

# Freedom Press.

VOL. I.

LOUDON, TENNESSEE, MARCH 26, 1853.

NO. 19.

**TERMS.**—Two Dollars in advance; Two Dollars and Fifty Cents in six months; Three Dollars and Fifty Cents in a year. Advertisements inserted at \$1 per square for the first, and 50 Cents for each subsequent insertion.

**YEARLY RATES.**

Professional Cards, (five lines),	\$ 3
more than five lines,	10
Quarter of column,	18
Half column,	37
One column,	75
Announcing candidates, (advance),	\$ 2

Address the Publishers, Post Paid.

**PROSPECTUS OF THE LOUDON FREE PRESS, For 1853.**

Having assumed the onerous and responsible duties of public journalism, we feel the just desire to increase the circulation of our paper, as it will not only increase our capabilities of doing good, but at the same time give us reasonable remuneration for our labors. To accomplish this desirable end, we have determined to send out this Prospectus with a request that all who feel an interest in the increased circulation of our paper will send us the largest number of subscribers they possibly can. Yet, we cannot make this request without tendering appropriate acknowledgments to several friends whose exertions in procuring us subscribers have not been unnoticed by us.

We deem it unnecessary to occupy a lengthy exposition of the leading features of the *Free Press*. Its political complexion is uncompromisingly *Whig*—but we are truly glad that the evil times of unrelenting political warfare has for a time at least ceased, and those so long and so recently in antagonistic array, are drawing together in friendship and in purpose, to mingle united effort and united wisdom to advance the interests and the true glory of the land. We look to the promotion of the interests of Agriculture, of Manufactures and of Commerce, as being by far more important to the improvement of the country, than any political issue upon which the American people are extensively divided. These great interests shall have our warmest support. Our leading aim shall be to *arouse public sentiment* to the importance of industrial progress—of enriching our fields, of beautifying our homes—of starting up the busy hum of industry and enterprise.

As to the merits of the *Free Press* it is for the public to judge—we can only claim that we have earnestly endeavored to publish a paper worthy of public patronage. It is filled with readable matter—containing the latest Foreign and Domestic News—full and impartial quotations of the Produce Markets of Loudon, Augusta, Savannah, Macon, Charleston, and Nashville, with occasional quotations from other important points—together with the prices and number of Hogs sold in Cincinnati each week during the packing season—also the prices of Pork at numerous other points, so as to give our Traders a broad and correct basis of judgment in regard to this important article of trade. In a word, our paper is for the business men of East Tennessee.

We are anxious to increase our circulation, and have determined to offer the *Free Press* at greatly reduced prices to Clubs—money to accompany the names, as follows—

Single copy, per annum,	\$2 00
Three Copies, "	5 00
Eight Copies, "	12 00
Twenty Copies, "	15 00
Twenty Copies, "	20 00

J. W. & S. B. O'BRIEN, Publishers.  
Loudon, Tenn., Jan. 15, 1853.

**ADVICE OF AN OLD LADY.**—Now, John, listen to me, for I am older than you, or I couldn't be your mother. Never do you marry a young woman John, before you have contrived to happen at the house where she lives at least four or five times before breakfast. You should know how late she lies in bed in the morning. You should take notice whether her complexion is the same in the morning as in the evening, or whether the wash and towel have robbed her of her evening bloom. You should take care to surprise her, so that you may see her in her morning dress, and observe how her hair looks when she is not expecting you. If possible you should be where you can hear the morning conversation between her and her mother. If she is ill natured and snappish to her mother, so she will be to you depend on it. But if you find her up and dressed neatly in the morning, with the same countenance, the same smiles, the same neatly combed hair, the same ready and pleasant answers to her mother, which characterized her deportment in the evening, and particularly if she is lending a hand to get the breakfast ready in good season, she is a prize, John—and the sooner you secure her to yourself the better.

**CHERRY PECTORAL.**—We have departed from our usual rule in regard to the advertising of Medicines, in admitting the notice of *Cherry Pectoral* to our columns. It is not a patent medicine, but one the contents of which, are well known to the medical profession, and which has proved highly beneficial in the case of a number of our acquaintances, who were seriously afflicted with pulmonary complaints. Some of our most skillful and eminent physicians recommend it to their patients in their regular practice, and we feel that we are conferring a favor upon the public by making known its virtues.—*Louisville Ch. Advocate.*

**A CURE FOR TYPHOID FEVER.**—One of the most fatal and heretofore unmanageable diseases incident to this country is typhoid fever. It is said, however, that a specific for it has just been discovered by the physicians of South Alabama. It is called *cratrum viride*, a preparation of hemlock (a deadly poison) and requires great caution and skill in its use.

## WELL-DIGGING.

PRÉRIE DU CHIEN, Wis., Jan. 1, 1852.

Dear Sir: Your Agricultural Circular was duly received, but I have been unable to take the necessary time to reply until now, and even now I must confine my remarks but to one topic—that is, *well-digging*. There is, however, no one subject of more importance to the farmer who has not living, running water on his farm; and no part of the operation is of more intrinsic importance than that of ascertaining where to dig, which will be the chief topic of consideration in this communication.

I am aware of the difficulty of convincing some men that things may be facts, which they cannot understand the why and wherefore of, or comprehend the reason for. And I know as well that the same skepticism would exist as to their own existence, and to a thousand other facts, the reason for which we do not comprehend any better, or more clearly, than that in reference to finding water under ground; but because they are common, and of every-day occurrence, we never think of the why and the wherefore of their existence. They are matters of fact, and we should be regarded as candidates for some lunatic asylum if we questioned them.

True philosophy does not inquire for the reasons for a thing before it admits the fact of its existence, but ascertains first if it be a fact; and if it is so, it inquires after the reasons for it. This will be the course pursued in this essay. That water runs in veins in the earth is a fact now so universally admitted, or rather known that if in digging a well, the digger hits upon the vein, he gets good spring or living water. But the question is, how are we to ascertain where to dig in order to strike this vein? or not by the hands of some men, and even women, as they say, by means, where water can thus be found? It will be admitted that, if it is so, it is of more importance to any dry or springless portion of the country than turnpikes, plank, or railroads; for what is the soil worth without living water? It will also be admitted that, if Nature or Nature's God has provided an ample supply of so useful and necessary an element of life, running in all directions in the bowels of the earth, the work would be incomplete, and man and beast might suffer, or a great portion of the earth must be left a barren waste, unless the same goodness which provided the supply also provided means by which its location could be ascertained with more certainty than by haphazard digging. This I take to be reasonable; and if so, reason favors the probability of such a provision. The first point to establish is the fact that some men can direct the well-digger where to strike the vein; and then, secondly, to show the law of nature by which this is done. As to the first point, it must be established by facts in the mouths of competent witnesses. It is done by what is now scientifically called *bletonism*, which is defined by Webster to be "the faculty of perceiving and indicating subterranean springs and currents by sensation; so called from one *Bleton*, of France, who possessed this faculty." Some called it *divining*, or raising the divining rod; some, water philosophy; and others, "water witchery."

The most ordinary instrument used is a fork, of peach, hazel, or willow, of the last year's growth, and as small, slim, and full as possible. The tip ends are placed horizontally in the hands, the palms of which are upward; this brings the fork upward in the shape of an inverted V—thus, A; and in the hands of those with whom it will work—for it does not work with every one—this fork-end is attracted by the water, if living spring-water, under ground, but not by dead or stagnant water; nor by what is called *seep water*. It is also attracted by silver, iron, or other metals which attract the electric fluid; for electricity is the secret of the matter, after all. But to the facts:

In 1812 I settled on a springless farm in Ohio, expecting to obtain water by digging a well. A neighbor of mine, who had on an adjoining farm obtained good water only fourteen feet under the surface of the ground, by means of this *bletonism*, urged me to try the same means. But being of the class who could not, or rather would not, believe in what I could not comprehend, I declined resorting to what, to me, as to others, appeared to be consummate nonsense, and I spent my leisure time in the dry time of three years in digging, but found no water. At length, despairing of finding water in this way, and having a curiosity to test this new science, I invited a "water philosopher" to try his skill for me. It is proper to observe, that this man was an independent farmer, a man of intelligence and high moral worth; and as he performed in this matter without fee or reward, I had no possible ground for suspecting any design of humbuggery on his part. And further, he told me that he knew no more of the reason, the why or wherefore, it worked in his hands, while it would not in those of others than I did. By mere accident he ascertained that he was not of 'em; and on discovering this, he experimented until he discovered this fact—that the rod would be attracted at an angle of 45°, and that from the point at which the attraction commenced to where the attraction was perpendicular, would indicate the depth to dig to reach the water.

All this, however—his high character and his explanations—did not remove my doubts. He prepared his peach twig-fork, and I placed him over a well which I had dug, and was at the time full of spring or seep-water; wishing, if possible, not to lose the labor so expended. But this seep-water had no effect whatever on the rod. The operator then traveled slowly, I keeping my eye upon the rod and his hands, to see if the turning of the rod was not from the motion of his own hands. At length the butt or fork-end of the rod went down; the operator holding his hands upon the rod so tightly, to prevent its slipping, that they turned purple, and I could plainly see that the twig-ends of the rod did not slip or turn round in his hand, but that the twigs actually twisted so that the bark broke and gave way. When I saw this I give it up. What I saw with my own eyes, and that, too, against strong prejudices, I could not doubt. He selected the point where the tip of the rod was the strongest, and measured the depth by the 45° rule, and I stuck the stake to dig by; and in the ensuing autumn, when all was dry, I dug and found the depth, quantity, and quality of the water just as he had told me. With such facts before me I could no longer disbelieve, because I had not then ascertained the reasons for it, or the law of nature by which such events were brought about. Shortly after this I saw a statement in the public prints—that an individual containing a very small amount of electricity, or who is highly negatively charged, (and only such can operate,) if he takes the rod in his hands and passes over a surface beneath which there is a stream of water, or a stratum of ore, by the unchanging laws of nature, the rod must be affected; and, consequently, a sensation will be produced in him who holds it. The person making the experiment is highly negatively charged—that is, has but little of the fluid in him; the water beneath his feet has absorbed the electricity of the adjacent bodies in the earth; the elastic twig in his hands forms a part of the connection between the positive and negative poles; and two bodies,

"Because I don't believe in such nonsense; I won't believe in anything of the kind for which I can see no good reason, and there is no reason why such a rod will work in one man's hands and not in another's." But his friend was not to be put off with so stale an argument. "But thou mayest believe it whether thou canst comprehend it or not, for I have proved it and know it to be true; and if thou wilt get a good philosopher, one who has been proved, and dig where he tells thee, if thou dost not find water I will pay thee all thy expenses." His friend was so urgent, and withal so liberal, he could do no less in courtesy than try it. He did so, and the operator fixed upon a site near the corner of his house, on the side towards the barn, from which the barn-yard could be easily supplied, and fixed upon twenty feet as the depth to dig. He called for three dollars and told him, "I have called for thee and I will pay thy charges; but I do not believe a word thou sayest, for here and there, within a few feet of the place thou hast fixed upon, I have dug ninety feet and found no such spring as thou tellest of, but if I do find it, as thou sayest, I will give thee fifty dollars."

The result of this was, that the man who told the man his fifty dollars, got him to select several other sites on the farm for wells for stock, and published his discovery for the benefit of his fellow-men who might be in like ignorance and prejudice, and as much to their own damage as his was to him.

Some thirty years since, a tract upon this subject, from the pen of the celebrated Adam Clark fell into the hands, from which, as well as I can recollect, I gathered the following facts: The Doctor, as a Wesleyan Methodist preacher, was stationed in the Guernsey islands, in the British channel, the inhabitants of which were originally French but now under the British rule. He soon discovered that good water was almost a paramount object. Cisterns had been resorted to, but their supply depended upon the amount of rain, of which in some seasons, there was a scarcity, and consequent distress among the inhabitants followed.

Now, if there was a place on earth or in the sea where this science was needed, it was here; and if it was humbuggery, this, above most places, was the place to pain it off, and the anxiety of the people to obtain a supply of good water would induce them to forego a few failures before they would give up the pursuit. The Doctor found things in this situation, and among the members of his flock a man who pretended to, or rather did, tell people where to dig for and obtain good water. But this was too much for the Doctor; he could or would believe in no such humbuggery, and he cited the member to trial for attempting to humbuggery, in the presence of a court, which would not allow. Upon the trial, the accused proved by several respectable witnesses that he had told them where to dig; that they had done so, and found water as he had predicted. Still the Doctor was not satisfied but that there might be some mistake or accident; if there was no imposture; and the accused should select a spot to dig in his presence, that he might see that the water rose. This was done, and the water found. But lest this might have been a recent, he would have tried it over. It was tried and again proved true. The Doctor could hold out no longer, and lay claim to the character of a reasonable man. The fact that such things were done by others, was established beyond the possibility of a doubt, and the reason for such a phenomenon. But not discovering any law of nature therefor, he concluded that it must be a special gift of God to some, for the benefit of the human race.

These events occurred over fifty—say sixty—years ago, when philosophy was less advanced than at present, and the people of the French coast, and among a people of the same language, and in communication with France; and possibly this profession went from Guernsey to France; where, being established as a fact, the acute philosophy of France was brought to bear upon it, as to the reason of, and for it, which resulted in the discovery of the agency of the electric fluid in the matter; and the whole is recorded into an established law of nature, though but recently discovered and understood.

A gentleman in the North, "has been examining the subject for many years, and has tried a great variety of experiments, which show that all the phenomena of the rod are governed by the laws of electricity. He tested the rod by the electric machine. When the rod is brought near the positive pole, it is repelled. A silk hankerchief placed between the rod and the water, or the conductor, breaks the connexion, and there is no electric attraction made upon the rod; remove the hankerchief, and the rod is instantly drawn down. All his experiments resulted in this explanation of the phenomena." The Rev. Mr. Avery, of Holden, some years since, made a number of experiments, and came to the same conclusions. The subject has been thoroughly investigated, and with the same results. In almost every place there are those in whose hands the rod will operate, and men of high intellectual moral worth, and far above deception or trick, are found among them.

The law which governs in this matter is thus explained: 1. That wonderful fluid called electricity is distributed throughout the whole earth; but some bodies generate or imbibe more of it than others. Those that contain more than their natural proportion are said to be *positively*, and those which contain less to be *negatively* charged.

2. One of the established laws of electricity is founded in the fact that two bodies, both *positively* or both *negatively* charged, invariably repel each other, while if one is positively, and the other negatively charged, they uniformly attract each other.

3. It is well known that the best subterranean conductors are beds of ore or native metals, and veins of water. It is their nature to extract the latent fluid from surrounding objects and absorb it themselves; hence where these exist, there will be the most electricity.

4. In general, the human body is also a good conductor, but there are some exceptions. Some men usually generate or imbibe the negative and positive in such equal quantities as to maintain an equilibrium in their systems; the rod in the hands of such will not be sensibly affected; others are surcharged, and have more than their share, and produce positive electricity.—Such it is said, if they have black hair, will, if rubbed in cold weather, emit sparks.

5. An individual containing a very small amount of electricity, or who is highly negatively charged, (and only such can operate,) if he takes the rod in his hands and passes over a surface beneath which there is a stream of water, or a stratum of ore, by the unchanging laws of nature, the rod must be affected; and, consequently, a sensation will be produced in him who holds it. The person making the experiment is highly negatively charged—that is, has but little of the fluid in him; the water beneath his feet has absorbed the electricity of the adjacent bodies in the earth; the elastic twig in his hands forms a part of the connection between the positive and negative poles; and two bodies,

the one positively, and the other negatively charged, by a law of nature, always attract each other; and, under such circumstances, most unquestionably the twig will be attracted downwards towards the water, and the operator will feel it as well as see it.

6. If the experimenter is positively charged, like the water below, his system having produced or imbibed a large portion of the latent fluid by the law already referred to, there will be a repulsion; the twig, instead of bending downwards towards the water, will bend backward towards himself, and the result will be equally perceptible.

A recent extract from a French paper gives the description of a man, of high moral and intellectual standing, who is so sensitive to electrical influence that he can tell without a rod or other means, the veins of water, and by the sensation produced upon the throat as he passes over the earth. The sensation is similar to that felt from a galvanic battery.

The reader may inquire how we are to know whether the attraction is from water or from ore of some kind? The answer, as to most countries, is that the geological character of the ground will govern in determining the point.—That, however, will not answer in the lead mines of this region. Here the surface presents so different a soil from that of other mineral countries that no law of the books can apply to us. One thing is certain: if it should prove to be mineral, it would probably be valuable; so that nothing would be lost by the experiment. But in some cases of trials for water in this mineral region, by means of the rod, not one, to my knowledge, has failed, or led to mineral instead of water.

There are numbers of miners among us who depend on the rod to find crevices in the rock under the clay surface. They seek for crevices because lead ore is usually found in them, though there may be, and are many crevices in which there are no minerals. My observation in this matter leads to the conclusion that a vein of water has stronger attraction for the rod than any of the ores, excepting silver and iron, and that they must exist in considerable quantities to attract equally with water; so that, if the operator should happen to hit on ore, instead of water, there would be no loss. To what depth the electric fluid will attract, I am not advised. I have known water to be found in this way from ten to forty feet under the surface, and my impression is that it will reach to a greater depth—possibly to seventy feet.

It is hardly necessary to point out the advantages of this science to the farmer, or its value to every springless farm. The farmer wishing to build and to have water convenient, will discover the vein of water, and dig his well. The operator can be tested or proved before the positive pole, or any electric machine, or by having previously found water. It will save time and money lost in haphazard digging, and will add greatly to the comfort of a family to have water at hand; and to make this certain let the water be first discovered, the well dug, and the house then built to suit the situation.

ALFRED BURSON.  
Hon. THOS. EWANK,  
Commissioner U. S. Patent Office.

The *Rogersville Times* says "the whigs of Middle Tennessee are extremely anxious to elect an East Tennesseean for Governor at the ensuing election;" and adds, "we are, however, under the impression that our friends west of the mountains are not altogether ungrateful for the new-born *lucra* for us of the East."

We hardly know how to take some of our East Tennessee friends. If at one time we are willing to the election of a Middle Tennesseean to office, they complain; and if at another time we are willing to the election of an East Tennesseean, they suspect selfishness. We are not aware that the whigs of Middle Tennessee are anxious to run an East Tennesseean for Governor. They wish to run the strongest man, no matter where he lives. Our contemporary, we think, has become unnecessarily disturbed.

He has conjured up this imaginary selfish anxiety, and attributes it to a "skilful move of Hon. John Bell and his particular friends, for the purpose of sending that gentleman back to the Senate of the United States." We have no idea that Mr. Bell has made any move in the premises whatever. At all events, if he has, or his friends, we have no knowledge of it, and have not elsewhere met with such a suggestion. Our contemporary complains that—

"He and his friends are now exceedingly complimentary to us East Tennesseeans. We are the most gallant fellows on earth—to us of East Tennessee, the whig party of the States owes its all, and above all, we deserve the honor of electing a Governor in 1857!"

And he uncharitably exclaims: "Remember, whigs of East Tennessee, when you are caressed and flattered by Middle Tennesseeans, that it is not because they think you deserve anything at their hands, but because something is to be made of you. They kiss but to deceive."

Now we appeal to our contemporary if this is not rather unkind language towards friends? "Kiss but to deceive!" He is mistaken in his assumptions. Middle Tennessee will be proud to present the whig candidate for Governor, if our friends in East and West Tennessee are agreed. Such suspicions and such attacks as the above are unfeeling, unkind, and far from promoting either our harmony or success. We trust our contemporaries will not be so inconsiderate as to introduce in this canvass a contest among whigs for Senator, while the struggle with Democracy is still going on.—*Nashville Banner.*

**A WINDFALL FOR A JOURNEYMAN PRINTER.**—Augustus B. McDonald, a journeyman printer in the office of the *Millwaukee News*, a few days ago received a letter which informed him that his great uncle, Marshall McDonald, who recently died in Paris at the Hotel de Ville, aged eighty-two had left him by his will a snug little fortune. McDonald was about, and a Marshall of France, appointed by Bonaparte. The fortunate printer was formerly a sailor in the British navy, and received a pension in consequence of a wound in the leg received at the bombardment of Canton. He fought in the Mexican war from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico, and was wounded in the ankle at Vera Cruz. He bears the mark of a severe wound in the leg which he received at the gates of Mexico, and secured a pension from the United States. His brother, Arthur McDonald, was a surgeon in the British navy, and was on board the *Terror* in the expedition of Sir John Franklin—since when, of course, he has not been heard of.

## NATIONAL UNIVERSITY AT KNOXVILLE, TENN.

—We find in the *Memphis Eagle and Enquirer* a plan of organization for three national Universities, submitted by Lieut. MAURY. This report was sent to J. P. PRYOR, Esq., one of the editors of that paper, by Lieut. MAURY. A better explanation of this project cannot be given, perhaps, than the following extract from the slip enclosed by Lieut. MAURY, and the comments thereon by the *Eagle and Enquirer*.

[From the *Memphis Eagle and Enquirer*.]  
The following private letter to one of the editors of this paper, together with an extract from the *Albany State Register*, will serve as a sufficient explanation and introduction to those who have not kept pace with the movements in reference to the important subject of which Lieut. Maury treats:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23, 1853.  
Dear Sir: Meetings of the most distinguished men in the walks of science have been invited to take place in Albany, for the purpose of considering the question of a National University. The first meeting took place in January; the second is now in session; and the third and last is to be held there towards the last of March. With this explanation and the enclosed MS., and newspaper slip, you will understand all about it. I send you my plan, hoping that you will give it a second and so assist to put this ball in motion.

Yours truly,  
M. F. MAURY.  
To J. P. Pryor, Esq., Memphis, Tenn.

The following is the newspaper slip to which Mr. Maury refers:

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

[Reprinted for the Daily State Register.]

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 26.—The Convention to take into consideration the establishment of a National University, assembled in the Adjutant General's Room, in the Capitol, Wednesday morning at 11 o'clock. The Convention was called to order by T. W. Olcott, of Albany, on whose motion Dr. T. Romeyn Beck, of Albany, was called to the Chair, and Rev. Dr. Kennedy, Secretary of State, moved that a committee of twenty-one be appointed to report a plan for a National University, which was carried. The following gentlemen were designated as such committee:

Hon. Henry S. Randall, Secretary of State; President Wayland, of Brown University; Bishop Potter, of Pa.; Hon. Washington Irving, N. Y.; Hon. Guilian C. Verplanck, N. Y.; General John A. Dix, N. Y.; Dr. Romeyn Beck of Albany; Hon. Washington Hunt, of Lockport; President Hitchcock, of Amherst; Hon. John V. L. Pruyn, of Albany; Prof. Horace Webster, of N. Y.; Prof. Chester Dewey, of Rochester; Hon. Albert H. Tracy, of Buffalo; Bishop Hopkins, of Vermont; Prof. C. S. Henry, of N. Y.; John DeLafayette, Esq., of N. Y.; Prof. Bahe, of Washington; Prof. Mitchell, of Cincinnati; Prof. Pease, of Cambridge; Lieut. M. F. Maury, of Washington; Prof. Hitchcock, of Union College.

It will be seen that Lieut. Maury's letter reports a plan for "A National University" (or Universities) in compliance with his appointment as a member of the above Committee.—This plan recommends the establishment of a National University at or near Albany, New York; another at Peoria, Illinois; and a third at Knoxville, in East Tennessee. These Universities are by no means to interfere with the State schools, colleges, or Universities; they are to be for the instruction of men rather than boys; and are to take up the student where the colleges and universities of the States leave him, and carry him on into the inner penetralia of science and general learning.

In the National University, Agriculture, that most important but hitherto neglected department of study and research, is to be particularly attended to. This feature will strongly commend itself to the whole country, and will, we predict, give to Lieut. Maury's project an interest and a favor with the great body of the people, which nothing else could have lent it. As to the constitutional power of Congress to create such an institution, we presume no question will be raised. It is plainly deducible from the granted powers specified in that instrument, and its exercise, as is shown by Lieut. Maury, was contemplated and favored long ago by George Washington himself.

What Lieut. M. says of the fitness of East Tennessee as a location for one of the National Universities, will be acquiesced with that interesting division of our State. It has been often called the "Switzerland of America;" is noted for the sublimity of its climate; and has always been remarkable for the patriotism and intelligence of its citizens, as it soon will be, notwithstanding its mountain barrier, for its accessibility from every part of the Union.

**HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF HYMEN.**—Hymen was a beautiful youth of Athens, who, for the love of a young virgin, disguised himself, and assisted at the Eleusian rites; and at this time he together with his beloved and divers other young ladies of that city, was surprised and carried off by pirates, who, supposing him to be what he appeared, lodged him with his mistress. In the dead of night, when the robbers were all asleep, he cut their throats.—Thence making hasty back to Athens, he bargained with the pirates that he would restore to them their daughter and all her companions, if they would consent to her marriage, which proving very happy it became the custom to invoke the name of Hymen at all nuptials.—*Nash. Daily News.*

A Western editor in answer to a complaint of a patron that he did not give news enough, advised him when news was scarce to read his Bible which he had no doubt would be new to him.

**Sentence of Aldermen.**  
NEW YORK March 12—2 1/2 P. M.—The City Aldermen have been sentenced to day to pay a fine of \$250 each—those of them charged with contempt of duty. One of their number, Mr. A. Sturtevant, is to be imprisoned fifteen days besides paying his fine. It will be recalled that the Aldermen were charged with gross corruption in office.

**Temperance Movement.**  
NEW HAVEN, March 10.—The Temperance Convention of Connecticut, at their session today, adopted the Free soil ticket.

**Illness of Mr. Clingman.**  
CHARLOTTE, March 10.—Clingman of N. C. is detained in Charlotte by indisposition.

**Carriage says if you don't want a man to do a thing, get him to talk about it.** The more men "jaw," the more certain it is that they never intend to do "anything else."

## AN INTERESTING SCRAP OF HISTORY.

The Washington correspondent of the Pennsylvania states that during the proceedings of the Colonization Society, at the recent annual meeting of that body, Hon. Charles F. Mercer stated, as an extraordinary fact, the act of congress in 1807, in relation to the slave trade, provided that recaptured Africans, whenever our Navy might overtake them, should be taken into the nearest port of this country, and there disposed of according to the Legislation of the State. Georgia passed a law that the captives should be sold, one half the money to go into the State treasury, and the other half to the captors. And this, too, under the pretext of abolishing the slave trade. Georgia was asked to abate the law, but she refused. Subsequently however, a law was passed by Congress to return such captives to their native land, and one hundred thousand dollars was appropriated for carrying the law into effect. Mr. Monroe was at that time President of the United States, and employed a gentleman to superintend this humane plan; thus, in effect, relieving the Colonization Society of the expense of an agent.—So Mr. Mercer insisted, that Mr. Moore, in fact established the first colony on the coast of Africa—Liberia—and in honor and acknowledgment of this, the capital was called Monrovia.

**An Injured Man.**—Some few weeks ago, a gentleman in this county, through whose lands the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad passes, made bitter complaints through the Abingdon Democrat, of the injury he had sustained thereby. To prove to him that he has not been so deeply injured after all, but on the contrary, that he has been benefited, we have been authorized to say, that he can get for his farm, large and valuable as it is, an advance of fifteen per cent. upon its valuation in 1850, one year before the road commenced upon his premises. At that time the valuation was considered ample, and if so he may have sustained much less injury than he imagines.—*Abingdon Virginian.*

When Deacon B.—got into a bad position, he was very expert in crawling out of it. The quick tempered, he was one of the best in the world. He would not, in a sober moment, utter a oath, or anything like one, for his weight in cider. At the close of a rainy day, he was milked upon a knoll in his barn yard, on one side of which was a dirty slough, and on the other an old tank, that, in consideration of its usually quiet disposition, was allowed to run with the cows. The good old deacon was piously humming "Old Hundred," and had just finished the line ending with "exalted high" when the rain, obeying a sudden impulse, gave him a blow from behind that sent him a short distance only, to fall directly into the slough, where the dirty water was deep enough to give him a thorough immersing.—As he crawled out, and before he rose from his hands and knees, he looked over his shoulder at the tank, and vociferated, "You d.—I old cuss!" but on looking around, and seeing one of his neighbors at the bars looking at him he added in the same breath, "if I may be allowed the expression."—*Carpenter Bag.*

**SIBERIAN BRIDES.**—A bride is required, on arriving at her husband's house, to invite guests to a dinner that shall prove her quality, and to ensure her reputation will depend. It must be prepared by her own hands, and both to herself and her parents' shame will be the consequence if she be found deficient. If her dinner prove a triumph, it will recommend to honorable notice not only herself but also the family in which she was so soundly trained.—[Ex.]

**DIVISION OF FLORIDA.**—The papers of Alabama, Georgia, and Florida, have mooted a project for dividing the last mentioned State and re-annexing portions of it to the two former.—It is proposed by the advocates of the plan, to unite that portion of the State lying west of the Chattahoochee river to Alabama, and that portion lying between the Chattahoochee and Suwannee rivers to Georgia; the balance to constitute the future State of Florida.

A Vermont member of Congress says the don't like Washington as well as his own State, for here they have white butter and yellow girls, while in Vermont they have yellow butter and white girls.

A suit for a breach of promise of marriage was recently brought in the Circuit Court of Kanawha county, Va., by a young lady, JANE O'DANIEL, against VINTON Z. COOPER. The case was tried a few days ago, when the jury rendered a verdict in favor of the lady, for ten thousand dollars damages.

The Scientific American says that camphor has been discovered to be an antidote to that terrible poison strychnine. A man who had been thrown into convulsions by too doses of the poison, one-sixth of a grain each, administered for the rheumatism, was relieved by twenty grains of camphor, taken in six grains of almond mixture.

"Here's your money, doll. Now tell me why your scoundrelly master wrote me eighteen letters about that contemptible sum? I can't tell sir; but if you'll excuse me, sir, I think it were because seventeen letters did not fetch it!"

**To bring Horses out of a stable on Fire.**—Throw the harness or saddles to which they have been fastened over the backs of the horses in this predicament, and they will come out of the stable as tractable as usual.

A dying West India planter, groaning to his favorite negro servant, sighed out "Ah Sambo, I'm going a long journey." "Nebber mind, massa," said Sambo, consoling him, "him all de way down hill, and you soon reach the end."

A western editor thinks Hiram Powers the sculptor a swindler, because he chiselled an unfortunate Greek girl out of a block of marble.

Boston, March 9.  
A new comet was discovered last night from the Observatory at Cambridge, and was situated five degrees south of the star Rigel.

A day or two since the printers of Baltimore struck for 35 cents per thousand on all newspapers. The prices were promptly given by the employers.

"La, Ma what are you beating John so early for?"

"Cause I know he'll deserve it to-night, and I've got to attend church then."

The ignorance that is becoming in a young lady, is ridiculous in an old one.