THE 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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All orders addressed to the publishers, post paid, will receive prompt attention.

THE DAYS THAT ARE GONE.

BY ALFRED TENNYSON.

Tears, idle tears, I know not what they mean;
Tears from the depth of some divine despair
Rise in the heart, and gather to the eyes,
In looking on the happy autumn fields,
And thinking of the days that are no more.

Fresh as the first beam glittering on a sail,
That brings our friends up from the underworld,
Sad as the last which reddens over one
That sinks with all we love below the verge;
So sad, so fresh, the days that are no more.

Ah! sad and strange as in dark summer dawns,
The earliest pipe of half awakened birds
To dying ears, when unto dying eyes
The casement slowly grows a glimmering square;
So sad, so strage, the days that are no more.

Dear as remembered kisses after death,
And sweet as those by hopeless fancy feign'd
On lips that are for others; deep as love,
Deep as first love, and wild with all regret:
O, Death in Life, the days that are no more!

Written for the Yankee Blade.

THE PIGEON EXPRESS MAN.

A PRETTY CONSIDERABLE BIRD STORY.

BY JACK HUMPHRIES.

In nearly all yarns or plays, in which *Yankees* figure, they are supposed to be "a leetle teu darn'd cents" for almost anybody else, creating a heap of fun, and coming out clean ahead; but that even Connecticut Yankees—the cutest and allfiredest *tight* critters on the face of the *yearth*, when money or trade's in the question—are "*done*" now and then, upon the most scientific principles, we ate going to prove.

It is generally known, in the newspaper world, that two or three wooden nutmeg branded Yankees, a few years ago, started a paper in Philadelphia, upon the penny principle, and have since realized a splendid fortune, all around. They were, and are men of great enterprise and liberality, as far as their business is concerned, and thereby they got ahead of all competition, and made their *pile*. The proprietors of the *Ledger* were always "fly" for any new dodge, by which they could keep the lead of things, and monopolize the *news* market. The Telegraph had not "turned up" in the day of which we write,—the *mails*, and, now and then, express horse lines, were the media through which *Great Excitements! Alarming Events!! Great Fires and Awful Calamities!!* were come at. One morning, as Swain was sitting in his office, a long, lank genius, with a visage as hatchet faced and keen as any Connecticut Yankee's on record, came in, and inquired of one of the clerks for the proprietors of that Institution. Swain being pointed out, the thin man made a *lean* towards him. After getting close up, and twisting and screwing around his head to see that nobody was listening or looking, the lean man sat down very gingerly upon the extreme verge of a chair, and leaning forward until his razor-made nose, almost touched that of the publisher, in a low, nasal, anxious tone, says he—

"Air yeou one of the publishers of this paper?"

"I am, Sir, my name is Swain."

"Oh, yeou air?" said the visitor, again looking suspiciously around and about him.

"Did yeou ever hear tell of the *Pigeon Express*?" he continued.

"The Pigeon Express?" echoed the publisher.

"Ya a-s. Carrier pigeons—letters to their l-e-g-s and newspapers under their wings—trained to fly any where you warnt 'em.

"Carrier Pigeons," mused the publisher—"Carrier—pigeons, trained to carry billets—bulletins and—"

"Go from fifty to a hundred miles an hour!" chimed in the stranger.

"True, so they say, very true," continued S., musingly.

"Elegant things for gettin' or sendin' noos head of everybody else."

"Precisely, that's a fact," S. responded, rising from his chair and pacing the floor, as though rather and decidedly *taken* by the novelty and feasibility of the operation.

"You'd have 'em all, Mister, dead as mutton, by a Pigeon Express."

"I like the idea, good, first rate!" said Swain.

"Can't be beat, no heow!" said the stranger.

"But what would it cost?"

"Two hundred dollars, and a small wagon to begin on."

"A small wagon?"

"Ya-a-s. Yeou see, Mister, the bird's haff to be trained to fly from one *pint* to another!"

"Yes, well?"

"Wa a-ll, yeou see the birds are put in a box, on the top of the buildin', for a spell, teu git the *hang* of things and so on?"

"Yes, very well; go on."

"Then the birds are put in a cage, the trainer takes 'em into his wagon—ten miles at fust—throw's 'em up, and the birds go to the buildin.'—Next day fifteen miles, and so forth, yeou see?"

"Perfectly, I understand, now where can these birds be had?"

Putting his thin lips close to the publisher's pendant ears, in a low, long way, says the stranger—.

"*I've got 'em!* R-a-l-e Persian birds—be-a-utis!"

"You understand training them?" says the anxious publisher.

"*Like a book!* the stranger responded.

"Where are the birds?" the publisher inquired.

I've got 'em down to the tavern, where I'm stopin."

"Bring them up, let me see them, let me see them!"

"Certain, Mister, of course," responded the Pigeon Expressman, leaving the presence of the tickled-to-death publisher, who paced his office, as full of effervescence as a jimmyjohn of spruce beer in dog days.

About this time, pigeons were being trained, and in a few cases, now and then, really did carry messages for lottery ticket venders in Jersey City, to Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore; but these exploits rearly paid first cost, and did not amount to much,—although some noise was made about the wonderful performance of Carrier Pigeons. But the *Ledger* was to have a new impulse—astonish all creation and the rest of mankind, by their Pigeon Express. Swain's partner, Simmons, was in New York, fishing for novelties, and Swain determined to astonish him upon his return home, by the *bird business!* A coop was fixed on the top of the "buildin'," as the great inventor of the express had suggested. The wagon was bought, and, with two hundred dollars in for funds, passed over to the pigeon expressman, who, in the course of a few days, puts the birds into his wagon to take them out some few miles, throw them up, and Swain and a confidential friend were to be on the top of the "buildin," looking out for them!

They kept looking!—They saw something, not werry much like a whale, but a good deal like a first rate bad "*Sell!*"—The elapse of a few days was quite sufficient to convince the publisher that he had been taken in and done for,—regularly *picked up* and done for, upon the most approved and scientific principles. Rather than let the cat out of the bag, the publisher made up his mind to pocket the *shave* and keep shady, not even "letting on" to his partner, who, in the course of the following week, returned from Gotham, evidently feeling as fine as silk, about something or other.

"Well, Simmons, what's new in New York,—get hold of anything rich?" was Swain's first interrogatory.

"Hi-i-sh! close the door!" was the reply, in a cautious tone, indicating something very important on the *tapis*.

"S., my dear fellow, I've got a concern now, that will put the sixpennies to sleep, sound as rocks!"

"No. What have you started, something in Gotham?"

"Exactly. If you don't own up the corn, that the idea is grand—immense,—I'll knock under."

"Good! I'm glad—particularly glad you've found something new and startling,' responded Swain. "Well, Simmons, what is it?"

"Grea-t—wonderful!—*Carrier Pigeons!*"

"What! Pigeons?"

"*Pigeons!*"

"You don't pretend to say that—"

"Yes, Sir, all arranged.—luckiest fellows alive, we are—"

"Well, but d——— it, Simmons,—"

"Oh, don't be uneasy,—I fixed it, Beach and me."

"Beach?—You don't pretend that old Mose Beach—"

"Yes, I do, we both lit upon the enterprise at once, and—"

"Well, I'm—I'm hanged if this is'nt rich!" muttered Swain, sticking his digits into his trowserloons—biting his lips and stamping around.

"Rich? *Elegant!* in two weeks we'll be flying our birds, and—"

"Flying h—ll! Why, Simmons do you—"

"Ha! ha! I knew I'd astonish you; Beach insisted on my keeping perfectly *mum*, until things were in regular working order; he then set the boys at work—we have large cages on top of the *Sun* Building—"

"Simmons," said the partner, solemnly, "come up on top of this building. There, do you see that bundle of laths and stuff?"

"Why—why, Swain, you don't pretend to say that—"

"I do, exactly. A scamp came along here a week ago—talked nothing but Carrier Pigeons—Pigeon Expresses,—I thought I'd surprise you, and—"

Well, well, go on."

"And, by thunder, I was green enough to give the fellow $200—a horse and wagon—"

"Done! *Done, by* ———!" roared Simmons, without waiting for further particulars. "$200 and a horse and wagon—just what Beach and I gave the d———d scamp! ha! ha! ha!

"Haw! haw! haw!" and the publishers roared under the force of the *joke*, until they tore their very linen.

Whateve became of the Pigeon Expressman, is not distinctly known; but he is supposed to have given up the bird business and gone into the manufacture of woolly horses and cod liver oil.

THE "MAJOR."

We were much amused the other day with the Major's story of his first adventure in jewelry. In due time the Major got married, as all young folks are apt to do, and in the course of time found himself in New Orleans with an extra hundred dollars in his pocket.

Determined to do things up handsomely in the way of presenting his wife with some costly present, he marched into a jewelry store, resolved to spend thirty or forty dollars for trinkets, under the delusion that a sum so enormous would buy 'everything and more too.' The ever attentive clerk waited on his summons, and handed out a variety of the "low priced," varying from one dollar to fifty.

The major examined the assortment with a critical eye, felt for his forty dollars with a grandiloquent air, and ordered something expensive, fancying it would reach as high as 'three cents.'

The clerk placed upon a glass two morocco covered boxes, which upon being opened presented a variety of necklaces and finger rings.

The Major eyed the collection in a very critical manner, and said that he would take the largest box, demanding the price while pulling out his wallet.

'You can,' said the clerk with solemnity, 'have the box for ten thousand dollars.'

Internally the Major felt astonished; outside he was cool as a cucumber—the price had gone "over his pile," and his expectations, nine thousand nine hundred and seventy-five dollars.

With a *sang froid* that sunk into the heart of the clerk, he said:

'Is that the highest priced jewelry you have in your store?'

The clerk said, 'it was just them.'

'Well,' drawled the Major, waving his hand somewhat in the style of Julius Cæsar, "this don't cost enough to suit me," and with a swing of grandiuer he left the store.—*N. O. Delta.*

"UNITY OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY."—Under this title to its lucubrations the *Union* newspaper indulges in reminiscences which it mistakes for realities and confounds memory with observation. Although things change, it holds on to words, and rests upon orthography. Democratic! A word of exceeding good command and well *accommodated*, according to BARTOLPH'S definition; "Accommodated: That is when a man is, as they say, accommodated; or, when a man is,—being—whereby—he may be thought to be accommodated, which is an excellent thing."

Let us listen to the voice of the mariner crying "All's well," while floating on the fragment of a wreck:

"We are a popular Government, affected by the interest, passions, and ambition of rival parties, and dissimilar sectional productions and institutions for domestic purposes; and yet so nicely are all these balanced and adjusted, that one great political party, composed of a majority of the people of every section, has been able to harmonize and unite in all the leading measures of policy pursued by the Government. We see nothing in the existing state of things which should now denationalize the Democratic party, or in the slightest degree tend to break up its organization its principles, like those of the Constitution, are those of *non intervention* in the great question of the day, growing out of slavery; and there is, then, no element of discord to prevent its cohesion and cooperation as heretofore. Experience has already demonstrated that on all other subjects the Democracy of the North and the South, the East and the West, is one and indivisible. The principles that divide the Democratic party and its antagonistic party, call it by what name you will, were coeval with the Constitution, and must be coexistent with it. We stand, then, as we have always stood, and there is little to arouse greater fears than have often been excited."

It is a valiant flea that dare make a breakfast on the lip of a lion; and perhaps we might admire the man courageous enough or hungry enough to broil a beef steak on a volcano. But the master passion is strong in death. The legend tells us that one of the ancestors of an ancient family in France begged to be admitted into the ark at the deluge, but being refused he asked it of NOAH as a special favor that he would take care of the archives of the House of Croye. So, amid the crumbling of political elements, when all things that have served their day and are no longer of any use or applicability must disappear to give place to things that are real and that have vitality and power of action—when the dead have nothing to do but to acknowledge themselves defunct and be quietly buried—at this hour of shaking among the dry bones, a spasmodic utterance comes forth as by a galvanic quickening, *Oh, the unity of the Democratic party!* What of the CONSTITUTION and its paramount supremacy over-awing all parties and factions? What of the UNION with its mighty heritage held in solemn trust for posterity and for all mankind?—These are regarded only as seen through the dwindling inversion of the political glass whose field of view embraces nothing but "the Democratic party."

Perhaps we shall have a new Democratic party, when the one which has used that designation since Gen. JACKSON'S time shall have broken its incongruous affiliations, and resolve itself into its integers.—Mr. JOHN VAN BUREN gave notice of such a one; and there are men enough in the country who are ready to simplify all government into the absolute rule of a majority—men enough, who, if they cannot pervert constitutions so as to make them the instruments of their will, are quite ready to violate and trample upon them—men in abundance, anxious to be a law unto themselves, and to do what seemeth good in their own eyes—quite enough of such men to form at least a basis, and an enlarging one, of a new Democratic party to claim the political sympathies of the "Unions."—*Balt. American.*

PRESIDENT FILLMORE AND HIS CABINET.—"For the last twenty years," says the Petersburg, (Va.) Intelligencer, "there has not been as perfect a calm in politics as now exists in the United States, and the reason of it is to us very plain. Thus far the conduct of President Fillmore's Administration has been such as entirely to satisfy those who were instrumental in bringing him to the lofty position which he now occupies, and to silence those who predicted great calamities to the country from his elevation. When Mr. Fillmore succeeded to the Presidency, the country was in a crisis from which nothing but the most consummate prudence, firmness and sagacity could rescue it.

"At this time a false step, or an unmanly and time-serving paltering with the tremendous issues which were pending, would not only have been fatal to his Administration, but to the Union itself. The emergency was a fearful one, but Mr. Fillmore proved himself equal to it. His Message to Congress dispelled all doubt and all fear, and after twelve months of fearful agitation the country breathed freely, and was calm again. It may be said that in avowing his determination to carry out the legislation of Congress, and to resist all attempts to disturb the Compromise, he merely did his duty. This is very true, but if all men did their duty there would be no necessity for government or laws. But how often have we seen men, high in office listening to and heeding the suggestions of selfish ambition on the one hand, or unmanly timidity on the other, instead of being guided by the stern sense of duty. Those, then, who, in a spirit of cavil, say that President Fillmore has "only done his duty," pay him the very highest compliment. What greater meed of praise can man receive from his Maker or his fellow man than that "he has done his duty?" Of how many of us can it be truly said, either at the bar of human opinion or at the tribunal of Omniscience? Neither Mr. Fillmore, for himself, or his friends in his behalf, can desire for him a brighter page in history, if, at the close of his Administration, it can be said truly "He did his duty."

WISE ADMONITION WELL EXPRESSED.—In the biography of Fisher Ames, written by the late Professor Kirkland, the following just and beautiful sentiment occurs:

"When vice approaches the youthful mind, in the seductive form of a beloved companion, the ordeal becomes threatening and dangerous in the extreme. Few possess the prudence and unyielding firmness requisite to pass it in safety. Those who have been actually observant to the dependence of one part of life on another will readily concur with us, that Ames' future character derived much of its lustre, and his fortunes much of their elevation, from the untainted purity an irreproachableness of his youth. Masculine virtue is as necessary to real eminence, as a powerful intellect. He that is deficient in either, will never, unless from the influence of fortuitous circumstances, be able to place and maintain himself at the head of society.—He may rise and flourish for a time, but his fall is as certain as his descent to the grave. He who holds parley with vice and dishonor, is sure to become their slave and victim. That heart is more than half corrupted that does not burn with indignation at the slightest attempt to seduce it."

THE LEADING CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES trac thus, under the new census, as to population:

	1850.	1840.
New York,	517,000	312,000
Philadelphia,	409,000	258,000
Baltimore,	169,000	102,000
New Orleans,	145,000	102,000
Boston,	135,000	93,000
Cincinnati,	116,000	46,000
Brooklyn,	96,000	36,000
Pittsburg,	83,000	40,000
St. Louis,	81,000	16,000

Louisville, Buffalo and Washington are about 42,000 each.

'Master, this gal keeps saying I'm a thief!'

'What does she say that you have stolen?'

'She says that I stole her character.'

At this juncture a little girl jumped up and said: "I geth he did—I geth he did—for I theen him behind the thcool houth eatin' thunthin.'

AGRICULTURAL.

From the Washington Globe.

AGRICULTURAL GEOLOGY—No. 4.

BY JOSIAH HOLBROOK.

Feldspar is composed of four oxydes—silex, alumina or clay, iron, and potash; silex predominates. Of quartz, in all its varieties, it is almost the entire element; of feldspar, it is the principal; aluminous or clay soils contain frequently twice as much silex as alumina; the quantity of iron and potash in feldspar is small, not often over two or three per cent.

It appears then that sand is composed of two oxydes or chemical combinations again combined by the same agency.—Feldspar or clay is composed of four oxydes, also combined by chemical affinity, to form a compound still more complex than quartz or sand. The quartz and feldspar are combined by a mechanical mixture to form rocks and soils.

It hence follows, that in these two elements of soils, quartz and feldspar, or sand and clay, are not less than six combinations of ultimate principles, or oxygen and metals, all by chemical affinity, and two combinations at least of those compounds forming those two elements.—These six chemical compounds, again compounded by chemical agency, are then united by mechanical mixtures to form rocks and soils.

Quartz and feldspar are not only the essential elements of soils, but also among the most important materials in the arts of civilization. The principal material of glass is quartz; that of porcelain, feldspar. The presence of potash, soda, or some alkaline substance acting as a flux, is indispensable in the manufacturing of each of these important articles of domestic economy.

After performing the important agency of producing vegetation—of course furnishing our wheat, our corn, our beef, and our pork,—quartz of a porous character constitutes the French burr, for changing grains into flour. Pulverized quartz, cemented by iron into sandstone, forms our grindstones, for sharpening the axes and chisels of the mechanic and the knives and scissors of the housekeeper. For some animals it is essential to the process of digestion; fowls cannot live without it.

Everything, animate and inanimate; every product of nature and of art; every human being in every position and condition of life—the sturdy farmer, the busy mechanic, the industrious housekeeper, the delicate refined lady, the polished gentleman, the enlightened teacher, the wise statesman, and the noisy politician: in a word, everything which has physical existence bears visible testimony to the necessity of this important element of mountains, rocks, and soils—of quartz, sand—"*a common stone.*"

Experiment: Shake a tumbler, containing a little newly-slaked lime and some water; let the tumbler stand till the lime settles and the water becomes clear; pour the water into another tumbler and blow into it air from the lungs through a quill or pipe-stem, the clear water becomes turbid with white flakes or a sediment, by the carbonic acid from the lungs uniting with the lime in the water forming the carbonate of lime.

ARE LARGE OR SMALL FARMS MOST PROFITABLE.

A writer who avows himself to be a "small farmer," argues this question in the Maine Farmer, to the following effect:

Doubtless the inquiry may be answered by many both pro and con: still an investigation of the subject may lead to beneficial results.

It is not my design, at least at the present time, to enter into a minute examination of the subject, although I would gladly see it done by those more competent than myself. It is true that a large farm may be made proportionably productive with the smaller one; but to effect it requires a larger outlay, and nine cases out of ten, large farms are run over without receiving the thorough culture that smaller ones usually do.

Too many farmers seem to remain ignorant of what their soil is capable of yielding, under thorough culture—never having tried the experiment; being content to follow in the old beaten track of their fathers and grandfathers—possessing as they apprehended, knowledge enough to till the soil, without any study to ascertain its requirements, or the experience of others—It would be hard to convince such, that fields which they have cultivated fifteen or twenty years, and which have yielded thirty or thirty-five bushels of corn, ten or twelve of wheat, thirty or forty of oats, and from one to two tons of hay, to the acre, may be made to produce from eighty to one hundred bushels of corn, fifteen to thirty of wheat, seventy or eighty of oats, and from three to four tons of hay. Yet greater improvements than these, in the amount of crops, have been effected by thorough cultivation. When we take account of the difference of cost between a farm of two hundred acres and one of fifty—the balance of interest, taxes, fencing, labor, &c., which might be applied to the culture and improvement of the smaller one, I think most will be ready to conclude that a farmer cultivating fifty acres thoroughly, would obtain more net income than from the one or two hundred acres, besides enjoying the pleasure derived from liberal returns of well directed labor.

CONGRESSIONAL.

[Reported for the Baltimore [illegible]

WASHINGTON, [illegible]

SENATE.

Mr. Hale presented several petitions from citizens of Pennsylvania and N. Hampshire, praying a repeal of the fugitive slave act. Laid on the table.

Mr. Rusk, from the Committee on Post offices and Post roads, reported back the bill to reduce the rates of postage on letters, with several amendments. The amendments change the rates of postage to five cents on all letters not prepaid and not weighing over half an ounce, and abolish the free transportation of newspapers within the county.

The bill to ascertain and settle private land claims in California was resumed.

Mr. Benton submitted an amendment, extending the land of prescription to the claimants; and after debate, the Senate adjourned without voting on it.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House went into committee of the Whole on the State of the Union on the deficiency bill—Mr. Meade in the chair.

He stated that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Strong) yesterday offered an amendment, proposing a modification of the existing tariff law, and this he now declared to be out of order, as irrelevant and contrary to the Constitution, and the rules passed in pursuance of it.

Mr. Strong appealed from the decision of the chair; and on the question being taken, the chair was sustained—ayes 102, noes 87.

Messrs. Seckett, Tuck and Schenck subsequently proposed tariff amendments, the last named with the River and Harbor bill attached, which were likewise ruled out of order.

Several amendments were made to the bill to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the present fiscal year, when the committee rose, and under the operation of the previous question, the bill was passed.

The House again went into committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and after being some time engaged on the bill to establish Branch Mints in New York and San Francisco, rose, when on motion the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30, 1851.

SENATE.

Mr. Rusk reported a joint resolution providing for the examination and destruction at San Francisco of all dead letters remaining in the post offices of California and Oregon, which contain no enclosures of value. After an explanation of it, the joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The bill in relation to private land claims in California was taken up, and after further debate, without taking a vote, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Giddings asked the consent of the House to offer a resolution, calling upon the President of the United States, if consistent with the public interests, to communicate to the body any correspondence which may have taken place between the Government of Great Britain and that of the United States respecting the imprisonment of British seamen in any port of the United States.

Objection was made, and the resolution was not received.

Mr. Burt from the committee on Military Affairs, reported back the Senate bill to create a retiring list for officers of the Army and Marine corps, who have become infirm by reason of old age, wounds, or diseases contracted in the service. He explained the provisions of the bill, and asked that it be put on its passage.

The bill was, on motion of Mr. [illegible], laid on the table—yeas 94, nays [illegible].

The House then went into a committee on the bill to establish a branch mint in N. York and California.

Mr. Chandler, of Philadelphia, spoke in opposition to a Mint in New York, and contended that the Mint of Philadelphia could meet any demand which could possibly be made upon it.

Mr. Van Dyke, of New Jersey, advocated Jersey City as the best place, and as a kind of compromise between the rival cities of New York and Philadelphia; and proposed an amendment accordingly.

Mr. [illegible], of New Jersey, obtained the floor. The Committee rose, and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1851.

SENATE.

Mr. Turney introduced a joint resolution directing that swords, with appropriate devices, be presented to the several Maj. Generals, and Brigadier Generals under the command of Generals Scott and Taylor.

A bill granting the right of way for a telegraph from Missouri to the Pacific, was reported.

Mr. Mason's resolution in relation to allowing the claims of Spain, growing out of the Amistad case, was taken up.

After debate Mr. Hale moved it be laid on the table—rejected, yeas 6, nays 43.

The resolution was then adopted.

A resolution submitted by Mr. Hale, calling for correspondence between the U. States and Spain in relation to the Amistad claims, was laid over.

A resolution submitted by Mr. Foote, calling upon the Secretary of State for his views in relation to adopting a graduated scale of diplomatic salaries, was adopted.

The Senate then proceeded to consider

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