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The Kent News.

A Family Newspaper: Devoted to Literature, Agriculture, Politics, General News, and Advertising.

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The Kent News:

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, AT
CHESTERTOWN, KENT COUNTY, MD.
Office, Masonic Hall, Court House Green.

Jas. H. Plummer & Wm. B. Usilton,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

ONE DOLLAR AND FIFTY CENTS per annum, *payable in advance.* If not paid within six months from the time of subscribing Two DOLLARS will be *invariably charged.* No subscriptions received for less than six months.

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Advertisements not exceeding ten lines will be published three times for One Dollar, and twenty-five cents for each subsequent insertion. Longer ones in the same proportion.

☞ Advertisements published quarterly, semi-annually, or yearly, at moderate rates.

CARDS not exceeding five lines will be published three months for $2.50; six months $4; one year $7. Six to ten lines—three months $3; six months $6; one year $10.

Job Printing.—Having added to our Office an extensive assortment of New and Beautiful JOB TYPE, we are prepared to execute every description of Job Printing, at short notice, and on very reasonable terms.

Select Poetry.

THE UNION.

BY LONGFELLOW.

Thou too, sail on, O Ship of State,
Sail on, O Union, strong and great;
Humanity, with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!
We know what master laid thy keel,
What workman wrought thy ribs of steel,
Who made each mast, and sail, and rope,
What anvil's ring, and hammer's beat,
In what a forge and what a heat,
Were shaped the anchor of thy Hope!
Fear not each sudden sound and shock,
'Tis of the wave and not the rock,
'Tis but the flapping of the sail,
And not a rent made by the gale!
In spite of rock and tempest roar,
In spite of false lights on the shore,
Sail on, nor fear to breast the sea!
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee—are all with thee!

MY COTTAGE HOME.

In a quiet little village,
In staunch old Maryland State,
Stood a pretty little cottage,
Observed by small and great.
In this pretty little cottage
Lived a father, very old,
Who seemed approaching to the place
Of his Eternal Abode.
He had served his Maker long,
Under sorrow's heavy load;
And now he's waiting for the morn,
When He will summon him home.
In this same little cottage home
Lived too, a mother dear,
Whose peaceful countenance shone
With a Christian's love and fear.
My childhood days were dear to me,
But they are past and gone;
I shall ne'er forget those happy hours
Spent in my childhood's home.
I would I could recall those days,
But, alas! they're forever gone;
I e'er shall remember with joy,
My happy old Cottage Home. J. C. S.

INFLUENCE OF NEWSPAPERS.—Small is the sum that is required to patronize a newspaper, and amply rewarded is its patron, care not how humble or unpretending the gazette which he takes. It is next to impossible to fill a sheet with printed matter without putting into it something that is worth the subscription price. Every parent whose son is away from home at school, should supply him with a newspaper. I well remember what a marked difference there was between those of my schoolmates who had, and those who had not, access to newspapers. Other things being equal, the first were always decidedly superior to the last in debate, composition, and general intelligence.—*Daniel Webster.*

SECESSION ILLUSTRATED.—The Hon. Mr. Vinton once said the threat of secession reminded him of a man in Buffalo who fastened an old scow to the stern of a steamer, to be towed up the lake. After the boat had got under way her wheels threw water [illegible] and she was in danger of [illegible]

Co., J. P. Paca, Esq., Balt. Clayton Wrigh[illegible] the R. A. Wright, E. T. M. Forman, Esqs., Que[illegible] stop Ann's county. Wm. Earickson Frank Brigh[illegible] Capt. Benj. Legg, Kent Island. Thos D. [illegible] make Ruth. Henry W. Carvill, J. M. Hudson, Me[illegible] will fitt Miller, Morgan Brown, Jr., A. L. Cor[illegible]raged Thos. S. Corey, Esqs., Kent Co. (j19y[illegible] ur old

POTATOES, and other vegetables constant[illegible]uid of on hand. (j12) E. MANSFIELD. [illegible]ppear-

A FULL supply of Fork and Shovel Hand[illegible]ierable in store and for sale cheap by [illegible] are so j12. WM. VANNORT. [illegible]re con-

LADIES' and Gentlemen's Gum Shoes a[illegible]pended Sandals, for sale cheap by [illegible]corpus- ja12. WM. VANNORT. [illegible]nd sub-

STEWART'S best cast steel Axes, warran[illegible] thirty days, for sale cheap by [illegible] WM. VANNORT. [illegible]stance, and it has been ascertained what

B[illegible] both the film of the sac and its contents are composed of. Each of these little bodies has its own life. They are formed, A[illegible] and grow, and die; and it is calculated that jan nearly twenty millions perish at every pulsation of the heart.

From the National Intelligencer.

Disunion Programme.

The subjoined communication, disclosing the designs of those who have undertaken to lead the movement now threatening a permanent dissolution of the Union, comes to us from a distinguished citizen of the South, who formerly represented his State with great distinction in the popular branch of Congress. Temporarily sojourning in this city, he has become authentically informed of the facts recited in the subjoined letter, which he communicates to us under a sense of duty, and for the accuracy of which he makes himself responsible. Nothing but assurances coming from such an intelligent, reliable source could induce us to accept the authenticity of these startling statements, which so deeply concern not only the welfare but the honor of the Southern people. To them we submit, without present comment, the programme to which they are expected to yield their implicit adhesion, without any scruples of conscience as without any regard to their own safety.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9, 1861.

I charge that on last Saturday night a caucus was held in this city by the Southern Secession Senators from Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas. It was then and there resolved in effect to assume to themselves the political power of the South, and, to control all political and military operations for the present, they telegraphed to complete the plan of seizing forts, arsenals, and custom houses, and advised the Conventions now in session, and soon to assemble, to pass ordinances for immediate secession; but, in order to thwart any operations of the Government here, the Conventions of the Seceding States are to retain their representations in the Senate and the House.

They also advised, ordered, or directed the assembling of a Convention of Delegates from the Seceding States at Montgomery on the 13th of February. This can of course only be done by the revolutionary Conventions usurping the powers of the people and sending delegates over whom they will lopee all control in the establishment of a Provisional Government, which is the plan of the dictators.

This caucus also resolved to take the most effectual means to dragoon the Legislatures of Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, and Virginia into following the Seceding States. Maryland is also to be influenced by such appeals to popular passion as have led to the revolutionary steps which promise a conflict with the State and Federal Governments in Texas

They have possessed themselves of all the avenues of information in the South—the telegraph, the press, and the general control of the postmasters. They also confidently rely upon defections in the army and navy.

The spectacle here presented is startling to contemplate. Senators entrusted with the representative sovereignty of the States and sworn to support the Constitution of the United States, while yet acting as the privy councillors of the President, and anxiously looked to by their constituents to effect some practical plan of adjustment deliberately conceive a conspiracy for the overthrow of the Government through the military organization, the dangerous secret order, the Knights of the Golden Circle, "Committees of Safety," Southern leagues and other agencies at their command; they have instituted as thorough a military and civil despotism as ever cursed a maddened country.

It is not difficult to foresee the form of government which a Convention thus hurriedly thrown together at Montgomery will irrevocably fasten upon a deluded and unsuspecting people. It must essentially be "a monarchy founded upon military principles," or it cannot endure. Those who usurp power never fail to forge strong chains.

It may be too late to sound the alarm. Nothing may be able to arrest the action of revolutionary tribunals whose decrees are principles in "secret sessions." But I call upon the people to pause and reflect before they are forced to surrender every principle of liberty, or to fight those who are becoming their masters rather than their servants. EATON.

As confirming the intelligence furnished by our informant we may cite the following extract from the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun:

"The leaders of the Southern movement are consulting as to the best mode of consolidating their interests into a Confederacy under a *Provisional Government.* The plan is to make Senator Hunter, of Va., Provisional President, and Jefferson Davis Commander-in-Chief of the army of defence. Colonel Davis is a graduate of West Point, was distinguished for gallantry at Buena Vista, and served as Secretary of War under President Pierce, and is not second to General Scott in military science or courage.

IF you wish to cure a scolding wife, never fail to laugh at her with all your might until she ceases—then kiss her.—Sure cure.

Parental Sympathy.

Parents express too little sympathy for their children—the effect of this is lamentable. "How your children love you!—I would give the world to have my children so devoted to me!" said a mother to one who did not regard the time given to her children as so much capital wasted.—Parents err fatally when they grudge the time necessary for their children's amusement and instruction: for no investment brings so sure and so rich returns. The child's love is holy; and if the parent does not fix that love on himself, he deserves to lose it, and in after life to bewail his poverty of heart. The child's heart is full of love; and it must gush out toward somebody or something. If the parent is worthy of it, and possesses it, he is blessed; and the child is safe. When the child loves worthy persons, and receive their sympathy, he is less liable to he influenced by the undeserving; for in his soul are models of excellence, with which he compares others. Any parent can descend from his chilling dignity and freely answer the child's question, talking familiarly and tenderly with him, and when the little one wishes help, the parent should come out of his abstraction and cheerfully help him.—Then his mind will return to his speculations elastic, and it will act with force. All parents can find a few minutes occasionally through the day, to read little stories to children, and to illustrate the respective tendencies of good and bad feelings. They can talk to them about flowers, birds, trees, about angels and about God. They can show interest in their sports, determining the character of them. What is a surer way than this of binding the child to the heart of the parent? When you have made a friend of a child, you may congratulate yourself you have a friend for life.—*Life Illustrated.*

The River Jordan.

A correspondent of the *Utica Herald* thus describes the river Jordan:

A line of green, low forest trees betrayed the course of the sacred river through the plain. So deep is its channel, and so thick is the forest that skirts its banks, that I rode within twenty yards of it before I caught the first gleam of its waters. I was agreeably disappointed. I had heard the Jordan described as an insipid, muddy stream. Whether it was the contrast with the desolation around, or my fancy, that made its green banks so beautiful, I know not, but it did seem, at the moment of its revelation to my longing eyes, the perfection of calm and loveliness. It is hardly as wide as the Mohawk at Utica, but far more rapid and impassioned in its flow.—Indeed, of all the rivers I have ever seen the Jordan has the fiercest current. Its water is by no means clear, but it as little deserves the name of muddy. At the place where I first saw it, tradition assigns the baptism of our Saviour, and also the miraculous crossing of the children of Israel on their entrance into the promised land.

Like a true pilgrim, I bathed in its waters and picked a few pebbles from its banks as tokens of remembrance of the most familiar river in the world. Three miles below the spot where I now stand, the noble river—itself the very emblem of life—suddenly throws itself on the putrid bosom of the Dead Sea.

WHY A MAN MEASURES MORE IN THE MORNING THAN IN THE EVENING.—There is an old phenomenon attending the human body, as noteworthy as common—that a person is shorter in standing than lying; and shorter in the evening when he goes to bed than in the morning when he rises. The cause of this effect, so ancient, so common, but, comparatively speaking, so lately perceived, proceeds from the different state or condition of the intervertebral annular cartilages. The vertebræ, or joints of the spine, are kept separate, though joined by particular cartilages, every one of which has a spring. These yield on all sides, without any inflexion of the spine, to the weight of the head and the upper extremities; but this is done by small and imperceptible degrees, and most of all when the upper parts of the body are loaded with any weight. So that a man is really taller after lying some time than after walking or carrying a burthen a great while. For this reason it is, that, in the day or evening, while one is sitting or standing, the superior parts of the body that press or weigh upon the inferior, press these elestic annular cartilages, the bony joint-work is contracted, the superior parts of the body descend towards the inferior, and proportionably as one approaches the other, the height of the stature diminishes. On the contrary, in the night time, when the body is on a bed, and it is, in a horizontal position, the superior parts do not weigh, or but very little, on the inferior; the spring of the cartilages is unbent, the vertebræ are removed from one another, the long-jointed work of the spine is dilated, and the body thereby prolonged; so that a person finds himself half an ienh or more higher in stature in the morning than when going to bed.

☞ A greenhorn standing by a sewing machine at which a young lady was at work looking alternately at the machine and at its fair operator, at length gave vent to his admiration with—

"By golly, it's purty, especially the part covered with calikar."

Alfred's Beautiful Dream.

I had a strange and beautiful dream last night. A vision of some place, such as I never saw with waking eyes, came before me. There was a landscape of great extent and incomparable beauty. I have no words with which to describe it. There were hills and valleys covered with the most luxuriant vegetation. All descriptions of tropical abundance are barren compared with it. Every kind of delicious fruit hung in ripe and rich clusters. The surpassing beauty and endless variety of the flowers at once charmed and astonished me. In the center of the vast territory there was a magnificent river, whose water was perfectly transparent, and passed with peaceful majesty over a bed of golden sand, which I saw distinctly. Along the banks of the river grew trees of extremely graceful form and rich foliage, many of them laden with fruit of extraordinary beauty. Over all these fell a mellow light, which added inconceivably to the attractions of the whole; but whence the light came I knew not, for there was no sun visible, and not a cloud in the atmosphere to conceal him. Far in the distance, up the river, I saw a city of surpassing splendor, as if built of gold and gems. While gazing on the brilliant spectacle, my attention was arrested by a new sight: there passed along the base of one of the hills what appeared to be a procession of persons clothed in the richest possible robes. Suddenly one of them left the rest and came to me. With a look of ineffable tenderness, sweetness, and love, my mother stood before me. She spoke not: there was no need of speech. There was perfect happiness—there was perfect heaven in that look. I wept for joy. The emotion awoke me. All was a dream except the tears; with them my pillow was wet.

Transplanting Large Trees.

The following plan for transplanting large tress is adopted in France: A circle is cut around the tree about three feet from the trunk, and at a depth of about five, through roots and earth. The earth which adheres to the root is covered and bound with brush and ropes, to keep all together; then large chains are passed under the whole, and the ends brought up above the surface of the ground. It now being ready to be removed, two heavy, strong planks are laid down outside of the hole, to receive the wheels of the wagon, which are made of solid iron, and a skeleton body of only two heavy side pieces, which connect the fore and aft wheels, the front wheels having an axle-tree passing from one side to the other, while the rear wheels are hung like those upon many railroad cars, having one open space, and strengthened by a heavy cross-piece of iron, which can be removed at pleasure. Over each wheel is a windlass, to hoist by crank. Now, being ready to take up the tree, the heavy cross-piece behind is removed, and the vehicle is backed upon the planks, and the trunk of the tree now stands up through the middle of the skeleton body; the ends of the chain are made fast to the windlasses, and eight strong men, two at each crank, wind up the chain, and swing the tree, roots and earth, to the wagon, put in the cross-piece behind, attach from four to six horses, and drive off. The tree is lowered into the earth in the same manner that it is taken out.

One Righteous Man in Charleston.

The venerable J. S. Pettigru, one of South Carolina's noblest names, continues to bear witness to the Union against the traitors who surround him. He has no faith in the practicability of their measures, and is prepared for the worst results to the State and the country. Lately, while attending the church, where by his presence, he for so many years showed that the character of the statesman was complete only when religion gave it grace and solidity, the services were purged (by nullification) of the usual prayer for the President of the United States, the stern-hearted old patriot rose from his seat and left the church, thus giving a silent, but pointed rebuke to treason where last it should be found, but where now in South Carolina, it is most rampant.

A CURIOUS RETORT.—Hon. Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, was once running for Congress, with an opponent of unusually large stature, and on the stump one day the discussion became unusually warm. Whereupon the large man said to Stephens, who was small and delicate:

"Why, I could button your ears back and swallow you whole."

"And if you did, you would have more brains in your stomach than you ever had in your head."

The laughter which followed effectually dissipated the ill-humor which was fast gaining ground.

Tom praised his friend, who'd chang'd his state,
For binding fast himself and Kate
In union so divine.
"Wedlock's the *end* of life," he cried:
"Too true, alas!" said Jack, and sighed,—
"'Twill be the *end* of mine."

☞ A lady, at her marriage, requested the clergyman to give out to be sung by the choir, the hymn, commencing:

"This is the way I long have sought,
And mourned because I found it not."

CAREFUL OLD LADY.—"I'll put this bit of smoked glass away, my dear, for it'll come in useful when there's another eclipse!"

The Whole Story in a Nutshell.

It is eighty-four years ago, since Uncle Sam was born, and what an eventful eighty-four years they have been. Eighty-four years ago the United States was a remote circumstance; they now compose the second commercial nation in the world. In that time they have revolutionized the world, built up empire, licked our mother, and fenced in a continent. In less time than it took Methuselah to get out of swaddling-clothes, we have made more canals, tamed more lightning, and harnessed more steam, and at a greater cost in money than the whole revenues of the world could have paid for the day he got out of his time. In eighty-four years we have not only changed the politics of the earth, but its wearing apparel, cotton shirts being as much the offspring of the United States as the ballot boxes. Since the fourth of July, 1776, the whole world has been to school, and what is better learned more sense than was taught in the previous four thousand years. The problem of self-government has been solved, and its truth made immortal as Washington or yellow corn. Its adaptation to all the wants of the more aspiring nation has been made more signally manifest. Under harmonious working a Republic has grown up in an ordinary lifetime, that would have taken any other system of government a thousand years to have brought about. Yes, in less time than it has taken some greenhouse plants to arrive at maturity, we have built a nation that has spread itself from Maine to Mexico, from the Atlantic to the Pacific—a nation that has caught more whales, licked more Mexicans, planted more telegraph poles and owns more steamboats, there any other nation that ever lived or ever will live. For all this, thank God, and praise Thomas Jefferson.

NEUTRALIZING POISON.—A poison of any conceivable description and potency, which has been intentionally or accidentally swallowed, may be rendered almost instantly harmless by simply swallowing two gills of sweet oil. An individual with a very strong constitution should take nearly twice the quantity. The oil will most positively neutralize every form of vegetable, animal, or mineral poison with which physicians or chemists are acquainted. Several years ago one of the oldest preachers and one of the first missionaries among the Choctaw Indians assured us he had succeeded in saving persons bitten by rattle-snakes, by administering a tea-cupfull of sweet oil, after all other available remedies had failed.

FEEDING FOWLS.—Fowls may not be fed on any kind of food, or any kind of grain. The better the grain, says an experienced poulterer, the better and the more healthy are the fowls. Besides, like all other animals, they take a variety of grain. Indian corn, though the best when fed alone, is apt to make the flesh of all fowls fed upon it very full of fat, and does not answer so well as when wheat, oats, or barley are added to the mess. A Swiss writer on poultry states, that fowls to which a portion of chalk is given with their food, lay eggs the shells of which are remarkable for their whiteness.

EARTHQUAKE IN SOUTH CAROLINA.—The Charleston Courier states that the shock of an earthquake was distinctly felt at Spartanburg, S. C., on the afternoon of the 3d instant, at 4.30 o'clock. The motion was East and West, and was so severe as to cause persons to run out in the street to see if the houses were not falling. The shock was also felt in Atlanta, Georgia. The Intelligencer of that city says:

Its range appeared to the East and West, or nearly so, and its continuance about ten seconds. The sky was clear and cloudless at the time, and the sun unusually brilliant. It was particularly noticed by those residing in solid stone buildings, such as our banks here. The types rattled in the cases in our job office. It was not followed by the second slight shock, usual in tropical countries, nor have we heard the usual rumbling noise. It was simply a momentary shock, but very distinctly felt. May not its coming and passing away so easily, with so clear and bright a sky, symbolize the present political convulsion of the country, which in the South will as easily pass away, leaving a spotless sky behind it? Its direction, too, should be noted, being East and West, of course the line of convulsion was *between the North and South.* Ominous, is it?

☞ A story is told of Dick, a darkey, in Kentucky, who was a notorious thief, so vicious in this respect that all the theft in the neighborhood was charged on him. On one occasion Mr. Jones, a neighbor of Dick's master, called and said Dick must be sold out of that part of the country, for he had stolen all of his (Mr. Jones's) turkeys. Dick's master could not think so. The two, however, went into the field where Dick was at work and accused him of the theft.

"You stole Mr. Jones's turkeys," said the master.

"No, I didn't, massa," responded Dick.

The master persisted.

"Well," at length said Dick, "I'll tell you, massa; I didn't steal dem turkeys; but last night when I went across Mr. Jones's pasture I saw one of our rails on de fence, so I brought home de rail, and, confound it, when I came to look, dare was nine turkeys on de rail!"

Swine.

If not self-evident, it is believed that a sufficient number of experiments have been made to establish the fact that swine are self-sustaining animals, and that pork is one of the cheapest meats raised upon a farm. The hog is a working animal, and if well supplied with sufficient material for the first ten months of his life, will produce a sufficient quantity of the best manure to be equivalent to his value, giving him two months to rest from his labors and grow fat. Generally at one year old is the best time to kill.

A word as to breeding. It is quite common to breed from young sows, say fall pigs, to come in with a litter of pigs when one year old, a practice to be utterly condemned, and if continued in the same family for a few generations of the swine, they will be found to dwindle down from three or four hundred hogs to two or three hundred. It is much better to keep the sow three or four years, or even much longer; they have been kept some fifteen years to advantage. The hog is some years in his natural state in maturing. It is a fact well known, at least to every Irishman from the "ould" country, that pigs from old sows will grow into hogs some thirty or forty pounds heavier than those from young ones.—*Maine Farmer.*

☞ A distinguished member of the Legislature, in addressing a temperance society, got rather prosy, but showed no disposition to "let up," though the audience waxed thinner. Finally the presiding officer got excited, and repairing to a friend of the speaker's, inquired how much longer he might reasonably be expected to speak? Whereupon the friend answered, "He didn't exactly know; when he got on that branch of the subject, he generally spoke a couple of hours." "That'll never do; I've got to make a few remarks myself," said the President; "how shall I stave him off? "Well, I don't know; in the first place, I should pinch him in the left leg, and then if he shouldn't stop, I'd stick a pin into it." The President returned to the "brother" who had prescribed "the pin style of treatment," and said: "I pinched him, and he didn't take the least notice at all; I stuck a pin into his leg and he didn't seem to care; I crooked it in, and he kept on spouting as hard as ever!" "Very likely," said the wag, "that leg is cork!" Nothing has been seen of that President since.

A CONSIDERATE WIFE.—A few weeks after a recent marriage, the doting husband had some peculiar thoughts when putting on his last clean shirt, as he saw no appearance of a "washing." He thereupon rose earlier than usual one morning and kindled the fire. When hanging on the kettle, he made a noise on purpose to arouse his easy wife. She peeped over the blankets, and exclaimed:

"My dear, what's up the day?"

He deliberately responded:

"A'y put on me last clean serk, an am gaun to wash one to myself."

"Very well," said Mrs. Easy, "ye had better wash me one, too."

A COW SUCKING HERSELF.—*Remedy.*—Mr. David Kephart, of Taneytown, Carroll county, writes, that having tried several remedies for a cow sucking herself; all failing, he made the following experiment: "I put the cow in the stall, my son caught her by the nose while I drew out the tongue and gave it a slit from two-and a-half to three inches, just through the middle, lengthwise, and I had a perfect cure. She has never sucked since, and her tongue being healed, she now feeds as well as the other cows.

RATS.—A writer says: Some four or five years since, my cellar became musty, to overcome which my wife sprinkled a solution of copperas (pretty strong) over the bottom. Since that time we have seen no sign of rats about the house, notwithstanding there has been plenty of them about the barn and other buildings about the premises.

☞ A Shopkeeper purchased of an Irish woman a quantity of butter, the lumps of which, intended for pounds, he weighed in the balance, and found wanting. "Shure, it's your own fault, if they are light," said Biddy, in reply to the complaints of the buyer; "it's your own fault, sir, for wasn't it with a pound of your own soap that I bought here myself that I weighed them with?" The shopkeeper had nothing more to say.

☞ Persons ought never to be ashamed of poor parents, and the mean and lowly circumstances of their early days. It is a much greater honor to any man to have raised himself by his knowledge, his industry, and his goodness to the highest position in society, that if he had inherited such position merely by the accident of his birth or fortune.

☞ A drunken fellow, having sold all his goods except a feather bed, at last made way with that too; and, being reproved by some of his friends for his conduct, he replied, "As I am very well, thank God, why should I *keep my bed.*"

☞ Thomas Hood died composing—and that, too, a humorous poem. He's said to have remarked that he was dying out of charity to the undertaker, who wished to *urn a lively-Hood.*

☞ To converse with spirits—lay a five cent piece on a table in a grog-shop, and they'll show themselves quicker than you can say "beans."