

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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That new peanut trust should lose no time in getting a corner on peanut politics. A motion to reconsider is in order on the resolution condemning Colonel Stotsenburg unseen and unheard.

The new charter amendment bill will be in the nature of a compromise, but it is to be hoped all the good will not be compromised out of it.

The more railroads entering Omaha the more opportunities for business radiating from this point. If the people behind the projected new road from the south are in earnest they will find Omaha ready to co-operate.

And now we are told there are worse firetraps in Omaha than the burned Patterson block. Perhaps so. But the quicker precautions are taken to insure safety to people who might be in them when a fire breaks out the better.

Stranger that the objection to the new method of electing city councilmen in Omaha which was engrafted on the charter by the late fusion delegation from Douglas should emanate from the fusion end of the present delegation.

For the first three weeks of March Kansas City has a lead over Omaha of 58,000 in the number of hogs packed. In the corresponding period of last year the difference was \$1,000. Omaha is marching steadily along toward second place.

THE CHARTER AMENDMENT BILL.

The charter amendment bill as unanimously agreed on by the Douglas county delegation ought to pass. While there may be some difference of opinion on some of the more minor provisions, it offers the remedy for crying defects in the existing charter which should not be allowed to go uncorrected.

This is especially true of the abolition of the tax exemption which the railroads have been enjoying at the expense of other property owners under the new assessment system and the arrangements which make consolidation of Omaha and South Omaha possible upon a majority vote of the electors of each city expressing themselves upon the proposition.

The compromise reached upon other important matters at issue are satisfactory as could be expected. The restoration of the council to a body of eighteen members, one-half elected by wards and one-half at large, meets all the objections urged by the foe against the reduction when proposed two years ago and further opens the way for the adequate representation of South Omaha in the council should the people of both cities agree to accept the annexation invitation.

The same applies to the provision changing the time of election, which has been so constructed as to legislate no one into office and no one out of office, yet at the same time to do away after one more election with the costly separate municipal election.

By restoring the requirement for a petition of property owners for paving, but keeping the 3,000-foot limit about the court house, in which the authority of the council is supreme, the amendment covering this feature safeguards the business center against public improvement obstructionists. The changes in the salary schedule are also in the nature of compromise and constitute a better equalization of the compensations of the different municipal officers.

From the standpoint of economy the balance is probably on the side of a small saving to be effected by the proposed amendments and this no taxpayer will have serious objection.

SIMPLY SPARRING FOR WIND. The attempt of the opponents of revenue law revision to sidetrack all revenue legislation by pushing to the front a scheme for a commission appointed to investigate the subject and report a revenue measure to the next legislature is simply a game of sparring for wind. The corporation lobby that has been trying to play battledore and shuttlecock with the Pollard bill and the Van Dusen bill is paid to see that no change is made in the present revenue laws. The big corporations are quite content with the existing system of taxation, by which they are enabled by the timely use of a little money with assessors and other officials to evade the tax burdens that properly belong on them and shift them upon the great body of small taxpayers and property owners who are not adepts in tax shirking. Anything that will maintain the present law undisturbed is what the corporation managers want, hence their eager approval of the suggestion of a revenue commission, because a revenue commission means staving off action for at least two years and gives hope that the legislature two years from now will be equally if not more complaisant.

The people of Nebraska have been demanding revenue revision for the past six years. They confidently expected the last legislature to respond to this demand, but the fusion majority disappointed them, preferring to devote its time to partisan measures designed solely for political capital. The present legislative majority is elected upon a distinct pledge to revise the revenue laws of the state in the direction of a more equal distribution of the burdens of taxation. It is not expected to produce perfect legislation, but it certainly can, if it will, institute an improvement over the present unsatisfactory system. Confessing inability to meet the problem by shoving this duty off to a revenue commission whose report must run the precariously gauntlet of another legislature to be chosen two years hence can not be regarded as redemption of the pledge of revenue law revision.

substantial. Speaker Reed is opposed to expansion and his influence has been exerted against some projects which are favored by the administration. This has created some popular opposition to him, which in a rather feeble way is urging that he shall not be re-elected, but President McKinley, it can confidently be said, will give no countenance to this opposition and least of all will he attempt to control the organization of the house. No president has shown a greater regard for the independence of the legislative branch of the government than Mr. McKinley has and there is no reason to doubt that he will continue to do so. There will be no attempt on the part of the executive, it is safe to predict, to influence the next house of representatives in the choice of a speaker.

Whatever understanding, if any, has been reached between these distinguished republican leaders as the result of their meeting at Jekyll Island is undoubtedly entirely straightforward and honorable. Both have the interests and welfare of their country and party sincerely at heart and as wise and patriotic statesmen they can be depended upon to conserve these. If there are any who hope for a break between President McKinley and Speaker Reed they will be disappointed.

THE ADDRESS TO THE FILIPINOS. Assuming that the report regarding the address of the Philippine commission is correct, its terms are essentially the same as those of the proclamation issued by General Otis when he took command at Manila and in view of the fact that the Filipinos paid no attention to that it is hardly to be supposed that they will be influenced by the address of the commission, which has no more authority, if so much, as that of the military commander, to carry out the assurances given. The natives were told at the outset that the purpose of the United States was to prepare them for self-government and they declined to give any heed to the assurance because they believed themselves already capable of self-government. Is it at all likely that a repetition of this will have any effect upon them? It is probable that having rejected the assurances of the military authorities, which came directly from the president, they will be disposed to accept those of the commission? We think not and shall not be surprised if the address of the commission is absolutely unproductive of results, so far as the people engaged in hostilities are concerned.

The reports indicate that the Filipinos are as determined as ever to continue the war. Admitting that there may be a good deal of the bragart in Aguinaldo, it none the less appears to be the fact that he has great influence over his followers. A week ago it was said that the enemy was weakening and that the end of hostilities was not far off. The latest advice put a different aspect upon the situation. The American forces appear to have settled down, while those of the enemy seem to be active and threaten to assume the offensive. Apparently hostilities are far from termination and the chances of the Filipinos laying down their arms, as invited by the commission, are no better now than a month ago. Reports to the contrary notwithstanding those people do not seem to be in the least dismayed or disheartened by their reverses. It is not a new experience to them. They suffered defeats and heavy losses in fighting the Spaniards, yet they kept it at for years. They may realize that Americans are better fighters than the Spaniards and they may understand that the resources of the United States for carrying on war are much greater than were those of Spain, but they seem willing to put those to the fullest test.

Sooner or later, undoubtedly, the organized forces of the Filipinos will be beaten, but will that end our troubles with them? A conquered people who feel that they have been robbed of their birthright are not likely to rest quietly under the rule of the conqueror, unless held in submission by stern military power. Indeed, Spain was unable to keep the Filipinos submissive even by the exercise of such power and there is no reason to suppose this government would be more successful. The spirit of insurrection would be kept alive and from time to time would manifest itself in a troublesome way. "If we do not put Aguinaldo, as we did Geronimo," suggests an advocate of subjugation, "in some place where he can be kept out of mischief, he will be continually plotting against us and fomenting sedition." But there are others to take the place of Aguinaldo.

The solution of the Philippine problem, to all appearances, is remote. The American mania for money making has invaded Canada, and the Plains of Abraham, where the gallant Wolfe and the brave Montcalm fell, are to be cut up into town lots and placed upon the market. In this country we have shown small respect for historical places with the result that many of the spots where history was made have been obliterated. A brick yard covers the field of Redbank, Valley Forge was for years used as a tannery and Brandywine is a sheep pasture. Possibly no other country in the world is as careless about these things as the United States, and, while our historical societies have done something and promise to do more for the preservation of historical places, it is to be regretted that our people do not take more interest in these things and that Canada has decided to depart from the policy of England in these matters and follow our example.

The Industrial, if somewhat unscrupulous, Filipino junta at Hong Kong is composed altogether of just such men as one would suppose from reading the reports sent out by it. That an American could fall so low as to engage in such work seems almost incredible and yet such is the case. The head of the junta is F. W. Sylvester of Sutterlee, who is wanted in Philadelphia on charges of fraud and forgery, while Etzler and Spitzer, the other members, are in full possession of notorious reputations, which would indicate that

they are also vigorous and energetic scoundrels. Their associate, Bray, is an Englishman and he was chased out of Manila for trying to steal the estate of a rich Filipino. Altogether, the junta seems admirably suited for the work it is performing, but there is little doubt that the credulous Filipinos have literally fallen among thieves.

It is reported that the newly formed Smelter trust will advance the price of silver 10 per cent. The effort to raise the price of a product which depends on the world for a market and for which there is scarcely a demand for the amount produced will be watched with considerable interest. If it can be done it will do more to hasten the passage of legislation to effectually deal with these great combinations than any other event which could have happened. This is not because the people object to an increase in the value of silver, but because it will be such a striking exhibition of the power of these great combinations. If a trust can advance and maintain the increase in price of a product which is of world-wide production, not a necessity nor protected by favorable legislation, there is practically no limit to the powers of combined capital.

The people of the Black Hills have again taken hold in earnest of the projects to secure better railway facilities. One of the plans is to build a direct line to Denver and the other is to construct a line across the Indian reservation, giving direct connection with St. Paul and Minneapolis. The construction of the latter line in particular would cut into Omaha trade. Its building cannot be prevented, but if Omaha would exhibit the same energy which is required of the Twin Cities to build it, this city could easily recoup itself by securing the construction of a direct line into eastern South Dakota. The northern cities now enjoy an advantage in this territory to which they are in no wise entitled by natural conditions and which they could not hold with a direct line of road leading into it from Omaha.

The society editor of the Madrid paper who announced that the queen regent was about to marry is to be prosecuted. A residence across the border is the most pleasant location for European newspaper writers who toy with the affairs of royalty. The Madrid society editor had better remove to this country, where he might secure a handsome present for starting the rumor that some rich American girl was about to marry an Austrian archduke.

IN IT AT THE FINISH. Whether that collier trust is capitalized at \$20,000,000 or much less its object is to get the dead wood on the general public.

STILL, THE PACKET YAWNS. Several members of the prorepublican Cuban "assembly" declare that the offer of \$5,000,000 from this government as a loan to pay the army is an insult. Nevertheless they would be delighted to pocket the insult.

FIT FOR PROMOTION. Admiral Schley has passed the physical examination for promotion to the rank of rear admiral. There are some formalities still to be attended to, but to all intents and purposes he passed the other examinations at Santiago bay.

BRAVE MEN LED BY BUNGALERS. A Bostonian who has been deeply impressed upon the state of the world by the results of the recent war is that the Spanish soldier and the Spanish sailor are generally heroic fighters, but that their officers are, as a rule, flighty and incompetent. The late lamented captain of the Spanish fighting power was simply a case of good machinery in the hands of bungling engineers.

MUCH TO LEARN. Evidently Ambassador Choate has still to learn that a diplomat cannot treat subjects of international concern with the inaccuracy of an after-dinner speaker in New York is that an after-dinner speaker in New York is that an after-dinner speaker in New York is that an after-dinner speaker in New York.

POINTERS ON PEACE. Kansas City Star: Did you ever hear of such a coincidence before as peace being ratified on St. Patrick's day? The treaty of peace, between the United States and Spain, according to precedent, should be known as the treaty of St. Patrick's day.

Washington Star: When our late ambassador strikes a balance sheet will she not find that she has not fared so badly in her late encounter with the great republic after all? And as for ourselves, can we assert with any degree of confidence that our war with Spain has been entirely what we had hoped to make it, especially when we cast our glance toward the war-torn Philippines?

Philadelphia Press: The treaty of peace with Spain goes into effect when ratifications are exchanged. The signature of the queen of Spain does not "end the war." This was ended by the protocol last August. But ending a war does not restore peace. This will only come when the treaty has been signed on both sides, which has been, and the signed treaties are exchanged by way of ratification.

Washington Star: To Spain have come few blessings, and those only negative, as a result of the contest. She loses her colonies, which, under her corrupt rule, had become tenets of her public servants, and a constant menace to her peace. She has lost her navy, which had become obsolete and was a broken reed. She must disown the greater part of an expensive, inefficient army. She must, in fact, start practically anew as a nation, stripped of her imperial adornments, reduced to hard terms and confronted with factions at home.

Brooklyn Eagle: Consideration of the consequences following the ratification of the treaty by Spain will displace any special note of jubilation at the fact itself. Peace is a blessing, but, as a fact, war between the two countries ceased months ago. The treaty is no more than a recognition of what has been restored between the United States and Spain—does not exist between the United States and the Philippines; and as a further fact, there is friction in Cuba and charges of fraud and forgery, while Etzler and Spitzer, the other members, are in full possession of notorious reputations, which would indicate that

THE PACER THAT KILLS.

Boston Transcript: In a financial storm securities are among the first to feel the chill of adversity. Thus, in the panic of 1892, National Cordage dropped, in a single week from \$63.75 to \$18, and later touched \$7 per share. General Electric also, in a few weeks, made a loss of \$68 a share for its holders, falling from \$100 to \$45 between May and August. That a like experience awaits these latter ventures is evident enough, and good judges see in their extraordinary increase the reason for a crash as disastrous as any that we have yet seen and as far reaching in its effects.

United States Investor: The outlook is distressing. We have gone on supremely unconscious of what we were doing, until we have evolved a state of affairs from which escape is impossible without great hardship. An enormous number of water-logged business known as trusts, have been set afoot. In the smash that is bound to come the certificates of these organizations will sell at their real value, which means an appalling loss to investors. The end will be that the trust system, in the consumption power of the country, due to the distribution of a great horde of employees whom the trusts have elected from positions previously occupied. We cannot imagine a much worse state of affairs.

Philadelphia Record: The purchase of extensive and costly establishments to keep them idle is a very wasteful operation. In the necessity of buying out competing firms, which are frequently organized solely that they may be sold at a high profit, is being spent money which is being lost in the necessity of buying out competing firms. The trusts are now having the most extraordinary boom in industrial history, and they are spending millions of dollars wholly to tariff legislation for the benefit of the few at the expense of the many. For the consolation of the many, however, it is happily ordained that even the tallest trust and monopoly trees cannot grow quite unto the sky.

Springfield Republican: Every trust that has been formed has closed some factories and discharged some wage labor, and people have talked of it as a baneful influence of consolidation and monopoly. And what, of the group of the army of the unemployed, and then other salaried or commissioned agents, and then merchants—among the very mainstays of the existing industrial and social fabric? These are the average and who are generous consumers. What of the effect upon the commodity and labor markets of their idleness or to a precarious and poorly-paid existence? The great middle class in American society is thus to be gradually crushed and turned into the class of the wage slave.

Philadelphia Press: It is not consolidation but overcapitalization which is the chief peril of these mergers. In all, in fifteen months, there has been placed on the public market shares in these enterprises to the amount of \$2,750,000,000. This does not represent value. The sales and quotations of the common stock shows this. This vast load of inflated capital is an attempt to take advantage of a period of extravagant speculation to sell to the public mills and factories which by no possibility could be sold to individuals. The "water" in these capitalizations prepares the same receiverships and bankruptcies as the "water" in railroads organized, projected and built from 1865 to 1890. The bonds would have paid for many of these lines. The stock was water. So, now, the "preferred" stock in these capitalizations represents all the real money of the country.

Inflation like this can end in collapse. Let any accident or incident check public confidence and a crash will come. Nothing can prevent it. This will be accelerated and aggravated because the corporate law under which these companies are organized gives shareholders no rights, no remedies, no reports and no protection.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. The Filipinos can make the Americans run every time, by keeping a little ahead of them.

Richard Mansfield's share of the receipts for twenty weeks' playing of "Cyrano de Bergerac" is said to amount to \$120,000.

Now comes Mr. Tesla with an invention with which he is to destroy all kinds of microbes and render mankind immune from disease.

Dr. Samuel Kohn, the chief rabbi of Budapest, for the last thirty years has been a member of the Hungarian House of Magnates, being the first rabbi ever appointed to the upper house of Parliament in the Austro-Hungarian empire.

James Butler, owner of the Windsor hotel, burned last week in New York, began his business career twenty years ago in that hostelry. He is now a millionaire grocer, with stores to the number of eighty-five in New York City alone, besides others elsewhere.

It is probable that General Miller, who is now at Hilo, will erect a summer residence in Stockbridge, Mass. Relatives of General Miller in that village have received letters from him in which he announces his intention of taking up a residence in the village of his nativity.

ECHOES OF THE WAR.

Malolos, the capital of the "Filipino Republic," toward which the American troops are moving, is thirty miles from Manila and is one of the most important cities of the province. Malolos ranks in population from 5,000 to 20,000. The population of the province is put at 230,000. Malolos is situated near the foot of a range of mountains, which rise about thirty miles back of Manila. All of the country between Manila and Malolos is said to be level and in many places very swampy. There are canals innumerable for draining of the water into the rivers. These canals and the swampy character of the country will make the advance of the American troops slow, if they are met with any formidable show of resistance. The roads between Manila and Malolos are very poor character that the carrying of any heavy artillery will be out of the question. The only artillery which will be available will be such as can be carried upon the backs of mules.

The province of Bulacan is very thickly settled, its many river towns being closely settled. The town of Bulacan, formerly the capital of the province, has a population of 13,180. It is situated twenty-two miles from Manila, has a church, a town hall and about 2,600 stone houses. Angat, with a population of 10,345, is situated four miles from Bulacan; Balingue, with a population of 14,122, is situated nineteen miles from Bulacan; Barasain, with a population of 5,675, is situated six miles from Bulacan; Bigaa, with a population of 8,120, is situated three and one-half miles from Bulacan; Bocaue, with a population of 10,345, is situated four and one-half miles from Bulacan; Bustos, with a population of 7,925, is situated two miles from Bulacan; Calumot, with a population of 15,772, is situated twelve miles from Bulacan; Guiguinto, with a population of 5,115, is situated two miles from Bulacan; Hagonoy, with a population of 20,120, is situated twenty miles from Bulacan; Malolos, Aginaldo's capital, has a population of 14,590 and is situated six miles from Bulacan; Marilao, with a population of 5,675, is situated eight miles from Bulacan; Melican, with a population of 8,119, is situated seven miles from Bulacan; Meralco, with a population of 5,205, is situated six miles from Bulacan; Obando, with a population of 7,948, is situated seven miles from Bulacan; Paombong, with a population of 10,297, is situated eight miles from Bulacan; Polo, with a population of 7,549, is situated seven miles from Bulacan; Quiapo, with a population of 8,854, is situated seven miles from Bulacan; San Ildefonso, with a population of 6,501, is situated nineteen miles from Bulacan; San Jose, with a population of 2,297, is situated sixteen miles from Bulacan; San Miguel de Mayumo, with a population of 20,409, is situated twenty-five miles from Bulacan; San Rafael, with a population of 8,489, is situated twelve miles from Bulacan; Santa Isabel, with a population of 8,125, is situated six miles from Bulacan; Santa Maria de Pandi, with a population of 10,818, is situated eight miles from Bulacan; Pulilan, with a population of 10,858, is situated eight miles from Bulacan.

George Kennan tells in The Outlook how Santiago is becoming Americanized. "American hotels and restaurants, bearing such names as the 'Lafayette House,' the 'United States Hotel,' the 'American and French Hotel,' the 'Arizona Saloon,' the 'California Saloon' and the 'Chicago Restaurant' are now to be found in all parts of the city; and the proprietors, even of Cuban and Spanish cafes invite American patrons by means of rudely painted signboards setting forth in quaint English the merits of the food, drink or entertainment to be found therein. Among such signs that he noted in the course of a day's walk about the city were:

"Sweet Meats." "Everything is here for sale." "Hot lunches at all hours." "Customers treated kindly and quinkly."

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, in his history of the war in Harper's Monthly, declares the cutting of the cables at Cienfuegos ranks with the sinking of the Merrimac in bravery and desperate valor. The gallantry of the crew of the cable ship, the sailing fire performed the task assigned them, had been lost sight of by reason of more important and decisive battles of the war. A brief resume of it will certainly not be out of place.

The name day that the Winslow, the Hudson and the Wilmington were having their action at Cardenas, far away on the southern coast of Cuba another fight was taking place, in the progress of the war of separation and from the rest of the world. On the night of May 10, General Calla of the Marblehead called for volunteers to protect the cable cutters from the morning steam launches of the Marblehead and Nashville in the bay. Lieutenant Winslow and Commander, started into the harbor of Cienfuegos about a quarter before 7. They carried a squad of marines picked for proficiency as marksmen, and a machine gun in the bow of each boat. The Marblehead and Marblehead then opened fire on the Spanish batteries, and under cover of this, and that of the steam launches, the crews of the other boats went to work. It was a critical business, but the sailors were well drilled and succeeded in their task. They had been ordered to destroy. They also found a small cable, but the grapple fouled the bottom and was lost. Meantime the Spanish fire grew hotter and hotter, pouring out from the batteries and machine guns and the boats began to suffer. The well directed fire from the rifles of the marines and from the one-pounders kept the Spaniards from reaching the switch house which controlled the submarine cables, but launches could not contend with batteries at close range, and when the work for which they came, and which had all been performed under a heavy fire, was done, they withdrew to the ships. Nine men, including Lieutenant Winslow, had been wounded, but no mortal wounds, and three, as was reported later, mortally. It was a very gallant exploit, coolly and thoroughly carried through, under a galling fire, and it succeeded in its purpose of hampering and blocking in the enemy at the important port of Cienfuegos, the gateway to the bay of Havana from the southern coast. It was another twist in the coil which the United States was tightening about Cuba.

MAKE THEM WORK. Dangerous Overcrowding of Cuban Cities by the Shiftless. Brooklyn Eagle: Cuba is just now exhibiting one of the first and worst effects of overcrowding in the cities. The shiftless, dishonest and incapable have gathered in and around Havana in numbers to be fed, clothed and supported by the United States government. So sure are they that they are to be admitted as a permanent pauper class and permitted to live without work that they have secured the only pamphlet in Havana that they are likely to take in traveling from the farms and plantations, many miles away, in order to receive the bread of charity from the power in present control of the island. This is a state of things to break up as quickly as possible, and as to the threat that if free food is not supplied the recipients of the charity will take to the highways and beg and steal, it is to be treated precisely as the meanest class scoundrel English and Irish in an American city. Some thoughtful Cubans are convinced that certain of the Cubans are neither foolish nor dishonest. The danger and nuisance that has been introduced into parts of Cuba where difficulties enough already exist is one to reform promptly and decisively—as decisively as only a military

power can reform it, since the moral and legal force in this case has a physical force given to the law in no other form. The lazy and inept are an obstruction and a burden in Havana. The lack of men and women to work the plantations inland is a crying evil. The prosperity that waits in Cuba can not come if a large class of its people refuse to accept employment and continue in their attempts against the United States treasury. There are pensioners enough of our own that there are any less dishonestly at our expense, without encouraging the rapacity of others to whom we owe nothing and who owe us everything. These people must be carried to the country. They must be carried so far that it will be impossible for them to go back. They must be made to see that so long as they work they shall have plenty, but that if they refuse to work they will starve. It is reported that planters are willing and anxious to engage these people; the work is there for them; the money is there for their pay; but they refuse, because they do not like to work. The condition is the same in this country. We have over 60,000 tramps who are preying on the community, and whose constant presence is a terror to all thinking that they can find no work. That is a lie. They do not want work. They know that it is to be had in the country, always, and they know that in the city it is hard to get. Send the beggars back to the soil, of which they will lift their hands as soon as they are in the fields. It matters little what becomes of them. Sentiment in such a case is maudlin.

BRIGHT AND BREEZY. Detroit Free Press: "After all, we haven't yet seen the sight of the real white man's burden." "What is it?" "House cleaning."

Philadelphia North American: "They're making an attempt to start the earth," said Rudy Taggels. "Good," cried his fellow in the craft. "Don't here monopolists block out such grindin' citizens, arter all. 'Ere's a blow, in stance, at de assails."

Chicago Post: "I suppose," said the dealer, "you don't like the earth." "I certainly do," replied the capitalist. "Did you think I intended to build a house in it?" "No, but business has a powerful appetite."

Washington Star: "I wonder," said Mr. Corbless, who had been reading the preparation for the Jefferson celebration. "If our boy Josiah really makes a political blunder." "It doesn't seem to take much interest in public business," said his wife. "No. But he has a powerful appetite."

Indianapolis Journal: "I see they are making an attempt to start the use of the flag for advertising purposes." "Oh! The politicians want a monopoly of that sort of thing, themselves, do they?"

Someville Journal: Theater Manager— "As for salary, you can take your choice; I'll pay you either \$100 a week for the season or \$10 a week for the rest of your career." "Which will you take?" "Astor (hastily)—Fourteen dollars a week in advance, of course."

THE HURRICANE. Lord of the winds! I feel thee high. I know thy howls, and the whirlwind's rage. And I wait, with a thrill in every vein For the coming of the hurricane! And lo! on the wing of the heavy seas, Behind the boundless arch of heaven he comes! Silent and slow, and terribly strong, He comes! Like the dark eternity to come! While the world below, dismayed and dumb, Through the calm of the thick hot atmosphere, Looks up at his gloomy folds with fear.

They darken fast; and the golden beams, That from the clouds were streaming, are bent And he bends through the shade of funeral A glare that is neither night nor day. A beam that touches, with hues of death, The clouds above and the earth beneath. To its covert glides the bird of prey. While the hurricane's distant voice is heard "Puffed from among the mountains round. And the forest bear and lioner the sound.

He is come! he is come! do ye not behold His ample robes on the wind unrolled? Giant of air! we bid thee halt! How his huge and writhing arms are bent To clasp the zone of the firmament! And fold at length, in their dark embrace, From mountain to mountain the visible space.

Darker—still darker! the whirlwinds bear The dust of the plains to the middle air; And hark to the crashing, long and loud Of the chorus of the thunder-cloud! You may trace its path by the flashes that start From the rapid wheels where'er they dart. As the fire-balls leap to the world below, And the sky with lightning is riven in two.

