

TEA-SCANDAL.

When the party commences, all starched and all glum,
They talk of the weather, their cows, or sit dumb;
They will tell you of ribbons, of cambric, of lace—
How cheap they are sold, and will tell you the place;
They discourse of their colds; they a-hem and they cough,
And complain of their servants, to pass the time off,
But Tea, that enlivener of wit and of soul,
More loquacious by far than the draughts of the bowl,
Soon loosens the tongue and enlivens the mind,
And enlightens their eyes to the faults of mankind;
It brings on the tapis their neighbors' defects,
All their shortcomings and willful neglects,
Till the good-natured dames are converted by Tea
Into character-manglers worse than a Fiji.
In harmless chit-chat their acquaintance they roast,
And serve up a friend as they serve up a toast.
Some gentle faux-pas, or some female mistake,
Is like sweetmeats delicious, or relished as cake.
A bit of broad scandal is like a dry crust—
It would stick in the throat; so they butter it first,
With a little affected good-nature, and cry:
"Nobody regrets this thing deeper than I."
Ah! ladies! and was it by Heaven designed
That ye should be merciful, loving and kind;
Did it form you like angels, and send you below
To prophesy peace and bid charity flow?
And have ye thus left your primeval estate,
To wander so strangely, so wildly of late?
Alas! the sad cause I too plainly can see;
These evils have all come upon you through Tea.
Cursed weed! that can make your fair spirits resign
Their character pure and their mission divine;
That can blot from your bosom that tenderness true
Which from woman to woman forever is due!
Oh! how nice is the texture, how fragile the frame,
Of that delicate fabric, a woman's fair name!
'Tis a sensitive plant, which recoils from the breath,
And shrinks from the touch, as if pregnant with death.
How oft, oh! how often, has Innocence sighed,
Has Virtue been reft of its honor, its pride,
And Chastity, pure as an angel of light,
Been painted as dark as a demon of night—
An offered-up victim, an auto-da-fe,
To the gloomy cabals, the dark orgies of Tea.

NEWS NOTES.

Ex-Senator Nye's "softening of the brain" is contradicted.

A California man pounded his wife, was fined \$90, and he sold her silk dress to pay the fine.

A Methodist woman of 35, at Highland, Ohio, eloped with the husband of her eldest daughter.

Niccolini is Rome's favorite tenor. He reaches high C with a full, round tone.

Last year in Dundee, Scotland, 502 women were punished for drunkenness, and 816 for crimes produced by drunkenness.

Boston and Brooklyn are both alarmed about a water famine, as their sources of supply are gradually diminishing.

Lancashire lads fight with their feet, armed with wooden clogs, and Lancashire lasses fight with their hands, armed with iron hairpins.

The *Diritto* says the Pope has taken up a project which he formed many years ago of placing twelve statues around the cupola of St. Peter's, in accordance with the idea of Michael Angelo.

"Lion eaters," nearly all editors and artists, assembled at a Paris restaurant to try the meat of the monarch of beasts. The steaks were sent from Africa, but were not greatly liked.

Ernst's magnificent violin, a "Stradivarius" of the great period, and in perfect preservation, has recently been purchased by Madame Norman-Neruda, from Mr. David Laurie of Glasgow, for \$2,500.

Mrs. Resor, a wealthy lady of Clifton, one of the suburbs of Cincinnati, fifty-five years of age, died a few days ago of gangrene, resulting from a bruise of one of her fingers with a tack hammer two or three months since.

The Banditti Dispatch.

I proceed now to refer to the action of General Sheridan. And here, again, I am concerned to speak of him as that action justifies. Within a day or two after his arrival at New Orleans and assuming command, he issued orders justifying the interference of the soldiers the Monday before. He had met with no resistance. No evidence was given of any purpose to resist him, for, in fact, there was none. On Tuesday, however, the 5th of January, he sent to the Secretary of War the well known "banditti" dispatch. The receipt of that dispatch, I am grieved to say, was acknowledged by the Secretary of War on the next day, the 6th, in the following manner:—

"WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, Jan. 6, 1875.

"General P. H. Sheridan, New Orleans:—

"The President and all of us have full confidence in and thoroughly approve your course.

"WILLIAM W. BELKNAP,
Secretary of War."

Since civilization favorably progressed under the influence of our Christian faith no words ever fell from the lips of any man, civilian or soldier, which more outrage every obligation of humanity or exhibit a more fiendish thirst for human blood. Not satisfied with denouncing the people of three States, he suggests as you have seen, that if the President will issue a proclamation, declaring the parties he refers to "banditti," no further action need be taken, except that which would devolve upon him! How he proposes to act, we gather from his dispatch. To arrest and try the ringleaders of what he calls the armed White Leagues. To try them by a military commission. Execution, then, would instantly follow sentence, and the cities and villages of three States would be the scenes of a carnage, the horrors of which no imagination can adequately depict. In this recommendation he totally disregards all the guarantees of personal liberty contained in the constitution. Those guarantees are to be found in the amendments which were co-eval with the constitution itself, and it is historically certain that, without an assurance that they would be provided, the constitution would not have been ratified. Among them—not to mention them all—are, first, the security of the people against seizure of their persons; second, "that no person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury," except persons in the military or naval service of the United States; third, that every party charged with a crime is secured a trial "by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed," and this trial by jury was also provided by the original constitution. It is obvious that all these guarantees would be violated if Sheridan's suggestion was acted upon. He alone could then authorize the arrest of a citizen, have him tried by a military commission appointed by himself, and, if convicted, punish him with death by his own orders.

That military commissions are wholly unconstitutional in time of peace was never doubted. Nor was it doubted that they are subversive of the guarantees to which I have referred. During the late war, however, it was supposed by military chiefs and by the President that they could be legally used for the trial of a citizen residing in a State which had never been in rebellion. Under this impression such a commission was organized by the general in command in Indiana for the trial of one Laman P. Milligan, of that State, upon charges exhibited by him. That commission on the 21st of October, 1864, found him guilty and sentenced him to be hanged, which sentence was approved by the President. Before, however, the sentence could be carried into effect, an application for a *habeas corpus* was made to the United States Circuit Court for Indiana, and the judges differing in opinion upon certain points of law, certified the same to the Supreme Court of the U. S. One of the points was whether the military commission had jurisdiction. The case was argued at the December term, 1866, and the decision of the court, which may be found in 4th

Wallace, was that the whole proceeding was illegal, and Milligan was discharged. In the decision given by Mr. Justice Davis the principles of liberty are strongly and clearly stated and vindicated. If these were niceties, then the whole constitution is but a legal nicety, which the President and his military and naval officers may be said to be ignorant of! With the people of the United States such a degrading excuse will be of no avail. But, on the contrary, they will hold the President and his general to a strict responsibility for trampling upon the very principles upon which our free institutions are founded.

If the suggestion of General Sheridan, that the persons to whom he refers should be declared "banditti" by a proclamation of the President should be adopted by the latter, and its execution left to Sheridan, he would soon achieve for himself an immortality of infamy, and be without a rival in the history of the world, unless one is to be found in the career of the Duke of Alva in his invasion of the Netherlands, where, as historians tell us, he executed more men in cold blood upon the scaffold than he killed in war, and who, at the termination of his campaign, himself, boasted that he had executed 18,000. It is due, however, to a conviction which I cannot help feeling, to add that the President, although he is made to approve of the suggestion by the Secretary's dispatch of the 6th of January, will never be induced to carry it out, and from my knowledge of the characters of the Secretaries of State and Treasury, I am satisfied that they never gave it their sanction, and, indeed, it is said they never saw it until it was published in the papers of the day.—Hon. Reverdy Johnson, at Baltimore, Jan. 15.

From Republicanism to Empire.

The historian, Gibbon, tells us that until the reign of Severus the virtue and even the good sense of the emperors had been distinguished by their zeal or affected reverence for the Senate and by a tender regard to the nice frame of civil policy instituted by Augustus. But the youth of Severus had been trained in the implicit obedience of camps and his riper years spent in the despotism of military command. Posterity, who experienced the fatal effects of his maxims and example, justly considered him as the principal author of the doctrine of the Roman Empire. Could the President divest himself of that spirit of partisanship which bristles all through his late message, and had he desired to hold out the olive branch of peace to the contending factions in Louisiana, he would have chosen as his district commander a soldier like Hancock, who, as in his assumption of command in New Orleans in 1867, instead of a "blood and thunder" proclamation, announced his authority with the calmness of a statesman and the clearness of a jurist; who would have distinctly defined the relative powers of the civil and military administration of authority and would have kept the latter in subjection to the former. He never would have denounced as "banditti" the freemen of Louisiana who were struggling against the despotism of an executive government which the President admits to have been the creation of a "gigantic fraud." No wonder that under cover of his sanction the legislative department of Louisiana was as effectually "wiped out" as the same General Sheridan cleared "as with a flame of fire" the valley of Virginia, so that a flying crow could not there find a grain of corn. Such a proceeding can find no favor with the intelligent American people, and the rumble of the earthquake of popular indignation cannot be mistaken. I am amazed at the infatuation of those political leaders, who either intently acquiesce in or openly approve the dangerous interposition of the military arm in the legislative affairs of a State. The ancients said, "Whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad;" but in this case it seems to be that canine madness which the doctors call hydrophobia; for, while they are burning with thirst for popular favor and public office, they are blindly running away from them, as mad dogs jump a stream with their parched tongues hang-

ing out. It is amusing, too, to see these apologists for despotism affecting incredulity at the popular wrath throughout the country, and telling us it is the clamor of the newspapers.—Hon. William Pinckney White at Baltimore.

The Admission of Colorado.

The senatorial caucus that was recently held to decide what legislation should be had at the present session of Congress brought up the question of the admission of Colorado and New Mexico. It was openly and shamelessly stated that, in view of the dangerous reduction of the republican majority in the Senate, the admission of new States was desirable. It was objected in regard to Colorado that it was a Democratic Territory and that, therefore, it ought not to be admitted lest it might give the Democrats two more Senators. The answer to this was that the election of last fall for Delegate was not a criterion, since it was carried upon local issues. No action was taken to indicate what the course of the majority would be in regard to Colorado, but it is believed that New Mexico, which contains but a small American element in its population, will not be admitted, unless it can be shown beyond the "reasonable doubt" of criminal jurisprudence that the Mexican "greasers" will be certain to send two of their kidney to the Senate.

The "great principles of the republican party" shine through these beautiful proceedings with a fresh and dazzling glitter. States are not to be admitted on their merits or needs, but rather upon the point as to whether they will send senators to Congress of a certain political stripe. To this complexion the question of the admission of new States came with the advent of this reckless party to power, and this black complexion pretty much everything it does, or omits to do, continues to wear.—Omaha Herald.

KILLED BY WHISKY.

POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION OF THE BRAIN OF A DRAM DRINKER AND A FEW FACTS ELICITED FROM AN EXPERT ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF DRINK.

Everybody knows how a living man appears and acts under the influence of liquor; that is, there is a general understanding of the condition of a man who staggers along the streets, hugs lamp-posts, insists upon fighting somebody, or making himself agreeable in spite of the disgustingly apparent fact that he is a nuisance; but it is very few who know how a man looks after death occasioned by whisky. He may show, while living, a bloated red face, a pimply nose, watery red eyes and tremulous limbs, but it is only the eye of science that can read the hidden ravages of drink upon the organs and tissues of the body, and interpret the mysterious signs of the accumulated record, for the outward and visible sign, repulsive and pitiable as it may be to the untutored, hardly compares with the horrid revelations of the *post mortem* examination. The effect of drink upon the living man varies according to the temperament, disposition, habits, &c., of the individual, but it is obvious, says a recognized authority on the subject, that the brain is especially acted on by the stimulus, "for we observe all the manifestations of an excited action in them, such as talkativeness, rapidity and variety of thought, exhilaration of the spirits, animation of the features and gestures, flushed countenance and suffusion of the eyes. During slight intoxication the prevailing dispositions and pursuits are often made manifest, and hence the saying, '*In vino veritas*.' The irritable and ill-tempered become quarrelsome, the weak and silly are boisterous with laughter and mirth and profuse in offers of service, and the sad and hypochondriacal readily burst into tears and dwell on mournful topics.

It has been demonstrated by experiments on animals and observations of the human being that alcohol passes immediately into the circulation, and, therefore, acts almost immediately upon the brain. No wonder, then, that a man fired up by whisky is ready to shoot, stab or bludgeon his fellow to death, or to do anything the most reckless and

desperate. Most of the homicides and murders which have occurred in this city are directly traceable to the malign influence of strong drink, and it is strange to observe how ready many people are to excuse, or at least palliate, capital crime when perpetrated under the spur of the moment.

A great many errors with regard to the influence and effects of whisky and other alcoholic stimulants obtain among people. For instance it is believed that a "slug" of whisky is a good thing to keep out the cold of a bitter night, whereas, in point of fact, a cup of coffee with bread and butter is far more enduring and efficacious. It would require a better knowledge of chemistry than the general reader possesses to demonstrate this, but it has been satisfactorily established by carefully collated data, and is vouched for by the highest medical authorities. It is also well known that physical labor is not materially aided by alcoholic stimulation, the effect of which is merely to force the wheels of the human machine, so to speak, into a more rapid action or motion for the time being, but leaving the system correspondingly prostrated, the mental powers weakened and the spirits depressed. No one knows this better than the dram drinker, who feels that he must have recourse again and again to the bottle for a renewal of what he erroneously supposes to be strength.

"Now here is the brain of a person who died of whisky."

This announcement was startling, doubly so as the word was suited to the action and the action to the word, for accompanying it was a human brain, bloody in appearance, fresh and—stinking, nicely spread out on a platter. It had been taken out of a glass basin filled with alcohol, as a preparative to dissection.

Q. How did you obtain this?

A. In the usual way.

Q. How?

A. Well, that is my business, but it is here.

Q. Allow me to ask, then, how you took it out of the whisky head, and what there is peculiar about it?

A. With pleasure. You see the brain consists of two great parts, the cerebrum and the cerebellum—

Q. My dear sir, be kind enough to speak in plain, unscientific terms. You see I am not a scholar, and least of all up in science of any kind, besides—

A. I understand. Well now, what do you want to know? Here is a peculiar treatise that will probably give you all the information you desire.

Q. Will it tell me all about this brain?

A. No, not about that particular brain, but of brains in general—all you want to know.

Q. Now we understand each other. Tell me, then, all about this particular brain, how you came to take it out of the head, and what it reveals to you—this, if you please, in a plain, conversational style that everybody will understand?

A. All right, I heard of the death of this person, and knowing the cause of the death, I went to the subject and had permission to take out the brain for examination. In the first place, I made an incision under the hair line from the ears backward and stripped the scalp from the skull, drawing the former forward and over the face, which left the skull bone exposed. I then sawed the top of the skull, taking care not to let the saw injure the brain, which was then removed or scooped out and put in that basin of alcohol.

Q. Well, go on, please. What next?

A. I examined it, keeping constantly in mind the difference in the appearance from the normal or healthy brain.

Q. And therein lies the interest?

A. Certainly. Well, I observed that this brain was hardened. I should have said, however, that when I removed the skull a strong alcoholic fume or smell escaped, for the body was yet warm, or retained some animal heat when I obtained access to it. When I say hardened I mean that it is harder than is natural. The vessels were enlarged and congested. In other words, they looked as though gorged with blood that had remained in them when the patient died—for you know that as a general thing the blood vessels empty themselves in death, or, properly speaking, the blood is withdrawn from the circulation. The brain is largely composed of albumen, and