

a knowing twinkle in his eye, "must rise very early in the morning," at which Bismarck looked foolish, and the House roared with approving laughter. Windthorst is a Hanoverian, and up to 1866 was a faithful and trusted counsellor of blind King George. A kindly, entertaining old gentleman, he is cultivated on many sides, and on the occasions of the annual exhibition of the Academy finds time to write discriminating and elegant art critiques for the journals of the capital.—HERBERT TUTTLE, in *Harper's Magazine for February*.

#### GEORGE W. CABLE.

The South, as well as the whole nation, may well be proud of the above-named eminent literary gentleman who is now delivering a course of lectures at the John Hopkins University in this city. Mr Cable is 38 years of age, and was born in New Orleans, and has spent his life there. His father was of a colonial Virginia family, and his mother a New England Puritan.

Owing to his father's death, and the reduced circumstances that poverty brings, the subject of this sketch was taken from school to engage in manual labour at the age of fourteen. At nineteen he volunteered in the Confederate Army, and at the close of the war returned penniless to his home, and began life as an errand-boy in a store.

His first literary work was done on the New Orleans *Phayune* over the nom de plume "Drop Shot."

In taking a place on the staff of the *Phayune*, young Mr. Cable stipulated that he should not be required to write theatrical notices, as he was morally opposed to attending the theatre. An urgent occasion came, however, when he was instructed to take charge of the theatrical column of the paper. This he declined to do, and as a consequence lost his situation. Then he became an accountant, and corresponding clerk in a large cotton firm. This position he retained until four years ago, finding in connection with his duties time to accomplish much of the literary work which has given him fame and pecuniary prosperity.

In "Old Creole Days," "The Grandisimes," and his "History of New Orleans," he has shown a familiarity with Creole French and negro, speech, habits, customs, manners and characteristics which give him the first place as an authority in all matters relating to the early history and people of Louisiana. Mr. Cable's writings have beneath their humorous, dramatic and pathetic surface, a great purpose which aims at the moral, intellectual and social elevations of the degraded classes with which he deals. He has risen above the prejudices of birth, and of the community in which he dwells to an extent, that justifies the following statement of a friend concerning him: "What he hopes to accomplish is the amelioration of the coloured race in every possible way. To this end he would invite them to greater ambition, extend to them through the State every educational advantage, afford them every opportunity for a fuller religious instruction, give them a more exalted idea of the sanctity of the marriage relation, and so widen their sphere of action that they may become useful, intelligent and contented members of the community."

Mr. Cable is a Presbyterian, and an officer in the Presbyterian Street Presbyterian Church, New Orleans.

#### SAMUEL DE CHAMPLAIN.

After all, there is no earthly immortality more secure than to have stamped one's name on the map, and that of Champlain will be forever associated with the beautiful lake which he first described, and to which the French missionaries vainly attempted to attach another name. Champlain was a Frenchman of good family, who had served in the army, and had, indeed, been from his childhood familiar with scenes of war, because he had dwelt near the famous city of Rochelle, the very hot-bed of the civil strife between Catholics and Huguenots. Much curiosity existing in France in regard to the great successes of Spain in America, he obtained naval employment in the Spanish service, and visited, as commander of a ship, the Spanish-American colonies. This was in 1599, and he wrote a report on the condition of all these regions—a report probably fuller than anything else existing at that time, inasmuch as the Spaniards systematically concealed the details of their colonial wealth. Little did they know that they had in the humble French captain of the *Saint Julien*, an untiring observer, who would reveal to the acute mind of Henry the Fourth of France many of the secrets of Spanish domination, and would also disgust the French mind with pictures of the fanaticism of their rivals. In his report he denounced the cruelty of the Spaniards, described the way in which they converted the Indians by the Inquisition, and made drawings of the burnings of heretics by priests. His observations on all commercial matters were of the greatest value, and he was the first, or one of the first, to suggest a ship-canal across the isthmus of Panama. Full of these vivid impressions of Spanish empire, he turned his attention toward the northern part of the continent, in regions unsettled by the Spaniards, visiting them first in 1603, under Pont-Gravé, and then in seven successive voyages. His narratives are minute, careful and graphic; he explored river after river with the Indians, eating and sleeping with them, and recording laboriously their minutest habits. It is to his descriptions, beyond any others, that we must look for faithful pictures of the Indian absolutely unaffected by contact with white men, and his voyages, which have lately been translated by Dr. C. P. Ous, and published by the Prince Society, with annotations by Mr. E. L. Slaughter, have a value almost unique.—T. W. HIGGINSON, in *Harper's Magazine for March*.

#### THE MUSICIAN AND THE DYING CHILD.

The dark angel of death was standing outside the musician's door, for little Annetta, Maestro Narditti's child, was fading away, no tears, no prayers could avail, not even Carissima's lovely voice.

Carissima's voice was hushed now, the maestro had no heart to take up his dearly loved violin (and play to soothe

his sorrow, as he had done many years ago, when his wife died and left this little one behind.

Heaven had given them the divine gift of genius and had bidden him call aloud to the world. So Carissima and he had played together through sickness and sorrow and success, and through all the changing scenes of life they had been faithful friends.

They had just come back from the crowded hall; the people said that never before had the maestro played so beautifully and that never before had the violin's voice sounded so mournful and pathetic.

Well, you see, they did not know the reason; but we do, for both were thinking of the little dying girl, and how could their thoughts be anything but sorrowful, or the outward expression of those thoughts be anything but mournful?

The father was weeping by his child's bedside. But she said: "Do not weep; sing to me—sing me to sleep, for I am so weary, dear father, and the evening has been so long without thee."

Then he rose and played to her, and she closed her eyes and listened happily to Carissima's voice. It sang a song without words—the music alone told the tale—of a pure young life, too pure for earth, and therefore to be taken away to that fair land where only the good and pure and true dwell. Yet it was hard to leave the earth, harder still to leave the dear ones behind and to know that they would be desolate; and here the violin's voice sobbed and trembled as if from sorrow, and the melody became sadder and softer, as if describing the very parting which was soon to take place, then the lingering notes died away and the maestro's hand was still.

"Is that all?" murmured the child; "oh, play again!" Once more he raised his bow on high, and the air resounded with a psalm of triumph—the same melody, but no longer soft or sad, for the gates of the fair land were opened wide, and amid this jubilant strain the child has passed away with the angel of death.—*Belgravia*.

#### GROWING OLD.

Softly, O softly, the years have swept by thee,  
Touching thee lightly with tenderest care;  
Sorrow and death they have often brought nigh thee,  
Yet they have left thee but beauty to wear.  
Growing old gracefully,  
Gracefully fair.

Far from the storms that are lashing the ocean,  
Nearer each day to the pleasant Home light;  
Far from the waves that are big with commotion,  
Under full sail, and the harbour in sight:  
Growing old cheerfully,  
Cheerful and bright.

Past all the winds that were adverse and chilling,  
Past all the islands that lured thee to rest,  
Past all the currents that lured thee, unwilling,  
Far from thy course to the Land of the Blest:  
Growing old peacefully,  
Peaceful and blest.

Never a feeling of envy nor sorrow  
When the bright faces of children are seen;  
Never a year from the young wouldst thou borrow—  
Thou dost remember what lieth between:  
Growing old willingly,  
Thankful, serene.

Rich in experience that angels might covet,  
Rich in a faith that has grown with thy years,  
Rich in a love that grew from and above it,  
Soothing thy sorrows and hushing thy fears:  
Growing old wealthily,  
Loving and dear.

Hearts at the sound of thy coming are lightened,  
Ready and willing thy hand to relieve;  
Many a face at thy kind word has brightened—  
"It is more blessed to give than receive;"  
Growing old happily,  
Ceasing to grieve.

Eyes that grow dim to the earth and its glory  
Have a sweet recompense youth cannot know;  
Ears that grow dull to the world and its story  
Drink in the songs that from Paradise flow:  
Growing old graciously,  
Purer than snow.

We are more frequently disappointed in relation to what are supposed to be clear, plain, sudden, surprising and very joyful conversions than we are in relation to those which are less promising at first.

GENERAL LONGSTREET recently visited the battle fields around Chattanooga. At one point on Missionary Ridge he dismounted, went to an old tree and pulling off a piece of bark drew forth a knife blade which he hid there during the progress of the battle in 1863.

MR. GEORGE MUNRO, of New York, who has already given a large amount of money to Dalhousie College, Halifax, has just endowed a professorship of law and jurisprudence for that institution, the salary to be \$2,000 a year. Professor Weldos, of Sackville, N.B., is spoken of as likely to occupy the position.

RUSKIN says truly: "We want one man to be always thinking, and another to be always working, and we call one a gentleman and the other an operator; whereas, the workman ought often to be thinking and the thinker often to be working, and both should be gentlemen in the best sense. The mass of society is made up of morbid thinkers and miserable workers. It is only by labour that thought can be made healthy, and only by thought that labour can be made happy, and the two cannot be separated with impunity."

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

AN autopsy shows that Prince Gortschakoff was not poisoned.

M. THIRARD, France's new Finance Minister, was once a working jeweller.

LORD HOUGHTON has gone to Cannes, and will not return to England till the end of April.

It is stated that the British Government never proposed to appoint a resident at the Vatican.

Of the bishops of the Church of England three are over eighty and nine over seventy years of age.

SECRETARY CHANDLER is preparing to send two expeditions to the Arctic regions this summer.

THE Royal Palace at Munich was entered Sunday night by robbers, who got several thousand marks.

THE Oxford University authorities contemplate abolishing the compulsory wearing of gowns in the streets.

THE total number of persons arrested in Andalusia for complicity in the Anarchist movement is twelve hundred.

THE Lord Mayor of London has issued an appeal for subscriptions to relieve the distress in the western islands of Scotland.

BISHOP SIMPSON has been sued to recover \$5,000 borrowed five years ago for the purpose of aiding a church at Kensington.

PERE HYACINTHE will visit America next summer, accompanied by his wife, and will deliver lectures in some of the large cities.

THE Rev. John F. McLaren, D.D., father-in-law of Dr. A. A. Hodge, died last week at the age of eighty, at the latter's residence.

A SET of paper wheels under a truck of an engine of the Central Vermont Railroad has been in use twelve years, and are still apparently sound.

BISHOP CAMPBELL, of the African Methodist Church, was shamefully assaulted and driven off a train because he would not ride in the smoking-car of a Southern railroad.

KARL MAX, the noted German Socialist leader, died at Regent's Park, London, March 15th. A meeting was held at the Cooper Union, New York, in honour of his memory.

THE Rev. Dr. Ormiston lectured last week in the Tabernacle Church, Philadelphia, on Presbyterianism in the Dominion of Canada, by invitation of the Presbyterian Historical Society.

GOVERNOR CLEVELAND pardoned a man out of Auburn State Prison, on the express condition that he should abstain from the use of all intoxicating liquors for five years from the date of the pardon.

THE Egyptian war costs England about \$17,500,000, without reckoning the expense of bringing troops from India, which increases the amount by about \$5,800,000, making all about \$23,000,000.

THE compendium of the census, recently issued by the United States Census Bureau, shows that there are 8,567 manufacturing establishments in Philadelphia, annual products valued at \$324,341,935.

THE whipping-post for wife-beaters is to be set up in Illinois. The law not only provides that any husband who assaults his wife shall be whipped upon the bare back, but that he shall pay all costs of the prosecution.

A PRESIDING elder of the Mormon Church is at Chattanooga, Tenn., arranging for the emigration of converts to Utah. There are now ninety missionaries in the South, and he says the annual number of converts is 700.

REV. DR. S. F. SMITH, who wrote "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," has returned to Chicago from a long tour through Europe, the East Indies and Burmah. He wrote the hymn while he was at Harvard College fifty years ago.

THE artists of all nations are invited to compete in furnishing designs for a national monument, to be erected at Rome in honour of Victor Emmanuel II. The successful competitor will receive a prize of 50,000 francs.

THE time during which the solemnization of marriage in England is legal being at present between eight in the morning and noon, a bill has been introduced in Parliament proposing to extend the time till six in the evening.

IT is now reported that Prince Bismarck will not submit a bill for the revision of the May laws to the Prussian Legislature. This indicates that he has no hope at present of arriving at a way of living pleasantly with the Vatican.

THE Capuchin order of monks intend to build a college in Detroit for the purpose of educating young men for the priesthood. The headquarters of the order are at present in Milwaukee, but are to be hereafter established in Detroit.

THE London "Medical Press," in referring to a serious falling off in the revenue from intoxicating drinks, states that since October, 1880, one million people in England have put on the blue ribbon, and 504,000 have signed the pledge.

A LARGE number of merchants and bankers in New York have begun a movement for the erection of a memorial to Hon. W. E. Dodge. This is intended to be a simple bronze statue with a granite pedestal placed in some prominent part of the city.

THE children of Charles Kingsley seem to have inherited a portion at least of their father's literary gift. Two daughters are already contributing to an American magazine; and this month their brother Maurice makes his debut in "Blackwood" with a Mexican story entitled "Puerto de Medina."

MR. KENNARD questioned the Government in the British House of Commons as to what steps have been taken to recover the surplus of the "Alabama" Award. This, says the "Independent," implies that there is a surplus, and this implication is correct, after all legitimate claimants are paid. The proper thing for the United States to do is to return this surplus to Great Britain, and not give it away to those who have no claim to it.