

PASSING EVENTS.

The wine product for 1885 is estimated at 15,000,000 gallons.

A Danbury, Conn., man swallowed a live frog several days ago for two bottles of beer.

A proposition has been made to erect a monument to Gen. Grant in Buffalo, N. Y., by popular subscription.

The last blow to the roller-skating rink has been given by a Philadelphia physician, who says that roller-skating enlarges the feet.

The Japanese have adopted the bicycle, and it has become popular there, but the Chinese seem wholly incapable of comprehending it.

It is now claimed that birds as nearly as possible imitate the nests in which they were reared, and bring to the work a sort of rudimentary education.

Prof. L. E. Richards, the Yale pedestrian, has walked nineteen hundred miles thus far this year for pleasure. Last year he made twenty-one hundred.

The Pennsylvania Railroad company is soon to open at Altoona, for the use of its employees, a library, reading-room, bath-rooms, and an assembly hall.

Fifteen thousand people at the opening of the Chautauqua school, which indicates that as a popular summer resort the school is fast taking the place of the camp meeting.

In a recent issue of a well-known French journal appeared the following advertisement: "Wanted, a distinguished and healthy looking man to be 'cured patient' in a doctor's waiting-room. Address, etc."

As two men were fishing in a mill-pond at Valatie, Columbia county, New York, the other day, they saw a crocodile about six feet long crawl into the water. It was put into the pond six years ago, when small.

The Jews of Austria complain that it is a great hardship that they should be forbidden to work on Sundays, since their religion obliges them to rest on Saturday. The Jewish population in Vienna alone amounts to 150,000.

Lunches at the Ascot races, eaten on the grass or under cover, consist of "bread, butter, and a 'ard boiled egg'" for a "threepence" or, more elaborately, the "periwinkle, 'ot 'ouse grapes, pebble pines," and as a sweet a package of acid drops.

The tribal government of the Cherokees is democratic in form, with an elective chief magistrate and an upper and lower house of representatives. The judiciary is also elective, and criminals are punished after the manner of the whites.

The dry weather in Texas affects *The Luling Wasp* in this manner: "The foam-covered courses of the air are constantly in sight, but the sound of their tramping comes not, nor do we feel the welcome spray from the rain-gold fountain."

Plainfield, N. J., has an odd and somewhat confusing title for its chief literary and artistic institution—the "Job Maie Public Library and Art Gallery." "Job Maie" is merely the name of the ex-mayor who has erected the building for his fellow-citizens.

A horse was thrown down in New York a few days ago by the iron shoe of one foot coming in contact with the cover of a manhole for the electric wires, which was affected by leakage, while the other foot touched the iron rail of the Bleeker street horse railroad.

As an illustration of the depreciation of land valued in England, *London Truth* states that a large free hold estate in North Wiltshire was offered for sale at Devizes, recently for \$100,000. There was not a single bid, and yet ten years ago this property was valued at \$240,000.

A statue of Moses in the Bullrushes, by Herman Kein, is to be placed at the lily pond in Fairmount park, Philadelphia.

Large flocks of blackbirds in Los Angeles county, California, are proving a check to the depredations of grasshoppers.

The Dominion government has reduced the tax on timber in British Columbia to 15 cents a tree or 20 cents a cord.

A novel game of base-ball will be played at Carlton, Yamhill county, Oregon, at an early day. Nine young ladies will play nine gentlemen, who must be over 50 years of age.

An exchange states that if a castor-oil plant is kept growing in a room, mosquitoes, flies, and other pests will not enter, or if they should they are soon found dead beneath the leaves.

Fifteen tons of grasshoppers, comprising, it is estimated, 60,000,000 separate insects, were captured at the Natoma vineyard, near Folsom, Cal., by drawing in the irrigating ditches.

Strawberry shortcake has been served out to all the prisoners in the Arkansas penitentiary, despite the provisions of the constitution concerning cruel and unusual punishment.

One juror in Clarke county, Georgia, has caused no less than twenty mistrials, and now it is proposed to leave his name and those of other men who have acted in the same manner out of the jury lists.

Macaulay's Table Talk.

The following, from the second part of the *Greville Memoirs*, illustrates the wonderful fullness and variety of Macaulay's knowledge:

Before dinner some mention was made of the portraits of the speakers in the speakers' house, and I asked how far they went back. Macaulay said he was not sure, but certainly as far as Sir Thomas Moore. "Sir Thomas Moore," said Lady Holland, "I did not know he had been speaker." "Oh, yes," said Macaulay, "don't you remember when Cardinal Wolsey came down to the house of commons, and Moore was in the chair?" And then he told the whole of that well known transaction, and all Moore had said. At dinner, among a variety of persons and subjects, principally ecclesiastical, which were discussed—for Melbourne loves all sorts of theological talk—we got upon India and Indian men of eminence, proceeding from Gleig's "Life of Warren Hastings," which Macaulay said was the worst book that ever was written; and then the name of Sir Thomas Munro came uppermost. Lady Holland did not know why Sir Thomas was so distinguished; when Macaulay explained all that he had ever said, done, written, or thought, and vindicated his claim to the title of a great man, till Lady Holland got bored with Sir Thomas, told Macaulay she had had enough of him, and would have no more. This would have dashed and silenced an ordinary talker; but to Macaulay it was no more than replacing a book on its shelf, and he was as ready as ever to open on any other topic. It would be impossible to follow and describe the various mazes of conversation, all of which he threaded with an ease that was always astonishing and instructive, and generally interesting and amusing. When we went up stairs we got upon the Fathers of the Church. Allen asked Macaulay if he had read much of the Fathers. He said, not a great deal. He had read Chrysostom when he was in India; that is, he had turned over the leaves, and for a few months had read him for two or three hours every morning before breakfast, and he had read some of Athanasius. "I remember a sermon," he said of Chrysostom's in praise of the bishop of Antioch; and then he proceeded to give us the substance of the sermon till Lady Holland got tired of the Fathers, again put her extinguisher on Chrysostom, as she had done on Munro, and with a sort of decision, and as if to have the pleasure of puzzling Macaulay, she turned to him and said, "Pray, Macaulay, what was the origin of a doll?" When were dolls first mentioned in history?" Macaulay was, however, just as much up to the dolls as he was to the fathers, and instantly replied that the Roman children had their dolls, which they offered up to Venus as they grew older; and quoted Pausanias for "Veneri donatæ a Virgine puppæ."

And I have not the least doubt, if he had been allowed to proceed, he would have told us who was the Chenexis of ancient Rome, and the name of the first baby that ever handled a doll. The conversation then ran upon Milman's "History of Christianity," which Melbourne praised, the religious opinions of Locke, of Milman himself, the opinion of the world thereupon, and so on to Strauss's book and his mythical system and what he meant by mythical. Macaulay began illustrating and explaining the meaning of a myth by examples from remote antiquity, when I observed that in order to explain the meaning of "mythical" it was not necessary to go so far back; that, for instance, we might take the case of William Huntington, S. S.; that the account of his life was historical, but the story of his praying to God for a new pair of breeches and finding them under a hedge was mythical. Now, I had just a general superficial recollection of this story in Huntington's "Life," but my farthing-rush-light was instantly extinguished by the blaze of Macaulay's all-grasping and all-retaining memory, for he once came in with the whole minute account of this transaction; how Huntington had prayed, what he had found, and where, and all he had said to the tailor by whom this miraculous nethergarment was made.

From the Chicago News.

"Yes, I carry every style of pipe out but the stovepipe," remarked a Madison street dealer, and they range in price all the way from 1 cent to \$150. Heretofore I have imported the most of my meerschaum goods from Vienna. People had an idea that anything that was imported was a superior article, but domestic goods are now very popular and are largely superseding the imported. Like the dry goods merchant, the hatter, and the clothier, we are entirely at the mercy of Dame Fashion. An article may be in the greatest demand one month and the next be absolutely unsalable. Yes, sir, we have our fastidious smokers. Why, there are hundreds of men in this city who would no more think of smoking a pipe that was out of style than a city belle would think of wearing a Shaker bonnet on her afternoon promenade down State street. The merchant prince's daughter is not more fastidious in her notions of dress than is the gentleman smoker in regard to the style of his pipe. What class of goods are most in demand? Oh, I sell more of the wooden, ranging from 50 cents to \$3, than anything else. The average man doesn't care to invest so much in a luxury, and I sell ten cheap pipes where I sell one of the more costly. How is trade? Well, I have been in Chicago twenty-eight years, and I believe that the past summer was as dull a season as I ever saw. However, fall trade is now opening up and we are doing a good business."

There are 507 miles of paved and 1,100 of unpaved streets in Philadelphia.

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD.

Farm Brevities.

The manufacture of a pound of bees-wax requires the assimilation of twenty-five pounds of honey.

Twenty acres of Clawson wheat in Kalamazoo County, Mich., yielded 1,004 bushels.

Mrs. Julia B. Nelson permits no barley to be planted on her 240-acre Minnesota farm, knowing that "the chief demand for it is from brewers."

According to the medical world every farmer wears out, on the average, two wives and a half in his lifetime.

There are near meapiaries of Italian bees, but they do not average any more to the hive than mine. I think, with your correspondent "Joseph," that the Italian queen business has been carried too far, and too much is claimed for them. I prefer brown bees for extracted honey in the South. At the New-Orleans Beekeepers' Congress I heard men who were queen breeders say the same thing.—Home and Farm.

To cure a horse of stumbling, which is caused by dragging the fore feet too low and catching the toe, the toe should be shortened and no toe calks used. A bracelet of wooden balls strung upon a strap should be worn around the leg above the lowest joint. This causes the horse to throw the feet out a little and so lift them up more. A stumbling horse should be driven with a tight check rein, if he is given to the habit of carrying the head low and bearing forward in the harness.

A pretty elaborate as well as extensive structure is the barn of George V. Forman, now nearly completed, near Olean, N. Y. It is 264 by 46 feet in size, is placed upon a substantial stone foundation with four or five feet of space under the floor and numerous windows in the walls for purposes of ventilation. It will be as warm as a house, as it has a heavy plank floor and is sided and ceiled with fine pine lumber. There are 27 capacious windows in each side, with large ornamental ones in front. At both ends and in the centre is an ornamental tower, which serves as a ventilator.

The Ideal Cow.

The question is sometimes asked "Can polled cattle be good milkers?" It is the sheerest nonsense to suppose that horns have anything to do with the milkflow. Horns are neither useful nor ornamental, except from the force of habit. They are, on the other hand, both troublesome and dangerous, as the many cases every year of accidents and even death, resulting from persons being hooked go to prove. Here and there may now be found a dairy composed of hornless cattle; we have not been able to learn that any such are less productive than others. Were the breeds of polled cattle to be further improved, by breeding from selected animals only for a considerable time, excellent milking or other qualities might become established, and we believe a demand could be easily worked up for such improved stock. An improved breed of "mooleys" would afford almost the ideal family cow.

The Classification of Wools.

The Sheep Breeder.

This important article is divided by English staplers into a number of different classes and names, all of which, however, come under the head of long and short wools.

Long wool is so called because its staple runs to a great length. The best qualities of this wool are obtained from the English sheep, principally those which are bred in Lincolnshire and Leicestershire. The wool of the former is very long and silky, and has often been used in the place of mohair. Long wool, however, is generally used for combing purposes and the making of worsted yarns.

Short wool takes its name from the fact that the staple is shorter than that of the long wool, and not because it is inferior to long wool; for, taking it on the whole, it is more useful and can be used for more purposes than the long wool. The best qualities of short wool are obtained from Australia, and are sent to the London, England, wool sales in great quantities. Blue Philip and Sidney wools are about the best of those that can be bought. Short wools are used for fine mixtures, coatings, and a great variety of heavy and light goods.

Lambs' wool is shorn from the animal before it is a year old. It is the finest in quality, and best in color the sheep can produce, although it is short in staple in consequence of the age of the sheep, it is the best for the fine mixtures because of its tendency to spread; it will also make fine even yarn.

Yearling wool is so called because the sheep is clipped when a year old. The staple is stronger than that of the lamb and it will spin to a good length.

Fleece Wool.—Second and subsequent years of the sheep. The staple is thicker and longer than that of the two former. It is used in almost every class of the woolen trade, especially for heavy coatings.

Greasy Wool.—This is the ordinary fleece uncleaned. It has a fair staple, but loses nearly one-half its weight when scoured.

Scoured Wool.—Either lambs' or fleece, when shorn, is very greasy and dirty. It is scoured so as not to cost so much in carriage.

Handwashed Wool.—This may be called fleece wool, but the sheep are washed by hand before shearing. It is not a good wool and only suitable for low purposes.

Skin Wool or Puled Wool.—This wool is taken from the skin of the sheep slaughtered for food, and in consequence of the lime and other chemicals used in burning the wool from the skin the staple is rendered

very tender. It is only suitable for goods not being milled, unless blended with other wool of a superior quality.

Hornless Cattle.

The horns of an animal can be destroyed in embryo with very little pain in the following manner: The small nubs from which the horns will grow, which appear on a calf's head, are cut off with a knife so that the embryo horns can be cut away. This is done with great ease and quiet rapidly by the use of a sharp knife. The wound is then seared with a white hot iron, which is not painful, as the great heat deadens the sensation, and it soon heals. The horn is destroyed and its growth prevented. Considering the great danger of injury from the horns of cattle this operation is a necessary one, and as it is less painful than that of docking lambs' tails and far less painful than castration, any person who objects to it may be thought more nice than wise.

Grain Drops.

Farmers should eat more farinaceous food, and less meat and potato. Oat meal and cracked wheat recommend themselves as among the most nutritive and easily digested of foods. We have oat meal or cracked-wheat mush on our table for breakfast every day. We run a pound or so of whole wheat through a coffee mill, which enables us to have purer and better grain than we can buy of grocers. After buying canary seed and other stuff mixed with the wheat at the store, we resorted to this device, as an experiment. It gives the best of satisfaction to all. Those farmers who grow wheat would do well to save out a bushel or two for family use, cracking a little at a time in a hand mill. It will pay farmers to plant enough seed for family use, if no more.—Country Home

Marry a Gentleman.

It was an excellent advice, "I saw lately given to young ladies urging them to marry only gentlemen or not marry at all. The word was used in its broadest truest sense. It did not have reference to those who have fine raiment and white hands and the veneering of society polish, merely, to entitle them to the distinction, but to those possessed of true, manly and noble qualities, however hard their hands and sunbrowned their faces. A true gentleman is generous and unselfish. He regards another's happiness and welfare as well as his own. You will see the trait running through all his actions. A man who is a bear at home among his sisters, and discourteous to his mother, is just the man to avoid when you come to the great question of yes or no. A man may be ever so rustic in his early surrounding, if he is a true gentleman he will not bring a blush to your cheek in any society by his absurd behavior. There is an instinctive politeness inherent in such a character, which everywhere commands respect and makes its owner pass for what he is—one of nature's noblemen. Do not despair, girls, there are such men still in the world. You need not all die old maids.—Woman at Work.

Plain Truths for Girls Who Flirt.

Whatever idea the young girls who practice street flirting may entertain of their seemingly innocent pastime, it may be set down as a certainty that when a respectable young man desires the acquaintance of one who may some day become his wife, he doesn't go out on the street and seek for acquaintance through a flirtation. But, on the other hands, the flirt of the street, no matter how innocent and fair her intentions may be, is the last person he would seek as his life's companion. He desires purity, without and above suspicion. The young lady who engages in this kind of pastime should bear in mind that she not only endangers her reputation and leaves a stain upon her good name, but that her name is a by word among those with whom she flirts, to be bandied about in the saloons, on the street corners, and in the lowdown unholly places in the city; fastening on her otherwise fair name a stigma or stain that will follow her years after she sees her folly and attempts to mend her ways.

How to Make a Scrap-Book.

Take a "Patent Office Report," or any decent looking book of no value, and with a sharp knife, cut out every other leaf, the whole way through; this will give plenty of room between backs for your scraps. Then make a thin paste with flour or starch, and apply with a brush to the scraps; as you paste them in the book use a clean cloth to rub the wrinkles smooth. It is better to have a good supply of scraps before you begin to paste; then you can assort and trim so as to fill the page nicely. This book is intended for cuttings from papers, etc., that are too good to be wasted, but bright pictures can be used so as to make it attractive. Where you make good selections, a very interesting book will be the result, which will be a favorite in the family, especially among the young folks that are on the "look out" for declamation and such things. If you can draw, the blank pages will be a good place to display your talent in that direction.

Abuse of the Muscles of Baby-Eyes.

The two muscles—a set for each eye—act in perfect correlation, and enable the organ in an instant of time to cover an infinite range of vision. No fine adjustment of the telescope, no system of lenses and prisms, can accomplish this feat in an instant of time.

The utmost caution is therefore imperatively demanded of every person to whom is consigned the care of the

young child from infancy to perhaps the third year of life. It is during this time that damage to the muscular apparatus of the eye may be done. The mother or nurse is eager to have baby see everything from the nursery-window, or from a carriage or car. How many tired heads, languid eyes, and disordered tempers result from this mistake! How often is loss of accommodative power, or enlarged pupil, or cross-eye the consequence! Worms, "inward fits," sour stomach, flatulents, and bad temper are some of the morbid and moral posers which the mother and the family doctor ponder over.

An indication of the delicate and underdeveloped muscular apparatus of the eyeball within the first two months of life is found in the ease with which some infants look cross-eyed. It is well known that in sleep the eyes are turned upwards under the brows, and inwardly, and that a true crossed condition of the optical axes occurs during this state.

An occasional temporary crossing of the eyes of an infant above two months of age should be carefully investigated. The child should be handled lightly; it should not be played with too much; it ought to lie or roll on its back in preference to sitting on the lap or in a chair. Any unequal size of the pupils should be carefully noted. It may be either the sign of some internal trouble or a simple local affection of the muscular tissue controlling the pupil.—Babyhood.

Education of Girls.

Louisa M. Alcott says of the education of girls: "I can only hope that with the new and freer ideas now coming up some of the good old ways may also be restored. Respect shown to the aged, modesty, simple dress, home-keeping, daughters learning from good mothers their domestic arts, are so much better than the too early frivolity and freedom so many girls now enjoy. The little daughter sent me by my dying sister has given me a renewed interest in the education of girls and a fresh anxiety concerning the sort of society they are to enter by and by. Health comes first, and early knowledge of truth, obedience, and self-control; then such necessary lessons as arithmetic as taste and talent lead her to desire—a profession or trade to fall back upon in time of need, that she may not be dependent or too proud to work for her bread. Experience is the best teacher, and with good health, good principles and a good education any girl can make her own way and be the graver and better for the exertion and discipline."

An Aged Beau's Rebuff.

In the Mary Anderson company is plump, smooth, jolly Miss Tibbury. She doesn't amount to much as an actress yet, being a novice, but her youth and comeliness are very compelling to the auditors of stage femininity. Boquets and notes are sent to her by the noodles, and one evening a somewhat years-worn beau, famous for a quarter of a century as a gallant of the green-room, was struck hard by her agreeable personality. His social and business relations with the management were such that he was able, just after rehearsal next day, to be introduced to the girl. She received him respectfully, but not ardently, and he felt that he was not making a deep impression. He therefore made some intently silly remarks, intended to convey his admiration. "I seem to have been acquainted with you for a long time, somehow," he said.

"That's natural, sir," Miss Tibbury responded. "I am wonderfully like what my mother was fifteen years ago. You were very sweet on her, judging by the letters you wrote, and the inscriptions on the back of your photographs that you gave her. I was overhauling a boxful of her trash just before I sailed from England, and we had a good laugh over those things."

"And who was your mother?" "Lydia Thompson."

The wooer of two generations retired as soon as he conveniently could.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Archdeacon Farrar Says there is no Real Skepticism.

In a recent sermon in Philadelphia Canon Farrar said he did not believe that a genuine atheist existed; that not one man in millions really doubted the existence of God; but, notwithstanding this, clergymen were constantly in receipt of letters from those who were either fanatically or sincerely troubled with doubts. Such anxieties were especially frequent among the young. As a general thing there was no real skepticism, but what was taken for it was merely the result of self-conceit or self-disgust. When honest, he said, it should, of course, be the object of a pastor's most anxious and faithful labor; but those honestly troubled should distinguish carefully between essentials and non-essentials; between things destined to be shaken and things made to remain. The miracle wrought by Joshua or the reality of the garden of Eden were not points of saving truth, but of biblical criticism. Nor did the opinions of Augustine or Wesley, or the dogmas of the church, he argued, constitute Christianity, which was to believe in God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; to depend upon Christ for life everlasting; to love God with all the heart and to love one's neighbor as one's self.

In dealing with confirmed infidels the speaker advised that no time be wasted in scriptural criticism, but that seven questions be propounded which no agnostic could answer. These were: "Where did matter come from?" "What is the origin of motion?" "Whence proceeded the order of nature?" "Whence came consciousness, free will and conscience?" And the test questions for the Christian are: "Do you believe in God and love Him, and do you love your fellow-man for Christ's sake?"

Things Compressed.

The finest church in Buenos Ayres is called the Church of the Remembrance. It is of pure Roman architecture, in Italian marble, and cost about \$250,000. It is the property of Senor Don Carlos Guerrero, a wealthy citizen, who erected it as a memorial to his daughter, who was murdered by a rejected lover about ten years ago.

An alarm against violent exercise is sounded by the medical and surgical examiners. They say it may be accepted as a truism that any nature or amount of exercise that will cause the heart to jump or thump against the chest-wall in exercise carried to an excessive and alarming extent. The athlete and the slugger, for this reason, are short lived.

Norristown Herald: "The new special delivery service is a great boon," said a Norristown young lady recently, sticking a 10-cent stamp on a letter directed to a female friend in Philadelphia, said missive conveying the important intelligence that the writer was out riding with Charley and had an invitation to attend a wedding.

The manager of a circus which has recently visited Canada says: "Nowhere else in the world are audiences so interesting to the performers. In Quebec, Montreal, Hamilton, and London, notable fugitives from United States law—such as Eno, Mother Mandelbaum, and I suppose not less than 50 more—are pointed out to the ring people by some resident person. These exiles are sure to go to the circus to relieve the tedium of life in their uncongenial cities; and they are interesting to showmen, just as big financial rogues are to all Americans."

The New Orleans Picayune says: "A queen bee lays from 2,000 to 3,000 eggs in ninety-four hours. It is not necessary to ask 'How doth the little busy bee?' She doeth well, and should be a shining example to the lazy hen that can only be induced to lay one egg in twenty-four hours, and then only when eggs are cheap."

It is worth remembering that during the first visit of cholera at St. Petersburg, in 1832, says Iron, a firm of iron founders employing five hundred men informed them that all those who would not take a teaspoonful of powdered charcoal on entering the works in the morning must leave their employ. The consequence was that they did not lose a single man when myriads were dying around them.

The Hartford Times has the following interesting paragraph: "Jay Gould's ancestor, Nathan Gold, was the richest man in Fairfield, Ct., in 1670, and was an Assistant of his colony (an office answering to Senator at the present day). He died in great honor and respect as 'The Worshipful Major Nathan Gold, Esq., in 1694.' His son, Nathan Gold, died in office as Assistant Governor of Connecticut in 1723. The latter was grandfather of Colonel Abraham Gold or Gould (Jay Gould's great grandfather), who was killed at the battle of Ridgefield, in 1777, the place where he fell being shown to the present day."

In 1863 the Rev. Newton Chance, of Texas, killed an editor in Sherman and moved to Mississippi. At that time he was a lawyer, but becoming converted, he entered the ministry. Recently he returned to Texas, and while on a visit to Sherman was arrested for the murder committed twenty-two years ago.

Sir Arthur Bass (of Bass's ale fame) has purchased Chesterfield House, for nearly one million dollars. In the hands of a famous architect it will be restored to its old-time glory, and among the restorations will be the famous mantelpieces which were taken by Lord Chesterfield to Bretly.

"That Presidential Grub."

When Vicksburg fell, President Lincoln wrote to General Grant, "I now wish to make personal acknowledgment that you were right, and I was wrong." This frank avowal was prompted by the fact that the President had doubted the success of Grant's campaign, though he had wisely kept his opinion to himself until then. But an anecdote, told by General J. H. Wilson, in the October Century, brings to light the fact that, magnanimous as was the letter, the capture of Vicksburg brought a new anxiety into Mr. Lincoln's mind.

Mr. T. R. Jones, United States Marshal for Northern Illinois, and a warm friend of General Grant and of President Lincoln, was present at the surrender of Vicksburg. Soon after the marshal's return to Chicago, the President telegraphed him to come to Washington. On his arrival, he was met at the station by the President's carriage, and taken directly to the White House.

Mr. Lincoln, having greeted him cordially, led the way into the library, closed the door and said: "I have sent for you, Mr. Jones, to know if that man Grant wants to be President."

"No, Mr. President," replied Jones. "Are you sure?"

"Yes," said Jones, "perfectly sure; I have just come from Vicksburg; I have seen General Grant frequently, and talked freely with him, about that and every other question, and I know he has no political aspirations whatsoever, and certainly none for the Presidency. His only desire is to see you re-elected, and to do what he can under your orders to put down the rebellion, and restore peace to the country."

"Ah, Mr. Jones," said Lincoln, "you have lifted a great weight off my mind, and done me an immense amount of good, for I tell you, my friend, no man knows how deeply that presidential grub gnaws till he has had it himself."