

We talk about the glory which is in store for us, and well we may talk about it, because we have, to a certain extent, had a foretaste on the earth of those promises, the fulness of which we shall enjoy in that world to which we are all hastening. We can see the effects of the gospel upon the minds of the people, and upon our own minds, we see the people being morally developed in everything that will makethem mighty before God. I know that the Lord for a wise purpose has called the noblest spirits that He had around him to come forth in this dispensation. He called them to come in humble circumstances, that they might receive the experience necessary to try and prove them in all things, that they might descend below all things, and gradually begin to ascend above all things; there was a wise design in this and we see it carried out at the present time.

I take great delight in these things; it is a great pleasure to reflect upon this work; for view it which way you will, look at it from any stand-point, and there is something attractive and lovely connected with it. We can all have this enjoyment, there is no defect or flaw in the system; there is nothing about it, if we had the power, that we could improve or make better. That is a great consolation to us; it is not the work of man, a cunningly-devised fable man has constructed. It is not made to suit our peculiar tastes and views; but it is eternal; it has always existed, and it accords with our being, and with the laws of our being, because the plan of salvation emanated from the same Eternal source that we emanated from; and everything connected with us and this system is in perfect harmony. There is nothing conflicting between the perfect laws of our nature and the laws of God revealed in the gospel. It is this that makes it so beautiful, that causes it to have such an elevating effect upon us; and we have to live in agreement with it in order to eventually be exalted in the presence of our Father and God; which may God grant may be our happy lot in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

[From the New York World.]

TERRIBLE FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, Feb., 9.

At about 2 o'clock yesterday morning, fire was discovered among a very large quantity of coal-oil owned by Blackburn & Co. and stored under sheds in a large lot near the south-west corner of Ninth and Washington streets. Between this lot and the corner was a large coal-yard, owned by Daly & Porter. Nearly four thousand barrels of petroleum were under the sheds, and more than two thousand barrels of this had taken fire in less than fifteen minutes from the time of the discovery of the fire. As the barrels burst, the contents, all aflame, surged out and down into Washington street, rushing toward Ninth. As the surface of the coal-yard is a little lower than that of the lot upon which the oil was stored, the burning liquid flowed over and into the mass of coal, so that the whole square was speedily one sea of flame, the buildings in Ninth street below the coal-yard being almost immediately fired both in front and rear. During the day considerable snow had fallen, and the heavy rain which came on during the evening transformed this into a mass of slush some six to eight inches in depth, which submerged the streets and overflowed the gutters. At the time of the fire a great rain-storm prevailed, and this added new power to the calamity. For, as the burning oil escaped from the barrels, it poured down Washington street upon the surface of the current of slush, to and beyond Ninth street, setting fire to the buildings on the south side of Washington below Ninth. Eddying round into Ninth street, it rushed down that thoroughfare as far as Federal street, and flowed into the two intervening streets, Ellsworth and Lafayette. Its course did not terminate until it had reached a point half a block beyond Federal street.

In thirty minutes from the time of the discovery of the fire, nearly fifty buildings situated upon Washington, Ninth, Ellsworth and Lafayette streets were on fire. Some of these, including several dwelling-houses, were within this space of time wrapped in flames from basement to attic. The scene was perfectly appalling. High over all rose the tremendous column of flame, that shot up from the burning yards into the murky sky. From half a dozen streets shafts of lurid fire darted far above the buildings. Over all a dense and terrible cloud of impenetrable smoke hung like a pall. The scene in the streets was terribly grand. Rolling over the slush and

snow the horrible torrent poured, darting into the yards, trickling into basements, sputtering and spitting up against door-step, and window, and wall. Like serpents of fire, the jets of burning petroleum leaped and darted from the river, zig-zagging this way and that, whirling and tossing and sending out jets of flame and inky smoke everywhere. An *avant courier* of fire enshrouded in smoke preceded the greater river; lying like a blanket upon the ground; people looking from above would not have thought that beneath the dark vapor which apparently rested just upon the water and snow in the street, existed an ocean of liquid flame. It is believed that this circumstance explains the cause for the destruction of several persons including the Ware family. Not being able to see the fire beneath, they stepped from their doors into the street, only to find themselves ankle-deep in a perfect lava stream, and so intrapped, fell and perished. All along the street, horror-stricken faces, illuminated into startling distinctness, peered from the windows; from the doors frenzied men and women, half-drunken with sleep, barefooted, and none but garments of the night to shield them from the pitiless storm above and the fire-capped slush beneath, rushed into the street, some bearing children, some with articles of clothing and household goods in their arms—all bewildered and panic-stricken. Many of those living in the upper stories of the dwelling houses were aroused only at the last moment, and sprang from bed to escape, scorched and blackened, through the flames. Before the stream of molten fire had penetrated any considerable distance down Ninth street, the firemen and others passed down the street, and with fragments of ice, broke the windows of the dwelling-houses, thus awaking many of the sleepers, who must otherwise have perished. Ere the fire had reached its height, we witnessed a most affecting scene. Forth from the door of one of the houses in Ellsworth street came a man bearing in his arms the dead body of his wife. She had died the day before, and aroused from his slumbers, if perchance he slept, the faithful husband, waiting not to clothe himself, or save any of his household property, clasped the corpse of her he loved in his arms, and took it to a place of safety. Many people who had managed to rescue a few articles of furniture or clothing, and place them in the street, had the sorrow of seeing them burn before their eyes, overtaken by the ruthless stream of fire. One man, a Mr. Gillen, who lived at No. 1, 161 Ninth street, lost all his worldly possessions; a hard-working mechanic, the house he lived in was the sole fruit of his years of toil. It, with its contents, was destroyed entirely; and as he was not insured he lost everything. Other poor people lost all they had, saving the garments they wore, and many of these were compelled to appeal to neighbors for clothes to cover their nakedness. The circumstances attending the death of the Ware family are peculiarly sad. Awakened by the roaring of the conflagration, they rushed from their door to stumble into the raging river below. Mr. Ware and his two sons managed to get through the fire, but his wife Barbara, and his daughters Rebecca, Helen, Isabella, Annie and Emma, were burned to a crisp before his eyes. Of his two sons one died last night, and the other, it is thought, cannot live. In addition, he is himself very seriously injured.

So intense was the heat from the surging stream of burning petroleum that the paving-stones in the street were calcined, cracked, and broken into fragments; the tracks of the railroad twisted up, and left protruding into the air; house fronts are blistered and sealed off, even for blocks away. A fire-plug was heated red hot. The boiling jets of flame from the street leaped in some cases as high as the second story window.

Over the burned district one terrible scene of desolation presents itself. Blackened ruins and heaps of debris mark a place almost the eight of a mile in length, and but very little less in breadth. Of the exact loss it is impossible to speak at present; and, indeed, I have yet heard no satisfactory estimate made.

The Corn Exchange to-day subscribed fifteen hundred dollars to the sufferers by the great fire, and the Gold Exchange one thousand dollars.

Both houses of the Pennsylvania Legislature to-day passed a bill to prohibit the storage of petroleum in Philadelphia city.

The loss by the fire yesterday is over \$500,000. The loss on coal oil is \$75,000. Only one-third of the total loss is insured. Only one hundred structures of various kinds were destroyed. The missing and dead number twenty persons.

Eleven of one family are missing, who are supposed to be buried in the ruins of the house.

CHINESE ADULTERATION OF TEA.

The following article on the above subject, from the pen of one of the most experienced tea buyers in this city, will be read with interest. The two general classes of tea known as "green" and "black," are both subjects for chicanery. The Chinese, to meet the demand for tea, are often "obliged" to "make up" the styles to "suit the eye" of the "foreign barbarian;" and if at the same time they can deceive the palate, that is lucre gained. To accomplish this, they use leaves, flowers, roots, barks, buds, seeds, and stems of shrubs, plants, and trees, foreign to the real tea. The class "green" is more generally known to be colored. To meet this predilection among the Americans for the "verdant," the Celestials use Prussian blue—ferrocyanide of iron—a deadly poison; gypsum—sulphate of lime—or plaster of Paris, such as our farmers use as a manure, turmeric—the root of the *Curcuma longa*, used as a medicine and a dye, to make this beautiful "green." Sometimes the drug indigo is used in the place of the Prussian blue.

To color the "blacks," a preparation of iron—a most deadly poison—is often used, as well as the juice of certain barks. The leaves of the *Epilobium angustifolium*, (excuse the length of this name, as it is botanical,) the *Gardenia florida* as well as its flowers, are used to mix with teas. The leaves of the *Camellia sasanqua* and other varieties of the *Camellia*; also those of the *Rose*, their buds and stems, and the leaves of the *Olea fragrans* as well as their flowers, with a host of others, are mixed in with true tea, for the purpose of adulteration. Indeed, there are so many leaves growing in China that resemble the tea leaf in shape and color, that they avail themselves of this species of fraud for the purpose of increasing their wealth. The writer has often taken these foreign leaves from packages of tea; some of which possess no more the flavor or qualities of tea than the autumn leaves of our own forest. Lie tea is the dregs of all that pertains to real tea. It is made from the sweepings of the China tea-packing houses, consisting of the broken leaves of all the various teas, both "green" and "black," damaged and spurious, dust and dirt, cemented together with rice water, or the "serum of the blood of animals" and rolled into grains. If for "black" tea, it is colored with a preparation of iron; if for "green," it is colored with turmeric, Prussian blue, and plaster of Paris, and in appearance is a good imitation of delicious gunpowder tea. The proportion of mineral matter in the genuine tea leaf is from five to six per cent.; in the lie tea, from thirty-seven to forty-five per cent.; chiefly sand and vile impurities.

This lie tea is imported to this country—particularly the lying gunpowder. The writer has a sample out of two thousand boxes which were sold in a New York tea sale at four cents per pound; and a tea judge would, from appearance, decide it to be worth fifty cents or more per pound. This stuff, put with true "green" tea, will make a mixture deleterious in its effects upon the constitution of the drinker, and makes up a real lying compound. Another variety from the same source, called "little tea," "tea endings," "tea bones,"—anomalistic in name as well as quality—is imported to this country for the purpose of adulterating wholesome and good teas. This is the sweepings of the "Hong," consisting of the dust of "green" and "black" teas passed through sieves to make it uniform in size. There are millions of pounds of damaged teas, musty, decayed, and those that were once infused, brought to America, and find their way into the stomachs of even the fastidious. The wild tea plant affords vast quantities of leaves, which are made into a kind of miserable tea, used for adulteration. It is sold for from five to fifteen cents per pound, and even more.—[*Scientific American*.]

HOW TO DRESS FOR A PHOTOGRAPH.

—A lady or gentleman, having made up her or his mind to be photographed, naturally considers, in the first place, how to be dressed so as to show off to the best advantage. This is by no means such an unimportant matter as many might imagine. Let me offer a few words of advice touching dress. Orange color for certain optical reasons, is, photographically, black; blue is white; other shades or tone of color are proportionally darker or lighter as they

contain more or less of these colors. The progressive scale of photographic color commences with the lightest. The order stands thus: white, light blue, violet, pink, mauve, dark blue, lemon, blue-green, leather-brown, drab, cerise, Magenta, yellow-green, dark-brown, purple, red, amber, marone, orange, dead-black. Complexion has to be much considered in connection with dress. Blondes can wear much lighter colors than brunettes; the latter always present better pictures in dark dresses, but neither look well in positive white. Violent contrasts of color should be especially guarded against.

In photography, brunettes possess a great advantage over their fairer sisters. The lovely golden tresses lose all their transparent brilliance, and are represented black; whilst the "bonnie blue e'e" theme of rapture to the poet, is misery to the photographer—for it is put entirely out. The simplest and most effective way of removing the yellow color from the hair, is to powder it nearly white; it is thus brought to about the same photographic tint as in nature. The same rule, of course applies to complexions. A freckle, quite invisible at a short distance, is, on account of its yellow color, rendered most painfully distinct when photographed. The puff box must be called in to the assistance of art. Here let me intrude one word of general advice. Blue, as we have seen, is the most readily affected by light, and yellow the least; if, therefore, you would keep your complexion clear and free from tan freckles whilst taking your delightful rambles at the sea side, discard by all means the blue veil, and substitute a dark green or yellow one in its stead. Blue tulle offers no more obstruction to the rays of the sun than white. Half a yard of yellow net, though perhaps not very becoming, will be found more efficacious and considerably cheaper than a quart of kalydor.—[*Ex.*]

THE YO-SEMITE SCENERY SURPASSED.—Prof. Whitney's party of Geological explorers in California have found, during the past season, even more wonderful regions for mountain and rock scenery than the famous Yo-Semite, and a grove of bigger trees than those of Calaveras, which have heretofore been the pride of California for natural wonders and curiosities, and the great object of interest to all travelers to the Pacific States. These newest, rarest wonders lie farther south in Tulare County; they include mountains 15,000 feet high, the highest in the limits of the whole United States territory, and higher than the king of the Alps, Mont Blanc; also perpendicular walls of rock 7,000 feet high, or twice as high as those that give such grandeur and fame to the Yo-Semite, and a grove of big trees—bigger than those into whose hollow trunks three horsemen ride abreast, and on whose stumps the Californians hold mass meetings—which is 25 miles in extent. These new discoveries are in the valley of the Kern River.—[*Springfield Republican*.]

CORNELIUS O'DOWD, in the last Blackwood, indulges in a humorous protest against popularizing science, especially as it affects Mrs O'Dowd. He comes home and finds that estimable lady in tears, because she has learned at the scientific Congress that the coal fields cannot last over twelve thousand years, and that the earth's crust is a seven-teenth of an inch thinner than it was at the time of Moses; and then asks "What right has Sir David Brewster or Professor Faraday to fill my wife's head with speculations about the first man? I am, or at least I ought to be, the first man to her." But even this is not so bad as the dismal information thrust upon him regarding the constituents of which both are composed. "I do not desire to have it impressed on me so forcibly that I am only a compound of neutral salts, gelatine fibrine and adipose matter. It is no pleasure to me to regard Mrs. O'Dowd as a vehicle for phosphate of lime, various carbonates, and an appreciable portion of arsenic."

SNAKES USED AS WATCH DOGS.—Sir Emerson Tennet, in his work on Ceylon, mentions a communication he received from a gentleman well known in Ceylon, regarding the great snake of India: "Did you ever hear of a tamed cobra's being kept and domesticated about a house, going in and out at pleasure, and in common with the rest of the inmates? In one family, near Negombo, cobras are kept as protectors in the place of dogs, by a wealthy man who has always large sums of money in his house. But this is not a solitary case of the kind. I heard it only the other day, but from good authority. The snakes glide about the house, a terror to thieves, but never attempting to hurt the inmates."