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Address, CLARKE & VAN WYCK,
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Dec. 23, 1843.

'KISSING THE BRIDE.'—Some thirty years ago, when the custom of kissing the bride was more in vogue among the ministers than at the present day, the congregation of old Mr. W., in one of the western towns of this county, were much exercised about their parson on account of his indulging in such practices. They considered it unbecoming their spiritual guide, and the deacons of the church were finally appointed to wait upon Mr. W. and remonstrate with him on his conduct in the particular referred to. They accordingly called at the house of the parson, and were received very kindly by the old gentleman, who listened patiently to their reasons why he should desist, but he told them that it was a *part of the ceremony*, which he had rarely omitted, and one which he viewed as perfectly innocent, both in its performance and its tendency. After discussing the subject for a length of time, the deacons finding their arguments unavailing attempted the force of ridicule. The parson bore it all very patiently, without making much reply, when one of the 'commissioners,' in reply to Mr. W., who said he always had and should 'kiss the bride,' asked him whether, in case the parties were colored, he would adhere to that rule. 'No, no,' said Mr. W., 'whenever that occurs, I shall send for my deacons.' The meeting was dissolved, and nothing more was ever heard against old Parson W's. saluting the bride.

New Haven Palladium.

Though few there be that care to be virtuous, yet fewer there are that would not be counted so.

THE WONDERS OF MESMERISM.

The Rev. Le Roy Sunderland, has been lecturing in Boston for a week or so, on Mesmerism and its kindred marvels. A correspondent of the Boston Post gives some account of the various scenes. It is stated that at his first lecture, the operator 'caused some five different gentlemen, all strangers to himself, to fall into a state of real somnambulism, or what the lecturer denominates *hypnopathy* (sympathetic) sleep; and this, too, without any contact while they were sitting with the audience & also while he was actually proceeding with his lecture.—One of these men was a Baptist clergymen, who, on being restored to a state of wakefulness, declared that he came to the lecture with no faith at all on the subject; and yet the Rev. gentleman was so deeply impressed, that he left his seat while asleep, and walk up to Mr. Sunderland at the desk.

'The next evening, a still larger number of gentlemen were thrown into a state of somnambulism, in the same way—one of whom, the sexton of the house, had till then been an utter unbeliever, and had declared the whole concern a humbug, but was now so deeply impressed, that he could not move hand or foot.—It is also a remarkable fact, that a reporter sent to the lecture by an editor (said to be the only one determined to oppose Mr. S.) was positively so much affected by the operation of the lecturer, that his arm and hand refused their wonted labor, an account of which, together with the lecture, he has since candidly published.'

A subsequent evening was devoted to what Mr. S. denominated phrenopathy, or the application of this agency to the control of the cerebral organs. He referred to accounts he had published two years since, of cerebral excitements produced by applying the hand to different parts of the body, and expressed some surprise at statements he had recently seen in one of the city papers affirming this to be a more recent discovery of another person. However, he declared that he did not, as some others seemed to consider these cerebral experiments of great importance, as they proved nothing but the susceptibilities of the nervous system. The fact, that in the whole country, no two subjects had been found in whom *each one* of the organs could be excited from precisely the same locations he considered a sufficient refutation of the assumptions lately put forth in favor of what has been called 'Neurology.'—Some twenty people were put to sleep and excited much interest in the audience. The phenomena induced from some of them seemed truly wonderful.—When an organ was excited in one, the same result appeared in a number of others—such as laughing, dancing, combativeness, &c. It so happened that among others was a skilful violinist, and an instrument having been brought, the audience were regaled with some touching and exquisite music. At times the disposition to dance to the music was so strongly manifested in some of the somnambulists, that the lecturer found it difficult to restrain them. Near the close Mr. S. found a lady in that state, whom he excited to sing, and she sung a number of pieces, accompanying the violin most delightfully." What next?

RAISING THE WIND.—The devices of Jeremy Diddler to raise the wind,' are surpassed by the ingenuity of modern beggars and loafers. The last performance of note in this line, is that of a female in New York, who disburdens gentlemen of their cash in the most approved style. The New York correspondent of the National Intelligencer says: 'There is one young lady (of very correct habits I believe, in point of fact,) who makes a living by means that wear a somewhat questionable complexion out of 'distinguished strangers.' A member of Congress, or a diplomatist in transit for example, receives a note, the day after his arrival is advertised, in a hand writing of singular beauty. In the most graceful language, and with the daintiest use of French phrases, he is informed that a young lady who has long watched his career with the deepest interest—who has a feeling for him which is a mystery to herself—who met him accidentally in a place she will recall to his memory should she be so fortunate as to see him again—who is an unhappy creature of impulse, all too fondly tender for this harsh world and its constructions—would like to see him on a certain sidewalk between eight and nine. By holding his hand across his left breast, he will be accosted at that time and place. The lady-likeness and good taste of the note, so different from the usual tentatives of that description, breed a second thought of curiosity, and the victim is punctual. After a turn or two on the appointed sidewalk, he encounters a tall young lady, deeply veiled, who addresses him by name, takes his arm, and discourses to him at first upon his own ambitious history, contriving to say the true and flattering thing, for which she has duly informed herself. She skilfully evades his attempts to make her talk of things more particular, and regretting feelingly that she can only see him on the sidewalk, appeals to his 'well known generosity' for ten dollars to keep her and her dear mother from being turned out of doors! She takes it with tremulous pathos, demands of his honor that he will not follow her, and slips round the corner to meet another 'distinguished stranger' with whom she has appointed an interview fifteen minutes later in the next street! I was in a company of strangers at a hotel not long ago, when one of these dainty notes was produced, and it so happened that every man present had one in his pocket from the same hand! Among the party there were four appointments proposed by the same lady to come off on the four sides of a certain square, for that evening!—She is probably doing a good business.'

FRANCIS XAVIER MARTIN.

Passing down Royal street a day or two ago, we met a small, infirm old man. There was but little flesh on his bones, and no sight in his eyes; his hair was short and grey, and his cheeks were hollow. He wore a threadbare surtout, and an old, shapeless hat, which covered almost half his shrivelled face. He was led along by a lazylooking, ragged negro boy, on whose shoulder his hand rested—the boy thus answered the double purpose of a guide and a support.

'Who is that person passing?' said a stranger, who stood at the entrance to the Reading Room, speaking to a resident citizen.

"That," said the latter, "is Francis Xavier Martin, who is now, and has been for more than a quarter of a century, the presiding Judge of the Supreme Court of the State. Though tottering, as he seems to be on the brink of the grave, he is still a close attendant on his judicial duties; though broken down in body, he is unimpaired in mind. Some of his physical functions—his sight for instance—has failed him; but his mental qualities are perfect and unbroken & his opinions are even now looked up to, not only by his associates on the bench, but by the whole Louisiana bar, as models of sound legal doctrine and wise jurisprudence; and shabby as he looks, leaning on the shoulder of that negro boy, he is said to be a *millionaire* in the way of wealth." Such is Francis Xavier Martin President of the Supreme Court of Louisiana and Historian of the State. That he should attract the notice of a stranger who would see him passing to or from the court is not a matter of surprise—for few more singular looking men are to be met in the streets of this great city than Judge Martin, of the Supreme Court.—New Orleans Pic.

A Pious Fraud.—At a meeting of the clergy in England, at the close of an eloquent sermon and before the contemplated collection had been made; a stranger rose, and putting a guinea in his hat, walked around with it, and received a liberal addition to his stock. The minister attributed his zeal to the moving power of his eloquence, and his own charitable spirit but the surprise of the whole congregation was inexpressible, when instead of going into the vestry, they saw the new convert moving towards the door; the minister and others called upon him to deliver up the change which he refused, saying, 'My brethren, freely have ye given, and freely have I received;' and instantly remounting his horse, which was an exceeding good one, he left the premises.

How the English liberate Slaves.—The following is an extract from an article in the Sierra Leone Watchman giving an account of matters & things in that African colony:

'The manner of recruiting for this regiment—the third West Indian, as it is called—is sometimes very summary. In July, 1842, there arrived in the harbor of Sierra Leone a vessel with one hundred and eighty four re-captives. They had been obtained, not from slave ships but from slave factories on the land. They were much pleased and exhibited enthusiastic joy, when the ship came to anchor. They deemed their deliverance at hand. I visited them immediately as they anchored: this was at 11 o'clock, A. M. At 2 P. M. of the same day the Governor sent an officer on board who selected seventy five or eighty of the most portly and well conditioned, and had them landed and marched directly to the barracks, where they were enlisted in the regiment, to be trained; and in due time will be sent to take their turn in the West Indies.'

THEORY OF MARRIAGE.

There was a merry fellow who supped with Pluto three thousand years ago, and the conversation turned upon love and the choice of wives. He said, "He had learned from very early tradition that man was created, male and female, with a duplicate set of limbs, and performed his locomotive functions with a kind of rotatory movement as a wheel; that he became, in consequence, so excessively insolent, that Jupiter, indignant split him in two; that since that time each runs through the world in quest of the other half; if the two original halves meet, they are a very loving couple; otherwise they are subject to a miserable, scolding, peevish, and uncongenial matrimony.—The search, he said, was rendered difficult for the reason that one man alighted upon a half that did not belong to him, another did necessarily the same, till the whole affair was thrown into irretrievable confusion."

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS OF THE CHESAPEAK AND OHIO CANAL COMPANY.—Every thing relative to the Canal is interesting to the people of Maryland.—The connection of the State with that work has reduced it to its present humbled condition and by that work alone in some form or other, can relief be attained. Apart from it our condition is one of cheerless hopeless debt and taxation. We would willingly, if we had space, give the report above alluded to, *in extenso* to our readers, but it covers sixty pages. We must be content with a synopsis.

An active trade is anticipated in the spring in consequence of the arrangement in pursuance of which the rail road company carries coal from Cumberland to Dam No 6, the arrangements being completed too late for much to be effected this fall. This arrangement was desired by the company to extend somewhat its limited means of keeping the work in operation and order, & not with any thought that it would answer as a permanent arrangement to accommodate all the trade of the Canal.

The supply of coal in Alleghany county is fully adequate to all the demands that *can* be made upon it for centuries, says the report, and it has been proven by experiments, and recently by an officer, employed by the United States to make the test, to be superior to any coal in this country and to the superior Liverpool and Newcastle coals of England.

There are a number of chattered companies in Alleghany county, with an aggregate capital of $7,000 000 of which $1 000,000 has been expended in preparations. One of the companies is engaged largely in the manufacture of iron, the others are waiting the opening of a cheap communication with the sea board when they will commence operations on an enlarged scale in the coal trade.

The annual produce of coal in the U. States according to the last census is 1, 819 317 tons, the bituminous being greater in amount than the anthracite. That which is used east of the mountains has been supplied by Virginia, and Pennsylvania which states, with Maryland are the only States east of the mountains that contain coal, the foreign coal is now excluded by tariff duties. The report says:

'The two former have got the start of us; but their trade, though advancing, is yet feeble, when compared with the wants of the extensive region that is to be supplied.

The vast field has scarcely yet been entered, and lies wide open to our enterprise. The present home supply of coal is to one half of the quantity that would now be consumed, because of its cheapness as a fuel and its excellence as a generator of steam, if the commodity could be obtained regularly, and in sufficient quantities in the market. And in the rapid growth of the population of the country, in the daily increasing use of it in our houses on our rivers and railroads, in our manufacturing establishments, and on the ocean we have data enough to form the most exaggerated estimate of demands that will be made for it, even in our day and generation. If, by the completion of the canal, ample and cheap means be afforded to the coal dealers of Allegany to bring their article into the markets, inasmuch as it is of a superior quality, it will necessarily obtain the preference over all other coal, and the use of it will only be limited by the supply.'

The capacity of the canal, with single locks as now, can accommodate the transportation of 3 264 000 tons annually, and two thirds more with double locks, but the transportation of *one* million of tons, at the low rate of half a cent per ton per mile, will pay the interest of all the preferred claims and divide seven per cent among the stockholders. By the context it will be seen that the consumption of coal must be increased by more than half its present extent to require the additional supply of a million of tons. Every one can form his own judgement of the likelihood of such increased demand. There has been a progressive increase in the supply of Pennsylvania coal from 365 tons in 1820 to 1,018 626 tons in 1843. There was also a constant increase in the amount of foreign coal used in this country till it fell back under the tariff of 1842. The high character of the Cumberland coal we should think would be well calculated to widen the market and take precedence of other coal to a great extent.

The great value of the inexhaustible deposite of coal in Alleghany, Co., is shown by a graphic extract from an English writer who shows that the coal of England, far beyond any of the other resources of that nation, is the foundation of its greatness and power. In this connection a table is published which shows the great success of coal canals in England, the stock of fifteen such canals selling at from twice to ten times their original value.

'With these facts before us,' says the report 'and taking into consideration the little competition that the Chesapeake and Ohio canal will have to contend with in supplying the vast territory which is embraced by all the States east and south of the mountains from Maine to Louisiana, with their thickly settled population, their growing cities, & their numerous manufacturing establishments, it cannot be deemed an extravagant expectation, that in a few years after it is finished, it will transport a tonnage equal to the amount we have mentioned, and, at no very remote period, yield a large profit to all its stock holders.'

The report goes on to show that a very much less amount of tonnage even than one million would be sufficient to satisfy the claims of the State, but that still the present arrangement or any arrangement with the rail road company would not be sufficient to accommodate even that amount of trade. The insufficiency of any such arrangement is clearly shown. The company have offers to complete the canal for less than a million and a half of dollars from three different sources.

The report says:

'We have thus endeavored to demonstrate that the Allegany coal is abundant and of a superior quality;—that the canal, if completed to Cumberland, is *capable* of transporting a tonnage, and according to all experience, will in a few years obtain a trade which will yield a revenue sufficient to pay the interest on its present debts and the sum necessary to complete it, and divide more than seven per cent, amongst all its stockholders;—that it will require a trade of 518 996 tons from Dam No. 6 merely to pay the interest upon the liens of the State;—that the railroad cannot operate as a feeder to the trade of the canal to that amount, nor any thing near it; and as the great object of the State of Maryland should be to enable the company, in the shortest possible time, to pay, the State's interest, and thus relieve it from the necessity of direct taxation, the idea of suspending the work at Dam No. 6, and making it dependent on the rail road for a moment longer than is absolutely necessary, cannot be thought of.'

It is proposed that the State's liens be postponed, to the extent of two millions of dollars, to finish the canal, meet contingencies and fortify the preferred claim in the strongest manner.

The coal deposits of four of the Allegany companies are from seven to twelve miles from Cumberland, and these companies will make rail roads to convey their coal to Cumberland, as soon as the canal is completed to that point.

The cost of coal delivered at Georgetown is estimated at $3.17 per ton, and at New York $4 67.

'The success of the Erie Canal, and the large amount of coal transported on the Schuylkill navigation of Pennsylvania are referred to. These and other facts and considerations are suggested, to make the State pause before disposing of its interest in the work.

The report is an able one, & presents the views which are enforced, and the facts by which they are fortified with peculiar clearness and force. Our own inclinations have always been in favor of selling the canal upon the terms proposed last winter, and we still prefer that as a certain and immediate mode of relief if it were practicable. It seems that the work cannot be sold. There is but one alternative, that which is urged in the above report, to let the work complete itself.—And there is much in the special report alluded to, to neutralize the scepticism of those who were inclined to regard with distrust its eventual profitableness.

Fred. Examiner.

WHIMSICALITY.

When Dr. Franklin was in London, in 1772, he thus wrote to his sister in Boston:

'I write now to cousin —— to press the payment of the bond. There has been forbearance enough on my part; seven years or more without receiving any principal or interest. It seems as if the debtor was like a whimsical man in Pennsylvania, of whom it was said, that it being against his principle to pay interest, and against his interest to pay principal, he paid neither one nor t'other.'

It seems from this, that in 1772 there was one whimsical man in honest Pennsylvania. How many are there in it in 1843?

QUERY.
Pa. Inquirer.

Every now and then we hear of a great invention of a *machine* for setting types—the last one always the best and always sure to finish the business. We have smiled sometimes to see the ease with which people can talk about a matter of which they know nothing. They forget that composition as it is technically called in a printing office, requires not merely the use of the hands, arms, and eyes, but the constant exercise of the *mind*—and that judgement and reason are as much in requisition as the fingers. Can they ever make a machine therefore, suitable? Never! So the *last* invention for machine type setting, as we expected, has also been exploded. The New York Commercial says these machines will cost fifteen hundred dollars a piece. Each machine requires one person to play upon the keys—another to remove the line when set and to *justify* it—another to place the lines of all the letters of the alphabet in their proper places to be received by the machine, and to supply instantly every exhausted line—while yet another hand will be required to place the *matter* for distribution in a proper situation for the action of the other machine.—[Alex. Gazette.

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