

The Holmes County Farmer.

ESTABLISHED A. D. 1826.]

MILLERSBURG, OHIO, THURSDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 26, 1861.

[NEW SERIES—VOL. 23—NO 32.]

Business Directory.

REED & CRITCHFIELD,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Millersburg, Ohio.
Office—Up stairs in Critchfield's Corner Block, opposite the Court-house. n201f

D. S. UHL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW, Millersburg, Ohio.
Office—In Recorder's Office, east of the Court-house. n201f

WM. S. TANNEYHILL,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Millersburg, Ohio. Office—two doors east of the Bank, up stairs. n201f

DENTIST, Millersburg, Ohio. Artificial Teeth inserted, from one to an entire set, on gold silver or vulcanite base. All operations skillfully performed. Satisfaction warranted.
Office—Three doors west of Weston's Saloon, Jackson Street. n41f

DR. C. W. BUVINGER,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON, Middletown, O.
Professional calls promptly attended to.
Sept. 19, 1861.

T. G. V. BOLING,
DRS. BOLING & BIGHAM,
PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS, Millersburg, Ohio.
Office on Main street, formerly occupied Dr. Irwin. n201f

T. McE. EBRIGHT, M. D.,
Physician & Surgeon,
MILLERSBURG, O. Office—on Jackson street, nearly opposite the Empire House. Residence on Clay street, opposite the Presbyterian Church. n201f

DR. A. A. CRUMP,
GERMAN & ENGLISH BOTANIC Physician,
MILLERSBURG, O. Office—on the East end of Main street, four doors above the Public square. n201f

A. B. FRY,
WATCH MAKER & JEWELER, Main Street, Three Doors West of Weirich's Hardware Store, Millersburg, Ohio. n201f

JAS. HEBRON & SON,
DEALERS IN English, German and American Hardware, Cutlery, Oil, Paints, Glass Sash, Pine Doors Saddlery, and Coach Trimmings. n201f

EMPIRE HOUSE,
H. M. LEE, Proprietor, Main Street, Millersburg, Ohio.—n8.

OHIO HOUSE,
I. HOXWORTH, Proprietor, west end of Main Street, Millersburg, O. L. F. Stage Office—Daily Line of Coaches to Coshocton. n201f

A. J. BELL,
COUNTY RECORDER AND NOTARY PUBLIC, Millersburg, Ohio. He is at all times ready to furnish, fill up, take acknowledgments of all kinds of Deeds, Conveyances, mortgages, and powers of Attorney, and Record the same, take Depositions to be used in any of the courts of this State. Also, Protest Notes, Bills of exchange, &c. His office is in the County Recorder's office. n201f

SPARTAN LODGE NO. 126,
OF Free and Accepted Masons, meet the Friday on or preceding the full moon in every month, at the Masonic Hall.
J. N. VORLES, Secretary

J. B. RUSSELL,
NOTARY PUBLIC, Salter Creek Township, Holmes County, Ohio, will acknowledge deeds, take depositions, and do all other business pertaining to his office. n201f

HEIZER & SPIEGEL,
SUCCESSORS TO
E. STEINDACHER & CO.,
Produce and Commission Merchants,
DEALERS IN
FLOUR, GRAIN, MILL STUFFS,
SALT, FISH, WHITE & WATER LIME, &c. &c.
AND PURCHASERS OF
Wheat, Rye, Corn, Oats, Wool,
SEEDS, DRIED FRUIT, BUTTER, EGGS, &c.
HEIZER & SPIEGEL,
Millersburg, Ohio.
May, 26, 1861.

BAKER & WHOLF,
Forwarding and Commission Merchants
AND DEALERS IN
SALT, FISH, PLASTER, WHITE & WATER LIME,
PURCHASERS OF
Flour, Wheat, Rye, Corn and oats
CLOVER AND TIMOTHY SEED.
—ALSO—
UTTER, EGGS, LARD, TALLOW
Small kind of DRIED FRUITS,
n80 WARKHOUSE—MILLERSBURG, OHIO.

GROcery STORE.
GODFREY TYSER has removed his
Grocery and Provision Store
To the Room formerly occupied by
FRY'S Jewelry Store.
His goods are of the very best quality, carefully selected
and will be sold on Short Provisions.
All who want to buy the best quality of
GROCERIES
hon Id call.
April 25, 1860. G. TYSER.

J. EBERHARDT'S,
Manufacturer and Dealer
IN ALL KINDS OF
AMERICAN AND ITALIAN
MARBLE WORKS.
Monuments, Tombs and Head Stones on hand and made to order on the shortest possible notice, and at such low prices as that will satisfy the nation. J. EBERHARDT.
Shop on Jackson street.
April 25, 1860.

NEW BOOT & SHOE SHOP!
O'NEILL door west from J. Mair's store, in the room formerly occupied as Post Office, where the undersigned is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line, especially
FINE CITY SEWED WORK,
In such manner as not to be excelled west of the Alleghenies.
WORK WARRANTED!
And done on reasonable terms. Repairing done neat and on short notice. Very thankful for the patronage that has been extended to him in former years.
He is determined to merit a Return of the Same.
He has on hand, as agents, a lot of BOOTS AND SHOES both home made and eastern, which, preparatory to laying fall stock he will sell on such terms,
as TRY HIM OR CALL 'HEM BUT BUY!
AS YOU CAN'T HELP BUY!
E. H. HULL,
June 25, 1860—201f.

B. B. STAFFORD,
HAS OPENED A
Wholesale Liquor Store,
in the Rooms heretofore occupied by Mair's Store,
MILLERSBURG,
Where you can get all kinds of liquors can be bought at the lowest city price.
B. B. STAFFORD,
April 25th, '61.

200 BBLs. OF OLD BOURBON
and Rye Whiskey in store and for sale by
WEIRICH & STRAIN, 1861.

Poetry.

THE OLD CANOE.
Where the rocks are gray and the shore is steep,
And the waters below look dark and deep;
Where the rugged pine, in its lonely pride,
Leans gloomily over the murky tide;
Where the reeds and rushes are tall and rank,
And the weeds grow thick on the winding bank;
Where the shadow is heavy the whole day through
Lays at its moorings the old canoe.

The useless paddles are idly dropped,
Like a sea-bird's wings that the storm hath loosed.
And crossed on the railing, one o'er one,
Like folded hands when the work is done;
While busily back and forth between,
The spider stretches his silvery screen;
And the solemn owl, with his dull "too loo,"
Settles down on the side of the old canoe.

The stern, half sunk in the slimy wave,
Rods slowly away in its living grave,
And the green moss creeps o'er its dull decay,
Holding the mouldering dust away.
Like the hand that plants o'er the tomb a flower,
Or the ivy that mantles the fallen tower;
While many a blossom of freshest hue,
Springs up o'er the stern of the old canoe.

The current's waters are dead and still,
But the light winds play with the boat as will,
And lazily in and out again,
It floats the length of its rusty chain.
Like the weary march of the hands of time,
That march on past at the mouldering shrine;
And the shore is kissed at each turn anew,
By the dripping bow of the old canoe.

O, many a time with a careless hand,
I have pulled it away from the pebbly strand,
And paddled it down where the stream runs quick—
Where the whirls are wild and the eddies are thick—
And I laughed as I leaned o'er the rocking side,
And looked below in the broken tide,
To see that the faces and boats were two,
That were mirrored back from the old canoe.

But now, as I lean o'er the crumbling side,
And look below in the sluggish tide,
The face that I see there is graver grown,
And the laugh that I hear has a sadder tone,
And the hands that lean to the skill light wings,
Have grown familiar with sterner things,
As I love to think of the hours that flow,
As I looked where the whirls their wild spray

See the blossoms waved, or the green grass grow
O'er the mouldering stern of the old canoe.

Miscellaneous.

Address of Democratic Central Committee.
To the Democracy of Richland County.

FELLOW DEMOCRATS:—Your committee deem this a proper time to submit an address for your consideration.

The several political parties have now each nominated their State and County tickets, and adopted platforms upon which they come before the people and ask them to support their candidate.

For once the opponents of the Democratic party have adopted the same resolution in regard to the great question at this time before the people. They have not even taken issue upon charges of "corruption and favoritism in the War Departments of both State and National Governments, but have by silence given consent to the charges preferred. Having abandoned their principles and made no issue with us, we can make none with them. All we ask at this time, is that we abandon our organization, as they felt compelled to do theirs, and unite upon one ticket, the formation of which they could control, having the majority in the State.

In view of the fact that the Democratic party had just witnessed, again, the triumph of principles contended for earnestly, and those of their opponents abandoned, this was truly a generous (?) offer—generous beyond precedent, in the history of contestants, so generous that had it not been for motives so plainly apparent, we might deem the offer of such terms almost insane. How much more manly would it have been even to surrender, than to beg of us such humiliating terms of capitulation.

All this was, however, done under a plea of public necessity, demanding that all partyism be abandoned, and a unit made against rebellion. This committee believes that a united North does exist against rebellion—at least so far as the Democracy is concerned. They have taken as strong—if not stronger—grounds for its suppression, as has the Republican-Fusion party.

He who knows anything of party strife knows it never so violent as when the opposition resolve themselves into a new party, and "compass lake and land to make one proselyte."

Had their object been to suppress party feelings, they would have permitted the good feeling that existed, to rest, and not go "stumping it over the State," before any intimation had been given that the Democracy desired such contest.—This committee repeats their firm conviction, that the Republican party is responsible for whatever strife may exist.

It is idle to talk of but one party in a free country. Party strife may be suppressed, by parties remaining at home, and letting the people quietly vote their sentiments. A manifestation of a party, claiming to be in no danger of defeat—wishing to inaugurate a regular stumping campaign—exhibits a consciousness of weakness, needing such explanation.—The people desire a quiet election. The public mind is absorbed in the perils which threaten the Government—and a party betrays its weakness—its want of honest patriotism, by attempting even to divert public attention to matters of less importance. When a despotism shall reign in the North, as it does in the South and the minds of men fettered for fear of their lives, when error of opinion can no longer be tolerated in a land of liberty, and reason no longer left free to combat it, when National policy shall patrol our country, and free expression of opinion no longer a privilege; when Republican presses themselves must cease their attacks upon the Administration—then, and not until then, will only one party exist.

The Democratic party in accordance with their time-honored custom, have met in primary elections, and conventions, and nominated tickets comparing

The Democratic Party and the No-Party Movement.

It is said by *quondam* Republicans that it is the duty of Democrats as patriots to dissolve, or which is the same thing, to suspend their organization for the time being. No greater humbug was ever attempted to be palmed off upon intelligent men. It is a delusion fraught with the direst mischief.

Why should Democrats dissolve or suspend their organization? To form, it is said, a new People's or Union party. But the Democratic party is, as its name implies, the People's party. It is of, and from the people, and is, and always has been the champion of popular rights. Its leading idea is the great Jeffersonian principle that governments derive all their just powers from the consent of the governed.

The Democratic party is, as it always has been a Union party, and the only party that has stood firmly and unflinchingly by the Union, alike in prosperity and adversity. For this very little less than a year ago, Democrats were reproached as "Union savers," and ridiculed as "suppliants of the slave power" by the very men who now, with honey on their lips (we do not say what is in their hearts) urge Democrats to go with them into a new-fangled party, for the purpose of saving the Union and the institution of slavery along with it.—Can any honest and true-hearted Democrat consent to sell out his party and his principles to such a concern as this?

We do not seek to revive old party animosities; but it is a duty we owe the Government and the Union to warn Democrats and all true loyal Union men to beware of the flatteries and intrigues of old political hacks who have been training for five, ten and twenty years, in the Abolition and Republican ranks.

If these men are sincere in their professions of attachment to the Union, the Constitution and the government, why do they, in this fearful hour of peril, so tremendously urge Democrats to abandon their old party and their old political associates, and unite, heart and soul, with their late opponents and defamers, in a new organization? They know that the Democratic party is a unit for the support of the government and the maintenance of the Union, and that Democrats have been first and foremost among all loyal men in their efforts to secure this great object. If this is the sole aim, they know that Democrats have enlisted more readily and more generally in the Union army than their political opponents, and that the chief opposition to the measures and course of the present Administration has come from their own party organization. It is, therefore, both absurd and ill-timed to ask Democrats to change their political status, in order to secure their fidelity to save the Union.

But it is alleged by the leaders in this no-party movement, as it is called, that it was originated, not only to unite all loyal men, but to avoid party strife. Yet these men must have known, when they planned the scheme, that it was the very thing that would kindle party strife afresh, and this must have been their design. It is said that orders were sent from politicians in Washington City to Republican leaders in Ohio to disband their own political organization and inaugurate the new movement. Be this as it may, it is clear that those who concocted the scheme, knew full well that the great body of the Democratic masses could no more be seduced into an abandonment of their party for the sake of uniting in a new one with their old political opponents, than they could be allured into the ranks of Northern disunionists or Southern secessionists. But some so-called Democrats as deficient in pluck as weak in principle, they could count upon. With the aid of these, and by raising the hue-and-cry of secessionists and traitors against all who would not follow their lead, they hoped to break down the Democratic party, which the signs of the times clearly showed was fast rising into power and influence, and in a fair way to put forth once more its former strength and again save the Union.

To prevent this glorious and triumphant achievement, which would do more for the Union than any other office, to the shades of private life and a narrow income, that old Union party must first of all things be broken down. That party of all things be broken down, beyond the hope of a resurrection, and the old Abolition and Republican leaders secure of the control of public sentiment and political action in the North, the war against slavery can be prosecuted vigorously under the pretense of a war for the Union, till—but let the curtain drop over the remainder of the programme, which, we trust, the Democratic masses, in conjunction with all other truly loyal men who sincerely love the old Union, will, by forming one solid phalanx for its preservation, prevent from ever being carried into effect.—*Statesman.*

A Poor Dodge.
It is universally conceded that the attempt of the republican politicians to hide their party under the mask of a no-party convention, in which they will constitute nearly the whole material, and one of the poorest and boldest of dodges. They may call themselves what they please; they may change their name, which they have rendered odious; they may even put men who have not been hitherto republicans on their ticket, but who have now lent themselves to carry out their plans; but despite all this their conventions will be known as a republican convention, and their ticket as the republican ticket. The issue will be in fact between a national democratic ticket and a sectional one, disguised under a false mask.—Which will the people take? In God's name, have they not had enough of republican rule? Do they want to make any new investments in that political stock which has bankrupted the country? Do they wish to aggravate the matter still more by throwing in an additional irritant to the body politic?

The Necessity and Use of Parties.

In a free country, parties in politics are as inevitable and as necessary as sects or denominations in religion. Under despotic rule, there is only the one government party and the one government church.—In proportion as a people become free and intelligent they differ in political and theological questions, and hence arise political parties and religious sects.

Men may declare that they repudiate all sectarianism in religion, and set about establishing a pure Christianity.—But this cannot be done without laying down some principles of faith and practice, and this lays the foundation for a new sect or revives an old one.

So in politics, individuals are found, from time to time, proclaiming that they have renounced all party platforms and party organizations. Yet these same individuals are seen forthwith holding conventions, adopting resolutions and nominating tickets and going regularly and systematically through all the forms of party drill and party organization.

The mistake of many a sincere Christian and of many an honest citizen, in being seduced into a non-sectarian or a no-party movement, consists in supposing that real Christianity cannot be developed in sectarian or denominational churches, and that true patriotism cannot have free play in party organizations. Such a supposition strikes superficial minds as something very beautiful in theory; yet it is of little practical value, and often injures the hands of those who so imagine they are doing their God and country great services.

So far as it is from being true in real life that a man's refusing to attach himself to any religious sect or denomination is a proof of his Christianity, that it is by practical men generally considered as *prima facie* evidence, at least, of the reverse. Taking the world as it is, and not as we would desire it to be, practical good sense requires, as a general rule, that a man who would lead a religious life and be useful as a true believer, should belong to some church or congregation of Christian men and women.

Men may ignore and denounce political parties, and it may strike the unreflecting as a very fine thing. But let them reflect a little, and they will clearly see that it is absurd in this free country to talk of ignoring and obliterating parties even for a day or a week. It can only be done by destroying freedom of thought, and compelling all men, apparently at least, to think the same things and be of one opinion.

It is a delusion to assume that there is necessarily any inconsistency between true patriotism and attachment to a political party. A man may belong to a party without being a mere partisan, as he may belong to a religious denomination without being a bigot. In a free government like ours, where the citizens must necessarily combine in order to advance such measures of governmental policy and reform as they deem necessary, patriotism and devotion to the country's best interests can in general only be manifested through the medium of party organizations.

Do we find pastors of churches, when infidelity rears its bold front and immorality and irreligion are stalking hand in hand, through the land, ignoring their denominational ties and denouncing all separate religious organizations, and advising their flock to do the same? On the contrary the exhortation is to contend manfully for the truth as they have received it. Different sects may labor for a common object, and all the more effectively, without abandoning their separate organizations or renouncing their peculiar creeds.

When a man is convinced that the principles of a political party, to which he has attached himself, are wrong and will work mischief to the country, patriotism requires him to abandon the party at once. His doings so is a proclamation to the world that such is his conviction.—In this country, at the moment of peril, to abandon a party whose principles we are satisfied are right and conservative of the Union, for the Utopian scheme of no-party organization, betrays either great cowardice or a lack of common sense.—Patriotic men may, as they have heretofore done, labor for a common object—the defense of the Union and the Government against foreign or domestic aggression, without detaching themselves from their party organizations. They need not sink the partisan in the patriot; for such men are never mere partisans. Their attachment to party seldom conflicts with their allegiance to their country; for they attach themselves to a party, not for the sake of office or personal aggrandizement, but for the purpose of being better able to serve the country, by association with those whose ideas of the true principles and policy of the Government correspond the most nearly to their own.—*Statesman.*

The Two Parties and the Two Tickets.

On the 8th of October, the election in Ohio for State and County officers, takes place. It is the important biennial election in which the people select a Governor, a Lieutenant Governor, a Secretary and Treasurer of State, a Comptroller of the Treasury, a Judge of the Supreme Court and a member of the Board of Public Works, making in all seven State officers. Beside these, at the same time, the people are to decide, in the several counties and senatorial districts, who shall represent them in both branches of the Legislature for the ensuing two years.

Of our annual State elections, that which occurs every two years, in which the gubernatorial chair and nearly all the State offices are filled, and members of the Legislature chosen for biennial term, has strong claims upon the attention of the people. But at this critical juncture of affairs, when our National Union is threatened with dismemberment, and our own State with invasion by a domestic foe; with the flower of our population turned into an armed soldiery, and our people are to be lured for many years to come with a heavy public debt and onerous taxes; when our industry is paralyzed and trade and business, except in the manufacture and sale of our war material, are almost at a stand still—at such a time as this, every man in Ohio should be awake to what the public welfare and his own interest alike demand, to see to it that men are put in office, who will administer their several trusts faithfully, economically, and with an eye single to the best interests of the State—men above all, whose influence, while in power, for an immediate and effectual crushing out of the rebellion, shall be as powerful in bringing about a re-union of all the States and Territories under the Constitution and flag of our Country.

There are two State tickets presented to the people of Ohio. One is the ticket of the old conservative Democratic Union party—a party which has never faltered in its devotion to the Union, but has hitherto been the chief instrument under Providence in its maintenance—a party which has never, in the hour of peril, abandoned its organization and deserted the Federal Government, but has stood by it as a solid and impenetrable phalanx, and upheld the Government when in danger of overthrow. This same old Democratic party stands to-day in regard to the Union and the Government, where it has stood for more than three score years. Of its candidates on the State ticket, whose capacity and integrity are unquestioned, it is only necessary to say that they are decided Union Democrats.

The other ticket is that of a party which was just a week old yesterday, and can give no guarantee in its past or its future conduct. It is a party made up in the main of Republicans who forsake their organization and thus deserted the Administration they had placed in power, to rally to its support. Beside Republicans, the ranks of this new party are filled with Disunion Abolitionists and a few Democrats who left their party at a time when the united efforts of all its members were needed for the support of the Federal Government and the Union. The ticket of the new organization is a mongrel one, corresponding to the character of the party which put it in nomination.

Such are the two parties and the two tickets now presented in Ohio. The honest Union loving mass of the people will easily decide which they should support.

The Disunionists.

Douglas, in his famous speech of March 15th, furnished a text by which you can tell the thorough disunionists. He said: "Disunite it as you may, every Union man in America most advocate such amendments to the Constitution as will preserve peace and restore the Union; while every disunionist, whether openly or secretly plotting its destruction, is the advocate of peaceful secession, or OF WAR AS THE STRETT MEANS OF RENDERING RE-UNION AND RE-CONSTRUCTION IMPOSSIBLE."

Look around you and see who were opposed to compromise, and who favored coercion, and you can readily ascertain who the disunionists were. The search will prove that the great bulk of the democrats were Union men, while the great bulk of the republicans were disunionists and these parties maintain precisely the same relation to the Union now that they maintained it before the inauguration of this war.

Taxes.

The abolition press is indignant if alms is made to the increased taxes consequent upon the war. They estimate the patriotism of the people at so contemptible a rate as to suppose that they will favor a dishonorable peace, rather than to submit to an increased taxation. It will have no such effect upon them. It will, however, have the effect to cause them to refuse to elect members to the Ohio Legislature who will vote for B. F. Wade for the United States Senate, or for any man like him, who, by his persistent refusal to vote for the Crittenden compromise, and thus settle the trouble between the North and South peacefully, contributed to entail upon them these heavy taxes and dull times. This is what patriotism demands they should do.

Deserted Ancient Cities.

Mr. Graham, an Englishman recently returned from the East, in a report to the Royal Asiatic Society, gives an account of five ancient cities, deserted and forgotten, which have been discovered in the Great Desert beyond the Jordan. They were yet as perfect as if the inhabitants had just left them, the houses retaining their massive stone doors. In one of the cities is a large building, like a castle, built of white stone, beautifully cut. Further eastward other places were found, where every stone had inscriptions in an unknown character, resembling Greek.

Remain firm at your post of duty!

Remain firm at your post of duty! In conventions where all were represented, the Democracy decided that they would keep their banner unfurled. None can forsake it without dishonor.

Serve them, neither to the right hand, nor to the left; but stand by the constitution of our country—by the constitutional maintenance of the Union—by the Government in this hour of its severest trial—and stand by the good old Democratic party; for all these interests demand it, and when the election is over you will not regret having so performed your duty. By order of committee.

S. S. BLOOM, CHAIRMAN.

JOSAS SMITH Secy,
Shelby, O., Sept. 14, 1861.

From the Mt. Vernon Banner.

Senatorial Convention.
The Senatorial Convention of the district composed of Knox, Wayne, Holmes and Morrow, met pursuant to a call, at Miller's Hall in Mansfield, on the 10th of September.

The Convention was called to order by J. A. Estill of Holmes, and on motion H. Harper, of Knox, was chosen Chairman, and J. A. Estill, of Holmes, and Frank H. Hurd, of Knox, Secretaries.

On motion a committee of four, one from each county was appointed to select rules and regulations for the convention. The chair appointed on that committee: J. A. Estill of Holmes, Absalom Thrift, of a Knox, Benj. Eason of Wayne, and J. A. Beebe of Morrow.

A committee of four, one from each county was appointed on resolutions.—The committee consisted of Benj. Eason of Wayne, J. Paulson of Holmes, H. Randolph of Morrow, and Mr. Dudgeon of Knox.

The committee on rules and regulations made the following report:

Resolved, That this Convention be governed by the usual parliamentary rules of such conventions.

Resolved, That one delegate be allowed for each 100 votes cast at the State election, which entitles Wayne to 33 votes, Knox to 25, Morrow to 19, Holmes to 22.

Resolved, That the delegates present be allowed to cast the full vote of the county.

Resolved, That a majority of all the votes cast be necessary to a choice.

While the committee on resolutions were preparing their report, J. A. Beebe of Morrow, addressed the convention in a very interesting manner, in which he boldly declared the high mission of the Democratic party in the present crisis.—After his remarks, the committee on resolutions reported as follows:

Resolved, That we endorse the platform adopted by the Democracy at the 7th of August Convention, and that the patriotic letter of Hugh J. Jewett expresses our views exactly.

On motion, the convention proceeded to ballot for a Senator. The name of Thomas Armor of Holmes, was presented by J. A. Estill and that of Jacob Merrin of Knox, by Ab. Thrift. The first ballot resulted as follows:

Thomas Armor 55
Jacob Merrin 45

On motion, the nomination of Mr. Armor was made unanimous. J. A. Estill then, in a few appropriate remarks, accepted the nomination in behalf of Mr. Armor, and assumed the convention that the Democratic party to the Union and the great principles of the Democracy.

On motion, the convention adjourned sine die.

L. HARPER, PRES'T,
J. A. ESTILL,
E. H. HURD,
SECRETARIES.

Telling Secrets.

I must relate my first and last experiments in training my oldest son to keep family secrets. He was a chatter box and as he often visited among strangers without me, I was fearful he would tell more than he should. So talking him up on my knee I said:

"My dear, you must never tell anything we say, or let out any plans to any one—especially to Mrs. Jones."

His quick mind comprehended me in an instant, and with a very confirmed look, he promised obedience. A few days after he entered my room with an air of triumph, and said:

"Mamma, I minded you. Mrs. Jones asked me when you were going to New York, and I said, 'I can't tell you, for my mamma don't wish you to know any of her plans.'"

In my consternation I was tempted to reproach the innocent boy, but, upon a moment's thought, I let the matter pass, knowing that it could not be explained or extenuated, and preferring to lose the friendship of Mrs. Jones rather than sully his pure, trusting spirit with a lesson of worldly policy.

When his younger brother, a more quiet boy, but equally fond of visiting, and a great pet and darling with all who knew him, became old enough to betray family secrets, I gave him no caution, but trusted to his common sense. One day, on returning from an errand at a neighboring house, he stood a while absorbed in thought, and then said:

"Mamma, what shall I say when people ask me: What is your mother doing?"

"What did you say for dinner?"

"What did you say, my dear?" said I.

"Why," said he, looking bashfully at me, "I said, 'I guess it is time for me to go.'"