

THE DAILY JOURNAL.

O. CLEMENS, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

TUESDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 6, 1853.

TERMS OF THE DAILY JOURNAL.
In Advance, \$3 for six months.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING
IN THE DAILY JOURNAL.
First insertion, Five Cents a Line;
Each insertion afterwards, Two and a Half Cents a line.
Advertisements will be published from six to twelve days at Two Cents a Line for each insertion, including the first.

**"CHEAPER THAN THE CHEAPEST,"
"BETTER THAN THE BEST,"**
Is our Rule for Book and Job Printing.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 24, 1853.
We are authorized to announce O. G. STRONG a candidate for CITY MARSHAL at the approaching November election.

THE LAND OFFICE DIFFICULTY.

We were somewhat surprised upon seeing Mr. Williams' card in the Mercury, which we copy in another column. We were surprised, because of the high reputation borne by our Palmyra neighbors. We have learned something more of the circumstances, which we will relate.

Several gentlemen came from Monroe and Randolph counties, on the day the office first opened, with the intention of purchasing some land for the enlargement of their farms, and for farming purposes, on land adjoining their farms.

As a friend and legal adviser, they applied to a certain legal gentleman of Palmyra, who readily undertook to render assistance. His next movement was to form a secret combination with two others, and he was then prepared for operations. When the time arrived for bidding, he announced that he was an applicant for all the land in certain ranges. The Register remarked that the land would not be sold in this way; that the tracts were numbered, and would be sold by the numbers. The gentlemen from Monroe and Randolph now became alarmed, and requested their Palmyra friend not to bid against them. He consented to stand out of their way, and not interfere with their purchases, on condition that they would pay him 20 cents an acre! They had confidingly and unsuspectingly placed themselves in his power, and to this outrageous extortion they were compelled to submit. The circumstance caused considerable excitement in Palmyra, and accounts of the transaction went up the river, and spread through the surrounding country with the rapidity of a pigeon's flight.

To COMPOSERS.—In reply to J. E. H., of St. Louis, and S. W. G., of Washington, D. C., we would state that the situations in relation to which we advertised, are now filled.

TEMPERANCE.—We have been requested by the President of the "Hannibal City Liquor Law Reform Association," and by a number of other temperance men, to publish the address which will be found in this number of our paper.

P. T. Barnum, with his lions, tigers, drove of elephants and other wild and rare animals, together with the veritable Gen. Tom Thumb, Wellis the no-armed man, Pierce the lion king, a gallery of wax statuary—a museum of curiosities, &c., will be in town on Tuesday next. This is the largest establishment of the kind traveling, and differs from others in this respect, viz: that all is shown under one canvass, for one price of admission. He would also inform the public that there are a number of side shows, mere catch-penny concerns, following Barnum. They have no connection with him, and are humbugging those who patronize them.

ARRIVALS AT THE MONROE HOUSE,
Corner of Main and Centre Streets,
WM. SHOOT, Proprietor.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1853.

George Green and Lady, City;
Gerry Vardeman, Ralls county;
Miss Bullock, " do;
G. Weathers, Marion county;
Ivin Armstrong, " do;
Robert Johnson, Palmyra;
C. H. Pierce, Rufolo, Ag't B. M.;
A. W. Anderson, Quincy, Ill.;
C. Chatter, Illinois.

Administrator's Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given, that letters of administration on the estate of Henry Smelser, deceased, were granted to the undersigned by the Clerk of the Ralls county court in vacation, bearing date August 17th. A. D., 1853.

All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment; and all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present them, within one year, for settlement, and if said claims are not presented within three years, they will be forever barred. [s3w3] JOHN M. KELLY.

The following was received through the Post Office this morning:

For the Journal.

Hannibal Fire Engine.

Not that which lies shrouded in the Market House, but that unmasked one, which, in the shape of facts, statistics and arguments, pours floods of cold water upon the fiery ruin of ardent spirits. The Hannibal Temperance Association is such an engine, and the address of Mr. Clemens last night was a welcome cooler for so warm an evening. It dealt in facts, figures, and legal principles; those first great principles which lie at the foundation of all national right, and which have been clearly set forth by Blackstone, Chief Justice Taney, and others. These maintain that every thing injurious to man's best interests ought to be suppressed; and that government is properly and legitimately a great police force to suppress them. The facts and figures adduced also proved the same thing, by showing the actual saving and benefit to community arising from the suppression of the Liquor traffic in the States where this has been done.

The more this subject is held up to the light the better for the cause of humanity and truth; and would that this might be done until all the fires that burn the soul; and body here, shall be put out, and cold water shall be seen to be throughout the earth what God has made it, the best and most proper drink of man.

DOINGS OF A THIEF.—The Cleveland Plaindealer of the 20th says a thief who had stolen a pocket book from Mr. JAMES GILCHRIST, of Medina county, Ohio, a few days previous had returned the book, but kept the money, some \$385. The Plaindealer says: "About six o'clock this morning, the pocket book was found in an out-house connected with the American Hotel, where Mr. GILCHRIST had stepped. It was wrapped closely in a newspaper, and a label pasted on it giving the directions. On opening it, the pocket book was found. The money, \$385, was of course gone, but all the papers, letters and certificates of deposit, amounting to \$3,000, were left.—With the pocket book was a note reading thus:

"To watch a man six weeks, and then only to get such a d---d mean sum---it won't pay."
"This was very neatly written in a lady's hand, and was spelt and punctuated just as above printed."

WHAT WAS IT?—This is the inquiry in central Ohio. About 9 o'clock, the morning of August 20, explosions were heard at Dayton, Piqua, Troy, &c., of a singular and startling character. Most persons describe the sound as unlike anything that they have ever heard, while they compare it to distant thunder, cannon, &c. Houses were sensibly shaken by the reports. Several persons in Miami county saw two meteors pass swiftly along the horizon at the time these noises were heard, which they describe as about the size of a barrel, and very brilliant. At Troy, the people in the Court House rushed out at the shaking of the building, supposing it was the shock of an earthquake.

From the Paris Mercury.

Caution to the Public.

Persons who have occasion to do business in the Land Office at Palmyra, would do well to attend to it in person, and beware of three or four land sharks in that place who have formed a combination and are ever on the alert to take advantage of the innocent and unsuspecting; and not unfrequently under the garb of friendship to fleece such of their means. I together with a number of my neighbors, recently very unsuspectingly fell into the clutches of these unprincipled scamps, and suffered severely in pocket, and hence would warn others against falling into the same meshes. Names will be given if desired. If the citizens of Palmyra continue to nestle these land sharks in their bosom, and suffer them still to impose upon strangers as they have done, without exposing them, their town will soon have no very enviable name abroad.

COLDEN J. WILLIAMS.

Smithland, Randolph county, Mo.

August, 25th 1853.

Editors of newspapers in this State may do the public service by inserting the above in their papers. C. J. W.

Died.

On Sunday night, the 4th of September, WILLIAM VARDEMAN, infant son of Wm. A. and Polly Jane SHULSE, of Ralls county.

Son! rest and abide in peace, forever!

Smith S. Allen,

Attorney at Law,
(Messenger Building, Up Stairs.)

HANNIBAL, MARION COUNTY, MISSOURI,
WILL promptly attend to all professional business entrusted to his care in the counties of Marion, Ralls and Pike. He will give particular attention to the securing and collecting of debts in any part of the State.
Office—in the "Messenger Building," up stairs; mch1853-2

[Published by request.]

ADDRESS

Before the "Hannibal City Liquor Law Reform Association," Sept. 5, 1853. By O. CLEMENS.

What brings together to-night this assembly? Of whom is this meeting composed? Plaintiffs in a cause brought before the Supreme Court of the Sovereign People; and witnesses of the evil against which complaint is made—the evidence positive. These meetings are of solemn importance, and should be viewed and treated as such.

We are accused of assaulting the rights and liberties of others. Our accusation against our opponents is, that without propriety or sufficient reason, they support and sustain a great public evil. These two parties, I am entirely willing to believe, are honest in the maintenance of their several positions. I question no man's motives in this matter. My neighbor's heart is a sealed book which I cannot read.

I never had time to read law, but once, some four or five years ago, when I happened to have nothing else to do, I glanced over an old copy of Blackstone's Commentaries, that was lying about the house, and I think I have a correct recollection of some of the universally admitted principles laid down in that book.

The article in the "Courier" of last week, headed "The Force Law," I am convinced that no lawyer wrote. A lawyer would have known that there is no such thing as law without force. Law is that rule of action dictated by some superior, and which the inferior is bound to obey. Anything falling short of this definition is not law. Further, among "the eternal, immutable laws of good and evil, to which the Creator himself, in all his dispensations, conforms, and which he has enabled human reason to discover, so far as they are necessary for the conduct of human actions, are these principles: that we should live honestly, should hurt nobody, and should render to every one his due; "to which three general precepts," says Blackstone, "Justinian has reduced the whole doctrine of law." You see, then, that you shall "hurt nobody" is one of "the eternal, immutable laws of good and evil," which form the foundation of all laws; and that all laws are "force laws."

Does the liquor traffic hurt anybody? Liquor excites the passions, and overthrows reason. It is the cause of most of the quarrels between men; it hardens the heart, deadens the conscience, alienates parent and child, divorces husband and wife, produces riot, disorder and bloodshed, and nerves the hand of the malicious or covetous murderer. It injuriously affects the prosperity of whole communities, thus making the innocent suffer for the guilty. When a man commits murder he is removed forever from society, to prevent the recurrence of a similar act by himself, and as a warning to others. It is thus the law riots communities of spirits clothed in human bodies; but more destructive spirits in jugs and bottles and glasses are permitted with impunity to create public inconvenience, public mischief and private injury; to prostrate health, destroy life, waste property, blast character, and blight reputation. Ruthless and inhuman, this law-sustained tyrant draws his recruits from every family circle; sacrifices the noblest from every fireside; and fills every graveyard with his slain. He enters happy families, where abide plenty and contentment, and turns the place into a hell. On hill-top and in the valley; on mountain and plain, the foot of the destroyer has marked his path, like Sue's "Wandering Jew," with cholera and tempest in his path! But in this city the bloody traffic is passing to its end. Here we boldly assert that "government has a right to interfere with any man's business, whose business interferes with the public good." At the November election it will be proved that the people of this city maintain the doctrine that the individual man must not get rich at the expense of the property and lives of the community.

Blackstone tells us that "all property is derived from society, being one of those civil rights which are conferred upon individuals, in exchange for that degree of natural freedom which every man must sacrifice when he enters into social communities;" and that this is the true reason and substantial ground of forfeitures for offences against law. Every man in society

is considered to have entered into a contract of association by which he gives up certain natural rights and liberties in exchange for those benefits and privileges which society confers. There is scarcely a calling in society which is not under the supervision of law, and limited and restrained by it. There is a limit even to the boasted freedom of the press. Lascivious publications or prints in newspapers or books, or libels, usually draw the punishment of law on the head of the offender. The editor of the "Police Gazette" had to fly the State of New York to avoid imprisonment on account of his publications; Cooper gained a verdict every trial from Webb, of the "Inquirer," for libelous editorials published in relation to his novels. The same principle runs through all law, everywhere, that individuals shall not produce public inconvenience, public mischief, or private injury. In most markets, if a man offers to sell light-weight butter, he forfeits it; a man is punished if he undertakes to sell meat from a diseased animal. In a word, freedom, properly defined, is not unbridled licentiousness; not the privilege of doing whatever a man pleases, regardless of the welfare of others; but "liberty, rightly understood, consists in the power of doing whatever the laws permit;" and it has always been considered that the laws ought not to permit that to be done which is a source of public inconvenience, public mischief, or private injury.

To "command what is right and prohibit what is wrong," is the business of the law-maker. The United States Government does not allow liquor to be sold to Indians, because it produces mischief; our State laws do not allow liquor to be sold to negroes for their own use. Here are two cases of mischief arising from the liquor traffic, where the law steps in and prohibits the liquor dealer from exercising his calling. If this is not an invasion of his rights, why may not the law go further, and prohibit him from working mischief among white people? Is the welfare of white people in this country worth less than that of negroes and savages?

Our citizens are not allowed to use disturbing language in the streets, or to gallop a horse through the principal streets; and many other ordinances are passed, restraining individual freedom for the public good, in fulfillment of the city's duty, as far as her power extends, to guard the interests and happiness of her people; yet a greater evil than all is sustained by numbers, strong moneyed interests and personal friendships, and not by any natural right or intrinsic merit of its own.

A pretended objection is raised, that the suppression of the liquor traffic is an attempt to regulate men's diet by law. This bacon and cabbage view of the question we do not think is worth a serious answer; for the very persons who make this objection are perfectly well aware that the opponents of the liquor traffic are actuated by a consideration of its social evils.

It is said, that while engaged in reformation, the work will be incomplete unless you can stop men from chewing tobacco and smoking cigars. This is as if a man with the cholera had a corn on his toe, and you were to refuse to give him medicine for the cholera till you had cured his corn! "Do one thing at a time," is the golden rule for business. The man who attempts too many things at once usually succeeds in accomplishing nothing. Tobacco don't kill people, or bring ruin and distress upon families; and if our law-makers will redress glaring, prominent, destructive evils, we can afford to excuse them from meddling with some others that are of infinitely less importance. The lovers of tobacco need hardly take alarm at the demonstrations against the liquor traffic.

[Conclusion to-morrow.]

When the effects of a prohibitory law in Eastern States is referred to, the answer sometimes is—"O don't tell me about them Eastern fellows! They are all a set of fanatical fools!" The following from an exchange, is suggestive of the propriety of less contempt for our Eastern friends. We find the paragraph copied into the St. Louis Intelligencer:

A MODEL STATE.—Vermont is in the enjoyment of about as many real blessings as any of her sisters of this great Confederacy. First she has her model Prohibitory Liquor Law, which