# THE DISPATCH.

The Well Meaning Woman.

BY CHRISTINE TERHUNE HERRICK.

Every one knows the woman who means well. It would be a joy to us if she meant worse and did better.

The well-meaning woman always tells you something is wrong when it is too late to help it or when circumstances forbid that the wrong should be righted at the time. She finds her opportunity on the street, when she comes joyously out of her way to tell you that there is a rip in the back of your waist or that your coat-sleeve is pulled out from

Have you a Backache? If you have it the shoulder. The fact that the damage cannot be remedied then and there cuts no figure with her. The well-meaning person never gives herself the pain of reflecting that, since the break cannot be repaired until you can go home and take off the injured garment it might be as well to leave you in the

ignorance that is bliss. The well-meaning woman finds a field of usefulness in a church organization or a club.

She can always tell you how much better this or that could have been done-after the business has been concluded. In the domestic circle she is a prodigal of advice, and gentle correction. She it is who tells you how much more wisely matters are managed in the other schools than in the one your children attend. She is the first to bear you the glad tidings of contagious disease in the neighborhood when you cannot leave home. When the well-meaning woman comes to you for a visit she makes herself popular by instruction as to how your servants could be better directed. She has a fund of incident and illustration at her command. The servants are not especially pleased to have her in the house, even although she often extends to them her sympathies and points out to them how much easier life would be for

them if the work or the house were differently arranged.

It is the well-meaning friend who reports to you this or that naughtiness your children were guilty of when the occurrence is on the way to be ancient history, and who recalls certain youthful peccadilloes of your hus-

### Two Stories of the Civil War. (Washington 'Post.')

Two interesting wartime stories were told yesterday by Senator Bacon, of Georgia. One of them concerned Senator Pettus, of Alabama, who, as everybody knows, was a

gallant officer in the Confederate army. In one of the battles before Vicksburg, Senator Pettus, then a colonel, was captured and carried as a prisoner before Gen. Grant. 'Colonel,' said Grant, when the prisoner was brought before him, 'what are those troops out in front of me?'

'General,' replied Pettus, 'I must decline to answer that question."

General Grant looked him in the eye for a moment. 'You are right,' colonel,' he said. Then turning to an officer near by, Grant said, 'Take this gentleman to the rear and treat him kindly.'

Senator Pettus has never forgotten that nterview with General Grant.

The other story illustrates the same nobility of feeling in General Robt. E. Lee, the commander of the Confederate forces.

It was at the close of the battle of Gettysburg. As General Lee rode from the field he came upon a young Union soldier, a mere boy, lying on the grass wounded. The boy, though painfully hurt and unable to rise, had a spirit not to be quenched. As he recognized the Confederate uniform he raised himself upon his elbow, 'Hurrah for the Union, he cried defiantly though with feeble voice. General Lee got down from his horse, went over to the boy and laid his hand tenderly on his head. 'I hope, my son,' he said, "that you are not much hurt, and that you will oon be well.'

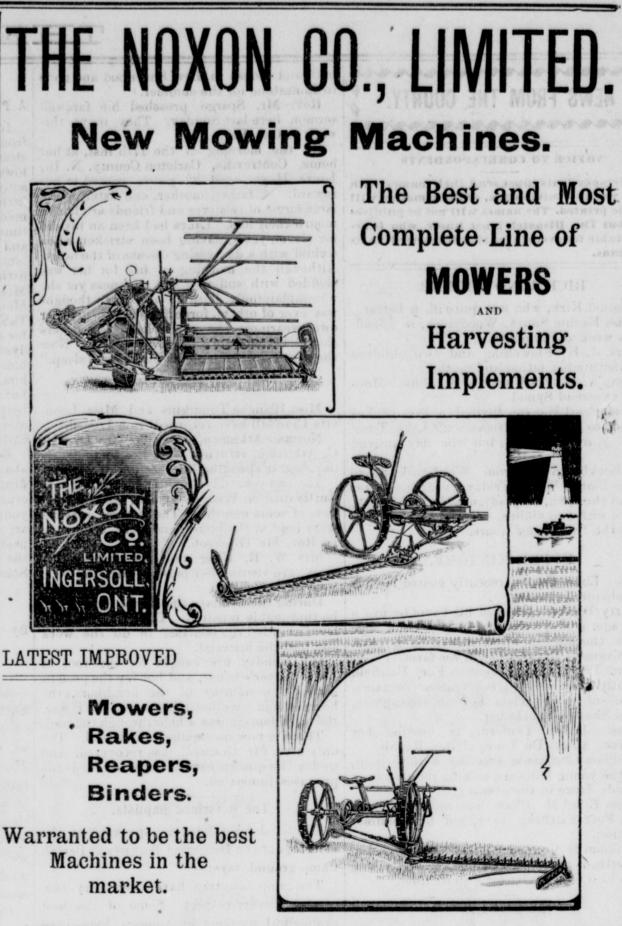
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#### Rival Reporters.

A reporter-we will call him Brown-belonging to a daily journal in a well known of a colony who had slipped into this coun- B. and D. S. JONES, BRISTOL, N. B. try on a secret political mission. But, to his great annoyance, Brown learned that Robinson, the smartest reporter on the staff of a rival organ, had also become aware of the Governor's visit. Brown, however, soon decided what to do. He sent up a card bearing Robinson's name, and was immediately admitted. When he had gleaned from the Governor all he wanted, he asked with premedicated impudence whether the information was really true. As might be imagined, the insulted official was wroth.



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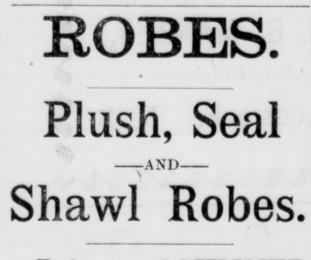
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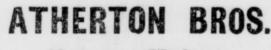
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position. The well meaning woman is usually strong

on reminiscence, and those who know her break into cold perspiration when she falls into a mood of recollection. One of the women whose memory is a curse to any community was talking to a friend the other day. She went back twenty-five years.

"I remember perfectly the first time I met vou," she said. "You had on a green and white silk dress."

"It was a pretty dress," agreed the wellmeaning friend. "But it was always too scant in the skirt. I noticed that the first moment I saw it, and thought it was such a pity."

The victim of plain-speaking winced a little "What is the use of telling me that now? she asked rather tartly.

The well-meaning woman looked surprised and grieved. "Why I thought you would like to know," she said.

And then the sufferer prayed that she might always fall into the hands of ill meaning persons so that she could guess at what was coming and be prepared.

## An Aching Back

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#### The Woes of Jane.

A dear little boy whose winter home is in the Oranges in New Jersey, and whose summer home is at Glen Summit, Pa., but whose identity shall not be further disclosed, at tended a dame school last winter and, on an occasion when visitors were announced, took part in exercises in their honor. The exercises comprised recitations by the brighter children, and among them this dear little boy was called on. He recited in perfectly good faith the following, which he had learned or caught from an indulgent nurse with semi-poetical instinct:-

Jane ate cake and Jane ate jelley, Jane went to bed with a pain in her — Now don't get excited, Don't be misled,

For what Jane had was a pain in her head. When the youngster told of this to his entirely surprised and somewhat shocked parents they asked him, "What did the teacher say?" He replied, "She said nothing. She just turned around and looked out of the window, but the scholars and the visitors wanted me to say it again."-Brooklyn Eagle.

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"Do you question my word?" he angrily demanded.

"On, don't get excited!" replied Brown with the utmost nonchalence, "Common Governors are not entitled to much credenc. in our office."

"You insolent scoundrel !" yelled the old man, nearly foaming at the mouth. "Get out of my rooms or I'll kick you out !"

Now, such an outburst was exactly what Brown wanted and he went. Presently Brown's rival, Robinson, ap-

peared. "Here, boy." said he, with a large air, "take my card up to the Governor." When the old man read the name on the

pasteboard he nearly expired. "Infamous ! Infamous!" he spluttered. "I

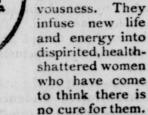
never heard of such effrontery in all my days. Tell that miscreant if he or anybody else from his abominable rag comes near me, I'll mark them for life !'

The message was duly conveyed to Robinson, who departed raving. The following morning Brown's paper contained a capital interview with the Governor, but Robinson's paper had not a scrap of information.



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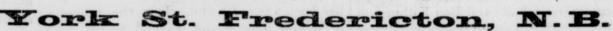
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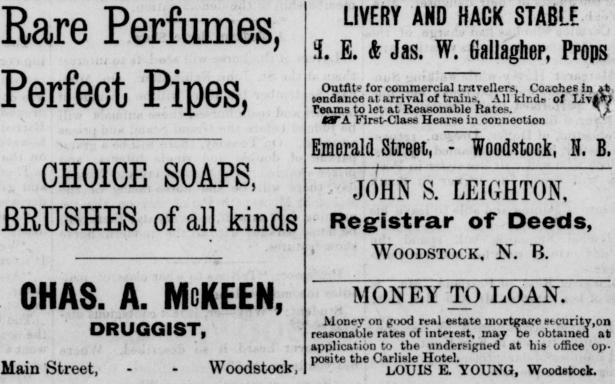


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