The Middlebury Register.

VOLUME XIX. MIDDLEBURY, VT., WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 1854. NUMBER 1.

THE MIDDLEBURY REGISTER,

OFFICE IN BREWSTER'S BLOCK ON MAIN-ST.

J. H. BARRETT & J. COBB,
Publishers and Proprietors.

TERMS.

THE REGISTER will be sent one year, by mail, or delivered at the office, where payment is made *strictly in advance*, for...$1 50
Delivered by carrier, *paid strictly in advance*, ... 2 00
If not paid within six months 50 cts. additional.

☞ No paper discontinued until arrearages are paid, unless at the option of the proprietor.

☞ All communications must be post-paid.

☞ V. B. Palmer is agent for this paper in Boston, New York, and Philadelphia.

BOOK AND JOB PRINTING
Done in modern style and at short notice.

Law of Newspapers.

I. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue their subscription.

II. If subscribers order the discontinuance of their papers, the publisher may continue to send them till all that is due be paid.

III. If subscribers neglect or refuse to take their papers from the office to which they are directed, they are held responsible till they have settled their bills and ordered their papers discontinued.

IV. If subscribers move to other places, without informing the publisher, and the paper is sent to the former direction, they are held responsible.

V. The courts have decided that refusing to take a paper from the office, or removing and leaving it uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

VI. A Postmaster neglecting to inform a publisher when his paper is not taken from the office, makes himself liable for the subscription price.

200 PER CENT ASSURED!

A NEW DISCOVERY AND INVENTION.

Phelps' Ohio Combination Patent Bee Hive was awarded the first premium and diploma, at the Ohio State Fair, September, 1851, over Kelsey's, Dugdalls, Case & Landreth's, Wheeler's and Gilmore's, also a diploma for the best Hive at the Indiana State Fair, and a premium at the New York State Fair, September, 1852, also at the Crystal Palace and at numerous County Fairs. It is acknowledged by all practical bee keepers, stands unrivalled, and ahead of all other Hives yet known, to be what its name indicates, a combination of all those principles necessary to the successful management of Bees. Many persons have been obliged to abandon the business on account of the ravages of the Bee Moth and frequent losses by starvation. This Hive by simple arrangement guards most effectually against those two great evils. It is also equally well adapted to large or small swarms, and likewise for a swarming, non-swarming, or dividing hive, and in fact it excels all others. Every farmer, mechanic, physician, lawyer, gentlemen, lady and clergymen having a permanent residence, will procure it as soon as they learn its excellencies. We would say to those who never kept bees, that with this Hive they may be managed with perfect impunity, as all parts of the care may be opened and the operation of the bees witnessed will out coming in contact with them. The advantages it possesses over others are as follows:

1st. Its perfect adaptation (in regard to size) to the actual wants of a colony of bees at all seasons, let it be a large or small one.

2d. The facilities it affords for obtaining surplus honey or removing any portions of the old combs, are superior to any other, as the bees may be made to leave either box when desired before removing it from the hive, without disturbing or injuring them in the least.

3d. It affords the best opportunity for observing the operations of the bees, the amount of honey in store and the strength of the colony at all times without exposure to the bees.

4th. The construction of the hive with the slighting board is such that it will always save the expense of a building on purpose for bees, as it may be put in any out building, garret, grainery, attic, or even dining room if you please, where your honey will not slip off without your personal observation.

5th. It is acknowledged to afford the bees better protection against moths and robbers than any other hive yet known, as the small appertune at which the bees enter is the only means of access for the miller, and this being three inches over the bottom the bees are not so liable to leave it during evening as if it was at the bottom of the hive.

6th. It affords a more convenient and effectual means of destroying moths after they get into the hive than any other, as there is a perfect moth trap to catch them.

7th. It is also acknowledged by all who have fed bees in this way to be the most convenient hive for that purpose known, and the only one that bees can be fed with any degree of safety against robbers.

8th. It is so well arranged for wintering bees successfully as it is well ventilated, and the boxes containing the bees being enclosed in a case, keeps them in an even temperature during winter and they consume much less honey than in any other hive.

9th. The bee feeder by this improvement, can prolong the season by feeding your bees keeps them making honey with a profit of 100 per cent.

To amateurs, bee keepers and all lovers of honey, there is no investment which offers such inducements and combines so many advantages as this. One of these hives with bees in it at work has been and now is on exhibition at the Crystal Palace and has attracted the attention and called forth the admiration of tens of thousands, and is acknowledged to be the most simple cheap and perfect arrangement of the kind ever invented.

This hive has been thoroughly tried and tested by the undersigned individuals from two to five years, and this is the first introduction of this patent in this State.

H. S. Park, John Bumbback, V. Alsdorf, Henry Forry, W Shields, Geo. Engle, James Stone, Peter Hollet, F. N. O'Reanon, Saml Bowers, Thos Blanchard, W. Alsdorf, A Sherwood, Jas. Wells,

The above named persons are residents of Licking Co., Ohio.—Also John J. Putnam, F. F. Lamb, L. Merchant, Newark Ohio.—C. Springer, Modern Farm, Muskingum Co., Ohio.—Jos. Wells, Union, Licking Co., Ohio.—Oliver A. Morrel, Montgomery.—W. Van Vranken, Schenectady, N. Y.—Edwin Phelps, West field, Mass.—Isaac Griffin, Quaker Springs, Saratoga Co., N. Y.—Caleb H. Hall, Blue Rock Township, Ohio.

Certificates of the above named gentlemen can be seen by calling on the subscriber who is the sole agent for Rutland, Addison and Chittenden counties.

Individual rights for Phelps' Combination Hive, with recipes for making bee feed and full explanations $5. Hive,—with all fixings entire and Bee Feeder, $4.

Any person desirous of seeing the above named Hive, can do so by calling on Daniel Bidwell, East Middlebury, Vt, or on the agent.

☞ Any person desiring to procure a right of Phelps' Combination Bee Hive, can do so by addressing the subscriber, post-paid.

Any persons wishing to make their own hives can do so and transfer any swarm of bees into them.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.—500 Hives made—a good job for a mechanic to engage in.

48:1y GUSTAVUS PERKINS, Agent.
East Middlebury, Vt, March 22, 1854.

TOWN'S Series of School Books for sale by A. H. COPELAND.

PORTFOLIOS, Crayons, Pencils, Pens, &c., for sale by A. H. COPELAND.

LEDGERS, Journals, Day Books and all kinds of Blank Books for sale by A. H. COPELAND.

INKSTANDS, Sand Boxes and Blotting Paper, for sale by A. H. COPELAND.

Poetry.

Prayer.

BY ALFRED TENNYSON.

Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer
Than this world dreams of. Wherefore let thy voice
Rise like a fountain for me night and day.
For what are men better than sheep or goats
That nourish a blind life within the brain,
If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer
Both for themselves and those who call them friend?
For so the whole round earth is every way
Bound by gold chains about the feet of God.

Miscellany.

The Stolen Hides.

William Savery, an eminent preacher among the Quakers, was a tanner by trade, and known by all as "one who walketh humbly with his God." One night a quantity of hides was stolen from his tannery, and he had reason to believe that the chief was a quarrelsome, drunken neighbor, whom I shall call John Smith. The next week, the following advertisement appeared in the country newspaper:

"Whoever stole a quantity of hides on the fifth of the present month, is hereby informed that the owner has a sincere wish to be his friend. If poverty tempted him to this false step, the owner will keep the whole transaction secret, and will gladly put him in the way of obtaining money by means more likely to bring him peace of mind."

This singular advertisement attracted considerable attention; but the culprit alone knew who had made the kind offer. When he read it his heart melted within him, and he was filled with sorrow for what he had done. A few nights afterward, as the tanner's family were about retiring to rest, they heard a timid knock; and, when the door was opened, there stood John Smith, with a load of hides on his shoulder. Without looking up, he said—

"I have brought these back, Mr. Savery, where shall I put them?"

"Wait till I can get a lantern, and I will go to the barn with thee," he replied; "then, perhaps thou wilt come in and tell me how this happened; we will see what can be done for thee."

As soon as they were gone out, his wife prepared some hot coffee, and placed pies and meat on the table. When they returned home from the barn, she said:

"Neighbor Smith, I thought some hot supper would be good for thee."

He turned his face toward her, and he did not speak. After leaning against the fireplace in silence a few moments, he said in a choked voice:

"It is the first time I ever stole anything, and I felt very bad about it. I am sure I didn't once think that I should ever come to what I am. But I took to drinking, then quarrelling. Since I began to go down hill, every body gives me a kick. You are the first man that has ever offered me a helping hand. My wife is sickly, and my children are starving. You have sent them many a meal—God bless you; and yet I stole the hides. But I tell you the truth, when I say it is first time that I was ever a thief."

"Let it be the last, my friend," replied Wm. Savery. "The secret remains between ourselves. Thou art still young, and it is thy power to make up for lost time. Promise me that thou wilt not drink any intoxicating liquor for a year, and I will employ thee to-morrow on good wages. The little boy can pick up stones. But eat a bit now, and drink some hot coffee. Perhaps it will keep thee from craving anything stronger to-night. Doubtless thou wilt find it hard to abstain at first, but keep up a brave heart for the sake of thy wife and children, and it will soon become easy. When thou hast need of coffee, tell Mary, and she will always give it thee."

The poor fellow tried to eat and drink, but the food seemed to choke him. After vainly trying to compose his feelings, he bowed his head on the table, and wept like a child. After a while he ate and drank, and his host parted with him for the night, with the friendly words:

"Try to do well, John, and thou wilt always find a friend in me."

He entered into his employ the next day, and remained with him many years a sober, honest and faithful man. The secret of the theft was kept between them, but, after John's death, William Savery sometimes told the story to prove that evil might be overcome with good.

The Jew.

The New York Times does nothing more than justice to the Jews in a recent article from which we quote:

"There is said to be some 17,000 of the Jewish faith in the United States. Their churches number 31. Probably 6,000 Jews are to be found in the city of New York. We seldom find one in our prisons or penitentiaries. They are not frequently found in our hospitals, and never in our poor houses. At Ward's Island, where so many hundreds of the poor drifting across from the shores of the old World are continually gathering, we find all classes of christians—Quakers perhaps excepted—and all shades of infidels represented, but never a Jew. When the Jewish emigrant arrives, he does not commit himself, though poverty has chased him from his old home, and met him on our wharf to the Commissioner of Emigration, for the receipt of that assistance to which his commutation fee entitles him, but he queries first, *Where is there a Jew?*—His brother found, leads him to the man who, by appointment of the synagogue, or otherwise assumes the specific task of caring for such. Thirteen hundred tons of coal, we are told, have been given to the poor by one society of Israelites in New York during the present winter. This early and unfailing attention, of those who are able, to the wants of the poor, must greatly tend to prevent the commission of crime, since crime stalks in nowhere so surely, as when hunger and nakedness open the door and want perpetually beckons on."

Washington Irving and his Home.

Miss Bremer thus speaks of our universally beloved countryman, Washington Irving: "There was a whole crowd of strangers to dinner, among whom was the author of the "Sketch-Book," a man of about sixty, with large beautiful eyes, a well formed nose, a countenance still handsome, in which youthful little dimples and smiles bear witness to a youthfully fresh and humorous disposition and soul. He must be a man of unusually happy temperament, and of a most excellent heart. He has surrounded himself with a number of nieces (he says he cannot conceive of what use boys are in the world,) whom he makes happy, and who make him so by their affection. He says he has the peculiar faculty of liking everything which he possesses, and everything which seeks his protection. He is an optimist; but not a conceited one. In the afternoon I begged him to let me take a profile likeness of him. He cheerfully consented and soon became wide awake, loquacious and lively; there was so much vivacity in his smile, and so much fun in all the merry dimples of his countenance, that it is my own fault if I have not made one of the best and most characteristic portraits that has ever been taken of him. I am glad to have it to show to his friends and admirers in Sweden. Mr. Irving invited me and my friends to his house for the following evening; but as we were obliged to return home that day, we could not accept his invitation, but engaged to pay him a visit in the morning. I set in the forenoon, with Mary Hamilton, to Washington Irving's. His house or villa, which stands on the banks of the Hudson, resembles a peaceful idyl; thick masses of ivy clothe one portion of the white walls, and garland the eaves. Fat cows feed in the meadow just before the window. Within, the room seems full of summer warmth, and had a peaceful and cheerful aspect. One felt that a cordial spirit, full of the best sentiments of the soul, lived and worked there. Washington Irving, although possessed of the politeness of a man of the world, and of great natural good-nature, has, nevertheless, somewhat of that nervous shyness which so easily attaches itself to the author, and particularly to him who is possessed of delicacy of feeling and refinement. A portrait which hangs in Washington Irving's drawing room, and which was painted many years since, represents him as a remarkable man with dark hair and eyes—a head which might have belonged to a Spaniard. He was engaged to a young lady of rare beauty and excellence; it would have been difficult to have met with a handsome pair. But she died, and Washington Irving never again sought for another bride. He has been wise enough to content himself with the memory of a perfect love, and to live for literature, friendship and nature."

Revolution against Shaving.

Man is a funny fellow, and there is no accounting for his whims. In Japan he dyes his teeth black, for the sufficient reason that dogs have white teeth; and in England and Ireland he deprives his face of its natural appendage, ornament and safeguard, for no reason at all? Surely there is no accounting for tastes—in one corner of the world we wear a wooden decoration in our noses in a second, we flatten the forehead; in a third, we tattoo; and in a fourth, we shave! Man is a funny animal, whether a Tongataboo or Thread-needle street; at national lip-service beside the Liffey, or plaiting his pig-tail by the Kang-Ku. What pains he takes to make himself a little different from what God made him! Our own sapient progenitors, likewise, strutted about in queues; they simpered in patched faces, powdered their heads, and rejoiced in "pebble"—which, be it known to you, gentle reader, was a compound of soap and flour, to give density and consistency to the aforesaid queue. Another generation removed the hair of the scalp and substituted a wig from the Welch goat. The much-lauded "march of intellect" has kicked over the powder-box and wobble-pot; it discountenances patches and has laid a sacrilegious hand on pigtails—but the razor is still between our fingers. We laugh at our forefathers' taste for a bald head, but we gravely cherish their weakness, for a bald chin.

All those grotesque and artificial fashions originated in natural deformities, at a time when princes arbitrarily let the mode, and courtiers received them as their *ambras*. It is a matter of history that there was a time in England when one shoulder higher than the other was all the rage, because the court, from a feeling of delicate attention to the monarch, imitated his physical defect. Powder originated in Poland, where the disease popularly known as "scald head" was prevalent. Patches were rather coarsely devised to conceal scorbutic blotches on the countenance; and shaving was only barefaced sympathy with a certain continental monarch deficient in the outward and visible sign of masculine dignity.

King David's ambassadors, when they lost their beards, hid themselves for shame until they grew again; but Queen Victoria's liegeo go forth daily without shame or remorse for their self imposed morning's emasculation. There rises before us this moment a long vista of great historical portraits all the more ennobled by looking natural. From the Apostles to the Vaudois pastors, and the monks of St. Bernard, from Plato and Socrates to Shakspere and Jean Bart, from Brian Boru or the Black Prince down to Napier and Guyon, the bold and wise, and true, appear like men as God meant them. But the "bucks" and "bloods," the "Maccaronies" and "hawks" of the feeble eighteenth century have run their race, like their high heels and big-wigs, and a score of other artificialities. The shavers, too, have nearly had their day, and a pretty morning's work they have sometimes made of it! A popular storm is rapidly rising against the razor. Physicians are insisting on the sanitary benefits of moustaches and beard in this humid climate of consumption; artists are demanding that man shall no longer diverge from nature, and disfigure himself in obedience to stupid custom. The mind is influenced by externals; adhere to nature in habit, and we will be more likely to adhere to it in thought. A new and hirsute era is happily opening—begone, thou bald-faced past!—*Dublin Advocate.*

Old Women.

At what age does a woman become old? I have questioned many women, old and young, upon this subject, and I have arrived at the conviction that they know no more than I do. * * * Listen to a woman at the age of twenty talking about old women. She does not speak of them as a traveller who is about to start on a long journey speaks of those who have arrived at the end of it; she does not speak of them as if they were human beings to whom she must one day bear some sort of resemblance herself; no, it would seem that they were two species of women perfectly distinct, like the white woman and the black, and that the woman of the age of twenty who is speaking to you belongs to the young species, in the same way that she belongs to the white species. Nothing is more common than to hear a woman who is no longer young say, with the greatest contempt, of a woman of her own age, "She's an old woman!"—A woman of the age of twenty calls all the women who are at the age of thirty old, and the woman of thirty is scandalized to see a drawing-room crowded with nothing but women of forty; whilst the latter say, "When I shall be fifty, like Mrs. So and so, I shall give up going into society, and I certainly shall not wear flowers in my hair." The women of fifty, in their return, chatter freely about the giddiness and imprudence of women who number only a few years less than themselves. But a woman is never old so long as she can inspire a feeling of love. Besides, what is it to be old? It surely does not consist in having spent a certain number of years out of the mysterious number which has been allotted to each of us. To be old is (in my opinion) no longer to possess either beauty or charm. If a woman is preserved up to the age of a hundred all the attractions of her youth she would even then be younger than the woman of twenty who had lost them all. * * *

I prefer any day an old woman who is young, to a young woman who is old.—*Kerr's Work on French Women.*

BEAUTIFUL PERORATION. — Hiram Ketchum, Jr., closed an address on Nebraska, in New York, the other evening, as follows:

"If it were a desire to add fresh laurels to an already brilliant reputation, by propounding a new and startling idea, and thus making himself the centre of observation for the time, let him (Douglas) remember that he may be courting the fate of him who fired the Ephesian dome, and that it is possible for a man to be *damned* to everlasting fame; if on the contrary he has been actuated, as some say, by ambitious motives, let him stand beside the tomb at Marshfield, and there, as he, with others, drops the silent tear over the remains of buried patriotism, let him reflect that beneath him lies a grave dug by *Southern gratitude* for the body of him who died a victim to the protection of Southern rights—Southern Honor lies buried in the grave of Calhoun, Southern Patriotism expired upon the death-bed of Clay, and the bells, which tolled at the funeral of Webster, knelled the last requiem over the remains of Southern Gratitude."

HOW TO GET A FEATHER BED.—"The following extract is from Lover's "Handy Andy."

"In carrying off the small thing of a feather bed, Jake Take showed the skill of a practitioner, for he descended the stairs backward."

"Backward!" exclaimed Harry Logan, "what's that for?"

"You'll see by and by," said Croggins. "He descended backwards, when suddenly he heard the door opened, and a female voice exclaimed:

"Where are you going with that bed?"

"I am going up stairs with it, ma'am," said Jake, whose backward position favored the lie, and he began to walk up again."

"Come down," said the lady, "we want no beds, here man"

"Mr. Sullivan, ma'am, sent me home with it himself," said Jake

"Come down, I tell you," said the lady in a rage; "there's no Mr. Sullivan lives here."

"I beg your pardon, my lady," said Jake—then turning around and marching off with the bed fair and easy.

Well, there was a singular shilloo in the house, when the thing was found out, and cart ropes wouldn't hold the lady for the rage she was in.

A REMARKABLE MAN.—A New York Letter to the Mobile *Tribune* says:

'There is a remarkable man connected with the custom-house here, a Spaniard, his business to receive and test money. He will pour the contents of an immense bag of gold and silver coin in a scale—for it is weighed not counted, and in a trice announce the amount in dollars and cents; then running his fingers through the shining pieces, and applying his nose to them, immediately takes out every counterfeit coin. He has never been known to make a mistake in pronouncing money good or bad; and his infallifble instinct for detecting the spurious metal is located in his olfactory organ.'

SHAWLS.—An Ohio paper says that the fashion of dandies wearing shawls had its origin in that State, and in the following manner.

A swell who had attended a party, got so much intoxicated that he could not tell a shawl from a cloak and therefore on retiring took a shawl, supposing he had his cloak, and marched with it through the streets. The small fry seeing what was done, thought a new fashion had come, and fell in with it at once.—*Poughkeepsie Eagle.*

A very young girl, young enough to sleep in a crib by the bed of her parents, awoke one night, when the full moon was shining into her bed room, and calling to her father, she exclaimed: 'Father! father! God has forgot to blow the moon out! Won't you open the window, and let me blow it out?'

From the New England Farmer.

Warts on Plum Trees.

MR. BROWN:—I had notice that my plum trees, of which I have several varieties, during some years, were becoming disfigured by the unseemly excrescences, of which there have been so many complaints of late. I thought I would attempt, at least, to ascertain the cause, since this knowledge is indispensable to a cure. Last April, I resolved to cut up at the roots all the trees which had become very badly diseased, and to prune from the others all the branches which had become affected; for I had noticed in attempting to cut out the warts, that the wood was in almost every instance diseased to the heart. While engaged in this process, my son severed a number of the warts carefully from their stock, and placed them in a tumbler covered with a glass cup-plate. Two or three weeks subsequently, on a further examination of the trees, he found several warts which had commenced a vigorous growth, about which were a multitude of little white worms, apparently of the same species as those which latter in the season committed such fearful depredation in the orchards and other fruit trees through the country. In some cases these worms had formed their nest about the wart, in others, seemed imbedded under the bark, so that when disturbed, they would retire from view. But the wart, rather than the adjacent parts of the limb, seemed to be their home. This was before the worms made their appearance on the trees generally.

Several pieces of limb having these excrescences upon them, my son cut off, and we placed them with the warts before collected, in the tumbler, which we placed in a vessel of water, hoping thereby to prevent the escape of anything from it. The genial atmosphere of the house hastened the growth of the worms, and as our covering was not sufficiently close they escaped, and many of them were drowned, while some succeeded in swimming to the edge of the vessel, from which they let themselves down by their web to the table on which the vessel stood. These worms soon disappeared, but thus far we had discovered no change in the warts themselves.

Some days later, however, about the 20th of June, we found on examination of the tumbler, that these warts had become masses of black, porous matter, evidently eaten through and through by some worm. Still there was enough of cohesion about each mass to preserve its form, except that it was somewhat increased in size. Opening these masses, we discovered in each a small white grub with a dark head; in some, more than one grub. A few days later, this grub had became a chrysalis. Still later I examined again, and found on removing the cover, several small black flies, of slender form, such as we had never before noticed, some of which escaped us. These I supposed to proceed from the warts, because on examination I found in some of them certain little insects, evidently becoming transformed into flies. One chrysalis I opened, contained an insect of a grayish color, looking as much like a bug as a fly. Another contained the same insect in a torpid state, which after a little exposure to the air became active. These, I suppose, both became flies after the lapse of a little more time.

Of the connection between the little worms first mentioned, and the warts, I have no opinion, because they soon after appeared in countless myriads, on trees upon which there are no excrescences like those on plum trees.

From the other facts I draw the following inferences—that the little fly alluded to, is probably the mischief-maker in this case—that during the summer it deposit its egg in, on, or under, the bark, infusing therewith a poison that occasions the excrescence, which forms over the egg so as effectually to shield it—that here it lies through the winter, until the return of warm weather, when it hatches; becomes a grub—a chrysalis—a fly—thus producing its species—that the probable preventive of the ravages of the insect is to cut off, either in the autumn, or early in the spring, every branch on which an incipient wart makes its appearance, and burn it.

I know, Mr. Editor, that it is not commonly safe to base a theory upon a single experiment, or investigation. I therefore only give you the process of my investigation with its results, and my deductions therefrom, without any strong confidence that these deductions are correct. Perhaps others have investigated this matter in a similar way. If so, I hope we may learn the results.

Certain it is, that unless something can be done to arrest the destruction now in progress among the plum trees of this region, we shall soon cease to enjoy this delicious fruit. L. MATHEWS.

Cornwall Vt., Feb. 1854.

NEW FARMS LATELY DISCOVERED.—Lawyers have known for a long time that a landholder owned down far below the surface. But farmers never suspected that their deeds gave them a right to more than six inches of the surface. No person scarcely has thought of looking deeper, except the diggers for gold and water. The subsoil plough is revealing to agriculturists treasures before unknown. Discoveries in the earth are keeping pace with those in the sky, and a new earth is open to the cultivator, as a new heaven is to the astronomer. In the soil is a great source of phosphate of lime, which few farmers have hit upon; I mean in the part of the farm which lies six inches deeper under the farm. There, since the deluge lies undisturbed the fertilizer, usually hard. Roots of the grains and grasses cannot penetrate it. There it is, and has been accumulating for thousands of years, insoluble, except when roots apply themselves to it. Not one farmer in twenty ever plows deeper than six inches. The roots cannot get at the mine below—it is too hard. As beneficial as the subsoil plow has proved to be where used, not one farmer in five hundred uses one, throughout this enlightened country. You may ask them why they do not use one, and I presume they will say, our grandfathers never used them, and they generally had good crops; therefore, we think it better to follow their example, notwithstanding we are living in an age of great improvements.—*Country Gentleman.*

Chaplains in Congress and in the Army and Navy.

MARCH 27, 1854.—Ordered to be printed.

MR. MEACHAM, FROM THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, MADE THE FOLLOWING

REPORT.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom were referred the memorials of citizens of several States, praying that the office of chaplain in the army, navy, at West Point, at Indian stations, and in both houses of Congress, be abolished, respectfully report:

That they have had the subject under consideration, and, after careful examination, are not prepared to come to the conclusion desired by the memorialists. Having made that decision, it is due that the reason should be given. Two clauses of the constitution are relied on by the memorialists to show that their prayer should be granted. One of these is in the sixth article, that "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States." If the whole section were quoted, we apprehend that no one could suppose it intended to apply to the appointment of chaplains.

"ART. 6, Sec. 3. The senators and representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several State legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound, by oath or affirmation, to support this constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States."

Every one must perceive that this refers to a class of persons entirely distinct from chaplains.

Another article supposed to be violated is article 1st of Amendments: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." Does our present practice violate that article?—What is an establishment of religion? It must have a creed, defining what a man must believe; it must have rites and ordinances, which believers must observe; it must have ministers of defined qualifications, to teach the doctrines and administer the rites; it must have tests for the submissive, and penalties for the non-conformist. There never was an established religion without all these. Is there now, or has there ever been, anything of this in the appointment of chaplains in Congress, or army, or navy? The practice before the adoption of that constitution is much the same as since; the adoption of that constitution does not seem to have changed the principle in this respect. We ask the memorialists to look at the facts. First in the army; chaplains were appointed for the revolutionary army on its organization; rules for their regulations are found among the earliest of the articles of war. Congress ordered, on May 27, 1777, that there should be one chaplain to each brigade of the army, nominated by the brigadier general, and appointed by Congress, with the same pay as colonel; and, on the 18th of September following, ordered chaplains to be appointed to the hospitals in the several departments, with the pay of $60 per month, three rations per day, and forage for one horse.

An original order of Washington just one year prior to the declaration of independence, will show his estimate of the service of chaplains in the army. It is taken from the original order book of the Commander in-chief:

HEAD QUARTERS,
Cambridge, July 4th, 1775.

By his Excellency, George Washington, Esq., Commander-in-chief on the United Colonies of North America.

The General most earnestly requires and expects a due observance of those articles of war established for the government of the army, which forbid cursing and swearing and drunkeness, and in like manner, requires and expects of all officers and soldiers not engaged in actual duty, a punctual attendance to Divine service to implore the blessing of Heaven upon the means used for our deliverence.

When the constitution was formed, Congress had power to raise and support armies, and to provide for and support a navy, and to make rules and regulations for the government and regulation of land and naval forces. In the absence of all limitations, general or special, is it not fair to assume that they were to do these substantially in the same manner as had been done before? If so, then they were as truly empowered to appoint chaplains as to appoint generals or to enlist soldiers. Accordingly, we find provisions for chaplains in the acts of 1791, of 1812, and 1838.—By the last there is to be one to each brigade in the army; the number is limited to thirty, and these in the most destitute places. The chaplain is also to discharge the duties of schoolmaster—The number in the navy is limited to twenty-four. Is there any violation of the constitution in these laws for the appointment of chaplains in the army and navy? If not, let us look at the history of chaplains in Congress. Here, as before, we shall find that the same practice was in existence before and after the adoption of the constitution. The American Congress began it session September 5, 1774. On the second day of the session, Mr. Samuel Adams proposed to open the session with prayer. I give Mr. Webster's account of it: "At the meeting of the first Congress there was a doubt in the minds of many about the propriety of opening the session with prayer; and the reason assigned was, as here, the diversity of opinion and religious belief: until, at last Mr. Samuel Adams, with his gray hairs hanging about his shoulders, and with an impressive venerableness now seldom to be met with, (I suppose owing to different habits,) rose in that assembly, and, with the air of a perfect Puritan, said it did not become men professing to be Christian men, who had come together for solemn deliberation in the hour of their extremity, to say there was so wide a difference in their religious belief that they could not, as one man, bow the knee in prayer to the Almighty, whose advice and assistance they hoped to obtain; and, independent as he was, and an enemy to prelacy as he was known to be, he moved that Rev. Mr. Dushe, of the Episcopal church, should address the Throne of Grace in prayer. John Adams, in his letter to his wife, says he never saw a more moving spectacle. Mr. Dushe read the Episcopal service of the church of England; and then, as if moved by the occasion, he broke out into extemporaneous prayer, and those men who were about to resort to force to obtain their rights were moved to tears; and floods of tears, he says, ran down the cheeks of pacific Quakers, who formed part of that interesting assembly; and depend upon it, that where there is a spirit of Christianity, there is a spirit which rises above form, above ceremonies, independent of sect or creed, and the controversies of clashing doctrines." That same clergyman was afterwards appointed chaplain of the American Congress. He had such an appointment five days after the declaration of independence.

On December 22, 1776; on December 13, 1784; and on February 29, 1788 it was resolved that two chaplains should be appointed. So far for the old American Congress. I do not deem it out of place to notice one act, of many, to show that that Congress was not indifferent to the religious interests of the people; and they were not peculiarly afraid of the charge of uniting church and State. On the 11th of September, 1777, a committee have consulted with Dr. Allison about printing an edition of thirty thousand Bibles, and finding that they would be compelled to send abroad for type and paper, with an advance of £10,272 10s., Congress voted to instruct the Committee on Commerce to import twenty thousand Bibles from Scotland and Holland into the different ports of the Union. The reason assigned was, that the use of the book was so universal and important. Now, what was passing on that day? The army of Washington was fighting the battle of Brandywine; the gallant soldiers of the Revolution were displaying their heroic though unavailing valor; twelve hundred soldiers were stretched in death on the battle-field; Lafayette was bleeding; the booming of the cannon was heard in the hall where Congress was sitting—in the hall from which Congress was soon to be a fugitive; at that important hour Congress was passing an order for importing twenty thousand Bibles; and yet we have never heard that they were charged by their generation of any attempt to unite Church and State or surpassing their powers to legislate on religious matters.

There was a convention assembled between the old and new forms of government. Considering the character of the men, the work in which they were engaged, and the results of their labors, I think them the most remarkable body of men ever assembled. Benjamin Franklin addressed that body on the subject of employing chaplains; and, certainly, Franklin will not be accused of fanaticism in religion, or of a wish to unite Church and State. I give his words as reported by Madison.

Debates in the Federal Convention, June 28, 1787.

Dr. Franklin said: Mr. President the small progress we have made after four or five weeks' close attendence, and continual reasonings with each other, our different sentiment on almost every question—several of the last producing as many noes as ayes—is, methinks, a melancholy proof of the imperfection of the human understanding. We, indeed, seem to feel our want of political wisdom, since we have been running about in search of it. We have gone back to ancient history for models of government, and examined the different forms of those republics which, having been formed with the seeds of their own dissolution, now no longer exist. And we have viewed modern States all round Europe, but find none of their constitutions suitable to their circumstances.—In this situation of this assembly, groping as it were, in the dark to find political truth, and scarce able to distinguish it when presented to us, how has it happened, sir, that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of Lights to illuminate our understandings? In the beginning of the contest with Great Britain, when we were sensible of danger, *we had daily prayer in this room for divine protection.* Our prayers, sir, were heard, and they were graciously answered. All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a superintending Providence in our favor. To that kind Providence we owe this happy opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity. And have we now forgotten that powerful friend? Or do we imagine that we no longer need his assistance?

"I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth—*that God governs in the affairs of men;* and if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid? We have been assured, sir, in the sacred writings, that 'except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.' I firmly believe this; and I also believe that without His concurring aid, we shall succeed in this political building no better than the builders of Babel.—We shall be divided by our little partial local interests, our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and by word down to future ages. And, what is worse, mankind may hereafter, from this unfortunate instance, despair of establishing governments by human wisdom, and leave it to chance, war, and conquest.

"I therefore beg leave to move, that henceforth prayers, imploring the assistance of Heaven and its blessings on our deliberations, be held in this assembly every morning before we proceed to business, and that one or more of the clergy of this city be requested to officiate in that service."—*Elliott's Debates, vol. 5, p. 253*

There certainly can be no doubt as to the practice of employing chaplains in deliberative bodies previous to the adoption of the constitution. We are, then prepared to see if any change was made in that respect in the new order of affairs.

The first Congress under the constitution began on the 4th of March, 1789; but there was not a quorum for business till the 1st of April. On the 9th of the month Oliver Ellsworth was appointed, on the part of the Senate, to confer with a committee of the House on rules, and on the *appointment of chaplains.* The House chose five men—Boudinot, Bland, Tucker, Sherman, and Madison. The result of their consultation was a recommendation to appoint two chaplains of different denominations — one by the Senate and one by the House—to interchange weekly. The Senate appointed Dr. Provost, on the 25th of April.

On the 1st day of May Washington's first speech was read to the House, and the *first* business after that speech was the appointment of Dr. Linn as chaplain. By whom was this plan made? Three out of six of that joint committee were members of the convention that framed the constitution. Madison, Ellsworth, and Sherman passed directly from the hall of the convention to the hall of Congress. Did *they* not know what was constitutional? The law of 1789 was passed in compliance with their plan, giving chaplains a salary of $500. It was re-enacted in 1816, and continues to the present time. Chaplains have been appointed from all the leading denominations — Methodist, Baptist, Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Congregationalist, Catholic, Unitarian and others.

I am aware that one of our petitioners might truly reply that the article was not in the body of the constitution, but was one of the amendments recommended by Virginia. This does not weaken the argument in favor of chaplains. In the convention of Virginia, which proposed amendments, James Madison, James Monroe, and John Marshall were members. All these men were members closely connected with the government. Madisonand Monroe were members of Congresswhen the first amendment was adoptedand became a part of the constitution. Madison was a member of the convention framing the constitution, of the convention proposing the amendment, and of Congress when adopted; and yet neither Madison nor Monroe ever uttered a word or gave a vote to indicate that the appointment of chaplains was unconstitutional. The convention of Virginia elected on its first day a chaplain—Rev. Abner Waugh—who every morning read prayers immediately after the ringing of the bell for calling the convention. No one will suppose that convention so inconsistent as to appoint their chaplain for their own deliberative assembly in the State of Virginia, and then recommend that this should be denied to the deliberative bodies of the nation. (*Concluded next week.*)

☞ A letter from Rome says — This has been a splendid season. The number of English and Americans is quite fabulous, and they have been well amused in the Eternal City by about forty grand balls and innumerable smaller *reunions* during the carnival. Princess Dotia received all the *elite* at a magnificent *fete*, where the splendor of the palace and the amount of riches displayed might have astonished many a crowned head. Prince Tortonia had a vast "crush ball," and the French abassadress, Countess de Rapneval, gave a grand route at the Colonna palace. Nor have good dinners been wanting—the Duke of Northumberland gave splendid banquets once a week. Last week, too, there was large entertainment given by Mr. Hooker, partner in the bank of Maquay and Pakenham, to the late President of the United States, Mr. Martin Van Buren, at which many of the most distinguished residents and strangers in Rome assisted." The Duke of Wellington, who has been enjoying the carnival here was present as well as Cardinal Alfieri, Prince Massimo, Sir Alexander Mallet, Duke of Sermonetta and others. But now all the gaieties, except the hunt, are perforce over, and the correct Romans given up to fasting and saying their prayers."

☞ A Flat-Footed Candidate for Justice of the Peace in Palestine, Texas, comes out in the journals with the following address to the sovereigns: With issuance of this sheet, is unfurled to the breeze, either in tempest or calm, my name before you as a candidate for the office of Chief Justice of Anderson county, at the ensuing August election. I do it from choice, not from solicitation. I do it, for the office is honorable and profitable. I feel myself competent to discharge the duties of the office. I claim no superior merit or qualification over any one else who may choose to run against me. I would like to run the race solitary and alone; but, if any are desirous, let them pitch in, it isn't deep.

I stand flat-footed, square toed, bump-shouldered, upon the platform of free rights and true republicanism. If you elect me your Chief Justice, I will make the welkin ring with loud huzzas for the sovereigns of Anderson county! If defeated, I will retire with dignity and perfect good humor, remembering a most beautiful little song, which I sing remarkably well, called, I'm afloat I'm afloat.

A YANKEE OUTDONE.—A Yankee and Frenchman owned a pig in copartnership. When the killing time came, they wished to divide the carcass. The Yankee was anxious to divide so that he should get both hind quarters, and persuaded the Frenchman that the proper way to divide was, to cut it cross the back. The Frenchman agreed to it, on the condition that the Yankee would turn his back and take choice of the pieces after it was cut in two. The Yankee turned his back and the Frenchman asked

"Vich piece will you have; ze piece wid ze tail on him, or ze piece vat sint got no tail on him?"

"The piece with the fat!" shouted the Yankee instantly.

"Den by gar you take him and I take