that all was on the eve of readiness. When I entered, I felt the due weight of character appended to my blue coat, long Marseilles vest, stockinet pantaloons, powdered hair, and black ribbon queue. The youngest turned the bright eye of admiration towards me, and all smiled an overweening welcome. Happy was I to see, that twenty years had worn off the crust of reserve in the fair sex, and that I was to receive a portion of its benefits. "Allow me," quoth mine host, "to introduce you," &c. This sounded rather strange, but did not appear more singular than that there had been a wonderful transformation in the ladies' waists. Formerly they resembled the foretopsail of a man of war, clewed up upon her arrival in port; but now they had become transformed to hour glasses, and each body was squeezed into two inverted cones. Among the gentlemen similar transformations were apparent. The unmentionable under dress of the fair sex was adopted for pantaloons, beneath which sticks or legs might have been concealed—bob minor coat tails were in vogue, and when a gentleman bowed to you, he resembled Taurus in the almanac, or a frozen pitch mop. Young ladies wore caps, and older ones went without; probably there had been a fever amongst the younger class,—but I was so busy in peering into bright eyes around me, and expending my stock of small talk, that I did not materially criticise the outward man or woman who came in contact with me.

Anon, the fiddle struck up, a signal was given, and dancing commenced. My friend urged me to join which I declined until my apologies would no longer be received and I was introduced to some seven or eight ladies who all were either engaged, or had the head ache, and then I thought that I was fairly excused—but my friend introduced me at last to a jolly, roguish eyed girl who consented with almost an eager readiness, I made her a bow of ninety degrees, which rather incommoded my near neighbor, (it was what they call a jam) and was leading her to take a place for a contradance, when she informed me that a cotillion was the figure—and sure enough there we were, eight of us in a circle like a boxing ring. I apologized for not understanding any thing about this manœuvre, but she assured me that the negro fiddler would tell us all about it, and I consented to run the gauntlet of trial. We were stationed at the bottom of the octogon, when the negro bawled out, 'Forward and back too'—How is that possible, thought I?—But a young sylph came sideling, fronting, and sweeping up to me in a most condescending manner, wherefore, I could do no less than to make her one of my prettiest bows. 'Opposite gentlemen the same, quoth Cuff. At this my partner told me I must dance—whereupon nothing loth, I commenced a double shuffle on my post' which, I defy any man of my age to excel. I always prided myself on my activity in this particular, and had just commenced the operation with my eyes to the ceiling, when I felt my feet entangled, and looking down found I had disarrayed my fair partner of lots of roses and yards of flounce or flummeddiddle, which skirted the lower part of her dress. On this I turned swiftly to apologize and the superfluity of coat swung in the opposite direction like the snapper of a whip directly in the eyes of a child of my friends wife.

I had scarcely anticipated a word of apology in front, before the cry of distress arose in the rear, and turning rapidly again to ascertain the cause of outcry, & finding that the diabolical flounce and my legs were again in chancery, I pitched head foremost into the bread basket of a sputtering Frenchman—and he, myself and those old boon companions, the shovel and tongs, to say nothing of the fire fender were packed like a barrel of herrings in the chimney corner. The Frenchman laid hold of my queue to assist him in rising & before I had fairly got the better of my neighbourly grievances and regained a perpendicular he began a mongrel dialect of swearing and vituperance at and concerning my coat 'mit de tail, and le barbare, who no comprende le cotillion.' I abused him in good set French, and threatened to poke him up the chimney for laying profane hands upon my queue, apologized to my fair partner for the discomfiture of the flounce, kissed the child, wiped my (former) white vest, which had suffered from intimacy with the superincumbent tongs, and forswore dancing. It would have driven Socrates mad to have witnessed the half concealed grins and titillations of mirth which had beset the whole present company of human bipeds.

My friend, by way of comfort, took me aside and advised me to throw aside my idolized coat, abjure queue and powder, & go to a tailor's, assuring me that with my good sense and literary acquirements I probably might obtain the admiration of both sexes. I thanked him, but assured him I had seen enough of fashionable life. He urged me to stay to supper which I did—what was it? blanc mange, alias smoked bonny clabber—masses of corruption, called jelly—raw bacon, cut into thin slices like holy water cakes—washed down with that villainous compound of all liquors called noyeau. I tasted all, went home and took an emetic.

Misfortunes, like wild geese, come in flocks. Miss sent me a note of sorrow, (I hope without her father's knowledge) that I should so have insulted her party, by my dress—and the ape of a frenchman forwarded a challenge, for calling him a baboon To the former I expressed my regret that I was thus ignorant of the modern etiquette, and promised to release her from further anxiety on this head, and to the latter sent a reply that I would beat him into a quail trap, for medling with my queue.

Sitting as I do now, by the fire place at the side of my spectacled aunt, and reflecting upon my adventures as they dance over the magic lanthorn of memory there is much for speculative musing —The inconsistencies of fashion and of existence; of philosophy and of Frenchmen; of bachelors, fire fenders, pretty girls and pokers, leave lessons for grave instructions and sober application. Custom, like the nightmare, rides us to weariness, and none have enough of independence to shake off the elf. Fashion holds the scale of opinion and a man is as much indebted to his tailor as to his classics, for honest fame and a moderate share of literary reputation. And yet fashion is inconsistent with itself. A Proteus in metamorphosis, to day it is frightened with its imaginary elegance of yesterday. Oh, thou ill-fated, well bottomed, narrow backed, interminable coat! which once whisked my graceful appendage, with so much of pride in the assemblies of other days! how hast thou beaten down those aerial castles betokening conquest & renown among the rosy domains of bright eyes and fluttering hearts? *Tempora mutantur, et nos mula mur illis*—the interpretation of which is, 'Ichabod, the glory of thy house has departed.'

From the New York Enquirer.

GAMBLING.—We have occasionally thrown in a paragraph respecting the famous gaming houses of London, which are so appropriately denominated HELLS. A late Morning Herald contains a description of the new mansion which has been erected in St. James' street, by the notorious *Crockford*, who may be regarded as a special vice-gerent of his satanic majesty. Crockford, we should premise, is one of those marvellous instances of luck, which sometimes occur in society, to spur the sides of ambitious vice, and to fright virtue from its propriety. It is not more than sixteen years, since he kept a *fish-stall* in Piccadilly. He won a little money on a horse race, sat up a petty gaming house, and soon accumulated a handsome fortune. He then established a gaming house on a larger scale, and in one year gained upwards of £200,000 for his own share. At a single sitting, young Hughes Ball, lost, at French hazard, £40,000.—With his new fortune, he removed into St. James's street, where for two years he carried on the most magnificent gambling establishment hitherto known in the world. At seven o'clock every day, a splendid table with fifty covers was spread, to which none but the ELITE of profligate fashion was admitted. The dinners, wines, attendants, &c. &c. were such as none but boundless wealth could purchase. This also succeeded, and in his pride of prosperity, Crockford bought the range of houses, where his establishment was carried on, and has erected a palace which is described as being of the most superb character. The *Morning Herald* computes the cost of the edifice as amounting in all to £100,000, nearly as much as was expended on the City Hall! The exterior of the building is plain, unpromising and unornamented. The entrance is singularly narrow, 'to resist' says the London Editor, 'more effectually any visits of the police.' The Herald goes on:

On the right hand of the entrance is a coffee room of moderate size, finished in a plain manner; opposite to which on the south side of the hall, is what they choose to call a library—so named, we imagine, upon the principle of *lucus a non lucendo*, for what kind of books it is to contain, or of what use books of any kind can be to people on whom education has been already thrown away, we are at a loss to imagine. But though its contents or uses are not likely to be very classical, its fitting up is decidedly so, being adorned with Sienna columns and antæ of the Ionic order, taken from the temple of Minerva In this room, which occupies two fifths of the whole front, are two fire places with black and gold marble chimney pieces. Behind this is the dining room, where the hellish provocatives are to be served up in all the costly magnificence of foreign cookery and intoxicating wines. The walls of the staircase which winds round three sides of the area are pannelled with scagliola of various colors, and is decorated with a ceiling and lantern light of the most magnificent description.

The landing is sustained by Corinthian columns, over which, on a balustrade with scagliola pedestals and balusters, and a marble capping, or hand rail, is placed another tier of Corinthian columns, supporting a grotesque cornice elaborately enriched and gilt; above which is an elliptical covered lantern light, glazed with painted or stained glass. The stair case railing is composed of brass foliage, which reflects much credit on the designer and manufacturer. These stairs lead to the drawing rooms or real Hell, consisting of four chambers; the first an anti-room (over the coffee room,) opening to a saloon embellished to a degree which baffles description; thence to a small, curiously formed cabinet, or boudoir, which opens to the supper room, over the dining room. All these rooms are pannelled in the most gorgeous manner, spaces being left to be filled up with mirrors, silk or gold enrichments; the ceilings being divided into as many and fanciful and superb panellings as the walls.

A billiard-room on the upper floor completes the number of apartments professedly dedicated to the use of the members. Whenever, however, a green horn is to be pigeoned, a dupe impaled, or any other more secret manœvre to be carried on, there are smaller and more retired places, both under this roof, and the next, whose walls will tell no tales. Returning to the building itself; as a work of art, it would bespeak the worst possible taste, not to admire its design and execution in almost every part; but recollecting the purposes to which it is to be dedicated, we avow, in the words of the poet, that

"With indignation we survey
Such skill & judgment thrown away."

[We should add that in the spot where Crockford's *fish-stall* once stood, he has built the largest Hotel in London.]

INTRODUCTION OF FOREIGN PLANTS AND SEEDS.

The following Circular, addressed by the Secretary of the Treasury to a portion of the American Consuls abroad, in relation to the introduction of valuable foreign plants into the United States, is made public, in the hope that the object which it has in view may be the better promoted by causing it to be more generally known.

Copies of the Circular have been placed in the hands of the principal Collectors, of whom they may be had by such masters of vessels or others going abroad as may be willing to aid in carrying into effect a design believed to give promise of public utility.

CIRCULAR] TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
September, 6, 1827.

SIR: The President is desirous of causing to be introduced into the U. States all such trees and plants from other countries not heretofore known in the United States, as may give promise, under proper cultivation, of flourishing and becoming useful, as well as superior varieties of such as are already cultivated here. To this end I have his directions to address myself to you, invoking your aid to give effect to the plan that he has in view. Forest trees useful for timber; grain of any description; fruit trees; vegetables for the table; esculent roots; and in short, plants of whatever nature, whether useful as food for man or the domestic animals, or for purposes connected with manufactures or any of the useful arts, fall within the scope of the plan proposed. A specification of some of them to be had in the country where you reside, and believed to fall under one or other of the above heads, is given at the foot of this letter, as samples merely, it not being intended to exclude others of which you may yourself have knowledge, or be able, on inquiry, to obtain knowledge. With any that you may have it in your power to send, it will be desireable to send such notices of their cultivation and natural history as may be attainable in the country to which they are indigenous; and the following questions are amongst those that will indicate the particulars concerning which information may be sought:

1. The latitude and soil in which the plant most flourishes.
2. What are the seasons of its bloom & maturity, and what the term of its duration?
3. In what manner is it propagated? by roots, seeds, buds, layers, grafts, or how? and how cultivated? and are there any unusual circumstances attending its cultivation.
4. Is it affected by frost, in countries where frost prevails?
5. The native or popular name of the plant, and (where known) its botanical name and character.
6. The elevation of the place of its growth above the level of the sea.
7. Is there, in the agricultural literature of the country, any special treatise or dissertation upon its culture? If so, let it be stated.
8. Is there any insect particularly habituated to it?
9. Lastly—its use, whether for food, medicine, or the arts.

In removing seeds or the plants from remote places across the ocean, or otherwise, great care is often necessary to be observed in the manner of putting them up and conveying them. To aid your efforts in this respect upon the present occasion, a paper of directions has been prepared, and is herewith transmitted.

The President will hope for your attention to the objects of this communication, as far as circumstances will allow; and it is not doubted but that your own public feelings will impart to your own endeavours under it, a zeal proportioned to the beneficial results to which the communication looks. It is proper to add that no expence can at present be authorized in relation to it. It is possible however, that Congress may not be indisposed to provide a small fund for it. The seeds, plants, cuttings, or whatever other germinating substance you may transmit, must be addressed to the Treasury Department, and sent to the Collector of the port to which the vessel conveying them is destined, or where she may arrive, accompanied by a letter of advice to the Department. The Secretary of the Navy has instructed the commanders of such of the public vessels of the United States as may ever touch at your port, to lend you their assistance towards giving effect to the objects of this communication; as you will perceive by the copy of his letter of instructions, which is herewith enclosed for your information. It is believed, also, that the masters of the merchant vessels of the United States will generally be willing—such is their well known public spirit—to lend their gratuitous co-operation towards effecting the objects proposed.

I remain, respectfully,
Your most obedient servant,
RICH'D. RUSH.

To————,Esq.
Consul of the United States at——

SINGULAR TRIAL.—The Raleigh Register mentions the occurrence of a singular trial for *forgery*. 'A man who is estimated to be worth *two hundred thousand dollars*, was indicted for the crime of forgery, and so conclusive was the evidence that the jury convicted him. What is still more remarkable, the amount which this individual, who has thus made shipwreck of his reputation, expected to gain was only *thirty* dollars. He has appealed to the Supreme Court.'

OFFICIAL.

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer.

Gentlemen:—Having reported to the Secretary of War, some months since, that the original Proceedings of the General Court Martial, which convened at Mobile the 5th of December, 1814, could not be found on the files of the office; and subsequently, having made a similar statement in reply to a note received from D. Green, Esq. of this city, which statement has been published in a newspaper; I have now to request the publication of an official letter on the same subject, and which is addressed to the Secretary of War.

Very respectfully,
R. JONES.

Nov. 14th.

ADJ. GEN'S. OFFICE,
Washington, 10*th Nov.* 1827.

To the Hon. *Secretary of War.*

SIR—I have the satisfaction to state that the 'original proceedings' of the General Court Martial, which convened at Mobile the 5th of December, 1814, have just been found.

In one of the Departments, there is a recess, in which a variety of old papers, &c. have been deposited, as I am informed, ever since the removal of the Adjutant General's Office to this building, in June 1821. It was here, amidst this mass of promiscuous papers, (with which, no doubt, it had remained several years unknown) that Mr. Williams, the first Clerk, this morning discovered a bundle, containing proceedings of sundry Courts Martial, of war date, and among these the document which has been so long missing and absent from the appropriate place of record.

I am, Sir, with great respect, your ob't serv't, R. JONES, *Adj. Gen.*

We are indebted to the Pennsylvania Gazette for the following enumeration of the works of internal improvement in progress and projected in various parts of the United States.

To commence with our own state (Pennsylvania)—we have near 500 miles of canal completed in progress or provided for. We have also the Schuylkill navigation, 108 miles in full operation; the Union canal 90 miles nearly completed; the Lehigh navigation, say 60 miles connected with a railway of 9 miles. Tributary to our state we have the Delaware and Chesapeake canal, and the Delaware and Hudson canal the Morris canal, and preliminary measures have been taken, for the construction of a railway from Columbia to Philadelphia another from Danville to Mount Carbon; and for the connection of the Susquehanna with the Delaware, by canal or railway, or both, by the Lehigh There is, also the Conestoga navigation, which we presume, must be near completion; and meetings have been held to procure the continuation of the Pennsylvania canal, from Middleton to Columbia upon the Susquehanna In the west we have the Ohio canal, in a forward state, which when completed, will form a line of about 300 miles. It is proposed also, as our readers have lately been informed, to connect this by a cross canal with the Pennsylvania canals. In the south, the Baltimore and Ohio railroad is in progress; and strenuous exertions are making to commence the Chesapeake and Ohio canals. Each of these works are of immense magnitude. In Virginia, there is a canal and one or more have been projected in South Carolina.

The steps which have been taken towards the construction of a railroad from Camden, opposite this city, to South Amboy and the erection of the Delaware and Raritan canals have been recently laid before the public. In Massachusetts they have the oldest canal and railway in the union; and preliminary measures have been adopted for the erection of the Boston and Hudson rail roads; and we believe it is in contemplation to make a railroad from Worcester to Boston. The people of Vermont are engaged in a project for connecting Lake Champlain with Connecticut river. We have not mentioned the public works of the state of New York. Her Erie and Champlain canals are stupendious works, which cannot be forgotten or overlooked. She is also engaged upon other canals.

We have no doubt some works have been omitted in the foregoing enumeration, but we challenge the world with those which have been mentioned, to show any nation in any age which has undertaken public improvements at all to be compared with ours in extent, value and importance.

We copy the following editorial remarks from the Boston Patriot. It will be recollected that the memorials on the subject of an expedition to the Antarctic were referred to a Select Committee of the House of Representatives, which made a report, recommending that the subject be referred to the Secretary of the Navy. The opinions of the Committee were generally in favor of an appropriation for the measure; and as its popularity seems to have gradually increased from that time, it is not improbable that Congress may now be prepared to sanction and aid an undertaking, from which great benefits may be expected to commerce as well as science.

Nat. Journal.

[*From the Boston Patriot*]

The repetition by Mr. Reynolds of his lectures on the subject of a voyage of discovery to the Southern Polar regions, will afford to those of our citizens who feel an interest in the developement of science generally another opportunity to learn from his own mouth the views of the lecturer—His proposition which looks to the fitting out of an expedition to explore the southern polar seas, is no visionary speculation but is in itself practical, and its results cannot but be of practical benefit to this country, and to the world. Little has been discovered in the Southern hemisphere since the days of Cook, who did not go beyond 71 25, the season of the year not being the most favorable. From the fact of the cold being greater at the south than the north in parallel degrees of latitude, the opinion has obtained that in the south the polar regions presented nothing but fields of impassable ice. Hence the field of discovery has been abandoned to the south and that only of the north entered upon by the British discovery ships. There are facts, however, which substantiate the belief that there is at least as wide an expanse of open sea at the south as at the north pole.—Captain Weddel who penetrated to lat. 74 25 south saw not a speck of ice around him. He remarks—'the mildness of every thing around us is such, that our situation might be envied, were it not for the well-known fact, that we have to penetrate immense fields of ice in returning to the equator.'

As we have before remarked, Mr. Reynolds looks forward to the time when this country shall authorize a voyage of discovery to the south pole the necessary outfits to be made by the government. This expense will be assumed by the government as soon as it is known to Congress as the will of the people that it should so be, and therefore is it necessary that men of influence in this quarter should so far interest themselves in the project as to add their names to the many that are already borne upon the memorial for this purpose, a copy of which we published a few days since.

From the N. Y. Commercial Advertiser of Thursday.

DEATH OF MR. EMMET.

It is with feelings of the deepest regret that we record the death of Thomas Addis Emmit, Esq. who has so long stood in the front rank of eminent American Jurists, and whose gigantic legal attainments and powerful eloquence have thrown such lustre over the bar of New York.—There was something very solemn and deeply affecting, in the suddenness and manner of his death. He may be said to have died on the field of his victory and well earned renown. He was closely confined in Court during the trial of the Astor cause, in which, on Monday last, he summed up in behalf of the Plaintiff, in a masterly & elaborate address. The trial of the "Sailors' Snug Harbour" cases ensued, in which he was also engaged. We learn that for two nights he had scarcely taken any repose; and there is no doubt that such intense and unremitted mental occupation produced the shock which has terminated his valuable life. He was sitting in Court yesterday, in the forenoon, in apparent health, and was conversing only a few moments before the event. He was observed to lean forward with his head resting on his hand, or on the table, and when spoken to, was found to be entirely insensible. When this was ascertained, the court immediately adjourned. Messengers were despatched for the members of his family and physicians, who speedily arrived. Bleeding was resorted to, but without producing any apparent effect. A litter was prepared for his removal, on which he was carried to his house in Hudson Square. The Court of Chancery, which was sitting at the same time, was also immediately adjourned. The melancholy event produced a profound and solemn sensation on the crowd who assembled round the Court Room, in which his friends and the medical gentlemen called in, were employing their ineffectual efforts on his behalf. We believe that Mr. Emmet remained in a state of insensibility from the moment of the attack until he expired last night at a few minutes after eleven.

There are few of our citizens who have not witnessed, at some time, the display of argumentative and impassioned oratory which flowed from the lips of this great lawyer. His vigor seemed to remain unimpaired to the last; and he has died in the fulness of his fame, and at the height of his profession. We will not do injustice to his memory, by a feeble attempt to characterise the style of his eloquence. This task will no doubt be performed by some of his able compeers on whom it will regularly devolve.

On the opening of the Court, this morning, Mr. D. B. Ogden very feelingly announced the melancholy event, and the Court immediately adjourned. The members of the Bar, who were present, including his honor the Chancellor, were then called to order, and the venerable Judge Benson being present, was appointed Chairman, and the Chancellor, also present was appointed Secretary.

It was on motion resolved, that a general meeting of the profession be held on Friday (tomorrow) morning at 10 o'clock, in the Supreme Court Room, for the purpose of testifying their respect for the memory of their eminent deceased brother.

From the Commercial Advertiser.

THE LETTER AGAIN.

No way abashed by the rebuffs the 'kennel presses' have hitherto received upon the subject of the much talked of letter of Mr. Webster's, which nobody has ever seen, the Hon. Samuel C. Allen, of Massachusetts, has been recently summoned before the public, to sustain the charge. It will be seen, however, by what follows, that this new attack has been no less promptly met and put down by Mr. Allen, than have been the former ones. The Greenfield (Mass.) Herald, received this morning, contains the following letter from Mr. A.—

An article in a late number of the U. S. Telegraph, has been shewn me, containing the following paragraph.

"We aver upon good authority, that Mr. Webster did say, that he had a letter in his possession which pledged Mr. Adams to the Federal party, and he did shew it to some and offered to shew it to another Federal gentleman as an inducement to influence their votes for Mr. Adams. We will now name Mr. Warfield, of Maryland, Mr. Allen of Massachusetts, and Mr. McLane, of Delaware.

The reference to my name in the above article is wholly gratuitous, and without the slightest authority from me, and so far as I know, the statement it contains is without the least foundation in fact. I never saw any letter from Mr. Adams in the possession of Mr. Webster, or of any other person, relating to the Presidential election, or to the Federal party, or any other party. I never heard Mr. Webster say or intimate that he had such a letter or any letter from Mr. Adams, nor ever have I had any knowledge from any source, of such a letter. SAMUEL C. ALLEN.

Greenfield, Nov. 7, 1827.

It now remains for Mr. Warfield and Mr. M'Lane to come forth under their own proper names, and sustain the Telegraph and the Richmond Enquirer, if they can.

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2940_scm11029-0607.jpg