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The Weekly Comet

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OPENING LAFAYETTE STREET.—Although the city is heavily burdened with taxes just now, and has a large debt hanging over it; yet any permanent and useful improvement—calculated to benefit or beautify the place, should meet with the hearty and unanimous support of our citizens.—No opposition should be made to such movements, because indirectly the benefit is returned immediately, in the enhanced value of property. Opening Lafayette, has been talked of since the Capitol was finished. The Board of Selectmen at their meeting on Monday, ordained that the bonds of the corporation shall be issued and sold for a sum sufficient to defray the necessary expense; and the finished work may soon be looked for. This will give an uninterrupted view, from the beautiful avenue leading into the U. S. Barracks, to the State House.—The temple, or pagoda, wherein Power's Statue of Washington is to stand, will be the first thing to attract the eye; as it is to face the street.

THE WAY THEY DO AT SHREVEPORT.—A gentleman just from the Red River, gives a brilliant picture of the way they do things at Shreveport. He says he witnessed a small game of "draw" there the other day, played out in the most harmonious and friendly manner. Each one the players, had before him, one of Mr. Colt's arbitrators, already cocked for action in case the odd trick should be attempted. Mr. Colt with his invention, has done more perhaps, to convince the world that "honour is the best policy" even among thieves; than any other single man in the nation.

The prohibitory liquor law, is also in full force at Shreveport, but the people have a singular way of evading it. When a man goes into a shop where spirits are to be found, he purchases at the door, tickets of admission, and when thirsty, goes to a kind of trough, from which he helps himself without cost. Notwithstanding this state of things at Shreveport; the morals of that place, are spoken of as "on the mend."

The Feliciana Democrat says that JAMES BELL, who stands indicted with the killing of Crowley, was brought before Judge E. T. Merrick on Tuesday last on a writ of habeas corpus, praying to be admitted to bail. After a lengthy examination the same was refused.

We learn from the Little Rock Gazette that Col. C. F. M. Fox had tendered to the Governor of Arkansas his resignation of the office of Swamp Land Commissioner. Col. N. has been appointed by the Chancellor Receiver of the Arkansas State Bank.

To the Rapping Spirits.
If in your new estate, you cannot rest,
But must return! grant us this request;
Come with a noble and celestial air,
And prove your titles in the names you bear;
Give some clear token of your heavenly birth;
Write as good English as you write on earth,
And what were once superfluous to advise,
Don't sell, I beg you, such egregious lies.

The Memphis Evening News says it appears to be settled and understood that the convention to nominate a candidate for the Presidency on the American ticket will be held in that city. The time proposed for the assembling of the convention, is the first we have heard of its being so "settled and understood."

THE DAY OF RESOLUTIONS.—This is a great day for resolutions; public meetings, where popular fellows "rise to address" their "fellow citizens" of—Bunkum. This land of liberty is as fruitful in its annual crop of great men, as is the cultivated soil of Kentucky, for its chief product. Men are not measured by the number of their inches, as of old; but are valued according to their capacity on the wind-measuring machine, and the dimensions of their bladders. Hence it is, that we not infrequently meet with a very small great man, which is a very singular anomaly.

It is to this division of the great biped family, which claims divine relationship; that society is indebted for the ten thousand beautiful resolutions, daily adopted at patriotic meetings, and other gatherings, designed to set society ahead. When the facility with which books are manufactured, is taken into consideration, it is strange that a volume of "forms" is not out, to assist the novice in this kind of business. How wonderful cheap it does come, to hold an "indignation" and pass, condemn, and denunciatory resolutions. The climatic influence of this region, prevents much in this way that otherwise would be done; but New England is the great place for all manner of meetings, at which all manner of resolutions are adopted, as 'twould seem, more to fill the bed-blanket newspapers, than any thing else. The last thing before us is the proceedings of a "non-resistance" meeting held at Worcester, Mass., on the 24th ulto. The following items of interest, in the proceedings, strike us:

Mr. CHACE, of N. H., hoped that the subject of non-resistance would be specially considered in reference to fugitive slaves—whether force might be used to rescue them out of the hands of kidnappers, in the case of Jerry, at Syracuse. He also wished to know whether non-resistance could resort to legal measures in collecting debt.

WM. W. COOK, of Hopkdale, thought that if it was decided that non-resistance is true in principle, it was quite clear that we could not employ officers to use the sword for us, any more than we could use that instrument ourselves.

ADIN BALLOU said he should draw a line of distinction between conformity to the law, and prosecuting under it.

WM. LLOYD GARRISON, as chairman of the Business Committee, reported seven hundred and fifty-three resolutions, pending the reading of them, the meeting adjourned.

LECTURE TO THE YOUNG LADIES.—On Sunday night last, it was our pleasure to listen to another lecture from Rev. MR. CASTLETON, intended for the benefit of the Young Ladies. The house was crowded, and commanded to silence by the force of the speaker's eloquence. That he dealt unsparingly with the frivolities of extravagant fashion, to which the softer sex is at this day bound slave, all must alike admit who had the pleasure to hear him. That there was more truth than poetry in what he said, was visible in the flashing eyes of his fair auditors.

The Rev. Gentleman dwelt, with much force on the fire-side influence of woman, on the affairs of the outside world; and certainly did not go for amiss, when he attributed much of the misery and vice, of the day, to the giant power of woman; who indirectly governs the civilized world.

The Masonic fraternity of East Feliciana are making preparations to celebrate the anniversary of their patron saint St. John the Baptist, on Monday, the 25th Inst.

MISREPRESENTATION.

Mr. Editor.—It was two weeks after its publication that I noticed, with pleasure, the tender of your columns to myself, and others interested, in discussing the subject of SKEPTICISM. You remarked that I "did not give the Rev. gentleman the credit which is due," and are "inclined to think that I misrepresented him." The "Advocate" also is "assured, on the best authority, that the language used by Mr. C. in his lecture, does not admit of the construction put upon it by myself—that I misunderstood him &c." In consequence of this, skepticism in relation to my own sincerity or mental acumen, I have refrained from pursuing the subject, in the order I had intended, for the purpose of satisfying myself, and the public, as to whether I had rightly understood the words of Mr. C., or not. Now, in order that the matter may be exhibited to those who feel interested, in its true light, I would request that the Rev. Mr. Castleton, leave the manuscript of his lecture on Skepticism at the office of the "Comet" for the convenience of those desiring to inspect it. If I have misrepresented Mr. C., I sincerely regret it, and beg the gentleman's forgiveness. But let us see the document. Let it be borne in mind, Mr. Editor, that I did not essay to criticize or review Mr. C.'s "series of lectures to the young men"; but only his lecture on Skepticism; nor did I represent Mr. C. as saying that "all skeptics are insincere," as the "Advocate" imagines. Indeed, the very first sentence I wrote on the subject embraced these words: "you intended your design of discussing the question 'in a respectful manner, as held by honest and sincere persons.'" Had I not used this language, a certain portion of that article might have been liable to a construction conveying a different meaning. Thus: I said incidentally that "It is a common remark that skeptics are insincere &c." Let me be rightly understood. Mr. C. did say explicitly, that there are skeptics who are honest and sincere in their opinions. But the admission by Mr. C. though true—instead of strengthening his position only shows it to be more inconsistent and untenable, for is not this honesty and sincerity a VIRTUE? And should not such virtue influence our moral and intellectual action? If honesty and sincerity constitute an "evil bias of the heart" or a want of love for truth, then it certainly behoves Mr. Castleton to demonstrate it. If not, then the error of skepticism—if it be error—is not one of the heart, but of the judgment and the intellect, and must be removed by enlightening the mind.

SKEPTIC.

THIS EVENING.—It must not be forgotten that another ladies entertainment comes off, at the Harney House to-night. It is only necessary to mention the fact, in order to secure a full attendance, and bring about, what is always desired, "a profitable fiction." The young gents about town will no doubt, "as usual," press one other to death, in order to be the first there, and take away the first honors by divesting themselves of their surplus revenue, which must be disposed of; if not for charitable, for uncharitable purposes. How it makes the heart swell and the bosom expand to its utmost capacity, when we reflect that it is the ladies who in their clarity, turn with their musical Soirees and other entertainments, so much of the surplus revenue of the nation into unadulterated Christianity! Why, the young gents are positively indebted to them—a debt of gratitude, for relieving them of change, which would otherwise go for Segars and Cognac, to their very great personal injury.

Let the young gents go to-night, and lay out their dimes in glasses of ice cream, warmed and seasoned with the smiles of the fair creatures who shall dish it out. This is the way to make a permanent investment—it will pay as much interest on the capital invested, as the Plank road to Clinton, or any other similar real estate.

Things Generally.

Another—and the last, Ladies entertainment, came off at the Harney House on Tuesday night last. 'Twas not as well attended as was expected which is perhaps another evidence of the tightness of the times and depression of the money market. The amount raised was about \$100. An abundance of good things, cakes, light and heavy; round, square, oblong and scalloped; cakes frosted and unfrosted, adorned and unadorned with flowers—ice cream, sherberts; strawberries, black-berries and blue-berries. Ham, broiled, fried and baked.—In short everything substantial, set off with everything unsubstantial, designed to captivate the eye, and loosen the purse strings. Of the ladies it may be said as before "they all looked beautiful." There was music in the dining hall, and some of the young folks were disposed to indulge the light fantastic; but the fact was evidently visible that a difference of opinion as to the "propriety" of dancing, prevailed. As the Comet just now, is not disposed to differ with anybody; and it is expected that the press will stand "convicted," we might as well say, that we are in favor of, and opposed to dancing; it is both right and wrong. It is wrong to take the wasp-like waists of our daughters; and press them up into half moon shapes, and have young gents, whose claims to popularity and favor with the fair sex, is based upon nothing but a well oiled moustache—whirl them round in an unbecoming if not vulgar manner; whilst "noses tip" and un-seen charms leave out to view; causing we timid Don Juan's to blush. This is wrong, and yet dancing is right, as all things else in nature are, "temperately." We say this in the face of opinions often expressed from the sacred desk, to the contrary; and appeal to the good sense of mankind to support us. *Mais allons.*—Judges Slidell and Ogden have both resigned their seats on the Supreme bench—an election must be held to supply the vacancies; this calls on the city press to tell the people "what manner of men," should take their places. Doubtless such as are named, will be selected.—Ex Post Master Kendall as it appears, will be exculpated, by invalidating the testimony against him. The public must be agreed with councillor King, that a twelve hundred dollar functionary of the government, has no right to testify against a fifteen hundred.—On Tuesday night a performance came off at the St. Charles Theatre, for the benefit of the typographical union.—A courteous set of fellows are they of the North Louisiana press. The Minden Herald says of *Estes* of the Shreveport Democrat; "He is a great man—a model editor—or nearly so. He borrows money of everybody who will loan him a dime, and then "wings in" his paper or his services to square up! He is an awful man to puff; and does he not know that even his next-door neighbors—men of his own party—look upon his recommendation as a draw-back and disgrace, rather than otherwise? He does not exchange with us now—is mad because we would not allow him to bamboozle us out of ten dollars.—"A passenger" (why not a gentleman) on the steamer Ohio, named Harrison, died on the boat and was buried fifty miles below Natchez. He is supposed to have died of fever and ague. He informed the officers of the boat that he had a brother in New Orleans who lived near the Basin. His brother's

name is James Harris-on, a boss drayman. His effects consist of a carpet bag, daguerreotype, and one dollar and five cents in money. Where are the heirs of this estate?—On a restaurateur's "bill," we see the following new "dishes." "Aartichaux."—"Three bottles Giscour," four do. Champ Frap." What is Champ Frap?

Secretary Guthrie decides that milk cannot be imported from Canada without paying duty. The Buffalonians are in deep affliction, as they intended to derive their supplies from the Queen's dominion.

John Bull is dead. Whether this is the Sarsaparilla man, or "Uncle John" the telegraph does not say. Mary Stewart a propeller, has arrived at Buffalo from Detroit.—Mary, is the first propeller who has ever made that trip—the Mary is spoken of as a good boat.—As an item of news from the Territories a scrap is now going about, to the effect that the Mayor of St. Paul, had asparagus for his dinner on the 20th of April.—Our neighbor in Church, will do the country some service, to furnish in way of explanation, a note on the following advertisement in his paper:

STATE OF LOUISIANA, PARISH OF ST. HELENA.—Stolen from the undersigned, a yellow bay horse, 9 or 10 years old, about 16 hands high, long coupled with a small star in his forehead, a speck in the right eye, a knot on each shoulder made by harness but no scar or white on his legs his feet has had the fetlocks and the hair is rough at the edge of the hoof in front. The horse is in very good working order and the undersigned will pay the sum of \$20 to any person who will bring me my horse and confine the thief in any prison in the State. N. B. His right fore foot has been grounded and the inside of the hoof broken off. GABRIEL MULKINS.

A RARE CHANCE FOR THE SPIRITUALISTS.—Mr. J. A. Lusk, one of Kendall's securities, having telegraphed to his brother, at Memphis, to notify Mr. Ayres, the principal witness for the government against Kendall for the robbery of the mail; not to appear at the sunny examination before Mr. Commissioner Lusher, now proceeding an interesting question arising from his utter inability to explain how he came to telegraph of all articles, and we invite, therefore, all Spiritualists to undertake an explanation of this wonderful mystery, which has surprised Mr. J. A. Lusk himself, Kendall, the late Postmaster, and this most incredulous but indulgent community. We will give five cents for a good solution of the mystery. [True Delta.]

A Rare Chance for Office Seekers.—His Hon. H. B. Chase, Mayor of Clinton gives public notice that on Monday the 4th day of June an election will be held for Mayor and five Aldermen in the town of Clinton.

There is said to be a secret organization of the most formidable kind in New York City, the object of which is to oppose, even unto blood, the enforcement of the Liquor law. It is said to have thirty thousand members, and an overflowing treasury.

THE BRO PRIZE DRAW.—New Orleans had had both the honor and the good fortune to again draw the grand capital prize of \$30,000 in the last Havana lottery, the returns of which were received by the steamship Empire City. We have not heard who all the lucky individuals were, but a fraction of the ticket was held by a bar-keeper in one of the Perdido street coffee-houses. The balance of it was held by other parties in the city.—Daily Delta.

A fresh crater has recently been opened in Mount Vesuvius, from which an eruption is looked for, on account of the threatening aspect of the mountain.