

## NO GOD.

The following verses are by Mrs. L. H. Sigourney, suggested by the words in the 14th Psalm of David, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God:"—

"No God! Go God!" The simplest flower,  
That on the wild is found,  
Shrinks, as it drinks its cup of dew,  
And trembles at the sound:  
"No God!"—astonished Echo cries  
From out her cavern hoar,  
And every wandering bird that flies  
Reproves the Atheist's lore.

The solemn forest lifts its head,  
The Almighty to proclaim,  
The "rocket," on its crystal urn  
Doth leap to grave his name:  
How swells the deep and vengeful sea,  
Along his billowy track,  
The red Vesuvius opens his mouth  
To hurl the falsehood back.

The palm-tree, with its princely crest,  
The cocoa's leafy shade,  
The bread-fruit bending to its lord,  
In yon far-island glade;  
The winged seeds, that, borne by winds,  
The roving sparrows feed,  
The melon, on the desert sands,  
Confute the scorner's creed.

"No God!" With indignation high  
The fervent Sun is stirr'd,  
And the pale Moon turns paler still,  
At such an inious word:  
And from their burning thrones, the Stars  
Look down with angry eye,  
That thus a worm of dust should mock  
Eternal majesty.

## Life in a Rifle Pit.

CAMP BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, April 27.

Within the last week I have been twice in the trenches, both times in the advance trench, and the rifle pits in front of it, and, for the first time, I tried the new Enfield rifle (a smaller bore than the Minie.) They carry beautifully while clean, for about twenty rounds, but then they begin to lead and do not carry so well. When I first saw our men firing (last Saturday, the 21st) from the rifle pits, they had no idea of range or distance. Two of them were firing at the same place, one with his sight up for 700, the other for 900 yards. I told them it was too much, and with the sight up for 400 I put two shots in succession through the loop hole that the Russians were firing at them from.

As I sat, about a quarter of an hour afterwards, half asleep in the pit, they called to me and said that three men were coming down from the batteries towards the town. I told them to elevate for 900 yards. They made them dodge from house to house. But when they got into the street they thought they were out of our range, and coolly walked arm in arm down the middle of the street. I could not quietly stand that; I took the best rifle, put the sights for 900, and, calculating the distance to be about 1,000 yards, I fired high. The man on the right dropped like a stone, and the other two rushed into a house. He lay there for some time. They afterwards managed to get him into a house. This shows what the rifles will do when properly laid.

Afterwards I saw two carts laden with powder-boxes going from the town to the batteries, at what I guessed to be 1,100 yards. I took a rifle, and soon caused the drivers to run for the batteries, and leave the carts to come as they could. Our men said I knocked over five or six, but I only feel certain about one. I was sent out of the rifle pits again on Tuesday (the 24th) but the Russians were very shy that day, and gave very few chances. I had a regular duel with a Russian in the nearest rifle pit to us (250 yards.) In about half an hour he gave up firing, and, as I had put about four shots out of seven through his loophole, I thought I must have hit him. I left a namesake of mine in my company to watch him. Very soon the Russian (who, by the by, was a splendid shot) fired again, and put the ball right through private's cap, because he did not bob his head when he saw the smoke.

They began to fire 69-pounders at us in the rifle pits from the great gun in the Redan, 700 yards from the pit I was in, and with two men loading rifles for me, I bullied them so much that they were half an hour loading the gun, for I had a very sharp corporal watching the gunners with my telescope, and directly they appeared I fired into the embrasure. As soon as I saw the gun was loaded I made the men lie down close under the parapet until they fired. The shot came close over our heads, but did no harm. The same thing went on again, but they only fired four shots at us altogether, and did no harm.

We lost no men that day, but on Saturday I had three men killed and one wounded of my party by round shot. Two were only a few yards from me, and were cut right in two by a 25 pound shot.

I have told you a few incidents of my experience in the trenches, and now I take no notice of shot or shell, except to take the necessary precautions to get out of the way.—[London Times.]

## The Terrible Storms of the Crimea.

The Crimea, in common with the whole of southern Russia, is occasionally visited with terrific storms from the north in winter; or towards its commencement, accompanied with rain, but more generally with snow, one of which has been experienced by the troops before Sebastopol, and the fleet on the adjoining waters.

The tempests of the empire in general are divided into three classes according to their violence, each having its distinctive name. The least violent, called the 'Mistjel,' may be passed by, as it corresponds to the wildest kind of weather to which we are accustomed.

The 'Samjots,' the second sort of storm, is more terrible, but fortunately more rare. Indoors, there is a tolerable security from danger. Abroad, the traveler may protect himself by gaining the shelter of a forest, tying himself to a tree, or descending into a ditch; and a large number of men, or beasts, forming a caravan, may withstand the blast in an open country by grouping together. But woe betide the solitary wayfarer with neither forest, tree, or ditch at hand. The driving shower of snow blinds him; and no horse will move, though flogged and spurred to the utmost. The best mode of proceeding is to leave the animal to take care of himself, which he will do, and to lie prostrate on the ground, to be snowed over, only guarding against being buried too deeply. But the third kind of storm, the 'Winga,' far exceeds the second in violence, though still more rare, and always announcing its coming by unmistakable indications. When these have appeared, no one sets out on a journey, not even to the next village, though only a verst or two off, lest the dreaded monster should overtake him. Precautions are taken for the safety of the houses by protracting them on the north side with heavy stones, and propping them up on the south. Drove of cattle, flocks of sheep, and troops of wild horses in the steppes of the Ukraine, gather in a compact circle to resist the gale, if no shelter is attainable. But entire groups have been driven before it into the Black sea, or taken up from the earth like chaff from the threshing floor, and whirled by the eddying air whole versts away. Forests ravaged, trees uprooted, villages overthrown, and herds of dead cattle, mark the path of the Winga. Happily he comes but seldom. One visit suffices for a generation. "What is the Winga?" said a stranger to a native, upon hearing the word mentioned for the first time.

"A prelude to the Last Day," was the solemn reply.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY IN SOUTH AMERICA.—By an official document transmitted recently by the Governor of the province of Loja, in the republic of Ecuador, to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, it appears that an interesting discovery of the remains of an ancient city had been made there.

These ruins are situated at some twenty miles from the city of Loja, in the centre of the mountain called Tambabulco. Toward an angle of the north, in an extensive plain, is to be seen a beautiful temple of sixty-four yards long and ten wide, with pillars perfectly worked and in good condition. To the south is seen a magnificent palace of sixty yards long, with a grand gateway, worked in the same style as the temple, spacious saloons and apartments, with enclosed baths, which convey the idea of gardens. To the east stand several buildings, forming streets, which though of less magnificence are of the same material. The former populousness of this city may be estimated by the size of two pantheons on each side, each at least four miles and a half in extent, with places set apart for interring the dead. The governor has taken measures to have the ruins further explored.

SINGULAR PHENOMENON.—A gentleman who arrived from Santa Clara yesterday, relates the following: Some days since, an artesian well was being sunk near a frame house, situated a few miles distant from the town of Alviso, on the road leading from that place to San Jose. The boring-rod had penetrated a thick layer of clay, at the depth of one hundred and sixty four feet, when the operators left their work for dinner. Upon their return, after the lapse of an hour, a small stream of water was spouting from the bore to the height of about fifty feet, and with much difficulty a portion of the boring rod was withdrawn. One section of the rod remained in the bore, and finally this was thrown out with great velocity by the force of the water. A stream of pure water followed, gradually increasing in circumference as the earth was worn away by the constant flow of water, and when our informant left, there was a steady discharge of water rising to the height of six feet, from an aperture of two feet in diameter. The surrounding flats were flooded by this stream, and it was found requisite to cut ditches to preserve the roads from inundation.—[San Francisco Herald.]

THE SERF SYSTEM IN RUSSIA.—Among the limitations of Russian serfdom, are these: 1. The master cannot sell the serf without the land on which the serf resides. 2. Families cannot be separated, and the unmarried children, after the death of parents, constitute a family. The master's power over the body of the serf extends not to maiming or periling life. 4. The master cannot require the serf to marry according to his own choice and affection. 5. He is entitled to the labor of only three days of the week, and cannot require labor on the Sabbath or on high festivals. 6. Serfs cannot be held except by the nobility and certain privileged classes and persons. 7. They cannot be held except in proportion to the master's property in land, there being required for each serf the possession by the master of twenty-one acres.

The pebbles in our path weary us, and make us foot sore, more than the rocks, which only require a bold effort to surmount.

Men generally teach badly when they attempt to teach too much, or when they do not duly prepare their lessons.

VALUE OF A SCHOOLMASTER.—There is no office higher than that of a teacher of youth, for there is nothing on earth so precious as the mind, soul, and character of the child. No office should be regarded with greater respect. The first minds in a community should be encouraged to assume it. Parents should do all but impoverish themselves, to induce such to become the guardians of their children. They should never have the least anxiety to accumulate property for their children, provided they can place them under influences which will awaken their faculties, inspire them with higher principles, and fit them to bear a manly, useful and honorable part in the world. No language can express the folly of that economy, which, to leave a fortune to a child, starves his intellect and impoverishes the heart.—Channing.

CURIOUS DISCOVERY IN CALIFORNIA GOLD TUNNEL.—Mr. Butterfield, who is running a tunnel in Table Mountain, near Sonora, California, has given the editor of the San Francisco Herald a description of a discovery made by his company in the course of their excavation. They have got their tunnel in a distance of three hundred feet. Here, 110 feet from the surface of the ground, they found the trunk of a pine tree, 22 inches in diameter, in a good state of preservation and with its bark on. The sap appeared to be in a partial state of petrification, and the outside was charred, giving unmistakable evidence of fire at some period.—They were preparing to dig down to the roots of the tree, and expected to find it surrounded by a solid bed of lava.

A TERRIBLE CALAMITY AT DANTZIG, MARCH 31st.—The breaking up and floating down of the ice on the Vistula, which has been so often the source of great damage to the surrounding lowlands, has this spring taken place with such terrible violence as to surpass anything of the kind within the last fifty years.

The strong dykes, constructed at an immense cost along the banks of the river, have been swept away in many places by the infuriated element, and four hundred square miles of the most fertile plains, the best wheat producing district in the world, are now covered by water, and have the appearance of a lake.

One hundred human corpses had already been picked up near a single place, (Tiegenhoff) when the above report was sent off.

PERCUSSION CAPS.—The Percussion Cap manufactory at Washington is a curiosity. A thin strip of brass or copper, as thin as dead paper, is put into the machine; a plug, in shape like a club spot on the common playing card, is punched out; this is driven by a punch into a socket; is thumped off the end of the punch, by a spring which is worked by the same machinery, and falls into a hopper a perfect cap. This is filed by machinery equally simple and as inexplicable as the cap seems to one who does not understand the process of its construction. An intelligent lad of about twelve years old, who is instructed in the operation, would manufacture a peck of them in an hour.

UNDERGROUND WOOD.—The editor of the Marysville Express has been shown some pieces of bark taken from a cedar tree, about sixteen inches in diameter, which tree was struck in a tunnel at Monte Cristo, six miles from Downieville, at a distance of 980 feet from the upper surface. There were twenty of these trees lying along within a few feet of each other and imbedded from one foot to two and a half feet above the bed rock. The earth around them had formed a sort of cement almost the consistency of rock. Both above and below the trees was found pay dirt. The wood appeared natural, but was rather soft. When and how they came there is a question for naturalists to solve.—[Sac Union.]

CURIOUS FEATHERED SAILORS.—Of all migrating birds, probably the quail proceeds in the most peculiar manner. When, at the approach of cold weather, they wish to leave Europe for Africa, they wait patiently for a strong north-western wind; as soon as this sets in they start, and flapping one wing, while they present the other to the gale, half or half sail, they graze the billows of the Mediterranean with their fat, heavy rumps, and bury themselves in the sands of Africa, that they may serve as food to the famished inhabitants of Zora. The inhabitants of that country place great dependence upon the annual harvest of quails.

VERMONT.—Next to, if not in advance of Massachusetts, for intellectual and moral development, and just and equal laws, stands the State of Vermont. At present, the jails of that State do not average three occupants each. Three are entirely empty, two have but one prisoner each, two others have four each, one has six, and another seven. We doubt whether there is another state in the union which can show such an exemption from crime.

CORRECT ESTIMATE.—A certain exquisite, during a tour in the country, wishing to sport his wit at the expense of a farmer, accosted him with:—I say, farmer, if one pound of cheese cost two pounds of butter, what will a cart-load of paving-stones come to? "Two wagon loads of dandies!" was the farmer's immediate reply.

One reason why we see so few agreeable in conversation is, that almost everybody is more intent on what he himself has a mind to say, than upon making pertinent replies to what the rest of the company say to him.

Presence of mind and that confidence which is based on self knowledge, are essential elements in a good teacher's character.

## The Progress of Incubation.

The progress of the incubation of the chicken, in the natural way, is a subject curious and interesting. The hen has scarcely set on the egg twelve hours before the lineaments of the head and body of the chicken appear. The heart may be seen to beat at the end of the second day; it has, at that time, somewhat the form of a horse-shoe, but no blood yet appears.

At the end of two days, two vesicles of blood are to be distinguished, the pulsation of which is very visible; one of them is the left ventricle, and the other the great artery.

At the fiftieth hour, the auricle of the heart appears, resembling a noose folded down upon itself. The beating of the heart is first observed in the auricle, and afterward in the ventricle.

At the end of seventy hours the wings are distinguishable; and on the head two bubbles are seen for the brain, one for the bill, and two others for the fore and hind part of the head.

Toward the end of the fourth day, the two auricles, already visible, draw nearer to the heart than before. The liver appears toward the fifth day.

At the end of a hundred and thirty-one hours, the first voluntary motion is observed. At the end of seven hours more, the lungs and stomach become visible; and four hours after this the intestines, the loins, and the upper jaw.

At the hundred and forty-fourth hour, two ventricles are visible, and two drops of blood instead of the single one which was seen before. The seventh day, the brain begins to have consistency.

At the hundred and ninetyeth hour of incubation the bill opens, and the flesh appears on the breast; in four hours more the breast-bone is seen; and in six hours after this, the ribs appear, forming from the back, and the bill is very visible, as well as the gall bladder.

The bill becomes green at the end of two hundred and thirty-six hours; and if the chicken be taken out of its covering, it evidently moves itself.

The feathers begin to shoot out toward the two hundred and fortieth hour, and the skull becomes gritty. At the two hundred and sixty-fourth hour the eyes appear, at the two hundred and sixty-eighth the ribs are perfect.

At the three hundred and thirty-first hour the spleen draws over the stomach and the lungs to the chest.

At the end of three hundred and fifty hours the bill frequently opens and shuts; and at the end of the eighteenth day the first cry of the chicken is heard.

It afterward gets more strength and grows continually, till at length it is enabled to set itself free from its confinement.

In the whole of this process we must remark that every part appears exactly at the proper time; if, for example, the liver is formed on the fifth day, it is formed on the preceding situation of the chicken, and on the changes that were to follow.

No part of the body could possibly appear sooner or later without the whole embryo suffering; and each of the limbs becomes visible in the fit moment.

How astonishing must it appear to an observing mind that in the substance of the egg there should be all the vital principle of an animated being!—and that all the parts of an animal's body should be concealed in it, and require nothing but heat to unfold and quicken them!

Is it So?—Somebody—we don't know who, and it makes no difference—thus warns young men to look out for the women:—"Young man keep your eye peeled when you are after the women. Is the pretty dress or form so attractive. Or a pretty face even? Flounces, boys, are of no sort of consequence. A pretty face will grow old. Paint will wash off. The sweet smile of the flirt will give way to the scowl of the tergitant. The neat form will be pitched into calico. Another and far different being will take the place of the lovely goddess who smiles sweet smiles and eats sour sugar candy. Keep your eye peeled, boy, when you are after women. If the little dear is cross and scolds at her mother in the back room, you may be sure that you will get particular fits all around the house. If she apologises for wiping dish, you will need a girl to fan her. If she blushes when found at the wash tub with sleeves rolled up, be sure, sir, that she is the cod fish aristocracy; little breeding and little sense. If you marry a gal who knows nothing but to commit woman-slaughter upon the piano, you have got the poorest piece of music ever got up. Find one whose mind is right, and then pitch in. Don't be hanging around like a sheep thief, as though ashamed to be seen in the day-time, but walk up like a chicken to the dough and ask for the article like a man.

TO DESTROY ANTS.—Procure a large sponge, wash it well, press it very dry. By so doing it will leave the small cells open. Lay it on the shelf where they are most troublesome, sprinkle some fine white sugar on the sponge two or three times a day, take a bucket of hot water to where the sponge is, carefully drop the sponge in the scalding water, and you will slay them by the thousands, and soon rid the house of those troublesome insects.

CURE FOR RINGBONE.—The Boston Cultivator gives the following:—"Take high wines or cider brandy, add saltpetre as much as will dissolve, and wash the ringbone two or three times a day. One of my neighbors cured one of three or four years standing by the application of this a few times."

Poverty and pride are inconvenient companions; but when idleness unites with them, the depth of wretchedness is attained.