

teachings of a true mother can never be lost on a son, worthy of the name, and this case proved only a confirmation of the general rule. The boy grew to be a man, and always showed that he had taken to heart the lessons of youth.

The Quarterly Review for January gives us a contrast and comparison of Dante and Milton. They were two very grave and serious poets, but Milton displayed, at least, more vivacity than Dante. They both fought for liberty. The Italian receives greater popular applause than the Englishman. In the comparison of their two masterpieces, Dante's *Divina Commedia* excels Milton's *Paradise Lost*. Dante's love for Beatrice enhances his character and makes him more lovable than Milton, yet Milton's lofty and generous sentiments make him admired by all his countrymen.

In the North American Review for February, the banking and currency problem in the United States is treated at length. The object seems to be to enable the banks to meet the exigencies that arise in the world of finance, with promptness and safety. They appear to have been partly the cause of the recent depression in their tendencies to expand too much their deposit liabilities or to reduce too far their reserves. The solution that is proposed, in a word, is to have a national monetary commission to regulate the percentage of circulation according to conditions, or, in other terms, to allow banks to issue notes to meet all demands.

"The Future of Parties in United States," is the subject of a very fine article in the Fortnightly Review for last month. The writer goes on to show how the Republicans have gradually adopted the views of the Democrats, and how the Democrats have as surely adopted theirs. Bryan did not taunt Taft with the merits of state independence in the last election. No, the union was the theme of Democrats as well as Republicans. The two parties differed very little if at all in principle. In fact, as far as that goes, they are one, and only vary as to the means of reaching the same end. In time, no doubt, there will be but the division of Liberals and Conservatives with the Labor Party as a balance.

The January number of the Edinburgh Review contains an article on the great actor of the nineteenth century in the English world, Henry Irving. He was at his best as Hamlet, for there he had play for the exercise of his powers! It was his personal magnetism that brought him renown. He was neither very handsome in person nor very pleasing in voice, but possessed a certain force of attraction that overpowered his audiences and compelled them to admire him. His features were strong, but his gait slow, and his speech by no means rapid. In fact, Irving had many defects to