

Rock Island, Ill., high water in Mississippi in 1852	566.78
Terre Haute, Ind., high water in Wabash.....	485.55
“ ordinary water.....	467.45
Mount Lincoln, Colorado.....	14,296.66

3. A FEW STARTLING TEMPERANCE FACTS.

A writer in the *Southern Presbyterian Review*, in an able article on “The Law of the Tithe and of the Free-Will Offering,” says:

“The government statistics for 1871 may well cause every honourable man to hang his head with shame and may well fill every patriot’s heart with alarm. They are as follows. Let them be pondered by every lover of his country:

Salaries of all Ministers of the Gospel - - - -	\$6,000,000
Cost of Dogs - - - - -	10,000,000
Support of Criminals - - - - -	12,000,000
Fees of Litigation - - - - -	35,000,000
Cost of Tobacco and Cigars - - - - -	610,000,000
Importation of Liquor - - - - -	50,000,000
Support of Grog Shops - - - - -	1,500,000,000
Whole Cost of Liquor - - - - -	2,200,000,000

And these are the facts in this ‘enlightened’ nineteenth century and in this United States! One might infer from them that we are fast becoming, if not already, a nation of drunkards. And then consider this country’s estimate of the gospel ministry, the minister

4. COST OF CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES.

It has been estimated by Mr. G. T. Angell, of Massachusetts, that the annual cost of crime in this country is \$200,000,000. It has been more than doubled during the past ten years. Crime in Massachusetts is thirty-three per cent. greater than in Ireland; and the great question now for all good citizens is, how are we going to stop this increase of crime? The education of the intellect will not do it. The churches cannot stop it, for not half the people of the United States ever go to church. The Sunday-schools cannot stop it.—There are only two remedies: One is to multiply jails, police, courts, judges, penitentiaries, constabulary, &c., and the other, in the words of Dr. Holland: “If you want to stop rascals, you must stop raising them.” The columns of the newspapers will not cease to be filled with the records of crime and misery while thousands of children are allowed to grow up without moral, religious or mental education, and the only way to teach these children is through the public schools. For the safety of our republican institutions we need in our public school education the teaching of the higher truths of religion. One of the best ways to reach the hearts of children and ennoble them, is to teach them kindness to animals. Every step taken in this direction promotes an education which elevates human souls and prepares the way for Him who came preaching “Peace on earth, good will to men.” I believe we should begin to talk in our schools about God and humanity, and the teachers’ profession will be the noblest in the land.

IV. Miscellaneous Readings.

1. BEAUTIFUL THINGS.

Beautiful faces are those that wear—
It matters little if dark or fair—
Whole-souled honesty printed there.

Beautiful eyes are those that show,
Like crystal panes where hearth-fires glow,
Beautiful thoughts that burn below.

Beautiful lips are those whose words
Leap from the heart like songs of birds,
Yet whose utterance prudence guards.

Beautiful hands are those that do
Work that is earnest and brave and true,
Moment by moment the long day through.

Beautiful feet are those that go
On kindly ministries to and fro—
Down lowliest ways, if God wills it so.

Beautiful shoulders are those that bear
Ceaseless burdens of homely care
With patient grace and daily prayer.

Beautiful lives are those that bless—
Silent rivers of happiness,
Whose hidden fountains but few may guess.

Beautiful twilight at set of sun,
Beautiful goal, with race well won,
Beautiful rest, with work well done.

Beautiful graves, where grasses creep,
Where brown leaves fall, where drifts lie deep,
Over worn-outhands—Oh, beautiful sleep!

2. THE REWARDS OF LABOUR.

Mr. Gladstone was lately engaged in laying the corner stone of a new King’s school at Chester, and he availed himself of the occasion to make a few remarks upon the subject of education. He told his hearers that the wages of mental labour are declining, while to the work accomplished by physical effort an increasing reward is paid. If mental work is constantly becoming worse and worse remunerated, it might seem a step in the wrong direction to be opening new schools, which will bring more labourers of that class into the field, and make the competition still keener. But Mr. Gladstone had a more important fact to make known. He was founding a school for the middle classes chiefly, and he told them that from the ranks of the people—the lower community—formidable competitors were springing. Therefore it was high time, he said, that the middle classes of the country, for themselves and their children, should consider that much exertion was needful in order to fit themselves to maintain even their relative position in the community. So not only was the work of the middle classes becoming worse rewarded and the work of the labouring class becoming better rewarded, but the lower were pressing upon the upper classes, and entering into immediate and direct competition with them. While the competition of manual labourers among themselves was becoming lighter and lighter, the competition of mental labourers among themselves was becoming sharper and sharper. The moral which he drew from all this, as applied to the boys of Chester school, was that every boy should fall back upon himself, and do his utmost to learn and improve. To console them under the prospect which he had held out, and brace them up for the struggle, he added the remark that it was “a time to be diligent,” for “there was no more contemptible creature on the face of the earth than the idle man.” “The idle man in the ranks of men might be compared to the reptiles in the ranks of the animal creation.”

Some qualification might be desired of Mr. Gladstone’s statements. If by mental labour he referred to the ordinary work which the average man with an average education can produce, he is perfectly right in saying that there is a tendency to decline in its market value. Attention has often been directed, for instance, to the enormous number of applicants who flock after an advertisement of a secretarial position or other “genteel” occupation, though the pay offered be much less than the earnings of a mechanic. But for those who stand out from their fellows, for the original workers in all fields, professional, literary and mercantile, the rewards are much above what they used to be. It is quite true, however, that the competition is becoming sharper. The opening out of opportunities for a fair education to the labouring community could be expected to have no other effect. The attainments which two or three centuries ago would make a man pass for a scholar and ensure him a subsistence are not enough at the present day. Clerical work is undoubtedly poorly paid, but then many kinds of clerical work in reality tax the mental powers less than some sorts of mechanical employment. The copyist of manuscripts was once looked upon as a scholarly man, occupying a position much above the vulgar herd, but copying really requires little more mental capacity than needle-work.

Mr. Gladstone, therefore, probably intended only to warn his hearers that the proportion of successful to unsuccessful men was growing smaller, and that mere routine ability was of little value in the struggle of life. He was speaking to the middle classes, and it was proper to warn them that it was, after all, in the masses “that the greatest proportion of useful material is to be found. There is less there that is conventional; there is more that is natural; but depend upon it, whenever you give to a people, upon a large scale, easy access to a good education, the consequence of it will be that you will bring out of the ranks of that people—I mean of that labouring community—and into a higher rank, a considerable portion of those who are your fellow citizens indeed, but whom I will now describe as your formidable competitors.”

The circle of competition has been enlarged, and the number of successful aspirants from the humbler classes must be enlarged. But after all, the middle classes are not without their advantage in