

For the Christian Messenger. The Last Flower.

Thou sole survivor of the garden bowers, Last of the summer's gaily blooming flowers;

Through bright and golden hours they bloomed with thee, Thy mingled charms, how beautiful to see,

Gemmed with the sparkling dews, the flowers stood In graceful groups, none then knew solitude.

Each passing zephyr caught the fragrance rare; Like incense sweet in golden censers burned,

But Phoebus marching with increasing rays, The zenith reached, his fierce meridian blaze

When gentle dews like sweet refreshing showers Restored the vigor of the drooping flowers.

Some opened still, as though they feared to lose The restorative powers of the dews;

Thus, month by month, thy beauties charmed our eyes; Earth's stars, as stars are blossoms of the skies;

But Autumn's glitt'ring sword, unsparing frost, At last hath from the boreal regions crossed,

Now, as the last one of a family band, Who watched the loved ones pass the golden strand,

And not in vain: I gladly raise my hand To pluck the remnant of the beautiful band.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger. "Rock of Ages."

To the Editor of the Christian Messenger: Sir,—When I first read Mr. Rand's Latin version of "Rock of Ages," I had not time to examine it carefully, and in my notice of the production addressed to the Messenger, I had my memory only to rely on as a guide to my remarks.

One or two grammatical errors need not be specified, as Mr. R. is acquainted with English. They must have been "lapses pennis," as I before supposed was the case with the transmutation of the "Trimeter" into "Dimeter."

But to return to Mr. R's diagnosis of his own verses. "They consist," he says, "of three Trochees and a Cæsura."

The meaning of Cæsura is at once determined by the derivation of the word, which is from the Supine Cæsura, signifying to cut or divide. As used in Grammar, it is the division of a verse into two parts of equal or unequal lengths; or it is the division of a word, occasioned by the completion of a foot or measure, occurring among its syllables.

Mr. R. says of his verse that it is "Trochaic," and that "each line consists of three Trochees." I omit the additional syllable, as it will have no bearing upon the remarks I design to make. As there are six verses in each of the stanzas, if each verse answered to Mr. R's description, we should have the product of six by three, as the number of Trochees in a stanza.

I may be reminded that irregularities of the kind are to be met with in the best Latin poets. It is doubtless so, as every classical scholar will admit. Still the indulgence is not often asked, and as a rule one may read page after page and not encounter an example.

Wolfville, Jan. 25, 1879. C. D. R.

For the Christian Messenger. Woman to the Rescue of Woman.

Crusading women is the most popular style of warfare at present; not new, for it has raged since time immemorial. This crusade first originated in an innate love for supremacy (which prompted even the disciples to say indignantly, "Send her away,")

And as the captive prince wondered that Rome, possessed of so much grandeur, should envy him an humble cottage; so it is surprising, that brethren who have every privilege in the Church, should wish to dispossess their sisters of a portion of theirs.

If our Divine Master were here personally, our advocate and apologist, he would say to such, "Let her alone! Why trouble ye the women?" It is generally supposed that "Woman should die and make no sign." But there is a limit to the forbearance of even women, and that is, when her blood-bought privileges are assailed.

According to this method of interpretation we will single out a passage. For

example, look at the injunction in Matt. vi. 5, 6, and prove from it that the brethren should keep silence in the church: Remember, sirs, that your prayers are to be limited to the closet? We will refer your questioner to one of our articles of Faith and Practice. Part 2nd. "A particular visible Church of Christ, is a number of his Saints by mutual acquaintance and communion, voluntarily and understandingly, covenanting, and embodying together, to show forth his declarative glory, and for their own edification."

Could any critical mind infer from this that women have inferior privileges? No, not unless they can prove that women are not Saints.

And as to the reception of members, the church says through its pastor, I present you with the right hand of fellowship, and bid you my brother, or my sister, a cordial welcome to all the privileges of the Christian church.

All the literati in Christendom could not detect the slightest shade of difference in the welcome, or dream of their being any or, perhaps, it is only complimentary when addressed to women. It might do for a person to append a few words at the end of a letter, which meant any thing or nothing; but it would be awfully irreverent to trifle with sacred matters.

It would startle any one to hear a Baptist minister say, I baptize you, and then sprinkle a few drops of water on the head of the candidate; but would it be any more inconsistent, than for a church, after according full privilege to the sisters, to withhold part of them.

If the formula addressed to us were, "I welcome you my Sister to a subordinate position, and whatever privileges the Brethren may think proper to assign you, and all the drudgery &c." This would meet the case and stop all controversy.

No, we recognize no supremacy, but Christ, who is our Head. We are his body, and we have as much right to dictate, as they. Probably the next question will be, "Have women any right to come to the Lord's table?"

But your correspondent wishes to relieve us from these dry and critical business meetings, out of pure kindness. Probably that is one of the stratagems of warfare, though it sounds very considerate. But how is it if there is any drudgery to be done, any funds wanted, to build or repair a chapel, for instance, then there is a loud call for woman; and first she must beg from door to door, then for six months or a year concentrate all her mental and bodily powers in fabricating useful and ornamental articles, and afterwards make a martyr of herself by standing behind a table all day bantering for a sale.

Why don't some of these chivalric brothers come forth to shield their gentle sisters from the indignities of these purely business meetings. Possibly it never occurred to them that it might be rather unbecoming to sensitive minds, as an authoress has well remarked: "Once woman had the high office of deaconess in the Church, now the only office she holds is that of a beggar. And if the usages of the Church have hitherto been to ill use women, it is quite time they were amended; and would it not be well to cease trying to raise our heathen sisters until our own church status is permanently established? As an illustration of some of these usages, we refer you to a remarkable case of church discipline, which occurred in one of the churches, and which came near proving fatal to that church. It would take the tongue of Cicero to give all the details of those extraordinary meetings, held in connection. We will mention only one circumstance: A number of women appeared as witnesses in this case; they gave in their evidence, plain, positive statements that would have been taken in any court of justice; but, Mr. Editor, will you believe that the respectable women, active members of the church, that their testimony was not received. Part of the church were not allowed to speak or vote, other novices did not know their own minds, others were too cowardly to vote, and so the officers of the church succeeded in passing a unanimous vote that this was no evidence. And this was no dry meeting either, for those women left the house weeping at the injustice done them.

When slavery reigned in the United States they would not take a slave's evidence in Court, because the Supreme

Court had decided that they were only goods and chattels. "Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon," that these Christian sisters were no better treated than the downtrodden slave.

If, Mr. Editor, we have no redress in the church, we are thankful that we can speak out through the press, and you, sir, merit our lasting gratitude for taking the unpopular side.

If this despotism is to be perpetuated, we can return good for evil, and as they have deprived us of one privilege, we will relinquish another for their sake, and here record our resolution:

Whereas, Our brethren, joint members with us in the Church of Christ, in the plenitude of their wisdom, have thought proper to deprive us of the privilege of speaking and voting on business matters, and other privileges, calling themselves the church,

Therefore Resolved, That in accordance with Matt. v. 39, 40, we will give them the exclusive privilege of settling all church bills, viz., paying the pastor, building chapels and colleges, &c., &c. And now, having given them our coat and cloak, and hoping they will appreciate our magnanimity, and thanking you for the space afforded us,

We subscribe ourselves, THE WOMEN.

For the Christian Messenger. United States Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 13, 1879.

The most impressive scene that has occurred at the Capital for years took place last week when the funeral obsequies of Congressman Hartridge, who died in this city on Wednesday last, were observed.

When Congress opened on Tuesday, after the holidays, there was a very small attendance, the members appearing in no haste to begin work again.

The official reports relative to our trade with South America have been published, and the subject is so important that I make the following extracts: The following figures show the amount of general imports and exports of Brazil from 1870-71 to 1875-76:

Table with 2 columns: Imports and Exports. Values range from \$471,570,859.50 to \$48,553,555.00.

The foregoing statement shows the mere nothingness of United States exports to Brazil, while the imports from that country indicate that we are the purchasers of more than one-half of her entire exports. Instead of paying for the same in products of our own, we are compelled to send our gold coin to Europe in payment for Brazilian produce, and with that gold the supplies of Brazil are purchased, every article of which could and should go from our own country and be of our own production. And why is this? Simply because of the superior commercial and postal facilities furnished by the European governments. There are at the present time nine regularly established steamship lines between Europe and South America, and all are receiving compensation under long contracts for carrying the mails, amounting to five or six million dollars annually from each government, while the trade of the United States until last year had no direct steam communication, and the new line now in operation, and which has developed a good deal of valuable trade, has not the aid even of a postal contract from our Government. A late report contains extracts of Brazilian trade statistics, showing the percentage of imports from and exports to other countries, as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Country, Imp., Exp. Values range from 5.21 to 45.30.

And while the Brazilian trade with Great Britain has been all the time increasing, that with the United States has suffered in proportion.

Let us see what articles Brazil imports, and what proportion is derived from the United States. Among the imports for one year were the following:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Value. Items include Boots and shoes, Cod and other fish, Butter, Cheese, Flour, Straw hats, Coal, Earthenware, Iron and steel, Iron and steel rails, Other manufactures of iron and steel, Agricultural implements, machinery, etc., Cotton, Cotton fabrics and clothing, Paper for printing, writing, walls, etc., Wool, woolen fabrics, clothing, etc.

Thus of the products and manufactures which we can supply most cheaply and plentifully, Brazil buys most largely in Europe, simply because of the great superiority of commercial facilities.

Congress will be asked to do something to maintain our present American line of steamships, and to extend our commercial facilities elsewhere.

Since the country was so startled and alarmed by the long siege of yellow fever endured in the South, last summer, medical men and an appointed Commission have been investigating the causes and possible preventatives of the dread disease, and among other points upon which they agree is one to the effect that the fever germs are not wholly destroyed and that if unwanted measures are not adopted the disease will reappear early next summer, in which case a long run would be a certainty, involving the direst distress throughout our land. Hence it is not deemed sufficient that local safeguards should be provided, but some method must be taken whereby the importation of the fever may be prevented, as the bringing in of such germs of disease to communities already infected would act like fire-brands. A process of disinfection invented by Prof. Gamgee, of London, (who is now in this city), has been engaging the attention of scientific men, and the inventor having been invited to this country to explain it, the decision has been made to give it a trial, and accordingly Surgeon Genl. Woodworth, of the Navy, has suggested that a model for a vessel be perfected to put it in practice, and the Engineer of the Navy is now engaged upon such a model. By means of a steamship or barge fitted up with Prof. Gamgee's appliances, it is said any incoming vessel can be purified at a safe distance from shore and the fever germs destroyed, thus doing away with the risks and discomforts of quarantine. The process consists of sending streams of cold air to every part of the infected ship by means of an ice machine, and of pumping out and washing the bilge with some antiseptic. The Yellow Fever Commission purpose recommending to Congress an appropriation sufficient to construct at least one or two such refrigerating vessels to be stationed at the most exposed points of our coast, and no opposition to such appropriation is anticipated.

From London.

(From our correspondent.) TRADE AND LABOR IN GREAT BRITAIN—EVERYWHERE—NEW CAUSES FOR THE WIDESPREAD DISTRESS—ENGLISH EXPORTS AND IMPORTS, &c., &c.

LONDON, ENG., Jan. 14, 1879:

Before Christmas, when the ice-bound land was hard as iron, and many industries were frozen at their source, the villagers in the hunting counties heard the foxes barking in the woods, and at the sound of that unusual discord they said, "It will be a terribly long and severe winter." But when, on Christmas morning, the hard earth softened and the grass began to peep from under the snow, those self-same rustics despised the foxes' warning. But there is great agitation just now in the various workshops and manufacturing of the country on the subject of wages. The depression that has overtaken every branch of trade and all classes of laboring industry, has forced upon employers the necessity of reviewing their position. Long continued, and without any prospect of early revival, their perplexities have been seriously complicated by the suicidal conduct of their men. Union in every trade, strikes in all the centres of population, confederations of the different branches of the order of labor, abetting each other in common warfare against the freedom of action of employers, have been met by concession in place of firm resistance. The Legislature and Government have, by factory acts, restrictions in the hours, the sex, and age of laborers, the entire removal of combination laws, and introduction of the principle of the liability of masters for injuries sustained by their men, aggravated difficulties already sufficiently formidable. In the absence of all protection from without, it has become apparent that "captains of industry," if they would recover their position, must assert their own rights, and stand by one another, not merely