

J. J. Lewis

THE ATHENS POST.

BY SAM. P. IVINS.

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THE POST.

Athens, Friday, July 16, 1852.

WASHINGTON, July 5.

Congress again suspended business to-day, in compliance with the usage which gives the day to public rejoicings. Very little progress was made in business last week.

The monster land bill is still before the Committee on Public Lands, of the Senate, and its fate is uncertain. That bill provides for the distribution among the States, old and new, of sixty-three millions of acres of the public domain. The old States, however, get but a small share—only 150,000 acres for each Senator or Representative. The quantity of public land thus to be taken for distribution, is more than one half of the whole quantity that has been, since the formation of the Government, disposed of by sale and donation. The whole number of acres that have been disposed of is one hundred and one millions; the whole quantity remaining, including acquisitions from Mexico, and lands to which the Indian title has not been extinguished, is thirteen hundred millions of acres.

NEW ORLEANS, July 5.

FATAL STEAM BOAT EXPLOSION.—The steam boat St. James exploded and was burned at about four o'clock this, Monday morning, on Lake Pontchartrain. Fifty passengers were lost, including Judge Preston, of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, and many ladies and children—all of whom were returning from a pleasure excursion.

NEW ORLEANS, July 6.

LATER FROM MEXICO.—Advices from the City of Mexico up to the 19th ult., have been received, from which it appears that the Mexican Government will call an extra session of Congress. After a sharp dispute between the Government and the French Minister, it was decided that two millions and a half of the Mexican indemnity should be paid to the British Bondholders, and the amount was to have left Mexico on the 18th ult., for its destination.

BALTIMORE, July 5.

A citizen of Baltimore, named Williams, killed his wife on Sunday night, on account of suspicions he entertained as to her fidelity. He also severely wounded a man named Abbot, her supposed seducer, whom he found in her company. Williams surrendered himself and is now in jail.

BALTIMORE, July 7.

The members of the Democratic Free Soil Convention who have been in session at Boston, have declared the Hon. Franklin Pierce as their nominee for President, and the Hon. Wm. R. King for Vice President.

THE COMING ELECTIONS.—The Presidential election is to occur on the 2d day of November next; and elections in advance of the Presidential, will occur in the following States, at the times mentioned below, at most of which members of Congress are to be elected: Alabama, August 2d; Kentucky, August 2d; Indiana, August 2d; Illinois, August 2d; Iowa, August 2d; Missouri, August 2d; North Carolina, August 6th; Vermont, September 7th; Maine, September 13th; Georgia, October 4th; Arkansas, 4th; Florida, 4th; Maryland, October 6th; South Carolina, October 11th; Pennsylvania, October 12th; Ohio, October 12th.

A Dutchman who had a brother hung in this country, wrote to his relatives, informing them that his brother had been placed in public situation by this government, and at the time of his death had several thousand people, including the sheriff and grand jury, under him.

The Savannah Georgian, on the authority of a Union Whig, says that Gov. Cobb is the greatest financier now living; that he disposed of the Georgia Bonds at five per cent premium, and sold the Whig party at par.

"I feel too lazy to work," said a loafer, "and I have no time to play; I think I'll go to bed and split the difference."

It is a waste of time to complain of other people's faults. The best thing you can do is to mend your own.

LESLIE COMBS ON GEN. SCOTT.

The Louisville Courier says:—Gen. Leslie Combs has recently written a letter, in which, after enumerating some evidences of Gen. Scott's adherence to the compromise "when it was in doubt and friends were scarce and timid," he adds:—

But he did not stop here. Messrs. Mangum, Stanley and Cabell all assert, and I personally know the fact, for I was in Washington part of the time during the debate, that he exerted all his influence with his friends to induce them to sustain and vote for the whole adjustment.

He occupies still, to my knowledge, exactly the same position he then so promptly assumed.

And yet he is now doubted and denounced by men who fled from the field during the heat of battle and hid in the rearward ditches, or consorted with the enemy. Had he been a member of the U. S. Senate at the time, he would have soon been found with the baggage train, out of sight of danger, at Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Contreras or Chapultepec, as to have abandoned his seat, or failed to record his vote on any one of the compromise measures. He would have helped to heal every bleeding wound of his country, though he had died in the patriotic act.

One word more. The idea that one accustomed to command all his life, will be content to occupy the degrading position of second fiddler to any man on earth, should be the elected President, is perfectly ridiculous. No. Never! Friend and foe may rest assured that if ever he is installed in the Chief Executive office of the nation, he will be Captain all the time, and nothing less.

Thus much I have felt it my solemn duty to say in justice to an old soldier, whose body is scarred all over with wounds received on victorious battle fields of his country.

MORE ABOUT THE PLATFORM.—The Worcester (Pa.) National Aegis, comments in the highest terms of favor on the whig platform. Remarking upon the seventh and eighth resolutions, which endorse the compromise measures, that papers says:

To this, it is hoped, every whig in the land will respond, amen! It is conciliatory, yet firm, in its avowal of the duty of the citizen to uphold the compromise measures and to discountenance anti-slavery agitation as useless and pernicious. When Daniel Webster, on the seventh of March, 1850, delivered that immortal address in the Senate which turned the scale in that body in favor of the compromises, and which stayed the waves of faction and disunion, such a resolution as this would have found far less favor at the North, than it now does. But time and reflection have worked great changes. They have demonstrated the sagacity and wisdom of that illustrious statesman and philosopher in all that pertains to human governments. The triumph of his opinions has now come. The doctrines of the seventh of March speech have now been endorsed, in national conventions, by the two great parties of the country. The whigs have now planted themselves, solemnly and distinctly, on the solid basis of NATIONALITY. They acknowledge no less a country than the entire Union of thirty one States and no less obligation than to sustain the Constitution, AS IT WAS AND AS IT IS, IN ALL ITS PARTS AND IN ALL ITS APPLICATIONS.

These are the universal sentiments of the national conservative whig press north and south, as they come to us daily, and we might fill our paper with similar endorsements.

Gen. Scott we know has great qualities of character. He is among all living men the greatest soldier of the age. He has served his country for more than forty years.—He took an active part in the war with Great Britain, in the war with Mexico, in the Florida war, in the difficulties with the Cherokee Indians, and was on the borders where he did good service, when hostilities were about to commence between Maine and N. Brunswick, growing out of the North Eastern Boundary negotiations. His public life is a record of patriotism that any man or any nation might be proud of. That he is a better man than President of the United States than Franklin Pierce, that he has rendered more service to his country, that he has a brighter fame at home, and will command greater respect, abroad, all right judging men will admit.

"PRINCIPLES, NOT MEN."—This is the true whig watchword. "By this sign we conquer!" The Boston Bee, a devoted Webster paper, says, let the touch-stone be "principles, not men." "We are disappointed in the man, but we are 'glory in the platform.'"—A response worthy of the "cradle of liberty," and of her revolutionary fame!

Appropos, the Boston Journal which had earnestly supported Mr. Webster, thus handsomely gives in its adhesion to the nomination of General Scott:

We have to-day to announce the nomination of Gen. Scott, as the Whig candidate for the Presidency. A result which is so much at variance with the feelings and wishes of a very large number of whigs of this State, can hardly be supposed to give immediate or general satisfaction. It is a duty which we, however, as whigs, owe to our party, and to the principles by which that party is governed, to support the nominee of the Convention. There is no alternative course and while surrendering the claims of the favorite statesman of Massachusetts with heavy hearts, we shall work to secure the triumph of Whig principles.

We learn that several of the go-ahead Whigs have ordered a lot of large soup dishes, to be labelled "Scott's Soup," to be placed in the public coffee houses throughout the city where the Scott boys and others can take a hasty plate of soup on every day at lunch.—*Civ. Atlas.*

Can't the Pierce boys, by way of offset, get up a few candy associations in honor of "the most illustrious deed" in the life of their candidate.—*Lou. Jour.*

GENERAL PIERCE'S "NEGATIVE STRENGTH."

We have been somewhat amused by the parade making in the Locofoeo journals, in regard to what they call very humorously the "negative strength" of their Presidential candidate. This seems to us very much as if we should praise a woman for her "negative beauty"—or a tradesman for his "negative honesty." And yet there is a curious felicity in this phrase as applied to General Pierce. His whole career, civil and political, is made up of negatives of the most extraordinary character; and its strength, therefore, if it is not negative, is nothing.

Mr. Pierce is a very clever gentleman, but what he has done in this world to occupy eight mortal columns of the newspapers, with broad columns and small type, his best friends will be the most puzzled to answer. We have read the whole eight columns, as they appeared originally in the Boston Post, and have been copied into the Washington Union. We have read them with amazement. His worst enemies could not have wished for a more opportune or fatal publication.

Three columns of the eight are devoted to the connexion of General Pierce with the Mexican war. This is simply ludicrous. We had hoped for the sake of an amiable man that his friends would not seek to make a hero or a soldier of him. General Pierce knows as well as any one how little he deserves such a reputation. From the first moment he landed in Mexico, General Pierce relied entirely on the advice and directions of the young officers of the regular army, who were in his staff, or within his reach. He never hesitated to avow his entire ignorance of military affairs, and his absolute unfitness for his new employment, and in this he showed much more good sense than his friends do in claiming a military character for him. We have no doubt that he is a brave man, but he possesses no military aptitude; and he resigned his commission the first moment he could do it with propriety, avowing that he had mistaken his vocation. It may well be that he would have distinguished himself by his gallantry, if he had been favored with an occasion; but a succession of accidents and misfortunes withdrew him from the field on several critical moments, just as the time arrived for winning laurels.

But the difficulty in General Pierce's case is more deeply seated than this. It is not merely that his military character is one of exclusively "negative strength," but his civil career is equally remarkable in this regard. He was some years in the New Hampshire Legislature, and it is not pretended that he accomplished anything worthy of mention in that interesting assembly.

As a member of the House of Representatives of the United States in June, 1836, he voted against the bill "making additional appropriations for the Delaware breakwater, and for certain harbors, and removing obstructions in and at the mouths of certain rivers, and for other purposes, for the year 1836." It cannot be claimed that he rendered any particular service by this vote, for the bill was passed, and a few days afterwards received the signature of General Jackson.

At the same session Mr. Pierce voted against the bill "making appropriations for the improvement of certain harbors therein mentioned." This was a "negative," but not a very effective one; for this bill, in spite of Mr. Pierce's negation, passed both Houses of Congress, and was signed by General Jackson.

At the same session he voted against "the bill to continue the Cumberland road in the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois." This vote, too, was of as little consequence as any thing that ever happened to Mr. Toots. The bill received a majority of votes in both branches of the legislature, and received the signature of General Jackson.

These are the prominent points of his career in the House. As far as the country is concerned, it was certainly of no "consequence." We do not think that these votes call very loudly on the American people to make him President.

We next find him in the Senate: In the session of 1837-'38, he voted against a Harbor and River bill that was voted for by Mr. Wright and Mr. Buchanan. But in this case, also, his vote was of no sort of "consequence." At the same session he voted, in a minority of six, against a bill for the benefit of the Alabama, Florida, and Georgia Railroad Company; which was a measure of such a character that even Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Grundy voted for it; in such a minority, of course, his vote was of as little consequence as usual.

At the same session a bill was before the Senate for the "benefit of the Mount Carmel and New Albany Railroad Company, in the State of Indiana," providing for a grant of alternate sections along the road, the company contracting to carry the mail for twenty years without charge to the Government, which would pay the difference at the rate of one dollar for each mile for each year granted. Mr. Clay and Mr. Webster voted for this bill. Mr. Pierce, true to his anti-improvement interests, voted with the minority against it.

Whilst in the Senate, he voted and made a speech against the bill for the relief of the widow of the lamented General Harrison. But here, too, the vote of Mr. Pierce was entirely inconsequential. The bill became a law; and the widow received the poor pittance which Mr. Pierce would have withheld, and which was but a slight token of a nation's gratitude for the services of one of her most illustrious sons.

Here it was, too, that he took part against the bill for the relief of the heirs of Robert Fulton; a bill that was afterwards passed by the Democratic Congress, and was approved without hesitation by President Polk.

Here it was, too, that he voted in a minority of four Senators against the Fortification bill.

Nor should we omit to mention, that during his Congressional career he made a speech against the West Point Academy, though it is true that after the Mexican war he retracted his opinions, and testified to the great importance of that institution in enabling us to achieve our Mexican victories.

Subsequently to all this he resigned his seat in the Senate. We do not seek to deprive him of all the "negative strength" he can derive from this circumstance.

Still subsequently, he declines to serve his country again in the capacity of Senator, on the invitation of Governor Steele.

Still subsequently, he added to his "negative strength" by declining to serve his country in the capacity of Attorney General, on his appointment to that office by President Polk.

We doubt if there is a public man of any note in the country, who has spoken, voted, and fought so little practical purpose.

In this reviewing the career of General Pierce, we do him no intentional injustice.—We are merely developing and illustrating the idea of his "negative strength"—the philosophy of which is that the man who has done the least for his country, is the most eminently entitled to her honors and rewards. We are not of this opinion. We think that a little affirmative strength will be useful, if not absolutely necessary, in commending a General or a Statesman to the confidence and consideration of his country. Therefore, it is, that in another paragraph we have given a brief record of the affirmative claims of Gen. Scott. To our mind it is a record of more interest than can be made up of the most empty negations; and as it carries its own story with it, we have not thought it worth while to embarrass the plain statement with any commentary. The best commentary upon it is written on the hearts of the American people—and will be published some time next fall.—*Signal.*

At a large and enthusiastic ratification meeting in Cincinnati, Mr. Gibbons, an Irishman, was one of the speakers. He spoke with Irish fervor, and gave his reasons for supporting Scott and Graham in preference to the nominees of the democratic party, so called. Scott, though a staunch Protestant, was a catholic man—entirely catholic, in that his soul was large enough to tolerate every form of honestly entertained religious belief. [Applause, and cries of "sure, and aint we all going for him?"] When the corrupt and prejudiced English government would, with characteristic cowardice in crushing a fallen foe, have shot the Irish prisoners taken in the last war with that country, Gen. Scott stood up on the quarter-deck of an English man-of-war—d'ye mind that, boys!—on an English man-of-war—and told the unparalled hirelings of that damnable Government, that, for every Irishman shot an Englishman should bite the dust! [Enthusiastic and long continued cheers for Scott.] That dauntless bearing saved my countrymen. And can I forget the magnanimous action of the conqueror of Mexico, who secured to a vanquished people all the rights of property and, more than all the rights and privileges of free and unrestricted worship! Never! Gentlemen, my father fought under Gen. Scott on the battlefield, and if it please God, I am going to fight for him in this political campaign.—*(Cheers.)*

Some of the papers state that there is a movement on foot at the North for calling a National Convention of Union Men, without distinction of party, for the purpose of nominating Daniel Webster for the Presidency. Mr. Webster, according to the special correspondent of the New York Herald, has expressed his disapprobation of the movement. He has seen too much, he says, of political strife to permit his own immediate friends and others, who have been greatly disappointed by the nomination of the Whig National Convention, to make a tool of him at this late day.

THE CALUMNY OF WEBSTER.—Some New York Locofoeo having heard an expression of dissatisfaction from a Boston delegate, rushes to the telegraph office and spreads the startling report that an independent ticket headed by Webster is to be brought forward, and Tennessee men have pledged \$500,000 if this is done. Humbled! Men vote in this country not dollars; and hundreds of millions would not give the electoral vote of a single State to a Whig candidate run in opposition to the regular nominee.

The rumor is too silly even to be laughed at. Its author cannot be conversant with the history of Daniel Webster, or he must know that he would scorn the author of an imputation that he could array himself against the deliberate and well considered action of his party.

Daniel Webster a bolter from the Whig ranks!—He whose whole life has been devoted to the advancement of Whig measures, and the honor of his country. Three score years and ten have witnessed no action which would blot upon the reputation of the great champion of his age; and though his locks should be whitened by the snows of an hundred winters, their "silver gray" would be marked by no dark stain of dishonor.—*Cleveland Herald.*

SINGULAR DISCOVERY.—The Galena Advertiser says:

"We learn from a gentleman who came down on the Nominee, that a few days since, as Mr. J. W. Lowe, of Columbus, Iowa, was travelling down a small mound in his garden, he exhumed the skeleton of what he supposed to be an Indian, buried in a canoe.

There were found with him a small looking glass, a bead bag, and 31 silver dollars, wrapped up in a silk handkerchief. There was a hole in the skull through the forehead resembling that made by a bullet."

INCLINED TO SPLICE.—A young lady very modestly publishes the following reasonable "want" in an exchange. Her elegant diction will doubtless prejudice her case favorably, and the "aching void" in her wailing affections be speedily filled:

Wanted—a hand to hold my own, As down life's vale I glide; Wanted, an arm to lean upon, Forever by my side.

It is stated that Hon. Garret Davis of Kentucky, will be the Native American candidate for the next Presidency.

COURTING THE FREESOLERS.—The New York Evening Post, is exceedingly anxious to bring into the support of Gen. Pierce its Freesoil co-laborers, and seeks to make the impression that Pierce is quite as good a Freesoiler as itself. We call an extract:

"Mr. Pierce voted, when in Congress, to respect the right of petition as exercised by the abolitionists. In 1837, when after having served his state in the House of Representatives, he had taken his seat as a member of the United States Senate, he voted to receive, in the usual manner, a petition asking for the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia, and sustained his vote by Mr. Adams as to the propriety of the abolition of slavery in the District; but declared he 'would give no vote which might be construed into a denial of the right of petition. That was a time when the influence of slavery was in the ascendant, when it was the fashion to toss back such petitions with contempt in the faces of those who presented them, and it required some courage in the politician of the democratic school to confront and defy the imperious demand of the South, that all memorials and applications of this nature should be rigidly excluded from the notice of Congress. The right to ask for the extinction of slavery in the District of Columbia is not now admitted, but Franklin Pierce, whatsoever be his opinions respecting the compromise, was one of the earliest to assert it."

A correspondent of the same paper, a member of the Baltimore Convention, thus comments on the Platform:

"The resolutions were passed under the pressure of the previous question, and were scarcely heard by the convention. I have since had an opportunity of examining them. They were reported with almost entire unanimity by the committee, and are drawn with more judgment and liberality than I anticipated, after the gross outrage perpetrated upon Rantoul.

"It was the desire of the South to have no reference made to the compromise in the resolutions, but the barren declaration which was made was purely a concession to the northern members, who had no other political capital. The attempt to declare the compromise measures a finality, or a part of the Constitution, unchangeable and sacred, was not countenanced by the Convention for a moment."

FOR SCOTT, BOYS, HURRAH!
BY ONE OF THE BOYS.

The old men all remember—
As 'twere but yesterday—
When Britain sought, on Freedom's soil,
Again to plant her sway,
The old men all remember
Who hurled her back again—
'T was Winfield Scott, at Chippewa,
'T was Scott at Landy's Lane!
So sing for Scott the banner out,
And sing for Scott hurrah,
With him we can the Locos rout,
And win for Chippewa.

The young men all remember—
'T was not five years ago—
Who led our hosts to victory,
And conquered Mexico:
The young men all remember
How Churubusco's field,
And Vera Cruz and Contreras,
Were made by Scott to yield!
So sing for Scott the banner out,
And sing for Scott hurrah!
With him we can the Locos rout,
And win for Chippewa.

The old men and the young men—
With Scott to lead the light—
From hill and dale, from shore and wave,
Will rally and unite!
The old men and the young men—
With Scott to lead them on—
Will make the hero of two wars,
Their Chief at Washington!
So sing for Scott the banner out,
And sing for Scott hurrah,
With him we can the Locos rout,
And win for Chippewa.

A SERMON THAT DID NOT SUT.—Mrs. H. — was a very religious woman, and perhaps one as near worshipping Mr. —, her favorite minister, as some of our big-bugs do Kossoth, the Hungarian; but be that as it may she was continually hammering Aaron, a shrewd lad of sixteen years of age, who, to please the old lady and hear her scold, would occasionally speak rather lightly of Mr. N. —, her minister. Happening in at the house of Mrs. H. —, one day, the old lady began as usual to chastise him, and Aaron thinking she put it on rather too hard, after hearing her through, said—
"I am as good as Mr. N. —, and can preach as well."

"Preach" said the old lady: "you don't know one single word in the Bible."
"Well, give me a text," said Aaron, "and see if I can't preach."
"You don't know anything about the Bible, said Mrs. H. —; if you do you may take any text you please!"

"Well," said Aaron, "A virtuous woman is without price." Ain't that in your Bible?
"Yes," said Mrs. H. —, "and it shows that women are better than men, the Bible don't say that a virtuous man is without price."
"Well, we will see about that said Aaron, and after dividing his subject in two or three heads, commenced as follows:

"The scarcity of an article in all cases governs the price; but when the article cannot be found, it cannot be had at any price, and for that reason it is without price." Now, if there were any virtuous women, there would be a price, and a high one too, by reason of a scarcity; but as there are none,—at this stage of the discourse, the old lady seized the broom.

"Aaron," said she, "you are an impudent brat, and if you don't clear out I will peit you with the broom handle."
Aaron made tracks into the road, finishing his sentence, "they are without price," as he went through the door, which the old lady closed after him with considerable force.—Aaron now started for home, saying to himself as he went along—"I guess the old woman will not chastise me again in a hurry"—and as it proved, he was not mistaken in his prediction.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION.

PIKEVILLE, July 5, 1852.

DEAR POST: Having an item or two of sufficient local interest to be worthy of record, I avail myself of your kind request and note them down for the gratification of such of your readers as take pleasure in whatever tends to improve the mind or purify the heart, and I trust that in this little communication I shall not be considered as trespassing upon space which, some might think, ought more appropriately to be devoted to politics. The Fourth—the ever-glorious and memorable Fourth of July—the seventy-sixth anniversary of American Independence, has just gone by, and, while the cities, towns, and villages of the whole broad Union, have each, in their own way, celebrated the return of "freedom's natal day," we of "the happy valley" have for once joined in commemorating it—not with "martial pomp" or "gay parade," but in a manner worthy of the day and those noble patriots who have made it immortal. We have in our town and vicinity a number of Sabbath Schools—lately established, it is true, but in flourishing condition—the largest and most interesting of which is located at Smyrna, a Church belonging to the Christian order, about five miles above this place. The female teachers belonging to the above School, and, I believe, the lady members of that Church generally, actuated by high and holy motives, and anxious to secure the co-operation of the parents in their great work by stimulating a laudable rivalry among the children, resolved to have a sort of Sunday School Convention on Saturday, the 3d, the 4th falling on Sunday. They had a committee appointed and suitable arrangements made for celebrating the day by speeches, and a picnic dinner for the children and spectators. The schools in the different neighborhoods around were invited and attended in numbers. Seats were provided in a grove near the Church, and all being comfortably seated, the order of the day was read by Mr. A. B. Billingsly, after which a patriotic song, and prayer by Rev. J. H. Acuff. Dr. James B. Templeton was then introduced and delivered a beautiful oration on American Independence. He was followed by Col. Thos. N. Frazier, in a sound and able address, appealing to the community to foster and sustain Sabbath as well as other good Schools, as one of the chief supporters of civil liberty. He spoke with animation of the "times that tried men's souls," and conjured every good citizen—no matter of what party—to unite in sustaining education as the surest means of perpetuating the blessed inheritance bequeathed us by the men of those times. I have not space or I would say more of both speeches. Suffice it that they were appropriate and well received. Rev. J. D. Billingsly then followed in an address to the Sabbath School children, and I am sure they will long remember his kind and earnest appeal to bestir themselves while young, in order to fill with honor to themselves and credit to their country the places now occupied by their fathers. He also spoke to the ladies, cheering them on in their good work, and drawing a beautiful picture of its results in the future. After the speeches the children formed a procession in double file, the girls in front, and marched, followed in good order by the crowd, to another part of the grove, where all joined in doing honor to the good things there prepared. Of these there was enough and to spare, and after partaking sumptuously, the crowd quietly dispersed, seemingly pleased with all the world and especially themselves. The ladies—God grant that their noble example may be followed by all in our valley—deserve great credit for the manner in which every thing was carried on, for they were the originators of the celebration, and well did they carry out their plan of arrangements. They have in this laid the foundation of solid improvement. They have begun at the beginning. They have put into operation a lever whose power will increase with time, for the promotion of education, virtue and happiness, and eternity alone will show its results and bring them their reward. I have hope now that our country, so long behind the age, will arouse from its lethargy and profit by the noble example given us by the ladies. Education and Internal Improvements go hand in hand, and by educating our children, and making roads giving us communication with the rest of the world, our valley will soon become the garden spot of East Tennessee.

SEQUACHEE.

SOFT SOAP.—Kingsley tells a very good story about Deacon Havens. It appears that at last harvest time, the deacon had a "mowing," and among the party were two interesting boys who were more inclined to cut capers than clover. One of their tricks on the old man consisted of filling the tin horn with soft soap, and slightly stopping the orifice with cotton. When the hour of 12 o'clock came, our venerable friend seized the loaded instrument, and blew a blast that scattered the contents far and near. To say that the deacon was displeased, would but slightly describe his feelings. He was enraged; and for the first time in his life he became excited.—says he: "Gentlemen, I am an old man—I am at the head of the Sunday School—never swore an oath in my life, and have preached the gospel for five and thirty years, but I'll be d—d if I can't whip any man who soft-soaped that trumpet!"