

thousand dollars for services rendered on his paper. The notices to correspondents, which is a marked feature in the *Ledger*, contain answers to questions sent to the editor. Not more than one question in five is replied to. Those answers are written by the most eminent men in the country. Many of them were written by Mr. Everett, Henry Ward Beecher, and distinguished statesmen and lawyers. The connection between Mr. Bonner and Mr. Everett was of the most delicate and tender character, as Mr. Everett's confidential letters sufficiently show.

It was Mr. Bonner's policy to spike every gun that could be aimed against him, and make every influence and every prominent man his ally. To this end J. G. Bennett, of the *Herald*, Henry J. Raymond, of the *Times*, and Horace Greeley, of the *Tribune*, became contributors to the *Ledger*.

The *Ledger* was objected to in some quarters as not being a suitable sheet for young persons to read. Mr. Bonner secured the services of presidents of twelve of the principal colleges in this country to write for his paper. Of course it would not be improper for the young men in colleges to take a paper for which the president wrote. Indeed, over the purity of expression and chasteness of sentiment and utterance in what appears in the *Ledger*, Mr. Bonner exercises a rigorous censorship. There are a great many articles and advertisements that appear in religious papers that would not be admitted into the *Ledger*. Mr. Bonner gives this order: "Take the most pious old lady in a Presbyterian Church, and any word or phrase, innuendo or expression, that she would want to skip, if she were reading a *Ledger* story to her grandchild, strike out."

Paul Morphy, in the height of his popularity, edited a chess column in the *Ledger*. Bryant, Willis, Halleck, Morris, and Saxe laid a poetical wreath at Mr. Bonner's feet. Prentice, Bancroft, Parton, and Cozzens joined the galaxy of *Ledger* writers. Fanny Fern, Mrs. Southworth, and other eminent novelists furnished the entertaining serials published by Mr. Bonner.

On the death of Mr. Everett, Mr. Bonner enclosed a check to Mr. Bancroft, with a note requesting him to prepare a suitable article for the *Ledger* in commemoration of the distinguished statesman. The article was prepared and sent to Mr. Bonner. It contained no allusion to Mr. Everett's connection with the *Ledger*. The article was sent back, and the omission pointed out. A sharp correspondence followed, in which Mr. Bancroft attempted to establish the propriety of the omission. Mr. Bonner refused to receive the article, and he finally carried his point, and Mr. Everett's connection with the *Ledger* had a marked place in the eulogistic article.

For a long time Mr. Beecher has been a contributor to the *Ledger*. One evening Mr. Bonner and his wife went over to Plymouth Church to hear the pastor. The sermon was on success in life, and was given in Mr. Beecher's most vigorous strain. He showed that smartness, acuteness, and adroitness would not lead to success unless they were combined with energy, a knowledge of business, an indomitable perseverance, and an integrity which would enable a man to dare to do right. If Beecher had intended to hit Mr. Bonner's character and success, he could not have come nearer to the mark. Mr. Bonner had lacked not one of the elements. Mr. Beecher had described, and every one knew his success. This sermon affected Mr. Bonner in various