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TRUTH AND LIBERTY.

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GEORGE Q. CANNON,
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

OUR SUBSCRIBERS in the country can at any time ascertain the date on which their subscription expires by referring to the numbers attached to their names on their paper. i. e. 1-4-3 means first day, fourth month, third year, or April 1st, 1873, 15-7-2 means July 15, 1872, &c.

Those names having no numbers close with the end of the volume.

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SPEAK NAE ILL.

Other people have their faults,
And so have ye as well,
But all ye chance to see or hear
Ye have no right to tell.

If ye canna speak o' good,
Take care, and see, and feel
Earth has all too much o' woe
And not enough o' weal.

Be careful that ye make nae strife
Wi' meddling tongue and brain,
For ye will find enough to do
If ye but look at home.

If ye canna speak o' good,
Oh, dinna speak at all
For there is grief and woe enough
On this terrestrial ball.

If ye should feel like picking flaws,
Ye better go, I ween,
And read the book that tells ye all
About the mote and beam.

Dinna lend a ready ear
To gossip or to strife,
Or, perhaps, 'twill make for ye
Nae funny thing of life.

Oh dinna add to others' woe,
Nor mock it with your mirth,
But give ye kindly sympathy
To suffering ones of earth.

WHAT ARE WE COMING TO?

This is how the Hartford Times pictures things present and future for the delectation of the citizens of the freest nation in all creation:

"Steadily the central power is moving onward aggressively, as despotism always moves. Under the loose construction put upon the 'amendments,' which were in the interest of centralism, the United States government is taking possession of the people, and ruling them. The servants are becoming the masters of the people. The United States marshals are putting irons on the waists of as many citizens as they choose to crush. So the people are getting used to the power, and they are quiet. In the election laws of Congress are provisions that if any judge, or officer of a State Court, or if any executive or municipal officer of any State shall interfere with a United States marshal when he is acting under the United States law, such judges or State officers shall be fined \$5,000 and put in prison for three years. This is to suppress the writ of habeas corpus, to override all State laws, and make the people dependent on and subjects of the central power."

Of course everybody likes the picture. It is so irresistibly fascinating.

A miserable English charwoman has had the audacity to call the Earl of Winchelsea to Court for debt, and his lordship treated the matter with contempt. An execution was issued against his goods and chattels. The officer with the writ was resisted by a legion of flunkies, whom he first whipped and then sued.

THE MOST SCIENTIFIC WOMAN.

The *Popular Science Monthly* says but one answer can be given to the question, "Who is the most scientific woman that has appeared?" and that answer would be, "Mary Somerville," a woman of remarkable capacity and prolonged mental vigor. She was born at Jedburgh, Scotland, in 1780, and was the daughter of Vice Admiral Sir William Fairfax. One authority says her first husband was William Gray, Esq., and another Captain Greig, of the Russian navy. Her second husband was William Somerville, M. D. She received her elementary instruction in the mathematical and physical sciences from her first husband. She became known to the public by a paper, published in the "Philosophical Transactions," in 1826, describing her experiments on the magnetizing power of the more refrangible solar rays. Her first published book was a summary of the *Mecanique Celeste* of Laplace, under the title of the "Mechanism of the Heavens," written, at the suggestion of Lord Brougham, for the "Library of Useful Knowledge." Her work, "On the Connection of the Physical Sciences," followed, and afterward her "Physical Geography," subsequently thoroughly revised. Her last work was on "Molecular and Microscopical Science," published when she was nearly ninety years of age. It was received with great interest by the scientific world.

Mrs. Somerville died at Naples, last November 29. She was made an honorary fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, and received a gold medal from the Royal Geographical Society. Her bust was placed in the library of the Royal Society. She kept up correspondence with leading mathematicians and physicists until within a few weeks of her death. Painting, music, lace-work and other light accomplishments were not neglected by her. As a reward for her literary services she was awarded a pension of £300 a year from the British civil list.

With remarkable capacity, Mrs. Somerville combined uncommon industry. She was not considered a great discoverer in science, nor a setter forth of novel and original truths, but with extraordinary mathematical power and grasp of thought, much clearness and precision of statement, though occasionally betraying a lack of sequence and a looseness of logic, she interpreted and expounded, in a popular form, what the great masters of scientific truth had brought to light.

MRS. WHARTON.—Mrs. E. G. Wharton was indicted in the Criminal Court at Baltimore, Md., Aug. 12, 1871, for the murder of General Wm. Scott Ketchum, of Washington, D. C., by poisoning him with tartar emetic, etc., June 27, 1871, while a guest at her house on Eutaw Street, Hamilton Terrace. The case was removed to the Circuit court of Anne Arundel County, and after a trial of 54 days she was acquitted. She was also indicted at the same time for attempting to poison Mr. Eugene Van Ness in Baltimore. This case was continued to the present term of Court, and is now on trial at Annapolis. The indictment contains 12 counts and charges the actual administration of tartar emetic and deadly poisons of an unknown name June 19, 20, and 24, 1871, and with mingling such poisons with beef tea on the 24th of June, and with milk punch, of which he was about to partake, June 28, 1871, with intent to poison him. The indictment is found on article 30, section 150, of the code, which reads as follows:

"Every person, his or her aiders and abettors, who shall be convicted of the crime of attempting to poison any person, shall be sentenced to undergo a confinement in the penitentiary for not less than two nor more than ten years."

POSTMASTERS AND MAILS.

The following which we find in an exchange, will be read with interest by the public—

"The United States Attorney General has given his opinion to the Postmaster General in regard to Postmasters opening and examining mail matter with the view of preventing the transmission of obscene or indecent publications. He says the Postmasters have no right to open any letter or mail package, even though there may be good reasons for believing that they contain an indecent publication, unless said letter or package is put up in such a manner that the Postmaster can see that the contents are of an obscene character, in which case the package may be opened and the contents, if such, detained; but in all other cases mail packages must be held sacred."

Without intending any reference to the special circumstances which elicited the above opinion, we may say that many complaints have been made and published concerning the condition of the mail service in various portions of, or connected with, this Territory, some of the complaints, it may reasonably be presumed, having their foundation, at least, in unpleasant fact. Per contra, we have one statement to make, which it is a pleasure to hear and to be able to publish. We heard a gentleman say that, during a two years' visit to Europe, ending a year and a half ago, all letters and papers, not less than one weekly each way, passing between him and his family in this city, reached their proper respective destination, without a single exception. Not one was lost either way. This security in six thousand miles transit across continent and ocean and this certainty of delivery are highly creditable to the postal authorities of the two countries. Praise where praise is due.

A GALLANT CRAFT GONE.—James Gordon Bennett's famous yacht *Henrietta* was totally wrecked near Honduras, Dec. 16, being driven ashore by a heavy gale soon after leaving Ruatan, and while engaged in the fruit trade. All her crew were saved.

The *Henrietta* was built by Henry Steers, of Greenpoint, L. I., in 1862, from a model by Mr. Wm. Tooker. She was a vessel of 205 tons, 108 feet in length by 28 feet beam, 10 feet depth of hold, fore and aft schooner rigged, with a very deep keel, extremely fine lines, handsome and spacious cabin accommodations, and unsurpassed general appointments. Her great fame was acquired by winning the first transatlantic yacht race, from New York to Cowes, Isle of Wight, in 1866, when she beat the *Fleetwing* by eight hours and fifteen minutes and the *Vesta* by nine hours and forty-five minutes.

DISRAELI.—They do say that Disraeli's late wife, Viscountess Beaconsfield, was 20 years older than he; that she married for love and he for money; that she took him out of the bankruptcy court three times; that his solicitor declared there was only one way in which the money could go, as Disraeli did not gamble; that Lady Beaconsfield's immense fortune at her death reverted to her children by her first marriage; that Disraeli is helplessly in debt, notwithstanding his £5,000 pension, which he craftily obtained; that there is little affection lost between Mr. Disraeli and the heirs of Lady Beaconsfield; and that meddlesome persons aggravated this hostile feeling. All of which may be true, or it may be mere scandal.

Says the *Times* of New Orleans: "When a flock of vultures wish to devour the Louisiana pelican they commence proceedings by 'filing their bills' in the Circuit Court."

1776---UNITED STATES CENTENNIAL COMMISSION---1876.

To the People of the United States:

Congress recognizing and responding to the patriotic wishes of the people, provided by Acts approved March 3rd, 1871, and June 1st, 1872, respectively, that in the year 1876, the Centennial Anniversary of the Independence of the United States of America shall be celebrated at the City of Philadelphia, by an international and Universal Exhibition of the grandest and most comprehensive character.

The first of those Acts provided for the appointment of the United States Centennial Commission, consisting of two members from each State and Territory, to organize and conduct the exhibition. That commission has been duly constituted, and has actively entered upon its duties.

By the second Act, in order to secure the money necessary for the expenses of this exhibition and celebration, Congress incorporated the Centennial Board of Finance as auxiliary to the Centennial Commission, and provided for the issue of stock to the amount of ten millions of dollars, in one million shares of ten dollars each; an amount which, if assessed equally among the people, would not require more than twenty-five cents from each person.

In creating the Centennial Board of Finance, Congress had also in view the general distribution of the stock among the people of the States and Territories in the ratio of their population. The people, in accordance with the provisions of the Act, now have the opportunity to become owners of the stock, and share in the management in proportion to the amount they subscribe.

Books will remain open in the hands of the agents until the first day of March next, when the stockholders who have then subscribed will be notified of the time for the election of the Board of Directors, which will be after thirty days' notice. At the time of subscribing to the stock, an installment of two dollars per share must be paid to the agent; after the organization of the Board of Finance, the balance due will be payable when called for by them, in installments of two dollars per share, which will not be earlier than May, July, September, and November of 1873; or the whole amount may be paid at the time of subscribing. After the organization, the agents of the Board of Finance will receive subscriptions without regard to the quota allotted to each State.

An undertaking so patriotic in its conception, so vast in its proportions, and so useful in its results, commands itself to the hearty sympathy and support of an intelligent people. Patriotism, as well as an appreciation of the beneficial influences of well organized exhibitions, should impel all citizens to lend a helping hand. It is the duty of the Commission to prepare the way and open the doors, but the people in their sovereign right and strength, must make the exhibition. By their aid alone can it be made a just and comprehensive display of the industrial, intellectual, and moral development of the nation during the first century of its existence.

Each subscriber will receive, after the organization of the Board, a large engraved certificate of stock executed in the Treasury Department of the United States, in the best style of the engraver's art bearing designs illustrating our national progress, and commemorative of the Centennial Exhibition.

It is hoped that there will be no pecuniary loss to any subscriber; but should there be, the certificate will in value go far towards compensating for any such loss, not only as a beautiful work of art, but as an heirloom to be handed down from generation to generation, doing perpetual honor to the patriotism of the subscriber. The names of the subscribers will also appear in the printed records of this great national celebration.

By an early subscription you will

be identified with the grand industrial monument which the willing and patriotic hands of American citizens will rear to testify their veneration for their self-sacrificing ancestors, and to mark the progress made in a century under the operations of a free government.

DANIEL J. MORRELL, Chairman, Penn'a.
JOHN V. L. PRYNN, JAMES T. EARLE, New York.
GEO. H. CORLISS, JOHN LYNCH, Maryland.
Rhode Island, Louisiana.
JOHN G. STEVENS, WALTER W. WOOD, New Jersey, Virginia.
GEO. B. LORING, ALFRED T. GOSHOEN, Massachusetts, Ohio.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THE W. U. T. AND THE CALIFORNIA PRESS.—There is a very pretty little quarrel on hand between the Western Union Telegraph Company and portions of the California Press. The quarrel seems to have arisen from the *Alta California* letting the *S. F. Chronicle* have the use of dispatch that came over the W. U. line, the *Chronicle* not being a patron of the W. U.; that the W. U. consequently took umbrage and proceeded to charge the *Alta* regular commercial rates for dispatches, instead of press rates. The *Alta* would not foot the new bills, and the W. U. consequently cuts off its connection with that paper on and after Feb. 12. The *Alta* goes heavily for the postal telegraph scheme, claims that the recent reduction in rates on the W. U. and A. and P. lines were largely due to the *Alta's* efforts, and that it will carry the war into Africa until telegraph monopolies become things of the past.

The principal papers in California opposed to the postal telegraph are said to be the *Union*, *Bulletin*, and *Call*. If a compromise cannot be effected, of course the belligerents will have to fight it out on that line if it takes all winter.

BAD TIMES.—The San Francisco *Chronicle*, commenting on the Credit Mobilier and Caldwell bribery scandals, says, "Such a wholesale and unblushing system of fraud and corruption was never before exhibited in the Republic. Is corruption to be the rule and honesty but the very rare exception?"

So it verily appears. One thing, however, should be vigorously protested against—the implication of the immaculate Schuyler in any such business. Does not all the world know that he is not that sort of a man at all?

COLD AGAIN.—The present cold snap has extended far east, north, and south-east, according to the dispatches, running from Chicago to the Fort Garry country at from 14 to 40 below zero. Not so crisp as that here yet.

The Atlanta *Herald* thus concludes an editorial in defence of a Georgian, who was recently acquitted in that State: "Let it be proclaimed from all our Southern house-tops that the man who tampers with a woman's virtue shall be slain like a dog, and then society will be safer."

The statement that the lecture engagement of Edmund Yates has proved a failure is incorrect, the truth being that the English novelist has been successful whenever he appeared, and the lecturing bureau which engaged him are very anxious to have him continue his tour more widely.

The inmates of a western hotel all locked their doors recently because a crazy woman shouted through the corridors, "Prepare ye, the Lord is coming."

The Leavenworth *Times* makes an appeal to the public-spirited hens to throw a few eggs upon the market.

In central New Hampshire the thermometer was below zero eight successive mornings in December.