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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ADVERTISEMENTS

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THE BOOK AGENT.

As the sun was setting, after one of those sultry days in July, when the thermometer rose to 90 degrees, a tall, lantern-jawed, gambrel shanked fellow entered the village of ——, in the old commonwealth of Massachusetts. He was dressed in the peculiar costume of a backwoodsman, having on his head a squirrel-skin cap, and on his feet a pair of double-soled boots, which would laugh out of countenance a Kamscatkian winter. On his left arm was carefully folded a butternut colored frock coat, and in his hand was an extra shirt and dickey tied up in a cotton flag handkerchief. On his entrance into the village, he inquired for the clergyman, and being told where he might be found, started post haste for his residence. Arriving at his house, he found him enjoying the cool of the evening twilight in his garden. Stepping up to the fence, he inquired if the Rev. Mr. —— lived in that neighborhood? The clergyman told him he did, and that he was the individual to whom he alluded

'I'm dreadful deaf,' said the fellow, 'you must raise your voice, or I can't hear a word you say.' The clergyman put his lips to his ear, and repeated the declaration that he was the person for whom he inquired, and asked him the object of his call. "'Tis been an awful hot day," said the traveller, 'but it grows a leetle cooler as the sun goes down.'

The clergyman again enquired his business, on the top of his lungs. 'I thank you a thousand times,' said the stranger, 'I reckoned to have got to a tavern by sundown, but I hav'nt, and as I'm prodigiously tuckered out I'll stay, and thank you into the bargain,' following the clergyman into the house. The clergyman handed him a chair, and after laying down his coat in a corner of the room, and fanning himself awhile with his cap, he took his seat. The clergyman in a loud voice, asked him to what part of the country he was travelling? 'Any thing that comes handy,' he replied; I'm a farmer when at home and not much used to nick nacks—I can eat any thing but cold pork and cabbage, and that I never could eat since I was a boy: but don't put yourself out of the way at all for supper on my account.' The clergyman enquired again, in a still louder voice, if he was from Vermont? 'I'm getting subscribers for a valuable book—it's the works of John Bunyan, or Jonathan Bunyan, I don't remember exactly which, but I'll see,' pulling out the prospectus, and handing it to the clergyman. The clergyman, after looking at it, handed it back, and remarked, that he did not wish to subscribe. 'O yes,' he replied, 'I always carry a pen and ink with me, as I find a great many folks that don't keep such things in their houses,' pulling out his pen and ink and handing it to the clergyman. The clergyman raised his voice to the highest key, and said he must be excused from subscribing. 'Just as well,' said the agent, 'I write the names of half my subscribers myself,' entering the name of the clergyman in his book. The clergyman, despairing of making the fellow hear anything, concluded to get rid of him the easiest way he could. He therefore furnished him with a good supper and bed.

In the morning he told him, in a voice as loud as he was master of that he did not want the work, and that he should not take it. 'Don't give yourself any uneasiness about it,' said the agent, 'I never forget subscribers, and especially ministers—you shall have it in due time.' Thanking him for his kindness and hospitality, and bidding him good morning, he trudged off as fast as his legs could carry him.

About a month after, as the clergyman was on his way to visit a brother in the ministry in a neighboring town, he was not a little surprised to meet his old guest, the deaf book agent. He was dressed in much the same manner as before, but was seated on a box, in the fore part of a one horse wagon, drawn by a horse that would require stall feeding to make much of a shadow.

Coming up to him, he jumped out of his wagon, shook him cordially by the hand, and said he was going directly to his house with the books. The clergyman said he must be excused from taking them, as he had a set already on hand.—'No matter,' said the agent, 'I'm going right by your house and can leave the books, and take the money from your wife,' getting into the wagon and driving off.

The clergyman fearing his family might take the books in his absence, put about for home, and arrived just as the agent was driving up. Seeing the clergyman had returned, he said 'you come back for fear of the storm, I suppose;' taking the books from his box and carrying them into the house. The clergyman told him, as loud, as he could, he did not want the books, and thought he was insulting him. The agent said,' I intend to have got a little further before the storm, but if you cannot conveniently pay me the money, then I must accept of your kind invitation and stay till the storm is over.' The minister finding he must take the books or keep the fellow three or four days, paid him the money as the easiest way to get rid of him.

TOMATO FIGS.

As the season for the maturity of that valuable and favorite vegetable the tomato, is at hand, the following publication for the preservation of it in a new form will prove generally acceptable:

From the American Farmer.

TOMATO FIGS.

PATENT OFFICE, July 10, 1841.

Dear Sir.—The medicinal qualities of tomatoes have greatly increased their cultivation, and every new preparation of the article is deserving consideration. A sample of "tomato figs" have just been deposited at the patent office of a very seperior quality. From the taste I should suppose all the good qualities of the fruit are retained. In appearance the drum of tomatoes resembles one of figs so nearly that they might easily be mistaken for the same.

The sample is deposited by Mrs. Steiger, of this city, and the rceipe transmitted with it is enclosed for publication.—It is deeply to be regretted that since the periodicals of the day are open to communications, that so many valuable improvements are lost to the world barely for the want of publicity. Others may have dried the tomatoes with a receipe, however less successful.

Very respectfully

H. L. ELLSWORTH.

Hon. J. S. Skinner.

Take six pounds of sugar to one peck (or 16lbs) of the fruit. Scald and remove the skin of the fruit in the usual way. Cook them over a fire, their own juice being sufficient without the addition of water until the sugar penetrates and they are clarified. They are then taken out, spread on dishes, flattened and dried in the sun. A small quantity of the syrup should be occasionally sprinkled over them whist drying; after which, pack them down in boxes, treating each layer with powdered sugar. The syrup is afterwards concentrated and bottled for use. They keep well from year to year and retain surprisingly their flavor, which is nearly that of the best quality of fresh figs. The pear or single tomatoes answer the purpose best. Ordinary brown sugar may be used, a large portion of which is retained in the syrup.

A SCENE.

A correspondent of the Boston Post describes the following amusing scene, which he witnessed on the Ohio, on board a steamboat. After giving a laughable description of a most inordinately fat old lady, who was also very easily alarmed by any unusual noise on board, he says:

"After we left the landing, the principal topic of conversation among the passengers was the numerous accidents which had lately happened. Nearly every person was equipped with a life-preserver, and some were so cautious as to hang them up in their berths filled with air and ready for use at a moments warning. Night came, and all were snugly escouced in their berths, when there rose the cry of fire! The wood on the bow of the boat had caught fire, and was blazing fiercely up shining through the glass doors of the Social hall and the cabin windows until the whole boat seemed enveloped in a sheet of flame.—In an instant all was confusion and alarm. Passengers tumbled out of their berths and over one another; some grasped there preservers—some ran for their baggage—some for their wives—the wise ones kept quiet. In the midst of the hubbub, the doors of the ladies' cabin flew wide open and out burst one fat lady, dressed all in white, her face "a map whereon terror was drawn in all its shapes," and around her waist a huge life preserver, not inflated. Seizing this by the nipple with both hands, she rushed from one to another exclaiming, in a voice of agony, "*Blow me up! blow me up! for God's sake blow me up! will nobody blow me up!!* Had the old lady actually exploded, I must have done as I did, roll on the floor in a fit of inextinguishable laughter, with half the witnesses of the scene for my companions. The boat was stopped the fire got under, and, not the least difficult operation, the fat lady's alarm subdued The next day we landed her at her place of destination, since which time I have never seen her, but the recollection of the scene has caused me many a fit of the side ache.

A WINDFALL.

We learn, says yesterday's Republican, that a lady of the name of Mitchell, who died a few day since in this city has devised her entire estate, said to be worth $100,000, to our distinguished fellow citizen, John V. L. McMahon, Esq. Wonder if we'll ever have such good luck.—The old adage of a "fool for luck" is completely nullified in this instance.—*Clipper*

AMERICAN NAVAL VICTORIES.

War was declared between England and America in June, 1812. Peace was signed at Ghent, Dec. 24, 1814, and proclaimed by the President Feb. 18, 1815.

There were fifteen actions between English and American vessels of war. In eleven battles fought by single ships, the Americans conquered; in four only the British triumphed—two of which were by single ships, viz: Chesapeake, of 47 guns, taken by the Shannon, 52; and the Argus, 16 guns, taken by the Pelican 20. The other two British captures were two to one and four to one against us.

During the war, there were captured from the British on the Ocean, three frigates and fifteen sloops of war and smaller ships; and on the Lakes, thirteen, several of them brigs and sloops. The whole number captured by the Americans was thirty-one. The British took from us, and destroyed at navy yards, but twenty-three armed vessels, viz: three frigates (Chesapeake, President, and Essex,) twelve sloops and gun brgs and eight schooners.

Of the commanders who fought the naval battles there have died:

Decatur, who took the Macedonian, October 25 1812.

Bainbridge, who took the Java, Dec. 29, 1812.

Lawrence, who took the Peacock, Feb. 24, 1813.

Burrows, who took the Boxer, Sept. 5. 1814.

Blakely, who took the Reindeer, June 28 1814. Also the Avon Sept. 7, 1814

Perry, of the Lawrence; Almy, of the Somers; Conklin, of the Tigress, Senatt, of the Porcupine; and T Holdup Stevens of the Trippe, of Commodore Perry's squadron, that captured the British squadron of six ships on Lake Erie, September 10, 1813.

Macdonough, of the Saratoga, and Henley, of the Eagle of Commodore Macdonough's squadron that captured the British squadron of four vessels on Lake Champlain, Sept. 11, 1814.

Allen, of the Argus, taken by the Pelican, Aug. 14, 1813.

The surviving naval commanders, in the last war, who achieved victories, are:

Isaac Hull, who took the Guerriere, August 20, 1812.

David Porter, who took the Alert, Aug. 13, 1812, and fought the ships Phœbe Cherub at Vanparaiso, March 28, 1814.

Jacob Jones, who took the Frolic, Oct. 18, 1812.

Lewis Warrington, who took the Epervier, April 20, 1814.

Charles Stewart, who took the two sloops Levant Cyane with the Constitution, February 20, 1815.

Jesse D. Elliott, who commanded the Niagara in Perry's victory.

Daniel Turner, who commanded the Caledonia.

Stephen Champlin, who commanded the Scorpion.

Stephen Cassin, of the Ticonderoga, in Macdonough's victory.

Of the surviving commanders, all are Post Captains except Commodore Champlin and Captain Porter.

There are many survivors still on the list of our gallant naval officers who were distinguished by bravery and good conduct, in the war, under the command of superiors; but the above are all the survivors of those that had immediate commands The catalogue presents thirteen deceased and nine living.

A DUEL—A COUPLE OF FOOLS, AND THE FINALE OF THEIR FOLLY.

A young gentleman, belonging to New York, named Belmont, has been at Head's Mansion House, in this city, for several days, under the medical care of Dr. George McLellan, who is *poulticing* him, to endeavor to extract a ball in his thigh, which he received last week in an affair of *dis*-honor, at Elkton, Maryland, with Mr. Edward Heywood, a young man also of New York.

It appears that the parties were eating ice cream at Niblo's garden, New York. Heywood winked at a girl, a pretty waiter, who brought the creams. Belmonte remarked that it was not proper to wink. Heywood said, 'It is as proper to wink at a single woman as it is to have one's name coupled ingloriously with a certain married lady," (naming her.) High words ensued, which resulted in a challenge from Belmont, (who by the way is agent in New York for the Rothschilds. The parties repaired to Elkton, Maryland, on the 25th, shot at each other with pistols ten paces distant, Heywood escaping without any injury, but Belmont receiving the ball of his antagonist as we have stated.

Now, what a ridiculous affair it is.—Two young hair-brained fools shooting at each other, ten paces apart, with deadly weapons, all about a wink. Well if they do not place a greater value upon their own persons, than to set each other up for a mark to be shot at like a goose or an owl, they have a very low idea of their price. We know a great many dogs who have more sagacity than to be put up for any such ignoble purpose, and we know of no reason, why those having the human form, should not place a greater value upon their persons than dogs do! The truth is, none but cowards fight duels. A man of true moral courage would never think it necessary thus to vindicate a foolish aspersion on his chivalry or valor. It takes the coward to do that.

Auguste Belmont is the name of the foolish young man who has been wounded for life. He was sent to this country on the failure of the Josephs of New York, as the Rothschilds agent, on a salary of $10,000 a year—and has been remarkable, it is said, for nothing but his foolish attempts to prove that he was an expensive and extravagant *fashionable*, (a poor ambition enough.) He feasted Fanny Elssler at his country seat, the first of the season—but when she was last in New York she cut him altogether. The story is that Belmont is an illegitimate son of one of the Rothschilds.—Young Heywood is the son of a highly respectable Southern planter, who has resided for some time in New York—and we must be permitted to express our sincere regrets on the family's account, that the son was not better employed on the 25th of August, than in setting himself up as a mark to be shot at.

[Philad. Sat. Courier.

Carelessness in cultivating Corn.—Let us calculate the cost of careless practice in cultivating corn: we will take 20 acres and say, we place the hills three feet and nine inches apart, which is a good distance, and will have fifty five thousand seven hundred and seventy eight hills, by the process that is commonly practiced it is seldom these hills will average two good ears to the hill, owing to the careless practice of selecting the seed, dropping, ploughing, &c. In the first place, we should break up the ground deep, furrow it out strait and drop plenty in the hill, and after it is up to the height of 18 inches or 2 feet, pull all out but three stalks, (but not like French's negro, who when he found but one or two in a hill pulled them also, because he had been told to leave but three stalks in a hill) by this practice we will obtain 167,334 ears, and in a common season to take the ears as they stand on the stalks 129 will make a bushel, which will be 1393 bushels, or about 69 bushels to the acre, and as remarked before in a general way the farmers of this country do not get more than two thirds of this amount from an acre, or at most 49 bushels; where there is one man that raises more there is two that falls short.

If this calculation is correct, and we believe it, will be found so in a general way, then each farmer is loosing 361 bushels of corn; this at 25 cents is $116. A sum sufficiently large to pay for the culture of the crop. If our views are not correct we hope some of our experienced farmers will set us right on this subsect.—[Delaware Gaz.

A SHOWER OF FLESH AND BLOOD fell in Tennessee on the 8th of last month, and the extraordinary phenomenon is exciting great wonder and interest. From the various notices of it, in the papers in Tennessee, and the letters confirming the report, it has the appearance of being literally true. We suppyose some waterspout has sucked up a whale, whirled him about in the air till it made minced meat of him, and then having carried it over the land, distributed him in a small shower over the soil of Tennessess The space covered by this shower is stated to be half a mile in length and about seventy five yards in breadth. It fell from a small cloud of reddish color.

The following is a letter on the subject from a respectable physician of Lebanon to Dr. Troost, Professor of Chemistry in the University.

'LEBANON, Aug. 8.

"Dr. G. Troost:—I have sent you some matter, which appears from an authentic source to have fallen from the clouds."

"With me there can be no doubt of its being animal matter, blood, muscular fibre, adipose matter. Please account to us, if you can, on philosophical principles, for the cause of this phenomenon. The particles I send you, I gathered with my own hands from the extent of surface over which it has spread, and the regular manner it exhibited on some green tobacco leaves, leaves very little or no doubt of its having fallen like a shower of rain; and it is stated on the authority of some negroes only, to have fallen from a small red cloud, no other clouds being visible in the heavens at the time. It took place on Friday last, between eleven and twelve o'clock, about five miles northeast of Lebanon. I have sent what I think to be a drop of blood, the other particles, composed of muscle and fat, although the proportions of the shower appeared to be a much larger quantity of blood than of other properties.

"I am, in haste, your most obedient,

W. P. SAYLE."

THE PRACTICAL WORKING OF ABSTRACTION.

The following extract from a recent speech by one of the manly and sensible Representatives of Virginia, in Congress Mr. Stewart, is curious enough, as shewing how much more valuable profession is than practice in following out a Virginia abstraction:

"Here, Mr. Speaker, let me pause for a moment to advert to a singular incident in the political history of my beloved native State, which tends more strongly than any circumstance within my knowledge to prove the strength of her devotion to what are here termed "Virginia abstractions." In 1811 the Legislature of Virginia instructed her Senators, (Mr. Giles and Mr. Brent) to oppose the renewal of the charter of the Bank of the United States. Mr. Giles made a speech in the Senate in response to the instructions, in which he denied the right of the Legislature to instruct but nevertheless he yielded practical obedience to the legislative mandate by voting against the bank. Mr. Brent, on the other hand, promptly admitted the right to give the instruction, and practically disobeyed it by voting for the bank! And strange to say, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Giles, who denied the "abstraction," and yet voted in obedience to the legislative will, lost caste as a politician; whilst his colleague, Mr. Brent who admitted the "abstraction," and disregard it, retained his popularity without the smallest dimunition.—These facts I have from many sources, and amongst others from my venerable colleague (Mr Taliaferro) on my right."

ARRIVAL OF THE BRITTANNIA.

FIFTEEN DAYS LATER FROM ENGLAND.

The steamer Britannia, Captain Cleland, of Cunard's line, arrived at Boston on Thursday morning, at 4 o'clock, bringing Liverpool dates to the 19th, and London to the 18th of August.

The first flurry respecting the judicial detention of McLeod being over, the English papers have nearly ceased their Bombastes Furioso style of denunciation towards this country. The Liverpool Mail, after having exhausted the argument, and fairly run out the vagaries of its own temper, comes to the wise conclusion that the trade of the United States is of too much consequence to be interrupted without good cause; and even the London Times admits, through one of its correspondents that there may be two sides to the McLeod controversy.—The truth is, Great Britain feels humbled in this matter, and does not exactly know how to behave herself under the humiliation.

The distress in the manufacturing districts was rather on the increase, heightened by the failure of several more important commercial houses, which threw many operatives entirely out of employment.

FIFTEEN SHIPS OF WAR ORDERED TO AMERICA.

In the afternoon of the 14th August, it was confidently asserted here, says the London Morning Herald, by generally well informed and most respectable merchants, that five ships of war had been ordered to proceed immediately to the coast of the United States and that they were there to be joined by ten other vessels of her Majesty's navy from foreign stations.

The object of the alleged mission of this armament to the American shores, it was added, was to receive Mr. Fox, should the refusal of the renewed demand for the release which it is said he is instructed to make, of Mr. McLeod, compel the British representative to withdraw from Washington, and afterwards to adopt such hostile proceedings as may be deemed indispensable for the vindication of the honor of the British Crown, which has been so wilfully and wantonly attacked by the American people and government, in the person of its subject—Alexander McLeod. We have stated the rumor; which we believe proceeded from no interested, excited, or prejudiced source. In thus giving to it publicity, however probable we may think it we add no voucher for its absolute truth.

The Globe, ministerial paper, of a later date, contradicts the above statement.—It says that Sir C. Adams is to take with him two ships, one line-of-battle, and the other the Pique frigate, but that these are to replace two vessels of the same rates, which will be recalled.

The London Shipping Gazette of the 18th ult., holds the following language:

"We are glad to find that the rumor as to a considerable naval reinforcement having been ordered from this country to the American seas, *has been contradicted by the official organs of the Government* The despatch of such an armament to the Shores of the United States, would have shown that war was the only mode left us for the decision of our disputes with that republic, and that the appeal to arms was about to be made. It is still to be hoped that matters will not be driven to extremities;—and, despite the gloomy forebodings of some of our contemporaries we think that there are reasons why peace should be especially desirable by America, sufficient to counterpoise the efforts of party, of foolish jealousy, and national vanity to provoke a war with England; whose resolution to maintain peace will only be overcome when the honor of this country shall demand the proclamation of hostilities.

We can readily understand why the American Government has not, in the case of McLeod, entered a *nolle prosequi*. We firmly believe that the proceedings against the individual would have thus terminated long since, but for the hope entertained by the Executive at Washington, that the affair would be settled by the decision of the courts of law, to the effect that McLeod should be discharged; and that they would have thus been able to avoid the popular outcry which, if he was liberated by the Government, would be raised against them by the very parties who would be equally vociferous in their denunciations of a war, should the detention or the unjust punishment of McLeod originate it. On these grounds, we believe that the active interposition of the American Government will be postponed until the hope of a satisfactory termination of the affair by the Courts of Law shall have ceased to exist; and we have some reason to think that this course of action, which is certainly the reverse of a dignified or straight forward procedure, has been sanctioned by the British Administration."

The London Times closes a long article on the subject of McLeod's detention as follows:

"These considerations belong, however to a stage in these proceedings which is, we fear already past. Principles & arguments, like those we have been using, doubtless suggested themselves in support of the opinion which Lord Palmerston was pledged to maintain in negotiation with the American Government.—To such arguments Mr. Webster's despatch of the 24th of April gives no sufficent answer; but that despatch having been, though conciliatory, quite unsatisfactory, and the judgment of Justice Cowan having demonstrated that the law as administered at Utica is slowly drawing along the worst consequences, doubts may reasonably be entertained whether all negotiation on the subject is not peremptorily broken off by the decided rejection of all those principles by which the British Government declared itself to be guided. Is it becoming to the dignity of this country that we should patiently await the very last, perhaps the fatal, stage of these proceedings, against which we have protested from the first? Is it in any way compatible with the safety of M'Leod, and the honor of the Crown under which he has served, to reserve our more forcible remonstrances till he is sent beyond the reach of succor? If M'Leod is to be acquitted by force of evidence, or on any other ground, we presume that he will not be placed in greater jeopardy than he now is in by any acts of the mother country. If, as would seem but too probable, his chance of subsequent pardon, we cannot be too soon prepared to interfere in the only way which remains for us.

HARVEST.

It is important to state, that great apprehensions are felt for the approaching harvest. The last that is surmised is a *fate*, which is almost necessarily a poor harvest. Of course, a supply must be obtained abroad before the in gathering. Some of the papers speak most discouragingly on this subject.

WHEAT AND FLOUR.—Some few days previous to the departure of the steamer a great excitement had prevailed in the grain market, in consequence of the state of weather, and a considerable advance had taken place in both wheat and flour. At the departure of the Britannia the weather had become very fine, and prices had declined somewhat. We refer our readers to succeeding extracts and letters for the latest information.

A Liverpool paper says that orders have been sent to the continent for corn to the amount of a million sterling.

At Brussels, bread has risen very high. Up to the 210th day of the year, there had been rain for nearly 100 days, without including the days on which it snowed.

THE ENGLISH NEWS—BREADSTUFFS.—The New York Express of Friday afternoon, says:

"The News from Europe, via Boston to the 19th ult. is the only topic of discussion in Wall street. The circulars generally give an advance of three shillings, and sales of flour at Liverpool at 35 shillings sterling in bond. This is a very important feature in the English News, and is calculated to have a great effect in sustaining the produce of our country. Private letters however, do not speak as disparagingly as the public prints of the unfavorable condition of the weather and crops. That Flour and Wheat and all descriptions of Grain have advanced is certain. The price therefore of American Flour in Bond is about seven and three quarter dollars, and the advance in Exchange will nearly pay the expense of laying it down in England. This price, so long as it continues up will sustain the market here. It however, ought, to be taken into account that it has often happened in England that prices have been carried up so high as to affect the averages and in this way to realise an immense stock in bond, which coming into market usually carries the price down again. In the present condition of the crop it is difficult to speculate as to what will or what will not take place. All depends on a fortnight's weather,—if foul, prices must go up, if fair, they will decline.

Private letters also state that trade is getting worse,—but little doing in the manufacturing districts, and an apprehension that a drain of specie would be made on account of Grain. This intelligence is of deep interest to this country."

The N. York Express of Friday, 2, P. M. says—

"The news from Europe has caused a stir in the Flour market. Before it was circulated, the runners by the Boston boat were enabled to pick up some three or four thousand bbls. of Flour at yesterday's prices, of $6,75, but the moment the news was known, holders declined sales, and put up prices to 7,50, and some to $8 per bbl. The advance on Flour since

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