

A GIFT.

BY ANNA E. GARLIN.

"A child's kiss set on her sighing lips shall make them glad."

A little, low-ceiled room,
A room so poor and mean,
You would not care to enter it;
But pure and clean.

A child upon the bed;
A babe so wondrous fair,
It seemed most like a painted dream
Of beauty rare.

A woman, old and worn,
So poor, that toll had wrung
From out her withered life, each joy,
Since hope was young.

For years she had not wished
For change, so used was she
To ceaseless round of daily toil
And poverty.

But now, into her hands,
So weary with earth's strife,
Her empty hands, the grace of God
Has dropped this Life.

It must have been the Lord,
For he alone would dare
To give a child into such hands,
So worn with care.

You think she was not glad?
You think 'twas added load?
It seemed to her, a guest from Heaven
With her abode.

Her eyes were blue like Heaven,
Undimmed by earth's sad mist,
And sweeter than the dewy fields,
The lips she kissed.

And she, who knew not prayer,
And had not wept for years,
Felt all her soul's sad bitterness
Wash out in tears.

A little, low-ceiled room—
You would not call it mean
If once the beauty of its peace
Your eyes had seen.

A fair child on the bed—
A woman by his side,
Whose face, though old and grey, by
love
Is glorified.

—Woman's Journal.

Father De Smet.

OPINIONS ABOUT THE MODOCS AND
THE PEACE POLICY.

Feeling an anxiety to know what Rev. Father De Smet, the distinguished Catholic Indian missionary, thought of the Indian question, a *Times* reporter called on him yesterday. It is well known that Father De Smet has spent the best portion of his life among the Indians. Our reporter ventured the inquiry as to what he thought of the present war against the Modocs and what effect the general clamor for the extermination of the tribe would probably have on the other Indians.

Father De Smet said that the Modocs, like the balance of the Indians, never forgot a fancied or real injury, and the passion of vengeance was an instinct with them. The Modocs, he thought, would never surrender, but would continue to fight with a wild desperation until the last of them was killed. He referred to the story going the rounds of the press, and credited to a San Francisco paper, to the effect that some eighteen years ago Captain Jack's father was killed in the same treacherous way that General Canby and his party were assassinated two week ago, and instanced that circumstance as proof of the revengeful feelings which usually animate the Indian, causing him to nurse and treasure up the remembrance of an injury during a life time and to avenge it whenever an opportunity offers.

Father De Smet thought that the tide of hostility which was beginning to set in against the Indians by the people, would no doubt have the effect of alienating a great many of the friendly tribes from the government, though he did not believe that anything was to be apprehended concerning the Indians that lived near the border settlements.

In regard to the peace policy of General Grant, Father De Smet is of the opinion that, if properly carried out, it cannot but result beneficially to all concerned. No serious troubles have ever occurred on the borders since the policy had been adopted, and there can be no doubt that if government agents would only carry it out in good faith and treat the Indians fairly, war and bloodshed would cease in that quarter. His own observation during his many years of missionary

labors among the red men long since satisfied him that the Indians, though uneducated and ignorant, invariably know when they are swindled, and it is a want of the appreciation of this fact by the agents that has caused all the trouble between the government and the Indians.—*St. Louis Times*.

It is a noticeable fact, says the *Chicago Tribune*, that not one of the Congressmen implicated in the Credit Mobilier suit have made any sort of answer to the charges in the petition of plaintiffs. They make default, and the charges must be taken as true, agreeable to an old and well established rule.

The truth about the prospective peach crop of Delaware has come out at last. The *Wilmington Commercial* state that it promises to be the largest for a number of years. In the most favored sections of the State, it says that "the trees have bloomed, and are literally covered with the rose-tinted blossoms."

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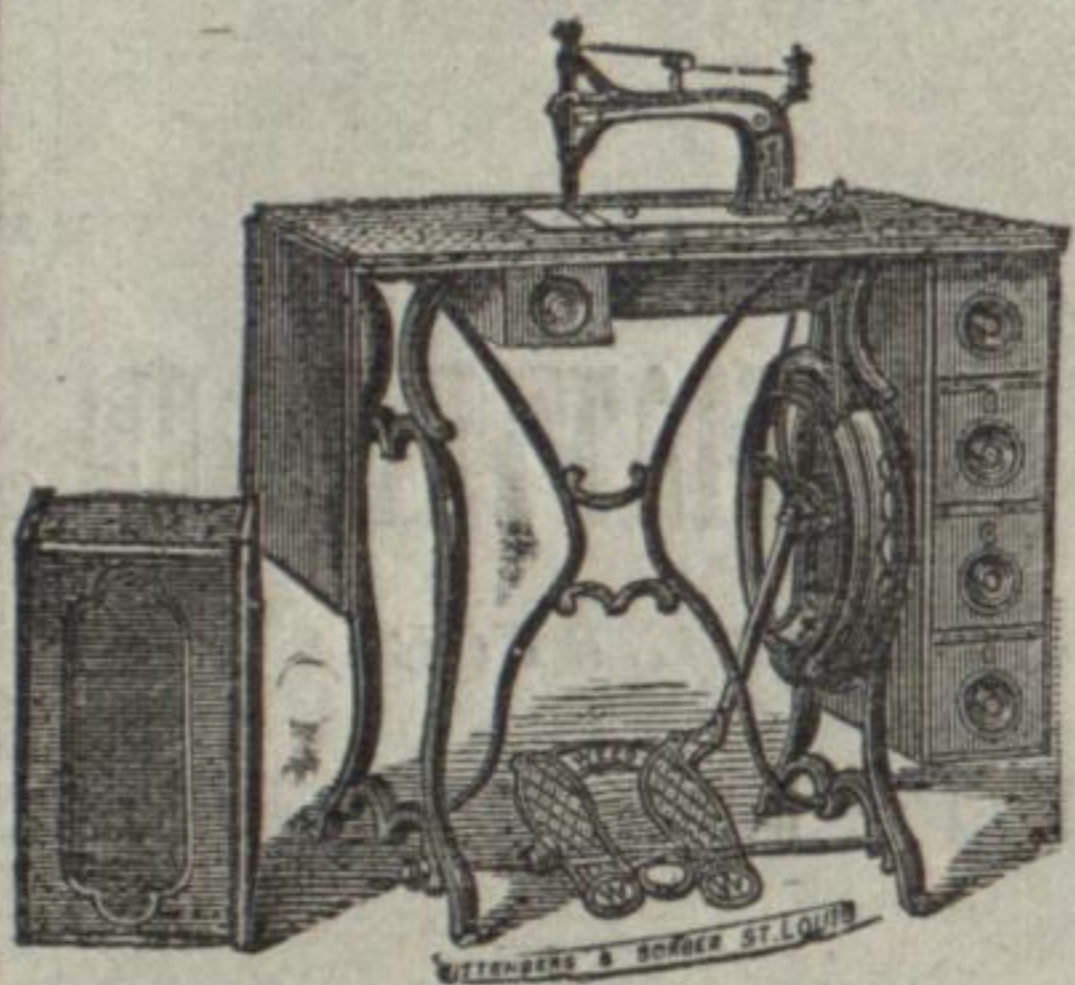
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