



Transcription of *The Garland*, a manuscript newspaper, ca. 1860.

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The Garland

We cheerfully admit the following communications into our columns, but do not hold ourselves responsible for their sentiments which they contain. We expect this to be the last number of The Garland that will be printed at present. And we are sorry so to say, because it will disappoint a large circle of friends who have given it so good attention.

Editors

The Spirit of Enterprise

We hear of all kinds of spirits nowadays but the one which particularly strikes my fancy now is the spirit of enterprise or that spirit which induces us to undertake something hard to be accomplished.

It was this spirit which induced Cyrus H. Field to attempt the laying of the Atlantic Cable, and the people of the old Bay State to ever attempt to drive the Iron Horse through the Hoosac Mountain.

It is the spirit of enterprise that seeks out the best water privileges and erects factories, saw and grist mills &c. The spirit of enterprise sent Dr. Kane to explore the arctic regions, and Col. Fremont over the Rocky Mountains, and this spirit induced Columbus to go out on a voyage of discoveries which resulted in the discovery of a new world.

Schollars [i.e., scholars] need this spirit to get a hard lesson or to write an editorial or composition, or to dig out the cube root.

The farmer needs this spirit to clear out old swamps, and convert them into fine meadows; to cut off heavy timber and prepare the land for a crop of grain, or to build a new barn or stone wall. But I fear that I have not got much of this spirit although I admire it in others.

Captain Go a head

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a coming very soon. Then we shall have a nice time to play and a plenty of good things to eat, roasted turkey, chicken pie and a good mess of nice pies and cakes with plums in them. Oh! how good they will be. I like to have Thanksgiving as often as once a year.

Dwight

Going Hunting

One fine morning in November my cousin and I were a fixing for a hunting excursion. We started at eight o'clock. We took our dog with us having fed him well, he appeared to be very much pleased. We took a wood road and followed it some distance arriving at a brook we turned off into another path. We had gone about a half a mile when we heard the dog a barking. We started off at full run. We soon came in sight of him. He was barking up a tree and whining cousin told me to stand there and watch while he went around the other side when he had got around the opposite side from me I heard something run around the tree. I looked up and saw a grey squirrel as large as our old cat. I made such a racket that he run around on the other side cousin fired at him and he fell off on to the ground. I picked him up he was not quite dead my cousin took him and killed him. We then turned our steps towards home where we arrived at dinner time.

Friend Pack

Going to school

I like to go to school in summer when the birds are singing and squirrels are pumping from one branch to another and skipping from place to place.

We study many kinds of books in our school. We have a good time playing ball at noon. In the winter, we slide downhill. And we have a good time in the summer and winter both.

Riding in a Boat

Perhaps you would like to have me give you a description of a ride which some of my companions and myself once had in a boat. One Saturday afternoon being released from school duties we thought we would take a sail on the river. So we started, myself and four others and having our fishing tackle with us we enjoyed ourselves nicely fishing for an hour or so and then we went over to the other shore and rowed along a mile or more some of us stopping to gather flowers, some getting willows made some whistles, and so we enjoyed ourselves until the setting sun warmed us to return home and so we ended our sail for that day.

Ned

Curiosities of the Present Day

From north to south and from east to west are found many curiosities at the present day of which electricity is one of the greatest. By it news can be received from a distant place in a minute and it goes with such swiftness that once a boy sent home to his father to make him a pair of boots the father made the boots according to order and hung them on the telegraph wire but that night an Irishman came and took the boots and left his old ones hanging on the wire in place of the new ones. The father went out in the morning and found the new ones gone and the old ones hanging on the wire he exclaimed I guess he has got his new ones because he has sent back his old ones. Then next comes the cars which go through the valleys with great speed scooting by the posts of the telegraph and occasionally running over people and cattle &c. And there are also many animals worthy of attention from the elephant down to the little ape. The lion may be classed as the most ferocious of the wild beasts. The tiger, ourangoutang [i.e., orangutan], hippotamus [i.e., hippopotamus] and the buffalo are all great curiosities. There are sewing machines and other things worthy of attention.

But at last comes the North Chester Garland with its splendid poems and sketches, it is not only curious but interesting to the multitude present and it might well be said the ferocious lion is not slow and the little monkey that does caper.

But we will all give our hearty support to the little North Chester paper.

Pinkney

The answer to the problem in our last Garland is given by H.H. Smith. What number is that which subtracted from one hundred will go in the remainder thirty times? Ans. 37/31

Conundrum

Why is this school house like the White House at Washington in the year 1841? Because it contains a Henry Harrison.

Early School Days and Reminiscences

In a lovely little valley in the western part of New England among the gentle rise of the green mountains, stood the old school house the subject of wonder and admiration. On either side rose the stupendous [i.e., stupendous] little mountains, although they were small, and thousands of peaks may peer far above them yet they existed long before the internal fires upheaved the Alps. While to the south and a short distance west the magnificent little valley was spread before us. Nearby within several rods of the school house was a beautiful stream of water winding its southerly course through the valley intersecting it in various ways till at last it intermingled its waters with those of a larger stream. The little old brown school house stood directly beside the road that led on to the mountains, its frame was composed of larger timbers than folks would now think of putting into their barns, showing that people were wont to go on a surer system in building then than they do now so if one part went (like the wonderful one horse Clay) it would all go together. It contained four small windows one outside door and a small entry together with

another door leading into the schoolroom, two desks and several benches with two seats which we moved at our leisure they had four legs a piece and in one of them especially the legs were so loose and rickety that many a time as we were getting seated upon it around the stove one of the legs would drop out or crimp under and then its occupants would be precipitated onto the floor, you can imagine for yourselves what would be the result of such a disaster in the school room.

And then there was the stove and stovepipe which were marked with time's desolating finger and looked as if they had served as a shelter to Warren's men in his engagement with the British. And also an article which I must not forget to mention and that was a large collection of whippings [i.e., whips] which were placed upon a large beam at the top of the room, and what do you think was the teacher's surprise when entering the school room one morning and total dissatisfaction that her precious treasures were among the missing I do not know whether she ever found out who did it or not although I think it probable she had some suspicion of the ones that did it. At all events she never found the whippings [i.e., whips]. And as you may suspect all the larger scholars had to take a regular old whipping with the injunction if the coat fits put it on and I think it was put on much easier than it would have been if the ones who did it had been found out. Years have passed since the transaction of these scenes yet they present themselves to the memory as distinct as if they were painted and reflected on the retina but yesterday.

Well do I remember the old hemlock which lay across the stream it had stood and been rocked by the storms of more than four score winters and at last had yielded and fell beneath its majestic sway. Here it had lain for years till decay had marked it for her victim. This place served as a common [i.e., common] resort for my companions and myself here we could view the stream in all its restless grandeur and magnificence as it murmured along and beautified the scenery of the spot. But our chief desire was to break the tree and for this purpose we were accustomed to get hold of the boughs of the tree which hung over the stream as that we might keep our balance and if we broke it to prevent us from falling suddenly into the water here day after day week after week at odd intervals we tried to break it with our united powers but as all things must have an end so the last time came for us mount the old log accordingly one recess we rushed for the spot and full of energy we sprang upon it with all our united force once, twice, thrice and with a loud and simultaneous crash like the roaring of the mighty cascade it fell into the stream. We not

being prepared for so sudden [i.e., sudden] a movement were forced to follow but as fate would have it my friend was the first to read the bed of the stream I followed lighting upon him. It was a scene to excite laughter from a barbarian there lying sprawled out in the water covered with rotten mulch.

We could not help smiling over our own misfortune as well we might, for we were not injured in the least but received a thorough ducking. I came off considerably better than my companion yet I was as wet as I desired to be, but he to use common language, was as wet as a drowned rat. Indeed those were the halcyon days of yore but today they have passed and gone. And yet as these things float upon the memory they surround one with a serene and settled majesty [i.e., majesty] that enters the soul and dilates and elevates and fills it with noble inclinations. There was a large flat rock a few steps from the old school house which served as a general rendezvous for the whole school. It was truly a delightful place. On either side rise two splendid and beautiful rock [illegible] to protect it from the cold of winter and the heat of summer many times did we all assemble on that rock for our own amusements many times have perambulated its periphery but perhaps never more to set a foot upon its firm bound surface. Oh! can all earth furnish a place so lovely as that which one's early childhood knew. Well do I remember the spring a few rods to the north of the old school house sparkling forth with brilliant luster, many times my companion and myself have quenched our thirsts in that noble function one day as we went thither to obtain as pleasant draught of this pure fountain we found to our surprise [i.e., surprise] and amazement a jug placed in the water for then purpose of keeping the equilibrium temperature of its contents. My friend always bold and fearless lifted the jug to his mouth to test the quality of the article which it contained, but just as he was in the act of lowering [i.e., lowering] it the owner of the vessel a gigantic negro came upon us you can imagine our feelings better than they can be described, escape we could not what was to be done before us stood a son of africa [i.e., Africa?] of herculean strength. Well might we tremble as we were left to his mercy I stepped back as far as the place in which I stood would admit my companion being caught in the very act was handled rather roughly but not to his hurt. He gave us a talking to and departed with his treasure showing that he had some compassion upon us probably thinking we did not know any better all the time he was there we could not help laughing in ourselves

notwithstanding his bodily presence thinking how abruptly our mirth was broken in upon. Well on his part that he came when he did for had he not he might have had to analyze the water flowing from the spring to have found a remnant of his favorite drink. Oh! such delightful times as we used to have sliding down hill before we could manage our sleds after being precipitated head long into the snow long ere we reached the base of the hill sometimes however, the large boys would steer us down but preferring [i.e., preferring] to get the sleds themselves disliking partnership especialy [i.e., especially] on a small scale. What times they used to have coasting and snowballing what a beautiful and picturesque snow house they erected and then gave us strict orders not to meddle with it if we did the penalty made known to us would follow and to all probability if we had disobeyed their command we should have been made acquainted with the lynch law of that very spot. I now return to the school room we were all seated in our respective places and the teacher was performing her allotted task it was in the forepart of the day the footsteps of a tardy schollar [i.e., scholar] was heard in the entry and we were all strictly commanded (I refer to the small schollars [i.e., scholars]) not to draw our attention from our book but curiosity must have its sway we must know who it was that was coming in at that late hour so accordingly we with a quick glance ascertained to our satisfaction but alas we were too closely watched to escape unnoticed and as a penalty for the deed we were very politely escorted some to a seat on the floor others on the stove while the chair was proffered me. One fine summer day we assembled at the old school house as teacher and scholar all was calm and quiet when I was sudenly [i.e., suddenly] started from my composure by a command to stand in the floor I was perfectly astonished and not wishing to be held in custody without a sufficient warrant I demanded the reason for these proceedings I saw that teacher was motionless and that fright was depicted on her countenance I glanced to the left where I saw a mamoth [i.e., mammoth] adder I sprang into the floor without further ado. This venomous serpent had obtained entrance to the room by the means of a hole in the plastering nearly level with the desk. I sat with my back portly against the desk and thus he was enable by creeping stealthily along to approach within several inches of my neck unnoticed and unseen and had I not been timely warned he would have fastened his fangs upon me I thus miraculously escaped our unwelcomed visitor, and now measures were adopted to kill the intruder my friend and myself [begged?] and entreated of the teacher earnestly but in vain to let us kill him but we were thought to small to

cope with the enemy but I assure you that we had the will to do it, and then the teacher seized the woman's weapon.