

Poetry.

DRESSING FOR CHURCH.

Has anybody heard the bell?
You have?—dear me, I know full well!
I'll never dress in time—
For mercy's sake, come help me, Luce.
I'll make my toilet very spruce
This silk is quite sublime!

Here, lace this gaiter for me—do:
"A hole!" you say? plague take the shoe
Please, Lucy, try and hide it—
Just think, it's Sunday, and, my soul
I cannot wear it with a hole!
The men will surely spy it.

They're always peeping at our feet,
Tho', to be sure, they needn't peep,
The way we hold our dresses;
I'll disappoint them, though, to-day,
"And cross myself," pray did you say?
Don't laugh at my distresses!

Now Lucie, pray feel my waterfall,
Do you think it large? ain't it too small?
What bother these things give.
My Rats and Mice, do they set straight?
Please hurry, Lucie, I know I'm late—
"There's Willie," as I live.

How splendidly the silk will rustle!
(Please hand me my self-adjusting bustle,
My corset and my hoop.)
There now, I'll take five skirts or six—
Do hurry, Lucie, and help me fix,
You know I cannot stoop!

"How shall I say my prayers to-day?"
As if girls went to church to pray!
How can you be so foolish?
Here, damp this ribbon in cologne;
"What for?" to paint, you silly one!
Now, Lucie, don't be mulish.

Now then, my hat—how he abhors
This thing—its big as all out doors—
The frightful sugar scoop!
Thank Heaven, my cloak is handsome too,
It cost enough to be, I know—
(Straighten this horrid hoop!)

My handkerchief and gloves you'll find
Just in that drawer. Luce, are you blind?
(Does my dress trail?)
It's all the fashion, now, you know,
(Pray, does the paint and powder show
Through my loose veil?)

Thank you, my dear, I believe I'm dressed;
The saints be praised! the day of rest
Comes only once in seven,
For if, on all the other six,
This trouble I should have to fix,
I'd never get to Heaven!

[Special to the DESERT NEWS.]

By Telegraph.

Washington, 23.

The special committee having in charge the subject of consolidating the telegraph system with the post office department, make some important recommendations to the Senate relative to it, but will not go so far as to advocate the government's taking control of the various telegraph lines. The Postmaster General is adverse to such legislation, and has written a letter to that effect.

The Connecticut Senate has elected Orris S. Ferry United States Senator, by a full party vote.

London, 17.

Consols 86½ @ 87½ for money; 5-20s 69½ @ 66. Cotton dull; little inquiry. The bank of England has raised its rate of interest for advances on stock to 12 per cent., in consequence of the great pressure for assistance in this shape on speculative account on stock exchange. The continental situation is unchanged, there are, however, more pacific rumors from Paris, and the chances for an European congress are improving; Prussia and Italy are said to have assented; the Austrian reply had not been received.

A Berlin dispatch, of the 14th, says a conditional treaty of alliance was signed, on the 12th, between Prussia and Italy. The correspondence between the King of Prussia and the Czar is believed to have been connected with the creation of a Duchy of Warsaw, and it is declared that the Czar has not interfered in favor of peace.

A Milan telegram states that 2,000 Austrian sailors had arrived at Venice for defence of the Lagoon, and that orders had been issued to organize a body of 1,200 boatmen for transporting soldiers to the island of Lado. Twenty two thousand Austrian troops had passed through the Mestre. Depots for Austrian military service in Venetia have been established at Great Se, and there is a considerable force in the Tyrol. The garrison of Venice will be raised to 24,000. Gunboats have been stationed and many torpedoes sunk in the outer harbor of Venice.

A Trieste telegram says a squadron had left the Bay of Loreto and taken

a position in the Adriatic between Ancona and the island of Grosa, thereby closing the Gulf of Poland and Feume.

It is reported that Bismark receives daily warnings of imminent assassination.

It is stated that Austria in a few weeks will have 900,000 men in the field; large bodies of troops sent from Vienna had already effected a strategic concentration on the Prussian frontier.

A Munich telegram states that Governments of Bavaria and Baden are in favor of an armed neutrality.

The bombardment of Valparaiso had been noticed with indignation, but the action of the British Admiral was defended and fully endorsed by that government. The English press and people loudly denounce the act of Spain. In an indignation meeting held at Liverpool resolutions were adopted, expressing gratitude for the exertions of Com. Rodgers.

Washington, 26.

In the House, the tax bill being under consideration, Stevens moved that the special commissioner of internal revenue be elected by Congress, and said:—I am done with giving patronage to the Secretary of the Treasury when it can be avoided. He has already said that he will appoint no one to office who will not sustain the policy of the President. He this morning distinctly so informed a member of the House, who called upon him for an appointment. It is time we built up a wall against such tyranny as this malfeasance in office. I have already ascertained that four subordinates of the President have made the same declaration. If I were a little younger, and I shall be in a week, I think I would let these officers know that this is a grand inquest of the nation, before which men who are guilty in office shall be brought, and their cases presented to another tribunal to try them. (Excitement. A voice, good.)

We are recreant to our own interests—to the interests of the country—if we do not stand by those who stand by us. We must take care that no more patronage shall be put into the hands of any man to be abused. It is time that we speak aloud and let our friends know that they shall not be sacrificed because they stand by Congress—because they are not tools of a recreant President. (Great excitement.)

I have authentic information that this very day this course has been taken by the Secretary of the Treasury, and he has declared distinctly that in Pennsylvania he will consult nobody, but a recreant apostate Senator who has betrayed his party and his country.

Subsequently Stevens withdrew his amendment, having, as Morrill suggested, accomplished his purpose in making his speech.

A very earnest effort is being made to pass the Colorado bill over the veto; and it is claimed that several senators heretofore opposing admission will vote for it.

It seems to be a well settled opinion in official quarters that Davis' trial will be postponed till next October. The President has granted Mr's Davis permission to remain with her husband at Fort Monroe. Burton Harrison Davis, Jeff's private secretary, had arrived at the Fort, in company with one of his counsel.

Chicago, 26.

A most destructive fire occurred at Oil City, Pa., on the 24th, destroying the whole east side of the creek, consisting of 75 stores, 8 hotels, 40 dwellings, and a church and seminary; loss \$1,000,000.

The large wholesale drug store of Peter E. Blow and the printing establishment of Dudley & Co., St. Louis, were destroyed by fire on the evening of the 26th; loss \$225,000.

New York, 26.

There have been no deaths recently from cholera on board the hospital ship Falcon, and the patients are nearly all very well.

Washington, 28.

The House has passed the tax bill by a vote of 109 against 11. The bill is the most bulky ever passed by Congress, covering over 200 pages, with a total of 50,000 lines. There have been 571 amendments made since the bill was reported from the Committee of Ways and Means. The clause levying a special tax of 10 per cent. on mines, struck out in committee of the whole, was restored in the House. The amendment to prevent the publication of income returns was lost by 55 to 66, and the new law is like the present law in this respect. A proposition, something like that recently discussed in the Senate for limiting the President's power of removal from office, was defeated by 57 to 68, on the ground that it was not germane to the bill.

The commission of Gen. Sickles as Minister to the Hague was sent to him on the 26th; he has not yet signified his acceptance.

The following is the statement of the receipts and expenditures of the United States for the quarter ending March 31st, exclusive of the trust funds:—Receipts from customs, \$46,645,597; from public lands, \$180,175; from direct tax, \$1,086,163; from internal revenue, \$66,153,091; from miscellaneous, \$10,874,021; total, exclusive of loans, \$124,939,049; total receipts, inclusive of loans, \$237,544,644. Expenditures, civil foreign intercourse and miscellaneous, \$9,248,033; interior, pensions and Indians, \$5,823,577; War Department, \$38,213,900; Navy, \$7,438,932; interest on the public debt, \$30,024,447; total expenditures, exclusive of principal of public debt, \$90,748,890; total, including bonds, 172,049,363. The above report shows that the total expenditures on account of public debt were \$81,300,472.

The Tennessee Legislature adjourned, on the 28th, until the 5th of November, and will adjourn *sine die* on the first Monday in December.

West Point, N. Y., 29.

Lieutenant General Winfield Scott died this morning, at 5 minutes past 11 o'clock.

Saratoga, N. Y., 29.

Congress Hall was burned this morning; total loss \$200,000; insurance \$100,000.

London, 19.

Confidence was becoming restored, but there were continued rumors of heavy suspensions at Liverpool.

Continental affairs are unchanged. The King of Prussia recently made a speech to the representatives of the Protestant Church, saying:—I have not proved the existing complications, but there are situations in which peace cannot possibly be maintained; no one can desire peace at any price. I have full consciousness of my grave responsibility before God and the country, but I shall pursue with perfect confidence the way by which God pleases to conduct me.

English papers report an explosion of nitro-glycerine in Sidney, Australia, on the 4th of March; large stores were completely demolished.

Gibson stated in the British House of Commons, on the 24th, that the law gave no power to interfere in point of the explosive oils, but that it was a matter worthy of consideration.

London, 20.

Consols closed on the 19th, at 87½ for money. Five-twenties 65½ @ 66. Breadstuffs were dull, and prices generally unchanged. Cotton sales were dull, with little enquiry and prices weak.

The weekly return of the Bank of England was the most extraordinary ever published. Although the bank has not availed itself of the privilege granted by the government, the decrease in bullion was £332,335, and in notes unemployed £421,195.

The *Daily News* says an analysis of the bank statement shows an increase in one week of ten million pounds in advance on private securities; this unprecedented amount proves how enormous has been the pressure for accommodations on the part of the panic stricken community. Inasmuch, however, as a great deal of this borrowing was merely precautionary, five million pounds have been added to the private deposits. The increase of £37,760,000 in the circulation results mainly from the desire of the country bankers to secure themselves against all contingencies, and the notes withdrawn are not really thrown into circulation.

There now seems to be a fair prospect that the bank will be able to ride over the crisis, without violating the law. The £832,000 in gold withdrawn must have been taken away mostly by Provincial, Scotch and Irish bankers, as a measure of precaution. Some additional suspensions are reported among the London banks, including the Oriental Commercial Bank, the New Zealand Banking Association, Messrs Frazier & Co., Indian cotton traders, &c.

The European Bank, London, suspended on the 19th; liabilities one million.

Efforts for an European congress were still being made by France, England and Russia, but with little hopes of success. Lord Clarendon, in the House of Lords, admitted that confidential communications were passing between the governments, but admitted that there were but little hopes of a peaceful solution.

It is rumored that a sanguinary conflict had taken place between the Turkish and Moldavian troops.

New York, 29.

The *Post's* money article says there is increasing ease in the money markets, and a growing activity in all descrip-

tions of government securities. Cotton is quiet at 40 @ 42 for middling; sales of the week 23,000 bales; exports 19,000. Breadstuffs are lower. The weekly bank statement is less unfavorable than was expected.

Washington, 29.

The Senate, by a unanimous vote of 43 ayes, struck out the 3d section of the constitutional amendment, when Howard offered a substitute as agreed to in caucus, as follows:—No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or an elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office civil or military under the United States or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath as a member of Congress, or as officer of the United States, or as member of any State Legislature, or as an Executive or Judicial officer of any State, to support the constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid and comfort to the enemies thereof; but Congress may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

The House passed Elliot's bill, reported last week, continuing the Freedmen's Bureau three years.

Sumner introduced a bill to enforce the article in the Constitution abolishing slavery, by securing the elective franchise to colored citizens; it provides that every citizen, of whatever race or color, shall have a right to vote at all elections, laws to the contrary to be void.

Chicago, 30.

Among the confirmations by the Senate were Gen. Cassius Fairchild, U. S. Marshal for Wisconsin, and John Cummings, Associate Justice for Idaho. It is said there is to be a clean sweep of office-holders in Illinois, where the organization of the Republican party is in Radical hands.

Senor Barreda yesterday presented his credentials as Envoy from the Peruvian Republic, expressing the friendly desires of that power. The President replied, expressing reciprocal regard.

New Orleans, 29.

Under authority from the War Department Gen. Canby relinquished and Bret. Maj. Gen. Baird, late Asst. Com. of the Freedmen's Bureau assumed command of the Department of Louisiana.

RATES OF DOMESTIC POSTAGE.

Letters to any part of the United States, 3 cents for each half ounce. Drop Letters, 2 cents. Registration fee, for valuable letters, not exceeding 20 cents.

Transient newspapers, periodicals, pamphlets, blanks, proof sheets, book manuscripts, and all mailable printed matter (except books and circulars,) 2 cents for each 4 ounces.

Books, 4 cents for each 4 ounces or fraction thereof.

Unsealed circulars, not exceeding 3 in number to one address, 2 cents, and in the same proportion for a greater number.

Seeds, cuttings, roots, etc., 4 cents for each 4 ounces.

All packages not charged with letter postage must be so arranged that the same can be conveniently examined by postmasters; if not, letter postage will be charged.

No package will be forwarded which weighs over 4 pounds.

All postage matter, for delivery within the United States, must be prepaid by stamps (except duly certified letters of soldiers and sailors;) otherwise double the above rates will be charged on delivery.

Newspapers and periodicals, not exceeding 4 ounces in weight, to any part of the United States, if paid in advance—daily, per quarter, 35 cents; six times per week, 30 cents; tri-weekly, 15 cents; semi-weekly, 10 cents; weekly, 5 cents. Periodicals, 1 cent for each copy. Newspapers and periodicals, when weighing over 4 ounces, double the above rates.

Weekly newspapers, within the country where published, free.

Quarterly payments, in advance, may be made, either where published or received.

POCKET-PICKING A REGULAR TRADE IN BOSTON.—The *Boston Journal* remarks that few persons except the victims know to what extent pocket-picking is carried on in this city. It has become a regular branch of business, and there are a large number of persons who depend upon it for their living. They not only infest depots, places of amusement and rail-cars, but are continually prowling about the large dry goods stores. The police find empty wallets by dozens which have been thrown over fences or behind old buildings. Fifteen were found by an officer a few mornings ago in one place.