S. Catrup

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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A MARRIAGE IN SWEEDEN.

From a recently published volume of "Travels in Sweden."

It was Saturday at even, and the following day had been fixed for the nuptials. The guests arrived in groups, their number exceeding two hundred persons. They were received at the house of the betrothed, where they deposited, reindeer and bacon hams, butter, cheese, game, beer and brandy, which they had brought in their cars to contribute to the festivity. After having conversed a few moments with the master of the house, and taken refreshments, they were successively conducted to their neighbors, amongst whom their lodging had been prepared. In the evening, about 7 o'clock, the betrothed, accompanied by her father and friends, set out for the house of the vicar where she was to sleep, in order that she might be the earlier ready the next morning. Her intended, surrounded by his family, and a group of guests, repaired thither at an early hour, and the order of procession was there formed.—First marched the beadle, with a whip in hand, to clear the way; he was followed by three musicians, who play the Dalecarlian violin—a rude three stringed instrument of their own manufacture, next came the bridegroom in his gayest attire, supported on ether side by one of his nearest relatives and the *rudiman* or soldier of the district; and after these, eight or ten horsemen, followed by an equal number of bridesmaids, clad in green petticoats, with a long jacket or vest; many rows of glass beads encircled their necks, and their fingers were adorned with a profusion of gilt rings, encircled with stones; their long tresses were fastened on the summit of their heads, whence hung an innumerable quantity of ribbons of all colors, the inferior extremities of which were fringed with gold or silver Last came the bride, conducted by her aunt, a young and beautiful woman; her robe was of black silk; her head surmounted by a coronet of gilt metal, adorned with trinkets, her hair in ringlets intermixed with ribbons, floated on a neck of faultless symmetry, surrounded as in the rest, with strings of glass beads, and other ornaments; gloves embroidered with extreme care, and a neck-kerchief worked in the most fanciful manner, completed this singular but graceful costume. On arriving at the church, the priest gave them his benediction, and as soon as the ceremony was over the whole cortege set out for the house of the bride's father, where the wedding was to be kept. They were received at the door by the mother and cook—the first of whom introduced the guests into rooms prepared for the reception, while the second, laying hold on the bride, led her to the kitchen, where she made her taste all the dishes she had prepared The bride was then placed at table between her husband and the parson; the *rudiman* at one aide opposite to the father. The table was covered with linen of remarkable fineness and whiteness, the knives and forks were of polished steel. Bunches of the most beautiful flowers covered the table; the floor was strewed with green branches of pine, birch and wild flowers. The repast was abundant, though not elegant, and every one seemed happy and hungry. Just as the cloth was about being removed, the bride arose, and with her, the *rudiman*. The musicians, who had played during the whole meal, placed themselves before them; and in this order the little procession moved round the table. The bride held a silver cup, which a domestic filled with brandy; this she presented to each guest in succession, who emptied it, whereupon the *rudiman* presented a plate, on which each person deposited his offering, or mentioned what he would give, to assist the young people in commencing housekeeping. All these presents, according as they were made, were proclaimed by the *rudiman*, and followed by a flourish of music.

After this was all over, the tables were removed, and dancing commenced, the bride led off a sort of slow waltz with the parson. The festivities generally lasted several days; on the last of which the kitchen boy made his appearance, with a sad air, holding in one hand an empty stew pan, in the other, the spiggot drawn from the cask. At this very intelligible hint, all the guests took their departure, and the wedding was at an end.

Opium Trade.—By occasionally visting the Hercules, one of the receiving ships for opium, I was able to observe, through the kindness of Mr. Parry, her chief officer, how this extensive and lucrative business is conducted. The sales are effected in Canton by the European merchants, and orders sent down with the smuggling boats for the delivery of the opium from the different ships; the boats engaged in this occupation are armed with spears, shields, and even firearms, to repel any attack that may be made upon them by the Mandarin guard-boats. They are also manned by a very brave athletic crew; indeed Chinese fight very well one against the other, but cannot bring forward sufficient courage to face Europeans, except the advantages are overpowering on their side. These boats are provided with sails, in addition to a number of oars and rowers, and they pass through the water with inconceivable rapidity. The Mandarin boats, have a weaker and less choice crew, can seldom or ever overtake them; this, however, may in part be explained from the fact of the guard-boats, (the revenue cutters) sent by the Chinese government to cruise against smugglers, coming alongside for a supply of the prohibited drug, to smuggle it themselves into the heart of the Chinese empire. Any thing can be done by bribery in this country, and these boats are often employed in smuggling cassia, treasure, &c. on board European ships at Lintin, &c; indeed, every smuggling boat that takes opium from an opium ship leaves a payment of one dollar on each chest for the Mandarins, and on the opium returns being made up, the sum is regularly paid them; each boat leaves also a kum, shaw, or present for the ship, of five dollars. The chests of the drug are opened on board; the balls or cakes are taken out, and immediately deposited in small mat bags, brought by them for the purpose, and sown up; being in that way more convenient to smuggle than in large heavy chests. There are three kinds of opium usually sold in the English ships, the Malwa, Benares, and Patna; a fourth the Turkey opium, is confined to the American and other foreign vessels. The Patna opium is in balls, packed in partitioned cases, each chest containing forty balls. Old opium fetches a higher price than new; the former being solid, the latter soft and more liable to run. The old chests, so termed are usually two years old when they come under that denomination. The Malwa opium is in rather flattened cakes. The prices of this drug of course fluctuate very much; the consumption in the Chinese empire must be enormous, and is entirely (not the least extraordinary part of the affair) carried on by an illicit trade The payments are usually made, if to any extent, in Sycee silver, which is taken by weight, no silver coinage being acknowledged by the Chinese government. The Chinese purchasers of the opium refine it by boiling, previous to using it for smoking; they use it also in the form of tincture usually carrying a small bottle containing it about them. The present Emperor of China has been described as being totally incapacitated from any business, through the excess to which he has carried the debilitating practice of opium smoking.—*Bennet's Wanderings.*

An officer of the U. S. ship Delaware thus describes his visit to the Holy Land:

"On the 15th September, says the author, Commodore Patterson, family, and a large party left the ship for Jerusalem, 40 miles in the interior. Of course I was of the party. We landed at Jaffa, and after two or three hours delay in engaging mules and donkeys, we started at 5. P. M. Our party consisted of 64, and armed with a brace of pistols and a cutlass; also a guard of four Arabs, well mounted and armed. The first evening we slept at Rama, a village 9 miles from Jaffa. Started the next morning, at 7. A M.; rode through a broiling sun, dined under some fig trees; and stopped before the walls of the Holy City, at 8 P. M after a most fatiguing journey.

The Commodore and family put up at the English Missionary's house; but the rest of us, poor devils, were conducted to the Greek Convent What was our horror, after anticipating a delightful night's rest, to be ushered into a row of miserable little cells, each capable of containing six or eight persons, with stone floors and walls, nothing to sleep on but a bare mat, and nothing in the shape of a table or chair. Miserable as it was, we laid down, and had just began to dose, when the fleas attacked us *en masse*; and with scratching, kicking and turning out several times to shake them off, we spent our first night in the Holy City.

The next day we visited Calvary. On entering the church built by the Empress Helen, the first thing you are shown is a marble slab on which our Saviour was washed after his crucifiction. You then go up a flight of steps to Calvary, and the monks point out the exact spot where our Saviour and two thieves were crucified, the rent in the rock, &c. You then descend, and are shown the Holy Sepulchre, which is built in another part of the church. You see also the stone on which he was scourged, another on which he was crowned with thorns, all in the same church. After leaving the church, we went to the Mount of Olives, spent half an hour in rambling amongst the olive trees, saw the Dead Sea and river Jordan, 20 miles distant; and in returning stopped at the tomb of the Virgin Mary and tomb of Absolum. The day following, went to Bethlehem, 9 miles distant, saw the place of our Saviour's nativity, dined, and returned in the evening. Having seen every thing in Jerusalem, set out the next day on our return to the ship, and arrived on the morning of the second day.

THE FIREMEN'S CONTEST.

The meeting of bluff Harry with his gallant rival Francis I. on the Field of the Cloth of Gold, could not have produced much more excitement in anticipation, than the coming trial of skill between the Philadelphia and New York Firemen. A thousand hearts will beat anxiously until the result is known.—The note of preparation has been truly fearful. The challenge is given and accepted with all due solemnities, and a deputation from New York is now in this city arranging the preliminaries. The terms, if settled, have not yet transpired, and we are unable to tell when, where, or how, this awful contest is to be decided.

There are of course, various speculations as to the result. For our own part we stand by our city.—We believe that the Philadelphia firemen are capable of putting out any fire that can be kindled—not excepting the fire of New York emulation. We believe that they can run faster, halloo louder, throw water further, and put out a fire quicker than any mortals living. The very element appears to be concious of their prowess, and on their approach disappear from mere dread. In all probability the New Yorkers will do the same.

A story is told of a yankee who visited the Falls of Niagara and while his rapt companions were gazing in silent awe upon the war of waters, he burst forth into the sublime exclamation "Gracious; what a place for washing sheep." In like manner, this "meeting of the waters," forces upon us one solemn reflection. When the belligernt engines are arranged, filled and manned, when all is prepared and the dreadful word (which we presume will not be, as in ordinary cases *Fire!* but *Water!*) is given—what a confounded splashing it will make!

The fall of waters! rapid as the light,
The flashing mass foams up———
* * * *
And mounts, in spray, the skies, and thence again
Returns in an increasing shower.

Childe Harold.

If there be, as the old Romans thought River Gods such an occasion would be a festival, a jubilee with them They might rise upon the rising jet; sport in the Iris made by the falling shower, and luxuriate in the rivers which the Philidelphia firemen are able to send dashing and sparkling towards, not quite to--the moon.

But trifling apart, there is much real good to be expected from such a contest. Emulation in such arms, can never fail to be attended with improvements, honorable to those immediately concerned, and highly advantageous to the whole community.—*Phil. Gaz.*

SOUTH CAROLINA.

We had the pleasure, in our last, of apprising our readers of the reconciliation of the two great intestine parties of South Carolina. Of the controversy between them, now that it is ended, we have no idea, of reviewing the merits.—Most of our readers, however, will probably be glad to see the report or manifesto of the majority, which had the effect to induce the minority to abandon their intention to resist the test-oath prescribed by the late amendment to the Constitution of the State. The following is a copy of the report, which was adopted by large majorities in both branches of the Legislature.—*Nat. Int.*

The Joint Committee on Federal Relations, to which was refered the memorials of sundry citizens of the Districts of Charleston, St. Luke's Parish, Orange, Parish, Prince George, Winyaw St. George's Dorchester, Edgefield, Greenville, Union Abbeville, Pendleton, Kershaw, Lancaster, York, and Spartanburg, and the Parish of Christ Church, remonstrating against the passage of the amendment of the fourth article of the Constitution of this State beg leave to

REPORT.

That they feel that under a Government like ours, not only every real grievance of the citizens should meet with prompt redress on the part of the Legislature, but that every imaginary grievance, coming from a portion of our fellow citizens, should obtain its respectful consideration

Divested of all extrinsic considerations, the memorialists complain that the oath provided for in the amendment of the 4th article of the Constitution of this State, to be hereafter taken by every person holding office under its authority, is designed by a majority of the people of South Carolina to impose on the memorialists obligations to the State inconsistent with those which they owe to the Constitution of the United States. This opinion your committee consider altogether groundlers. They have no hesitation in affirming the belief that the said oath was passed upon and adopted by the people of South Carolina, without the most remote intention of interfering with those obligations, a belief which is concurrent with the conviction of your committee as to the true interpretation of the oath itself; for while the oath asserts and maintains the sovereignty of South Carolina, it expressly provides for the support of the Constitution of the United States, and consequently of all those obligations which the citizens of South Carolina owe to a compact which she solemnly made with her sister States. To suppose that the people of South Carolina, in engrafting this oath on their Constitution, intended to impose any obligations on their citizens incompatible with their duties under the Federal Constitution, whilst in the oath they require those who hold office under her authority, to swear "to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States," would be to suppose that the State was capable of perjury; by assuming contradictory obligations. We trust that the memoralists would not expect us to repel such an imputation; if it were possible, self-respect on the part of the Legislatiure, and a deep reverance for the authority of the people, would prevent it.

It appears, however, that the memorialists further complain "that if the oath is to be construed, as we are instructed by very high judicial authority it ought in good faith to be, in reference to the language of the Ordinance of 1833, it clearly deprives us of the right of judging for ourselves upon the matters in dispute between ourselves and our fellow-citizens."

Your committee suppose the judicial authority here alluded to, must be that of the Judge of the Court of Appeals, who delivered a dissenting opinion. How the memorilists can deduce any abridgement of their right of Judgment from the opinion in question, your committee are at a loss to conceive, since it declares in terms as explicit as can be used, that the oath implies no compulsory conformity of opinion, but provides alone for fidelity of conduct on the part of an office of the State, whilst he continues in office.

With these views, and, as it is believed by your committee, with an understanding between citizens of deserved influence & estimation, both of the majority & minority of the Convention of the people of South Carolina which assembled at this place on the 11th March, 1833, the majority agreed to permit the imposition of an oath of allegiance by their own authority, that it might go before the people as an ordinary proposition for amending the Constitution in the ordinary mode of the exercise of this sovereign function, that the sense of the people might be taken with all possible gravity & deliberation on the high matters in dispute; and as some of those thus representing the minority, expressly proposed such an appeal as a pacific arbitration of the controversy justifying the confident expectation that their best offices will now be exerted to obtain a general acquiescence in the decision which might thus be pronounced, your committee would hope, as this award has been finally rendered, and as the allegiance required by the oath of office in the proposed amendment of the Constitution is the allegiance which every citizen owes to the State, consistently with the Constitution of the United States, that public tranquility and fraternal concord may be restored among the good people of our beloved State. J. HAMILTON;
Chairman of the Committee on the part of the Senate.

EXTINCTION OF THE NATIONAL DEBT.

The Treasury Report which we published to day, announces the important fact that the National Debt of the United States which at one time amounted to more than $127,000,000, will be totally extinguished on the 1st of next month. The fact is not only gratifying in itself, but affords a practical illustration of the immense resources of the country. For it is to be observed that these $127,000,000 have been paid off in the course of 19 years, by the regular operations of our financial and revenue system, without the imposition of direct taxes, (except for a very short period)

Years.		Amount.
First of Jan.	1791 it was	$75,463,476 52
"	1792	77,227,924 66
"	1793	80,352,634 04
"	1794	78,427,404 77
"	1795	80,747,587 39
"	1796	83,762,171 07
"	1797	82,064,479 33
"	1798	79,228,529 12
"	1799	78,408,669 77
"	1800	82,976,294 35
"	1801	83,038,050 80
"	1802	80,712,632 25
"	1803	77,054,686 30
"	1804	86,427,120 88
"	1805	82,312,150 50
"	1806	75,723,270 66
"	1807	69,218,398 64
"	1808	65,196,317 97
"	1809	57,023,192 09
"	1810	53,173,217 52
"	1811	48,005,587 76
"	1812	45,209,787 90
"	1813	55,962,827 57
"	1814	81,487,846 24
"	1815	99,833,660 15
"	1816	127,334,933 74
"	1817	123,491,965 16
"	1818	103,466,633 83
"	1819	95,529,648 28
"	1820	91,025,500 15
"	1821	89,987,427 66
"	1822	93,546,676 98
"	1823	90,875,877 22
"	1824	90,269,777 77
"	1825	83,788,432 71
"	1826	81,054,059 99
"	1827	73,987,357 20
"	1828	67,475,043 87
"	1829	58,421,413 67
"	1830	48,580,534 22
"	1831	39,082,461 88
"	1832	24,282,879 24
"	1833	7,001,698 83
"	1834	4,722,260 29
"	1835	0,000,000 00

Only *nine years ago* our National Debt was $81 000 000, In 1816 the *interest* alone amounted to $7,157,500 42. In 1826, to almost $4,000,000.—Since the beginning of that year we have paid off, including interest, very nearly *a hundred million of dollars*, over and above our current expenses, almost without feeling it.—*N. Y. Jour. Com.*

MISSING PAPERS.

The porter of our Post Office has been arrested this morning on a charge of purloining newspapers. A boy was found in the upper part of the city selling city papers, for waste paper, and on being interrogated, said he had obtained them at the Post Office. According to this statement the trade has been going on for some months. He says that the porter had repeatedly pulled off wrappers from the bundles; and after tearing the direction from each paper, had sold them to him at twenty five cents a hundred. So far the business looks as if it would explain why the papers of this city have sometimes failed to reach their destination —*N. Y. Jour. Com.*

A CHALLENGE.—We are authorsed by John C. Craig, Esq. of Germantown, to state that he proposes to run his horse SHARK, against any other horse, 4 mile heats, for *five thousand dollars aside* half forfeit, weight for age,—the race to be run over the Central Course, Baltimore, next spring meeting. The acceptance of this challenge, with the name of the horse, to be sent to the Secretary of the Maryland Jockey Club, or to Mr. Craig, on or before the sixteenth of January next. The Central Course is named, but the Union Course, L. I. would be equally agreeable. Our Editorial brethren of the South and elsewhere, will please notice this proposition.

Phil. Inq.

BROOKVILLE, IND. November, 29th. —*Hogs!!*—For the last three weeks our eyes have been greeted with scarce any thing else except *vast droves* of the *swinish multitude*. Within that time, "from our own idea of things," and from the calculations of others there must have passed through this place upwards of thirty thousand Hogs, all wending their way to Cincinatti, the greatest hog market we would venture to say in the known world. All these hogs are from a small section of the State.—We are told by the oldest settlers there never was as many hogs drove through this place in one year, before, as has been within the last three weeks Some days it seemed as if the vast arena of nature's store house was filled with *Hogs*

American.

Steam Carriages on Common Turnpike Roads.—The steam Coach Company, Sir Henry Parnell, Bart. M. P., chairman, purposing to extend their act of incorporation to Ireland, have now completed a splendid steam coach.—Messers. Maudslay are the builders, the superentendence of Mr. John Mancnell, the celebrated engineer. In the first instance its operations will be confined to the metropolis. Kingstown, Bray, Howth and the other outlets; and when the public are convinced, by personal observation of its perfect safety and extraordinary speed, twenty Miles an hour on ordinary roads, it will be extended to greater distance. Dublin to Limerick will, we believe, be the first line of road on which, as a public conveyance the steam coach will be used. It may be expected in Dublin the first week in December.

RAIL ROADS AND CANALS.

A publication recently made by Mr Tanner, gives a short description of all canals and Rail Roads in the United States, now completed or in progress—from which work the following is collected:

	CANALS Miles.	R. ROADS Miles.
New Hampshire,	83¾	
Maine,	20½	
Massachusetts,	78½	116
R. Island,		46
Connecticut,	27½	
New York,	800	300
New Jersey,	149	105
Pennsylvania,	788½	322
Delaware,	13½	16
Maryland,	354	194
D. Columbia,	9	
Virginia,	60	249
N. Carolina,	24½	
S. Carolina,	51½	135½
Georgia,	28	
Alabama,	16	62
Mississippi,		63
Louisiana,	14	
Kentucky,	1½	
Ohio,	375	

From the Intelligencer and Expositor

IMPROVEMENT OF SOIL.

If an inquiring mind will go into the woods, where the soil is what we term rich land, and view nature at work, in nature's own way, he will discover readily, that for a considerable depth this rich rich soil is a composition of vegetable matter principally, more or less decomposed,—in common language well rotted. He will discover, that what he applies the name of soil to is composed, almost entirely, of the decayed leaves of the trees with weeds and grass, and rotten wood—perhaps the production of centuries. But on a nice examination of this rich soil, he will be compelled to conclude, from evidence before his senses, incontrovertible, that decayed *leaves* form the principal part. If he wishes for conclusive corroborating testimony, he will heap up a mass of them in a pen, sprinkling the mass with lime, and he will find after the process of fermentation, and decomposition has done its office, that the product will, on application to poor soil, produce the finest vegetation, and prove to his senses that it contains the pabulum, or food of plants, in a high degree. By still going on with his experiment, he will find ultimately, that leaves when decomposed, with the aid of decomposing agents, produce an admiral assistant to vegetation, and by forming a mass of leaves, sprinkling the leaves as he forms the mass, with lime, and adding a small portion of rich moist earth amonst the vegetable matter, he will find on applying it to the earth for the purpose of aiding vegetation, that he has got a pile of manure.

From this evidence before him he will readily conclude, if capable of the operation of common sense, that for the purpose of littering animals, and as an assistant, in forming a compost manure, leaves, especially if gathered while charged with their whole elementary principles, must be an admirable auxiliary, in the production of the dung-stead, and worthy of being the most assiduously collected for that purpose.

Amongst weeds, or green vegetable substances, experiment has amply decided, that those which produced the most putrid and nauseous effluvia, during fermentation, were found producing the most active effect on the growing crop. This fact seems to settle, by positive proof, the correctness of the theory of many plants feeding rapidly on gases, envolved during the process of fermentation, through the medium of their leaves. As it would be highly desirable previous to laying down any plan for making manure, in the form of compost, to have some idea of the relative value of different ingredients, which present for that purpose, it may be proper to have some facts placed before us. Leaves piled up in a pen, with alternate thin strata of swamp mud, when partially decomposed are found a superior preparation for the Irish potato crop. Put around the roots of fruit trees, this compost has been found to produce a healthy and vigorous growth. Its operation has been much increased in its efficacy, by the addition of lime to the mass.—The finest Irish potatoes that I have seen produced in a southern climate, were produced by the addition of this compost.

A pen was made with small rails, a stratum of leaves, trampled down to twelve inches in depth, a sprinkling of lime added after sprinkling the leaves well with muddy water three or four inches of swamp mud was then added, and this course continued until the pen was six feet in height. This compost was made up in the fall, on the first falling of the leaves, and applied to the potato crop in the spring. The effect on the following crop of corn, wss all that could be desired. A second pile was constructed with a stratum of leaves, two feet thick, sprinkled well with lime, previously, with muddy water—two carts came up the one loaded with swamp mud, and the other with dung—from opposite sides the throwing on commenced, at equal pace, so as to mingle the two last well; on the layer of mud and manure being completed, say about four inches thick, another layer of leaves was added—sprinkled with water from a pound, then lime, mud and manure, & continued, until the pile was about six feet in height—a little earth was thrown on the top—I am satisfied the same volume of dung, spread over the same surface, would not have exceeded in production, either in the potato or corn crop, that followed, & to which the composition was applied on planting. In both cases the manure was applied in the drill, but plentifully. The following crop on both grounds was *cotton*—it was superior--the seed was drilled in the old corn, and potato rows, opened with a Scooter plough. The following year, seed that came from the cotton, the year previous, was applied to a second corn crop, which much surpassed the first, indeed was amongst the finest corn crops, to be found—Wheat and Rye followed and were superior.

I give this detail to show that the efficacy of leaves, is decided, in their action on plants, as a manure, when decomposed, for in the crops above stated

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