

SELECTIONS

From the Works of Dr. Franklin, by Epes Sargent, Esq. DISAPPEARING LIGHTNING RODS. In August, 1772, another committee of the Royal Society, of which Franklin was a member, visited, under the direction of the government, the Tower Magazine, for the purpose of considering the most effectual means for protecting them from lightning.

FRANKLIN AT VERSAILLES. He appeared at this royal audience in a simple, straight, unpowdered hair, a brown cloth coat, and round hat. A crowd had collected to see him. His age, his venerable aspect, his simple dress, contrasted with the fiery around him, the recollection of his services to science and humanity, all combined to waken the utmost enthusiasm of the spectators.

THE INTERVIEWS WITH VOLTAIRE. The enthusiasm of which he had been the object at Versailles, was renewed at Paris. Voltaire had recently arrived there, after an absence of thirty years. He was in his eighty-fifth year. Franklin called upon him and was received with evident pleasure.

CONVERSATIONAL POWERS. His features were an index of the good temper, amenity, cheerfulness and affability which were his characteristics. John Adams represents him as taciturn on committees and in Congress. In society he was far from being loquacious; but no one possessed a more entertaining fund of conversation or used it more happily on fitting occasions.

FRANKLIN IN LOVE IN HIS OLD AGE. He had an especially affectionate regard for Madame Helvétius, whom he called "Our lady of Auteuil" and who came every week to dine at least once with him and his little colony of Châteaufort. He met his wife of 1779, and notwithstanding his seventy-six years, he made a proposition of marriage to Madame Helvétius shortly before the close of the war.

CLOSING YEARS OF LIFE. Very beautiful is the spectacle of the closing years of Franklin's long and laborious life. Though without his share of physical infirmities, he retained his lively interest in public affairs, his warm, social and domestic sympathies, his amenity and serenity of temper, his active and vigorous intellect, his abiding faith in another and better life.

His correspondence at this time, in the vivacity, humor, justice of thought, and happy reliance on Providence which it exhibits, is a model of style and mood.

LONDON CLUBS. Respecting the famous London Clubs, a letter in the Boston Post, from the British metropolis, says: "Arriving in Pall-Mall, (pronounced pal-mal) every house is a palace, and every third man you knock against is either an immaculate peer, an incorruptible member of Parliament, a gaily attired swell-mob man, or some other equally magnificent item of the aristocracy."

Buckingham Palace, in the Park, is an enormous pile of buildings, erected on the plan of a hollow square, the front white marble, and all the remainder of red sandstone. Queen Victoria lately had the palace enlarged by some one hundred and fifty rooms, at the national expense.

ORIGINAL LETTER FROM GEN. WASHINGTON. Below we copy from the Newbern (N. C.) Atlantic the original letter of Gen. Washington to the inhabitants of that town. The manuscript of the letter is in the possession of James M. Staley, Esq., clerk of the Court of Craven county, to whom it was presented, in 1810, by Judge Francis Xavier Martin, on the eve of his departure for Louisiana, to discharge the duties of Judge of that Territory to which he had been appointed by President Madison.

The following is the letter: To the Inhabitants of the Town of Newbern: GENTLEMEN: I express with real pleasure the grateful sentiments which your address, rendered so public by the attention of the inhabitants of Newbern, nor am I less gratified by their patriotic declarations on the situation of our common country.

SEA BATHING. Taylor, the racy correspondent of the Chicago Journal, thus hits off the salt water bathing at Coney Island. These grand ocean bathing places, are like Death. Beauty and ugliness are nothing. Every body is in a marginally disgraced. It is interesting to see a man dressed as one after another and young, goes tripping along towards No. nine, while a be-whiskered, be-chained, be-pated, leathern gentleman does "sesame" to No. twelve.

IMMORTALITY. If we wholly perish with the body, what an imposture is this whole system of laws, manners and usages on which human society is founded! If we wholly perish with the body, these maxims of charity, patience, justice, honor, gratitude and friendship, which sages have taught and good men have practiced, what are they but empty words, possessing no real, binding efficacy on any party? Speak not of duty. What can we owe to the dead, to the living, to ourselves, if all are, or will be, nothing? Who shall dictate our duty, if not our own passions, if not our own passions? Speak not of morality. It is a mere chimera, a bugbear of human invention, if retribution terminate with the grave.

AN ANCIENT PAPER MILL. The old paper mill, says the West Chester Register, in which the paper was manufactured used by Benjamin Franklin in the printing office, is still in operation on Chester Creek, Delaware county, and owned by Mr. Wilcox, the son of the late Mr. Franklin, who held it during the lifetime of Franklin. The paper was at that time and is still manufactured by hand. Scarcely any change has been made in the mill, and the same process of making rags into paper is in operation to-day as was followed some hundred and fifty years ago; the mill being erected in 1718 by the late Mr. Franklin.

TOBACCO PLANTERS' CONVENTION. A convention of tobacco planters is proposed to be held at Louisville on the 16th of November next—its objects being to promote the interests of the planters of tobacco, by the interchange of views and opinions as to the best mode of cultivating descriptions of plant to yield the greatest amount of profit, the quantities which should be raised, and to be ready to pay for its removal, and for such other purposes as may suggest themselves to the convention as being conducive to the welfare of this class of citizens—among which is, that said convention may unitedly petition Congress to pass such laws as will be calculated to lower the duties charged by foreign governments on tobacco imported into their respective limits.

AMOUNT EXPENDED ON AMUSEMENTS IN NEW YORK. It is said that the receipts at the Italian Opera in New York averaged about \$2,500 per night; the Broadway Theatre, \$3,000; the National, \$5,000; the Bowery, \$2,000; Wallack's, \$2,000—Burton's, \$2,000—the Hippodrome, \$5,000; Barnum's Museum, \$1,500; Jubilee, \$1,500. Add \$30,000 more for the various other places of public amusement, and there is a nightly expenditure of \$22,900.

Some remarks truly when he says that "the popularity in politics is to see your name in large type posted to a fence. Somebody will inquire as to who you are, and when the first train comes you will disappear."

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CONVENTION. On Friday, Rev. Dr. Mason, chairman of the committee appointed at the last general convention to report on a standard Bible, handed in the results of their labors, to the effect that, in the medium sized quarto Bible, published at Oxford, they recognized a standard Bible, till such time as an American edition be published. 23. That they have entered into a contract with the New York Common Prayer Book and Bible Society for the reprinting of that edition. 3d. That a committee of five be appointed to correct errors of the press, and to report at the next general convention. Made the order of the day for next Tuesday.

On Saturday, Herman Cape was re-elected Treasurer of the Convention. A communication was received from the House of Bishops, informing the House that they had passed the canon entitled "The abandonment of the communion of this church by any bishop, priest, or deacon," etc., and also the resolution admitting Iowa.

THE BOARD HELD A MEETING ON Friday evening, when the venerable Bishop Meade introduced the Right Rev. Bishop Spencer, Archdeacon Sinclair, and the other Episcopal delegates, each of whom made handsome addresses. The Board held a meeting on Friday evening, when the venerable Bishop Meade introduced the Right Rev. Bishop Spencer, Archdeacon Sinclair, and the other Episcopal delegates, each of whom made handsome addresses.

THE HOUSE THEN TOOK UP THE canon entitled "A canon on the Abandonment of the Communion of this church by any Bishop, Priest, or Deacon," which declares that if any Bishop, Priest, or Deacon shall abandon the communion of the Church, either by renunciation of doctrine, discipline, &c., or by a formal admission into any religious body not in communion with the same, such Bishop, Priest, or Deacon shall be held, ipso facto, as deposed to all intents and purposes; three months' notice, provided such abandonment is not evidenced in writing, signed by the party.

THE DISCUSSION WAS CONTINUED UP TO THE hour of adjournment. At a regular communication of Fulton Lodge, No. 99, held at the Masonic Hall in the Town of Salisbury, on Friday Evening Oct. 7th A. D. 1853, A. L. 5533, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted.

WHEN THE HAND OF GOD IS felt in the removal from earth of loved ones, and friends, thereby producing a void in our hearts that must forever remain unfilled, it becomes us as rational and immortal beings to pause in the midst of our worldly vocations and contemplate with serious earnestness the solemn truth, that we are all fast hastening to the cold and silent grave, where our mortal frames must mingle with their mother dust.

ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON I rode out from Grand Cotuit, about six miles to the Prairie, to the residence of Mr. Ben. Simmes, (whence I am now writing), and on my arrival I noticed a very peculiar and disagreeable odor about the plantation. Mr. S. told me it was occasioned by the caterpillars, of which he had noticed a few in his field that day. The next morning (Tuesday) at daybreak we witnessed a scene of destruction and swift desolation that cannot be conceived of except by an eye witness.

THE COTTON WORM. Extract of a letter from a gentleman, now in Louisiana, to his father in Baltimore: On Sunday afternoon I rode out from Grand Cotuit, about six miles to the Prairie, to the residence of Mr. Ben. Simmes, (whence I am now writing), and on my arrival I noticed a very peculiar and disagreeable odor about the plantation.

THE TERMINUS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA RAILROAD. In an article in a late number of the Asheville Spectator, on the subject of the surveys for the Eastern and Western extensions of the Central Road, allusion is made to the conflicting interests which have grown up on different points in Beaufort harbor, consequent upon the speculative spirit, induced by the prospective growth of a commercial importance of Beaufort; and the opinion is expressed that "the Engineer will be greatly annoyed in determining the point of location" of the terminus of the road. The reading of the article referred to has suggested the propriety of submitting a few remarks on the subject through the columns of your paper.

As it is now generally conceded that the Central Railroad will, at some period not very remote at farthest, be extended to Beaufort harbor, the question as to what point on the harbor shall be selected as the terminus is becoming one of absorbing interest to a large number of citizens of the East, although the intention of the law is to determine the terminus with the different localities on the harbor, and have not purchased land here, it has not yet assumed an aspect of much importance.

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5580 ACRES OF LANDS AT AUCTION. The undersigned having failed to sell the above lands and Mills upon the terms proposed, he has resolved to sell on THURSDAY, the 27th of October, at 10 o'clock, at the residence of the undersigned, the following lands, to-wit: Two thousand acres lying on the East side of Lumbe River and on the North and West side of the Fayetteville and Salisbury Roads, including the Mills, Dwelling and Out Houses, and three hundred and fifty acres of cleared land. Four hundred acres on the same side of the river, known as the Lowrie Land, which will be sold in lots of one hundred acres each. Seven hundred and thirty acres on the West side of the river, including thirty acres of cleared land. All of the above lands are generally very valuable for timber and agriculture, and are situated in the counties of Johnston and Manchester. The Mills are in excellent condition and running every day. The water is always great, with the addition of a dam for improving it by the river to Georgetown, S. C., and the late of the Grist Mill and Cotton Gin have each a profitable custom. There is also upon the premises a Store-house, at which a large quantity of goods may be sold annually. For further information address the subscribers at Gillespie, Deaconsville, or at the residence of the undersigned, upon delivery of the balance upon time with interest at 6 per cent.

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