SAY NO.

BY D. C. COLESWORTHY.

When tempted to wander from duty and truth,
By the syren of pleasure, in the freedom of
youth,—

Have courage to answer the soft smiling foe,
And when you are tempted say earnestly, no!

When the glass that is sparkling is pressed to
the lip,

And cheerful companions invite you to sip,
Beware of the serpent beneath the rich glow,
And dash the bright wine cup, with a hearty
no, no!

The gamester may teach you, with his deep
burning wiles,

With words that are pleasant and face full of
smiles,

In sport he may ask you the dice-box to throw,
Be firm in your virtue—Indignant say, no!

The way that is infamous, which multitudes
throng!

With music and dancing and soul-melting song;
Tis Beauty that beckons and asks you to go;
Away from false splendor,—say heartily, no!

With looks that are smiling and words that are
fair,

Wherever the tempter may meet you, beware?
Like an angel of mercy all sweetness and bloom
Enticing the thoughtless, the syren may come.

O, ponder your footsteps, leap not in the dark;
Upon the wild ocean launch not your frail bark
Without the true wisdom that God will bestow;
When beckoned by error, say earnestly, no!

Take, take the good Bible for your guide and
your chart,

And bind its pure precepts close, close to thy
O, then with the profligate you never will go,
But ever when tempted, say heartily NO!

Taylor on the Battle Field.

Lieut. Corwin, writing an account of the battle, says of Gen. Taylor. "He took his position on a commanding height overlooking the two armies. The enemy, who had succeeded in gaining an advantageous position, made a fierce charge upon our column, and fought with a desperation that seemed for a time to insure success to their arms. And when he saw the enemy give way and retreat in the utmost confusion, he gave free vent to his pent up feelings. His right leg was quickly disengaged from the pommel of the saddle, where it had remained during the whole of the fierce encounter—his arms, which were calmly folded over his breast, relaxed their hold—his feet fairly danced in the stirrups, and his whole body was in motion. It was a moment of the most exciting and intense interest. His face was suffused with tears. The day was won—the victory complete—his little army saved from the disgrace of a defeat, and he could not refrain from weeping for joy at what seemed to so many, but a moment before, as an impossible result.

A Village for Sale.

To show the effects of the great emigration to America, the entire village of Meimbresson in the Electorate of Cassel, is offered for sale, as all the inhabitants, 600, are about to leave for the United States.

Captured Cannon.

We have captured from Mexico since the commencement of the war, 8 pieces of cannon at Resaca, 20 at Matamoros, 50 at Monterey, 400 at Vera Cruz, 50 at Alvarado, and 8 at Cerro Gordo; at Tuspan (probably) 20—about 560 pieces.

Interesting Coincidence.

Three male infants were baptised in a Presbyterian church at Rochester last week. Their mothers were sisters, the officiating minister was their brother and there were twenty of the same family present on the occasion.

A Fool's Heart is in his Pen.

The man who stole \$84 from Miss Fairfield and afterwards promised by letter to return it with interest, when he got ready, has been discovered and arrested, through the handwriting of his epistle.

A Strange Animal.

According to Louisville papers, a wonderful animal has been caught at the Rocky Mountains, about the size of a horse, and covered with short fine wool. It is a regular boulder in the animal kingdom, and the only one ever seen.

LOUDON, N. H., APRIL 3, 1847.

Mr. Editor:—

I beg leave to address you as an old acquaintance, feeling as such, having read your paper, the "Scientific American," since vol. 1, No. 49, with much pleasure and satisfaction, and will add, with great interest. I notice that you give correspondents every indulgence, and all the information they ask respecting new inventions, I therefore make bold to ask your opinion concerning power gained by the buoyancy of water, with a machine which I will describe thus:

Suppose two shafts to be hung horizontally, one as low as circumstances will admit; the other some 20 feet directly over it, more or less, having on each a drum made eight square or more; we will have the squares each one foot; then add a band made of boxes one foot square every way, and connect them together by means of stout hinges, a sufficient number to reach around both of these drums; then place a cistern so that one part of this band of boxes will pass through it. Let this cistern stand upright, and have it as tall as it will stand between the two drums, with a hole in the bottom barely sufficient to let this train of boxes pass through, the top open. Now we will place some flaps of leather around this hole and nail them to the bottom of the cistern, and let them lay up against the boxes as they pass upward; these flaps are to limit the escape of water at the bottom when the cistern is full. Now these boxes being air tight, will not the water raise them and set the drums in motion? Please give me your opinion and oblige,

Yours, &c. HENRY H. AYER.

ANSWER.—We had investigated your problem some years ago. The grand difficulty which you will have to encounter,—which you have overlooked and which spoils the invention,—is the resistance of water against the boxes while they are passing up into the cistern. Whatever may be the height of the cistern or the depth of the water, the resistance of water at the entrance of each box will be just equal to the entire force of buoyancy during the ascent of the box through the water. To be more explicit, the entire column of water is necessarily elevated a certain distance by the entrance of each box: what constitutes the buoyancy of the box, is the gravity of the water which is accommodated in the descent of the water in proportion to the elevation of the box; and when the box has reached the surface, the same quantity of water will have thereby descended the same distance which it was raised by the box in the first instance.—ED.

A Traitor.

It is said that an American who was well known in Santa Fe, fought hard against the Americans, and with his very good rifle killed most of those who fell dead. When the fortress was taken, he endeavored to make his escape, but fell with thirty odd balls through him. One hundred must have been fired upon him simultaneously.

In 1800, a year of great scarcity an act was passed prohibiting bakers from offering their bread for sale until twenty-four hours after it was baked.

The Star Spangled Banner, of Boston, recently published a tale written by a Miss thirteen years of age.

THE WEATHER, &c.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5th.

HOURS, A. M.										HOURS, P. M.									
Therm.	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Wires,	44	47	53	58½	59	59½	62	63	64	65	66	70½	63½	60½	58½	54	52½	51½	50
Therm.	45	46	52	59	62½	65	66½	71½	67½	69	68	66	62	58½	54	52	51	50	
Wires,	51	52	58	66	69½	70	71½	67	72½	74	72	70½	66½	63	58½	57	56	55½	54
Therm.	45	49	53	57	60	61	65½	65	65½	67	68	65½	63½	60½	58	58	—	—	—
Wires,	51	55	59	62½	66	66	68	69½	70	71	71	70	67½	65	62	62	—	—	—
Therm.	52	52	53½	55	56	57½	58½	61	62	64	65½	65	64½	64	62	58	56	54½	54½
Wires,	56	56	56	57½	58	60½	61½	64	65½	67	67½	68	68	68	66	61	59	58	57½
Therm.	52	53	54	56	58	64	60½	65	64	66	66	—	64	63	62	69	57½	56	—
Wires,	54	55	57	59	60	67	69½	68	67	68	68	—	67	66½	64	62	60½	57½	—
Therm.	52	51½	53½	57	60	61½	66	69	69	73	72½	72	68	65	63	60	59	59½	—
Wires,	54	53	55	58½	62	64	68	71	72	75	74	74	70	67	65	62	61	61½	—
Therm.	54	54	55	56	57½	59½	63	66	69½	72	71½	69½	68	67	66	64	65	63	61½
Wires,	55	55	56	57	59	60½	64	67	71	74	73½	72	70½	69	68	66	63	65	64

[Approximation.]

REMARKS.

The wires have been but partially equilibrated during the week ending with Tuesday, May 12, but the wires and thermometer have been gradually approximating and this morning, at 5 o'clock, marked the temperature with a variance of but one degree. Yesterday morning the variance was two degrees—both mornings had a clouded atmosphere with much fog. The large black bugs made their appearance yesterday morning in great numbers, and again this morning. Rain fell at 2 P. M. Saturday, May 8. Thursday, May 6, the smoke hanging over the city became a cloud and was of a redish hue. Monday, May 3, I noted an equilibration in my last week's memorandum of long duration. In the Brooklyn Star of that

day I noted the state of the wires of that day and of the two previous days and that a two fold disturbance was indicated. Accounts have since reached us of a snow storm at Bangor, Maine, on the 3d, and snow in Otsego County on the 2d, and rains South on the first and second. When time elapses for further accounts, I have no doubt that we shall have accounts of a lightning storm on Saturday or Sunday, which originated in a terrestrial disturbance. A correspondent writes me from the banks of the Au Sable, May 5, that the snow was quite deep in the woods in that vicinity, the Au Sable heads among the Adirondack Mountains west of Lake Champlain.

E MERIAM.

Brooklyn Heights, May 11, 1847.

Wealth of the River Amazon, South America.

We some time since noticed the fact, that a celebrated English nautical and mining engineer had been exploring the country up the Amazon and made some valuable discoveries as to the existence of extensive deposits of the precious metals, auriferous sand in the streams, and many botanical specimens quite unknown in this country. A company was formed in the United States to endeavor to reap the advantages of these discoveries; and the French sent out an expedition two or three years since, which has, however, turned out unsuccessful, as another is now forming to go out in the Astrolabe corvette and Alecon steamer, of eighty horse power. The Academy of Science, under the direction of M. Arago, have given all the necessary instruction to the officers; and these vessels will leave early in the spring, for the Brazils. From the discoveries which have been made it is presumed that a communication exists between the Amazon and the Pacific, or, at least, a very slight interruption. The result is looked forward to with great interest by scientific men, as there appears to be no doubt entertained of the existence of large quantities of mineral wealth. The Anglo-American Company are already prosecuting their researches, and have several narrow boats, drawing but little water, some of which are worked by steam, far up the river. From these exertions it is not too much to expect that we shall soon be in possession of some most interesting information of the mineral and other natural resources, the inhabitants, zoology, botany, &c., of this interesting but little known portion of the globe.

Cotton.

Georgia Sea Island cotton is of a dull butter tint, the filament being some three times longer than that of the India cotton wool. The fibres are cylindric spiral, and hence the ease with which they are spun into cotton thread.

Georgia Upland cotton is good for coarse yarns. The staple is short, light and feeble. It was called for a long time "Bowed cotton," from the fact that it was separated from the seed by the blows of a bow-string.

Tennessee cotton is of nearly the same quality as the Georgia Upland, except that it is cleaner and the staple a little longer.

New Orleans cotton is superior to the last two named kinds, and may be said to occupy a middle point between Sea Island and Georgia Upland.

Pernambuco cotton has a fine long staple,

clean and uniform, and yarns made from it are in great request among the stocking weavers. Demerara, Berenice and Maranhão cottons are fine and glossy, and well cleaned. They are spun into a fair stout yarn.

Bahia cotton is better than either of the two kinds last named.

Surinam cotton has a long staple, and is faintly tinged with yellow. It is clean, and much sought after by hoosiers.

West India cotton is from Bourbon seed—the staple is fine and silky, but not well prepared.

Barbadoes cotton has a short staple, but is silky and strong. It appears in the market with much husk.

More Flies.

The *Dumfries Herald* says, that on Monday forenoon, about ten o'clock, a shower of flies, which darkened the air as they descended, fell on the Annan road, about half a mile to the east of Dumfries, and covered the road for 600 or 700 yards, and the road was black with the crawling flies.

The Jewish women of Frankfort-on-the-Maine have formed an association for the education of poor Jewish girls, and the senate has granted them the privilege of buying landed property, which has been hitherto exclusively possessed by the Christians.

It is reported that the plantation of Gen. Taylor, has been damaged to the amount of \$20,000 in consequence of a breach in the levee, opened by some miscreant about two miles above.

The improvement which Mr. John R. St. John has made in the magnetic needle is said to render it a more certain indicator of approaching changes of weather than the barometer.

The two Armies of Scott and Taylor, it is said, will celebrate the declaration of American Independence in Mexico, on the 4th of July next.

The Pacha of Damascus has issued a proclamation enjoining the women to go closely veiled, and threatening to cut off their noses! if they disobey his orders.

The manufacturers of Lowell have resolved to allow operatives three-quarters of an hour for breakfast as well as dinner, after the first of May.

The directors of the Lunatic asylums, in Vienna, are trying the effect of music, singing and dancing upon their patients.