

## Spanish Savages.

Europe, accustomed to the horrors of warfare, is shocked by the barbarities of the Spanish contest. These are mostly perpetrated by the Carlists, though the Republicans have not been above a savage retaliation. The Carlists illustrate the weak points of the historical Spanish character—ferocious bigotry, cruelty and implacable revenge. Their deeds remind us of the military excesses committed under Philip II. and the Duke of Alba. They are true descendants of the men who fought the bloody, relentless wars recorded in Motley's brilliant pages. Their virtues, like their vices, are all of the martial order. While they are sanguinary and brutal in the highest degree, they are men of undoubted courage, and of unswerving fidelity to the cause espoused by their fanaticism. The men of the mountains will die for Don Carlos, their "King;" and their wives and daughters share the devotion. At the recent reception of the "Queen" in a small Carlist town, young girls with swords about their waists formed her body guard. If it were not for the fiendish cruelties of the Carlists, we could not help admiring their staunch loyalty to the pretender whose ambition is dragging these men, women and children through a civil war which brings nothing but bloodshed and misery in its train. Every day supplies some new dreadful instance of Carlist inhumanity. In all captured places they sack and burn houses, with people in them. After some successful engagements they kill all the Republican prisoners taken; on other occasions they shoot one out of ten. Some of their exploits remind us of the Apaches. The prefect of Cuenca, which they took the other day, says that thirty-four bodies of Republicans were found there, so horribly mutilated as to be unrecognizable. The war on the Carlist side will soon be one of extermination. "No quarter" will be the rule; and the Republicans will cheerfully accept the terms. Under the late Marshal Concha it was, sometimes, a war to the knife. When the victorious Republicans entered a fallen town, they burned, pillaged and killed with as much relish as their enemies. Concha's successor seems to be a milder man; but doubtless he will feel forced, by the horrible example of the Carlists, to deal severely with his foes when he catches them. Of the two forces, the Carlists are much the worse. They began this barbarous warfare, and far outstrip their rivals in cruelty. For this reason they have provoked the censure of all the civilized peoples of Europe; and some of the nations are ready to step in, on suitable provocation, and aid in crushing out these medieval butchers. The *North German Gazette* says: "Germany, in behalf of outraged European civilization, will seek and find means to teach the Carlists that the murder of a captured German shall not remain unpunished." At any moment the Carlists may enrage England by the butchery of one or more of her citizens, caught straying among the lines, but innocent of hostile intentions. In their mad career the Carlists respect no flag; and it is luck and not discretion that has kept them so far from embroilment with England. If the *North German Gazette* speaks the official voice, the threat we quote is not an empty one. There is some hope that Carlism will be suppressed for a time, by the more vigorous policy of the Republicans. The Government of Madrid has published decrees declaring all Spain in a state of siege; confiscating the property of all Carlists, whose estates will be held for the benefit of the families of Republicans slain; and, finally (which is most to the point), creating a special reserve of 125,000 men. This fresh army, if it is ever organized, ought, in addition to the forces lately put into the field, to give the Carlists their death-blow. One new order—that prohibiting the shooting of prisoners in retaliation for Carlist atrocities—will, if enforced (doubtful), greatly increase European sympathy for the Republican cause. Although the Republicans are numerous much stronger than the Carlists, no prudent man will predict a Republican victory. In Cuba we see the same war in miniature, except that the insurgents of the Antilles are natives struggling against foreigners—Cubans against Spaniards—and that the principle of the contest in the Cuban ranks is freedom and in-

dependence; whereas Don Carlos is warring for his lost crown. The odds are about the same in Cuba as in Spain, and we know how stubbornly and successfully the Cubans wage the unequal strife.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

## The New Post Office Law.

The following are the material parts of the new Post-office law, as affecting the interests of the general public:

## PREPAYMENT.

SECTION 5. That on and after the 1st day of January, 1875, all newspapers and periodical publications mailed from a known office of publication or news agency, and addressed to regular subscribers or news agents, postage shall be charged at the following rates: On newspapers and periodical publications, issued weekly and oftener, 2 cents a pound and fraction thereof; less frequently, 3 cents a pound and fraction thereof: Provided, That nothing in this act shall be held to change or amend section 99 of the act entitled "An act to revise, consolidate, and amend the statutes relating to the Post-office Department," approved June 8, 1872.

SEC. 6. That on and after the first day of January, 1875, upon the receipt of such newspapers and periodical publications at the office of mailing, they shall be weighed in bulk, and postage paid thereon by a special adhesive stamp, to be devised and furnished by the Postmaster General, which shall be affixed to such matter, or the sack containing the same, or upon a memorandum of such mailing, or otherwise, as the Postmaster General may, from time to time, provide by regulation.

SEC. 7. That newspapers, one copy to each actual subscriber residing within the county where the same are printed, in whole or part, and published, shall go free through the mails; but the same shall not be delivered at letter-carrier offices or distributed by carriers unless postage is paid thereon as provided by law.

SEC. 8. That all mailable matter of the third class, referred to in section 133 of the act entitled "An act to revise, consolidate and amend the statutes relating to the Post-office Department," approved June 8, 1872, may weigh not exceeding four pounds for each package thereof, and postage shall be charged thereon at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof; but nothing herein contained shall be held to change or amend section 134 of said act.

SEC. 9. That the Postmaster General, when in his judgment it shall be necessary, may prescribe, by regulation, an affidavit in form, to be taken by each publisher of any newspaper or periodical publication sent through the mails under the provisions of this act, or news agent who distributes any of such newspapers or periodical publications under the provisions of this act, or employee of such publisher or news agent, stating that he will not send, or knowingly permit to be sent, through the mails, any copy or copies of such newspaper or periodical publications except to regular subscribers thereto, or news agents, without prepayment of the postage thereon at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fractional part thereof; and if such publisher or news agent, or employee of such publisher or news agent, when required by the Postmaster General or any special agent of the Postoffice Department to make such affidavit, shall refuse to do so, and shall thereafter, without having taken such affidavit, deposit any newspapers in the mail for transmission, he shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and, on conviction, shall be fined not exceeding one thousand dollars for each refusal; and if any such person shall knowingly and wilfully mail any matter without the payment of postage as provided by this act, or procure the same to be done with the intent to avoid the prepayment of postage due thereon; or if any postmaster or post office official shall knowingly permit any such matter to be mailed without the prepayment of postage as provided in this act, and in violation of the provisions of the same, he or they shall be deemed guilty of misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars, or imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both in the discretion of the court.

## The Plymouth Church Preacher on Seduction.

"The seducer! Playing upon the most sacred passion, he betrays innocence. How? By its tenderest faculties; by its trust; by its unsuspecting faith; by its tender love, by its honor. The victim often and often is not the accomplice so much as the sufferer, betrayed by a strange exorcism which bewitched her noblest affections, and became the suicide of her virtue! The betrayer, for the most intense selfishness, without a single noble motive, without one pretense of honor—by lying, by a devilish jugglery of fraud, by blinding the eye, confusing the conscience, misleading the judgment, and instilling the dew of sorcery upon every flower of sweet affection—deliberately, heartlessly, deceives the confiding victim. Is there one shade of good intention; one glimmering trace of light? Not one. There was not the most shadowy, tremulous intention of honor. It was sheer, premeditated, wholesale ruin from beginning to end.

The accursed sorcerer opens the door to push her forth. She looks out all shuddering; for there is the shame and sharp-toothed hatred, and clattering slander, and malignant envy and triumphing jealousy, and murderous revenge—these are seen rising before her, clouds full of fire that burn but will not kill. And there is for her want and poverty and gaunt famine. There is the world spread out; she sees father and mother heartlessly abandoning her; a brother's shame, a sister's anguish. It is a vision of desolation, a plundered home; an altar where honor and purity, and virtue, and peace have been insidiously sacrificed to the foul Moloch. All is cheerlessness to the eye, and her ear catches the sound of sighing and mourning, wails and laments; and far down at the horizon of the vision, the murky cloud for a moment lifts, and she sees the very bottom of infamy, the ghastliness of death, the last spasm of horrible departure, the awful thunder of final doom.

All this the trembling betrayed creature sees through the open door of the future; and with a voice that might move the dead, she turns and clasps his knees in awful agony: "Leave me not! Oh! spare me—save me—cast me not away!" Poor thing—she is dealing with a demon! Spare her?—save her? The polished scoundrel betrayed her to abandon her, and walks the street to boast his hellish deed. It becomes him as a reputation! Surely society will crush him! They will smite the wolf and seek out the bleeding lamb.

Oh, my soul, believe it not! What sight is that? The drooping victim is worse than the infernal destroyer! He is fondled, courted, passed from honor to honor, and she is crushed and mangled under the infuriate tramp of public indignation. On her mangled corpse they stand to put the laurels on her murderer's brow! When I see such things as these, I thank God that there is a judgment, and that there is a hell."—*From a Sermon by H. W. B. in 1865.*

## The Great West.

As we find ourselves in the midst of the touring season, and with the still unchecked tendency of the American mind to "go West," unusual interest is bestowed upon our Territories. Those Territories embrace one-half of the area of the United States. The chief characteristic of the East is a moist climate; of the West a dry one; so that the United States are divided into two equal parts, having two different climates—one corresponding to the climate of Europe, and one to the climate of Asia. The average annual rainfall of one is about fifty inches, and of the other fifteen inches. The Territories of the interior are Montana, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona. Dakota and Washington might in part be included, but they do not belong to this group. Along the eastern border are the plains, two hundred miles wide and one thousand miles long. The plains have a greater extent eastward, for they lap over into Kansas, Nebraska and Dakota, two hundred miles more, so that they are four hundred miles wide and one thousand miles long, and this side of their eastern meridian line the country may be called a prairie, where the rainfall is sufficient to grow all farm products, and beyond

it is called the plains, where no crops can be grown without irrigation. Let us say, then, that the East is moist, the West is arid.

From the west boundary of the plains rise the Rocky Mountains, and all the remainder of these Territories is mountainous, there being no more plains; and here great rivers have their source—the Missouri, the Platte, the Arkansas, the Red and the Rio Grande on the east side, and the Columbia, the Grande, the Green, the Gila and the Colorado on the west. Within the mountains are many small rivers and streams, which sink or discharge into lakes having no outlet. The eastern elevation of the plains is about two thousand feet above the sea; at the base of the mountains the average is about five thousand feet, and the whole average of these Territories must be six thousand feet, or more than a mile. The loftiest mountains, some of which stand upon the borders of the plains, are nearly three miles high, and of such in the whole range there are over two hundred.

The most valuable portion of the great interior is, at present, along the eastern base of the mountains, stretching from British America to old Mexico, and it is probable that it will always remain most valuable on account of the superior pastoral and agricultural resources; for the plains are covered with a nutritious grass, which, according to undoubted testimony, furnishes feed well suited for horses, cattle and sheep the year round, inasmuch as there are no fall or "latter rains" to bleach and destroy its value for winter pasture, and seldom does snow cover the ground. Even California does not possess this advantage, and there are few other regions in the world which do, because they have the latter rains. The region which is similar lies in Central Asia, stretching through Turkistan, Bokhara, and what is called the great Desert of Cobi; but this is less valuable than the American steppes, for it is between lines of latitude without climatic variation, while here the course is across lines of latitude reaching from the frigid to the tropical. It is manifest that the revenue to be derived from the grass of the plains must be constant and long, and in the aggregate enormous. The many rivers and streams which issue from the mountain canyons furnish water sufficient to irrigate not far from five millions of acres—that is, from the Missouri to the Rio Grande. This does not seem a large amount of land in cultivation, but it is large when irrigation is considered; and as the average yield of such land is double the yield of the Atlantic States, and as the plains will support millions of cattle, the capacity of the country on this long line for supporting human beings may be estimated at not less than fifteen millions. Of necessity, population must be gathered in the valleys and largely in cities and towns, while the country beyond the irrigating canals must be forever devoted to pastoral solitudes, to cross which will require from two to five, ten, and in some cases twenty-four hours travel.

The common mind believes, without knowing, that amidst mountains nothing can be grown unless it be forests, and that they are uninhabitable. But the Rocky Mountains are different, and we have reports from scientific and practical men that the rainfall in the mountains is considerable, for these elevated masses arrest or attract the moisture evaporated from the smooth surface of the plains below which in winter falls in snow and in summer in rain, that upon slopes and plateaus all kinds of vegetables and the hardy cereals yield luxuriantly. These mountains are in part covered with forests, elsewhere grass covers the ground, and in valleys it can be cut for hay, so that the whole of the vast Rocky Mountain country is a pastoral region, certainly inferior to the plains, but still habitable, and capable in the aggregate of supporting millions of people. The reason why these mountains are more fertile than Eastern mountains is because the granite is soft and constantly crumbling, and it was this primitive rock and others in connection which, in remote times, were washed and ground down to form the soil of the plains and of the prairies. Geologists tell us that these mountains are more recent in formation than any others and possibly an improvement may have been designed. Still these mountains

crumble only in detail, and under the influence of a limited amount of moisture; hence their peaks are always sharp. On the contrary the mountains of Switzerland, much of the time dripping with moisture, have rounded summits and sloping outlines.—*N. Y. Herald.*

## A Chicago Woman's Prayer.

## WHAT IT DID FOR HER.

A correspondent of the *Rochester Union* writes as follows, under date of Churchville, Monroe county, N. Y., July 14: "Seven years ago Mrs. Jennette E. Robinson, in attempting to alight from a street car in Chicago, was thrown violently from the platform by the horses starting suddenly, and striking on her head. She was taken up insensible and carried to a neighboring dwelling to be cared for. In the course of a few hours she became conscious, but found a peculiar tightness about her jaws, an inability to use her tongue, and complete paralysis of her left side. About two years ago she came to this place to live near her brother, a farmer in the town, and during that time her jaws have been so completely closed that she was obliged to use liquid food entirely; her tongue so confined and useless that no one could understand her talk. For this reason she has always answered questions by writing on a slate, and from the paralysis of the limbs she has constantly used a crutch and cane to move about the house. There seemed to be no particular improvement in her case for the last three or four years, and having tried the best medical skill in Chicago, without much benefit, she had concluded that she was fated to live a long, helpless life of the paralytic, without any hope of relief, from human agency at least. But seven years after the accident, to a day, almost to a minute, she was in full possession of health and vigor, and of the means to regain it let her own story tell. She says: 'On that day I was feeling much worse than usual, having less strength to walk, more weak and desponding; but near night, after this day of sadness and gloom, the thought came to me suddenly, and peculiarly strong, that if I should pray I should get help from a higher power than human hands. I retired to an adjoining room, kneeled on one knee, not being able to bend the other, and commenced to say the Lord's Prayer; and in doing so, to my surprise, I found my jaws immediately opened, tongue unloosed, and was audibly repeating the prayer. Frightened at the sound of my own voice, I arose, and crossing the room hurriedly, forgot my crutch and cane, but soon learned that they were of no use to me, for strength was fully restored to my limb, and I could walk or run even as well as I ever could.'

## Have we a Tribe of Albinos?

The following singular story of travel and adventure was recently received by the government here, and has been handed to *The Star* for publication as a matter of general interest.

"You will please pardon me for this intrusion, but I have a knowledge of a seeming mystery which this government has shown itself anxious to solve, by sending John C. Fremont on an exploring expedition to find the country of what I call the American Albinos. He failed in the noble effort, and I have reason to believe that I am the only man now living who has been in their country.

In the month of July, 1845, while I was travelling east from the Pacific, and seeking a gap or pass through the mountains which would lead me to the Rio Grande river, south of Santa Fe, I found a passage which led me into their country. It was a canyon thirty miles in length. From the outlet of this canyon I travelled about one mile, when I found three women and two children. Their skin was as white as snow. This was at noon-day. Immediately one of the women left the place in haste, and about sun-down, three men came riding rapidly up to me, on the finest horses I ever saw. They were well mounted and well armed. They immediately dismounted and disarmed me. They were white men, such as are frequently seen in Santa Fe, and sometimes in California. The next morning early,