# SETHE NEW YORK LEDGER

#### WHAT SEEMS.

BY SALLIE M. BRYAN.

"Wise judges are we of each other." My fate a bright\_\_a blest? Alas, if thou Couldst see me\_\_as I am. \* \* Why even now My bosom seems like an abyss of fire\_\_ Thronged with lost angels\_\_who, in vain, aspire To climb to Heaven! League after league they go, Upward and upward, writhingly and slow, . And tear the glories of their wings upon The black crags of the clouds\_till almost won Seems their high goal—but when their hearts beat warm With dreams of victory\_they meet the storm / \* \*

Again, my life becomes an Arctic sea, Along whoso desolate infinity The spectre icebergs by Fate's North-lights glide, And shatter-with a silence !-- And nor pride, Nor love. \* \* Ah. tell me-say ! hast thou been

driven Down to the gulf of madness\_and there striven To lose thy self, amid the whirl of waves, And been held back ? Is there a waste of graves Within thy Past? And does thy Future form An endless Twilight? Can a feverish dream, Or shadowy fear, sometimes oppress thy heart Till tears of blood seem from its depths to start? Dost thou, when night is loneliest, gaze a far Thro' God's eternal space, till each star With splendor and with silence makes thy brain A burning chaos\_and implore. in van. A burning chaos—and implore, in vain, To win some token of thy Mother's love From those far-off, mysterious worlds above? The stars, said 1? Of them I would not think, For their unchanging smiling makes me shrink. Till sometimes, even as the strange-eyed seers Who bowed before them in the ancient years, I deem that, throned thus splendidly on high, They keep the awful secrets of the sky ! And — and what mad and maddening thought! Oh, Heaven !

If mortal destiny-if mine\_is given To their cold power\_cold? no\_they're f My heart to ashes ! while I vainly yearn For one sweet draught. \* \* \_they're fire, and burn

Storm after storm has hurled Storm after storm has huridd Its blasting lightnings at my tropic world Of dreams and glories; but some bloom remains Amid the desolation of its plains, And, thro' the tears that desolation cost, I thank Our Fathor that all is not lost i Yet since to me this world and life of ours Have not been only music, lights, and flowers, I know how to pity the wild wretch that's driven To gaze above him as he doubted Heaven ! And then-but no\_I will not ask thee more. And then—but no... I will not ask thee more. Whate'er that's past-whatever frowns beforo... This much, at least, well, ay, too well, I know, Thou should'st not envy me. Ah, thou mayest go And thank the angels of your Heaven that what Thou art, is—well, that 'tis\_what I am not.

### IN THE CHAPARRAL.

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Notwithstanding the many mountain landmarks, which lift their ragged outlines to the skies, or hang frowningly over the narrow valleys, it is one of the easiest things imaginable, for the stranger, travelling over the Table Lands of Mexico, to become embarrassed, and lose himself in the thorny thickets. If by chance, he happens to turn out from the main, travelled road, any considerable distance in the uninhabited districts, he will find, on attempting to regain his path, that it is not so easy a matter as he supposed; for the chaparral being intersected in all directions by a net work of trails, made by the wandering herds, makes it impossible to return. Whichever trail he takes, is sure to lead him astray. Should he fall into a well-beaten track, which he is certain is treading in the right direction, and must, without fail lead into the wagon track he has left, he may, when too late, discover that he is going in the very opposite course. On more than one occasion, I have experienced the perplexing na-ture of these endless cattle trails; I say endless, for they sometimes traverse valleys—through bush and briar, over rocky promontories, through barrancas and sunless glens,—beneath mountain cliffs, and on to wide savannas; and yet, never leading to a rancho, or other habita ble spot.

One sultry morning, being on a long scouting expedition, with a party of Texan Rangers, in search of guerillas,-we chanced to draw rein for a few moments to rest our horses. It was a shady nook, in which we had halted; where between two approximating mountain spurs, a cool, refreshing draft of all was being wafted up the valley we were leaving. The de-licious freshness was most agreeable, and our panting animals seemed to inhale it with delight. However, misery loves company they say. But agreeable!"

covery; and when I at length found a beaten trail, it led me into an extremely wild and deso-late region. Around me the dark mountains reared their craggy heads, inclosing a tract of broken country, where the hard, gravelly soil gave birth to a stunted growth of cacti and pal-mettos; with here and there a clump of thorny mezquits, or scraggy ebona. But no sign of human habitation greeted my longing sight. Still I kept along a narrow path, in which at times, I thought I could detect the impressions of horses' feet; the character of the soil, however, made it somewhat doubtful. It was during the dry season also, and the tracks, if such they were, might have been made months before. The region was now deserted by the wandering The region was now deserted by the wandering herds, as not a drop of water was to be found for leagues. It was only during and for a few weeks after the rainy season, that they resort-ed to this now deserted plateau. I had travelled over this uninviting region for

hours, and the sun was sinking towards the western sierras; my weary horse was suffering with thirst; for during all my solitary ride had not discovered any indications of water. had possession of the lieutenant's water-gourd and haversack, well supplied with hard bread and jerked beef-enough, in short, for two days' rations, if prudently used. But my poor horse could not hold out many hours more without water. These reflections did not by any means serve to shorten my weary path, and I hailed, at last, with an exclamation of joy, a slender column of smoke, which rose beyond a low point of the hills directly before me. It seemed to proceed from a single, solitary camp-fire. My horse discovered it at the same instant that I did, and with quickened pace soon gained an elevation, from whence I could look down upon a little green valley, where a thick growth of ebona and willows indicated the existence of water. The smoke issued from the willows, but as yet I could detect nothing like humanity in the vicinity. I had, however, hardly com-menced the descent, when my approach was discovered by a number of horses which, tethered beyond the willows, had before escaped my notice. They signalized my arival by loud neighings, to which my own animal replied. The noise of the horses called to me the atten-tion of a party of Mexicans, who, it seemed, were bivouaced in the thickets. I did not doubt they were a party of herdsmen, and therefore approached them without hesitation. But, to my chagrin, I found myself in a camp of guerillas—a portion of the very party we had been in search of. They were Romero's men, awaiting, as I afterwards learned, the arrival of the main body, prepared to attack a train which was known to be on the way from the Rio Grande, with army stores for head-quarters.

They were a fierce, banditti-looking gang of eighteen, who quickly surrounded me, and with mock ceremony requested me to dismount. I was completely in the power of these chaparral robbers, for I knew, with my broken down horse, an escape was out of the question. I had voluntarily entered the trap, and therefore, with the best grace I could command, I obeyed, and led my thirsty animal to the stream by which the guerillas were encamped.

I had no sooner reached the spot than I was surprised to hear my name called, accompanied by an expression of astonishment, uttered in English, and in familiar tones. As I turned towards the direction of the voice, I could hardly believe the evidence of my own eyes, when I beheld the cheerful and manly face of Charlie Burleson, the Lieutenant of Rangers, whose horse I had so unceremoniously appro priated in the morning.

" In the name of the god of war, Lieutenant !" exclaimed, as I caught his outstretched hand, "tell me how came you here ?" "Why, how else could I come but on foot-

eeing I had no horse to ride !" he replied, with

his usual good-natured laugh. "And you are a prisoner, I perceive," for I observed that he had been deprived of his sidearms.

"No more a prisoner than yourself, Senor Dootor. But, joking aside, my friend, I am right down glad to see you, though I had much rather that the other boys were with you! However, misery loves company they say. But

Inresume these pleasant dark

In my eager search, I must have ridden were convinced that they intended us no harm, several leagues before I made the above disbut would reserve us for a ransom, which they had no doubt would cheerfully be paid by our brave old general. It was a lucky thing, how-ever, for us that we happened to wear the insignia of officers, for we heard them positively assert that if we had been privates, the lasso would have saved them the expense of our suppers. We also gathered in the course of the evening, for we were permitted to move about the little camp, that their captain, Romero, with the remainder of his guerillas, would join them on the following day, when they would move on to a point near PapaGallios to waylay the train, which was to encamp there the same evening. We had now learned all that we required, and

it was an important object for us to attempt an escape that very night, and by reaching the approaching train, prepare its escort for the contemplated attack. No doubt our own company, after spending the day in a fruitless search for the lieutenant, would pass the night at Ramos, whence, if we could reach it, we could retrace our steps, beyond the intended encampment of our friends.

That night, after a supper of dried beef, seasoned with *chile colorado*, (red pepper,) we were furnished with the blankets belonging to the lieutenant, and which I had brought off on lis saddle, and directed to sleep by the side of the guard-fire. A guard was also placed over us, and we heard the officer direct another to be stationed around the camp. "Well, Charlie, this does not look very prom

Ising for an escape," said I, on observing these

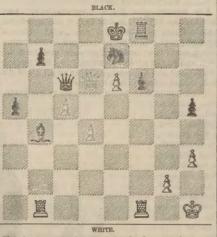
"Never mind, Doctor. I know these fellows perhaps better than you do. Before midnight most of them will be asleep on their posts, and the remainder will be no more than we can manage.

The lieutenant was right, as it proved; for the men in camp were no sconer wrapped in their scrapes, than we could perceive, in the dim starlight, the outlines of the sentinels disappearing one by one from their posts; while dark objects, scattered here and there over the ground, showed where they had yielded to the sleepy god. Beyond the line of these unfaithful uardians of the camp, and on the other side of the stream, the horses of the guerillas were tied out by long lariats, to grass. So far, theretied out by long lariats, to grass. BO Iar, there 12. Kt. ta fore, our prospects were good enough. It was an important object with us to get possession of our revolvers, which the guerillas had not dis-to the depriving us of them; also, to 16 B tak charged on depriving us of them; also, to supply each of us with a horse, and strike out supply each of us with a horse, and strike out 18. P. to for the road by the same trail on which the lieutenant had entered the chaparral. The Texan, who was a thorough backwoodsman, declaring that he could readily lead the way. 22. Q. B. 23. Q. C. 22. Q. B. 23. Q. C. 23. Q. C. 24. Q. C. 25. Q. C.

declaring that he could readily lead the way. It was a desperate attempt we were about to make; and we knew that a failure would result fatally to us. So far as we were concerned, it was not necessary;—as the Mexicans, no doubt, intended to treat us as prisoners whose ransoms 28. R. to 23. K. to 24. R. tak 25. R. to 27. B. to 28. R. to 29. R. to 20. R. t would be certainly forthcoming. But we knew that the safety of a valuable train, which we had every reason to suppose would be inade quately guarded, depended upon the timely in-formation we might give. Besides, the attempt was an imperative duty we owed the service, and must be made at whatever cost. Therefore, owards morning, after the guards had been changed, and had again become buried in sleep. all save the vigilant fellows placed directly over us, we determined to make the trial. The Guerillas in taking our arms had neglected to search our pockets, and we yet retained our pocket knives. These were ordinary, small, four-bladed affairs, of but little use under any other circumstances; but were our sole dependence now. Our two sentinels were small men, whom we knew we could easily manage in a close hand to hand tussle; especially when we had the advantage of them, and should spring upon them unawares. These men kept them-selves awake with a pack of torn and greasy cards, with which they gambled for cigaritos. In order to get the benefit of the light of the guard fire, their backs were turned towards us. The lieutenant, partly by signs and partly by low whispers, proposed that we should each select a man, and throwing ourselves upon them, throttle them, to prevent their outcries; and with our knives, cut their carotids. It was a horrid proposition,---and now, at this distant

CHESS DEPARTMENT. ONDUCTED BY PAUL MORPHY.

PROBLEM No. VII.



SOLUTION TO	PROBLEM VI.
WHITE.	BLACK.
Q. B. fifth	1. K. moves
K. R. fourth	2. K. moves
K. B. second (mate)	
GAME SEVENTH.	
Between Labourdonnais and M. Donnell.	
(SICILIAN OPENING.)	
(M'Donnell.)	BLACK. (Labourdonnais.)
K. fourth	1. P. to Q. B. fourth
K. B. fourth	2. P. to K. third
t. to B. third	3. Q. Kt. to B. third
Q. B. third	4. P. to Q. fourth
K. fifth	5. P. to K. B. third
to K. second	6. K. B. to K. second
. to R. third	7. Q. to Q. Kt. third (a) 8. K. Kt. to R. third
. to B. second	8. K. Kt. to R. third
Q. fourth	9. Q. B. P. takes P.
P. takes P.	10. Q. B. to Q. second
to Q. third	11. Q. Kt. to Kt. fifth
akes Kt.	12. B. takes Kt. (ch)
B. second (b)	13. Castles (K. R.)
to K. B. square(c)	14. P. takes P.
P. takes P. (d)	15. Kt. to K. B. fourth (e)
kes Kt.	16. R. takes B.
Kt. square	17. Q. R. to Q. B. square
K. Kt. fourth $(f)$	18. K. R. to B. second
Q. R. fourth	19. Q. R. to K. B. square
to K. third	20. K. B. to K. second
K. second	21. Q. to Q. Kt. sixth
to Kt. fifth	22. K. B to Q. Kt. fifth (g)
Kt. second (h)	23. R. takes Kt.
kes R.	24. R. takes R.
Q. B. square	25. R. to K. B. square
Q. B. seventh	26. Q. B. to Q. B. third
K. third	27. Q. to Q. B. fifth
Q. square	28. K. B. to Q. R. fourth
K. seventh	29. Q. B. takes R. P.
	the second se

And Labourdonnais wins.

NOTES. (a). In this and the subsequent games at the same opening, abourdonnals never fails to make this very necessary move at

(b) The interposition of the queen's bishop would have been (c). This was probably bastily played, and should have re-sulted in the loss of a pawn. More correct would have been 14. K. to Kt. third.

(d). Some instructive variations, resulting, however, in every stance, in Black's favor, would have sprung from 15. Kt. takes

Instance, Inc., and Black must win. For if 17. B takes K. R. P. (cb) 17 18. Q. takes Q. 18 19. K. moves. 18 with the advantage of a piece. A. 17. K. takes B, 18. Kt. to K. B. fourth (ch) 19. Kt. takes Q.

A. 16. K. to K. second. After this move, it will at first sight appear that Black must now submit to some loss, ns his queen's bishop is attacked by the ad-verse knight, while White also direatens to win the queen by 16. K. B. takes R. P. (ch). It will be seen, however, that Black has one move in store which not only enables thim to thwart his opponent's designs, but actually increases the superiority of his creations.

#### WIT AND WISDOM.

ORIGINAL AND SELECTED-PREPARED EXPRESSLY FOR THE LEDGER BY GEO. D. PRENTICE.

JEFFERSON says that some men imagine that they came into the world booted and spurred by the grace of God; and wo may add, that, if they don't be-have themselves, they deserve to go out of it "booted" by the grace of mankind.

A VILLAGE Editor in Indiana boasts that he keeps one cow, and lives in "childlike simplicity." His allusion to the cow sufficiently indicates that he lives ex-actly like a child-by milling his mother.

NORTH CAROLINA produces more turpentine than any other State, and it is claimed that South Carolina, in proportion to her population, produces more poultry. So the two Carolinas may be called tar and feathers.

A MAN and woman were married in jail a few evenings ago in one of our western cities. As long as they remain there, they will not be likely to make each other jealous by straying off from home.

THE separation of friends by death is less terrible than the divorce of true hearts that have loved, but have ceased to sympathize, while memory is still recall-ing what they once were to each other.

HALF the reputations for wit that pass cur-rent in fashionable life are based on ill-natured sayings of persons, who would find it difficult to obtain any notice in society except by censorious observations

"FoLKS say, Mr. barkeeper, that I can't be trusted out of sight, but I'm in sight now...can't I have a cocktail?" "No, but you'll get a smash if you don't vanish instantly."

WE read of one virtuous Joseph; but there are a good many silly ones\_fellows who, when warmly wooed by fortune, fiee from her embrace half-naked, and live so forever afterwards.

THERE are some persons in the world who never permit us to love them except when they are absent; as, when present, they chill our affection by showing a want of appreciation of it.

"WHILE we live let us live," is an old maxim much admired by fast livers, men who live a month per week and die of their three score and ten at twenty-five. OLD men's lives are lengthened shadows; their

evening sun falls coidly on the earth, but the shadows all point to the morning.

In old times, the borrower was said to be "the servant of the lender " but the relations of the two seem to be reversed in these days.

SOCIETY seldom forgives those who have dis-overed the emptiness of its pleasures and learned to live dependent of it and them.

"Don'r you think, wife, that tobacco-smoke would kill the musquitos in our room?" "It might, but it would kill me first."

WE wonder, that, among all the titles bestowed upon the moon, none of her poetical admirers have ever spoken of her as Her Serene Highness.

NONE are so seldom found alone, and are so soon tired of their own company, as those concombs who are on the best terms with themselves.

FORTUNE has been considered the guardian diinity of fools; and she is certainly very kind in helping tose who cannot help themselves.

THERE are some who write, talk, and think, so much about vice and virtue, that they have no time o practice either the one or the other.

WE should do well to take counsel from the warning from the foolish.

STEALING money from a man's pocket to attle a debt due to him is to pay him in his own coin. Some things are much better eschewed than hewed; tobacco is one of them.

It is more respectable to black boots than to ck characters to sew shirts than to sow strifes

"SIR, have you read the ode I composed to-eep?" "Oh yes, and it composed me to sleep."

FLOWERS are the universal moralists; not one ut has its lesson, its sermon, or its song

Some writer defines a "stuffed duck" to be young lady crammed with fattery by her lover.

BE sure not to tell a first falsehood, and you needn't fear being detected in any subsequent ones.

Few men are above suspicion, but a great nany are below it. -----

## CURRENT ITEMS.

A COUNTRY gentleman who was trying to find A COUNTRY gentleman who was crying to mice a friend's house in Fourth street a few evenings since, ac-costed a well-dressed woman whom be met, and asked if she could tell him the way to Washington Square. She said she was going there herself and would show him the way He politely offered her his arm, which sho took. She also took his watch and purse, as he discovered some half an hour after he bade ber good evening.

In Wetzeargrun, a small village of Saxony, a wine-merchant, with his wife, children and servants, eleven persons in all, were murdered one night not long ago, and all the goods in the store, and even two heavy counters covered with zinc, were removed, without any one's suspicions being aroused, although the establish-ment was situated in the most densely populated part of A MARRIED woman apparently died very sud-A MARKIED would be a solution of the same day, by her husband's orders, notwithstanding the re-monstrances of friends. She was soon dug up again, bowever, and in a few hours was resuscitated as arrested, but it is doubtful if any crime can be proved against him A young man boarding in Thompson street having got behind in his promised weekly payments, stole his landlady's jewelry, worth some fifty dollars, and de-camped. He was soon caught, however, by the police, with pawn-tickets for the jewelry on his person. He will now probably be permitted to enter an institution whose mates are allowed to work for their board.

1. Kt. to 2. Q: to 3. Q. to ]

WEITE. 4. P. to 5. P to 6. K B. 7 Q. Kt. 8. Q. Kt.

17. K. to 18. P. to

16. Q. B. to Q. Kt. fourth 17. K. B. takes Q. B. 17. K. B. takes Q. B. 18. guite clear that if White does not capture the queen's bishop. Black remains with a vasily better position). 17. Q. to K. fith (cb) 18. B. to K. third (best) 18. B. to Q. B. fourth, etc.

Disnop, Black remains with a vasity better position.
18. B. to K. third (best) 17. Q. to K. fifth (cb)
18. B. to Q. B. fourth, etc.
and Black must win.
(e). This, like his adversary's fourteenth move, must have been played without consideration. I.5. Q. takes Q. P. (cb), would have given him a winning advantage at once.
(f). This considerably weakens White's game on the king's side ; to it may be ascribed the loss of the contest.
(g). Black would have gained nothing by 22. R. takes KL, as White, in that case, would have replied with 23. B. takes B.
(h). Fatal, but the first player's situation, in any case, is anything but enviable.

their saddles, upon the ground, while their untethered horses cropped the juicy herbage by the road side.

Not ten paces from where I had dismounted from my Mexican half breed, my eye fell upon a bright gleam of water, issuing from a rocky edge; and untying my tin cup from my saddle I moved towards the inviting spring, leaving my horse, standing in the midst of the others, weary, as I supposed, to budge from his tracks unless urged by the spur. But scarcely had 1 "whoa! whoa!—stop that horse!" and looking over my shoulder I had the mortification o seeing my little gray dashing out of the crowd, and flying like an Arab courser along the stony while a number of the Rangers were spuring rapidly after him. In an instant the treacherous animal, that a moment before could scarce lift his feet from the ground, from pretended fatigue, was lost to sight in the dist

Springing into the empty saddle of the Lieu tenant of the party, I hastened after the runa way, and soon met the Rangers returning with out him. They had followed him into the chaparral, till he had eluded their sight; still Aying, as they said, at the top of his speed bearing off a valuable saddle, my holster pistols and sabre attached to the pommel, together with my india rubber cloth, camping blankets, and all my marching gear; for Rangers, on : scout, convey with them on the animals they ride, all they require at their night bivouacs

I refer to this incident, as the chase I had after my vicious mustang, led me into an adventure which I little dreamed of, when I rode so hurriedly away from my comrades. Telling the were returning from following the Rangers, who runaway, that I would rejoin them at Ramos, deserted village, but a few miles ahead of where we had halted, I kept on the trail of my horse into the chaparral. For some time I continued to follow his tracks along a gravelly trail, by the deep indentations of his rough shoes. He was evidently flying along at a rapid rate, which I knew he could not keep up long. I cared less about the capricious little stallion, than I did for saddle and arms, which could not be so readily replaced as a horse. I therefore followed on his trail with the hope of recovering those articles. I had already concluded, if I could get within shooting distance, to give him the benefit of one of the Lieutenant's holster pistols; and recovering my rigging, leave his car to the coyotes

With this intention, I kept on, till crossing a deep gully at the foot of a beetling cliff, I lost the trail: and then concluded to give up the chase; and by striking the road again, my comrades at Ramos, as agreed. But after many fruitless attempts to regain the road, I had t oonfess to myself, the mortifying fact, There that I was really lost in the chaparral. was now but one course left to me, which was to enter the first well beaten path I might encounter, and pursue it, till it terminated some -if it should lead me,-as in all probawhere -bility it would, a three day's journey among the broken gullies, or rancholess savannas.

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complexioned gentlemen would be deprived of our society."

"I reckon," was his significant rejoinder. 'But mum is the word, my dear fellow. Please bear in mind that neither of us either speak or understand the language of our captors. I have already learned some of their plans, and both of us together will soon learn them all.'

"But, Charlie," said I, "tell me how it is that I find you among these chaparral wolves; for I left you and the boys all right when that confounded mustang gave me the slip, like a genu-ine, treacherous Mexican as he is."

" That I can do in a few words," he answered, with the characteristic light-heartedness that had always made him a favorite amongst his "When I saw you take possession of Rangers. my brave Jacinto, and dash off at ' double quick, without ever saying so much as 'If you please, Lieutenant,'I knew I had nothing to do but foot it on to Ramos, where, I had no doubt, you would reioin us, according to promise, instead of wandering off here, among this interesting company. The boys offered me their own horses to ride, but as I was already saddle weary, I preferred to foot it the short distance we had to go to reach our mid day halting place : and directing them to ride ahead, that I might not be molested by their dust. I sauntered along leisurely, frequently turning aside into the chaparral to examine some new plant, or pluck a rare flower. I had almost reached the ford at Ramos, when some of these fellows, who, it seems, were secreted in the thickets, watching the road for stragglers, sprang out upon me, and, before I could draw my revolver, had me down and disarmed; and being about half a league from their camp here, I was brought in a prisoner. Now, Doctor, as two heads are better than one, let us watch these cut-throats awhile, and learn their intentions; and then arrange some plan for an escape. I have no doubt, as soon as my brave Rangers miss me, they will scour the country for me. I have learned enough to satisfy me that the guerillas are waiting for their main gang, to join them in an attack upon an up-coming train; and now, as you understand their language better than I do, perhaps we can learn all they intend to do."

I agreed to enter into the lieutenant's arrangements; and, giving up my horse and revolvers to the guerillas, pretended to submit without a murmur to them; and, joining my comrade, seated myself on the ground, awaiting their further pleasure with me.

The officer in charge of the party, who, bythe-by, seemed to be a decent sort of a fellow enough for a guerilla, attempted to enter into conversation with me; but following the hint of the Texan, I invariably met his approaches with the words, "no intendy," (no entendo—I do not understand,) till the fellow turned away with an impatient expression of disgust at the ignorant barbarians who could not comprehend a Christian language.

not only with approbation, but even with exultation. Our blood was yet warm with the memory of the bloody massacre of that heavy train, not two leagues from that very

where upwards of a hundred unarmod teamsters were murdered and mutilated,-perhaps by these very men now before us, and their fiendish comrades; and this, with the fate that might be intended for the coming train, nerved our arms to the bloody deed. The particulars of that brief, wordless struggle, are too revolting to relate. Suffice it, we were successful;-two ensanguined corpses were found stretched by the ashes of the extinguished camp fire when the light of day returned. With cautious steps we reached the spot where were reposing the leader of the guerilla party and his comrades, in whose belts were secured our revolvers. Again our knives came in use, but not now for a bloody purpose, but to cut the eathern straps that confined our weapons; in another instant we had selected two of the fleetest horses in the camp, and catching at the first saddle that came to hand, I happened to disturb a sleeper who had chosen it for a pillow. The fellow leaped to his feet; but before he could alarm the camp, a blow from the muzzle of my pistol silenced him forever. The saddle seat was dabbled with his brains; but without regarding his dying struggles, I threw it upon the animal, and cutting the lariet leaped to the seat. But, unfortunately, as my comrade was mounting, his revolver, which he had placed carelessly in his bosom, dropped upon the stony ground, and a barrel of it exploded. Quick as their serapis, leaped to their feet; and now commenced a scene of confusion which it is the frightful ones choose for theirs the cradle impossible to describe.

During this sudden excitement we buried our spurs into the flanks of our impatient horses, and leaping the narrow stream, dashed headlong through the aroused camp, amidst a shower escopet balls, accompanied with many Mexican curse; all of which, however, fell harmlessly about us; and before the astonished greasers could saddle up to pursue us, we were a good mile on the way through the chaparral owards Ramos

Here we found our comrades, who had spent the previous day in an anxious search for their ieutenant and myself. Partaking of a hasty breakfast, we were soon again on the road; and that night encamped with the train, at Papa Gallios, near which place the next morning we had the satisfaction of meeting our guerilla acquaintances of the chaparral and defeating their intentions towards our friends.

Among the dead guerillas I recognized their captain, and the leader of the chaparral party, who, with some twenty of their cut-throat comrades, became food for the coyotes.

On reaching Monterey, the lieutenant and myself were honored by an invitation from the good old General, to report ourselves at headquarters, where we were congratulated on our intentions with regard to us, as well as their contemplated attack of our wagon train. We the bloody massacre of the previous spring. fortunate escape from the guerillas; and received the especial thanks of the Commander for our

#### CHILDREN'S JOYS AND SORROWS.

I can endure a melancholy man, but not a melancholy child: the former, in whatever slough he may sink, can raise his eyes either to the kingdom of reason or of hope; but the little child is entirely absorbed and weighed down by one black poison-drop of the present. Think of a child led to the scaffold; think of Cupid in a Dutch coffin; or watch a butterfly.

after its four wings have been torn off, creeping like a worm, and you will feel what I mean. But wherefore? The first has been already given; the child, like the beast, only knows purest. though shortest sorrow; one which has no past and no future; one such as the sick man receives from without, the dreamer from himself into his asthenic brain; finally, one with the consciousness not of guilt, but of innocence. Certainly all the sorrows of children are but shortest nights, as their joys are but hottest days; and, indeed, both so much so, that in the latter, often clouded and starless time of life, the matured man only longingly remembers his old childhood's pleasures, while he seems altogether to have forgotten his childhood's grief. This weak remembrance is strange ly contrasted with the opposing one in dreams and fevers, in this respect, that in the two last it is always the cruel sorrows of childhood which return; the dream, this mock-sun of childhoodand the fever, its distorting glass-both draw forth from dark corners the fears of defenceless childhood, which press and cut with iron fangs thought a dozen fierce guerillas, throwing off into the prostrate soul. The fair scenes of dreams mostly play on an after-stage, whereas

> and the nursery. Moreover, in fever, the ice hands of the fear of ghosts, the striking one of the teachers and parents, and every claw with which fate has pressed the young heart, stretch themselves out to catch the wandering man. Parents, consider then, that every childhood's Rupert-the name given in Germany to the fictitious being employed to frighten children into obedience-even though it has lain chained for tens of years, yet breaks loose and gains mastery over the man so soon as it finds him on a sick bed. The first fright is more dangerous the sooner it happens; as the man grows older, he is less and less easily frightened; the little cradle or bed-canopy of the child is more easily quite darkened than the starry heaven of the

man.

THE LANDSMAN AND THE SEAMAN .--- Man scarce ly affords a wider range for development in his intellectual than in his physical nature. There is hardly a wider moral difference between the mature philosopher and the school-boy than exists physically between the town-bred, lounging dandy, and the seaman, inured to effort hardship, and danger from his childhood: the former suffers acutely from a scratch or bruise, the latter seems almost insensible to any ex-

A DISCONTENTED couple who had become tired of each other's society voluntarily separated, with an agreement that each might marry again without molesta-tion from the other. They both did marry again within a fortnight, and being informed against by some enemy, they were both arrested for bigamy and sent to prison.

An Italian named Ninetti a few evenings since stabled a journeyman printer who was returning home from his work, because the latter did not reply to a ques addressed to him in the Italian language, which course he did not understand. A summary mode this of exacting politeness

A NUMBER of imposters are going about this city and Brooklyn, with forged testimonials of good char-acter from physicians, clergymen, and distinguished citi-zens, soliciting pecuniary aid. They tell plausible and pitiful stories, and do a good business. Look out for them.

A course of physicians attached to the Charity Hospital, New Orleans, recently got into a quarrel, owing to professional jealousy, and drawing their pistois comced firing at each other and continued to exchange hots until one of them fell, dangerously wounded.

A. FAMILY of nine persons was recently poi-soned in this city, with arsenic that had become mixed with the contents of the sugar bowl. By timely medical aid, the lives of all but two were saved.

An aged man was beaten to death by rowdy boys, in Baxter street, near the Five Points, a few even-ings since. The victim's ribs were broken and his breast one was crushed in.

An old man, named Knapp, a few days ago fell down the hatchway of a vessel lying at Jersey City, and striking ou his head was so badly injured that he died in a short time.

A rew mornings since, a young man who was walking along Chambers street fell dead upon the pave-ment. Apoplexy was pronounced to be the cause.

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"FROM DAWN TO DATLIGHT, or, *The Simple Story of a* Western Home; by a Minister's Wife."—It is not often that we call attention to new books in the LEDGER; but this is a work of such peculiar interest that we must de-viate from our rule. We're the name of the author given to the public, we think the work would make a decided sensation. This much, however, we will say of her, that her husband is one of the most distinguished and popular clergymen in the country, so much so indeed that you can scarcely pick up a newspaper in which you do not find his name. The book is one which, as a contemporary re-marks, will make the reader the better for the reading, while at the same time it abounds in entertaining sketches of experiences and scenes which must interest the general reader. Do not fail to read it. Derby & Jackson, of 119 Nassau streed, are the publishers. If you cannot procure reader. Do not fail to read w. Deroy & Jackson, of IIb Nassau street, are the publishers. If you cannot procure it at some convenient book-store, enclose one dollar in a letter to the publishers, and they will forward it to you free of postage.