

to accept the charge of a church among the Segregationalists of the Levant: a people who were not only poor but ignorant. Had he been a minister in any other denomination it would have been all right: but the motto of these peculiar people is 'the minister is our servant: and therefore his wife (who is his minister) is doubly so.' Acting out this theory they led Gildhelm's wife an awful life. He has told me that she would come home with suppressed tears choking her utterance: and he would draw out of her how she had been drilled and jockeyed at some 'Dorcas' society or 'Mothers' meeting.' Every one wanted to take possession of her singly; and impress on her their own views of people and things in the church that she might take them home and in turn impress them upon the minister. But the poor woman had strong common-sense, and a pretty good will of her own: and when she refused to be dictated to, and to become the tool of a party, all parties combined to harass and annoy her. She bore it bravely for some time; but one last attempt to humiliate her was too much for Gildhelm; who 'put down his foot,' and—raising it quickly—upset the whole affair, and moved away.

It is hard to draw the line of the special duty of a minister's wife. Our Lord approved a woman who had "done what she could": and this must be the only universal rule. Till ministers' wives are all alike in character and health and temperament and circumstances; till they have the same family duties, and, above all, the same sort of husbands, it is idle to try to lay down a fixed line of conduct for them. One thing ought to be fully understood, that for whatever they do or leave undone in church work they are in no way responsible to the church: but simply to their husbands and their conscience.

QUIEN SABE?

### HILLSIDE GLEANINGS.

"The harvest is past." The grain, whether light or heavy, is gathered into the storehouses, and the bare and yellow fields show us only what *has* been. We look back, as upon a dream, to the heat of July, the intense sunshine of August, and feel ready for a fire of wood or anthracite as the evenings become cold. Then, as we look backward and forward, comes the natural question, After the summer—what? There is for the men who have passed their holidays by sea or shore, on mountain top or in quiet valley, the routine of business or profession, the treadmill only allowed them a little rest, in the steady round of duty, and they know well what is before them. But the wives, daughters, sisters of this busy crowd of workers, whether in city or country, what is to be their winter's work?

No doubt a smile of pity will beam on many faces as the reply comes: "We have our houses, our children, our servants,—hard enough work for one weak woman's hands." More than enough, my sister, in your case; but how many have not these duties, and spend their time in aimless frivolity. "Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?" As through the summer I have watched the manner in which young and care-free ladies spent their hours, without study or aim, often at a loss how to kill the time, it has occurred to me the question, "What will the harvest be?" Has the mind been richly stored with knowledge brought from the fields and woods to add zest to the study of botany? Has the mountain and sea-shore whispered new secrets to the student of geology? or, living amid simplicity, with plain and homely fare, have our young ladies returned to the city resolved to take lessons in the high art of cooking, which is in itself a science very imperfectly understood? What will the harvest be for the winter before us? With a rich store of knowledge such as may be gained in a summer's leisure, will the return be wheat or chaff? Is heart and mind refreshed, to renew the battle of life, to do good to others, to gain self-knowledge? or enervated and enfeebled by inane idleness, that becomes second nature?

"For soon or late to all that sow  
The time of harvest shall be given:  
The flower shall bloom, the fruit shall grow,  
If not on earth, at last in heaven."

A. L. J.

### ENGLAND'S AMERICAN FOE.

The greenback-labour question, threatening as it does to disturb the existing balance of political parties in the United States, is one in which European countries are so closely interested that it is of great importance to investigate its immediate bearing and forecast its future influence. American politicians are usually blinded to such an extent by party feeling that they are unable dispassionately to estimate results which may be unfavourable to their fondly-cherished hopes, or which are opposed to the opinions they had formed prior to the existence of the changed conditions incidental to the new issue. A sanguine and superficial mode of treating political dangers, and a dislike to grapple with problems which may be postponed, often lead them to underrate the forces at work in their own country, and so to mislead not merely themselves, but foreigners who are vainly endeavouring to follow the tangled web of American politics. In this case, however, it is no unknown or local question which forces itself upon our attention, but one with which unfortunately we are far more familiar than our American kinsmen, and which is certain sooner or later, in the Old World as in the New, to force a solution.

The fact that a man of such undoubted ability as General Butler has allied himself with Mr. Kearney, the Californian agitator, to represent the claims of labour against capital in the impending political contests in the United States, is one which, however much Republicans and Democrats may scoff at it, they will be unable to ignore. If a combination of engineers and firemen during the summer of last year, lasting a week, could produce a panic that spread from one end of the Union to the other, paralysing the industries of the large manufacturing centres, interrupting all communication, involving the destruction by fire of some millions of dollars' worth of property, and the loss of several hundred lives in bloody riots, it is clear that, with an able leader and a wider and more complete organisation, the working classes, who were taken by surprise by the suddenness of the last movement, and only rallied to it when it

was too late, might hope to achieve far greater results. It is not, however, by violence that Butler and Kearney profess their intention of enforcing the claims of labour. They see in the recent fraudulent election of the present President of the United States, in the universal depression in all branches of trade, in the consequent poverty and discontent, and in the various issues which have arisen to divide internally both the Republicans and Democrats, an opportunity for creating a new party out of the malcontents of both, and this Mr. Kearney proposes to do by the ingenious device, to use his own expression, of 'pooling the issues.'

In General Butler he finds a leader eminently qualified to undertake this delicate operation. An experienced and disappointed political intriguer; unscrupulous, audacious, cunning, and with boundless fertility of resource; discredited among all honest men, but feared alike by men of all parties or shades of morality,—the desperate venture to which Kearney and his 'shirt-sleeve' partisans invite him is one that exactly suits his temperament. He is sound, according to their view, on all the various issues which are to be pooled, and represents every unprincipled aspiration and economical fallacy of the class that is now constituting him its leader. A rabid protectionist, he will push the doctrine till it becomes the appropriation of the wealth he attacks by those whom he protects. A believer in a paper currency irredeemable by the Government, he proposes to make the working man's counters of equal value with the rich man's gold. The bitterness of his personal animosity to England has long since led him to enrol himself as a Fenian; and his attacks upon England in Congress, where he still violently resists the payment of the fishery award, endear him to the hearts of Irishmen. He is the champion of the 'carpet-baggers,' who have suffered by the Hayes Administration, and have flocked North to revenge themselves upon it by any means that Butler or any other enemy may suggest. The Grangers, who represent the agricultural interest of the West, and have been vainly fighting against the railroad monopolies by which they were oppressed, will cast their 'issue' into Butler's 'pool.' The Southern negroes, who once belonged to the army of the Republic, still regard him as their natural leader; while his hatred of Chinamen in the West is only equalled by the fervour of his affection for the negroes of the South.

He thus hopes to take from both parties all those who think they will materially improve their condition by contributing to his pool. The Irish, who constitute an important element in the Democratic vote, will desert their party in large numbers to join a man ready to lead them to a war on capital and on England. The Germans, who cherish the aspirations of Socialism, will flock to him, for he is ready to pool the social issue. The enormous party in the West in favour of unlimited inflation of the paper currency will find in him the apostle of the repudiation they advocate. Grangers, Republican or Democrat, hate monopolists more than they hate each other, and will meet on this common ground. In all sections of the Union, then, when the time comes, General Butler may hope to gain adherents from both the old parties; but in the mean time he will make his first experiment in Massachusetts, where he will run for Governor at the impending election. He will be certain of a powerful support from the dissatisfied Republicans, who have been alienated from the party by the conduct and policy of the present Administration, and he will be equally sure of a powerful Democratic support from the Irish vote for the reasons already specified. It is not improbable that he will make what the French call a 'transaction' with Conkling, who heads the Republican opposition to Hayes, by which the former will again be returned to the Senate for the State of New York, the rest of the representation of the State remaining Democratic.

If General Butler is elected Governor of Massachusetts it will be impossible even for the most optimistic American to shut his eyes to the danger. As greenback-labour candidate at the next Presidential election he will compel his opponents, both Republican and Democrat, to consider how far it may not be necessary for them also to 'pool their old issues'; and in the event of their deeming the danger too serious to be disregarded, they would in all probability decide upon nominating General Grant for a third term, on the simple principle that he is a soldier who would understand how to deal with Butler and his Adullamite rabble, if it came to a trial of strength. If they despise their enemy and adhere to the old party lines, there would certainly be a danger of their letting their enemy slip in. It is probable that the Democratic party, who now feel certain of winning the next Presidential election, will be reluctant to admit that Butler constitutes a danger so great as to warrant them in abandoning their party candidate. It is impossible at this distance of time to predict whether this may be so or not, but there can be no doubt that, should an unforeseen combination place General Butler in the Presidential chair, the consequences will be more serious to England than any election which has ever taken place in the United States since the days of Washington.

### SACRIFICE.

A Sermon Preached by the Rev. A. J. Bray.

MATTHEW xx., 28.—Even as the Son of Man came—to give His life a ransom for many.

These words form part of a severe rebuke administered by Christ to ten of His disciples. Zebedee's wife had come with her two sons to ask a special favour—no less than that her two sons should have the highest places and highest honours Christ had to bestow. Christ told her and them plainly enough that even He, King as He was, had no power to give such things. In the new kingdom promotion must be by merit. Nothing, perhaps, could better show us how crude were the notions of the disciples concerning Christ and His work. The two sons of Zebedee would never have made such a demand but under the impulse of a false conception of Christ's mission on earth and the nature of the kingdom He had come to set up. But the others were no better informed. The ten, by being moved with indignation at the brethren, demonstrated that if not of equal ambition they were equally shortsighted. There is a general movement among them all for high place and honour. Each is anxious to have as high a place as any other. And they have fallen into the very common