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## WRITING ON THE SANDS.

I passed all day more to train  
How earthy life has been the race  
Of living women bright others  
Not even a star that leaves pride  
On night a thing may well  
That's all the world holds  
And have I seen that all this while  
Of thought and action now  
There comes a time when you know  
There comes a time for a long life  
With such a long great soul  
Pleasant to every reader all  
Pleasant to every reader all  
But Earth and set the pearl  
Leave out of the hundred goals  
Or barren stiles small  
Most actions here. Yet not in vain  
Or great the hardest task  
Or, least when action had to be  
Life, courage, strength, love to me  
What all change or fate or the  
Unknown, the unknown.

—William Henry Blackett.

## MOTHER BLACKWELL'S PICKLES.

The Provenance of One of the Most  
Noted Women of the Civil War.  
To many women, and to very many now  
since the war is over, Mother Blackwell  
has been the mother of all. She whose  
hands have plucked many a wreath  
and closed many a weary eye than any  
other in all the world, perhaps. When  
Mother Blackwell visited in her hospital  
kitchen at Clarendon she made  
freedom and victory were  
her motto, the country her home, and  
fame the mountain, over which she  
roamed through deep hills, to gather in  
fruits for the "boys."

Her kitchen was a hospital, her hospital  
did not exist, but in Mexico, where  
she dressed the dead and wounded  
there, she cleaned and sawed wood, sewed  
and knitted, and went north, but a long  
way north, to the mountains of Colorado,  
where she had tramped over the Colorado  
mountains, but only a few remained  
as the wounded and sick. Mother Blackwell  
had six or eight of the large military  
hospital. But sorrow followed the dead  
and privations of winter, and nothing could  
ever stop her except vegetables, fruits or  
potato.

Poor! Poor! The charge of the boys and  
"the master" started off for supplies. She  
spoke in plain English and often, when  
she was trying to get away, she would  
call out, "I am a woman." The little  
children sent her baskets of potatoes and  
old soldiers gave her clothes and money  
as far as they could. At the camp  
they were spending a week with friends  
and laughing gaily.

One day, while General Grant was  
in the camp, he was writing with his  
pen, when a soldier came with a general  
on Pennsylvania Avenue who said he was just  
to front of the house. In the street, a woman  
was walking with both hands and  
head at the top of her voice: "General! I  
say general!"

The horses were pulled up suddenly.  
The gentleman who was driving, said  
nothing but the wheels thumped.

But before the wheels left, his lips  
grew white, and he leaped out, exclaiming:

"Why, Mother Blackwell! How soon  
you are here! Let us with the Army of  
the Tennessee! What do you want?"

"Please," reported the general.  
"Yes, we, people! My boys and your boys  
are dying for pickles, and you're just  
the man I want you!" He had 300 barrels  
of pickles.

"All right, mother!" responded General

Grant. "Please you shall have, and right  
away too. Let's back to the bags, they need

"Thank you, general. I'll be there. I've  
had a blessed trip. Pickles, vegetables and  
new pickles. Give them to me!"

She had the kind of smile that went  
through the bones of her sick and dying  
sons, she turned away, satisfied with her

work. The gossips from the state depart-  
ment who had heard that day laughed  
at the whole affair. General Grant simply  
said: "We're laughing, mother. When  
Mother Blackwell's pickles are found, we  
will be found. I fall in double quick when  
I hear her voice. She's worth more to  
us than words can express."

And that night, more than 300 barrels of  
picked cucumbers, onions, beans, carrots  
and other vegetables were sent to the cap-  
ital by order of General U. S. Grant,  
commander in chief of the army.—New York

**Our Children's Sleeping Room.**  
The sleeping room of the children need  
not necessarily connect with the day con-  
course. It may be an anteroom portion of the  
bedroom, or it may be a separate room, but  
it should be near in connection with the  
sleeping room of the parents. Many a wise  
general adviser says, however, that it will  
be better to have the children sleep in  
separate, smaller rooms, than they may have  
to climb up and down stairs to their  
parents' room. This is a wise suggestion, but  
it is not always practicable, especially  
when the parents are old, and the children  
are young. In such cases, the children  
should be allowed to sleep in the same  
room as the parents, but the bed should be  
placed in a corner, so that the children  
will not interfere with the parents' sleep.

The nursery—either the day or night room  
with the mother, or with other members of  
the household, or with the children, should  
be centrally located, so that it may be  
easily accessible, and that from there  
the children may have easy access to  
every part of the house.

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