THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

A. C. HOSMER, Publisher.

RED CLOUD - - - NEBRASKA

JUST RIGHT.

Just tall enough to be graceful;
Just dainty enough to be neat;
Just dress enough to be tasteful;
Just modest enough to be sweet.

Just hours enough to be tender;
Just sighs enough to be sad;
Tones soft enough to remember
Your heart through the radiance made glad.

A tongue that speaks without harming,
Yet mischief enough to tease;
Manners so winsome and charming
That put you at once at your ease.

Just smiles enough to be happy,
Just sunlight enough to be fair;
Bright as a morn to the sailorman,
All from before and aft view.

Generous, true and kind hearted;
Eyes as the angels above;
Thus portrait I never to parted,
For such is the woman I love.

—N. Y. Mail and Express.

THE ALABAMA.

Something About Her Most Famous Naval Conflicts.

Captain Semmes and His British Crew—How She Met the Kearsarge Which Her Men Had Sworn to "Lick"—"Chain Armor."

In a recent number of the Century the story of the cruises and combats of the confederate steamer Alabama is retold briefly, and in an extremely interesting way. The contributors to the account are Dr. J. M. Browne, surgeon of the Kearsarge; Captain J. M. Kell, executive officer of the Alabama, and R. D. Harwood, one of the Alabama's crew. The books at first like two on one side and one on the other, but Mr. Harwood seems more like an observer of the American domestic quarrel than like an adverse. His few papers, which reveal unusual interest and appreciativeness of points of historic value, are in a striking light upon the Alabama's cruise. Some poetical rubbish disappears, and we see an English ship putting to sea from an English port, manned by an English crew, and afterward supplied with English guns and ammunition, the confederate addition to her being her flag, her officers, and her instructions for warfare upon American merchantmen. Her career ended when she encountered the Kearsarge, with American guns and an American crew, and was sent to the bottom.

Mr. Harwood, who was dragged out of the water when the ship went down, by means of a bridle in patriarchal and lordly style belonging to a French pilot boat that came to the rescue of the swimmers, says that what astonished him when he boarded the Kearsarge was to find Englishmen there piping boatswain's calls designed to deprive the Kearsarge of victory.

"One gets used to," who had been Quartermaster in the royal navy, and was saved with me, said to the point: 'We was well used because she was a better ship, better manned, had better guns, better served; that's about the size of it,' and he walked away. I have seen somewhere an account of the boasting of the Hatteras that made it a daring achievement. To sneak up to an enemy under a false hail and pour in a broadside of metal much heavier than she could return; surely, no English ship will see in this thing to the national credit in this. The poor show we made with the Kearsarge, however, deprived of the glory we never did in fairly defeating defenseless merchantmen."

When Harwood signed in Liverpool the articles that made him one of the crew of the "290," afterward the Alabama, he dropping naturally warned him against Yankee spies and assured him that Great Britain would declare war against the United States.

"Next day I went aboard, and liked the look of the vessel. Every thing in a manner of speaking indicated the character of the ship. No platforms were laid, but the places for the pivot guns were plainly marked, her magazines were finished and shot-lockers were lying about.

"At Terceira an English bark brought her guns and war material, and more men and the captain came by another vessel. Then, leaving Angra on a Sunday morning, the Britons for the first time saw the flag they were to fight under, and heard the first of Semmes' exhortations.

"He told us, among other things, that Providence would bless our endeavors to free the South from the Yankees, etc. A boatswain's mate behind me growled: 'Yaas, Providence likely to bless this yer crew!' During the night some one ornamented a bread bag with a terrible skull and crossbones, and managed to fasten it to one of the mizzen braces. In the morning the master-at-arms was hunting for the delinquent, but the men only laughed at him, and suggested that 'Hucks, the marine,' had been at his tricks. I had been looking over the crew, and made up my mind that, on the whole, I had never been on a ship with such a bad lot. They were all sailors from clew to earring—no boys—makes among them—but they were mostly of that class, found in seaport towns all over the world, that ship for the 'run' (from port to port), and not for the voyage, and are always a rough, mutinous set. They did not seem to care for the ship's officers, and were determined to stand no 'man-o'-war dickey' from them."

The wonder is that Captain Semmes accomplished so much. Mr. Haywood acknowledges his "judgment and resolution," as shown by twenty-two months of success, and in First Lieutenant Kell he had a fine executive officer. Hazing and fighting were not uncommon, and Mr. Haywood owns to having nearly "battered the life out" of a shipmate who cut his hammock down as a joke. "I was duly reported," he says, "and lost my grog for ten days, but I was not dumped any more." Prisoners were always well treated, except that "the wanton destruction of the clothes and effects of captured sailors was simply disgraceful." The original songs of the crew were "mostly ugly ditties on the Captain and his officers," but the last effort of the nautical muse expressed a general yearning in its statement that "we're homeward bound, and soon shall land on English ground but ere that English land we see, we first must lick the Kearsarge."

Of the fight with the Hatteras Mr. Haywood's opinion has already been given. She was "more like a fussy river steamer than a war vessel," and, in fact, was an armed Delaware river side-wheeler, which the Alabama quickly sank.

But when the Alabama met the Kearsarge there was a different sort of fight. The combat, the first ever fought between screw-propelled war vessels in the open seas, was a duel of ships evenly matched in size, little more or less than, but, repeating the familiar story of fifty years before, with the American vessel throwing a heavier weight of metal than the British from a smaller number of guns, with greater precision. The advantage in fertility of device was also with the Union ship. For example, over a year before Captain Winslow, at the suggestion of Lieutenant Commander Thornton, had the ships about chain hung outside over her bulwarks. This protective device was equally open to the Alabama, but nobody thought of it. Again, Mr. Haywood thinks that Semmes was somewhat "flurried, and commenced firing too soon," when far away, in the hope to disable his antagonist by a broadside. Winslow reserved his fire, with the result this described:

"The enemy curled around us and did not return our fire until within seven or eight hundred yards, and then she let us have it. The first shot that struck us made the ship quiver like all over."

Like testimony to the gunnery and the steadiness of the Kearsarge is given by Captain Kell, although a skeleton to her "clean armor" the greater share in the result.

"The enemy's fire fell of the Kearsarge did fearful work, as her guns were served beautifully, being fired with precision and deliberation. In fact she came into action magnificently. Having the speed of us she took her position and fought gallantly."

Captain Kell considers that the glory of the victory was carried by the Kearsarge's three vertical shots after the Alabama ceased to attack, but this was due to surgeon Browne's explaining to the captain of firing from the Alabama, a fact through dissatisfaction of Captain Semmes's conduct of battle to understand them.

The conclusion from all these accounts is that the Kearsarge outmaneuvered and outfought the Alabama throughout. The weight of shot of the Kearsarge was strong by reason of their superiority of size, and on the other hand, possibly have been disabled had the chains been wanting. The victory was due to the superiority of the American heavy guns, served by coolness and accurate gunners, under the ship. The Alabama, who had trained guns and worked the battery in the action. The Kearsarge fired only 173 shots to the Alabama's 370, but the former was the more effective. The Kearsarge received no damage exchanged broadsides, and the Alabama used seven. Out of 149 men on the Kearsarge, only eighteen were foreigners, while nearly all the Alabama's 149 men were British. It is one of the strange perversities in the great duel, fought in the presence of thousands of spectators who crowded the heights of Cherbourg, that Winslow pursued a foe widely known to be more dry than Semmes, though the Alabama's crew had a fourth right smart beer-mustard mixing aboard.—N. Y. Sun.

A DAZED CRANK.

Rev. Dr. Talmage's Quizzical Reply to an Anchorite.

It was suggested to Mr. Talmage that he get up a lecture on "Cranks" and relate his experience with crank people. He laughed and said that while his experience was wide and varied on the subject of "Cranks," yet there was one story that always came to his mind when conversation turned on these peculiar people. He was once very busy writing in his room at a hotel and a card came up. He gave the bell-boy instructions that he could see nobody and dismissed him. A little while afterward the card came up a second time, and he told the bell-boy to tell that man to call on the next day, that he wouldn't see the angel Gabriel if he called to-day, and the bell-boy's eyes stuck out. In a few minutes the card came up a third time, and then Mr. Talmage went down-stairs to see who his persistent visitor was. A man stepped up to him and said:

"You are Mr. Talmage?"

"I am, sir."

"Well, sir, I am an evolutionist, and I want to discuss that question with you. I am also an annihilationist. I believe that when I die that will be the end of me."

"Thank God for that!" devoutly ejaculated Mr. Talmage, as he walked off and left the man perfectly dazed.—*Harrisburg Telegraph.*

An Enormous Check.

A ten-dollar-a-week Pine street clerk was boasting of the checks drawn for large sums of money which he has seen.

"Why, I saw one," he said, "a check passed through my hands drawn for $175,000."

A pale-faced young man with a pimple on his chin smiled a sad, retrospective smile, and said:

"I saw a bigger check than that last summer. A good deal bigger, to me."

"How much was it drawn for?"

"Dollar and a quarter. It was a check for ice-cream."—*N. Y. Times.*

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

POOR POLLY.

Poor Polly was pretty and dainty and neat,
And would have been charming and cunning and sweet,
But—alack and alack!—for a very bad way
Of crying or sulking or scolding all day.

She cried if 'twere cold, and she cried if 'twere hot—
She cried if 'twere showery or if 'twere not—
She cried in the summer or winter or spring—
At every person and every thing—
At every hour and every season,
For any excuse or for any good reason;
And if never a reason was under the sun,
Poor Polly cry all the harder because there was none.

One day she had cried for an hour or so
I would tell you what about, but I really don't know.
Perhaps she was nervous, perhaps she was sad,
Some one may have said her behavior was bad
Or may she had forgotten and hurt that was red;
Perhaps she was tired or her kitten was dead—
She may have been hurt—in fact any one of
To tell why Miss Polly should whimper and
She happened at last from the window to glance,
And saw, whirling round by himself in a dance,
A grotesque monkey—a queer little wight,
Who made all the other boys scramble in sight.
He jumped and he capered, now low and now high,
Till Polly forgot she was crying a cry.
She laughed with the zest to the ordinary was gone,
And then began thinking (what one thing on
She put up her eyes and was troubled at her
She looked very mournful, she drew many
Then seized pencil and paper and sat down to
"Oh, grandmother—what was I going to
about?"

—*Youth's Companion.*

A CONVERSATION.

Jack Has a Desperate Struggle with the English Language.

"What did you say?" asked Mr Trusty, turning to look at his nephew, as Jack stood in the doorway.

"I said I didn't know, uncle," in answer to the boy.

"Oh, no, Jack, what you said was 'I don't know,' and that's the way that question was framed. You must remember that it is the Prince's words that go sailing along in our grand sweep. We English-speaking nations with all our words one step at a time."

"I mean we ought to, uncle."

"I must go on this word I mean," laughed the other. "Seriously, Jack, don't slur and mispronounce your words. The other day I heard Ned Williams asking you something, and you answered him 'I don't know, sir.' Now, what you meant by explaining out' you know best to tell."

"I meant I didn't care to go it, whatever it was," cried the boy.

"Is it possible?" exclaimed Mr Trusty, "then why didn't you say so?"

"I did, or something of the sort. But I wanted to ask you something very particular this morning. May I go out camping with some of the fellows this week?"

"Which do you want to go?"

"Next day."

"I don't know any such day."

Jack opened his eyes a moment then to answered, demurely: "It's the last day of the week, you know. And then he corrected his slang to suit the shortest way home?" You thought the day that you tried the short cut through the bog that you would never forget it. Now, don't you see that this kind of talk is the short cut through the bog? It is a sort of thing that it is much easier to leap into than to flounder out of. Suppose you keep clear of it, Jack. How does that strike you?"

"I think I would—it would be a good plan,"—returned the boy, "only, the worst of it is, I don't always carry out the rules."

"Who does?" said Mr Trusty. "But, if you will promise to do your best, I think it will go far towards curing you."

"What, uncle?"

He uncle named a person whom his has suggested the desire that Jack had been particular. "Never carefully whichever you hear him," said Mr Trusty, "and if you like the way of speaking I give you leave to follow it."

"Into the bog?" questioned the boy.

"Yes, into the bog if you like. But I warn you if you get in as deep as he is you will never get out. He never will."

"You better believe I don't mean to be here long," cried Jack. The other smiled a little—"what, uncle?"

"Oh, yes," said Mr Trusty, "the camping business. I don't think of any thing to prevent your going—always out of Arithmetic."

WHAT ONE BABY THINKS.

What It Can Do, and Its Opinion of Mothers—Not Half as Sweet as Sugar.

"I've been a baby all my life but I expect to get what is coming to me. I used to be a little fat of a baby, and now I'm very large one, indeed. I am full of things. I can pull over the work-basket, and pour on the morning paper, and play with the earth in the flowerpots. I can take hold of the fold-rivets, and pull it off the table. But I don't like to. That's a thing I've only want to do sometimes, because then my sister, and all couple of things on the bureau, and I'll tell you when they come tumbling down on your head.

"I can wiggle a little, too, but my real fun is a work at walking about, and growing all I expect to be every other, and that's the time the Head jumps up and grows as a young Elm, thinking the place stays the same thing, but it don't. I mean to grow.

"Mother is an nice things to have. The'd be more if they didn't keep coming at you to wash your face, and wish you put a bib on and give you food like having a big time with paper. They do those things because they think they know more than a baby does. I am willing to believe they do in some things, but they do make mistakes with me, I'm sometimes some knows and I have no till I'm all out of breath and sighs.

"Oh, to-ny, weeny, tweet, tweet it's sing! Oh, it's sweet, is sugar!"

"One day I thought I'd try it that was so. I guess my thumbs good bite, but it wasn't quite so sweet as sugar. I expected like every thing, because it I got, and because I was, of course, disappointed. I've nothing against the men, for they're very good in their way. They feed. You can suck one's off a day, and they're not as good as ever. If you put a sugar in a rag, it's all gone very soon, and then you to suck, which wouldn't matter, only I never get watered. But it's no use to talk about mouthing as sweet as sugar is.

"Mother is come here and day, and I go to her mother. She comes me. He don't bother me as me, and I can't do any thing against. Never mind, I—I'm glad as it let that I'm out of. He manner and to how. Well, I'm cried every day a floor, and every mummy. O, howdy, wooden sing in a whole world."

"There, she sat it on the floor. Of course I wanted to pull on things that I crept up, and took a good hold of the arm. It wasn't a bit as one runs my thumb, but he squalled louder than I did. You ought to have seen how they grabbed him up and hugged him, and made a fuss over him. And pointed to the pretty little tooth-marks I made on the arm, and said 'Aleck—naughty naughty'—to me.

"What do you think of that, now, for a way to treat a baby that wants to find out about things?"—*Detroit Companion.*

Companions.

A boy is known by the company he keeps. You are judged by your associates, for the very good reason that people usually select for their friends those who are in sympathy with themselves.

If suspicion in a school trouble of any sort falls upon a lad or a set of lads, you may be certain that they have been companions in mischief. Wrong-doing is much like a snow-ball rolling down hill; it gathers size and momentum as it goes. If a bad boy could always keep good company, few persons would credit him with badness. But a bad boy would be ill at ease among the good, and so you seldom find him in their society.

May your Aunt Maggie explain that she is not one of those crowding people who never like patronize strikes, and who consider high spirits and mischief out of place? Indeed, no. When she is in a frolic going on, you'll see it if I'm in one. I take the head of business. I undoubt the position at which prince a boy tell a lie rather than ever that he has been in the wrong, the ladies whose presence has to play a round of jokes and to pick of mischief, I will interpose and counsel silence.

That, you remember, is communicated by the heart. We are very careful not to put ourselves in their way. The water drinks in the world which affects only the body is, however, to be preferred to a wrong condition of the soul, and the best way to keep out of that is to choose good companions and avoid bad ones.—*Aunt Maggie Prentiss, in Harper's Young People.*

CABINET QUARREL.

The Secretary of the Treasury Selected by Tilden and Forced Upon the President.

The President is now anxious to have it appear that there has not been any friction between himself and Secretary Manning. To Colonel Lamont has been assigned the duty of refuting the idea. Lamont has communicated with the correspondents with reference to Magwumping and tattoo to harass the statement that the President had had unpleasantness with Secretary. It was Lamont, by the way, who gave out the story that Secretary Manning had fallen and wrenched his foot, which the fact was he had an ingrowing toe-nail.

I do not pretend to say what there is in the situation that has created the friction between Cleveland and Manning. It is enough, however, to say that there is friction, and that it is more serious than has been generally supposed. The President has been warned by his friends that Manning was a member of the Cabinet simply because he would be a source of strength to the Democratic party in New York, and that if he proved a source of weakness he should be got rid of. Therefore, a systematic examination of the matters of accounts and disbursements of the Treasury Department has been made, and the result is said to be satisfactory to the President. It is said that Governor Hill, for the Presidency nomination.

The President has not yet called on Secretary Manning, although his case is reported much improved. It is now said that he may be able to be out in a few days. Mr. Manning has not been confined to his bed, but has been sitting up in a room adjoining his bedroom. Secretary Whitney has been acting as Secretary of the Treasury. The Mr. Manning's illness has been the cause of much inconvenience to Secretary Whitney, which is said to be the reason why Secretary Manning was not taken to the Treasury Department. Secretary Whitney will be transferred to that department. There will be no change in the Cabinet before the 1st of January.

It is said that Secretary Manning is in the habit of calling the President "Grover," and the President addresses Secretary Manning as "Manning." This familiarity is said to have been the cause of much of the trouble between the two. Mr. Manning was a member of the Democratic State Committee of New York, which gave the President the nomination, and he has always claimed that he was entitled to be consulted in the matter of appointments. He was also a member of the Democratic National Committee, which elected the President, and he has always claimed that he was entitled to be consulted in the matter of appointments. He was also a member of the Democratic National Committee, which elected the President, and he has always claimed that he was entitled to be consulted in the matter of appointments.

A DISUNITED FAMILY.

The Futile Attempt of an Editor and Ex-Congressman to Bridge the Chasm Between the President and Democratic Leaders—Four Speaker Carlisle.

Samuel Sullivan Cox, ex-Congressman, editor of the New York *World*, who occupies confidential relations with President Cleveland and takes a deep interest in the present success as the head of the Democratic party, came to Washington and tried to bring about more cordial relations between the President and the Democratic leaders in Congress. He had various interviews with Mr. Cleveland and told him that there was a great deal of dissatisfaction throughout the country at the coldness that existed between himself and the members of his party, and urged the President to adopt means to familiarize himself with the views of the Democratic leaders and place himself on friendly terms with them. He mentioned particularly Beck, Voorhees, Carlisle, Morrison, Randolph and others as important men to be cultivated. The President thanked Mr. Dorsheimer for the interest he took in the matter, but complained that the men he mentioned seldom came to the White House to see him.

"The reason for this," replied Mr. Dorsheimer, "is that you do not treat them cordially when they do come."

The President replied that Mr. Carlisle came up to the White House some time before to see him, but that because the President could not see him just at that moment Carlisle became indignant, left the place, and had not since called.

Mr. Dorsheimer went to see Mr. Carlisle in the capacity of a peacemaker, and was informed that one morning the President was engaged with a millionaire company of visitors when Mr. Carlisle sent the message of an important matter, as it was necessary for him to be at the Capitol at two o'clock to call the House to order. The President took no notice of Mr. Carlisle's message, apparently thinking it did not mean any difference. When Mr. Carlisle called to the President's office, left the White House, and returned to the Capitol, and arrived there just in time to call the House to order. He never forgave the President and has never respected the Speaker of the House than he would have to a man with the ordinary office-seeker that he is. Carlisle could not waste his time in calling upon him.

When Mr. Dorsheimer got things straightened out, as he supposed between the President and the Democratic leaders, he induced the President to invite half a dozen of them to the White House to spend the evening for the purpose of holding an informal conference regarding the interests of the Democratic party and the world at large. The leaders in the Senate and House went to the Executive Mansion bubbling over with suggestions and advice to give the Executive, thinking that they had a chance to shape matters in proper form, but their disgust was very great and they have not attempted to recount it upon finding that the political conference was only a dinner party, and the consumption of oysters and the consumption of wines and champagne. Later Senator Gorman, Secretary Whitney and Mr. Manning were invited to dinner, and the President's wife and a few ladies were present. Mr. Manning was a member of the Democratic State Committee which gave the nomination, and he has always claimed that he was entitled to be consulted in the matter of appointments. He was also a member of the Democratic National Committee, which elected the President, and he has always claimed that he was entitled to be consulted in the matter of appointments.

REPUBLICAN BRIEFS.

Ben. The Democratic party is a Mugwump and Democratic Commissioner Brooks are having a fierce time over which is the larger. The Civil Service Reform Democrats have to be content with the gate-keeper's position. It is likely the gate-keeper will have to be content with the position.—*Pittsburg Press.*

Ben. The distinctive mission of an impoverished Democracy is to preserve local self-government so far as is consistent with the common good, and to stay the centralizing tendency, toward the absorption of its powers and responsibilities by the central authorities.—A. F. Ricci.

Ben. Mr. Pulitzer has been one of the most useful men in the present Congress. Few have done so much as those who have done nothing. None deserve better of the country than those who have not occupied any of its time. Still it was wise to pay Mr. A. a good doctor of a great journal has enough to do to attend to it.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Ben. The Washington gossips have it that if Secretary Manning retires from the Treasury Department Secretary Whitney will be transferred to that department. There will be no change in the Cabinet before the 1st of January. It is said that Secretary Manning is in the habit of calling the President "Grover," and the President addresses Secretary Manning as "Manning." This familiarity is said to have been the cause of much of the trouble between the two. Mr. Manning was a member of the Democratic State Committee which gave the nomination, and he has always claimed that he was entitled to be consulted in the matter of appointments. He was also a member of the Democratic National Committee, which elected the President, and he has always claimed that he was entitled to be consulted in the matter of appointments.

WHO IS SECRETARY?

Doubts Expressed as to Whether Mr. Bayard or Mr. Pendleton Would Be at the Head of the Important Office of State.

The Cabinet A

Mr. Bayard

Mr. Pendleton

FULL OF FUN.

—The politicians are almost always fat. They are people of wait, you know.

—Why is a good speller in a class of school children like a glass of champagne? Because they go to the head.

Fond Mamma—Are you better, my dear? Little Edie—I thanks to the pills, I guess? Yes? Well, I'm a—

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A [illegible] arrived in Pittsburg on Monday, [illegible] the [illegible]

A [illegible] square [illegible] Mississippi [illegible] Natchez [illegible] Vicksburg [illegible] Memphis [illegible] Cairo [illegible] Louisville [illegible] Cincinnati [illegible] Pittsburg [illegible] Wheeling [illegible] Parkersburg [illegible] Charleston [illegible] Kanawha [illegible] Point Pleasant [illegible] Huntington [illegible] Ashland [illegible] Catlettsburg [illegible] Portsmouth [illegible] Maysville [illegible] Ripley [illegible] Aberdeen [illegible] Vicksburg [illegible] Natchez