The saying that "honesty is the best policy" is sometimes justly condemned, because it seems to place the reason for right actions upon too low a plane. Nevertheless, it contains in itself a truth. The way of the transgressor is inevitably hard. "I never committed a wrong without being punished for it," says a well known jurist of Arkansas. "When I was a boy, my father had one of the finest watermelon patches in the region. One day, when a particularly juicy crop was at the perfection of ripeness, he called Black Bill and me to him."

"If one of my melons is stolen," said he, "I am going to measure the tracks that I find in the patch, and then measure feet, and the owner of the feet that correspond with the tracks shall get a whipping that he will never forget."

"The next day after this proclamation the melons began to disappear. If there is anything that can make a Southern boy forget honor, it is a watermelon. I looked and longed, but an awful vision of the switch rose up to me. I put on my father's shoes, and by dint of stumping them with grass, managed to walk to the melon-patch in them."

"I stole a fine specimen of the fruit, six of which were cut of as I possibly could, and, after concealing the remains of the feast in a thicket, replaced Bill's tell-tale shoes."

That afternoon, while Bill and I were playing together, my father approached us, carrying a small stick. His face wore an unusually stern expression.

"I don't think that much measuring is needed on this occasion," said he, glancing at the stick. "Bill, where are your shoes?"

"In the cabin, sir."

"Bring them here."

"He brought the shoes. The old gentleman applied the measure, and said, 'Fresh dirt on them, I see.'

"Bill!" said he, "as he approached, 'where are your shoes?"

"In the house, sir."

"Bring them here."

"I brought my shoes. There was fresh soil on them! My father struck the stick to the ground, and we have had an immediate attack with the switch."

"Oh, please don't whip me! I cried. 'I ain't done nuthin'! Oh, no."

"It was my turn to dance, and Bill's to laugh."

"My guilty playmate kept out of my way for some hours, but that evening I met him, and said, 'Bill, how did you wear your shoes?"

"How did yer wear mine?"

"Put grass in 'em."

"Well, I tuck er 'p'r' er short stick, an' put yer shoes on de ends o' em. Reckon we're about even now."

Stirring.

The genuine miser usually votes more energy to keeping his money than would suffice to make several fortunes. It can not be that the expenditure of force is balanced by the personal satisfaction derived from success. Many stories are in circulation illustrating the stinginess of a certain farmer.

He one day went into a store to buy six feet of rope, and the dealer, knowing his peculiar love of money, told him that he might have it for ten cents.

"I'll give you five."

"I can't sell for that. Why, man, you've got plenty of money, and ought not to grumble.""

"Yes, but times are powerful hard. Can't stand that price."

He went away, and after remaining about two hours, came back to ask, 'That rope fell any?'

"Good boy."

The next day he entered the store and said, 'I hear rope has fallen all over the country."

"That so?"

"Yes, hear that over at Cotton Town ye can get ten feet for a nickel."

"Why don't you go over there?"

"Don't want to wear out my shoes. Say, has it fallen any here?"

"No a bit."

"Wall, good-by."

Two days later he came back. "Say," he said, "ain't you got any old rope you can sell cheap?"

"No, old rope."

"Now rope ain't fell any?"

The dealer worn out by the siege, offered him the required quantity for five cents. The old man carefully measured it, and said, with a disappointed air, "It's three inches short. Can't you knock off something?"

"Are; give me four cents."

"Say three."

"Well, three."

The purchaser laid out three somewhat dirty postage stamps upon the counter, and hurried away, to leave the shopman no time for repentance.

Had to Stand.

On one of his visits to New Haven to deliver the Yale lectures, Mr. Beecher went into a barber-shop near the chapel, to be shaved. The barber, seeing that he was a minister, but not recognizing him as the great Brooklyn preacher, said, "Goin' to the lecture?"

"Who speaks?" asked Beecher, in Yankee fashion.

"Why, Henry Ward Beecher."

"Yes, I think I will go."

"Have you got a ticket?"

The barber went on, "if not, you'll have to stand."

"There I!" said Mr. Beecher, "it seems as if always did have to stand when I hear that man speak."

His Last Words.

A negro orator thus concludes an account of the death of a colored brother:

"De las' word he was heard to say, de las' word he was heard to speak, de las' word he ever pronounced, de las' sayable he ever spoke, de las idea he ever elucidated—yes, my kreden, de very las' word he ever known to bear forth, sound or articulate, was 'Glory.'"
"The joker joker" would be a good heading for an account of the excitement in regard to a change in the management of the U. B. Publishing House. The men who started the story soon found that the joke was on themselves. About half the people accepted the story in good faith, thus causing the jokers considerable embarrassment.

Improvement Association.

The West Side Improvement Association held a called meeting in the Republican Club Room last Tuesday evening, to take action on the reports of the committee appointed, at the last meeting, to consider the proper location of the new school house, and to look up the best route for laying out Home Avenue from Williams to Mound streets.

Before proceeding to the consideration of their reports, a number of new members were received in to the Association, on payment of the usual fees.

The committee on location of the new school house reported that the majority of the school board were strongly in favor of erecting the new building on the old grounds, thus rendering it possible to heat both buildings by steam. They thought that it would be useless to make any attempt to have the location changed.

The committee on Home Avenue made a report recommending that the street be made to run from Crane Avenue at Williams street to Home Avenue at Mound street. It seems that, owing to bad management, the street was so laid out that if it were continued straight east, it would not connect with the same street at Mound.

Four propositions for laying out the street have been suggested and petitioned for. The first is to continue the street east along the third alley south of Williams street. This would connect all right at Williams, but would come out at Mound south of the stockyards, nearly a square south of Home Avenue as already laid out.

The second proposes to follow the second alley south of Fifth street. This route will not connect by a hundred feet at either end.

The third proposes the first alley south of Fifth. This would make the connection at Mound street all right, but at Williams street it would miss by about three hundred feet. The fourth route is straight across lots, making a direct connection at both ends.

The principal objection to it is its greater cost, and the fact that it cuts up lots to some extent. However, this seemed of less importance to the committee than the advantage of having an unbroken street from the Fifth street bridge to Soldiers Home. A number of the property owners interested in the matter were present and took part in the discussion on the report of the committee. Colonel W. Booth, E. M. Brown, Mr. Washaw, and Mr. Shipley had all signed petitions for other routes but after thinking over the matter they gave the street their preference.

The estimated cost of this route is about fifteen thousand dollars. This however is but a rough guess; it may fall below, or it may run much above this amount.

After discussing the question carefully the Association unanimously endorsed the street cut and appointed Mr. Color to inform our councilmen of their action.

LOCAL NEWS.

J. Allen Gilbert has returned from Westerville.

School is out. No more whippings this year.

Bishop Holt is writing a series of articles on the Pacific Slope for the "Telescope." J. W. Booth has changed his residence to Mound Street.

Mr. Puterbaugh is putting up a large frame building at the south end of Williams street. An ice store room and residence is going up on the corner of Home and Broadway. Miss Edna E. Holt, of the Lebanon Valley College, has returned to her home in this city.

A number of West Side people will go up to Lewisburg next week to attend the Lewisburg camping meeting.

This is good weather for the boys who cut grass. The sun and rain makes the grass grow like a pumpkin vine.

Mr. George Hoffman is building a residence on Home Avenue near Summit. When it is finished he expects to move in from the country and occupy it.

Mr. A. J. Cramer and his daughter Miss Jane and Mrs. Minnie Timmerman of Springfield, Ohio have been spending the week with Mr. Murphy of South Hawthorne street.

J. A. Gilbert, A. B. will start next Monday on a bicycling tour through the south western part of the country. He will visit Germany and a number of other towns in the Miami Valley.

The barn of Mr. J. H. Bollier on Harshbarn Lane was struck by lightning last Sunday afternoon. A few shingles were knocked off and one or two boards along the side were boleced, but nothing caught fire, so the loss was very small.

Mr. J. W. Booth is about to tear down the building on Third street, in which he has been residing, and erect in its stead a nice business block. On the first floor will be two large store rooms, sixty feet deep, for the recommendation of parties wishing to open stores on the West Side. Upstairs there will be one large office room, and a nice suite of rooms for domestic purposes.

Mr. Hall and daughter, Miss Jane and Mrs. Jennie Timmerman of Springfield, Ohio have been spending the week with Mrs. Murphy of South Hawthorne street.

Mr. S. L. Herr has bought a number of the sheds on the old pottery grounds and is tearing it down. He intends re-erecting it in the country on his farm.

Mrs. Feight of Hawthorne street accompanied by two of her sisters went up to Marengo, Friday last, to visit her sister.

Mr. William Wagner who was hurt by falling from the loft of his barn last week is beginning to get about again. Fortunately no bones were broken by the fall.

The Dunker church which is being built on College street belongs to the Conservative Church instead of the Progressive, as stated by us a few weeks ago.

There is no better place to buy Gen's furnishing goods in this city than at Bates & Roscoe's. They have the largest stock and at the lowest prices.

Quite a number of prominent United Brethren have been visiting this week attending committee and board meetings. Among those present were Bishop Floyd, and Pres. Kiracardo, the new treasurer of the Missionary Society.

A jam similar to the Johnstown jam occurred at the gutter crossing at the corner of Third and Williams streets during the recent rains. The wreckage from Dr. Walters' new building collected at the covered crossing under Williams street and flooded the side walks. A band of workmen have been at work several days cleaning out the gutter under the covering.

Mr. Ed. A. Gilbert of this city several young men of Arcanum went up to St. Mary county last week on a "fishing" this week. They voluntarily anchored their boat on a snag, according to the usual custom of fishermen, and succeeded in getting its anchor out, but finally succeeded in working off again. Coming upon another party in a similar predicament they gallantly rowed to the rescue and pulled them off. And fish—why to hear them tell if you would think that they had rescued nearly every fish in the reservoir from a watery grave.

Thursday evening, Mrs. Christina Hoffman and Miss Lizzie Hoffman started for Montana, on a visit to relatives living in that territory. They will stop off at Chicago and spend Sunday with two of Mrs. Hoffman's sons. On Monday they will resume their journey, by way of St. Paul and the Northern Pacific railroad. At Big Timber they will start out, the herd to be left and the journey will be continued across the country by wagon for a distance of seventy miles. On Tuesday, visiting at the homes of Mrs. Hoffman's daughters, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. McNaught.
The man is happy; he has wishe­
d for the News.

The消息 of Mr. Gladstone may
hereafter address him as Prof. J.
P. Landis, D. D., F. R. B. The
last of these honorary degrees was
conferred upon him last week by
Wesley University.

Spooks, ghosts, and hab­bolis,
exist, too.—oo—oo. The poor man
whose spirit has been haunting
the pottery building has been
found. A lot of boys entered the
building one day, and with a
spade began digging in various
places, till at last they unearthed
all that was left of the poor unfor­
utate. His shirt and boots alone
remained to show where his body
had been concealed by the hand
of his murderer. The reporter
for the News visited the spot
and was shown the open grave,
the shirt, the boots, and the mass
of iron with which the bloody deed
had been performed. The work­
lching bones alone were wanting
to complete the chain of evidence.
The representative of the Midget,
with true reporterial enterprise,
snatched the opportunity to obtain a
scrap from both the shirt and the
boot. The reporter for the News
contended himself with the reflec­
tion that if he had been compelled to
pass the night in close proxim­
ity to those articles, he would
have made a more unearnest
noise than the ghost was accus­
ted of making.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Berlin correspondent of the
Times says: The Americans have
undoubtedly emerged from the
Samoa conference with flying
colors, Germany has contented
herself with much less political
preponderance in Samoa than she
claimed at Washington two years
ago.

Mr. Gladstone met with an ad­
venture Thursday. While pass­
ing through the town of Waipae­
bridge, in Cornwall, a missile,
which is believed to have been
a live cartridge, was thrown at
his carriage. Mr. Gladstone
was not hit, nor was he much disturbed
by the incident, but the police
think that it was an attempt upon
his life, and are looking for the
guilty man.

A flood and cyclone in Kansas
caused a disaster in Uniontown.
This place, about fifteen miles
west of Fort Scott, on the W. Chita
& Western railway, was swept
away, and two women and four
children were drowned. The port
of Fort Scott known as Belltown
is entirely under water. This
was caused by the overflow from
Marshallon river. Several bridges
were washed out, and trains were stopped
on both sides of Fort Scott. The
Kansas, Nebrocks & Dakota track
is under water for about nine
miles. The Memphis road is also
badly damaged.

A terrible windstorm passed
through Lippchur Wednesday, leaving
beams of trees and unroofing and wrecking
houses in its path. The big-cov­
ered bridge across the Elkhart river
was blown down and a total
wreck. Hundreds of fine shade
and fruit trees were destroyed.
Several miraculous escapes from death are reported.

Faulty Geography.

Foreigners sometimes betray
an amusing ignorance of the geo­
ography of the United States.
In the following incident not only
the geography but the prohibitory
law in Maine, which certainly
works pretty well, were a little
mixed.

During a recent foreign tour,
the Rev. Mr. Howard was in
a car with a party of gentlemen,
who in a discussion arose as to the
comparative number of drinking
slashes in London and Edinburgh.

A ministerial looking gentle­
man said that he had just come
from America; had been in Maine,
where they had prohibition, and
he thought he had never seen
liquor dispensed more openly.
One could get it anywhere and in
as many varieties and qualities
as in England. He thought that
prohibition was a delusion.

"I asked him," said the speaker,"in what city in Maine, or in what
town in Maine had he been enter­
tained, and he said, 'In Boston,
Sir.'

The pronunciation of some fashion­
able anglomagic clergymen is getting to be much like that of
the English clergymen who in
reading the passage 'He that hath
cars to hear, let him hear,' gives it
"He that hath ears to ear, let him
hear."—Scc.

The News three months for twenty cents.

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5. First and Main Sts. 6. North and Main Sts.
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9. Monroe and Main Sts. 10. Fourth and Main Sts.
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15. Twelfth and Main Sts. 16. Ninth and Main Sts.
17. Tenth and Main Sts. 18. Sixth and Main Sts.
19. Fifth and Main Sts. 20. Fourth and Main Sts.
27. Fifth and Main Sts. 28. Ninth and Main Sts.
29. Tenth and Main Sts. 30. Ninth and Main Sts.
31. Tenth and Main Sts. 32. Fifth and Main Sts.
33. Ninth and Main Sts. 34. Tenth and Main Sts.
35. Ninth and Main Sts. 36. Fourth and Main Sts.
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An unwritten law of railroad traveling, founded on courtesy, and sanctioned by custom, permits a passenger who wishes to leave his seat for a few minutes to secure it till his return by leaving therein a jacket, or overcoat, or even a case. Now and then a new-comer, whose selfishness (no law, other than custom, violates this custom by removing the sign of occupancy, and placing himself in the seat. An amusing case of this sort of juggling is reported by the Hartford Times.

A gentleman had occasion to leave his seat for a few moments at a station, and on returning found his overcoat and jacket removed, and his seat taken possession of by a young man and "his best girl."

The gentleman said to the young man, "I think I am entitled to this seat, as I have articles in it while I stopped to the platform for a moment."

"No," said the young man, "Possession is nine points of the law, and I think I will keep my seat."

"Then," said the gentleman, "If you please kind, that I may get my umbrella?"

The young man could not refuse this reasonable request, and as he rose from the seat, the gentleman slipped into it, much to the amusement of the other passangers.

The young man then requested his "best girl" to go with him to another seat. In reply she said, "I can't get out."

"Will you rise," said the young man to the gentleman, "and allow this lady to come out?"

"If I think not," said the lady, "if possession is nine points of the law, I propose to avail myself of the same, and if your friend wishes to vacate the seat, she can step over, or in front."

She did so without delay, causing more of a smile from those who witnessed the performance.

Dreadful.

It has often been a sportsman's fate to reside at a good hotel, and then to marvel at his bad luck. He does not, however, always meet with the deliberate forbearance of wrongs done by a decent host to a gentleman, who, often under the guise of inexplicable mischance, remarked, "Well, Duval, whose fault was it that time?"

Quoth Donald, "Well, he wasn't more than a hundred yards off, and it's not your fault you missed him; and it is not the fault of the stag, for he is not a tigress; and it's not the fault of the tigress, for well it's a right good one; so I'll just let it go and think over and find out whose fault it was."

Higher Mathematics.

There is a kind of ignorance which does not know enough either to ask questions or to keep quiet, and which is often very annoying, and not infrequently ridiculous. A nameless professor relates the following:

"During the after-dinner talk, the man for whom I was serving remarked that mathematics always seemed a very wonderful thing to him. Thking it interesing, I began to illustrate some of the wonders; among others, tried to show him the way in which Newton was discovered. After some twenty minutes of elaborate explanation, I was somewhat taken aback to hear him say,—"

"Yes, yes, it is very wonderful, very; but (with a sigh) there is another thing that's alludes troubled me, and that's, why you have to carry one for every ten but if you don't 'Wont come out right."

A young lawyer in this section several years ago, went to a merchant and asked for some accounts to collect, saying, he had been successful in that line. The merchant said, "Yes, I will try you. Here is an account of about ten dollars against you yourself. If you can collect this sum you come back and I will give you some more."—Santer (On.) Republican.

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