

## THE SOCIABLE VISITORS.

Mr. Willis, in his *Home Journal*, has the following charming little story :

I have two very sociable sets of visitors, every morning early, in my study, at the northwest corner of the house; first, two or three little folks in their slippers and nightgowns, who jump out of their beds to follow Laina the cook as she comes through the entry, punctually at half-past five, with the tea-tray for my writing-table and the bread for my presently expected birds; and second, the fifteen or twenty little pensioners, in only their bare feet and feathers, who (when there is snow upon the ground) are certain to be at the outside of the window with the earliest daylight, and whom the children love to see made happy with the crumbs. It is a full hour after the tea tray, of course, before the birds come; but when we have broken up crusts and strewn the feast over the roof of the portico (early, so as not to frighten the youngest of them with the opening of the window), we pass the rest of the time in telling stories before the fire, talking over the dogs and their behavior, and getting ready for the day's lessons and work. So you are introduced to our morning party, if you please—consisting of, say twenty birds on the outer side of the window, and on the inner side, a rosy troop of cheerful little folks, and their *Natural Pencil* by the *Way*, best known to you by the initials of 'N. P. W.'—Now, I looked with some little anxiety for the return of my birds with the first snow-storm this winter. Every day, riding home in the edge of the twilight, I took a good look at the Clove Mountain and Skunnemunk (the parenthesis in our horizon which incloses all promises of storm), and on one evening in particular (I think December 20), my friend Torrey the blacksmith, who hears from the weather by rheumatic telegraph, had sung out as I passed his shop in the village that he "felt a snow storm in his bones." And it came accordingly. Enter Laina with my tea the next morning, and the kind, dark face under the bandanna was quite a contrast to the snow-white hemlock looking in at the windows. Of course we should see the birds! The bread-feast was soon crumbled and spread, and the little nightgowns and I waited patiently for our feathered guests with the daylight. And oh! such a fluttering as there was, with the first gray over the mountains in the east! The dear old birds were there (the same, I knew, by their finding their way to the same tree-hidden window-sill at the coldest corner of the house), and there they were all made happy with the breakfast they expected! And I and my little folks were as happy as they! It is something to be thought of in the woods—something to have birds that would be sorry if we were gone! They would not know—such little ones as these—why the death that might come to

us should stop remembrance of them; and, with every willingness to go hence when my time shall come, I could wish (I trust it is not irreverent to say) that there were hope of still being joyfully remembered at the waking of beloved ones, and of still ministering kindly—watching and crumb-giving from the windows of the spirit-land!

## News of the Week.

## AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

All the Gloucester vessels thus far known to be destroyed by the Tacony are insured in the Fishing Insurance Company, of that town. None are covered by war risks, and so every one destroyed is a total loss. The value of these vessels ranges from \$2000 to \$5000. A committee of three Gloucester gentlemen are en route for Washington to lay before the Government a memorial, asking immediate attention, and particularly impressing the need of some protection for the fishing fleets, and asking that two steamers be permitted to cruise—the one between Cape Sable and Canoe, the other in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

By Telegraph to Morning & Evening Papers.

A Telegraphic Dispatch of June 30, reports that Gen. Hooper has been superseded by Gen. Meade, as Commander of the army of the Potomac.—20,000 Confederates reported at Carlisle, their advance is within 5 miles of Harrisburg.—Affairs on the Upper Potomac are quiet. Confederates have a small force south of Hagerstown—Federals remain in possession of South Mountain.—Confederate cavalry have made a raid within 8 miles of Washington, seizing a large number of horses.—Siege of Vicksburg progressing vigorously. Rosecranz has commenced a forward movement and defeated Confederates at Liberty Gap.

St. John, July 1—(p. m.) Reported Hooker was removed for ordering the evacuation of Maryland Heights, which order Halleck countermanded.—Confederates reported falling back along the entire line, evacuating York.—Gen. Corish and staff crossed Susquehanna, occupying south bank.—Gen. Meade occupied Hanover and York, cutting the enemy's lines, yesterday morning.—Gen. Grigg attacked Stuart, driving him from Westminster to Hanover, Pa., 18 miles. Generals Kilpatrick and Castor then drove him from Hanover.—Pleasanton is harassing rear of enemy's trains.—Five companies of the 14th New York cavalry reported captured by cavalry raid within 3 miles of Banks' headquarters.

President Juarez and cabinet evacuated Mexico. Church party offered allegiance to Napoleon. Whole French army expected to occupy the Capital on June 8th.

July 2.—A dispatch from Harrisburg

says that a battle took place yesterday,—lasting the whole day, at Hanover Junction between Gen. Pleasanton and the enemy's cavalry—the latter losing 400 men killed, wounded and prisoners, and six pieces of artillery.—The Federal loss is reported to be about 200. Heavy firing was heard all last evening in the direction of Carlisle. It is supposed the enemy attacked the Federal forces between Carlisle and Mechanicsburg.—A large fire was seen in the direction of Carlisle.—It is supposed that Lee's head-quarters is at Dover, York Co. Pa.—A dispatch to the Herald from Carlisle dated yesterday, p. m. says that the last of the enemy left at 9 o'clock in the morning, moving via Baltimore; the whole numbered 12,000.—Johnston's division encamped near Carlisle fled precipitately to Shippensburg.—The Missouri Convention has adopted the Emancipation ordinance to go into effect July 4, 1870.

July 2, (evening.) Immense trains of supplies have been sent by the Confederates from Pennsylvania into Shenandoah Valley for future use.—The attack on Carlisle terminated on Tuesday night at 2 o'clock, the Confederates falling back, but burning barracks, gasworks and some buildings outside the town.—A New York dispatch says the Confederates evacuated Pennsylvania last evening.

July 3 (morning)—The 7th and 11th Corps Army of the Potomac entered Gettysburg on Wednesday last, passing through the town, the Confederate cavalry retiring. In passing out of the West end, the Confederates under Longstreet and Hill advanced rapidly upon Chambersburg turnpike, in line of battle. Gen. Reynolds, of the 1st Corps, pushed forward in double quick time to gain an advantageous position, when a severe fight ensued, the Confederate charges being repulsed. Gen. Reynolds and Brigadier Gen. Paul was killed. The battle closed at 4 o'clock, when 2 more army corps arrived, and Gen. Meade, with concentrated forces, was in the position to renew the battle yesterday morning. The Confederates are reported as having lost heavily in prisoners. The 11th Corps wiped out its Chancellorville disgrace.—General Rosecranz (Federal) occupied Tullahoma on Wednesday, Confederates having fled leaving stone fortifications.

July 3, p. m. Fighting is reported to have been renewed yesterday to the right of Gettysburg, towards Benderville, with fierce energy and larger force, but the result is unknown.—Federals are said to have captured 6000 prisoners, among them Gen. Archer.—Johnston is said to have received reinforcements from Bragg, and to be perfecting arrangements to attack Grant.—Marmaduke, Price and Kirby Smith have got possession of points along the banks of the Mississippi, and probably will attempt to obstruct navigation.—Southern official dispatches