Cambridge Chronicle.

VOL. VI. NO. 4.

BY G. W. CALLAHAN.

CAMBRIDGE, Md.--SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 1832. WHOLE NO. 416.

NOTICE.

AT a meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Cambridge, on Friday the 25th of May, 1832, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, viz:—

Resolved, That any person riding or driving a horse immoderately in the town of Cambridge, shall be and is hereby fined one dollar for every offence; or, if a servant, shall receive not less than ten nor more than twenty lashes, unless the said fine of one dollar shall be paid by the owner of said servant.—Any person refusing to pay the fine aforesaid, shall be confined in the common jail twenty-four hours, (except in the case of servants.)

Resolved, That any person or persons riding, driving, or in any manner carrying a horse, cart, wagon, wheelbarrow, or any kind of carriage, (except children's pleasure carriages,) upon the foot-ways or pavements of the town of Cambridge, shall be and is hereby fined one dollar for every and each offence; or, if a servant, shall receive not exceeding twenty lashes, at the discretion of a Justice of the Peace.

Resolved, That all geese or swine, going at large in the streets, lanes, or alleys of Cambridge, shall be seized and sold at public sale by the Bailiff, for the benefit of the town; one six cents for every goose, and twenty cents for every hog, retained out of the sales by the Bailiff, for his trouble: Provided, that if the owner reside beyond one mile from the limits of the town, in such case he or she may redeem his property within forty-eight hours after notice given him, by payment of 66 2-3 cents per day, for every hog, and 13 cents per day, for every goose; and after that time, if not redeemed, they may be sold, as if he lived within the town.

Resolved, That on the alarm of fire, by night, each and every dwelling house in the town shall be lighted, by two or more candles or lamps placed at the front windows, by and at the expense of the occupant, or head of the family, under the penalty of one dollar for each and every neglect or non-performance.

Resolved, That the author of a designedly false alarm of fire, by crying, or a ringing of the town bell, or any other mode, shall pay for each and every offence a fine not less than five nor more than eight dollars; or, if a slave, he shall receive not less than ten nor more than twenty lashes.

Resolved, That the occupant, or head of a family, within the town of Cambridge, whose chimney shall take fire and blaze out, except during the fall of rain or snow, shall, for every and each offence, forfeit and pay to the Board of Commissioners the sum of five dollars, one half of which shall be paid to the informer, when received, unless said occupant can prove, satisfactorily, he has burnt his chimneys the preceding rain or snow.

Resolved, That the Bailiff shall immediately proceed to take a list of the dogs in Cambridge, and proceed to collect the following taxes levied thereon, to wit: for every dog, fifty cents; for every slut, one dollar.

Resolved, That the Bailiff kill, or cause to be killed, any dog whose owner cannot be ascertained, or whose ostensible owner or keeper shall, by any mode or artifice, evade the payment of the tax.

Resolved, That any person suffering a proud slut to run at large in the town of Cambridge, shall pay a fine of five dollars for the first offence, and eight dollars for every other like offence; or the said slut shall be killed by the Bailiff.

Resolved, That it shall not be lawful for stallions to be exhibited in the public streets of Cambridge, or on the public ground; and that every violation of this resolution shall subject the owner, or groom, to a fine of 100 cents—the said horse to be held accountable until said fine is paid.

Resolved, That no person or persons shall take, or cause to taken, from any street, lane, alley, or public ground, in the said town, any dirt or sand, under the penalty of one dollar for each offence, to be recovered as other fines and forfeitures imposed by said Commissioners; or, if a servant, shall (unless the fine is paid by his master) receive not exceeding twenty lashes.

Resolved, That any person suffering a nuisance by the remain, after notice given him or her and payoff, for twelve hours, shall forfeit and pay one dollar for every 24 hours they neglect to remove the same.

Resolved, That any person shooting guns or pistols in the town of Cambridge, shall pay a fine of one dollar for every offence; or, if a servant, shall receive not less than five nor more than twenty lashes, unless the fine is paid by his master. Any person refusing to pay the fine as aforesaid, shall be confined in the common jail 24 hours.

Resolved, That all players and showmen shall pay for every day and night they remain in Cambridge for exhibition, a sum not less than 25 cents, nor more than 2 dollars, at the discretion of one or more of the Commissioners.

ORDERED, That the forfeitures incurred under the foregoing resolutions, or ordinances, shall be recovered before a Justice of the Peace, agreeably to the act of 1793, chapter 66, section 23.

By order.

WILLIAM REA, Clerk.

June 2

Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given to the creditors of Charles Holland, late of Dorchester county, deceased, to file their accounts against said deceased, with the vouchers thereof, in the Register's office, on or before the 12th of July next, as a dividend on said estate will be struck that day. Those who fail to do this, may be excluded from any part of said estate. Given under my hand this 23d day of June, A. D., 1832.

JAMES HIGGINS, Adm'r.

June 23 3w

MAGISTRATES' BLANKS, of various descriptions, for sale at this office.

PRINTING neatly and expeditiously executed at this office.

Philson's American Daily Advertiser.

SELF-EDUCATION.

Mr. Poulson:—Instances of self-educated men, rising to eminence in life, from the most obscure circumstances, are calculated to make a strong impression on those who are laboring under present disadvantages, and encourage them to persevere in the use of all the facilities that may be offered them. Such facts should also be incentives to the patrons of institutions designed to assist those who may have the disposition to improve their minds and enlarge their knowledge. The reports of the Apprentices, Mercantile, and other Libraries, and of the Philadelphia Institute, must be highly gratifying to the community, evincing that so many young men are desirous of availing themselves of those excellent means of advancement in life.

I do not remember to have seen in your paper the account of Professor Lee, of the University of Cambridge, England, now one of the most eminent scholars in the world. From a letter of his, which has been repeatedly published in London, I draw the following history:

The only education Mr. Lee received, in his childhood, was at a charity school, from which he was taken at the age of twelve years, and apprenticed to a carpenter, in whose service he endured much hardship. About the age of seventeen he determined to learn the Latin language, in consequence of the mortification he felt on being unable to read the quotations he met with in the books which fell into his hands. Having purchased a Grammar he committed the whole of it to memory, and then went thro' Coderius, after which he purchased a Dictionary, and a few other books. At the same time his wages were less than a dollar and seventy-five cents weekly, but, by selling a book as soon as he had finished it, he was able to read eight of the principal Latin authors, besides paying for his own subsistence.

When his apprenticeship ended he resolved to acquire the Greek language, which he studied grammatically, and read Plato, Homer, Sophocles, and other authors.

Having mastered these tongues, he commenced the Hebrew, still unassisted by any teacher or patron. This, too, he accomplished in the intervals of work, counting these hard studies "rather as a source of rest from manual labor." After Hebrew he easily acquired the Syriac and Chaldaic, and found no difficulty in understanding the Samaritan, when he met with quotations, tho' he could procure no books in that dialect.

At this period he was twenty-five years of age, and being possessed of a chest of tools, and having married, he began to think it necessary to abandon the prosecution of his studies, as they could be of no use to him in his business. He accordingly sold the books he had, and applied himself to his trade. Shortly after, a house he was repairing was burned, and his chest of tools consumed. He was thus thrown on the world without any resources but his self-education, and with the intention of establishing a country school, undertook to qualify himself by learning English Grammar and Arithmetic. At this time he was fortunately heard of by a clergyman, who assisted him, and procured him the mastership of a charity school. He again turned his attention, in his leisure, to his languages, and rapidly acquired the Arabic, Persian, and Hindoostanee, besides the French, German, and Italian. Such industry could not fail of success, and he now holds one of the most distinguished professorships in Europe, and ranks, perhaps, the very first of scholars!

The English papers not long since recorded the death of Mr. William Greenfield, who rose in a manner somewhat similar to Mr. Lee, and who promised to attain a higher eminence in literature. He was the son of a sailor, who left him an orphan at three years of age. His mother being obliged to go into service as a domestic, young Greenfield was put under the care of a relation in the country. At the age of ten she removed with him to London, where he was put an apprentice to a Book-Binder. He had already shewn a desire to learn the Hebrew, which he had seen two of his uncles engaged in studying, in their preparation, probably, for the ministry; and having found a Jewish Rabbi in the neighborhood of his master's shop, who was fond of asserting the incorrectness of the received version of the Bible, he promised to yield the point to him on condition that he would prove his assertion after teaching him the language. The Rabbi accordingly instructed him, and during his progress Greenfield compiled a Lexicon of the Hebrew. At this time he labored at his trade from six in the morning to eight in the evening, in summer, and from seven to nine in the winter. He studied also the Chaldee and other kindred dialects, and having formed a class of young men, studied the Greek, Latin and French.

He continued to pursue these studies for two or three years after the termination of his apprenticeship, working steadily as a journeyman until a publisher in London hearing of his uncommon acquirements, persuaded him to relinquish trade. Under his patronage he was engaged in various learned employments until he was chosen superintendent of the Editorial Department of the British and Foreign Bible Society. He was in this service at the time of his death which occurred in November, 1831, at the age of 32. Upon this occasion, a minute of the Society records "with gratitude and astonishment, that in the nineteen months, during which Mr. Greenfield has been engaged in the service of the Society, his varied talents have been brought into exercise in no less than twelve European, five Asiatic, one African and three American languages, and that, since the commencement of his engagement, he had acquired a considerable degree of skill in the Peruvian, Negro-English, Chippeway and Berber." He was first brought to the notice of the Society by a pamphlet which he published in defence of their Mahratta version of the Testament, of which language he had no previous knowledge, but issued the pamphlet within five weeks after he had directed his attention to the subject.

There can be no doubt that in both these cases there was an uncommon predisposition to studious pursuits, and a peculiar readiness in acquiring languages. Few are endued with such natural gifts, or are urged by the same propensity. But they may serve as examples universally, of what may be accomplished by the useful employment of leisure time. They should encourage the young to prefer the pursuit of knowledge to that of sensual pleasure, and to lay up those of enjoyment, which, next to religion, is the most elevated of the pleasures of intelligent beings. It is important for young men to fix on some particular branch of study, and not to weaken their minds by general reading which contributes little that is permanent. A young man should select some department most congenial to his taste, or most likely to be usefully applied, and give his whole attention to it until his familiarity in it shall give him a character in some department of literature, or the arts. J.

MARRIAGE AMONG THE ROMANS.

(From Mr. Hoffman's Lecture.)

The marriage rites and attendant circumstances among the Romans, were more striking and pageant than are practised among the moderns. Many of the *formulæ* were symbolical; and some rested on the superstitions of the times. The bride appeared clothed in pure white, with a zone or belt; her hair braided, in imitation of a vestal's, with six tresses terminating in a javelin. Over the whole, and covering her entire person, was thrown a yellow gossamer veil; her shoes being of the same color. Thus attired, she was taken by the bridegroom and his friends from her mother's possession, and carried off with apparent violence; either to denote the reluctance with which she is supposed to leave the parental roof, or in commemoration of the tradition of a very different act committed by the Sabines in the infancy of the Roman state. In consummation of the nuptials, various other ceremonies followed; after which the bride was borne in triumph to her husband's dwelling. The first salutation which met her on this *ductio domi* was apparently an extremely abrupt one. At the threshold, she was asked by her husband, "*Who are you?*" To which, she replied, "*I am Caia.*" This name she assumed for the moment, in allusion to Caia, a lady greatly distinguished in the early history of Rome for domestic virtues; and whose distaff, during many ages, was preserved as a valuable relic, and in imitation also of whom the bride bore a distaff and spindle, as an assurance to her husband that, like Caia, she would seek her chief happiness in the discharge of her domestic duties. The bride, however, had the option to make a different reply. On being asked by the groom who she was, she was privileged to reply "*Where thou art Caius, there shall I be Caia,*" a promise of rather ambiguous import, and not so distinctly a vow of *obedience*, as that so commonly in use among the modern nations of christendom.

After this ceremony she seemed to enter the house with reluctance; for she was literally *carried* over the threshold; either to import her attachment to the home she had just left, or to signify that she would not abandon, or be compelled to leave her new one, unless carried over the threshold by compulsion; or lastly, because, by an early superstition, all doors being consecrated to Diana, the bride was supposed to be unwilling to *trample* at once on the threshold. Water and fire were then touched by both of the parties, a rite symbolical of their community of property, and that each would willingly endure every peril, even of water and fire, to preserve inviolate the union that had just taken place. Having immediately after sacrificed her dolls to Venus, she was invested with the keys of the house, and the whole ceremony terminated with a splendid entertainment, and an Epithalamium, sung by the guests in honor of the festive occasion.

The Romans were specially careful as to the months, and even the days, in which they married, a portion of which superstition is not without its influence even in the best society of the present day, and, if carefully examined, might be traced, in part, to this Roman source. May was a peculiarly objectionable month, the tradition being that one of the parties would probably die suddenly, if married in that month. The objection to this month, however, has never reached us, as it is, we believe, a particularly favorite one. June was esteemed by the Romans the most auspicious; but February was utterly rejected, as it was the anniversary of all funeral rites.

We are to distinguish between *espousals* and *marriage*. The former often took place many months before the nuptials, and was also accompanied by solemn ceremonies. The *sponsalia* or precontracts, were dissoluble by mere dissent, if they had been made before the legal age of assent; and where the parties were affianced, or as it is often called espoused, the marriage contract was then drawn up, and confirmed by the betrothed presenting to his intended bride a ring, usually of iron, to be worn by her on the third finger of the left hand, from a current idea, that an important nerve proceeded directly from that finger to the heart. The parties at their espousals also broke a straw between them, the separate parts of which each retained, as a species of tally, or strong evidence of the troth which had been pledged. Until the *ductio domi*, which, as we have seen, was the consummation of the nuptials, the lady had the name of *sponsa*, spouse; after which she took that of *uxor*, wife.

Jealousy of reputation, and proneness to detraction.—We must deal with our neighbor as we desire he should deal with us, in respect of his good name. How faulty men on this account have been, is manifest from the observation, that there is nothing we be more solicitously jealous of than our own, and nothing we be more lavish of than our neighbor's reputation. How, on small hints, trifling occasions, imperfect reports, and groundless stories, do we wound the credit of our neighbor, which is as dear to him as life itself; how we blight the esteem he has abroad; weaken the value he has at home; and cast a mist over all that is bright, or giveth lustre to his name and reputation! And yet, notwithstanding this uncivil usage of our neighbor's name, we are so nice of our own repute, as hardly to be induced to make any overtures or terms of reconciliation and peace to him who shall diminish the least part thereof; the truth is, men in the eager pursuit of riches and power, and other worldly advantages, designedly aim at the purchase of a great name; for to what purpose should they heap up wealth, and whatever carrieth esteem with it, if they did not secretly please themselves with those reflections which they conceive others make on their pomp and grandeur?—*Barrow: Divines of the Church of England.*

Influence of Comets on the Seasons.—By M. Arago. "The year of the grand comet of 1811, was so renowned for its vintage, that wines made in that year were called "Comet Wines." I know that there are strong prejudices against me, but I will say that neither the comet of 1811, nor any other comet, has ever had the slightest effect on our seasons. I will begin with facts: Comets, people tell us, warm our globe by their presence. Do they? Nothing is more easy than to refer to the thermometers kept in the different observatories of Europe. Let us take that of Paris, and we shall find the fact, that the medium temperatures of the years most noted for comets is less than those of years in which no comets have appeared. (A table is here given establishing the fact.) One may here remark, in passing, that the year 1805, with its two comets, was a year in which the medium temperature was low compared with other years, that of 1808 may be considered as a cold year, notwithstanding its comets: that the coldest year in the table was 1829, in which a comet appeared; and that the year 1831, in which there was no comet, enjoyed a much higher temperature than 1819, in which there were three comets, one of which was very brilliant."

The reasoning of Arago is very ingenious and entitled to attention; if the expected comet should appear this year, his argument will derive additional force, as the temperature of these climes, at all events, has been much lower than can be remembered, by the oldest persons. We have had fires in this month when in previous years the heat was oppressive at a similar period, and the appearance of the country scarcely announces the return of spring; the fruits are checked, and amongst mankind, the flannels and the cloaks still upbraid the tardiness of the summer.—*Editors N. Y. Advocate.*

IMMENSITY OF CREATION.

"He who through vast immensity can pierce,
See worlds on worlds compose one universe;
Observe how system into systems runs,
What other planets circle other suns;
What varied beings people every star,
May tell why God has made us as we are."

POPE.

Some astronomers have computed that there are no less than 75,000,000 of suns in this universe. The fixed stars are all suns, having, like our sun, numerous planets revolving round them. The Solar System, or that to which we belong, has about 30 planets primary and secondary, belonging to it. The circular field of space which it occupies is in diameter *three thousand six hundred millions* of miles, and that which it controls much greater. That sun which is nearest neighbor to ours is called Sirius, distant from our sun about 22 billions of miles. Now, if all the fixed stars are as distant from each other as Sirius is from our sun: or if our solar system be the average magnitude of all the systems of the 75 millions of suns, what imagination can grasp the immensity of creation? Every sun of the 75,000,000, controls a field of space about 10,000,000,000 of miles in diameter. Who can survey a plantation containing 75,000,000 of circular fields, each ten billions of miles in diameter? Such, however, is one of the plantations of Him "who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out Heaven with a span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance;" He, who "sitting upon the orbit of the earth, stretches out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in."

Advantage of a little knowledge.—The mysteries of magnetism should be unfolded to the sailor, above all men, since he is the one of all others, whose safety depends on its phenomena. He should be told that on electromagnetic principles he would materially influence the march of the needle by wiping the glass which screens it—especially with silk. It is some years ago since a fact was communicated to me, which may be adduced in illustration; it was that of a ship which arrived at Liverpool, after having been for several weeks the sport of winds and waves; the mariner's compass having been washed overboard in a storm, their voyage was dreary and procrastinated, much caution being necessary, and despite of which, their fate, but for a fortuitous circumstance, might have been inevitably sealed. Now, had the simple fact of the extreme ease with which a mariner's needle might be made, been known to any on board, the peril might have been avoided. A sewing needle, or the blade of a penknife, being held in an upright posture, and struck by hammer, and subsequently floated by cork on water, or suspended by a thread without torsion, would become a magnetic needle, and point north and south; or the end of a poker, held vertically, and passed over its surface from one extreme to the other, would impart magnetism, and which, if the needle be of steel, would be of a permanent character.—*Mechanic's Magazine.*

[The Scotsman recently gave an instance where a whole fleet of fishing boats would have been saved, if the fishermen had known the use of the marine barometer.]

Seeds.—It is truly astonishing how long the vital principle can be preserved unextinguished, though dormant, in seeds, when they are placed under such circumstances as will prevent either putrefaction or germination. Corn was found at Herculaneum, which had lain buried for more than seventeen centuries, and was then in good preservation. Seeds brought from Herculaneum have since grown in Great Britain. There are also several other instances on record, where seeds have been buried in the earth to great depths for centuries, yet as soon as the soil which contained them was accidentally brought to the surface and exposed to the air, they began to germinate, the stems were developed, and they produced flowers and fruit. These facts are not more surprising than others relative to suspended animal life, which are well authenticated. Live frogs and lizards have been disclosed on breaking solid masses of stone which had been incarcerated in their rocky prison during a period not now ascertainable.

[*Lardner's Cyclopedia.*

Logan.—An old officer of the United States army, who, soon after the close of the revolutionary war, was ordered to make surveys of the country watered by the Alleghany river, informed me that Logan's nephew—a remarkably fine young Indian—dined with him one day in his tent, and that he asked him what became of Logan. I killed him, was the reply. Why did you kill him? The nation ordered it. For what reason? He was too great a man to live, he talked so well, that, although the whole nation had intended to put any plan in execution, yet, if Logan did not approve of it, he would soon gain a majority in favor of his opinions. Was he not, then, generally in the right? Often: but his influence divided the nation too much. Why did they choose you to put him to death? If any one else had done it, I would certainly have killed him: I, who am his nephew, shall inherit his greatness. Will they not, then, kill you also? Yes: and when I become as great a man as Logan, (laying his hand on his breast with dignity,) I shall be content to die! He added, that he shot him near the Alleghany river. When informed of the resolution of the council of his nation, Logan stopped his horse, drew himself up in an attitude of great dignity, and received the fatal ball without a murmur.

From a late London paper.

CHLORINE GAS.

This gas is that which is considered by medical men as the most powerful disinfector and preventor of contagion. It is certain that it is most effectual in almost instantly stopping bad smells, whether arising from drains, or from putrid animal or vegetable matter.

Hence its use has now become very general. There are various modes of obtaining it, and of course the chemists, studying their own interest, recommend that by which they obtain the largest profit: namely, the use of chloride of lime. This chemical preparation is to be put into a vessel of water, and in a short time a certain portion of the chlorine is taken up in the water, and when this water is sprinkled about a house, the chlorine gas rising into the air, during the process of evaporation, stops bad smells, and is supposed, chiefly on this account, to have a power of counteracting contagion. By far the cheapest mode, as well as the most convenient, of obtaining chlorine gas, is to take the black oxide of manganese and muriatic acid.

If a quarter of a pound of black oxide of manganese be put into a cup or basin, and about a tea-spoonful of muriatic acid poured upon it, there will soon arise sufficient chlorine gas for a large room. It may be necessary to add every day a little acid, and to shake the manganese a little. If too much acid be used, the chlorine will be felt to be unpleasant. The manganese will not lose its efficacy for a fortnight. As manganese is sold wholesale at ten or twelve shillings the cwt., and is retailed for four pence a pound, and muriatic acid is sold wholesale for about three half pence the pound in measure, and is retailed at a reasonable rate by the ounce by every chemist, for less than the expense of two pence, and with little or no trouble, a suite of apartments may be kept disinfected for a fortnight. To use an equally efficient amount of chloride of lime would cost fifty times the money, and be very troublesome. Why have none of the Boards of Health given this information to the public? No other answer can be given except that three-fourths of the members knew nothing at all what they were about, and the other fourth had an interest in keeping them and the public in the dark. From chloride of lime the chemists have derived a profit, unusual even in their trade. For instance, about one ounce put in water will make sixteen bottles of bleaching liquid, which are sold at half a crown each; together, two pounds. The chloride of lime cost the chemist just one halfpenny. It is true the bottles and corks cost something in addition.

But to return to the making of chlorine gas from manganese and muriatic acid, which is of the greatest importance to our readers, who may wish to take precautions against the real or imaginary contagion of cholera. The explanation will be familiar to our scientific readers. Muriatic acid was ascertained by Sir Humphrey Davy to be composed of chlorine and hydrogen. When it is poured on the black oxide of manganese, it is decomposed into two constituent parts, the hydrogen uniting with the oxygen of the oxide, and forming water, whilst the chlorine rises in the form of gas.