

The Editor's Song.

BY WM. WALLACE.

I'm of the press! I'm of the press! My throne a simple chair; I ask no other majesty Than strikes the gazer there.

I'm of the press! I'm of the press! Do monarchs wear the crown? I wait my pen across my page And crowns have tumbled down.

I'm of the press! I'm of the press! The dead around me throng; Their awful voices whisper TRUTH! Their eyes forbid the Wrong.

I'm of the press! I'm of the press! My host—embattled types; With them I quell the tyrant's horde And rear the stars and stripes.

The Modes of Death.

A recent Quarterly Review, contained the subjoined article, which will be read with interest:

To be shot dead is one of the easiest modes of terminating life; yet, rapid as it is, the body has leisure to feel and reflect. On the first attempt by one of the frantic adherents of Spain to assassinate William, Prince of Orange, who took the lead in the revolt of the Netherlands, the ball passed through the bones in the face and brought him to the ground.

But there is nothing singular in the dyingsensation, though Lord Byron remarked the physiological peculiarity that the expression is invariably that of languor, while in death from a stab, the countenance reflects the traits of natural character, of gentleness or ferocity to the last breath.

Some of these cases are of interest to show with what slight disturbance life may go on under a mortal wound till it finally comes to a sudden stop. A foot soldier at Waterloo, pierced by a musket ball in the hip, begged water of a trooper who chanced to possess a canteen of beer.

Preserving Wood.—A new process for the preservation of wood has been recommended. First dry the ends by slight combustion from any carburet of hydrogen, or naphtha, which is very penetrating; after this, dip the ends in a warm mixture of pitch, tar and gum lac, which hermetically seals the ends; the wood is then tarred all over, as usual, and has been found very durable.

To fall in love is much easier than to get out of it.

The Democratic State Candidates on the Kansas Question.

We publish to-day a communication from the gentlemen nominated by the 8th of January Convention, in reply to an inquiry addressed them by the editor of the Volksblatt, at Indianapolis. It will be seen that our gallant standard bearers come out boldly in favor of Popular Sovereignty in its broadest sense, or the right of the people to frame all their own institutions in their own way.

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 22, 1858.

GENTLEMEN:—Your inquiry addressed to the undersigned, separately, dated on the 18th inst., is now before us; as we do not differ among ourselves relative to the answer that should be given to the question propounded, we take the liberty of joining in that answer. Your request is to inform you what construction we give to a portion of the platform of principles adopted by the Democratic Convention, which did us the honor to put us in nomination as candidates to fill the several offices for which we are now before the people.

Resolved, That we are still in favor of the great doctrine of the Kansas Nebraska bill; and that by a practical application of that doctrine the people of a State or Territory are vested with the right of ratifying or rejecting at the ballot box any Constitution that may be formed for their government; and that hereafter no Territory should be admitted into the Union as a State without a fair expression of the will of the people being first had upon the Constitution, accompanying the application for admission.

As a general thing those who work the hardest are not the most successful farmers. The reason is obvious; they make no use of their brains—but plow, and sow, and manure lands, and breed stock, just as their fathers for generations before them have done.

PRICES OF COMMISSIONS IN THE BRITISH ARMY.—It appears from a parliamentary return, that there are in the army 5,553 full pay commissions, the total regulation value of which is £8,068,535 (over forty million dollars.) We give below some of the purchasing prices, rendering the amount from English pounds into American currency:—The value of the commission of a lieutenant colonel in the household cavalry, (the highest that can be got by purchase,) is \$36,250; of the line \$30,875; Foot Guards \$45,000; Infantry \$22,500; of Majors \$26,750; and \$22,875; Foot Guards \$41,500; Infantry \$16,000. Of Captains \$17,500 and \$16,125; Foot Guards \$24,000; Infantry \$9,000. Of Lieutenants in the Life Guards \$8,925; Horse Guards \$8,900; in the line Cavalry \$5,950; Foot Guards \$10,250; Infantry \$3,500. Of cornets and sub lieutenants in the Life Guards \$6,800; of cornets in the Royal Horse Guards \$6,000; and in the cavalry of the line \$4,200.

OBJECT OF SALT IN THE SEA.—Professor Chapman, of University College, Toronto, has published an interesting paper on the object of sea water being salt, and after giving his objections to the usually received opinions, he urges the theory that the object is to regulate evaporation. If any temporary cause renders the amount of saline matter in the sea above its usual quantity, evaporation goes on more and more slowly. If this value be depreciated by the addition of fresh water in undue excess, the evaporation power is the more and more increased.

AGRICULTURAL.

Cows—Milk—Fodder—Stables.

To winter with corn fodder, well cured, is preferable to hay; there is more sugar in it, and the milk will be sweeter. Feed for cows should be guarded too, so that while they have enough, they will not acquire a wasteful habit. A working ox requires two per cent. a day of his own weight of food; a milking cow three per cent. Thus, if an ox weighs two thousand pounds, he requires forty pounds of hay; if a cow weighs one thousand pounds, she requires thirty pounds of hay. This amount may be varied a little to suit the condition of the stable.

In the winter, too, when cows that give milk have to be sheltered, they should be fed with corn meal occasionally, to supply the phosphate of lime required for the production of good milk; a handful mixed occasionally with the mess, will pay tenfold its cost in the richness of the milk.

The beef of cattle thus housed, is far more tender and sweet than that which has been toughened by the blasts of winter and starvation. If farmers would shelter their young cattle intended for beef, and bring them, by good treatment and a course of feeding, to maturity at three years of age, they would find it far more profitable than to bring them to maturity at five years, as they save two years' keeping, and the interest on the price of the animal.—O. Farm.

Hard Work vs. Science.

As a general thing those who work the hardest are not the most successful farmers. The reason is obvious; they make no use of their brains—but plow, and sow, and manure lands, and breed stock, just as their fathers for generations before them have done. They read no agricultural publications, and know nothing of the machinery and new modes of tillage and improved stock, that within a few years have rendered agriculture a pleasant and profitable science and business.

That part which goes in the ground should be charred—or prepared by tar or pitch.—Posts will last longer if their natural position be reversed; that is, the top end of the wood put in the ground. The top of the wood should be sawed in a sloping angle of about forty-five degrees, and have a board nailed on it about two inches broader and longer than the square of the post.

One too many for the widow.—There is a good story told of a handsome Yankee pedlar who made love to a young widow down in Pennsylvania. He accomplished his declaration with an allusion to two impediments to their union. 'Name them,' said the widow. 'The want of means to set up a retail store.' They parted and the widow sent the pedlar a check for ample means. When they met again, the pedlar had hired and stocked his store, and the smiling fair one begged to know the other impediment. 'I have got a wife,' was the reply.

The Backwoodsman and the Minister.

The singular ignorance evinced in certain localities regarding scriptural subjects sometimes originates very funny anecdotes.—Such an one we subjoin:

It seems that an adventurous son of Tennessee, nurtured among the mountains, went down to the city of Memphis to "seek his fortune." He found instead, a complaint which the Mississippi water not unfrequently generates, and which, whether it finds speedy termination in cramps or cholera, or whether it gradually saps life in the chronic form, is always to be dreaded. It was in this latter shape that poor Bagley "picked it up." And month after month it tugged at his vitals, reducing him day by day, until at length he was but the outline of a man, a mere peripatetic skeleton.

"My dear Mr. Bagley, in view of your relations with this life, how do you feel?" "D—d sick!" was the prompt reply.

"Don't swear, my poor friend," said the parson, "and let me earnestly ask you if you ever think of your latter end!"

"Lord!" said Bagley, "I ain't thought on nothin' else for mor'n three months."

"Not, I'm afraid, in the right way, Mr. Bagley. I beg you to pause and reflect! It is time you began to wrestle with the Lord!"

The sick man looked down at his miserable, callous, poker legs, extending before him, and with an ineffable expression of amazement in his countenance, exclaimed, "Rattle with the Lord! What! with them ere legs!"—pointing to his own—"why parson he'd flint me into hell the very first pass!"

The record in the case does not disclose whether the parson continued his efforts on so obtuse an intellect; but we think the inference very fair that so tough a customer survived even the 'chronic Mississippi water complaint.'

During the sitting of a county court not long ago in Connecticut, on a very cold evening, a crowd of lawyers had collected round the open fire that blazed cheerfully on the hearth in the bar room, when a traveller entered, benumbed with cold; but no one moved to give a place to warm his shins, so he leaned against the wall in the back part of the room. At last a smart young limb of the law addressed him, when the following dialogue took place:

"You look like a traveler!" "Wall, I s'pose I am—I am come from Wisconsin afoot, at any rate."

"From Wisconsin! What a distance to come on one pair of legs."

"Wall, I done it any how."

"I say, did you ever pass through hell in your travels?" "Yes sir, I've been through the outskirts."

"I thought likely. Well, what are the manners and customs there? Some of us would like to know."

"Oh, you'll find them much the same as in this place. The lawyers sit highest the fire!"

CERTIFICATE OF CHARACTER.—A Hoosier out west was called upon the stand to testify to the character of a brother Hoosier. The testimony was as follows:

"How long have you known Bill Whack?" "Ever since he was born."

"What is his general character?" "Letter A, No. 1, 'bove par great ways, I judge."

"Would you believe him on oath?" "Yes sir ee—on or off, or any other way, I conclude."

"What, in your opinion, are his qualifications as to a good character?" "He is the best shot on our prairies or in the woods. He can shave the eye winkers off a wolf as far as a shooting iron 'll carry a ball. He can drink a quart of grog any day, and chaw backer like a boss."

ONE TOO MANY FOR THE WIDOW.—There is a good story told of a handsome Yankee pedlar who made love to a young widow down in Pennsylvania. He accomplished his declaration with an allusion to two impediments to their union. 'Name them,' said the widow. 'The want of means to set up a retail store.'

They parted and the widow sent the pedlar a check for ample means. When they met again, the pedlar had hired and stocked his store, and the smiling fair one begged to know the other impediment. 'I have got a wife,' was the reply.

Various animals lend their mite to make up English words, thus—MAN-agement, poc-matical, CAT-egory, cro-nology, rus il-laninismus, poc-tility, and RAT-ification.

Swipes says that ladies' hoops are like charity—they "cover a multitude of sins." What a villainous comparison! Every 'miss' in creation should have a bang at the wicked wretch!

POLITICAL PIETY.—Two politicians joking together after a political meeting, one of them rallied the other on the very religious strain in which he had indulged in the last speech he had inflicted upon the meeting.

'I'll bet you five dollars,' said McCarty, 'you can't repeat the Lord's Prayer now if you try.'

'Done!' said Killoch, 'done!' and assuming a forced gravity for the moment, summoned his memory to aid him in the novel effort. 'Amen!—a—s—a—ahem; well—now I have it—'

'Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep. If I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take.'

'There! I told you I could!'

'Well, I give up best,' said McCarty, passing over the money; 'I wouldn't have thought you could do it.'

SIMPLE PRESCRIPTIONS.—A lad swallowed a small lead bullet lately. His friends were very much alarmed about it, and his father, that no means might be spared to save his darling boy's life, sent post-haste to a surgeon of skill, directing his messenger to tell him the circumstances, and urge his coming without delay.

The doctor was found, heard the distasteful, and with as much unconcern as would manifest in a case of common ache, wrote the following laconic note:

'Sir—Don't alarm yourself. If a three weeks the bullet is not removed, the boy a charge of powder. Yours, &c.'

'P. S.—Don't shoot the boy at anybody.'

This is much akin to the laconic prescription of the celebrated Dr. Abernethy:—

An Irishman called in great haste upon the Dr., stating that—'Be Japer, me boy Tim has swallowed a mouse!'

'Then, be Japer,' said Abernethy, 'tell your boy Tim to swallow a cat.'

DARKEY ASTRONOMY.—'Cesar,' said a negro to a colored friend of his, 'which do you tink is de most usefol ob de coonies—de sun or de moon?'

'Well, Clem, I don't tink I should be able to answer dat question, see in as how I neber had much book larnin.'

'Well, Cesar, I peck de moon orter take de fust rank in dat partiklar.'

'Why so, nigger?'

'Because de moon shines in de night when we need de light, an de sun shine in de day time when de light an de no consequence.'

'Well, Clem, you is de most larned darkey I eber seed. I guess you used to sweep out a school-house for libin.'

A young clergyman, who was not famous for his regard for truth, was conversing with John Wesley upon the subject of punishing children. The young man affirmed that parents often did harm to their children by unjust punishment, from not knowing the facts of the case. 'Why,' said he, 'the only time my father ever whipped me was for telling the truth!'

'Well,' retorted the doctor, 'it cured you of it—didn't it?'

A boy is very miscellaneous in his habits. Master Smith's pockets being emptied a few days ago, the following was discovered to be the sum total of his "estate and effects." Sixteen marbles, one top, an oyster shell, two pieces of brick, one doughnut, a piece of curry comb, a paint brush, three wax ends, a handful of cork, two knives both broken, a skate, a pair of buckles, and a dog eared primer.

A LOVER'S OATH.—An amorous fellow named John Cullen was arrested in the nat recently for seducing a good looking girl named Mary Hart. She testified before the magistrate that he swore on a story book, on a hymn book, and on a spelling book to marry her.

'Why is a woman's tongue like a plenet?'

'K—s nothing short of the power that created it is able to stop it in its course! A broom-stick merited for that perpetration.'

'What does the minister say to our new burying-ground?'

'He don't like it at all; he says he never will be buried there as long as he lives.' 'Well, if the Lord spares me, I will.'

Gentlemen, said a public speaker, is not one man as good as another? Yes, be jabbers, said a huge Patlander, and a good deal better, sure.

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