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THE CLARION.

BY POWER & BARKSDALE.

E. Barksdale, J. L. Power, Harris Barksdale.

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SONGS UNSUNG.

Let no poet, great or small,
  Say that he will sing a song;
For song cometh, if at all,
  Not because we woo it long,
But because it suits its will,
Tired at last of being still.

Every song that has been sung
  Was, before it took a voice,
Waiting since the world was young,
  For the poet of its choice.
Oh, if any waiting be,
May they come to-day to me!

I am ready to repeat
  Whatsoever they impart;
Sorrows sent by them are sweet—
  They know how to heal the heart:
Ay, and in the lightest strain
Something serious doth remain.

What are my white hairs, forsooth,
  And the wrinkles on my brow?
I have still the soul of youth—
  Try me, merry Muses, now,
I can still with numbers fleet
Fill the world with dancing feet.

No, I am no longer young;
  Old am I this many a year;
But my songs will yet be sung,
  Though I shall not live to hear.
Oh, my son, that is to be,
Sing my songs, and think of me!

—R. H. Stoddard.

The Right of Instruction—A Reply to The Clarion.

EDITORS CLARION: I like an antagonist who comes fairly up to the issue, and does not shrink from the consequences of his own logic. You assert that the Legislatures of the Northern States (now all Republican, with perhaps two or three exceptions) have the right to supply the seats of the twelve or fifteen Democratic Senators from that section, or reduce them to the condition of mere puppets, registering the edicts promulgated from the State Capitals. I assert that neither good sense nor the theory of our institutions give any sanction to such an idea.

This, then, is the issue fairly joined between us—You say that while a practical application of your doctrine just now might work injuriously to the Democratic party, the principle carries its own compensation, because a few years ago the condition was exactly reversed, and the Northern Democratic Legislatures could have dictated to Republican Senators, and so on *ad infinitum*, I suppose with every recurring change of popular majorities. But are you serious in asserting that this is the true theory of our political system, or that any government whatever can be practically carried on upon such a basis? Nothing, it seems to me, save the authority of great names, can give to such a doctrine even the appearance of plausability.

Remember that we are not discussing the accountability of Senators to the people nor their duty of obeying the clearly defined and well ascertained wishes of their constituents, no matter how it has been communicated; so that all your remarks about the authority of the people, and your stricture upon "the one man power" must be discarded as wholly irrelevant to the discussion. No man recognizes more fully than myself, the fact that all political power resides in, and springs from the people, and that their voice when uttered in the mode and manner sanctioned by the organic law is omnipotent. But it is then, and only then, as Mr. Calhoun says, that the *Vox Populi* is the *Vox Dei*. The single question between us is whether under our theory of government the State Legislatures are constituted the tribunals, to speak that voice and can demand obedience or a resignation by the Senators. The only thing claimed as giving countenance to the idea so far as I have ever heard is the fact that the Legislature elects the Senators. Hence it is argued that he who by accepting the position at their hands has recognized them as speaking the voice of the State, is estopped to question their authority when they command him how to discharge its duties. Is it true then that power to select an officer carries with it the right to control his action? Does the right of election when conferred upon an agency intermediate between the people and the officer elected give the power of controlling the person chosen in the discharge of official duty? I unhesitatingly answer these questions in the negative, and I assert that where a fixed term of office is prescribed and there is no express power of control or removal, the authority of the appointing agent is exhausted in making the selection and thenceforward the officer chosen is wholly independent of the body appointing him and is accountable alone to the sovereign people, the common master. The sovereigns of Mississippi are the people of Mississippi. By their Constitution and laws they have made the Governor their agent for the appointment of many officers. Can the Governor direct these officers how to discharge their duties? Can he tell a Judge how to decide a case, or instruct a Sheriff, appointed by him to fill a vacancy, whom to arrest? You think that temporary vacancies in county offices should be filled by the county Legislatures, the Boards of Supervisors. If they to... filled, would the appointees be subject were s... ...ol of these county Legislatures or to the cont... ...ters of the county who are no to that of the ... ...nts, though they did not less their constitue... ...siderations apply with elect them? These co... of Federal offices especial force to holders United States and mort strongly of all to ...n the State Senators. The Federal, no less tha... ...m the government, derives its authority fr... ...hts people, though you and I, (both States Rig... Democrats,) will agree that these are, properly speaking, no citizens of the United States, save as we are all citizens of the particular State in which we reside. Nevertheless, as the people constitute the States, and the States constitute the Union, it remains true that the ultimate authority of the Federal Government springs from the people. And yet, wisely as I think, it is so ordered by the Federal Constitution that the people have almost no direct connection with the government, and its whole vast machinery is put in motion by intermediate agents. Though it has a countless swarm of officers, no man ever votes for but one of them. The members of Congress each in his own District are the only officers connected with the government directly chosen by the people. All the others are selected by intermediate agents. The President is appointed by the Electoral College. Is he subject to their orders? You say no. The Judges are appointed by the President and Senate combined. Are they to be instructed by them? Certainly not. The ministerial and executive officers are also appointed by the President and Senate. The President alone removes them without the concurrence of the Senate and this he does only because given the power by express law.

The Senators are chosen by the State Legislatures. Why should they alone be amenable to the commands of the agents appointing them? Of all the departments of the Government it was intended that the Senate should be the most independent, conservative and free from violent changes. With this view its members were required to be of mature age and to them was given a term of office longer than that of all others.

How vain will be the scheme if they can be ejected from their seats or forced to violate their conscientious convictions with every change of temper in the State Legislature. Senators are delegates, embassadors of soverign States, in council assembled. They represent the personality, the autonomy of sovereignty. Where rests their responsibility? To whom are they accountable? Surely to that body whose sovereignty resides and to those only who possess it? Where is this? Certainly in the constituent body, the people themselves and nowhere else. Legislatures possess legislative authority in State affairs only. Over the federal government and over national questions they have no power whatever. U. S. Senators, members of the State Legislature are fellow-servants of a common master, charged by that master with different duties in wholly different spheres. Each is the equal of the other and neither is the superior. Both are responsible to the common master and neither is responsible to the other. These propositions seem to me incontrovertible. I might pursue the argument further, but space forbids.

As for the precedents they count for nothing, because they are so divided that they only serve to prove what I said in my former communication, that there never was any settled doctrine on the question in either party, and certainly there can be none in the modern Democrats of the South, composed as it is, indiscriminately of old Whigs, old Democrats, and those who were neither. I must confess my surprise at your claim of Webster and Calhoun on your side of the question. If it can be shown that Mr. Webster ever penned a line or uttered a word to give countenance to such an idea I shall be greatly astonished. It is opposed to the whole current of his political life. As for Mr. Calhoun, I had supposed that no fact in our political history was better known than that he, in common with the entire Democracy of South Carolinia, always denied the existence of any such doctrine. In the very speech from which you quote he unmistakably indicates his views and declares his concurrence in the principles of Edmund Burke's great speech to the electors of Bristol, the ablest argument against the right even of popular instructions that ever was uttered. Mr. Calhoun says that the Constitution of the United States is his instructions and he impliedly declares that they will obey no other—2 Calhoun Works, 178–9.

You have given some instances of Senatorial obedience. Let me give some on the other side.

Two years ago, Senator Eaton of Connecticut, the sternest Democrat in New England, was instructed by the Legislature of his State to vote for the Electoral Commission bill. He publicly announced his intention to disobey. Was he wrong? The resolutions were repealed and he alone of all the Democratic Senators voted against the bill.

In 1849, Lewis Cass was instructed to vote for the Wilmot Proviso. He refused to obey. He was extolled to the skies by the Democrats of the South, and three years afterwards was the favorite candidate of many of them for the Presidential nomination at Baltimore. Again in 1854, Senator Cass was instructed to vote against the Kansas-Nebraska bill. He refused to obey. He was requested to resign. He contemptuously and defiantly refused to do so. Afterwards he was, with the entire approval of the Democracy throughout the Union, appointed Secretary of State by President Buchanan.

In 1849, Thos. H. Benton, Democrat, was instructed to vote against the Wilmot Proviso. He refused to obey and voted for it.

In 1855, Senators Geo. E. Pugh of Ohio, and Jones of Iowa, both Democrats, were instructed to vote for the exclusion of slavery from the territories. They both refused to obey and were greatly lauded by the Southern Democracy for doing so.

In 1842, Henry Clay was instructed by the Legislature of Kentucky to vote for the repeal of the Bankrupt law. He refused to obey. I claim all of the illustrious trio, Clay, Calhoun and Webster as being on my side.

In 1858, John Bell was instructed by the Legislature of Tennessee to vote for the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution, and refused to obey.

In 1834, W. P. Mangum was instructed by the Legislature of North Carolina as to how to vote on some question of currency. He refused to obey.

If I had the time and the books, I believe that these examples might be greatly multiplied. Enough have been given to demonstrate what I asserted that there is no settled rule on the subject and that upon this, as upon all other subjects, each Senator must obey the dictates of his conscientious convictions and is responsible alone to God and his constituents. No intermediate agents, no legislative assembly can stand between the master and the servant.

A. B. C.

MISSISSIPPI NEWS.

Brandon Record.]

Hon. J. M. Jayne, Jr. we regret to learn, is soon to move to Greenville, Miss., where he will practice his profession.

Okolona Messenger.]

When Charles Sim's (col.) mules, etc., were seized by the officers of the law under a deed of trust, he produced the following document which had been given him by a Radical and ex-sheriff of Calhoun County. This Is to Certify that I Now that Chairles Sims Colard has Bankrupted I'Caired his Papers to Sulivan & Sulivan Attorneys and as Agent for Said Sims Imploied Said Sulivan & Sulivan to Put him thrue Bankruptcey and father Now that Said Sims Paid ten dollaas and he Said Chairles Sims Is In Bankruptcey and I Cauld for his Surtificate of Protection and Judge Hill Ishued one Jeneral Order of Protection which Covers the Hole Groundes the oll deeds of trust and rents Must be Paid Given under My hand and Seele on this the 27th day of January 1879.

C. E. MURPHREE,
Asseenee.

Columbus Independent.]

Mr. James Shaw, one of our oldest citizens, died yesterday in Macon. His remains were brought home to-day for interment.

Vicksburg Commercial.]

Vicksburg is rapidly drifting into an evil that a majority of her citizens, as yet, know nothing of, but at the rapid rate at which it has been increasing of late, cannot long remain in that obscurity which has heretofore attended it. We allude to the habit of opium smoking, which is rapidly gaining a stronghold in this city. Having heard for several weeks of the existence of a "divan," which was run and managed by two or three of the heathens from the Celestial Empire, we made inquiries concerning the truth of such reports, and on last evening paid "Mr. Chinaman with the opium pipe," a visit. When we entered the domicile of the opium smokers we were somewhat surprised, for, having read of the Oriental splendor of such institutions in the native land of the Chinese, and in our own western States—Oregon and California—we were hardly prepared to be ushered into the little, low-ceiled, dirty looking room, which we knew so many people daily visited. On entering the room, we met several of our well-known townsmen, two of whom were laying at full length on a mat, or mattress, inhaling the foul fumes of the opium pipe. We were cordially invited to "hit the pipe," but refused, promising to call at some future time. In conversation with the "high mogul" of the "divan," we learned that large numbers of persons visited him regularly, and that not unfrequently women paid him visits for the purpose of "smoking the pipe," and that nearly every day he received orders to send it to private houses for them. It is not alone the to... of the city that patronizes the Chinese rabbi... in this h...llish traffic, but we have authentic proof that s...me of our most prominent citizens and busin...s men are addicted thereto. As yet this practice of opium smoking is in its infancy in our city, but every person who tries to smoke it once, is sure to return and try it again, and as the Chinamen receive a small renumeration from each visitor, they use their every endeavor to induce them to visit them. We are informed that there are other establishments of the kind within our city, but we are unable to find their exact whereabouts, and consequently were unable to visit them.

Meridian Homestead.]

A very sad death occurred on Thursday morning at the residence of Mr. Z. E. Holt in this city. Miss Minnie Jones a young lady, sister of Mrs. Holt and a member of his family was in her usual health on Wednesday, but was suddenly taken with hemmorhage from the lungs during the night, and died in a few hours.

Holly Springs Reporter.]

We learn from Maj. Sam Frank, that a meeting of the Directors of the Memphis and Holly Springs R. R. Company has been called for Wednesday 19th inst., at 11 o'clock A. M. at his office in this city. The object of the meeting is to fill vacancies in the Board, to elect a President and Secretary and to consider other matters of prime importance to the Company.

Grenada New South.]

An ugly shooting affray occurred about eleven o'clock last Saturday night, over near the depot, in which affray one Webber, a cigar manufacturer, was shot perhaps fatally, by James Kendall—the ball entering the chest high up on the left side and ranging down, but missing the heart. Kendall was arrested, and, in default of a bond of $1000, was lodged in jail to await a trial at the next term of the Circuit Court.

* * * * *

We understand that a man by the name of Marshall was arrested by Marshal Melton in this city on last Monday, charged with the crime of murder in Hinds county, in this State. Accused has been at large for some time, though a reward of $300 was offered by the Governor for his arrest, and $——— by the county and friends where the deed was done. The prisoner was lodged in jail at this place to await a requisition from the county in which the murder is alleged to have been committed.

The newest gloves for evening wear lace down the backs with cords and tassels.

HON. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

A Malignant Assault Upon Him by the Radical Leaders in the U. S. Senate.

HE IS GALLANTLY DEFENDED BY SENATORS THURMAN, LAMAR, HARRIS (OF TENN), AND MAXEY AND COKE OF TEXAS.—THE ARREARS OF PENSION.

The Senate took up the motion heretofore made to reconsider the vote by which the bill making appropriations to pay arrears of pensions was passed.

Mr. Windom said that when the bill was before them on the 28th of February, many Senators good-naturedly voted for the amendment of Mr. Shields, placing the soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war on the same footing as the soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812, as to pensions. The best estimate he could obtain showed that this little amendment so generously adopted would take from $30,000,000 to $40,000,000 out of the Treasury. The subject of such a munificent donation could be considered in a separate bill.

Mr. Thurman said he had voted for that amendment because he was instructed to do so by the Legislature of Ohio and because he thought it was right. The soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war gave to this country an empire of territory the value of which could not be estimated.

Mr. Hoar offered an amendment, namely: Provided that no pension shall ever be paid under this act to Jefferson Davis, late President of the so-called Southern Confederacy. Mr. Hoar said Mr. Davis spurned the clemency of the Republic to-day. It was now proposed to put the name of this person, whose treason had not been repented of, on the pension rolls of the country and tax loyal widows and orphans to pay the pension.

Mr. Garland said the Government pensions Gen. Longstreet by a small postoffice in Geogia. A Republican administration sent Gov. Orr as Minister to Russia, and Gen. Mosby, who boasted he was a Marion in the second war, to China, as a Consul, he felt satisfied that Jefferson Davis would scorn a pension. That gentleman did not ask it. He had served under Davis in a civil capacity and Davis was a gallant soldier in the Mexican war. His services were on record, and although they did not surpass they equalled those of Greece and Rome.

Mr. Shields thought that by singling out Jefferson Davis from 10,000,000 people in the South was giving him distinction greater than he deserved.

Mr. Bailey said the country was to-day longing and wishing for peace, and he appealed to Senators on the other side to do nothing to prevent it. The people of the South, having lost all in the war were poor, and they desired to restore their industries.

Mr. Maxey briefly spoke of the services rendered by Mr. Davis in the Mexican war, and said he would leave it for those who fought with him to pass judgment on the amendment of the Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. Thurman said the amendment asked him to single out Jefferson Davis for punishment, when other men who went as far as he did were not only not punished, but have been appointed to the highest stations in the Government, and in this connection he might mention the names of Akerman, formerly United States Attorney General; the present Post Master General Key; Gen. Longstreet, Postmaster at Gainsville; Mosby, of guerilla fame, all, and many others of the same class, being appointed by the Republican administration; he saw on the bench men who were just as guilty as Jefferson Davis. The proposition before them came from the Senator of the State of Massachusetts, whose treason had been more violent and longer than any other State in the Union.

Mr. Thurman did not want to pick out Jefferson Davis as a martyr, when all others who acted with him walked the earth unchallenged.

Mr. Hoar said with regard to those who had been engaged in the Southern cause and appointed to office, that they had acquiesced in the results of the war, and the people of the State he represented would always welcome those whose present controling feelings were love of country.

Mr. Lamar said he must confess his surprise and regret that the Senator from Massachusetts should have wantonly, and without provocation, flung this insult.

The Chair (Mr. Edmunds) called Senator Lamar to order for this language.

Mr. Lamar. I suppose it is in order to fling insults, but out of order for those who are insulted to hurl back the blow. I appeal from the decision of the Chair.

The question being taken, the decision of the Chair was overruled—yeas 15, nays 27.

Mr. Lamar, thus being declared in order, said that if his language was offensive or exceptional it was withdrawn, for it was not his purpose to offend or wound the sensibilities of any of his associates on this floor, and what he meant by his remark was that Jefferson Davis stood in the same position that he (Lamar) did with the others who believed in the right of a State to secede.

Mr. Hoar (interrupting) said he wished to assure the Senator that in offering the amendment he did not place him in the same position as Jefferson Davis.

Mr. Lamar replied that the only difference between himself and Jefferson Davis was the latter's exhalted character, prominent talents and well established reputation as a statesman and patriot and soldier. This character of Mr. Davis caused him to be chosen leader of the Southern people, who enthusiastically followed him. Not one word has he uttered since the close of the war inconsistent with the greatness and glory of the Republic. The Senator could point to no utterance which advised the people of the South to cherish animosity or hostility to the Union, nor did he cherish animosity or hostility to the Union, nor did he cherish hostility himself. The name of Davis would always be honored by the Southern people, in company with those of Hampton and Washington, and to offer such an amendment required no courage of magnanimity. It required no courtesy, but only a bitter and malignant feeling and a sense of personal impunity. In conclusion, he caused to be read a letter of Jefferson Davis to a Representative, in which the writer said he wished his name would be no bar to their voting pensions to others than himself who fought in the Mexican war.

Mr. Blaine, alluding to the remarks previously made by Mr. Thurman, asked him who brought Jefferson Davis here to-night, and who had brought him into Congress at different times? No Republican had made reference to him. The other side had brought him here and asked the Republicans to vote or remain silent. The Senator from Mississippi said that Jefferson Davis had never counseled insurrection since the close of the war; why not pension a man who had shown such leniency? And that man was brought here as the compeer of Hampton and Washington, fighting in the same cause and going down together to posterity.

Mr. Lamar, in reply to Mr. Blaine, said he had stated that his own position was that of one who acquiesced in the results of the war.

Mr. Blaine inquired whether he understood the Senator to hold that the Government and Republican party were intolerant to those in the South who had taken part in the war?

Mr. Lamar replied that he certainly thought that a Government which emancipated several classes of the South and excluded the Southern people from a share in their own government was intolerant and ungenerous in putting them under the dominion of their former slaves.

Mr. Blaine said the Government never discriminated against more than 14,000 persons in the South, and that there was now scarcely a person there that was not relieved of his political disabilities. Jefferson Davis was a candidate for the office of Senator, and expected to sit on the other side of the chamber, and next session the Senator from Ohio (Thurman) would be exercising his eloquence to have Mr. Davis' disabilities removed.

Mr. Patterson did not propose to punish Jefferson Davis while all of his followers had been pardoned.

Mr. Harris said that if Jefferson Davis was guilty, then he, and all who followed Mr. Davis, were guilty of the offenses charged. As to purity, honor, and personal character, Mr. Davis stands the peer of any Senator on this floor.

Mr. Wallace, in a few brief remarks, insisted that the introduction of the subject came from the Republican side.

Mr. Chandler said that eighteen years ago he and Jefferson Davis came into the Senate together, and both at the time swore to support the Constitution of the United States. Mr. Davis had come from President Pierce's Cabinet, and when he took the oath there was treason in his heart and perjury on his lips. He took an oath to support the Government he meant to overthrow. He (Chandler), considering the conduct of Mr. Davis during the war, did not expect to hear eulogies of Jefferson Davis on the floor of the Senate. He was surprised to hear them, especially as every man, woman and child in the North believed Jefferson Davis to be a double dyed traitor.

Mr. Coke said Mr. Davis was not worse than he was, and very many others of the Southern people who selected him as a leader. He was not ashamed to vote for Mr. Davis any more than he was to vote for any other man or any other subject. I was, said Mr. Coke, as much of a Rebel as Jefferson Davis.

The Senate voted on the amendment of Mr. Hoar to exclude Jefferson Davis from pension as a Mexican veteran, and it was agreed to—23 to 22.

THE NATCHEZ AND JACKSON RAILROAD.

Extract of a Letter of Chief Engineer Merriwether.

On the 5th and 6th of last August, the county of Hinds, casting 6,275 votes, under a new and special registration, was carried by a vote of more than two-thirds for $200,000 of bonds in aid of its construction through the county. With this aid and new first mortgage 8 per cent bonds, based on the 98¾ miles to Jackson, the company are sanguine of being able to complete the remaining 65¼ miles during the present year, if successful in their negotiations. The character of the work on this part is generally light and favorable for rapid construction, the grading averaging only about 7,500 cubic yards per mile. There are only two large streams to bridge (the Little and big Bayou Pierre), and it is proposed to span them with permanent iron structures on first-class masonry. It is also the intention of the company (all things being favorable) to lay the remainder of the road with a thirty pound steel rail and angle joint on cross ties 6x7 inches, 7 feet long.

With the present data and information it is believed that the entire work of grading, bridging cross-ties, track laying, depots, iron, etc., with a fair equipment of engines and cars, will not exceed $7,800 per mile of road.

The line to Jackson passes through a superior country for general farming—cotton, grain and grass growing, and for stock and sheep raising—it being well watered by springs and small streams, with beautiful valleys. As a fruit and grape growing section, it is surpassed no where in the South. The climate is a mild and genial one, and compares most favorably with any part of the State. The annual cotton crop or the five counties thro' which this line passed to Jackson, approximates 125,000 or 130,000 bales—45,000 to 50,000 of which it may be said are produced along the line of the road. The building of this road will open up one of the finest sections of the State and give an outlet and connection with the central system of roads—north, south, east and west—an outlet and connection which Natchez has sought and felt the need of for many years.

Thus far, the work has been carried forward alone, by private enterprise with the aid given by Adams county. But in the hands of its present able management—Gen. Wm. T. Martin, President, supported by a Directory able, prudent and determined—its final, and, we trust, early completion cannot be long deferred.

NILES MERRIWETHER,
Civil Engineer.

No Place is Better Than the Old Home.

From the Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer.]

One gratifying fact developed this season is the small number of persons who have left this section for Texas and the West. We learn on authority that seventy-five will cover all who have departed this year, while during the last season over 250 sought homes in the imagined delectable land. This shows an encouraging situation of affairs, and that the farmers are better satisfied with their condition. Directly, it indicates that the planting interests have met with a greater recompense than heretofore, and agriculture is more remunerative. Leaving established homes and friends to form new ties and acquaintances in a strange land is no pleasant undertaking. The seeming enhanced prosperity is no compensation for the loss of much that is dear and enjoyable. The sundering of life-long associations and local attachments and general surroundings are sacrifices for which the increased pecuniary gain, if there is one, is an insufficient return. Few have emigrated from our vicinity that would not gladly return could they be reinstated in their former positions.

The West is not an Eldorado, as thousands have found to their sorrow. Disease and death have been the fate of hundreds. More have failed than succeeded. Even young men, to whom an undeveloped country presents strong attractions, unless they have pluck, energy, and enormous persistence and will power, oftener than not, find no more fortune than had they remained where they were. In the mythical realms, fortunes are not won readily. Work is required there as well as here. Some strike lucky openings and avail themselves of the chance, because they have prepared and are ready to seize the opportunity. Circumstances make men, but more frequently men make circumstances. Probably the same exertion in an old will secure the same results as in a new country. All must learn patiently to wait, endure, and work. Perseverance and never let go will eventually win a portion of this world's goods, and achieve a reasonable share of success. Living within one's income is the grand rule that leads to wealth and happiness. If resources are not sufficient, the expenditures should be made less. In the fabulous Texas all the professions are overcrowed. The young men from Columbus have found it so to their cost in the towns and cities of that State.

The Clock Struck One!—A Singular Coincidence.

Port Gibson Revielle.]

The old familiar sound of the town clock is again heard. Though not wound up nor running, during the epidemic, it took some strange freaks on more than one occasion. At the funeral of Robert McClinton, our noble, faithful, soldier-printer, the clock struck one, though known not have been running or striking for weeks before.

A gentleman, whose family including himself, numbered eight, while sitting by the bedside of his son, who was writhing in the hot grasp of yellow fever, was startled one night—far in the depths of the night, while surrounded by the solitude and silence of pestilence and death, by this curious clock which slowly and distinctly struck seven. He started from his sad reverie and exclaimed, "there, one must die—we shall be only seven." And one died.

"A ROMANCE OF RASCALITY."

The Richest Thing in the Literature of Carpet-Baggery.

From the Nation.]

The New York Times, on the day after Christmas, devoted seven columns of leaded type to a biographical sketch of Franklin J. Moses, the late Governor of South Caralina, under the taking title of "A Romance of rascality." It traces the hero's career from before the war down to our own time, in four chapters, three of which are entitled respectively, "Speaker (of the Assembly) and Thief," "Governor and Wholesale Robber," "Downfall—Beggar and Criminal."

An American, domiciled in Perugia, lately desired to place two of his children in the college of the town, but was refused on the ground that the rules forbade a mixture of Protestant and Catholic youths.

Victoria Woodhull is said to have become a Sundy-school teacher in London. If this is true, says the Chicago Tribune, we shudder to think what her Sunday-school scholars will grow up to be.

LENT.

[The Poet Herrick has written some very apt lines upon how to keep a true Lent, which are quoted here for the benefit of those who may have failed to conceive the correct idea:]

"Is this a fast to keep
  The larder leane
  And cleane
From fat of veales and sheep?

Is it to quit the dish
  Of flesh, yet still
  To fill
The platter high with fish?

Is it to faste an hour,
  Or rag'd to go
  Or show
A downcast look and sowre?

No; 'tis a fast to dole
  Thy sheaf of wheat
  And meat
Unto the hungry soule.

It is to fast from strife,
  From old debate
  And hate;
To circumcise thy life;

To show a heart grief-rent,
  To starve thy sin,
  Not bin;
And that's to keep thy Lent."

A RACE OF BROBDIGNAGIANS.

THE MIGHTY PEOPLE CAPT. SMITH FOUND—A RACE OF POLAR GIANTS—ARE THEY THE ORIGINAL POLE EVILS.

From the Denver Tribune.]

Captain Tuttle is an old sailor, now seventy years of age, who has traversed the Atlantic, the Pacific, the India, the Artic and the Antartic oceans; who has seen all the archipelagos, peninsulas, and islands on the globe, who has frequently been at bay and who has passed through more straits than any d. b. in town. During the last twenty-eight years, Captain Tuttle has been devoting himself to the far North, and he claims with very great success. He is now en route to Washington where he proposes to ask the Government to aid him in going to the pole, which he is confident he will reach with sufficient time and money. He is preparing to deliver a lecture in this city and will doubtless tell the people more about his plans and opinions than can be conveyed in a brief newspaper article.

"This is a matter about which I am deeply in earnest," said the Captain, after the topic of Symmes' Hole had been dropped, "I am completely wrapped up in it. I get earnest when I talk, you bet you! You see I am getting to be an old man, and I've got to do what I am going to do pretty soon; you bet you."

His plans are to proceed to Washington, spread his knowledge before Congress, ask money enough to purchase a steamship, and having obtained this, to proceed to Japan, where his whaling vessel is now in harbor, and start from there on his voyage of discovery. "You see, I know how to go, and none of the balance of 'em do; I've been there almost, and none of the balance of 'em have, you bet you."

"What is the reason none of the explorers of whom we have heard so much have succeeded in making the discovery?"

"They all go the wrong route. They go from the East; I go from the West. They are all experimenters; I am an old sailor, used to the North seas, and know what I am doing when I'm there, you bet you."

The Captain gradually unraveled his story and his theory in response to questions, and he was interesting enough.

The Captain is commander of his own whaling ship, and has lately confined himself to northern waters as above indicated. His ship is now in Japanese waters, and he says that if the Government of the United States doesn't give him the requisite assistance, the Mikado will; consequently, he is like the hog on ice, inasmuch as he is independent.

The Captain believes the real road to the Pole is through Behring's Strait. He has penetrated the region to lattitude eighty-three degrees, fifteen minutes, which is further by several degrees than any other explorer has ever reached. Here he found a comparatively open sea, with water clear of ice as a general thing, but with icebergs here and there of immense proportions. He sailed through these open seas, and explored the icebergs themselves fully. It was among them that he found much to feed his theory of a continuous open sea to the north, and beyond that a continent of land whereon dwell, according to his opinion, a race which has no equal in point of stature and endurance, anywhere else on the globe. The captain says that he found words which had evidently been cut and carved, as well as the tusks of elephants and mastadons, which, (the tusks and not the animals themselves) were seven or eight feet long and many inches in diameter. He also found gold quartz and many other evidences which were to Captain Tuttle what the floating wood was to Columbus just before he reached America.

But the strangest portion of the story that he tells is that which relates to the new race of men which he discovered. They live far to the north of the land inhabited by the Esquimaux, and are very different from them. They are a stalwart people, standing, as the Captain says, from seven to eight in their moccasin feet, you bet you. Indeed they are another race of Brobdignagians, without of course the Swift to render them famous. He says that they are darkish, wear fur and skin clothing, have large Roman noses, long black hair and corresponding long black whiskers. The women are almost as large as the men, and are very masculine. Some of them wear beards, and they are quite peculiar if not attractive in their personal appearance. They bear evidence of being virtuous as well as happy, so the Captain says, you bet you.

He found them very friendly. Indeed they ran down to the water's edge to meet him and shook hands with him, cordially welcoming him and his followers, by every sign, to their land. He remained among them several days, but as their language was unintelligible to him and his to them, communication was limited. They, however, gave him to understand that they were from a country north of that in which they then were; that this country was pleasant enough; that it was inhabited, and that it was not difficult to reach it, it being only about four hundred miles to the north. They told him, by drawing on the ground with sticks, that immense animals like the mastadon existed there, and that fish and game of all kinds are abundant; also that gold was to be found in large quantities.

It was while cruising around in these Northern seas that the Captain and his crew were shipwrecked. They lost everything but one boat, and were fortunate enough to reach land in this without losing a man. But it was night, and they were hundreds of miles from a human habitation. It was winter, and they were almost without food, and without clothing. In this northern climate winter is a matter of many months, and for almost six months in the year there is no sun. "For many long and weary hours—it would be more natural here to say days—they traveled. They went 380 miles before they came to an Esquimaux camp, and there they remained for the winter. The snow, he says, was 250 feet deep, and it fell in flakes as large as a buseel basket, though much lighter. It was nothing to have a five foot fall in five hours. And—hard fate—there was no signal office and no newspaper. Indeed, two years passed between '56 and '59 that he did not read a line. During this long, dark and dreary winter he and his men remained in one of the Esquimaux houses without fire, and without food, except oil and flesh.

The Captain tells many similar anecdotes, all of them more or less interesting. He shows a broken arm and a half finger, which are the result of a hand to hand battle with a polar bear.

A Strange People.

From Scientific Notes.]

Dr. E. R. Heath, in a paper on "Peruvian Antiquities," describes a strange people living in a town called Eten, in seven degrees, south latitude, and about two miles from the sea. They number about 4000, and they speak, besides the Spanish, a language which some of the recently brought over Chinese laborers understand. But there is no similarity between the two peoples. They intermarry uncles, nieces, brothers and sisters, nephews and aunts, that is, promiscuously, with no apparent curse of consanguinity; but they will not permit any intermarriage into their number or with the outside world. They have laws, customs and dress of their own, and live by braiding hats and mats and weaving clothes. They will give no account of the place whence they came, or of the time they settled at Eten. History does not mention their existence before the Spaniards arrived. Among them there are no sick or deformed persons, their custom being to send a committee to each sick or old person, and those who are reported past recovery or past usefulness are promptly destroyed by the public executioner. Eten orders it, they say, and with Eten's orders there is no interference.

The Kentucky Giant's Baby.

A few weeks ago the wife of Capt. M. V. Bates, the famous Kentucky giant, who lives on a farm about half a mile east of this town, gave birth to a child; the second since her union of marriage with her present husband, and in both instances the child was still-born. It is to be greatly regretted by all that life should have been extinct from this childbody, which is nothing less than a wonderful prodigy of nature for its remarkable size. If the child should have lived and grown up to maturity, we would have beheld a being beside which we would be nothing but mere dwarfs. The child, fully developed in every feature on the day of its birth, measured 3d inches, a length which many children of normal growth have not attained after two or three years of age. It weighed 22 pounds; its chest measure was 16 inches, and its feet 6 inches long. To the sorrow of all, and more particularly its parents, the child came into the world dead, and never saw the light of day.—Seville, O., Letter in Cleaveland Leader.

Pope Leo speaks English.

Spurgeon has preached 1,452 sermons.

Jem Mace is giving exhibitions in Australia.

Mme. Grevy is an invalid and lives in seclusion.

Senator Logan is a member of the Methodist Church.

David Davis sleeps in a bed made of corrugated iron.

Leprere succeeds De Marcere as Minister of the Interior.

Princess Metternich attends many skating carnivals in Vienna.

Simon Cameron will complete his eigthtieth year next Saturday.

The Princess Louise, it is said, will not remain long in Canada.

Sir Julius Benedict is a slender old gent with a closely shorn chin.

General Shields shows his age. He walks with a cane and his step is tottering.

The Khedive of Egypt has just ordered a splendid set of harness from this country.

President Grevy's daughter once made an ineffectual attempt to elope with Capoul.

The report that Henry Ward Beecher is about to write an autobiography is denied.

The British Commissioner, Sir P. Cunliffe Owen, won an omnibus in the Paris lottery.

Mr. Darwin, the naturalist and evolutionist, has just celebrated his seventieth birthday.

Assistant Postmaster General and Mrs. Tyner will go the Pacific Coast next month.

Paul Boyton is twenty-six years old, weighs 160 pounds, and is about five feet nine inches in height.

John A. Van Nostrand, Mark Twain's "Jack" in "Innocence Abroad," died recently in Jacksonville, Fla.

The Princess of Wales and the Duke of Argyll are under promise to visit Canada during the vice regal residence.

David Swing says that Joseph Cook's talks are more remarkable for what he forgets than for what he remembers.

Mary Louise Andre Grellier, a kinswoman of Major Andre, recently died at Clapton, near London. Major Andre was a native of that place.

Ole Bull, who is rusticating at his home in Madison, Wis., recently fiddled at the marriage of a poor Norwegian, much to the delight of the company.

The Prince of Wales is celebrated for his thoughtfulness as to his friends. He has expressed his pleasure to be the patron of the Asylum for Idiots, and has subscribed £50.

When There Seems Nothing Left to Live For.

Boston Transcript.]

When the Philistine goes to the church fair and sees the minister draw the Shakespeare, the misister's wife the set of furs, his daughter the piano, the senior deacon the horse and carriage, and the sexton a barrel of flour, he comes away sadly confident that he knows why the heathen so furiously rage together.

Within the past twenty years there has been a great extension of the culture of figs under glass, and many landed proprietors now pluck fresh figs for desert in their own greenhouses.

GENERAL AND PERSONAL.

Brignoli, the singer, is reported to have earned and spent $300,000 since 1855.

France appropriated for the present year for art purposes 3,000,000 francs less than England.

In the bright lexicon of the average restaurant, says the Syracuse Times, there is no such word as quail.

The newest basques depend for their variety upon garnitures and the original form of the skirt portions. Very few are plain.

The man who blows his nose at the theater in the middle of a pathetic passage may have a beautiful bugle, but he has no soul for the unities.—New Orleans Picayune.

A native of Marseilles has purchased the right of extracting chlorate of potash from the Dead Sea, and expects to net $8 a ton on an indefinite quantity of it delivered at London.

The fashion of finishing the foot of an over-skirt in turret squares bound with satin, velvet or any handsome trimming material, is still in use, and satin and lace are employed for filling in the openings.

The mule is a disappointing animal. One fell down a shaft in Maryland eighty-five feet deep. Every one said, "That mule's dead," but it was hoisted up uninjured, and walked away, and just as every one said, "That mule's not hurt," it laid down and died.

The English Army and Navy Gazette says that a stranger visiting the rooms of the cadets, at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, would be amazed at the luxury with which they are furnished, to say nothing of the horses, carriages, dogs and other establisments outside the gates.

Torture still exists in Paris. Sworn evidence in the Lanterne libel suit evoked the fact that subordinate police officials feel authorized to torture prisoners so as to obtain confessions. The *ligotte* is most affected—tying the wrists with wet cords which are twisted till the blood spurts out.

On the 15th of April—bank holiday—the old banking house of Child & Co., London, will be shifted one door to the east of the site it has occupied since Neil Gwynne had her account with the firm, then long established in the goldsmith trade. The change is owing to the Temple Bar alterations.

The style of jewelry most in vogue in Paris is the Etruscan. A series of medallions, linked together with gold chains, form the necklace. Bracelets are seen which are remembrances of the exposition. They are of engraved gold, on which is "Paris, 1878, Souvenir." Cameos have again become fashionable, and are especially worn by young maidens. Silver jewelry in Japanese style is also very popular, some specimines of which are very beautiful.

Willis Clarke Shelton, who was known as the "boy organist," and to whom Mrs. A. T. Stewart gave a grand musical reception in Saratoga last Summer, died in New York on Sunday. Ole Bull heard the prodigy when he was only twelve years old, and upon the veteran's recommendation he was taken to Europe to study music. A great future was predicted for him in both hemispheres, but consumption cut short his career at the age of twenty-four.

A considerable quantity of imitation lace in French thread lace patterns, will be used for trimming fine wool spring wraps. Beads will also form a feature of the garniture of the next season's wraps. The shapes of mantles and wraps generally will be very like those of last season, with the back fitted by three seams and clinging sides that drape the arm, and are finished in square Hungarian fashion, instead of drooping in pointed wings like dolmans.

All mode gloves are long on the wrists. Embroidered kids are favored. The shade of the glove should not be darker than the evening costume. Harris gloves are on the wane. They are fast losing caste with bon ton dresses. An excellent glove for wear is the English calfskin, heavily stitched on the back and double-stitched throughout. This style of glove is vary soft and light in weight. Side-buttoned gloves are not so fashionable as they were a few seasons back.

"In trying," says the Springfield (Ill.) Republican, "to save 'Big Pete' Aubrey's leg, now in a dangerous condition from a wound received in the late war, the doctors have recourse to this curious remedy: A cat is securely muffled, as to its head and claws, cut open, the viscera quickly removed, and the warm, live body wrapped around the wounded leg, the life remaining about ten minutes. This is rather rough on the cats, but it may save Aubrey's leg."

English vegetarians who, like Miss Corson, are endeavoring to introduce the lentil as an article of food are disgusted—and not unjustly—with the popular ignorance and prejudice on the subject. One cargo has been lying at Gloucester for two years, waiting in vain for a purchaser; another was sold at Liverpool for pig-feed, the purchaser not even venturing to give the lentils to his horses. One of the richest women in England and a rich Staffordshire manufacturer wanted the English name of lentils, both being ignorant that "lentile" is English; a clergyman thought they had "become extinct since the days of Esau and Jacob," and a lady in Dublin wanted to know "how much water was to be put down with each one."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Figs are very fattening if not eaten to excess.

"Idiot fringe" a vigorous Western editor calls banged hair.

Short costumes are now *de riguer* for street wear when walking.

Uncut velvet and plush are used for reception and evening hats.

Back combs of shell or silver for ladies are ornamented with a single fern leaf.

Fine ties of white lawn have the ends ornamented with a medallion of pinasse lace, and are embroidered in all white.

There is a revival of pearls, but not as clusters. The round, pure soltaires, set so as not to show the gold, are the favorites.

Wives should always sit up for their husbands, instead of getting their servants to do so. It makes two hours difference in their arrival.

Hon. Jefferson Davis's Seashore Residence.

Democrat Star.]

Hon. Jefferson Davis has bought Mrs. S. A. Dorsey's orange orchard at Beauvoir. We learn the price paid was $5,500. This is one of the most beautiful as well as valuable orangies on the Mississippi seacoast, and we would think Col. Davis secured a bargain in this property.

MASONIC DEPARTMENT.

FOLLOW THOU ME.

Have ye looked for My sheep in the desert,
  For those who have missed their way?
Have ye been in the wild, waste places
  Where the lost and the wandering stray?
Have ye trodden the lonely highway,
  The foul and darksome street?
It may be ye'd see in the gloaming,
  The print of Christ's wounded feet.

Have you folded close to your bosom
  The trembling, neglected lamb,
And taught to the little lost one
  The sound of the Shepherd's name?
Have ye searched for the poor and needy
  With no clothing, no home, no bread?
The Son of man was among them,
  He had nowhere to lay his head?

Have ye carried the living water
  To the parched and thirsty soul?
Have ye said to the sick and wounded,
  "Christ Jesus makes the whole?"
Have you told me my fainting children
  Of the strength of the father's hand?
Have ye guided the tottering footsteps
  To the shore of the "golden land?"

Have ye stood by the sad and weary,
  To smooth the pillow of death,
To comfort the sorrow-stricken,
  And strengthen the feeble faith?
And have ye felt, when the glory
  Has streamed through the open door,
And flitted across the shadows,
  That I had been there before?

Have ye wept with the broken-hearted,
  In their agony of woe?
Ye might hear me whispering beside you,
  'Tis a path I often go.
My disciples, my brethren, my friends,
  Can ye dare to follow me?
Then wherever the master dwelleth,
  There shall the servant be.

FEMALE FREEMASONS.

From the New York Times, 3d.]

Some of the Atlantic coast members of what is perhaps the largest and most powerful secret society in existence are discussing the old question whether or not a woman was ever made a Mason. There does not seem to be a great difference of opinion on the subject, for only those who are best acquainted with Masonic lore dare to speak at all knowingly concerning a mystery which very few have ever been able to explain. It seems to be pretty generally assumed that by no possibility could such an event ever have taken place. While it is only fair to admit that members of the Masonic fraternity should know more about these matters than any one else, in this one instance, at least, most of them are certainly ignorant of the real facts in the case. Once, and once only, is it recorded that one from the outer world penetrated unbidden, unprepared and unobserved into the temple while the craftsmen were at labor, and on that occasion the intruder was a woman. Toward the middle of the eighteenth century, Irish Lodge No. 44, held meetings at Doneraile House, Arthur, second Lord Doneraile, being the Worshipful Master. His sister, Hon. Elizabeth St. Leger, who afterward married Mr. Aldworth, of Newmarket, in the County Cork, determined, on a certain occasion, to discover what Freemasonry really was. According to one account, says the Masonic Cyclopedia, "she concealed herself in a clock;" and, according to another, "she saw the proceedings of the Lodge through a crevice in the wall." That she was made a Freemason is undoubted; though when so made does not quite clearly appear, nor are we informed as to which degree she was advanced to. However, there is no denying that Mrs. Aldworth alone of her sex, during modern times, gained certain of the mystic signs, symbols, grips and passwords, and witnessed the imposing and instructive ceremonies which we have reason to suppose are performed within the Lodge-room.

In the earlier days of Masonry, as shown by some ancient manuscripts, there were "Dame Masons" as well as "Master Masons." The "Apprentice" is charged in one manuscript that he "shall not steal or pick away his masters or dames goods," and in another manuscript that "he shall not disclose his master's or dame's counsel or secrets," whence it may be inferred that at one time the widows of Masons were permitted to carry on work under the guild, and in that case the apprentice would serve out his time. "It may be," adds the editor of the work on Masonic history to which we are indebted for this information, "that this rule was even enlarged so as to admit the widows and daughters of Masons," a supposition which may well suggest misgivings about the secrets imparted to those who knew anything about the order. Formerly, both in France and Germany, there existed—and now exists in the ... be made acquainted with certain signs and mysteries, thus enabling them to make themselves known to members of the craft. Concerning the German "Mopses" a good deal of doubt prevails, inasmuch as it is even a mooted point whether the word "mops" signified "the wife of a Freemason," or a "Dutch mastiff" or pug dog"—or both. At any rate, nothing has been seen of the "mopses" for over 150 years. In France "Maconnerie d'adoption" flourished during a considerable part of the eighteenth, and was revived in the early years of the nineteenth century. Between about 1740 and 1760 the French nation boasted of many, what some Englishmen are pleased to call "Androgynous" orders of Freemasonry. Among these were "L'Order de la Felicite, ou les Felicitaires," "L'Order des Chevaliers et Chevaliers de l'Ancre," "L'Ordre des Chevaliers et Nymphes de la Rose," "L'Odre des Dames Ecossaises de l'Hospice du Monthaba," and "L'Ordre de la Perseverance." Later on, that is for fifteen or twenty years before the outbreak of the revolution, secret societies were the rage with all classes, even with the great ladies of the court. Under the patronage of Cardinal De Rohan, the notorious and infamous Cagliostro established his system of "Egyptian Masonry," installed himself as Grand Cophte, and opened Lodges for sisters, as well as brethren, at Strasburg, Lyons and Paris, of which Lodges the two principal ones were named "La Sagesse Triomphante" and "Les Philathetes." Another order received the particular protection of the Duchess de Bourbon and the Princess de Lamballe, and in the Lodge St. Antoine one of them, as Grand Maitress, was in the habit of conferring the degrees of "Apprentice," "Compagnonne," "Maitresse" and "Parfaiate Maitresse." But the new sisterhood passed away with the old regime, and, although it was partially revived under Napoleon 1, and again under the Burbons, it gradually came to an end, and does not now exist.

In our own country an adoptive rite—the term adoptive seems to be a Masonic equivalent for female—was instituted in 1855, consisting of five degrees; Jeptha's Daughter, or the daughter's degree; Ruth, or the widow's degree; Esther, or the wife's degree; Martha, or the sister's degree, and Electa, or the Cristian martyr's degree, the whole assemblage being called the Eastern Star. Now, this body is not Freemasonry, never can be Freemasonry, and is not, of course, recognized by Masons in good standing. Nevertheless, it embraces only the wives, widows, mothers, daughters and sisters of Master Masons, and all the male persons who are members of this adoptive rite must necessarily be Masons. The origin and progress of this rite is not even familiar to most Masons. It was first brought out in 1850, and the degree was first conferred in this city in April, 1853; but the order in its present form was not introduced until in October, 1868, when the system of ceremonies for opening, closing, and initiating candidates was exemplified for the first time before Alpha Chapter. Since then it has spread all over the country, and in almost every State and Territory chapters have already been established. The order now numbers nearly 20,000 members in this country alone. But there are signs of discord even in this excellent order, and the chief matter under dispute is whether man or woman shall wear the apron of authority, and whether that apron shall or shall not have a bib to it. It seems not to have been intended by the originators of this order that woman should be its leading executive officer, but rather as an assistant. Nevertheless, the lovely creatures have succeeded in many jurisdictions in securing control of the Lodges, and now hold the leading offices.

In the meantime, the outside world is called upon to stand and wonder, while these "female Freemasons" settle the question, not only of authority, but of uniformity, in the clothing to be worn in subordinate Chapters. Shall they wear seal-skin or Astrakhan jackets, aprons with or without bibs, skirts with or without ruffles, and long or short pants—that is to say, shall there be uniformity, and thus create harmony and goodness? Perhaps Miss Nilsson, who has just been elected to the highest grand office of the order in England, can solve the question.

Mr. Kerpan's Tribute the Boy-Writer and Poet.

Tupelo Journal.]

There appeared in the Jackson Clarion last week, a poem by Mr. W. H. Kernan, ... na, in memory of Jno. W. Babb, of the ... dale, Miss., Journal; who died recently ... pneumonia, that far surpasses anything ... have ever seen from Mr. Kernan's pen; ... we rarely ever read a more smooth ... melody.

Strangers arriving should notify friends by cards of their presence.