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Veritas sumendum est optimum. - Cic.

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THE SMACK IN SCHOOL.

The following incident in a district school is told by William Pitt Palmer of New York. President of the Manhattan Insurance Company, in a postscript address before the "Theological Society" in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, his native home:

A district school not far away. Mid Berkshire hills, one winter day Was humming with its wretched noise Of three-score mingled girls and boys; Some few upon their feet intent, But more on furtive mischief bent; The while the master's downward look Was fastened on a copy-book, When suddenly behind his back, Rose sharp and clear a rousing SMACK! As 'twere a battery of blis! Let all in one tremendous kiss! "What's that?" the startled master cries; "That that?" a little imp replies: "Wash William Wilkie, if you please—I show him kith Thersamma Peache!" With frown to make a statue thrill The master thundered, "Ritber Will!" Like wretch cowering in his track, Will hung his head in fear and shame, And to the awful presence came— A great green, bushy slipshod, The but of all good natured fan— With smile suppressed, and lips unpraised, The threatener faltered: "I'm amazed, That you, my biggest pupil, should Be guilty of an act so rude! Before the whole set school to boot— What evil genius put you to it?" "Twas the herself, sabbled out the lad, I didn't mean to be so bad; But when Sassannah shook her curls, And whispered I was tired of girls, And dars't kiss a baby's doll, I couldn't stand it, sir, at all, But up and kissed her on the spot; I knew—how, hoo, I ought to do, But somehow, from her looks—hoo, hoo— I thought she kind of wished me to!"

The Stolen Beef.

The means of all men in our region is Sol Smith. You must know him in the country when one of the neighbors has a "beef cutter," he is expected to send a piece to each one of the families near by, and they receive the favor which they kill, and the thing proves to be about as broad as it is long. Now Sol was somewhat stingy that it went hard with him to think of being away anything, and when he came to kill he was bent on keeping it all to himself. But public sentiment was very strong on the subject, and he would not take up a good name, and keep his beef hoarding. He spoke gently to his next neighbor, Johnson, and told him that he thought it was a very foolish plan to hoard beef, and that all over town each man had better raise and kill his own.

In fact, he was determined to clean his neighbors out of their meat if they expected any from him, and save his credit. Johnson suggested to him that if he should leave his beef in the barn over night before cutting it up and then take it to the cellar before day-light, and give out that had been stolen, the people would love their expected share and be sorry for him besides. Just it exactly, he would do that very thing. He killed his beef, hung it up to cool, and went to bed, to rise early and hide it; Johnson and a few friends, before going to bed, went over to Smith's barn, helped themselves to the beef and divided it, share and share alike, leaving but a few bits for the owner. Smith rose early, and found his meat was gone. He rushed over to Johnson's and told the story in a state bordering on frenzy. "Good!" said Johnson "you do it well." "But it is stole, I tell you!" "That's right, stick to it, Sol! Put on that dismal face, and they'll all believe it!" Smith saw that it was no use; he had fallen into his own trap, and went home a poorer, but wiser man.

Useful Effects of Light.

Sir James Wyllie, late physician to the Emperor of Russia, attentively studied the effects of light as a curative agent in the hospitals of St. Petersburg; and he discovered that the number of patients who were cured in rooms properly lighted was four times greater than that of those confined in dark rooms. This led to a complete reform in lighting the hospitals in Russia, and with the most beneficial results. In all cities visited with cholera it was universally found that the greatest number of deaths took place in narrow streets and on the sides of those having a northern exposure, where the salutary beams of the sun were excluded. The inhabitants of the southern slopes of mountains are better de-

veloped and more healthy than those who dwell in secluded valleys are generally subject to peculiar diseases and deformities of persons. These different results are due to the agency of light, without a full supply of which plants and animals maintain but a sickly and feeble existence. Eminent physicians have observed that, partially formed children have been restored by exposure to the sun and the open air. As scrofula is most prevalent among the children of the poor, this is attributed by many persons to their living in dark and confined houses; such diseases being most common among those residing in underground tenements.

The health statistics of all civilized countries have improved greatly during the past century. This may be justly regarded as due to the superior construction of houses, by admitting more light into them. The old-fashioned dwellings were built with narrow, dark windows; and as glass, until within recent years, was very dear, its application to windows was proportionally limited. Dwellings of the present day are generally built with windows of four times the dimensions of those belonging to the olden times; and the streets of our cities—upon which houses depend so much for their light—are made much wider than those of a past age. Light is now more valued, for its influence is better understood than was the case fifty years ago; and the most gratifying results have followed. But we are not at the end of city improvements yet; as it is felt, in almost all our cities, that the effects (even the broadest of them) were twice their present width, a general benefit would be the result. [See American.]

SELINA, COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON.

As my mother grew better, she frequently took me with her to the Pump-room and she sometimes told me anecdotes of those she had seen there when a child. On one occasion when the room was thronged with company—and at that time the visitors of both were equally distinguished for rank and fashion—a simple humble woman, dressed in the severest garb of the Society of Friends, walked into the midst of the assembly, and began an address to them on the vanity and follies of the world, and the insufficiency of dogmatic without spiritual religion. The company seemed taken by surprise, and their attention was arrested for a few moments; as the speaker proceeded, and spoke more and more against the customs of the world, signs of disapprobation appeared. Amongst those present was one lady with a stern yet high-toned expression of countenance; her air was distinguished; she sat erect, and listened to the speaker. The impudence of the hearers soon became unbridled; as the Quaker spoke of giving up the world and its pleasures, diseases, greens, beating of sticks, and cries of down, down! burst from every quarter. Then the lady I have described arose with dignity, and slowly passing through the crowd, where a passage was involuntarily opened to her, she went up to the speaker, and thanked her, in her own name and in that of all present for the faithfulness in which she had borne to the truth.

The lady added, "I am not of your persuasion, nor has it been my belief that our sex are generally deputed to be public teachers; but God who gives the rule can make the exception, and He has, indeed put it in the hearts of all his children to honor and venerate fidelity to his commission. Again I gratefully thank you." Side by side with the Quaker she walked to the door of the Pump-room, and then resumed her seat. This lady was the celebrated Countess of Huntingdon. [Life of Mary Schimmelpenninck.]

A Model Grammar Class.

"Did you ever study grammar?" "I did, sir." "What case is Me, D?" "It's an objective case." "How so?" "Because he objected to pay his subscription that's been owing for over three years and half." "Right? What's a noun?" "Don't know; but I know what renoun is." "Well, what is it?" "Running off without paying the printer and getting on the black list as a delinquent." "Good. What is a conjunction?" "A method of collecting outstanding subscription in conjunction with the constable—never employed by printers until the last extremity." "That's right." "Go to your seat and quit shooting paper wads at the girls."

Squibs wants to know whether doctors, by looking at the tongue of a wagon, can tell what ails it.

A Yankee met a Celestial in the streets of San Francisco, and with a characteristic of the race, accosted him as follows: "Where are you from?" "Hang Kong." "Where are you going?" "Gee-long." "What are you most fond of?" "Sou-fong." "What kind of food do you consider the best?" "Ghit-pong." "What kind of grapes do you prefer?" "Scuppernon?" "What's your name?" "Oo, go long."

Examining a Human Heart.

About two years since our city was visited by Alexis St. Martin, of Canada, who has an opening in his abdomen, (the result of a gun shot wound, through which his stomach can be examined) and the operations of digestion observed. His case has hitherto been considered the most wonderful in the world, but one more wonderful than that of St. Martin is now here. During the past week, M. Gross, a native of Hamburg, exhibited himself to the faculty, in the University Medical College, this city, and lectured on the heart, and its actions, and exhibited his own beating heart in the same manner that St. Martin did his stomach. This case however is a natural phenomenon, Mr. Gross, having been born with a slit in his breast, by which his heart and a part of his lungs can be observed. At the solicitation of European physicians he is traveling over the world exhibiting himself to the attention of the medical men of various countries.

In the return of indigent children supported by the town of Taunton, recently made to the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the overseers certify that "Elizabeth Drayton was eleven years old the twenty-fourth day of May, 1856; and because the mother of Isaac W. Drayton, on the first day of February, 1857—three months and twenty-four days of the month she was eleven years old, on the 20th of September, of the present year the mother and child were living at the public charge in the town of Taunton, Mass.

European Intelligence.

ARRIVAL OF THE EUROPA.

HALIFAX, Nov. 29th. The Europa, Capt. Lynch, from Liverpool at 9 a. m. the 29th. She reached this port on Queenston at 9 a. m. the 18th, and arrived at Halifax 2 p. m. on Monday 24th. The Europa reports on 20th of the Bill Bury passed the American ship Tornado, of Philadelphia, bound West. At 5 p. m. 6 miles to Westward of Holyhead, passed the steamship Pinar, three months and twenty-four days of the month she was eleven years old, on the 20th of September, of the present year the mother and child were living at the public charge in the town of Taunton, Mass.

The Adel experienced such severe weather that the Captain's knapsack was broken by one of the seas that struck her. The Sabota reached Southampton on the evening of the 19th. BATAVIA.—The Eastern gales which prevailed around the English coast for several days, had moderated. The sea-borne mails have been greatly de-ranged, and the government sent two steam sloops to the chops of the channel to relieve vessels in distress.

Robert Owen, the celebrated Religious and Social writer is dead, aged 88 years. Parliament is deferred till January 10th. The Session is expected to commence about the 20 of February.

The Hon. Frederick Bruce, brother of Lord Elgin, has been appointed the first British Ambassador to Peking. Mr. Bruce was Secretary of Lord Elgin's Embassy, and was attached to Lord Althorpe's special mission to Washington in 1842.

There was another attempt of assassination in Ireland.—A Magistrate, named Gosson, was fired at near Nenagh by a discharged employe, but escaped material injury.

The London Gazette contains a notice of an application for a Charter for a Bank on British Columbia and Vancouver's Island. The three hundredth anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne had been celebrated with Protestant demonstrations in various parts of England. The Bishop of London delivered a lengthy primary charge to about 1,000 Clergymen of his Diocese at St. Paul's; he condemned the practice of confession.

The great ship Company had been duly organized; the Great Eastern is to cost the new company £160,000, and £130,000 more is estimated for finishing her.

The Gazette announces the appointment of Dr. Henry Barth, the African traveler, to be a companion of the Bath.

The camp at Edinburgh is in admirable order just now. The effective strength of the troops there is little over 10,000 men of all arms.

The English and French Commissioners arrived on the 12th at Jeddah on board the Cyclops; there were three English ships-of-war in the roadstead.

(Latest by Telegraph to Liverpool.)

LONDON, Saturday evening.—The Daily News City Article of Friday evening says:—Funds to-day were dull, and a decline of 1 per cent. was finally quoted, owing principally to the lagging of business. In other departments of Stock Exchange there was equal absence of features of interest. More ease is observable in discount market, the supply of money having increased. The general rate for good bills is still 2 1/2 per cent. but instances in which transactions take place below that rate are rare. There were no bullion operations at the Bank to-day.

Times City Article.—English funds opened steadily this morning at the firm prices of yesterday, and remained without much alteration, although there was a disposition to dullness at the close, in consequence of quotations from Paris being slightly less favorable. The abundance of money increases, and transactions have taken place in the discount market at 2 1/2 per cent. In foreign exchange this afternoon there was a slight decline in rates on Vienna—other places about the same as by the last post. About £10,000 in gold arrived to-day from St. Petersburg, and a further similar amount is expected immediately; the whole has been sold for exportation. The Colonial produce markets during the week have been rather sensibly supplied, partly on account of easterly winds retarding the arrival of many vessels overdue. A steady business has taken place chiefly for consumption and some of the leading staples have closed at slightly enhanced rates—there is still, however, a general want of animation.

SPAIN.—The Queen will open Cortes in person. The French frigate Theophile has been lost near Cadix, 8 persons drowned.

FRANCE.—A special Decree of yesterday's Moniteur establishing a Special Bank charged with the Service of the Treasury to the Great Public works of the city, and which shall bear the title of the Bank of the Works of Paris.

Reinforcements of fresh troops have been ordered to Cochinchina in consequence of resistance being organized in the interior. Artillery were to be sent as well as infantry—that sent by Spain from Madrid being insufficient—a Brigadier General is also to go out.

A commission to consider the question of Negro emigration has been nominated and consists of 17 members. M. Persigny is President.

Prince Napoleon has issued a decree relieving the Press in Algeria from certain oppressive additions to the laws of the press in France, and placing them on the same footing as French journals.

Montalambert's case was called on for opinion in the Correctional Tribunal on the 17th, but as already intimated, was postponed till the 24th.

Lords Palmerston and Clarendon were on a visit to the Emperor at Compiegne.

The Moniteur contains a decree obliging all bakers in certain towns to keep in reserve sufficient stock to supply their manufacturing wants in bread during at least three months.

Paris 19th.—Funds slightly firmer to-day. Three per cent. closed at 74 to 85. 1. Thourmel reached France from Constantinople to-day.

Belgium.—Belgium Chamber of Deputies voted the address in reply to the King's Speech, by 53 against 9. Great excitement attended the vote and some of the opposition retired from the Chamber.

It is asserted that the United States government declined its intention to consent to Spain claiming satisfaction from Mexico by armed force.

ITALY.—A telegram from Milan says the new law on military conscription was producing considerable effervescence.

Letters from Rome assert that all the great Catholic powers had addressed a remonstrance to the Pope for the release of the Jewish boy Mortara. The Pope replied that the boy's return to his parents was impossible.

PRUSSIA.—Prince Hohenzollern, President of the Council, is nominated minister of Marine.

AUSTRIA.—The monument erected at Prague to the memory of Radetzky, was uncovered on the 14th, in the presence of the Emperor and a great concourse of spectators.

INDIA.—The Bombay mail to Calcutta reached England. The details of news are quite unimportant. The Bombay money market was easy.

The ex-King of Delhi has been sent to Calcutta under escort.

A proclamation in which the British Government asserts the direct dominion over India was expected to be promulgated on the 4th Nov.

Preparations were being made to celebrate the event on a grand scale.

An explosion took place at Kurrachee Arsenal as some fireworks were being prepared, and four men were killed. The whole of the rifle and musket ammunition, amounting to a million rounds, was destroyed, and a greater part of the arsenal was blown up.

MARKETS.—Consols 98 1/2. Cotton advanced 1/4. Breadstuffs firmer; Provisions brisk; Sugar dull; Tea firm. Timber and Freights unaltered.

SHIP NEWS.—Arrived 17th, Charlotte, Bennett, Belfast, foremast sprung; 14th, Wanderer, Shields. Sailed 13th Kingston, Liverpool.

FROM THE ISTHMIAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, Nov. 28th. The steamer Illinois, from Aspinwall, has arrived. The letters California mails to the 5th inst., had \$1,016,522 in specie.

The steamer Hermann, from New York, arrived at Panama on the 9th, and sailed on the 11th for San Francisco direct.

The Illinois left Aspinwall on the 20th. There was a heavy gale at Aspinwall on the 16th, which continued with but little intermission till the 20th. During the gale, the ship-Telesary of Boston, drifted against the Steamship Company's wharf, carrying away about 100 feet of the wharf, and receiving so much damage that she sunk in five fathoms water with 550 tons of coal on board. The ship will be a total loss.

The steamer-of-war Zaragoza sailed on the 10th for the Gulf of Mexico. The Relief would sail for New York early in December. The Ronoke would go to San Juan as soon as Sir Geo. Ouseby arrived, which was expected on the 21st.

The California news has been anticipated. There had been heavy freshets on the Chagres River, and the railroad was impassable for three miles; the water had subsided, however, without doing material damage, and the Illinois passengers crossed safely. The John L. Stephens sailed on the evening of the 17th for San Francisco, with 1150 passengers.

SOUTH AMERICA.—Valparaiso dates are of Oct. 15th. Callao 20th. A revolution is talked of at Valparaiso. Several arrests of sergeants of regiments of the line had been made, but nothing of importance had transpired.

A fire had destroyed \$60,000 worth of property in San Juan de Dios street.

A new contract had been made by the Chilean Government with the Pacific Steam Navigation Co. for five years for carrying mails.

PERU.—The Ecuadorian Minister has demanded and received his passports; and retired from Peru.

Castilla had been declared President, and Congress had passed a law authorizing him to raise 100,000 men to supply funds for the war to organize the National Guards, and declare war against Ecuador.

Gen. Echenique is thought to be the author of the disturbance, his object being to direct attention to the North, which he will invade the 85th assisted by Bolivia.

The Ecuadorian Government had received a quantity of American Rules, and are rapidly preparing for war.

The latest news from Callao is that Gen. San Roman had come down from Lima to dispatch the Peruvian fleet to blockade the Ecuadorian ports, and that war was definitely declared.

EXTRAORDINARY COMPROMISE.—At the 2nd Durham assizes, a very deaf old lady, who had brought an action for damages against a neighbour, was being examined, when the judge suggested a compromise and instructed counsel to ask her what she would take to settle matters.

"What will you take?" the gentleman in the red-tailed wig asked of the old lady.

The old lady merely shook her head.

"His lordship wants to know what you will take?" asked the counsel again, this time halting as loud as ever he could in the old lady's ears.

"I thank his lordship kindly," the ancient dame answered stoutly; "and if it is no ill consequence to him, I will take a little warm ale."

GREAT EXPERIMENT AT MOBILE!—THE FIFTEENTH EXPEDITION STOPPED!—Mobile, Nov. 19.—Great excitement exists here in consequence of the detention of the Walker Nicaragua emigrants. Four hundred of them surrounded the office of James Hesse to-day, demanding immediate transportation, or their passage money refunded. Mr. Smith the Deputy Solicitor, interferred, and stated he was confident instructions from Washington of a definite character would be received to-morrow. On this assurance the crowd became pacified, and consented to wait a little longer.

AUSTRIA, Nov. 20.—A despatch has been received stating that the Nicaragua emigrants at Mobile have demanded of the agent who signed them with tickets a full compliance with the agreement upon which they were issued.—Should he not do so violence was anticipated.

A western paper says that no bell was ever admired so much as the great bell of Moscow.

