

THE HERALD OF PROGRESS.

DEVOTED TO THE DISCOVERY AND APPLICATION OF TRUTH.

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[WHOLE NO. 58.

TO WRITERS AND READERS.

BELOW A letter X on the margin opposite this notice is made to indicate to the subscriber that his subscription will expire with the next number. We trust the interest of no person will expire with his subscription.

BELOW The Editor will be accessible to his friends and the public only on each Wednesday, at the publication office, a few doors east of Broadway.

BELOW A portion of the Editorial Staff will occasionally use the Biographical character for signatures, in order to interest our readers in the brevity, utility, and economy of the system.

BELOW Let no contributor conclude, because we postpone or respectfully decline the publication of an article, that we are, therefore, prejudiced against the writer of it, nor that we necessarily entertain sentiments hostile to his. We shall make every reasonable effort to satisfy both reader and correspondent.

BELOW Non-official letters and unbusiness correspondence (which the writers design for only the editor's perusal) should be superscribed "private" or "confidence."

BELOW The real name of each contributor must be imparted to the Editor; though, of course, it will be withheld from the paper, if desired.

BELOW We are earnestly laboring to pulverize all sectarian creeds and to fraternize the spiritual affections of mankind. Will you work with us?

MEDICAL WHISPERS.

BY THE EDITOR.

Will friend Fish, of CORTLAND, N.Y., report his symptoms once more?

"SOPHIA," CUMBERLAND, R. I.—We should be glad to receive a word relative to the condition of your little son, for whom no prescription has been given by us.

"COMPLETE EDUCATION."—Educate the whole man—the head, the heart, the body; the head to think, the heart to feel, and the body to act.

"UNSECTARIAN CHARITY."—Aristotle, on being censured for bestowing alms on a bad man, made the following noble reply: "I did not give it to the man; I gave it to humanity."

"BREATHING SOLID CARBON."—As a curious result of the chemical inquiries of the present age, it has been ascertained that the quantity of solid carbon breathed in twenty-four hours in sixty-three ounces by a cow, and about seventy ounces by a horse.

Mrs. H. B. S., NEW HAVEN. All your symptoms will be favorably reached by making and taking freely of the "Spring Beverage" recommended in No. 54 of this journal. Take only half of the quantity of red pepper. Eat an orange full sixty minutes before breakfast every morning. Never use soups or gravies or cakes. Beefsteak twice a week.

"CATALEPTIC SYMPTOMS."—EMORY F. B., PITTSBURGH. The singular abnormal condition of your wife is owing not to spiritual, but to physical causes and disturbances. The effect of magnetism would be salutary. Watch the day of the month when the cataleptic symptoms reappear, and then begin the magnetic passes with the intention of inducing slumber. A change of air, of associations, and a little journey without care, would be likely to restore her. She is almost a medium, and it is possible that higher powers than yours may come to her relief.

"CARE FOR FOUL AIR."—Our Glenns Falls correspondent writes the following: When an unpleasant odor (tobacco excepted) is found in the sick room or elsewhere, if a few grains of coffee are scorched or roasted (not burned) in such places, the disagreeable odor will soon depart. Casks, or other vessels, also clothing, can likewise be cleansed in this manner. Those who have not tried it will be surprised to witness its quick and positive effect. If any bad effect is produced by the use of coffee in the above described way, will some friend of humanity point it out?

"SICK FOLKS FOR SALE."—The following advertisement we copy from Bennett's *Herald* of the first inst:

"TO PHYSICIANS.—A practicing physician wishes to dispose of his route, situated in a flourishing village, one hundred miles from New York city, accessible by railroad; business worth \$1,500 a year, and may be increased to double that amount."

The above prosperous business is rather attractive to doctors, but awfully repulsive to patients. We should be sorry to have any of our readers subject to that treatment which would "double the amount of business" on the above or any other medical route.—Ed.

"SAVED FROM SUICIDE."—A Frenchman resolved to be rid of life, went a little before high tide to a post set up by the sea side. He had provided himself with a ladder, a rope, a pistol, a bundle of matches, and a vial of poison. Ascending the ladder, he tied one end of the rope to the post, and the other end round his neck; then he took the poison, set his clothes on fire, put the muzzle of the pistol to his head, and kicked away the ladder. In kicking down the ladder he slipped the pistol so that the ball missed his head and cut through the rope, by which he was suspended; he fell into the sea, thus extinguishing the flames of his clothes, and the sea water which he involuntarily swallowed, counteracted the poison, and thus, in spite of his precaution, he remained unhang, unshot, unpoisoned, unburned and undrowned.

"ULCERATED TONSILS."—SIMMONS M. HICKORY HILL. Your defective hearing and ulcerated tonsils may be nearly restored by sleeping on a pillow stuffed with spearmint sprinkled with powdered camphor. Gargle the throat with yeast, or with old ale, when the tonsils are discharging through the ears. Do not neglect to sponge your neck and back-head in cold water every morning. Brother, while at your daily work, remember that the hour of redemption draweth nigh, when the labourer shall receive the just reward of toil for righteousness shall pervade the minds of men, and tyranny and poverty shall depart. All good men love their labor—they court and honor all kinds of industry—but the vicious and wrongly educated, are both inimical and tyrannical.

"OBJECTIONS TO DEEP BREATHING."—NEW YORK, March, 1861. To the Physician of the HERALD OF PROGRESS.—DEAR DOCTOR: Let me mention an objection which I find to the application of your prescriptions for deep breathing. I have been experimenting in that way for a few weeks, and now have not a garment that will meet around my waist, owing to the expansion of my lungs! Perhaps some of my Sisters may be deterred by the prospect of such inconvenience, from seeking health by this method. Faithfully yours,

MATILDA.

ANSWER: Many of Matilda's fashionable Sisters will undoubtedly be "deterred by the prospect of such inconvenience," and yet somehow, we believe that there are thousands of progress-loving mothers who will not only practice deep breathing, but will instruct their daughters to obey the laws of beauty and health in this respect, even if a "reform dress" should become the eventual necessity.—Ed.

"HEREDITARY DEBILITY."—E. PETERSON, N. H. Your constitution is suffering from scrofulous weaknesses imparted by your mother. She never recovered from the effects of physical sins—partly her own, and partly those committed by her ancestors—and your nervous systems are trembling with the legitimate consequences.

REMEDY: The palpitations and irregularities about the heart, the pain there and in the lower portions of the left side, and yet other symptoms, with occasional prostrations and swoons in your bones and nervous system, will yield to magnetic nursing and to your general indulgence of the sensations whenever they imperatively claim your attention and care. Just before and during menstruation, use vapor baths; or drink plentifully of tea made of equal parts of pennyroyal and parsley leaves, and keep in bed *very* warm for twenty-four hours. Do not eat *anything* which you know to be incompatible with your individual well-being. In the coming months a benefaction will visit thee.

"THE ARSENIC EATERS OF STYRIA."—According to an article in the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, arsenic is commonly taken by the peasants in Styria, the Tyrol, and the Satzhammergut, principally by huntsmen and wood-cutters, to improve their mind and prevent fatigue. The arsenic is taken pure, in some warm liquid, as coffee, fasting, beginning with a bit of a pin's head, and increasing to that of a pea. The complexion and general appearance are much improved, and the parties using it seldom look so old as they really are. The first dose is always followed by slight symptoms of poisoning, such as burning pain in the stomach and sickness, but not very severe. Once begun, it can only be left off by very gradually diminishing the daily dose, as a sudden cessation causes sickness, burning pains in the stomach, and other symptoms of poisoning, very speedily followed by death. As a rule, arsenic eaters are very long lived, and are peculiarly exempt from infectious diseases, fevers, &c.; but unless they gradually give up the practice, invariably die suddenly at last.

In some arsenic works near Salzburg, the only men who can stand the work any time are those who swallow daily doses of arsenic—the fumes, &c., soon killing the others.

"SUMMER FOODS AND DRINKS."—The following sensible whisper is taken from Dr. Hall's *Journal*: Physiological researches establish the fact that acids promote the separation of the bile from the blood, which is then passed through the system, thus preventing fevers, the prevailing diseases of Summer. All fevers are "bilious," that is, the bile is in the blood. Whatever is antagonistic of fever is cooling. It is a common saying that fruits are "cooling," and also berries of every description; it is because the acidity which they contain aids in separating the bile from the blood. Hence the great yearning for greens and lettuce, and salads in the early spring, these being eaten with vinegar; hence, also, the taste for something sour, for lemons, on an attack of fever. But this being the case, it is easy to see that we nullify the good effects of fruit and berries in proportion as we eat them with sugar or even sweet milk, or cream. If we eat them in their natural state, fresh, ripe, perfect, it is almost impossible to eat too many, or eat enough to hurt us; especially if we eat them alone, and not taking any liquid with them whatever. Also is buttermilk or even common milk propulsive of health. In summer time, sweet milk tends to biliousness. In sedentary people, sour milk is antagonistic. The Greeks and Turks are passionately fond of milk. The Shepherds use rennet, and the milk dealers alum to make it sour the sooner. Buttermilk acts like watermelons on the system.

"DON'T STAND ON THE TRACK."—The train, says a railroad gazette, may steal suddenly upon you, and then a little trepidation, a slight mishap, a slip of the foot, and you shudder to think of your crushed and bleeding body. So, in the journey of life, perils are around you on every hand. But don't plant yourself in their path and defend them; don't stand in their track and disregard them. Perhaps you now and then take a little intoxicating drink. My friend, if so, are you standing "on the track," while the car of retribution comes thundering on—moving in a right line—approaching with steady and rapid wheels. Will it not bear down and crush you? Perhaps you spend an occasional evening with a party of friends, amusing yourself with cards or dice, staking small sums to make the game interesting. My friend, are you standing "on the track?" Thousands have stood there and perished. Don't wait to hear the panting of the iron steed and the rattling of rushing wheels, but fly from the track. At a safe distance, stand and view the wrecks which your ponderous train will spread before you. Look well to the ground on which you plant your feet, and forget not for yet these many days our parting words, "Don't stand on the track."

who have laid aside their defensive armor of flannel. All sudden changes in the system are attended with more or less of danger, but the body can accommodate itself to almost any condition, provided it be assumed gradually. The use of flannel guards against sudden change of temperature. In a warm day, when perspiration flows freely, if it be allowed to pass off rapidly, the quick evaporation carries with it much heat from the body, and a chill may be produced, followed by derangement of some function; as "cold in the head," or unnatural discharge from the bowels. Flannel contains much air in its meshes, and is therefore a slow conductor of cold or heat. Evaporation proceeds from it more slowly than from cotton or linen, hence its excellence as a fabric for clothing. Many persons wear it next to the skin the year round, and find it a shield against prevalent complaints in Summer. No general rule can be given as to this; it must depend upon the constitution and employment of the individual. In all cases, however, flannel should not be laid aside until the weather is settled permanently warm.—*Exchange.*

Whisperings to Correspondents.

"TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN."

J. H. M., PLEASANT VIEW, IND.—Thy lines are not quite adapted to our columns, though we love the spirit which pervades them.

G. G. M., SR. LOUIS.—Your communications are not to our taste, though both of them possess merit. They are subject to your order.

K. H. K., MEXICO, N. Y.—The journey to *excellence* is sometimes long and toilsome, but the aim is worthy and will repay effort.

H. E. M., HARTFORD.—A Spirit Daughter to her Mother does not belong to the public. May she be welcome!

T. A. D., BLOOMINGTON, ILL.—Thanks for the kindly good will expressed in the *Acrostic*. We may not publish it, but rest assured it has performed a mission of friendship.

H. B. STORER'S "Way-Side Notes" are marked

for an early appearance.

He promises our readers

an account of some remarkable manifestations recently made through W. K. Ripley, of Bradford, Me.

L. L. L., FARMERSVILLE, N. Y.—The "Good-

ness" you send us some more than ordinary

merit. It reminds us strongly of Eliza Cook's

poem, so familiarized in song, on nearly the same subject. We forbear publishing it for this reason,

but hope to hear from you again.

G. R. B., PORTSMOUTH, VA.—It would give us pleasure to learn of your appointment to the "office" in the Navy Yard. For the present, Brother, bare your arm to the work of your hands. The world is not far from the heart of him who, with the sweat of honest toil on his brow, cleaves a passage of individual progression through external surroundings. (The development of speaking powers will not soon take place.)

SISTERS, BELVIDERE, ILL.—We do not discern a method by which you can become *privately*—in the blessed concealments of your habitation—because the *curse* of your letter indicates that you are not enough advanced in the direction of spiritual intercourse. And yet your feelings, aspirations, hopes, wishes, and best thoughts, are all favorable to individual development. Perhaps the "raps" will become more distinct one of these days, when you may interrogate the heavenly visitors, who will then "enter at the open door" with noiseless feet and shunning forms of immortal beauty.

HENRY M., GLENNS FALLS.—Brother! We easily recall your face and the characteristics of your mind. You seem always to hesitate on the threshold of a spiritual good—that is, you are often hopeless in hope; you see too much decay in life; you realize too many autumnal days in spring time; you discern too many small acts in the life of great souls; your progression is not positive, because you recline too habitually on "green spots" in memory of former days. Can you not become youthful? Do you not become young? Do you not become immortal?

I believe, sir, that the criminal is such, not from deliberate choice or from his free will, but is made so by an unnatural or diseased action of his mental faculties, which diseased action is produced by causes as various as the circumstances preceding his birth, or which surround him afterwards, and make their silent, yet effectual impressions, either for good or evil, upon the plastic substance of the mind. A very little reflection would teach us all, that governments, society and its customs and habits, exert a tremendous power in shaping the destiny of every individual who comes within the sphere of their influence. Many of these influences heretofore have had, and now have, a strong tendency to generate that abnormal mental action in individuals which we denominate crime; and I毫不hesitatingly make the assertion, that if the exact truth could be attained—if we could, with unerring precision, trace step by step, the causes which have operated upon the mind of the murderer, and produced that state of mental action which impelled him to the commission of the most heinous offence known to our law—we should invariably find that we, ourselves, were in a measure partakers in his guilt. From this conclusion there is no escape; and so long as the affairs of government are so conducted as that its favors and bounties are mainly bestowed upon the wealthy, the influential and the powerful—so long as it permits the poor, the weak, and the ignorant to be a prey and a spoil in the grasp of avarice and monopoly—so long as it will permit the greed of the unprincipled to lay snares and temptation all over our large cities and towns for the young and the thoughtless—I protest against its right, or its authority, to inflict vindictive punishment upon its erring children. Before governments assume that prerogative, let them perform a lustration and cleanse themselves of the acts of injustice and iniquity of which they have, in all past time,

been guilty—let them throw the shield of their protection around the ignorant, the poor, the weak, and the helpless. Having done this, I apprehend, sit, that they would find but few persons requiring punishment of any kind.

Brotherhood.

"Let no man call God his Father
Who calls not man his brother."

Progress of Humanity out of Barbarism.

THE QUESTION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN THE NEW YORK LEGISLATURE.

Speech of Mr. ANGEL, of Alleghany, in Committee of the Whole, on the motion to substitute Imprisonment for Life in the lieu of the Death Penalty. In Assembly, Feb. 26.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The importance and magnitude of the subject now under consideration, alone induces me again to crave the indulgence of the committee in urging the adoption of the substitute offered by me in place of the bill reported by the Judiciary Committee. I hope, sir, that this question may be settled in favor of the motion to substitute, regarding as I do the final and total abolition of the death penalty as simply a question of time. It is a measure demanded by an enlightened public sentiment, which will sooner or later make itself felt, and will compel obedience from the law-making power. Day by day the remnants of barbarism are dropping off, and the true spirit of Christianity, struggling with the errors begotten in eras of ignorance, superstition, and bigotry, must and will eventually triumph. Theologically speaking, the old doctrine of an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, and life for life, was repealed more than eighteen hundred years ago, by a moral legislator who appreciated the essential wants and needs of our race, infinitely better than any who preceded him or who have as yet appeared upon this world's stage of action.

The principles inculcated by him make exceedingly slow progress in legislative bodies, and are practically ignored in all organized governments. Man has studied and learned with a great degree of accuracy the physical structure and organism of his brother man, so that he can treat physical deformities, deficiencies and diseases in a manner approximating to a rational method and system. But not so of his moral nature or mental faculties; of these he yet remains in a great measure wilfully blind and profoundly ignorant. Hence the treatment of the morally deformed, diseased, halt and blind, exhibits in my judgment a corresponding blind and irrational application of remedies.

If an individual is deformed in body, or in any of his physical organs, he properly receives all of our active sympathies for this, his unavoidable misfortune. If he is prostrated with disease, although produced by a wilful neglect of the ordinary laws of health, still we treat him kindly, and minister to his wants and necessities in a spirit of forbearance and friendly consideration, not forgetting that to err is human and to forgive divine. But, whenever an individual, through the inscrutable laws of mind, happens to inherit from his progenitors, or to derive from circumstances over which he could have no control, a deformed, decrepit or diseased intellect, impelling him, with an almost irresistible tendency, into the paths of error, folly and crime, the treatment which he receives at our hands is, almost universally, not only irrational, but oftentimes and generally inhuman and brutal.

I believe, sir, that the criminal is such, not from deliberate choice or from his free will, but is made so by an unnatural or diseased action of his mental faculties, which diseased action is produced by causes as various as the circumstances preceding his birth, or which surround him afterwards, and make their silent, yet effectual impressions, either for good or evil, upon the plastic substance of the mind. A very little reflection would teach us all, that governments, society and its customs and habits, exert a tremendous power in shaping the destiny of every individual who comes within the sphere of their influence. Many of these influences heretofore have had, and now have, a strong tendency to generate that abnormal mental action in individuals which we denominate crime; and I毫不hesitatingly make the assertion, that if the exact truth could be attained—if we could, with unerring precision, trace step by step, the causes which have operated upon the mind of the murderer, and produced that state of mental action which impelled him to the commission of the most heinous offence known to our law—we should invariably find that we, ourselves, were in a measure partakers in his guilt. From this conclusion there is no escape; and so long as the affairs of government are so conducted as that its favors and bounties are mainly bestowed upon the wealthy, the influential and the powerful—so long as it permits the poor, the weak, and the ignorant to be a prey and a spoil in the grasp of avarice and monopoly—so long as it will permit the greed of the unprincipled to lay snares and temptation all over our large cities and towns for the young and the thoughtless—I protest against its right, or its authority, to inflict vindictive punishment upon its erring children. Before governments assume that prerogative, let them perform a lustration and cleanse themselves of the acts of injustice and iniquity of which they have, in all past time, been guilty—let them throw the shield of their protection around the ignorant, the poor, the weak, and the helpless. Having done this, I apprehend, sit, that they would find but few persons requiring punishment of any kind.

THE HERALD OF PROGRESS.

Notices of New Books.

"Talent alone cannot make a writer; there must be a whole mind behind the book."

ELSIE VENNER: A ROMANCE OF DESTINY. By OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, author of "THE AUTOCRAT OF THE BREAKFAST-TABLE," etc. In two volumes. Price \$1 75. Boston: Ticknor & Fields. 1861.

There is no feature of the present age so significant, and so gratifying to the Reformer, as the gradual accession of our best thinkers to the progressive ranks. New England, which is said to be the classic soil of America, has furnished within half a century quite an army of men and women of the highest culture, who have bravely flung off the shackles of thought, and boldly declared their allegiance to Nature's truths, despite the powerful organizations which have so long governed the descendants of the Puritans.

These independent thinkers have given the world products of their thought in various forms—William Ellery Channing and Theodore Parker, in the guise of sermons whose sentences awake a living fire along our sluggish veins; James Russell Lowell and John G. Whittier, in flowing numbers which cleave the rock in which the stream of nobler emotions is hidden; Emerson, in Ophic sayings which summon us to the mountain top; Phillips and Higginson in tones of eloquence which sway the master passions, and rouse us to sublime action; others in deeds and conversations and essays and books which let us into the wonders of the visible and invisible, and the mysteries of human nature.

The author of *Elsie Venner* has chosen neither song nor sermon as the vehicle of his thought; but he presents it in a rather more attractive form to the general reader than either—that of popular fiction. There is nothing new in this method, but in the conduct of the story itself there is displayed a most refreshing originality. The object of the "romance" is evidently, as the author's preface half confesses, to bring out in bold relief "a grave scientific doctrine" from a mottled back-ground of strangely interesting narrative.

The doctrine, simply stated, is this: That a child may receive such an ante-natal taint through the organization of a parent, especially of a mother, by accident or otherwise, as to deform its moral nature—to subvert for a life-time, to a greater or less extent, the moral sense and consequent accountability; and that such hereditary, hidden curse may cover the moral faculties like a death-pall, even while the intellect develops into strength and clearness, and the physical body advances into youthful and mature life, full of vigor, health, and beauty. Our author's good Rev. Dr. Honeywood bursts into the following soliloquy:

"Fools! How long will it be before we shall learn that for every wound which betrays itself to the sight by a scar, there are a thousand unseen mutilations that cripple, each of them, some one or more of our highest faculties?"

Again, old Dr. Kittridge, Elsie's common-sense friend, thus plainly states certain impressions of his own:

"We have constant reasons for noticing the transmission of qualities from parents to offspring, and we find it hard to hold a child accountable in any moral point of view for inherited bad temper or tendency to drunkenness—as hard as we should to blame him for inherited gout or asthma.... Ministers talk about the human will as if it stood on a high look-out, with plenty of light, and elbow-room reaching to the horizon. Doctors are constantly noticing how it is tied up and darkened by inferior organization, by disease, and all sorts of crowding interferences, until they get to look upon Hottentots and Indians and a good many of their own race—as a kind of self-conscious blood-clocks with very limited power of self-determination."

This new estimate of ante-natal and circumstantial influences to which body and soul are subject—an estimate which is maintained through the entire work before us—is necessarily antagonistic to long dominant and popular systems, and therefore distasteful to old-school Doctors both of Physic and Divinity. Indeed, this new estimate, rapidly gaining ground, will lay the foundation of new systems—a better social state with truer relations and higher advantages, and a better theology with purer incentives and more natural remedies. A hint toward such remedies is given in the "Professor's" letter to his pupil, on page 283 of the first volume:

"Treat bad men exactly as if they were insane. They are *in-sane*, out of health, morally.... Avoid collision with them so far as you honorably can; keep your temper, if you can—for one angry man is as good as another; restrain them from violence, promptly, completely, and with the least possible injury, just as in the case of maniacs—and when you have got rid of them, or got them tied hand and foot so that they can do no mischief, sit down and contemplate them charitably, remembering that nine-tenths of their perversity comes from outside influences, drunken ancestors, abuse in childhood, bad company, from which you have happily been preserved, and for some of which you, as a member of society, may be fractionally responsible."

The theater on which the different actors in this drama play their part, is a small New England village, bare and bleak, with one only grand feature—a rugged, vast, and solitary mountain, with a stately old English mansion near its eastern declivity, and a large infusion of the terrible in its sublimity from the existence of a "Rattlesnake Ledge," among itsrowning, overhanging cliffs. "There is nothing," says the author, "gives glory, and grandeur, and romance, and mys-

tery to a place like the impending presence of a high mountain;" and though the inhabitants of "Rockland" were plainly of too prone a nature, in the main, to be specially ennobled by this "impending presence," their shrewd reporter, the "Professor," makes it the basis of some splendid scenic effects.

"Rockland" was populated with New England "Yankees;" could boast of two or three meeting-houses, a few fine residences amid a motley group of meaner dwellings, and a village school, or, in the words of its pincheft principal, Silas Peckham, "The Apollineum Institoot." Elsie Venner and her father, and her cousin Dick, dwellers in the old English mansion, Helen Darley and Bernard Langdon, teachers in the school, Rev. Dr. Honeywood, and his niece, Letty, and wise old Dr. Kittridge, are the main characters in the plot.

Within the space of a few square miles, and with such apparently meager materials, the author weaves a web of continuous narrative which is nowhere wanting in vivacity, and is here and there interspersed with passages of thrilling interest and great power. Natural scenery and events are described with that intense vividness and graceful finish which show the touch of a master hand. The characters are well sustained; and the rustic scenes, and Yankeeisms, and droll comments, and waves of pathos, and gleams of wit, and solid truths which bubble and sparkle and flow through these pages, show an intimate acquaintance with human nature, an erudite mind, a keen sense of the ludicrous, and a heart endowed with the beautiful grace of charity.

If anything excites a doubt of the author's true nobility of soul, it is his homage to aristocracy, exhibited in the beginning of the first volume, by that complacent conceit of an *aristocracy of intellect*, designated as "The Brahmin Caste of New England," and in the concluding chapter of the second volume, by the "Professor's" advice to his more noble-minded pupil, to truckle to the *aristocracy of wealth*.

"The first true gentleman that ever breathed" was neither an educated Greek nor a cultured New England "Brahmin,"

but the son of a carpenter; the soil of Cincinnati is proving not less fertile than that of Boston; "a Fifth Avenue landlord, a West-End householder, is not the highest style of man."

Poor Elsie Venner, the heroine of the story, is a wholly original character. Her life is one continuous tragedy, commencing even before her birth. In tracing her utter isolation of spirit, her wild beauty, her versatility of will, her strange power of fascination, her passion for the dark and dangerous solitudes of the mountain, her stricken young life, and the unutterable woe which attends it, the reader is led along just on the verge of a fearful mystery which he longs yet dreads to see unveiled. There are touches of true pathos in the delineation of this sad destiny of a human soul, and in the picture of her noble father struggling dumbly with despair for so many weary years. Of him the author says:

"Yet he had not allowed himself to run waste in the long time since he was left alone to his trials and fears. He had resisted the seductions which always beset solitary men with restless brains overthrown by depressing agencies. He disguised no misery to himself by the lying delusion of wine. He sought no sleep from narcotics, though he lay with throbbing, wide-open eyeballs through all the weary hours of the night."

The story abounds with racy anecdotes which show remarkable powers of observation and a very retentive memory on the part of its writer; and there is many a passage which betrays acquaintance with and sympathy for the psychical experiences of highly refined and spiritual natures. Now and then the author fails in his usual tact, as, for instance, in the parlor scene, when a certain declaration makes Helen Darley the happiest of women. The writer there relapses into a flippant vein not wholly in harmony with the two characters he has taught us to revere, and this is continued in some subsequent allusions to their career. But such trifling faults are of small moment, compared with the great moral lessons enforced in this fascinating work of Oliver Wendell Holmes, the poet-moralist.

THE CHRISTIAN EXAMINER. Published on the 1st of January, March, May, July, September, and November, by the proprietor, at Walker, Wise & Co.'s bookstore, 245 Washington Street, Boston, at four dollars a year in advance. Free of postage by mail.

Contents of the March number:

Article 1. Dr. Thompson's Plea for Eternal Punishment.

Article 2. Friedrich Wilhelm von Thiersch.

Article 3. The Cause of Reason the Cause of Faith.

Article 4. The Elliot Novels.

Article 5. Muller's History of Vedic Literature.

Article 6. Emancipation in Russia.

Article 7. Review of Current Literature.

The January and March numbers of this review have been received by us. These commence the 70th volume of this standard publication.

As its name indicates, this is a work that examines and reviews every important religious book that is issued from any press in this country or Europe.

It also takes up publications of a philosophical or scientific character, whose tendencies are to a union between philosophy and religion.

Such a work comes within the needs of a large number of our readers. Its articles are written in a broad and liberal spirit, free from sectarianism, and with high moral tendencies.

To convey a just idea of the position of this work as a progressive journal, we extract some portions of a review of a French work recently published—"Women: their past, present, and future."

"The works continually appearing on the woman question, show that it is no superficial or capricious movement, but a necessary development of the spirit of the age. No sooner is one work early before the public, than another appears, as if the right word remained still to be uttered.... The spirit of the book assigns to woman the sphere of ministrations, consolation, and blessing, as daughter, sister, wife, mother, teacher, and friend. I interpret the present unappeasable uprising of the question of woman's position and claims as meaning this: that woman hereafter is to take her place by the side of man as his equal, and hand in hand with him is to help forward the progress of human civilization."

"She is not to be man's rival in what is manly, but to be his cooperator by a truly feminine development on the plane of equality of rights, and by an independent stand within the sphere of her own nature—her own inspirations and functional endowments.... The author presents the various types of woman in the past, the theories in the present, and the prospect in the future. The woman appears on the threshold of all histories as an intermediate between humanity and the principle of evil: she is a type of mortality. The same legend is found in all mythologies—the Eve of Genesis and the Pandora of Greece. She finds in these legends—slightly, as we think—a symbolic account of the development of human intelligence, which man has perverted into the support of his own disposition to tyrannize over what is submissive, dependent, and weaker than himself. The best gift of the gods is aspiring intellect—it is the root of all progress—and this necessarily involves all that history suffers."

"Woman next appears as a prophetic type among the Hebrews, the Greeks, the Romans, and Barbarians, and the perverted view regarded her as but the instrument of evil and diabolical powers, and aided her delusion in man's eyes.... From the bosom of shameful Eastern polygamy, the Jewish woman begins to take her place in society; she knows what patriotism is; she is no longer a slave. In the history of Greece and Rome, woman continually appears in noteworthy manifestations, as loving, brave, chaste, and prudent; and, rising out of the limits of wretchedness and despair between the past and the future, shines the form of Hygieia and of the virgin saints. Christian history gives us the types of Mary and of Magdalene. The figure of woman is the central one of the Middle Ages, and she has been prominent in every sphere, from the throne to the scaffold.... To woman, sensibility has always been attributed; and this proves the exaltation, and not the inferiority of her nature. It belongs to all great, manly souls; it constitutes heroes and martyrs, while thought makes only learned men."

"The education of man is adapted to call out the noblest faculties, while the young girl has no discipline calculated to inspire honor, magnanimity, courage, and greatness of soul. Woman is deprived of the resources which man has at his command against abnormal and morbid states. Her religious tendencies are perverted. She is religions by the instincts of her soul, and finds there consolation and refuge for her susceptible and dependent nature.... We stand now upon the point of a great change: there is no symptom of a decline or retrograde tendency. Each nation is pressing forward and stirred with fresh life; Superstition and Atheism decline; the crisis is one of renovation, and not of destruction, and the movement affects woman as well as man; her part becomes more complicated; it is studied by philosopher, poet, historian, romancer, and philanthropist. All questions in regard to her nature, position, destiny, and rights, are agitated. To be under man's protection, and to exist only through him, will not suffice; the change to a different state has begun, and must go on. She demands respect as well as protection—the right of self-manifestation, and to decide for herself what shall be her rôle.... The whole subject is treated with feminine tact and delicacy. There is nothing mawkish-sentimental, though much true sentiment. It will not satisfy those who ask for a positive theory and a definite solution of this mooted question; but its negative criticism of errors and abuses, and its survey of the past, are suggestive, and especially valuable for the French meridian."

The North British Review. No. LXVII. February, 1861.

This Review, the organ of Scotch scholars and of the more liberal section of Scotch religionists, presents in the February issue the following bill of fare. 1. India Convalescents; 2. Large Farms and the Peasantry of the Scottish Lowlands; 4. Lord Dundonald; 5. Modern Necromancy; 6. Engineering and Engineers; 7. The Political Press—French, British, and German; 8. Home Ballads and Poems; 9. Hessey's Bampton Lecture; 10. Dr. Carlyle's Autobiography; 11. Lord Palmerston and our Foreign Policy.

The progress which the leading minds of Scotland have made in the study of the modern spiritual phenomena, appears very plainly in the 5th article of the above list; the writer of which strenuously maintains that the physical demonstrations narrated in Mr. Owen's book, never actually occurred, but were optical illusions produced by hallucination in the observers! It is well worth perusal, merely as an illustration of the tardiness with which *soothsayers* that derange the popular theology, receive a cordial recognition from persons in high social position. Oh, how long must the guides of public opinion be distressed and their digestion disturbed by the advent of unwelcome facts!

American Edition: Leonard Scott & Co., 54 Gold street, New York.

HARPER'S MONTHLY.—The April number of this Magazine contains the following table of contents: Three Months in Labrador, by Chas. Hallock; Barey the Horse Tamer, by T. B. Thorpe, also two other illustrated articles; Twelve years of my Life, a story by Louise Chandler Moulton; Mrs. Goldsmith at Forty, by T. S. Arthur; Lost on a Railway—one of Rose Terry's best pictures of New England character and adventure; A Review of Motley's History of the Netherlands, the usual continued articles, Editor's Table, &c.

ALWAYS SOMETHING NEW,
AND STILL SOMETHING WHICH HAS
STOOD THE TEST OF YEARS,
AND STILL GROWS
More and more Popular every Day.
IT IS
PROF. WOOD'S
HAIR RESTORATIVE.

SEE WHAT OTHERS SAY OF IT.

A Distinguished St. Louis Physician writes:
St. Louis, July 10, 1860.
O. J. Wood, Esq.: DEAR Sir.—Allow me the pleasure and satisfaction to transmit to you the beneficial effects of your Hair Restorative, after a trial of five years. I commenced using your Restorative in January, 1855, since which time I have not been without a supply of it. When I commenced the use, my hair was quite thin, at least one-third gray. A few applications stopped its falling, and in three weeks time there was not a gray hair to be found, neither has there been up to this time.

After my hair was completely restored, I continued its use by applying two or three times per month. My hair has ever continued healthy, soft, and glossy, and my scalp perfectly free from dandruff. I do not imagine the facts above mentioned will be of any particular advantage to you, or even flatter your vanity at this late date, as I am well aware they are all well known already, and even more wonderful ones, throughout the Union. I have occupied my time in traveling the greater part of the time the past three years, and have taken pride and pleasure in recommending your Restorative, and exhibiting its effects in my own case. In instances I have met with people that have pronounced it a humbug, saying they have used it, and without effect. In every instance, however, it proved, by probing the matter, that they had not used your article at all, but had used some new article, said to be as good as yours, and costing at about half the price. I have noticed two or three articles myself advertised as above, which I have not heard of. It is astonishing that people will pass over an article of no reputation, when there is one at hand that has been proved beyond a doubt.

Apparently some of those christians have not brain enough to write an advertisement, and I notice that they have copied yours, word for word, in several instances, merely inserting some other name in place of yours.

I have, within the past five years, seen and talked with more than two thousand persons that have used your preparation with perfect success—some for baldness, gray hair, scald head, dandruff, and every disease the scalp and head are subject to.

I called to see personally at your original place of business here, but learned you were now living in New York.

You are at liberty to publish this, or to refer parties to me. Any communication addressed to me, care Box No. 1929, will be promptly answered.

Yours, truly. JAMES WHITE, M. D.

PROF. WOOD'S HAIR RESTORATIVE.
In another column will be found an advertisement of this well-known and excellent preparation for restoring gray hair to its original color. The Hair Restorative also cures cutaneous eruptions, and prevents the hair falling off. We have seen many authentic testimonials in proof of these assertions, some of which are from gentlemen whom we have known for many years as persons of the most reliable character. Don't delay till you have tried this Restorative.—Boston Office Branch.

WOOD'S HAIR RESTORATIVE.

We are not in the habit of puffing every new discovery, for in nine cases out of ten, they are quack nostrums; but we take great pleasure in recommending Prof. Wood's article to all whose hair is falling off or turning gray. Our well-known contributor, Fins Johnson, Esq., has experienced the benefit of its application, and joins with us in speaking of its virtues. Let all try it, and bald heads will be as rare as snow in summer.—*Baltimore Patriot*.

WOOD'S HAIR RESTORATIVE.
Unlike most specifics, this is proved, by unimpeachable evidence, to possess great efficacy as a restorer of the hair to its pristine vigor. Where the head had become almost bald because of sickness, the use of this article has produced a beautiful growth of thick glossy hair. It is, therefore, a valuable preparation for all classes. Its ingredients are such as to effectively eradicate dandruff and other impurities, which operate so injuriously to the hair. It also has curative properties of another description. In cases of scrofulous and other dispositions of the skin disappears wherever it is used. There is no hazard attending the trial of this remedy, and its effects can only be beneficial, as the compound, if it does not cause a manifest improvement, is incapable of doing harm, as its component elements are perfectly innocuous.—*Boston Transcript*. April 22, 1859.

A GENUINE BOON.

In our capacity as conductor of a public Journal, we are called upon to advertise the cure-all of the day, each of which claims to be unadulterated in its composition and infallible in its curative effects, with what justice we leave our readers to determine. In one instance, however—Prof. Wood's Hair Restorative—we are so well assured of the notable qualities of the article, that we give it our endorsement as all that the inventor and vendor claim it to be. Its effect upon a falling head of hair is universally known to be magical. Like lime or guano on exhausted land, it brings its crop wherever applied. Our own batch is fortunately healthy, but we advise our friends with sparse growing hair to try the Restorative.—*Columbus Spy*.

ALL HAIR DYES ABANDONED.

Wood's GREAT ARTICLE HAS TAKEN THE FIELD.
Professor Wood stands on an eminence no chemist whose attention has been turned to inventing a hair tonic, has ever before reached. His fame is sudden but world-wide, and thousands who have worn wigs or been bald for years, are now, through the use of this preparation, wearing their own natural and luxuriant head covering. So much for chemistry, the chemistry of human life, and the laws which apply to the functions of the system. Prof. Wood studied out the human hair, its character, its properties, its diseases, and how to restore the decaying vitality of that ornament; he saw, as in his own case, that gray hair is unnatural unless the age of the individual has passed four score, and he believed that this hair could be naturally revitalized. He tried his own case—almost bald and quite white at the age of thirty-seven—he restored his own hair in color, strength, and luxuriance, and the article he did it with he gave to the world. Get WOOD'S HAIR RESTORATIVE, and take nothing else.—*New York Day Book*.

Depots, No. 444 Broadway, New York, and No. 114 Market Street, St. Louis, Mo.

At No. 444 Broadway, will be found always on hand the genuine Family and Patent Medicines.

58-61 W. HALLOCK, Evansville, Ind.