

TRUE DEMOCRAT.

"We claim as large a Charter as the Wind, to blow on whom we please."

By Dease & Murphy.

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TRIBUTE.

A PRINTER'S POETRY.

A journeyman printer, in the office of the Vicksburg *Wig*, has, for some time past, been writing a series of poems for that paper. They breathe the true Promethean fire, and indicate a genius for the "divino art" that needs nothing but practice and perseverance to give their author an enviable rank in the annals of poetic fame. Mr. CARNES happily conceives his subjects and colors them in the brightest tints of imagination, while truth and a moral are the appropriate aim of his mellifluous and flowing numbers. Who could read the following beautiful lines and not feel a new pulse of energy beating in his heart?

The Voice of Energy.

BY J. E. CARNES.

"There's no such word as FAIL."

What! resting yet with folded hands,
And drooping, rayless eye!
Look forth upon the outer world—
Behold thy mission high!
Go and fulfil; yet cherish not
The Archimedian boast,
Thou canst not move the ponderous world—
Deem not thyself a host!
Though vain ambition's dreams of power
Are chaff before the gale,
Yet for the nobler aims of soul
"There's no such word as fail!"

Amid the silence of the morn,
Or at the midnight hour,
When solemn thoughts pass o'er the soul
With more than earthly power;—
When every wave of passion slept
In deep and quiet rest—
Hast thou not heard a pleasant voice
Speak sweetly to thy breast?

Awaking energy of mind,
Aye, all the might of soul,
And giving thee a purpose high,
Too strong for earth's control?
But how hast thou obey'd the voice
Amid the busy strife—
The clang of arms that rises o'er
The bloodless field of life?

Hast thou forgot thy noble aim,
Thy stern and deep resolve?
Have they departed like the dew
That morning's beams dissolve?
And has thy purpose falter'd while
The glowing beams of day,
Invited thee to seek the groves
Where cooling waters play?

And hast thou laid thee there to rest,
When noble actions claim
For every man, in every clime,
The fadeful wreath of fame?

Lo! even now above the fray
The trumpet's cadence rings,
And dost thou linger still, to hear
The song the syren sings?
Hark! hearst thou not the mighty sweep
Of ever-hurrying hours;

And art thou loitering fondly still
Amid the opening flow'rs?
Awake! arise! the rugged path
Must be in firmness trod;
Ignoble ease will dim the spark
Enkindled by God!

Then hasten forth with fearless soul
Amid the war of life;
And let thy name be conqueror,
Or perish in the strife!

Speak Gently.

Speak gently; it's better far
To rule by love than fear.
Speak gently; let no harsh words mar
The good we might do here.

Speak gently: love doth whisper low
The vows that true hearts bind;
And gently friendship's accents flow,
Affection's voice is kind.

Speak gently to the little child,
His love be sure to gain;
Teach it in accents soft and mild,
It may not long remain.

Speak gently to the young, for they
Will have enough to bear;
Pass through this life as best they may,
'Tis full of anxious care.

Speak gently to the aged one,
Grieve not the care-worn heart;
The sands of life are nearly run,
Let such in peace depart.

Speak gently, kindly to the poor,
Let no harsh tones be heard;
They have enough they must endure,
Without an unkind word.

Speak gently! He who gave his life
To bend man's stubborn will,
When elements were fierce with strife,
Said to them, "Peace, be still."

Speak gently; 'tis a little thing
Dropped in the heart's deep well;
The good, the joy, which it may bring
Eternity shall tell.

MISCELLANY.

FACTS RELATING TO THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT AND NOBILITY.

BY REV. G. COLLINS.

The government of England is, and has been since the days of King John, a limited monarchy. The King's power is limited by parliament, which consists of the Upper House, termed the house of Lords, and the Lower House, called the house of Commons, corresponding in some measure to the Senate and House of Representatives, which constitute the Congress of the United States. The power of Parliament is legislative and absolute. The King's power is executive and limited.

The King is the source from whence every noble derives his nobility. His prerogative, "by which we mean," says Blackstone, "that special pre-eminence which the King hath over and above all other persons, is great." In the eye of the English law, he is perfect. He can neither do wrong nor mean wrong. Though he should be guilty of the darkest crimes before he ascends the throne, yet the moment the crown presses his brow, he is, in the eye of the law, purged of all sin. His person is sacred, he cannot be arrested for debt. He is commander and Chief of the army; the source of all civil authority, hence every officer in the empire receives his commission, and derives his power directly from the reigning sovereign. According to law the King can never die. A George or William may die, but the King eternally lives—i. e. the throne is never vacated; for the moment the sovereign expires, the heir is supposed to be visited with the regal prerogative. The civil code of England never mentions the death of a King, but his demise.

One would suppose that an individual possessing such a vast power to be absolute. But he is not, the King can make no new law, he can only sanction those which have passed Parliaments. Though it is supposed that he is above, and beyond the reach of the law, yet his counsellors and ministers are not. They are accountable for his deeds; on them the vengeance frequently falls, which should fall upon the King. He is also dependent upon the House of Commons for his salary, and unless he acts in accordance with their wishes, they will deprive him of the means to defray the expenses of his household, and support the dignity of his station. He has no private revenue, and is not permitted, as King, to hold private property. He belongs to the nation, and the nation to him. What we have said of the King will apply to the Queen.

The next title of dignity, after prince, is Duke. The Dukes are generally next relatives of the King, though occasionally one of the inferior nobility attains to the dignity, as is the case with the Duke of Wellington. The title and dignity of Duke is generally hereditary. His income is derived from his own estates, unless he is a member of the royal family, then he receives a salary from the government. But they are all assisted by government, inasmuch as they usually fill offices without duties, and with large incomes. The brothers of the reigning King or Queen are Dukes. Besides them in England there are 19. The Coronet of an English Duke, consists of eight strawberry leaves, on a rim of gold, he is styled the Most Potent, Prince, Your Grace.

The next rank of English nobility is Marquis. Of the Marquis order we know but little, they were unknown in England until 1337, when Richard II, created his favorite, Robert Vere, the Earl of Oxford, Marquis of Dublin. The title which he is addressed, is Most Noble and Potent Prince. England has 20. The next in order is the Viscount, this title is comparatively rare. The next is Earl, in official language termed the King's well beloved and trusty counsils. This practice is as ancient as the time of Henry IV, who being either by his wife, mother or sister, related to every Earl in the Kingdom, artfully acknowledged the relationship in his letters and public acts. An Earl's coronet is composed of eight pearls, raised upon points, with small leaves between them, and above the rim. There are at present, 105 in England, 1 in Scotland, and 19 in Ireland. As earls for some time after the Norman conquest, were called Counts, their wives are now called Countesses. The next is Baron; this class of noblemen are more numerous in England than in any other. There are 111 in England, 22 in Scotland, and 18 in Ireland. The next last and lowest, is Knight. This dignity was created in 1611, by James I. He wished to raise money to carry on a war, and for this purpose granted to 100 persons the right of bearing the arms of Ulster, and prefixing Sir to their names, for which they gave him \$1000 each. No privileges are connected with this title, but the title itself is considered a great honor, and is frequently bestowed on distinguished civil and military officers, and on eminent scientific and literary men. The number of them is 531. They are not usually included with the nobility.

The title and estates of the English nobility descend from the father to the eldest male heir; they are entitled to a seat in the House of Lords. They are not tried for any offences which they may commit by the civil authority, but are brought to judgment before their peers and equals.

If one of them is disposed to build a church on his own estates, he is at liberty to select any clergyman of the established church to officiate, and to the support of that minister the people are obliged to appropriate their tithes. The income of some of the English nobility is immense. They do not value their property as we do, but by its annual productions.

The revenue of the English Bishops, who are styled Lord Spiritual, and who rank with the nobles, is in some instances immense. The largest is that of the Bishop of Lincoln, amounting to upwards of one million five hundred thousand dollars per annum! That of the Bishop of Norwich is nearly as large. It is just, however, to remark that this income is expended among the clergy of each diocese. The allowances of the colonial Bishops are ample, and contrast well with the small sums paid our clergy, although a mere pittance in comparison with the emoluments of the British Bishop. The Bishop of Quebec, Mr. George Mountain, has \$7000; the Bishop of Nova Scotia, Dr. Inglis, \$9000; of Calcutta, Dr. Wilson, upwards of \$20,000.

The total revenue of the empire is, \$235,000,000.

The present Royal Family of England consists of six persons; Alexandria Victoria 26 years of age, and Albert Francis Augustus Charles Emmanuel—we delight, like the good Vicar of Wakefield in giving the full name—Her Royal Husband, who is three months younger than the lady, his wife and Queen. The eldest child will be five years old in November, and rejoices in the mellifluous appellation of Victoria Adelaide Maria Louisa. The next child is a boy, and will be four years old the ninth of November. He will be the King hereafter, if he outlives his mother, and the kingdom endures; the boy taking precedence of the sister, although younger. His name is Albert Edward, and his style the Prince of Wales. The second Princess Royal—two years old—is Alice Maud Mary. The Royal Prince born on the 6th of August last, is named Alfred Ernest Albert.

THE BANKRUPT AND THE BEGGAR.

"Sir," said a poor, ragged and rough-looking man, upon whose countenance the traces of sorrow and extreme suffering were visible, to an individual whose sleek and seemingly enviable betokened plenty and happiness, "sir, I am famishing. Will you assist me? will you give me the means of procuring food and a night's lodging?"

"Go along, my man, I have nothing for you. You can go to the almshouse, I suppose. I'll give you a line to the alderman."

"Sir," said the poor man, "I'd rather not go to the almshouse. I only desire temporary relief. I expect work in a day or two."

"Oh! well scratch along, my man; you are not so badly off as one would imagine."

"I'm absolutely starving. I'm sure you won't miss a quarter of a dollar."

"Bless my soul! do you think I gather money from the trees? Go along, don't be petulant; now do take yourself off, there's a brave man!"

"You owe me money, sir; I would not remind you of the fact, only that hunger makes me desperate."

"Owe you money!" exclaimed the sleek man, stepping back a pace or two—"you are mad!"

"No, seven years ago I worked for you. You failed."

"Oh, ah! an old score. That's another matter. Did it ever strike you that I had taken the benefit of the act—gone clean through creditors are no one now? can't touch me?"

"Yes, sir, I earned that money by hard labor. You reaped the benefit of that labor, are rich, while I am the poor wretch you see. You owe me that money, sir, in spite of all bankruptcies!"

"I never do anything illegal. What is legal is honorable. The law says I don't owe you a cent."

"Honor says you do, and of the two, honor tells more truths than law," said the mendicant, evidently displeased.

"You are getting wearisome, will you be kind enough to step out of the way?"

"You call yourself a Christian?"

"I am a Christian I flatter myself—a deacon."

"You are esteemed a pious, honest, trustworthy gentleman."

"I am as good a one as can be found in the whole religious community."

"Then the dominions of the Evil One can boast of purity when compared with such communities, and the society of thieves is cemented by more real honor. Your respectability, honor, piety and justice is comprised of your broadcloths and fine words, and go no further. Keep your money; I'd starve before I'd touch a copper of it."

Some time ago, the above conversation took place in Broadway, near the American Museum. Some time ago, the merchant—now a stove-dealer in tolerable business—employed his oppressor, reduced to want, as a porter, and after deducting the amount of the dishonored bill from his wages, when he had earned the amount of the bill, generously presented it to the fallen Pharisee. This is an absolute fact. Every day life teems with such remarkable transactions and singular reverses. Retributive justice sooner or later overtakes the evil-

doer, and the ingenuity of man knows not how to avert the merited and never failing punishment.—N. Y. Sun.

A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF TEXAS.

The State of Texas is now divided into forty-five counties. Of these Montgomery is the most populous of the interior counties and Galveston the most populous of those situated on the coast. Galveston is the most important city of Texas, though Houston contains about the same number of inhabitants. The next city of importance is San Augustine, in which are located the Washington College, with about 140 students, and a seminary, with sixty or seventy-five. It has a population of 15,000.

Austin, the seat of Government in Travis county, at the foot of the San Saba mountains, and figuratively called the "city of the seven hills," is beautifully situated on the Colorado, and is one of the most picturesque and romantic spots in Texas. It has a population of 12,000, and is rapidly increasing. The new Constitution provides that the seat of Government shall continue at Austin until 1850, when should the State be divided in the meantime, the probability is that it will be removed farther east.

San Antonio de Bexar, near the Western frontier of Texas, on the San Antonio River, is the oldest and best built town in Texas. It was settled about two hundred years ago, by an association of Spanish Monks, and at one time contained about 15,000 inhabitants. But it has several times been nearly depopulated within the last century by the Comanche Indians, it never having been adequately defended by its inhabitants, or the Spanish and Mexican governments; nor until its partial occupation by Texan and American citizens. The town is built entirely of stone, and now contains a population of about 15,000.

The Alamo, a dismantled fortress, the memorable scene of the lamented fate of Travis, Bowie and Crockett, is situated on the East Bank of the San Antonio river, opposite the town, and contains within its walls a Church in a partial state of preservation. There is also within the city a Catholic Cathedral, used by the Mexicans as a place of worship. This, like all the churches in the vicinity, of which there are five, is built in the ancient style of architecture, and gives to the stranger the impression that he is wandering amid the ancient Castilian edifices of old Spain.

There are two large public squares in the city of San Antonio, one called the military square, intended for military occupation, and the other the civil square, containing the public buildings of the municipal authorities.

About five miles above the city are the sources of the San Antonio river. These consist of four fountains or springs, the largest covering nearly an acre, and the others of a smaller size. The water of these springs is so transparent that a ten cent piece may be seen at the depth of forty feet. The outlets of these fountains issue a short distance below, and at a point about three miles above the city, a dam of solid masonry is thrown across the stream, and aqueducts are from thence constructed on either side of the river, to convey the water from the main reservoir to the houses and gardens of the city, and the plantations below. The aqueducts were constructed perhaps a century and a half ago, by the Catholic establishment; and under the regulations then established, the proprietor of each hacienda was, as is said, permitted to use the water for irrigating his whole plantation as often as was required, and in quantities in proportion to the extent of his possessions.

There are three old Catholic establishments in the vicinity of San Antonio, situated on the river below the city at intervals of a few miles. These, Concepcion, San Jose and San Juan, are each a Church surrounded by a wall, intended for purposes of defence. Within these walls are also erected numerous small buildings for the shelter and protection of the neighboring farmers and their families, for protection against the predatory excursions of the Indians.

It is a curious fact, that in a city like San Antonio, with the improvements described, its antique churches and other edifices should have existed for centuries, comparatively unknown, near the extreme western frontier of this late-invented republic of the wilderness.

The other principal towns of Texas, are Matagorda, at the mouth of the Colorado, at Matagorda Bay; Washington, on the Brazos, Corpus Christi, just sprung into existence; Nacogdoches, Brazoria, on the Brazos; Montgomery, &c.

Cotton is principally raised, and to the best advantage, on the Brazos, Trinity and Red Rivers; but it is profitably cultivated in other sections. The sugar region is near the coast, and lying south of latitude 30. Wheat and the fine grains are raised to most advantage in the mountainous regions of the upper Colorado, Brazos and Trinity rivers. Of the wilderness region above this point, towards Santa Fe, but little is generally known. The principal streams are, the Red River, navigable within 500 miles of Texas, and the Colorado. The country has never been fully appreciated, and its resources are beyond estimate.

ANECDOTES OF WASHINGTON AND MORRIS.

Among the interesting anecdotes related to us, most graphically and feelingly, of Washington by Mr. Custis, when in the city lately was one on the landing of the General at Whitshall, when he was about to be sworn as President of the United States. As the General was stepping on shore from the vessel, he was addressed by an American officer, with "Sir, I have the honor to command a guard of soldiers to escort you to your residence, and also on any other occasion you may desire." A guard—a guard for me!" exclaimed

Washington, rising in his stature, and quite overlooking the guard of some fifty soldiers, "Why, sir, I need no guard. I ask for no other guard than the affections of my countrymen!" Whereupon, with a significant wave of his hand, his guard fell into the rear. Mr. Custis says this anecdote was frequently related among others, by John Carroll, who was then with the General, and heard the remark of Washington, tending to show that he was a great and good man, and one worthy the affections of the people; this alone would satisfy him, as it should all others of the fact.

Another anecdote related to us by Mr. Custis was this: When Washington had marched his army as far as Elk River, on his way to Yorktown, Virginia, to attack Lord Cornwallis, the soldiers then long without their pay and greatly fatigued, requested their arrears; and as paper money was of little value to them, they desired it in silver. This was an alarming difficulty with Washington at this crisis, for he knew full well that his soldiers should have their pay, and yet he was extremely anxious to reach Yorktown with his troops as soon as possible, lest Cornwallis should escape with his forces, which Washington had so confidently hoped to capture. In this dilemma he immediately called to him Robert Morris, to whom he related in confidence and with much feeling the particulars of the case, and the prospective consequences, should it be found impossible to raise the money. Mr. Morris, who as it is well known, was a financier, as well as a true patriot and honest man, saw at once the difficulty and its probable consequences, and being himself for a moment, he said, "Ah, I have it, General, I'll obtain the money."

The French fleet lay far below in the bay, yet thither Mr. Morris immediately pursued his way. Addressing himself to the Count, under whose command the fleet was, he represented that anticipated funds from the Government for the payment of the troops not having arrived in season, it became necessary to pay them before reaching the battle ground, where success was certain for the combined French and American forces; therefore, he would take the liberty of asking him—as a tried friend of the cause of freedom—for an accommodation for the present, and that he himself would be responsible for the amount if required, etc. This was done with so much truth and confidence, that it produced the desired effect.

The Count readily and very politely proffered the requisite sum of silver; and proceeding himself to his iron chest, took it out in crowns done up in parcels, and delivered it to Mr. Morris, who, thereupon proceeded with a light heart to the American camp, and to the no less joy of Washington and his brave but suffering army.—The army, as it is well known, proved successful, and purpurs this circumstance contributed in a great measure to that result.

There were two or three anecdotes of Robert Morris told by Mr. Custis, which showed that he was one of the most important men, if not next to Washington himself, in the happy results of the Revolution; and Washington ever esteemed him as such. In connection, Mr. C. related most touchingly, the visit of Washington to the jail in Walnut street, Philadelphia, (where Mr. Morris was afterwards confined for debt,) on his arrival in that city. The interview was indescribably affecting and so also was a visit subsequently paid by Mr. Custis to Mr. Morris, when Mr. M. was near his death. But what rendered these last anecdotes more interesting on this occasion was the fact they were addressed to a group of gentlemen, one of whom was the venerable son of Robert Morris, and a resident of our city.

GRAFTING.—The mode of grafting best adapted to small trees and branches is whip-grafting, precisely after the plan of root-grafting, with the addition of a bandage of this cloth dipped in some melted grafting wax, about one inch wide and two or three long; put on in such a manner as to entirely exclude the air. Any man or lad that can make a pen, with two hours' practice, could perform the operation with success. The operation may be performed any time after the spring frosts until July; but I prefer to set any time after the tree has commenced its new growth. I have set many grafts in the new growth, and while it was but partially matured, with as much success as in the previous year's growth.

The above plan of grafting I consider superior to budding, as it is attended with less trouble, far better success, and with more than double the expedition. The little trouble with which grafts of valuable varieties can now be collected should induce those that have seedling orchards to graft them without delay.—

Prarie Farmer.

Freedom being the natural right of man, what power, what authority dare intrude to take from him that right? The leading and his slaves—the thing of selfishness and capacity accustomed to hear and to be obeyed.