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Tired Mothers.

A little elbow leans upon your knee—
Your tired knee that has so much to bear;
A child's dear eyes are looking lovingly
From underneath a thatch of tangled hair.
Perhaps you do not heed the velvet touch
Of warm, moist fingers holding yours so tight!
You do not prize the blowing overmuch—
You almost are too tired to pray to-night.
But it is blessedness! A year ago
I did not see it! I do to-day—
We are all so dull and thankful, and too slow
To catch the sunshine till it slips away.
And now it seems surprising strange to me
That while I wore the badge of motherhood,
I did not kiss more oft and tenderly
The little child that brought me only good.
And if some night, when you sit down to rest,
You miss the elbow from your tired knee;
This restless curly head from off your breast:
This lying tongue that chatters constantly;
If from your own dimpled hands had slipped,
And ne'er would nestle in your palm again,
If the white feet into the grave had tripped—
I could not blame you for your heart-ache then.
I wonder so that mothers ever fret
At their little children clinging to their gown;
Or that the footprints, when the days are wet,
Are ever black enough to make them frown.
If I could find a little muddy boot,
Or cap, or jacket, on my chamber floor—
If I could kiss a rosy, restless foot,
And hear it patter in my house once more;
If I could mend a broken cart to-day,
To-morrow make a kite to reach the sky—
There is no woman in God's world could say
She was more blissfully content than I!
But, ah, the dainty pillow next my own
Is never comforted by a shining head:
My singing birdling from its nest has flown—
The little boy I used to kiss—is dead.

Our Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 2, 1878.
The beginning of another autumn finds Wash-
ington in a more than ordinarily good sanitary
condition, and our exemption thus far from a
single case of yellow fever is a source of great
satisfaction. The terror with which its march
up the Mississippi has inspired thousands, is
lifted little by little as we near the cool nights
that will bring with them a certain antidote
against the extension here of the infection. But
the terrible details sent up every hour from the
South have moved the great heart of this com-
munity, as the tales of burning cities never did.
No great calamity has ever called out such al-
most uniform manifestations of sympathy, and
few are found unwilling to contribute gener-
ously in proportion to their means. The bitterness
engendered by political strife is forgotten in
the dread presence of this relentless destroyer,
at whose touch whole towns melt away. The
noble response of the North and West, and of
Southern communities not included in the area
of this terrible visitation, prove that sectional
prejudices and feuds, based on partisan differ-
ences, are little more than skin deep among the
great mass of intelligent American citizens, that
the law of humanity—of a common brother-
hood—is as high above such petty considera-
tions as the heavens are above the earth; and
it sweeps away the accumulated hatreds and
resentments of decades like chaff, when its cur-
rent is stimulated by such appeals as those com-
ing up from decimated cities of the lower Mis-
sissippi.

The feeling here is that the International Sil-
ver Congress was a failure so far as the adop-
tion of the double standard is concerned. Al-
though our representatives are said to have la-
bored assiduously to that end, weight of opin-
ion seems to have been against the practicabil-
ity of any such consummation at present; and
the prospect of any returns from the money
spent in giving several gentlemen a pleasant
trip to Paris, seems rather remote. But reports
that American exhibitors at the Exposition
there are taking more than their share of awards
and diplomas may prove a partial compensation
to those disappointed at the outcome of the Sil-
ver Congress.

Butler's denial of any knowledge of the Sher-
man-Anderson letter has served to dispirit an-
geline Democrats who had been so much elated
by previous reports to the effect that he had
seen it, and that it would be sprung on the
public just before the November elections, in-
suring a Republican stampede and a Democratic
coup d'etat.

Kearney has come and gone. His coming
excited no rejoicing, his going no grief. Ex-
cepting the call of Cohen, and a few of his vag-
abond gang, he was left undisturbed at his
hotel and he and his "private secretary" found
no impediment to locomotion by the crowds at-
tending him on the streets. It was, in short,
anything but the triumphal entry into the city
of the deliverer of its toiling masses. Reputa-
ble people of all classes appeared intent on let-
ting him severally alone. The various labor or-
ganizations seemed to wholly ignore him, and
he gained only such distinctions in this way as
Cohen and a few of his rag muffled disciples
could confer. He went early to call at the
White House, and on such members of the Cab-
inet as were in town and was civilly entertained
for a few moments at each place, then withdrew.
He took advantage of the opportunity offered
while looking over the stacks of currency Uncle
Sam has stored away in the Treasury vaults for
a rainy day, to inspect some of his peculiar

financial views to the clerks detailed to pilot
him about. But they had no difficulty in con-
triverting them with good sound doctrine. He
found himself so quietly floored that he gave
up the attempt to debauch Mr. Sherman's
"lecherous, bond-holding" assistant pimps as a
bad job, evidently thinking his audience were
of those given over to believe a lie. His speech
was simply a rebash of the old one he has re-
peated so many times since he left his sand lot
admirers.

MAXWELL.

Gentleman.

Who is meant? What does that word mean?
In the fifth century, among the Barbarians,
the soldiers and conquerors of the Roman Em-
pire, were the gentlemen. From the age of
Charlemagne to the Crusades, the gentlemen
were those who served in the army, on horse-
back, and were invested with the character of
knighthood. In Great Britain those who hold
military rank, the members of Parliament and
titled persons are called gentlemen. The yeo-
manry, what we call freeholders, are not honor-
ed with the name of gentleman. Thus in an-
cient times, and at present, in England, the
word has an aristocratic distinction and restric-
tion. Something of this flavor is given the
word in America; we speak of one who is re-
tired on wealth and lives at his ease, as "a gen-
tleman." But commonly the word is used sim-
ply for a male person. We speak of "a gen-
tleman attendant," "a gentleman singer," "a
gentleman usher," &c. While in another coun-
try, a few persons without regard to character
are called gentlemen, in this country we persist
in calling all men, without regard to behavior,
position or character, gentlemen. We are doubt-
less to free in its use. It is given and assumed
by those who do not deserve, illustrate or bear
it with honor. The word does mean more than
a male person, or one of earthly distinction.—
It has some reference to character and behavior.

If we wish to compliment a boy for his good
behavior we say "you are a little gentleman." When
we wish to insure the confidence of another we
say, "I promise you on the word of a gen-
tleman." We say of one who is notorious, y
rude and vulgar, "he is no gentleman," and of
one that is quiet and attentive in a public gath-
ering, "he behaved himself like a gentleman." When
in a political discussion your neighbor
flows into a passion, denounced you with curses
as a traitor, and made you feel the knock-ahead
argument of his right boot, he was no gen-
tleman; but in the apologies and amends which
he afterward made he conducted himself as a
gentleman.

Thus by common consent the word means one
of good sense, good breeding, good behavior,
and noble traits of character. Such alone merit
the title. Here is where it properly belongs.
We should keep the word up to this sense, and
bestow it only on such worthies. We deserve
rebuke when we pronounce as "a perfect gen-
tleman" he who gratifies all our foolish wishes
and whims, or pronounce as "no gentleman" he
who crosses our purpose, when in the faithful
discharge of duty. Gentleness is some-
thing more than mere condescension, and noth-
ing less than right doing. We could not help
laughing when we saw a good-looking, well
dressed man astride a raw bone, incorrigible
old donkey, which no amount of birch tickling
could persuade into a jog trot. It is equally
pitiful to see the honorable title of gentleman
saddled on a human jack—a man without sense
or virtue.

This world is crowded with shams. There
are sham shows, stocks, speculation, jewelry,
and sham gentlemen. A boy was shown a pic-
ture of Luther at the Diet of Worms, when he
exclaimed—"Papa I see the Luther but where
are the worms?" While we look upon the ma-
jority of men we are compelled to inquire—
where is the true gentleman? Under the name
of gentleman we too often see the puppy, the
baboon, the brute and the devil.

Our Poor Law.

At the meeting of the Board of Assessors at
May's Landing, on Monday, Hammonton was
assessed the poor tax, under the protest of Mr.
H. Seely, the member from Hammonton, be-
cause no one was able to find the law exempt-
ing us from it. For the benefit of those who
labored so earnestly to find it, without success,
we give it entire. At the last census our county
contained about 16,000 inhabitants, and it has
not decreased any since. Thus it will be seen
the law is applicable to Hammonton. The
Town Council acted upon it, in accordance with
the requirement of the law, before the first of
May.

1. Be it enacted by the Senate and General
Assembly of the State of New Jersey, That any
incorporated town, having a town council, with
a population of not less than fourteen hundred
by the census returns of eighteen hundred and
seventy-five, in any county of this state, having
a population of not less than fourteen thousand
nor more than twenty thousand by said census
returns, are hereby authorized and empowered
to provide for and maintain the poor of said
town and to raise by taxation the money neces-
sary therefor in each year.

2. And be it enacted, That if the town coun-
cil of any such town shall determine that here-
after such town shall provide for and support

the poor of said town, and shall before the first
day of May in any year pass an ordinance to
that effect, said town shall thereafter provide
for and support in a proper manner the poor of
said town, and shall not thereafter be assessed
with any county poor tax, nor be liable to pay
to the county in which it is situated any poor
tax or tax for any provision for or the support
of the poor of said county.

3. And be it enacted, That this act shall take
effect immediately.
Approved April 5, 1878.

TEMPERANCE.

The Expense of Intemperance.

Much has been said and written upon
the evils of intemperance, the misery oc-
casioned by the use of intoxicating drinks
and the crimes that can so often, and we
might say almost always, be traced to this
one fearful promoter of evil.

There is one phase of this evil upon
which we have been led to think a great
deal lately, that is seldom mentioned in
comparison with the greater wrongs, and
that is expense.

My attention was particularly turned
into this channel of thought by over-
hearing a remark a few days ago. Some gen-
tleman were speaking of giving to chari-
table purposes when once remarked, "why
I have often spent twenty dollars in one
night sponging with my friends and tho't
nothing of it."

Twenty dollars! Not very much when
you think of the hundreds and thousands
that are daily jostling each other in the
pockets of the rich man, but when you
think of the poor, and these must be pit-
ied of all God's poor children—those whose
poverty and sorrow can be traced to drunk-
enness—twenty dollars means a great deal,
it means bread to fill those empty mouths
that are calling piteously for food, fuel to
replenish the empty grate that these ben-
umbed forms may be warmed, and cloth-
ing to wear in the place of filthy rags.

Is it right in the sight of God, to squan-
der even twenty dollars, when "the poor
ye have always with you?"
You may say, "this is but one instance,
it is seldom over an habitual drinker is
so extravagant in his expenditures." Let us
look a minute; think over men you
have known who are called good, steady
business men, who take their dram daily
but seldom show the effect of the liquor
to a casual observer, their faces are never
flushed, and they never have a blossom on
their nose, they are respectable drinkers,
(what an absurd cognomen,) they would
scorn a five cent dram as they would a
five cent cigar, they take their drink and
throw down their quarter, and what does
this amount to in a year of 365 days, for
they do not have one day in seven to rest
from their labors, they must have their
dram on the Sabbath, or they could not
sit still and listen to, and appreciate the
sermon.

Would you believe it, I have seen and
known the families of some of these very
men struggle and economize and worry
and plan, to save a penny here and a penny
there, to help their husbands and fathers.

Only twenty-five cents a day, yes, but
that small sum would hire an nurse-girl for
a whole year, to relieve the aching arms
of that weary mother; that small sum
would do a great deal towards furnishing
entertaining and instructive reading for
your sons and daughters, and might be
the means of saving that boy from the
snare and temptations that beset the path
of the young.

What Democracy Has Done for the Laboring Men.

First. Before the rebellion they had 4-
000,000 of laborers in slavery, thus de-
grading the whole mass of laborers in the
country.

Second. They refused to pass the home-
stead law.

Third. They went to war to perpetuate
slavery.

Fourth. They held that slavery was the
normal condition of the laborer.

Fifth. They enacted that all dues to
the Government should be paid in coin,
that Government employees might be paid
in a superior currency, leaving only de-
preciated State currency for the laborer.

Sixth. They opposed the creation of a
Government currency for all the people.

Seventh. Since their accession to power,
under the false plea of economy, they
have refused appropriations of the people's
money for needed improvements,
thus depressing labor in a time of general
distress, while they squandered millions
in profitless investigation and payment of
rabel claims.

Eighth. They have attempted the re-
duction of the tariff, that American labor
might be reduced to competition with the
half-paid labor of foreign countries.

Ninth. They have refused encourage-
ment to commerce, through which our
surplus productions might find a profit-
able foreign market.

Tenth. They have embarrassed and re-
tarded the public business by unwise
reductions of the clerical force in the De-
partments.

Eleventh. They have attempted the re-
duction of the army below the actual
necessity of the country for the protection
of the frontier settlements, and with the
view of throwing upon an overburdened
market an additional supply of unem-
ployed laborers.

References

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