

# THE STAR.

VOL. 3. DWIGHT ILL., DECEMBER 3, 1868.

NO. 2.

## The Dwight Star,

Devoted to local interests, is published every Thursday by C. L. Palmer.

TERMS.-- \$1 PER YEAR.

RATES OF ADVERTISING made known on application.

### Important to Subscribers.

Subscribers receiving their paper with an X written on the margin, at the end of their name, will know that their subscription has expired, and the paper is discontinued unless renewed.

### PHILOSOPHIC REFLECTIONS.

By Plato. Paper No. XIII.

### MEMORY.--CONTINUED.

In the principles which have been advanced, we find an explanation, I think, of some facts respecting memory, which every one has noticed, but of which the philosophy may not be at first sight apparent. Why is it that aged people forget? that, as we grow old, while perhaps other powers of the mind are still vigorous, the memory begins to lose its tenacity? Not, I suspect, from any special change which the mind undergoes, for why should such changes affect this faculty more than any other? I should seek the explanation in a failure of one or other of the conditions already mentioned as essential to a good memory; either in the want of a sufficiently frequent coexistence of associated ideas, or else in the want of a sufficiently vivid conception of them when presented; or, more likely, in both. And so the facts would indicate. Age involves usually the grad-

ual failure and decay of the power of perception; the ear fails to report what is said, the eye what is passing in space; and as memory is dependent on prior perception, of course a deminished activity of the one brings about a deminished activity of the other. In proportion as this ensues, the mind's interest in passing events is likely to fail, for what is no longer clearly apprehended no longer awakens the same interest and attention as formerly. This directly affects the vividness of conception, and indirectly also reacts upon the frequency of coexistence, for what we do not clearly apprehend, nor feel much interested in, will not be likely to recur to mind, nor shall we dwell upon it when presented. There is thus brought about, by the mutual action and reaction of the cases now specified, a failure more or less complete of the essential condition of a retentive memory.

The old man dwells accordingly much in the past. His life is behind him, and not in advance. He is unobservant of passing events, because he neither clearly apprehends them, nor that his connection with the outer world is in a measure interrupted by the decay of sense, nor does he much care about them, for the same reason. His attention and interest, withdrawn in a manner from these, reverts to the past. These things he remembers, the sports and companions of his youth, and the stirring events of his best and most active years, for these things have been frequently associated in his mind, linked with each other, and with all the past of his life, and they have deeply interested him.

Hence they are remembered while yesterday is forgotten.

Mr. Palmer:

In your last, I chose for a heading of a little article in your paper the caption, AMBITION. In following up the subject I will speak of SUCCESS using one of the characters spoken of in my last, as an illustration.

Dr. Louis De Silva.

### SUCCESS.

Success too often sanctions the worst and the wildest schemes of human ambition. That such a man as Cromwell should have been enabled under any circumstances to seize the reins of a mighty empire, is matter of surprise to some, of indignation to all. Could we call him up from the dead, he is the very last man that could rationally explain his own success, which no doubt, at the time, excited as much astonishment in himself as in beholders; but he owed as much to the folly, timidity, and fanaticism of others, as to his own sagacity, courage and craftiness. In fact, the times made him, not he the times. If a civil war raged at this moment, and the sacred name of king and parliament were again arrayed against each other in the field, such a man as Cromwell, at present, would never arrive at any station higher than an adjutant of dragoons. He might preach and pray, write and fight, bluster and harangue, but not one step higher would he get. If everything in his character had not been artificial, except his courage, he had been nobody; and if he had not carried his hypocrisy so far as at

[Continued on Fourth page.]

26, 1868.  
METABLE.  
s Dwight as  
NORTH.  
5: 10, P.  
2: 10, A.  
SOUTH.  
11: 30, A.  
1: 10, A.  
MODATION.  
8: 40 P.  
KEELEY,  
nders his Profe  
es, and will an  
hat may be ma  
ficeat G. A. Se  
store.  
t House,  
Rail Road  
E IN THE CITY  
LL, Propriet  
DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, BOOTS,  
E. B. Arnold,  
DEALER IN  
erson House,  
Eating House  
ation trains at  
Meals  
Railroad.  
AKER, PRO'