half second to come to your bereft heart. Oh, these mothers in Heaven! They can do more for us now than before they went away. The bridge between this world and the next is not broken down. They approach the bridge from both ways, departing spirits, and coming spirits, disimprisoned spirits, and sympathizing spirits. And so let us walk up to be worthy of the supernal companionships, and if to any of us life on earth is a hard grind, let us understand that if we watch faithfully and trust fully our blessed Lord, there will be a corresponding reward in the Land of Peace, and that Rizpah who once wept on a rock now reigns on a throne.

—When a man loses his positive conviction of the existence of God, his belief in the immortality of the soul can not survive, nor can he hold on to his conception of the absoluteness of morality. There can be no absolute morality without a God and a soul.