A TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

GREAT BRITAIN AND JAPAN WANT OUR AID.

For Commercial Purposes Only We May Become a Party to Such an Agreement—Would Scare Off European Nations.

Washington, April 26.—Rumors of a new triple alliance are afloat among the diplomatic corps. The members of the new international compact, if it be perfected, will be the greatest nations of the continents of Europe, Asia and America. In other words an effort is being made, according to diplomatic authority, to induce the United States to join Great Britain and Japan in an alliance against the powers of Europe and of everywhere else.

Knowing well the disinclination of this country to entangle itself with foreign countries in defensive and offensive alliances, Great Britain and Japan are said to have suggested a mere commercial alliance. Should the invitation to join such an alliance be accepted by this government the mere announcement would, it is thought, be sufficient to hold Russia, Germany and France in check in their attempt to prevent the consummation of the treaty of peace between Japan and China by which China will cede certain of her territory to Japan. It is impossible at this time to obtain authentic corroboration or denial of the rumor. If such an invitation has been received the rumor about its being discussed by the cabinet is doubtless correct.

Minister Kurino of Japan has given out a very significant interview on the eastern question. He said that in his opinion the commercial interests of the United States in the east, particularly in Japan, are so much more extensive and important than those of Germany or France, that it would be eminently desirable in the event of a Franco-German alliance with Russia to prevent the consummation of the peace treaty, for the United States to take an active part in offsetting such an alliance.

Mr. Kurino wished it to be clearly understood, however, that this was his personal conviction. He had not, he said, received any instructions from his government, and there had been no suggestion of an official or unofficial character from him to the state department that the United States should be enlisted in its support. His views were the result of his personal information of the extent of United States interests in the east.

"The commercial interests of the United States in Japan are very much greater than those of Germany and France. Practically their interests are little or nothing, while those of the United States are very extensive. The British trade comes first, and after that comes the trade of the United States. It would be eminently proper, therefore, if the United States in consideration of her superior commercial interests, should offset a demonstration on the part of France and Germany, if any such move is actually made. I am not officially informed that it has been made, nor am I apprehensive of the move should it be made. But in the event of its being realized, then there is little doubt in my opinion that the commercial interests of the United States would make it expedient to take part in the issue. This, of course, would not mean that the United States was to engage in a fight. Its co-operation would undoubtedly be effective without any radical step."

TREATY MAY BE REJECTED.

Leading Chinese Officials Object to the Terms Agreed To.

London, April 27.—A Pekin dispatch to the London Times says that Mr. John W. Foster, the American adviser of Chinese peace envoys and the secretary of Li Hung Chang have arrived there and that the treaty of peace between China and Japan is now before the emperor and his ministers. The dispatch continues: "The Chinese foreign office yesterday consulted with the different foreign legations. Many of the censors have presented memorials against the treaty. Prince Kung, president of the foreign office and of the council of ministers, has obtained a seven days' extension of sick leave. Other officials hesitate to recommend the ratification of the treaty. Viceroy Li Hung Chang will probably not come here, but will go to Che Foo if the ratifications are exchanged there as is proposed."

OUTLAWS WEAR ARMOR.

In a Fierce Fight Deputy Marshals Bullets Have No Effect.

Guthrie, Ok., April 27.—Senator John Allen, who returned yesterday, gives details of a desperate fight in the Pottawatomie country between outlaws and deputy marshalls. In a small grove the posse met the Christie brothers and their gang. One of the deputies shot several of the outlaws, but the bullets glanced off, as each of the desperadoes wore steel plates covering back and chest. The deputies, unable to do anything with the outlaws, who outnumbered them, returned to Norman bearing a dead comrade. The Christies and their gang are part of the band that robbed the train at Wynnewood, and are thought to be connected with a number of other train robberies.

Say Another Bank Was Robbed.

New York, April 27.—It is reported from Plainfield, N. J., that William Stillman, one of the directors of the First National bank of that city, which was robbed Monday of over $22,000, has made a statement that a similar robbery was perpetrated on a New York bank a few weeks ago. This statement is questioned here. At police headquarters it was said no such report had been made. It is believed the Plainfield robbery was the work of expert thieves. No one is yet suspected.

Missouri Legislature Polled on Silver.

Sedalia, Mo., April 27.—The Evening Democrat of this city has interviewed the members of the Missouri legislature on the silver question, and publishes the answer to the question: "Are you in favor of the free coinage of silver by the United States at the present ratio?" Five Republican and seven Democrat senators answered in the affirmative, and four Republican senators in the negative. The house, fourteen Republican representatives and twenty-four Democrats replied in the affirmative, and fourteen Republicans(two Democrats and two Populists in the negative.

SAYS HE WAS SANDBAGGED.

Express Agent at Victor, Col., Declares He Was Robbed of $1,100.

Denver, Colo., April 27.—A special telegram from Cripple Creek, Colo., says:

"The Denver & Rio Grande express office was robbed of about $1,100 at Victor early this morning. Express Agent Carlin says a powerfully built man entered the depot shortly after midnight and, after talking a few minutes, struck Carlin a powerful blow, which laid him prostrate on the floor, where he remained insensible for some time. When he regained consciousness the robber had disappeared, the safe door was open and the money gone. 'I had in my pocket,' said Carlin, 'the keys of the doors leading to the inside room and the robber, when he knocked me down, must have taken them, unlocked the door and at his leisure worked the combination to the safe.'

"The express and railroad officials, although admitting that the deed had been committed, positively refused to state the amount of money taken and whom they suspect. Express Agent Carlin does not seem to have been injured. An examination of his books is being made."

FIEND SHOT TO DEATH.

James Smith Defies an Officer and Is Instantly Killed.

San Diego, Cal., April 27.—James Smith, a tramp, who has been working on a ranch one mile from Delmar, a small town near this city, was shot and instantly killed by Constable John Bludworth while resisting arrest.

Smith was working at the ranch of Hugh A. Fraser. Yesterday afternoon, during the absence of Frazer, Smith went into the house and made an improper proposal to Mrs. Frazer, who, as soon as possible, left the house, and, running to Delmar, notified the authorities. Constable Bludworth and a deputy went to the farm and found Smith in a stall in the barn, armed with a shotgun and dirk. He refused to surrender and the constable fired two shots, killing Smith.

American Prisoner Released.

New York, April 27.—A special from Santiago de Cuba says: "Two American seamen who had been imprisoned here since Feb. 23 were released today. They are August Bolton and Gustav Richleu. The government authorities found them in a small boat near the coast under circumstances which aroused suspicion that they had landed revolutionists on the island and were returning to the port they started from. The men explained that they belonged to an American vessel which was then at a port in Hayti, and that they had rowed across simply for their own pleasure. Their story of mere adventure was not believed."

England Can Not Help Queen Li.

London, April 27.—Replying to a question in the house of commons as to whether Hawaii is under the protection of the United States and if it is possible to approach the United States government with the view of obtaining proper treatment for Queen Lliuokalani, Sir Edward Grey, parliamentary secretary of the foreign office, said the Hawaiian republic was not under United States protection and that Great Britain did not see any opportunity of interfering in the matter.

Will Distribute Bulletins.

Washington, April 27.—The secretary of agriculture will in about ten days begin the publication and distribution of a series of bulletins relative to the foreign markets for the agricultural products of the United States. The bulletins, it is believed, will be of great value to all persons seeking foreign markets for their products, as it will enable them to select the most advantageous markets and give them in advance all the information desired relative to the prices asked and received by their competitors.

Pleased with the United States.

London, April 27.—The Pall Mall Gazette, commenting on the trouble between Great Britain and Nicaragua, says that nothing could be more courteously correct than the attitude of the United States in the difficulty, adding: "It is a good omen for a close understanding upon the China-Japan question. Our action may be expected to teach the Spanish-American states that none of them is too insignificant to behave decently to foreigners."

Arrested for an Old Murder.

Anderson, Ind., April 27.—William Desbenett of Muncie was arrested near here yesterday charged with murdering an unknown man in 1890. Henry Seybert of this city was arrested as an accessory, and both men were taken to Terre Haute. Desbenett denies the charge but Seybert says he witnessed the killing and saw the fatal blow struck. Desbenett followed the man and knocked him down for the purpose of robbery. He got $14. The man died where he fell. The body was never identified. There is a reward of $500 for the murderers.

Canal Bill to Pass.

Springfield, Ill., April 27.—An agreement has been reached between the valley people and the Drainage trustees which will result in the passage of the drainage bill with the Leeper amendment offered in the senate yesterday. No other amendment to the bill will be permitted. This agreement is satisfactory to everybody concerned. The drainage trustees say they can comply with it without extra expense to the tax payers of the drainage district and the valley people as well. This is an important step in the settlement of the difficulty, and there is no doubt as to itsconsummation in the senate. No swing bridge amendment will be attached to the bill nor will the original measure be changed in any way except as above indicated.

Seven Men Injured.

New York, April 27.—A gang of laborers was employed on the third floor of the old Metropolitan hotel when the floor fell in and the men were carried with the debris to the second floor. Seven men were injured. Michael Eagan is hurt internally and may die.

Duel in the Street.

Palouse, Wash., April 27.—J. D. Hughes and his son-in-law, Raymond Peiffer, fought a duel on the street yesterday. Peiffer fired three shots and Hughes one, and both men were wounded. Neither will die. The cause of the quarrel is not known.

SHE CANNOT SURVIVE.

Mrs. Parnell Slowly Dying at Her Home Near Bordentown, N. J.

Bordentown, N. J., April 25.—It now seems but a question of a few hours until Mrs. Delia Stewart Parnell will pass away. Since she was attacked by the first convulsion yesterday she has rapidly grown worse and is growing weaker every minute. Dr. Shipps, the attending physician, has given up all hope of saving the aged woman's life and as she is too weak to undergo an operation all that can be done is to wait for the fast approaching end. Dr. Shipps believes that if his patient were strong enough to stand an operation that the clot of blood at the base of the brain, which, in his opinion, is the cause of the convulsions could be successfully removed, and while it might not result in her ultimate recovery, life could be prolonged. Friends of the patient are at her bedside, but she does not seem to recognize any one

MUST PAY OR FIGHT.

Great Britain Gives Nicaragua Three Days to Meet Demanns.

Managua, Nicaragua, via Galveston, Tex., April 25.—Commander Stokes of H. M. S. Royal Arthur, which is at Corinto with the Statellite and Wild Swan, arrived here last evening, and, at the end of a conference which lasted only ten minutes, handed the Nicaraguan minister of foreign affairs, M. Matus, Great Britain's ultimatum. The ultimatum gives the government of Nicaragua three days in which to settle the claim by Great Britain, failing which settlement England will blockade the Port of Corinto and also land troops and occupy the city. A meeting of prominent Nicaraguans is being held now to decide upon a plan of action. The general opinion is that Nicaragua will arrange to pay the indemnity demanded by Great Britain.

Bible Week Begins.

Washington, April 25.—In response to an address to the clergy and laity of the churches of America, issued by the American Society of Religious Education, the Christian people of the land are expected to observe today and the four following days as "Bible Week." This evening and tomorrow evening all Christians are invited to assemble in their respective places of worship and exchange sentiments on the theme of the Bible's testimony to its own value.

Lexow Bill Defeated.

Albany, N. Y., April 25.—The police reorganization bill has been defeated in the senate by a tie vote—yeas, 16; nays, 16. Bradley, Coggeshall, Reynolds and Robertson (republicans) voted with the democrats. Mr. O'Grady presented in the house a petition to congress and a resolution favoring the annexation of Canada to the United States. The resolution was adopted

Gen. Booth Will Become a Citizen.

New York, April 25.—Gen. Ballington Booth of the Salvation Army has renounced his allegiance to Queen Victoria and in two weeks will become an American citizen. He has made formal application at the county clerk's office in Jersey City for the necessary papers. Gen. Booth's first papers, which he brought with him, were taken out in New York in 1889 under the law of New Jersey.

Sustains a Loss by Fire of $125,000.

St. Paul, Minn., April 25.—Fire yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the manufacturing and wholesale house of Lanphen, Finch & Skinner resulted in a loss of $125,000. The loss on the building is trifling. Fifty girls working on fur garments became panic-stricken, but no one was injured. The insurance more than covered the loss, aggregating $160,000.

Kentucky Republicans for Silver.

Lexington, Ky., April 25.—The republicans of Woodford county, Senator Blackburn's home, have met his ultra silver interview with the most radical utterances heard this year from anti-free coinage ranks. In their convention to select delegates to the state convention they declared for a single gold standard, with only one dissenting vote.

LIVE STOCK AND PRODUCE MARKETS

Quotations from New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha and Elsewhere.

OMAHA			
Butter—Creamery separator..	16	@	17
Butter—Fair to good country.	10	@	13
Eggs—Fresh	9	@	10
Honey—Per lb	18	@	20
Hens—Live, per lb	7	@	9
Lemons—Choice Messinas	3 75	@	4 25
Oranges—Floridas, per box	2 50	@	4 00
Potatoes	65	@	70
Beans—Navy, hand-picked, bu	2 00	@	2 20
Hay—Upland, per ton	8 50	@	9 00
Onions—Per bu	1 10	@	1 20
Carrots—Per bbl	1 50	@	1 75
Cranberrries—Jerseys	11 50	@	12 00
Hogs—Mixed packing	4 65	@	4 70
Hogs—Heavy weights	4 70	@	4 75
Steers—Stockers and feeders	2 50	@	3 50
Beef Steers	3 50	@	5 45
Bulls	1 75	@	3 75
Stags	2 75	@	3 25
Calves	1 50	@	4 50
Cows	1 50	@	4 00
Heifers	2 00	@	4 25
Westerns	2 75	@	4 25
Sheep—Lambs	5 40	@	5 60
Sheep—Choice natives	4 00	@	4 25
CHICAGO.			
Wheat—No. 2. spring	63⅝	@	64⅝
Corn—Per bu	46⅝	@	47⅛
Oats—Per bu	32½	@	33
Pork	12 32	@	12 45
Lard	6 90	@	6 92½
Hogs—Packers and mixed	4 70	@	4 95
Cattle—Shipping steers	4 15	@	5 25
Sheep—Lambs	3 00	@	5 50
Sheep—Good to fancy	3 50	@	5 00
NEW YORK.			
Wheat, No. 2, red winter	61	@	64⅝
Corn—No. 2	54	@	54½
Oats—No. 2	33	@	33½
Pork	13 50	@	14 00
Lard	7 25	@	7 30
ST. LOUIS.			
Wheat—No 2 red, cash	62	@	62¾
Corn—Per bu	45	@	45½
Oats—Per bu	30	@	30½
Hogs—Mixed packing	4 70	@	4 80
Cattle—Expor steers	4 00	@	5 50
Sheep—Mixed natives	3 85	@	4 50
KANSAS CITY.			
Wheat—No. 2 hard	53	@	53½
Corn—No. 2	45	@	45½
Oats—No. 2	28	@	28½
Cattle—Stockers and feeders	3 15	@	4 65
Hogs—Mixed packers	4 55	@	4 70

Secretary Morton Is Censured.

Omaha, Neb., April 25.—The Omaha Live Stock exchange censured Secretary Morton for his "erroneous idea, which is at present working to the great detriment of the catle interests of the country, in creating a wrong impression as to the relative cost of cattle and beef."

Failure of a Dime Savings Bank.

New Haven, Conn., April 25.—The Dime savings bank at Willimantic, Conn., closed yesterday. The last bank commissioner's report shows that the savings bank had Oct. 1 2,887 depositors, $626,591 on deposit, and a surplus of about $23,000.

THE TALMAGE SERMON

LAST SUNDAY IN METROPOLITAN PULPIT.

"After the Battle"—And It Came to Pass When They Came to Strip the Slain They Found Paul and His Three Sons on the Field.

SOME OF YOU were at South Mountain, or Shiloh, or Ball's Bluff, or Gettysburg, on Northern or Southern side, and I ask you if there is any sadder sight than a battlefield after the guns have stopped firing? I walked across the field of Antietam just after the conflict? The scene was so sickening, I shall not describe it. Every valuable thing had been taken from the bodies of the dead, for there are always vultures hovering over and around about an army, and they pick up the watches and the memorandum books, and the letters, and the daguerreotypes, and the hats and the coats, applying them to their own use. The dead make no resistance. So there are always camp followers going on and after an army, as when Scott went down into Mexico, as when Napoleon marched up toward Moscow, as when Von Moltke went to Sedan. There is a similar scene in my text.

Saul and his army had been horribly cut to pieces. Mount Gilboa was ghastly with the dead. On the morrow the stragglers came on to the field, and they lifted the latchet of the helmet from under the chin of the dead, and they picked up the swords and bent them on their knee to test the temper of the metal, and they opened the wallets and counted the coin. Saul lay dead along the ground, eight or nine feet in length, and I suppose the cowardly Philistines, to show their bravery, leaped upon the trunk of his carcass, and jeered at the fallen slain, and whistled through the mouth of his helmet. Before night those cormorants had taken everything valuable from the field: "And it came to pass on the morrow, when the Philistines came to strip the slain, that they found Saul and his three sons fallen in Mount Gilboa."

Before I get through to-day I will show you that the same process is going on all the world over, and every day, and that when me have fallen, Satan and the world, so far from pitying them or helping them, go to work remorselessly to take what little there is left, thus stripping the slain.

There are tens of thousands of young men every year coming from the country to our great cities. They come with brave hearts and grand expectations. The country lads sit down in the village grocery, with their feet on the iron rod around the red-hot stove, in the evening, talking over the prospects of the young man who has gone off to the city. Two or three of them think that perhaps he may get along very well and succeed, but the most of them prophesy failure, for it is very hard to think that those whom we knew in boyhood will ever make any great success in the world.

But our young man has a fine position in a dry-goods store. The month is over. He gets his wages. He is not accustomed to have so much money belonging to himself. He is a little excited, and does not know exactly what to do with it, and he spends it in some place where he ought not. Soon there come up new companions and acquaintances from the bar-rooms and the saloons of the city. Soon that young man begins to waver in the battle of temptation, and soon his soul goes down. In a few months, or few years, he has fallen. He is morally dead. He is a mere corpse of what he once was. The harpies of sin snuff up the taint and come on the field. His garments gradually give out. He has pawned his watch. His health is failing him. His credit perishes. He is too poor to stay in the city, and he is too poor to pay his way home to the country. Down! down! Why do the low fellows of the city now stick to him so closely? Is it to help him back to a moral and spiritual life? Oh, no! I will tell you why they stay; they are Philistines stripping the slain.

Do not look where I point, but yonder stands a man who once had a beautiful home in this city. His house had elegant furniture, his children were beautifully clad, his name was synonymous with honor and usefulness; but evil habit knocked at his front door. Where is the piano? Sold to pay the rent. Where is the hat-rack? Sold to meet the butcher's bill. Where are the carpets? Sold to get bread. Where is the wardrobe? Sold to get rum. Where are the daughters? Working their fingers off in trying to keep the family together. Worse and worse until everything is gone.

Who is that going up the front steps of that house? That is a creditor, hoping to find some chair or bed that has not been levied upon. Who are those two gentlemen now going up the front steps? The one is a constable, the other the sheriff. Why do they go there? The unfortunate is morally dead. Why do they go there? I will tell you why the creditors, and the constables, and the sheriffs go there. They are, some on their own account, and some on account of the law, stripping the slain.

An ex-member of congress, one of the most eloquent that ever stood in the house of representatives, said in his last moments: "This is the end. I am dying—dying on a borrowed bed, covered by a borrowed sheet, in a house built by public charity. Bury me under that tree in the middle of the field, where I shall not be crowded, for I have been crowded all my life." Where were the jolly politicians and the dissipating comrades, who had been with him, laughing at his jokes, applauding his eloquence, and plunging him into sin? They have left. Why? His money is gone, his reputation is gone, his wit is gone, his clothes are gone, everything is gone. Why should they stay any longer? They have completed their work. They have stripped the slain.

There is another way, however, of doing that same work. Here is a man who, through his sin, is prostrate. He acknowledges that he has done wrong. Now is the time for you to go to that man and say: "Thousands of people have been as far astray as you are, and got back." Now is the time for you to go to that man and tell him of the omnipotent grace of God, that is sufficient for any poor soul. Now is the time to go to tell him how swearing John Bunyan, through the grace of God, afterward came to the Celestial City. Now is the time to go to that man and tell how profligate Newman came, through conversion, to be a world-renowned preacher of righteousness. Now is the time to tell that man that multitudes who have been pounded with all the flails of sin and dragged through all the sewers of pollution, at last have risen to positive dominion of moral power.

You do not tell him that, do you? No. You say to him: "Loan you money? No. You are down. You will have to go to the dogs. Lend you a dollar? I would not lend you five cents to keep you from the gallows. You are debauched! Get out of my sight, now! Down; you will have to stay down!" And thus those bruised and battered men are sometimes accosted by those who ought to lift them up. Thus the last vestige of hope is taken from them. Thus those who ought to go and lift and save them, are guilty of stripping the slain.

The point I want to make is this: sin is hard, cruel and merciless. Instead of helping a man up it helps him down; and when, like Saul and his comrades, you lie on the field, it will come and steal your sword and helmet and shield, leaving you to the jackal and the crow.

But the world and Satan do not do all their work with the outcast and abandoned. A respectable impenitent man comes to die. He is flat on his back. He could not get up if the house was on fire. Adroitest medical skill and gentlest nursing have been a failure. He has come to his last hour. What does Satan do for such a man? Why, he fetches up all the inapt, disagreeable, and harrowing things in his life. He says: "Do you remember those chances you had for heaven, and missed them? Do you remember all those lapses in conduct? Do you remember all those approbrious words and thoughts and actions? Don't remember them, eh? I'll make you remember them." And then he takes all the past and empties it on that death-bed, as the mail-bags are emptied on the post-office floor. The man is sick. He cannot get away from them.

Then the man says to Satan: "You have deceived me. You told me that all would be well. You said there would be no trouble at the last. You told me if I did so and so, you would do so and so. Now you corner me, and hedge me up, and submerge me in everything evil." "Ha! ha!" says Satan, "I was only fooling you. It is mirth for me to see you suffer. I have been for thirty years plotting to get you just where you are. It is hard for you now—it will be worse for you after awhile. It pleases me. Lie still, sir. Don't flinch or shudder. Come, now, I will tear off from you the last rag of expectation. I will rend away from your soul the last hope. I will leave you bare for the beating of the storm. It is my business to strip the slain."

While men are in robust health, and their digestion is good, and their nerves are strong, they think their physical strength will get them safely through the last exigency. They say it is only cowardly women who are afraid at the last, and cry out for God. "Wait till I come to die. I will show you. You won't hear me pray, nor call for a minister, nor want a chapter read me from the Bible." But after the man has been three weeks in a sick-room his nerves are not so steady, and his worldly companions are not anywhere near to cheer him up, and he is persuaded that he must quit life; his physical courage is all gone.

When the Philistines came down on the field, they stepped between the corpses, and they rolled over the dead, and they took away everything that was valuable; and so it was with the people that followed after the armies at Chancellorsville, and at Pittsburg Landing, and at Stone River, and at Atlanta, stripping the slain; but the Northern and Southern women—God bless them!—came on the fields with basins, and pads, and towels, and lint, and cordials, and Christian encouragement; and the poor fellows that lay there lifted up their arms and said: "Oh, how good that does feel since you dressed it!" and others looked up and said: "Oh, how you make me think of my mother!" and others said: "Tell the folks at home I died thinking about them;" and another looked up and said: "Miss, won't you sing me a verse of 'Home, Sweet Home,' before I die?" And then the tattoo was sounded, and the hats were off, and the service was read: "I am the resurrection and the life;" and in honor of the departed the muskets were loaded, and the command given, "Present—fire!" And there was a shingle set up at the head of the grave, with the epitaph of "Lieutenant —— in the Fourteenth Massachusetts Regulars," or "Captain —— in the Fifteenth Regiment of South Carolina Volunteers." And so now, across this great field of moral and spiritual battle, the angels of God come walking among the slain, and there are voices of comfort, and voices of hope, and voices of resurrection, and voices of heaven.

One night I saw a tragedy on the corner of Broadway and Houston street. A young man, evidently doubting as to which direction he had better take his hat lifted high enough so that you could see he had an intelligent forehead stout chest; he had a robust development. Splendid young man, cultured young man. Honored young man. Why did he stop there while so many were going up and down? The fact is, that every man has a good angel and a bad angel contending for the mastery of his spirit, and there was a good angel and a bad angel struggling with that young man's soul at the corner of Broadway and Houston street, "Come with me," said the good angel; "I will take you home; I will spread my wings over your pillow; I will lovingly escort you all through life under supernatural protection; I will bless every cup you drink out of, every couch you rest on, every doorway you enter; I will consecrate your tears when you weep, your sweat when you toil, and at the last I will hand over your grave into the hand of a bright angel of a Christian resurrection. In answer to your father's petition and your mother's prayer, I have been sent of the Lord out of heaven to be your guardian spirit. Come with me," said the good angel in a voice of unearthly symphony. It was music like that which drops from a lute of heaven when a seraphes breathes on it. "No, no," said the bad angel, "come with me; I have something better to offer; the wines I pour are from chalices of bewitching carousal; the dance I lead is over floor tessellated with unrestrained indulgences; there is no God to frown on the temples of sin where I worship. The skies are Italian. The paths I tread are through meadows, daisied and primrosed. Come with me." The young man hesitated at a time when hesitation was ruin, and the bad angel smote the good angel until it departed, spreading wings through the starlight upward and away until a door flashed open in the sky and forever the wings vanished. That was the turning point in that young man's history; for, the good angel flown, he hesitated no longer, but started on a pathway which is beautiful at the opening, but blasted at the last. The bad angel, leading the way, opened gate after gate, and at each gate the road became rougher and the sky more lurid, and what was peculiar, as the gate slammed shut it came to with a jar that indicated that it would never open. Passed each portal, there was a grinding of locks and a shoving of bolts; and the scenery on either side of the road changed from gardens to deserts; and the June air became a cutting December blast, and the bright wings of the bad angel turned to sackcloth, and the eyes of light became hollow and hopeless grief, and the fountains, that at the start had tossed with wine, poured forth boiling tears and foaming blood, and on the right side of the road there was a serpent, and the man said to the bad angel, "What is that serpent?" and the answer was, "That is the serpent of stinging remorse." On the left side of the road there was a lion, and the man asked the bad angel, "What is that lion?" and the answer was, "That is the lion of all-devouring despair." A vulture flew through the sky, and the man asked the bad angel, "What is that vulture?" and the answer was, "That is the vulture waiting for the carcasses of the slain." And then the man began to try to pull off him the folds of something that had wound him round and round, and he said to the bad angel, "What does all this mean? I trusted in what you said at the corner of Broadway and Houston street; I trusted it all, and why have you thus deceived me?" Then the last deception fell off the charmer, and it said, "I was sent forth from the pit to destroy your soul; I watched my chance for many a long year; when you hesitated that night on Broadway I gained my triumph; now you are here. Ha! ha! You are here. Come, now, let us fill these two chalices of fire, and drink together to darkness and woe and death. Hail! Hail!" Oh! young man, will the good angel sent forth by Christ, or the bad angel sent forth by sin, get the victory over your soul? Their wings are interlocked this moment above you, contending for your destiny, as above the Appenines, eagle and condor fight midsky. This hour may decide your destiny.

Labor Problem's Religious Side.

The Rev. George D. Herón, D. D., professor of applied theology in Iowa College, Grinnell, Ia., made a soul stirring address on the topic of "Church and the Workingman" in Central Methodist church in San Francisco last Sunday afternoon. He said among other things: "The average pay of an adult in the United States is $300 a year. At the same time a single man possesses an income of $30,000,000. It is politically and religiously wrong that a few should gain possession of the products of the whole. It is not honesty or thrift. The railway problem in America and the question of work and wages is a religious problem. There will be a day when history will look back and marvel at the great patience and heroic self-restraint and heroism that are exercised by the vast majority of our laboring men. We talk of Thermopylae, but it is easy to die in heroic times. That's nothing. But when, last summer, at the village of Pullman, hundreds of men saw their wives and children hungry day after day and yet stood out for principle, I say the day will come when they will be regarded as heroes. In Chicago nobody ever thought of the church, and that ought to be said to our everlasting shame. The church ought to have been on the side of the oppressed and against the aggressor. The interest of one man in the world is the interest of all. We have come to the greatest crisis in human history."

"If you must know, ma'am," said the doctor, "your husband won't live twenty-four hours longer." "Good gracious!" ejaculated the broken-hearted woman, "and here you've gone and prescribed enough medicine to last five days."

PHASES OF HUMAN NATURE.

The late Viscount Monck is well known in connection with a "chestnut," which if not true, is surely well invented. His lordship, when an Irish peer, sat in the commons as a Liberal member for Portsmouth, and in going up to the late Vincent Scully, another well-known Irish member, he said: "Halloa, old Scull, how are you?" "My lord," was the quick reply, "if you are going to take the 'y' from my name, I beg you will add it to your own."

A Rockland, Me., business man took to himself a wife and went immediately to housekeeping. The day after the wedding he appeared as usual at his father's where he had been residing, and conducted himself as if he intended to occupy his old room as usual. The parents were a little puzzled at his behavior, and finally the old gentleman asked him about his wife. A surprised look came over the son's face, and, with the exclamation: "Heavens, I forgot I was married!" he hastened to his new home and his bride.

A North Georgia man, who is dissatisfied with the postoffice department of this government, sends the Atlanta Constitution the following: "I want you to put in a Piece to the Guvment about the Way the postoffice is Run. I haint got narry letter since the New Postmaster went in. He is a Republikin, while I is a Demmercrat, and He wont Give demmecrats their male. Thare is a widder lady, both husbands killed in the war, what would Give folks thare male if she was appointed by guvment. Both husbands fout till they was kilt. She is a confederate vitaran, and will give demmecrats thare male. Will you Please speak to the Guvment?"