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THE KENT NEWS.

Frustra, laborat, qui omnibus, placere, studet---"He labours vainly, who endeavors to please every one.

BY E. MANSFIELD. CHESTER TOWN, Md. $1 50 PER ANNUM, in advance.

VOL. 15. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1854. No. 29.

A PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND

WHEREAS, it is a prevailing custom with the people of all Christian States, annually to set apart from the time usually employed in the labor and business of life at least one day to be observed as a day of general praise and thanksgiving to ALMIGHTY GOD, the High and Mighty Ruler of the Universe: for his manifold mercies and blessings; AND WHEREAS, it is well that to this duty one day in the year should be given, that the united voices of a whole people may be poured forth in fervent prayer to that God who holds at his will the destinies of men, that we may be delivered from all evil; that a continuance of his mercy and goodness may be vouchsafed to us; that we may be permitted long to enjoy the enduring benefits of peace; that pestilence and famine, sedition and conspiracy, civil strife and dissension, may be put away from us; that the bonds of our National Union may be maintained and strengthened; that the high state of freedom, both civil and religious, which has so long marked our political condition may be preserved to us, and the generations that may succeed us, until time shall cease, and that all such other temporal blessings as to him may seem meet for his people may be bestowed on us; AND WHEREAS, the day thus to be observed as one of prayer and thanksgiving to God has usually been designated by the Executive authority of the several States—

Now, therefore, I, T. WATKINS LIGON, Governor of the State of Maryland, do, hereby, designate and set apart THURSDAY, the 23d day of November next next, as a day of Thanksgiving to Almighty God, to be kept and observed by the people of the State of Maryland, whom I earnestly exhort carefully to abstain on that day from all secular employments, and to devote themselves to such devout services and exercises as are appropriate to a day of thanksgiving and prayer.

Given under my hand and the great Seal of the State of Maryland, this ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty-four. By the Governor, (L. S.)

T. WATKINS LIGON.

NATHANIEL COX, Sec'ry of State.

(oct.17,1854.)

NOTIONS.

B. B. PERKINS has a general variety of Notions consisting in part of childrens cotton, wool and moreno Hose of all sizes and qualities, childrens garters, combs, handk'fs, Gloves, Hats, Caps, &c., Cotton, wool, cashmeres and silk hose shreds, buttons bobbins, braids sewing silk, spool cotton, tape, knitting needles, tidy needles. socks, pins, sleeve protectors, ladies vests, and many other articles in this line. Also a general variety of Groceries, brown and white Sugars, Coffee, Tea, Rice, Flour, Starch, Nutmeg. Spice, pepper, Saltpeter, Salaratus, wash soda, Ginger, Molasses, vinegar; tobaccco, oil adamantine, and mould candles, brown soap, with a large assortment of Hardware, Queensware, Tinware, Boots, Shoes, Hats and Caps, Wooden ware, Brooms, Hollowware, Castings, Bridles, Collars, &c.

Oct. 21, 1854.

Domestic Goods.

B. B. PERKINS has just opened a large stock of domestic goods consisting in part of ½ Bleached and brown Sheeting, bleached and brown Muslins Irish linens Wool and Cotton flannels. Linen and Cotton Table Diaper and Cloths, dinner and tea Napkins; Ruria and Birdeye Diaper, Crash, bleach'd and brown Muslins, Tickings Checks, Plaid, domestic, linseys, osmaburgs, Blankets, Spreads, Quilts, Rag Carpets, and many other goods which will be sold at the very lowest prices for Cash. Produce or to punctual dealers.

Oct. 21, 1854.

Stationary.

B. B. PERKINS has just opened a new lot of school Books and Stationary, consisting in part of English and American Letter and Note Paper, Cap and guilt edge, small and full size Imp. deed and drawing paper for surveyors use, with a full assortment of envelopes, some extra sizes, school books, Slates, ink-stands, pens, wafers, wax, sand &c.

All the above goods were bought on the best terms and will be sold at a small profit. Come and see.

Oct. 14.

FOR SALE,

FIRST RATE MARE; she is first rate Carriage, saddle and work horse. She will be sold cheap. Apply to the Editor of the *Kent News*

Oct. 14 1854.

Fluid Lamps.

store and for sale, a beautiful assortment of Fluid Lamps, of all sizes.

ALDRIDGE & STAPLES.

Oct. 21, 1854.

THE KENT NEWS,

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,

Devoted to Agriculture, Politics, & Gen'l News

IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

EDWARD MANSFIELD,

PROPRIETOR.

TERMS:

1.50 payable in advance—$2 at the expiration of the first six months, or $2.50 at the end of the year—5 copies for $6—10 copies for $10. No subscription received for a shorter period than six months, and no paper wil be discontinued until all arrears are paid.

Terms of Advertising.

Advertisements not exceeding twelve lines will be inserted three times for one dollar; and twenty five cents for every insertion thereafter. Larger ones in proportion. A liberal deduction will be made to yearly advertisers. Advertisements must have the number of times marked, or they will be published till forbid, and charged accordingly.

All communications must be post-paid.

Selected Poetry.

THE MERRY HEART.

'Tis well to have a merry heart,
However short our stay;
There's wisdom in a merry heart,
Whatever the world may say.
Philosophy may lift its head
And find out many a flaw,
But give me the philosophy
That's happy with a straw.

If life but brings us happiness,
It brings us, we are told,
What's hard to buy, tho' rich ones try,
With all their heaps of gold,
Then laugh away, let others say
Whate'er they will of mirth;
Who laughs the most may truly boast
He's got the wealth of earth.

There beauty in a merry laugh,
A moral beauty too;
It shows the heart's an honest heart,
That's paid each man his due,
And lent a share of what's to spare,
Despite of wisdom's fears;
And makes the cheek less sorrow speak,
The eye weep fewer tears.

The sun may shroud itself in cloud,
The tempest wrath begin;
It finds a speck to cheer the dark,
Its sunlight is within.
Then laugh away, let others say
Whatever they will of mirth;
Who laughs the most may truly boast
He's got the wealth of earth.

Miscellaneous.

SPIRITUALISM.

An Extraordinary Letter from Judge Edmonds.

The following extraordinary letter has been addressed by Judge Edmonds, of New York, to the editor of the "Christian Spiritualist," in that city:

NEW YORK, Oct. 21, 1854.

DEAR SIR:—Perhaps in your discouse on the wreck of the Arctic, you would be willing to have a more minute detail of the events, which I mentioned the other day, and I will therefore try to give it to you.

For several days before we received news of the accident, an attempt was made to communicate the event to my daughter, as she had been a year ago taught the wreck of the San Francisco. But it failed, because of her anxiety about a relative of hers, who was at sea, and with whom she associated the wreck the moment the idea was presented to her. Thus were produced confusion and anxiety, which interfered with the clearness of the communication, though the idea of a wreck was frequently and vividly presented to her.

On the day before the arrival of the news, she had a call from a lady friend, who, in the course of her visit, became entranced and gave a graphic description of some of the scenes which we afterwards learned took place on board the ill-fated steamer. But the communication was interrupted, and thus only an indefinite apprehension of some impending misfortune was produced.

On the day after we received news of the wreck, I returned home from my office late in the afternoon, and found my friend, Mr. J——, in my parlor with my daughter. Some spirit was communicating through him. I gave my attention to it, and then for about two hours through him, through Laura, through Mr, A——, who came in during the evening, and through myself, we had the intercourse with the passengers of the Arctic which I mentioned to you.

I imbibed the idea that there were present with us at least a hundred of them, though only a few made themselve known to us, or spoke to us.

N. B. Blunt, late district attorney, Bishop Wainwright, Isaac T. Hooper, Dr. Cory, and others of our spirit friends were also present, and occasionally spoke through or to some of us.

I plainly saw the whole assemblage, and particularly one of them, with whom I had been well acquainted. He was labouring under great mental excitement. He exclaimed to me, "Good God, Edmonds, can this be true? Is death, after all, what you said it was, and is this death? Can it be possible that this is the change which death makes?"

I answered, "You see. You can judge for yourself. Bring your own clear intelleet to bear upon it, and you can understand it."

"But," he said, "where am I? What must I do? Where am I going? Is this to be aiways so."

I told him, "No, by no means is it to be always so. But it will be difficult for me to tell you what to do, for I cannot know all the circumstances which surround you. But there is one close at hand who can tell you, and who can assist you."

"Who is that?" he asked.

I answered, "Our old friend Blunt."

He said, "Nat? Is he here? Where? Let me see him. Let me hear from him where I am, and what I am to do?"

This conversation had thus far been between me and that spirit direct, and now Mr. Blunt came through my daughter and said: "Judge. tell him I am near at hand, ready to assist him, and he has only earnestly to wish it, to see and hear me himself. Now his mind is in such uncertainty and confusion that neither his brother nor I can make ourselves visible to him."

This being said to me in an audible voice, was heard also by the Spirit, who no longer paid any attention to me, but turned to where Blunt was, and and soon engaged in conversation with him.

Others of those spirits then spoke to me. One said to me that his last thought on going down with the ship was, that in a few moments he should be reunited again to his wife and children, who went down with him, but he said—and this so much astonished him—"when I awoke, I beheld my wife and children passing away from me in different directions, and I am left alone so near the earth! Is this to be always so? Am I never, never to see them again? And am I always to hover thus near the earth?"

Another, whom I had well known, said to me, with a good deal of emotion: "Friend Edmonds, is it true, then, this which I always thought an illusion of thy insane mind? It truly seems so. I know I have died; now I seem as much upon earth as ever, and I talk to thee as plainly as ever I did. Oh! tell me what all this means, and what am I to do?"

I referred him to Father Hopper, who was present, and who could instruct much better than I could. He shrank from this, and reminded me that he and Mr. H. had not agreed very well upon earth; having had some difficulties with each other "in meeting"—that is, in their religious society.

Mr. Hopper then spoke to me through Laura, and bade me reassure him that no unpleasant recollection of the past dwelt upon his mind; that he was ready to help him; and, he added, "Tell him, Judge, that I will be just as quick now to take him in as I was once to turn him out of meeting. Tell him so, Judge, will you?"

In reply, I said, "I need not repeat it, for he hears what you say through the medium. But your allusions to the old difficulties disturbs him."

"Tell him," he answered, "never mind that; it is only matter to be laughed at now, and I desire only to befriend him, and set his mind at ease."

"Yes," I said, "old friend, that you have already done, for he holds out his hand to you."

And they passed away together from my view.

One of the sailors spoke to me, and though not a man of as much education as the others, he was evidently more at home, and more at ease than they were. He said that, after the collision, he had not thought of himself until the raft shoved off from the ship. He had been very busy trying to stop the leaks, and when all work on that ceased, it had occurred to him that he ought to save himself; that he had an aged mother, a wife and some children in New York, and he asked himself—"What will they do this winter without me?" And so he jumped from the ship to reach the raft, but he fell short and sank in the water. He came up under the raft, and his head bumped against it until he was drowned.

There was much less agitation in him than in the others, and I obtained from him a clear account of several things.

He spoke in great admiration of the efforts on board the ship of the one who first spoke to us; said he took a command, and directed much that was done. He was cool, collected, and energetic, and made himself felt and obeyed wherever he went.

He also spoke of the general deportment when all hope of saving themselves was abandoned. He said the sight was really sublime. A death-like stillness reigned, and a calm came over them all; as if each was quietly bracing himself to meet his destiny.

I asked him how it happened that they, so many of them, came to us, and if he had not yet met any of the inhabitants of the spirit-world besides those who had entered it with him?

He answered yes: his father and two other relatives had come to him and welcomed him, and then told him to go with the others, and learn what he could. He could not give me his name or the street where he resided. There was no medium present through whom the abstract idea of a name could be given.

Among those who spoke to me was a female. She was very cheerful and pleasant, and from what she said, it was manifest that her thoughts in life had been more for others than for herself. She understood more clearly the condition in which she found herself, and had come with the others more to aid them than herself.

Bishop Wainwright, through Mr. J., uttered a most touching and impressive prayer.

And, finally, there spoke to me the spirit of a man, who stated that he was a European, whose name was unknown to me, but mine was not unknown to him. He had already given some attention to the spiritual philosophy, and had found in it much that was consonant with his reason, with his instincts, and with what he had learned of nature, (and that was not a little, for he was evidently an educated man)

He had been on his way to this country on business, and had intended, while here to call on me. He said that his belief had been of vast service to him, for it had not only robbed death of its terrors, but it had enabled him, on entering his new existence, to understand his position and to know where he was. He had not, therefore, shared the amazement, excitement, and confusion of mind which had so much disturbed others.

When that large number of persons had awakened to consciousness in the spirit world, and were amazed at the condition in which they found themselves, a voice had spoken to them saying: "The gates of death has been opened to you. Now let the gates of eternal life likewise be opened to ye.—Go ye to the earth again and learn there how to enter them!" They had, accordingly, come to earth. and scattering in various directions, had sought the mediums on this continent. Hence it was that so large a number were now with us.

He said that I could form no just conception of the condition in which they found themselves. No two were alike. In some, blank amazement stupified; in some terror and uncertainty assumed the form of the excitement of insanity; in some there was a stalid hardened indifference; in some a happy confidence as to the future, without knowing why; and in a few there was a knowledge, imbibed on earth, which inspired hope and confidence. They were the most cheerful and hoping who, on eatth, had been least selfish, and most active in their efforts for others.

They were, he said, surrounded by bright spirits, who were willing to aid them, but having been cut off from mortal life suddenly and without the weaning from earthly ties which old age or protracted disease always produce, their earthly feelings were still predominant with many, and, in connection with the excitement, confusion and uncertainty prevailing in their minds, rendered them inaccessable to the approach of those brighter spirits. "Why," he added, "we do not all even see each other, though hovering thus together around you. We have as it were a dim consciousness of each other's presence, and through the instrumentality of the mediums we hear and converse with each other, and thus our spirits only through mortal means unlearn the errors which our mortal life has instilled into us. Speak then, Judge, to them. You they all can hear, and from your lips they may thus early learn the lesson of the realities before them, which, soouer, or later, they must all learn. Speak plainly, but gently, for oh! you know not how much of sorrow and anxiety there is in the hearts which you can thus relieve."

I accordingly for a few moments spoke to them. I reasoned with them of the great doctrine of progression, which is now being revealed to man. I reminded them that from birth their life had been one of progression, and now they could readily perceive that that life still continued, and with it must continue the influence of that law of progression. It was of importance to them to know this, for then, and only then, could they know how to direct their action wisely and well. And fortunately for them, they were now in a condition where they could ascertain if they would, how true or false this teaching was.

So, too, if they became satisfied of that, they could readily learn the law by which that progression could be most advanced or retarded. That law was love—love of God and of one another, to be manifested not in profession only, but in active efforts to do good to one auother. That could be done by them in the spirit life as well, and even better, than in their mortal existence.

So, too, I told them that they were surrounded by bright and beautiful spirits who were ready to take them to their arms, to teach them the holy truths which are now also being revealed to man upon earth, and to point them the way to happier realms, which they may in time attain. And I assured them that they had but to make themselves accessible to their spirit friends by earnestly desiring their presence and aid, to enjoy the inestimable assistance which could soon dispel the gloom of doubt and uncertainty, and open to their vision a bright and holy light from above.

I told them that I did not ask to receive these things as true, because I said so, but to examine for themselves with all the advantages which they now possessed, and to judge for themselves. It could do them no harm thus to investigate, but if on investigation they should find that I was correct, they would also find much that would be of inestimable value to them.

Something more to the same effect I said, and commending them in few words to the protection of our Heavenly Father and the guardian care of the bright spirits who were around them, I closed the interview, and they faded from my view.

Affectionately yours,

J. W. EDMONDS.

Rev. T. L. Harris.

Reminiscence of 1778.

Generals Washington, Burgoyne and Schuyler.

We have been favored with a copy of "The Continental Journal," a weekly published at Boston in 1778. We make two short extracts from it—the one showing the treatment which Gen. Burgoyne received at Albany, and the other a letter from Gen Washington to Gen. Burgoyne, which, as the defeated General himself truly remarks, "does honor to the human heart."

It will be recollected by those conversant with the history of the revolution that after the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga he was allowed to go to England on account of impaired health, before the army under his command could be sent, according to the stipulation of the convention of Saratoga. After Gen. Burgoyne arrived in England a motion was made in the British Parliament, "that this House resolve itself into a committee of the whole to consider of the northern army under the command of Lieut. Gen. Burgoyne, who commanded that army, was released and is now returned to England." In the course of the debate Gen. Burgoyne said:

"In regard to the call made apon me for explanation respecting the burning the country during the progress of the army under my command, I am ignorant of such circumstances. I do not recollect more than one accidet by fire, and I positively assert there was no fire by order or countenance of myself or any other officer except at Saratoga. That district is the property of Major General Schuyler, of the American troops, there were large barracks built by him which took fire the day after the army arrived upon the ground in their retreat, and I believe I need not state any other proof of that matter being merely accident than that the barracks were made use of as my hospital, and full of sick and wounded soldiers. Gen. Schuyler had likewise a very good dwelling house, exceeding large storehouse, great sawmills, and other out-houses, to the value altogether, perhaps, of ten thousand pounds. A few days before the negotiation with Gen. Gates the enemy had formed a plan to attack me. A large column of troops were approaching to pass the small river preparatory to a general action, and were entirely covered from the fire of the artillery by those buildings. Sir. I avow that I gave the order to set them on fire, and in a very short time that whole property I have described was consumed. But to show that the person most deeply concerned in that calamity did not put the construction upon it which it has pleased the honorable gentleman to do, I must inform the House that one of the first persons I saw after the convention was signed was Gen Schuyler. I expressed to him my regret at the event which had happened and the reasons which had occasioned it. He desired me to think no more of it; said the occasion justified it, according to the principles and rules of war, and he should have done the same occasion, or words to that effect. He did more: he sent an aid-de-camp to conduct me to Albany, in order. as he expressed it, to procure me better quarters than a stranger might be able to find. This gentleman conducted me to a very elegant house, and, to my great surprise, presented me to Mrs. Schuyler and her family; and in this General's house I remained during my whole stay in Albany, with a table of more than twenty covers for me and my friends, and every other demonstration of hospitality—a situation painful, it is true, in point of sensibility, at the time, but which I now contemplate with some satisfaction."

This was magnanimious treatment on the part of General Schuyler towards a humble enemy, and a fair exhibition of the courteous and hospitable character of the citizens of Albany in 1778. It is proper to say that Albany has not degenerated in this respect since that period, and that there are now gentlemen here who delight in generous actions and in opportunities for displaying kindness and all the courtesies of polite society to those who may be inferior to them in the world's category of rank and position.

As we said at the outset, Gen Burgoyne obtained permission from Congress to leave the country, and at the same time he addressed Congress on this subject he wrote a letter to General Washington, asking his influence to secure the granting of his request, and expressing a high opinion of his private character. The following is Washington's reply:

"HEADQUARTERS,

"PENNSYLVANIA, March 11, 1778.

"SIR: I was only two days since honored with your very obliging letter of the 11th of February.

"Your indulgent opinion of my character, and the polite terms in which you are pleased to express it, are peculiarly flattering, and I take pleasure in the opportunity you have afforded me of assuring you that, far from suffering the views of national opposition to be embittered and deceased by personal animosity, I am ever ready to do justice to the merit of the gentleman and the soldier, and to esteem, when esteem is due, however the idea of a public enemy may interpose. You will not think it the language of unmeaning ceremony if I add that sentiments of personal respect, in the present instance, are reciprocal.

"Viewing you in the light of an officer contending against what I conceive to be the rights of my country, the reverse of fortune you experienced in the field cannot be unacceptable to me; but. abstracted from considerations of national advantage, I can sincerely sympathize in your feelings as a soldier, the unavoidable difficulties of whose situation forbid his success, and as a man, whose lot combines the calamity of ill health, the anxieties of captivity, and the painful sensibility for a reputation exposed, where he most values it, to the assaults of malice and detraction.

"As your aid-de-camp went directly on to Congress, the business of your letter to me had been decided before it came to hand. I am happy that their cheerful acquiescence with your request prevented the necessity of my intervention; and, wishing you a safe and agreeable passage, with a perfect restoration of your health, I have, the honor to be, "Very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant,

"GEORGE WASHINGTON."

What a noble spirit breathes in this letter!—a spirit ever ready to do justice to the merit of the gentleman; ready to esteem a public enemy when his private character was worthy of respect; ready to sympathise in the feelings of mortification which, in battling for the right, he had caused; ready to wish health and happiness to a conquered foe! The incidents narrated above are in confirmation of the propositions that a true gentleman will be polite under all circumstances and to all persons; that he will be honorable and forgiving even to an enemy; and that genuine politeness is a virtue which crowns the well balanced mind and the kindly heart.

HOW TO WEAR A SHAWL.—If a lady sports a shawl at all (and only very falling shoulders should venture) we should recommend it to be always either falling off or being put on, which produces a pretty action. Or she should wear it upon one shoulder and down the other, or in some way drawn irregularly, so as to break the uniformity. One of the faults of the present costume is, as every real artist knows, that it offers too few diagonal lines. Nothing is more picturesque than a line across the bust, like the loose girdle, sloping across the hips, in the costume of the early Plantagenets. On this account the long scarf shawl is as picturesque a thing as a lady can wear. With the broad pattern sweeping over one shoulder, and a narrow one, or none at all on the other; it supplies the eye with that irregularity which drapery requires; while the slanting form and colors of the border, lying carelessly around the figure, give that eastern idea which every shawl more or less implies. What Oriental would ever wear a shawl straight up and down and uniform on both sides, as our ladies often do?