

A HOME PICTURE.

An old man sat by the chimney side,
His face was wrinkled and wan; [came,
And he leaned both hands on his stout oak
As if all his work were done.

His coat was of good old-fashioned gray,
With pockets both deep and wide,
Where his "specs" and steel clasped bible
Lay snugly side by side.

The old man liked to stir the fire,
So, near him the tongs were kept;
Sometimes he mused as he gazed at the
coals,
Sometimes he sat and slept.

What did he see in the embers there?
Ay! pictures of other years;
And now and then they wakened smiles,
But oftener started tears.

His good wife sat on the other side,
In the high backed flag seat chair;
You see 'neath the frill of her muslin cap
The sheen of her silvery hair.

She wears a "blue checked" apron now,
And is knitting a sock for him;
Her pale blue eyes have a gentle look,
And she says "they are growing dim."

I like to call and tell the news,
And chat an hour each day,
For it stirs the pulse in an old man's heart
To hear of the world away.

Be kind unto the old, my friends,
They're worn with this world's strife,
Tho' bravely once perchance they fought
The battle here with life.

They taught our youthful feet to climb
Upwards life's rugged steep;
Then let us smooth their progress down
To where the weary sleep.

WAITING.

A good old man was asked what he was doing now? He answered, "only waiting."

Only waiting till the shadows
Are a little longer grown,
Only waiting till the glimmer
Of the day's last beam is down,
Till the night of earth is faded
From the heart once full of day,
Till the stars of Heaven are breaking
Through the twilight soft and grey.

Only waiting till the angels
Open wide their mystic gate,
At whose feet I long have lingered,
Weary, poor, and desolate,
Even now I hear their footsteps,
And their voices far away:
If they call me, I am waiting,
Only waiting to obey.

Only waiting till the shadows
Are a little longer grown.
Only waiting till the glimmer
Of the day's last beam is down;
Then from out the gathering darkness
Holy, deathless stars shall rise,
By whose light my soul shall gladly
Tread its pathway to the skies!

AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

By Telegram to Morning & Evening Papers.

St. John, Oct. 28.—Busford's cavalry division was attacked on Tuesday, and forced back upon the infantry near Queenstown. The official statement of the Confederate losses at Chickamanga places it at 18,000.

Oct. 29.—It is believed that the Confederates have not pushed any strong force north of the Rappahannock since their grand retreat. Small bodies remain at the various crossings. McPherson's expedition has returned to Vicksburg, having scattered the Confederate forces on the Big Black River.

Oct. 30.—The United States armed vessels George Mangham and Ethan Allen, cruising among British Islands, was summarily ordered away from some of the ports in Prince Edward Island. At Charlottetown orders came from the Governor ordering both vessels to sea. A proclamation in the name of the Queen, having been issued, making the demand, which was promptly complied with. The Mexican Minister representing the Juarez Government was presented yesterday to President Lincoln. Richmond papers report that the Federal batteries at Charleston were firing away on Tuesday last.

Evening.—New York Times' reports Confederates have sent troops to co-operate against Burnside in East Tennessee. Whole division of Ewell's corps left for Lynchburg last week. Washington Republican announces that General Meade is feeling the enemy, and will soon make an important movement. Richmond Examiner says the seizure of the Rams in England will bitterly disappoint the high hopes formed of their efficiency and influence upon the fate of war by sanguine Confederate minds. Six boxes of torpedoes and field glasses were found upon parties arrested in New York on Thursday. Confederates attacked Hooker at Chattanooga at midnight, on the 28th, and were repulsed at all points.—Insurrection is spreading in St. Domingo. The rebels attacked and burnt Puerto Plata. New Spanish General declared whole coast blockaded.

Oct. 31.—Hooker's victory near Chattanooga is considered very important, since it removes the Confederate obstructions to Steamboats to that point, and opens up full communication for many supplies. It is believed that the danger of interrupted communications has now disappeared. Hooker took Look Out Mountain on Wednesday without serious opposition. Houston (Texas) papers state that Sabine Pass has been rapidly fortified to receive the enemy, and the captured Federal gunboat "Clifton" has been put in good fighting trim. Barbarous treatment of Federal prisoners at Richmond is again reported. Eight out of 180 died of starvation, whilst on board

the flag of truce steamer proceeding from City Point to Annapolis.

Nov. 2.—A despatch from Morris Island dated 27th ult., says that three heavy guns opened on Charleston. One threw Greek fire, and two others were to open, and other batteries were in play on Forts Sumpter, Johnson, &c. No other news received.

Evening.—Gen. Bull F has been assigned to command of the 18th army corps, department of Virginia and North Carolina, vice Gen. Foster, who is ordered to Washington, probably to have charge of Washington defences. Persons from Richmond report the Confederate Government seizing all boots and shoes there for Lee's army, which is almost barefooted. Army of Potomac advancing slowly and cautiously. It is located in excellent position, and can be easily concentrated either to advance or repel attack.

Nov. 3.—The Richmond Whig reports a terrific bombardment of Fort Sumter on Wednesday last. It is reported that the Federals took possession of Tascumbia, Alabama, on the 27th ult. At last accounts half of Price's army in Arkansas had deserted. Confederate prisoners in Ohio, to seize the State arsenal, and commence a campaign in that state has been discovered, and leading parties discovered. A similar organization is reported to exist in Illinois.

Halifax Sweep Office. (Licensed.)

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THE Public will please take notice that all orders for Sweeping Chimneys by Machinery, as approved of by the Common Council, will be received at this office, where the names can be registered and the money paid. There will be two Teams—one North and one South. No more work must be done by the Sweeps than what is actually registered and paid for at the Office. No names will be registered unless the money be paid. No money to be paid except at the Office. Parties will save themselves and me a deal of trouble by sending the money with the order.

CAUTION.—Any person or persons found guilty of sweeping chimneys, or of employing the men that are licensed to do more work than is on the Way Bill, after this date, will be laboring under a Fine.

I hope and trust the public will patronize me. All orders will be strictly attended to, and executed satisfactorily to all parties.

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* Orders will be received at the Office after Wednesday next.
JOHN IRVINE.
Oct. 22

The Halifax Directory.

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