EASTON GAZETTE.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE--"Literature well or ill-conducted, is the Great engine by which all Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown."
RELIGION purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty--Morality refines the Manners--Agriculture makes us Rich and Politics provides for the enjoyment of all.

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LOVE AND REASON.

"My dear fellow, I have now accompanied you in your gallop of three days, for travelling it cannot be called, and you have not exchanged a dozen words with me, except your very kind and polite variations to the tune, "Begone, you trouble me." The speaker was a fine looking, middle aged man, with a broad Plato-like forehead, and a dark, benevolent, lustrous eye, whose fire had evidently been tamed by years and reflection but still there was something in it which told of strong but conquered passions.

The youth whom he addressed was leaning moodily on the table, with his face buried in his hands. He raised it when his companion addressed him. No one would have thought of calling it handsome, but there was intellectuality in his pale countenance and intelligent eye.—When once seen, they were not a face and eye to be forgotten.

"It is very kindly meant, no doubt," said he, "but surely you know enough of man's nature to be aware, that after such a shock as I have received, solitude is the best comforter."

"I know no such thing," rejoined the senior, "and besides, let us look cooly at the cause of this sorrow which has made such a child of you. A pretty blue eyed girl, with auburn hair, wreathing round a polished forehead, whose outward beauty has a poor contrast to the sense within, has thought fit to marry another man.—The more fool she, and the greater fool you, to grieve for it. Why, man, there are plenty of blue eyed girls in the world."

"Uncle," rejoined the youth, "you may have reasoned more and thought more than I have, but you have never felt as much. 'Tis now six years since I left my native land, and wherefore did I leave it?—for her sake. I was poor, and would not have plunged the woman I loved into misery. I have toiled and struggled beneath a burning, pestilential sky; I have taken all honorable means of acquiring wealth; I have labored like a slave; I have been sneered at, for rapacity and avarice; bitter, bitter, to me were the means of acquiring that wealth, for it forced me to associate with men of grovelling minds, to speak in their language, to do as they did, till by heaven! I was almost as mean and contemptible as they. I returned with my hard earned wealth—you know the rest. I saw her married; did I betray my emotion? did I not look calmly on?"—and bitterly he laughed.

"Harry," said his uncle, "you have charged me with want of feeling. Boy I could, aye, will, tell you a tale, and thence you may judge if I am fit to be your adviser."

Tears stood in his eyes, but they fell not, for he was a man who, if he could not control his feelings had the power of preventing their display—he continued:

"You may remember, for I have often told you so to cheer you, that my early days were days of poverty and difficulty. I had scarcely left college when my parents, from sickness and misfortune in trade, were reduced almost to beggary.—It was to put daily bread into their mouths, and those of my poor little sisters & brother, that I undertook private tuition, the only thing for which my desultory mode of study fitted me. Many a head-ache I had, from the tiresome task of drilling the dull lesson into the head of stupidity or obstinacy, and many the heart-ache, from the superciliousness of an unfeeling wealthy employer, or from the often, tacitly encouraged pertness of the pupil. Often have I cursed my fate, when the clock struck the warning hour, which called me from the perusal of some delightful volume, to my weary daily drudgery. There was one pupil, however, the time of whose lesson was frequently anticipated. She was a fair girl, with a mild, soft, hazel eye, which, however, frequently gleamed brightly and mirthfully. She was a mere child, with all a child's whims and fancies; but she was only capricious in trifles; in the utmost wildness of girlish mirth, she would have shuddered to utter a word which might hurt the meanest menial's feelings; her heart was all kindness and her soul all guileless purity. There was one thing also which won my heart; she would enquire after my sick parent's health, in a soft, sweet, pitying tone, which made tears start into my eyes; she was the only one who did so, and I loved her for it. I often caught myself gazing on her intensely, as she bent over her book, and when she raised her eyes from it, and observed this she would blush deeply, and ask some needless questions about the lesson, in the prettiest, most confused manner possible. Wherefore should I dwell upon these thoughts? I loved her, and thought she loved me. We sometimes read poetry together, out of the same volume, and I would fondly fancy there was something peculiar in her manner, when any passage might possibly be applied to ourselves. And who would not have thought so, if he had heard those feeling, tremulous tones, and felt the warm sigh flutter over his face, or had his head entangled in a pretty girl's curls, from sitting too close to her, while she was reading love poetry. This was too much for flesh and blood, and one evening our lips clung into a kiss. "Pretty doing—walk out of my house—walk to your room madam! I shall not expose you, sir, for my daughter's sake, but never let me see you again.' 'Twas mamma.

"Now, my dear Harry, was I not in the right, to suppose thi girl loved me?" "Yes, uncle, yes," said Harry impatiently, "go on."

"You remember the good luck which happened to me about this time. I became clerk in the counting house of one of the most whimsical old fellows in the world. Promptitude was his motto; he was as absolute as Napoleon. The moment he decided upon a thing, it was done. He came to me one day, and said in his usual brief, surly manner, "say, youngster, what time will you take to get ready to go as super cargo to India; one of my clerks asks ten, another eight days, how long do you ask?"

I knew the humor of the old fellow, and replied, "I am ready now, Sir."

He grinned grimly, and said "you shall go."

I went, remained four years, and by trading, secured a competence, returned home full of thoughts of my quandom pupil, her lessons, the love poetry and mamma."

"I was now hailed as equal, by those who had scorned me. The vulgar rich bowed down to me; but this was no consolation to my wounded spirit, for she was married. At first my grief and indignation were violent as yours, but at last, for the sake of appearances, I overcame them, and even visited at her house. One day we were left alone together. My heart beat dreadfully; my tongue clove to my mouth, but she was totally unconcerned—quite cool.

"Do you remember," said she laughing, "the last time we saw each other before you left for India?"

I was struck dumb with astonishment.

"Do you know," continued she, "I used to pity you very much, and I do think you were half in love with me, confess now." This was said in such a languishing manner, it cooled my love instanter. Many men would have thought this a challenge, but 'twas not so.

"Oh uncle, uncle," said Harry, "your case is not like mine; that admitted of consolation, mine does not."

Six months afterwards Harry was married, and is now the best humoured, most contented man that ever had a wife and six children to try his patience.

NAVAL REMINISCENCE.

The capture of the U. S. frigate President, by a British squadron, off Long Island, near the close of the last war, was marked by many interesting circumstances, which have been communicated to us by one who was an eye witness.

It is well known that the President sustained considerable injury by striking on the bar beyond Sandy Hook, on the night that she put to sea which greatly impeded her sailing.—This accident and the delay occasioned by it, rendered it very doubtful whether she would be able to elude the enemy's vigilance, who were known to have a force of three frigates and a 64 gun ship cruising along the coast. As the day dawned, the apprehensions of Com. Decatur were realized. The whole of the enemy's squadron was in sight at no great distance, and in a brief interval, their clouds of canvass were seen raised to the breeze in eager pursuit. The largest of the frigates, the Endymion, a ship of equal size and force with the President, took the lead in chase, and it was very apparent that her superior sailing would render all hope of escape from her futile. Not that there was any disinclination to try the issue of a brush with her, single handed, but on the contrary, such was the confidence in our naval superiority and in the hero who commanded, that every heart would have exulted at the thought of such an encounter, without a fear of its consequences But Decatur saw that if he commenced an engagement with the Endymion, it could hardly be decided before the other ships would arrive and determine the result against him. The chase continued fresh and animated until after sunset, when the enemy's ship having arrived within gunshot began to pour in her well directed fire. At this moment Decatur conceived a plan, which with his characteristic decision, he determined to carry, if possible, into execution. It was no less than to run the President along-side of the Endymion, carry her by boarding, escape by his superior sailing and leaving his own crippled vessel a prey to the enemy.

The conception was worthy of the hero, and was hailed with three enthusiastic cheers, when communicated to the crew. Orders were promptly given to wear ship for the purpose, but the enemy took the alarm, stood off and frustrated the intrepid manœuvre.

No alternative was now left but to fight the Endymion at her own distance, and matters soon wore a very terrific aspect. A running fire commenced on both sides, which was fatal to many of the officers of the President. Mr. Babbitt, the first Lieutenant, was killed early in the action, and Lieutenant Hamilton was soon after cut in two by an 18 pound shot. This amiable officer shook hands and took leave of a friend as he was departing to his station, and in a few minutes, when that friend was hastening to the quarter deck to make a report to the Commodore, he met his faithful servant, who exclaimed in a tone of angush, 'Oh, sir, poor Mr. Hamilton is just killed.'

Meanwhile the contest which had raged fiercely for more than an hour, began to abate, on the part of the enemy, and it was very evident that they were unable to continue it much longer. As their fire ceased, Lieutenant Howell observed to a midshipman who was standing by his side, 'Well, we have flogged that fellow after all; he can fight no longer. He had hardly uttered these words when a gun flashed, and he exclaimed, 'No, he is firing yet.' The midshipman moved to look as he spoke, but hearing a groan at the moment, he turned round and the gallant Howell was lying on the deck in the convulsions of death. That very flash was but the precursor of the fatal shot which struck him while he was speaking. The midshipman found afterwards that he himself narrowly escaped the same shot, it having carried away a part of the belt of his own dirk, which was hanging by his side.

By this time the Pomona and Tenedos frigates, having come up, had taken their positions to pour in upon the President their murderous broadside, and further resistance to such unequal odds seemed madness. Painful as the necessity was, it seemed imperious, and Decatur gave orders for the flag to be struck.

Though it was the latter part of January, the sun rose next moring with a mild and vivifying radience. The hostile attitude of the parties having been changed by the result into the relation of victors and vanquished, it now only remained to the victors to make the necessary preparation to transport their prize to Bermuda.

On Commodore Decatur, however, and the survivors, was devolved the sad duty of consigning to their graves the remains of those who had fallen in the bloody contest. The bodies of Lieuts. Babbitt, Hamilton and Howell, wrapped in tarry sheets, were borne to the ship's side, and prepared to be consigned to the depths below. Around stood the silent group, attended by a detachment of British mariners, who were deputed to pay them the closing honours of war.—Episcopal burial service was read in an impressive manner by Decatur, and as he pronounced the words, 'We commit these bodies to the deep,' the mariners fired their funeral knell, and they were simultaneously launched into the ocean.

One sullen plunge—the scene was o'er.
The sea rolled on as it rolled before,

It is a remarkable circumstance that when the prize crew was sent on board the President from the squadron, inquiry was immediately made by a British officer if Lieut. Babbitt was on board and well. When told of his death, he was greatly affected, and observed that he had been a few months before, a prisoner of war in the United States, and stationed in the village where the family resided with whom Mr. B. expected to be allied by marriage, and that he had given them a pledge, at his departure, that if ever the chances of war should place Mr. B. within his reach he would do all in his power to alleviate the misery of such a servitude.

Notwithstanding the favourable opportunity afforded by the weather to repair the President and put her in a condition to reach Bermuda in safety, not a shot-hole was stopped up the next day, and she remained as she was when the last gun was fired. That night the spirit of the storm was visible on the face of the waters, and ere midnight, the winds and waves seemed to vie with each other in an effort to complete the work of destruction. A tempest of the most appalling description sprang up to which the terrors of the battle were as nothing. The ship rolled and plunged, and every successive plunge was supposed to be the last. The idea that such a shattered vessel, pierced by a hundred balls, and leaking dreadfully, could survive the fury of such a storm, seemed to all incredible. The American officers were placed in the ward room where they remained the whole night in that state of exciting and fearful suspense which the danger of their situation was likely to produce. The word passed repeatedly from one to another that she was gone and all immediately prepared themselves to meet their impending fate as soon as possible. But Providence had ordained otherwise, and with the return of morning came new hope. The violence of the gale did not abate, however, until evening, and when it subsided, not one of the other ships was any where to be seen. A plan was therefore formed by the prisoners to rise upon the prize crew and recapture the frigate which was defeated only by the premature disclosure of it by a drunken marine. Being ordered below for some insolence, he muttered something that alarmed the British officers, who exercised such vigilance afterwards that it was impracticable to carry the scheme into execution with any prospect of success.

A CURIOSITY.

A neighbor has brought into our office, a silver snuff box, in weight equivalent to about four dollars and a quarter, of an oblong form, which was personally presented, by General George Washington, in the year 1784, to Shenandoah, the last Chief of the Oneidas. On the lid is the following inscription, beautifully engraven:—

"This Box
was the gift of
Gen. Geo. Washington,
to
Shenandoah,
last Chief of the
Oneidas,
1784."

By some strange process, with which, however, we are unacquainted, it seems afterwards to have become the property of the town of Manlius, N. Y. for on the back side of the box, is the following:—

"The Trustees of the Village of
Manlius,
to
H. C. De Boies, Esq.
Dec. 20th, 1828."

A few days since, the owner of the box by reason, we understand, of some reverse of fortune, was obliged to leave it in pledge for a small sum of money, in this city. It has since been purchased by a young gentleman, who will be careful to preserve it.

Boston Traveller.

CONGRESS.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 2

A resolution was submitted, in the Senate yesterday, by Mr. McKinley, to the effect that the senate will on to morrow proceed to the election of a printer for that body, in the twenty second Congress. Mr. Noble and Mr. Hendricks presented memorials and joint resolutions of the Legislature of Indiana. The bill for the continuation of the Cumberland Road in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, was read a third time and passed, as were also several private bills. The Senate spent the remainder of the day in Executive business.

The business of the House of Representatives was principally confined to the passage of resolutions. A communication from Georgetown was presented by the speaker and read, descriptive of the suffering condition of the poor of that place, and a resolution was then offered by Mr. Washington, authorizing a donation of thirty cords of wood for their relief. Mr. Polk and Mr. Blair of South Carolina opposed the resolution, and the latter moved to amend it by authorizing a deduction of a day's pay from every member who voted for the resolution, to be applied to the purpose for which this wood was asked. The resolution was ultimately adopted in its original form, by a vote of 108 to 79. A resolution on the subject of contempts was adopted, on motion of Mr. Draper of Virginia. The bill for the relief of James Monroe was again taken up. The amendment moved by Mr. Mercer, to refer the claim to the Accounting Officers of the Treasury, to be settled on principles of justice and equity, was discussed. A motion was made by Mr. Williams, to amend the amendment, so as to compel the accounting officers to report their opinions, and the principles on which they are founded, to Congress, for the final decision of that body on the claim. The amendment moved by Mr. Williams was after some discussion, agreed to, by a vote of Ayes 109, Noes 81. Mr. Hemphill then read an amendment appropriating $6,000 for the services of Mr. Monroe, but it was not in order to move it at that stage. The amendment of Mr. Mercer, as amended by Mr. Williams, was then negatived---Ayes 88, Noes 92. The House then adjourned.

The following is a copy of the amendment which it is proposed by Mr. Hemphill to move to the Bill for the relief of James Monroe:

"To strike out all the present bill and substitute the following:---

Whereas James Monroe has repeatedly memorialized Congress concerning certain claims---and whereas several Committees of the House of Representatives have reported favorably thereon---and whereas, from the lapse of time and other causes, an accurate opinion cannot be formed as to the amount, leaving a compromise as the only alternative.

Therefore be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representaiives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for public services, losses and services, the sum of $6,000 dollars is hereby appropriated, to be paid to James Monroe immediately after the passing of this Act, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated' which shall be in full of all demands of the said James Monroe, for services aforesaid.

THURSDAY, Feb. 3.

In the Senate yesterday Mr. Benton, pursuant to notice given, asked leave to introduce a joint resolution, to the effect that the Charter of the Bank of the United States ought not to be renewed, in support of which he spoke at great length. Mr. Webster called for the sense of the Senate on the resolution, and it was negatived—the votes being, on the granting of leave, Yeas 20, Nays 23. On Mr. Kinley's resolution, to proceed to the election of a Printer to the Senate on this day, being taken up, Mr Marks moved as an amendment, to strike out the word 'Thursday,' and substitute 'Tuesday next.' Mr. Marks stated as his reason for this postponement, the absence of certain Senators—(Mr. Chambers of Maryland, we understood.) A division took place on the question, and the amendment was carried—Ayes 21, Noes 20.

In the House of Representatives yesterday a bill was reported from the Committee of Commerce to repeal the charges imposed on passports and clearances; and a bill was reported from the Committee of Ways and Means to authorize the proper officers of the Treasury Department to credit the account of the Treasurer of the United States with the amount of the unavailable funds with which he has been charged, Mr. Thompson moved to reconsider the vote of the preceding day, by which the House negatived the amended amendment of Mr. Mercer, but his motion did not succeed, the ayes being 98, the noes 101. The previous question was moved by Mr. Haynes, in order to bring back the question to the engrossment of the bill, but the call was not seconded, ayes 81, noes 92. Mr. Hemphill then moved the amendment which we published yesterday. Mr. Chilton moved to lay the bill and amendment on the table—negatived, ayes 85, noes 111. The amendment of Mr. Hemphill was then negatived—ayes 93, noes 99. Mr. Hemphill renewed his amendment, reducing the amount to 30,000 dollars. Some amendments to this amendment were ordered; and one offered by Mr. Dudley, providing that the accounting officers shall decide, previous to the grant, that 30,000 dollars are due to Mr. Monroe, was accepted by Mr. Hemphill, whose amendment, thus modified, was agreed to, ayes 106, noes 83. Before any question on the engrossment was taken, the house adjourned.

Duff Green was re-elected printer to the House, for the 22d Congress. The whole number of votes given in were 206, Duff Green had 108, Gales & Seaton, 76, Wm. Greer 16, Way & Gideon 1, Norvel 1, J. Blair 1, J. Gales, jr. 1, blanks 2.

A proposition to supply the public buildings with water by Mr. Cameron, was laid before the House, and referred to the Committee on the Public Buildings.

FRIDAY, Feb. 4.

In the Senate yesterday, petitions were presened by Mr. Sanford from citizens of Saranac, State of New York, relative to a Post Route—by Mr. Woodbury, from citizens of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, relative to a law to regulate Silver Coins—and by Mr. Hayne, from Clerks in the Fourth Auditor's office, praying an increase of salary Mr. Brown gave notice of his intention to ask leave to introduce a bill for the reduction of duty on Sugars. The bill providing for the annual payment of $6,000 to the Seneca Indians, with several amendments, was passed to a third reading. After the Senate had spent some time in the consideration of Executive business, they then adjourned.

In the House of Representatives yesterday, Mr. Mallary, from the Committee on Manufactures, reported a bill to repeal, in part, the act to reduce the duty on salt. The second reading of this bill, which provides that so much of the act

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