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BY AUTHORITY.

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES,

Passed at the First Session of the 22d Congress.

[Public No. 22.]

AN ACT making appropriations for the support of Government for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, to be paid out of any unappropriated money in the Treasury, viz:

For pay and mileage of the members of Congress and delegates, four hundred and ninety-three thousand eight hundred dollars.

For pay of the officers and clerks of both Houses, thirty four thousand four hundred dollars.

For stationery, fuel, printing and all other incidental and contingent expenses of the Senate, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For stationery, fuel, printing, and all other incidental and contingent expenses of the House of Representatives, one hundred thousand dollars. The said two sums last named to be applied to the payment of the ordinary expenditures of the Senate and House of Representatives, severally, and to no other purpose.

For the Library of Congress, five thousand dollars; and also for repairs and furniture for the Library of Congress, three thousand dollars, to be applied under the direction of the Library Committee.

For salary of the principal and assistant Librarians, two thousand three hundred dollars.

For contingent expenses of the Library, and pay of messenger, eight hundred dollars.

For alterations and repairs of the Capitol, five hundred dollars.

For improving the grounds, including the gardener's salary, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Postmaster General sixty thousand dollars.

For clerks and messengers in the office of the Secretary of State, nineteen thousand four hundred dollars.

For clerks, machinist, and messenger, in the Patent Office, five thousand four hundred dollars.

For incidental and contingent expenses of the Department of State, including the expense of publishing and distributing the laws, twenty-five thousand dollars.

For contingent and incidental expenses of the Patent Office, fifteen hundred dollars.

For the superintendent and watchmen of the northeast executive building, eight hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said building, including fuel, labor, oil, repairs of the building, three thousand three hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messengers in the office of the Secretary of the Treasury, fifteen thousand four hundred dollars.

For a clerk employed on Revolutionary Bounty-Land Scrip, eleven hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation to the First Controller of the Treasury, three thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messengers in the office of the First Controller, nineteen thousand one hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Second Controller of the Treasury, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messenger in the office of the Second Controller, ten thousand four hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation to the First Auditor of the Treasury, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messenger in the office of the First Auditor, thirteen thousand nine hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Second Auditor of the Treasury, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messenger in the office of the Second Auditor, sixteen thousand nine hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Third Auditor of the Treasury, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messengers in the office of the Third Auditor, twenty-one thousand nine hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation to the Fourth Auditor of the Treasury, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messenger in the office of the Fourth Auditor, seventeen thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation to the Fifth Auditor of the Treasury, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messenger in the office of the Fifth Auditor, twelve thousand eight hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Treasurer of the United States, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messenger in the office of the Treasurer of the United States, six thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation to the Register of the Treasury, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messengers in the office of the Register of the Treasury, twenty-four thousand two hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the Clerks and Messengers in the Office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, twenty thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Solicitor of the Treasury, three thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Clerks and Messenger in the Office of the Solicitor of the Treasury, three thousand nine hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation to the Secretary to the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, two hundred and fifty dollars.

For the expenses of stationery, printing, and all other incidental and contingent expenses of the several offices of the Treasury Department, the following several sums, viz:

For the office of the Secretary of the Treasury, including advertising and extra copying, and the sum of one thousand five hundred dollars applied from this fund for clerk hire and other expenses incident to the issuing of revolutionary bounty land scrip, six thousand five hundred dollars.

For the office of the First Controller, one thousand dollars.

For the office of the Second Controller one thousand dollars.

For the office of the First Auditor eight hundred dollars.

For the office of the Second Auditor, eight hundred dollars.

For the office of the Third Auditor, one thousand dollars.

For the office of the Fourth Auditor, one thousand two hundred dollars.

For the office of the Fifth Auditor, one thousand dollars.

For the office of the Treasurer of the United States, seven hundred dollars.

For the office of the Register of the Treasury, three thousand dollars.

For the office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, nine thousand dollars.

For compensation for extra aid, during one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, in the issuing military land scrip and patents founded on Virginia military surveys, and on private claims, making indexes, and writing and recording patents for lands sold, six thousand six hundred dollars.

For the office of Solicitor of the Treasury, twelve hundred dollars.

For translations, and for expenses of pass ports and sea letters, three hundred dollars.

For stating and printing the public accounts for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, one thousand four hundred dollars.

For compensation of superintendent and watchmen of the southeast executive building, eight hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said building, including two thousand dollars for repairs of building, and also the sum of one thousand three hundred dollars, applied out of the appropriation for the contingent expenses of the Treasury Department, for clerk hire in the General Land Office, in relation to revolutionary land scrip, six thousand six hundred and fifty dollars.

For defraying the expenses of enclosing the grounds attached to the Treasury Department, one thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messengers in the office of the Secretary of War, twenty-two thousand six hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of the office of the Secretary of War, three thousand dollars.

For books, maps and plans for the War Department, one thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messenger in the office of the Paymaster General, four thousand and six hundred dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messenger in the office of the Commissary General of Purchases, four thousand two hundred dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, eight hundred dollars.

For compensation to the clerks in the office of the Adjutant General, two thousand nine hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, one thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks in the office of the Commissary General of Subsistence, two thousand nine hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, two thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the clerks in the office of the Chief Engineer, two thousand nine hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingencies of the Topographical Bureau, including the purchase of books and maps, and the repairs of instruments, one thousand one hundred and twenty-five dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, one thousand dollars.

For the services of a lithographer, and the expenses of the lithographic press of the War Department, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation to the clerks in the Ordnance Office, two thousand nine hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, eight hundred dollars.

For compensation to the clerk in the office of the Surgeon General, eleven hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, four hundred and twenty dollars.

For compensation to the clerks in the office of the Quartermaster General, two thousand one hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, six hundred dollars.

For the salary of the superintendent and watchmen of the northwest executive building, eight hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said building, including fuel, labor, oil, furniture, repairs of building, and improvement of adjoining ground, three thousand six hundred dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messengers in the office of the Secretary of the Navy, eleven thousand two hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the Commissioners of the Navy Board, ten thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Secretary of the Commissioners of the Navy Board, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks, draughtsman and messenger in the office of the Commissioners of the Navy Board, eight thousand four hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of the office of the Commissioners of the Navy Board, one thousand eight hundred dollars.

For the salary of the superintendent of the southwest executive building, and the watchmen, eight hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of said building, including fuel, labor, oil, repairs of building, engines, and improvement of the grounds, three thousand three hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation to the two Assistant Postmasters General, five thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks and messengers in the office of the Postmaster General, forty one thousand one hundred dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, seven thousand five hundred dollars.

For superintendency of the buildings, making up blanks, and compensation to two watchmen and one laborer, sixteen hundred and forty dollars.

For compensation to the Surveyor General in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks in the office of said Surveyor, two thousand one hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Surveyor south of Tennessee, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks in the office of said Surveyor, one thousand seven hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Surveyor in Illinois, Missouri and Arkansas, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to clerks in the office of said Surveyor, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to the Surveyor in Alabama, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to clerks in the office of said Surveyor, one thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Surveyor in Louisiana, including one thousand dollars from first July to thirty-first December, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, per act of third March, one thousand eight hundred and thirty one, three thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks in the office of said Surveyor, per act of third March, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, fifteen hundred dollars.

For an additional clerk, for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, to bring up arrearages of recording and including compensation to clerks in one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, for which no appropriation was made by the act of third of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirty one, three thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Surveyor in Florida, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerks in the office of said Surveyor, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to the Commissioner of the public buildings in Washington city, two thousand dollars.

For compensation to the officers and clerks of the Mint, ten thousand six hundred dollars.

For compensation to assistants in the several departments of the Mint, and wages of laborers employed in the various operations of the establishment, nineteen thousand eight hundred and seventy dollars.

For incidental and contingent expenses and repairs, cost of machinery, for allowance for wastage in gold and silver coinage of the Mint, twenty-one thousand four hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Governor, Judges and Secretary of the Michigan Territory, seven thousand eight hundred dollars.

For contingent expenses of the Michigan Territory, three hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation and mileage of the members of the Legislative Council, pay of the officers of the Council, fuel, stationery and printing, seven thousand three hundred and ninety-two dollars.

For compensation to the Governor, Judges and Secretary of the Arkansas Territory, seven thousand eight hundred dollars.

For pay and mileage of the Legislative Council of said Territory, five thousand four hundred and fifty dollars.

For contingent expenses of the Arkansas Territory, three hundred and fifty dollars.

For pay deficiency in appropriation of last year, for pay and mileage to the members of the Legislature of Arkansas, one thousand dollars.

For compensation to the Governor, Judges and Secretary, of the Florida Territory, including additional compensation to the Judges, under the act of twenty sixth May, one thousand eight hundred and thirty, at eight hundred dollars each, and arrearages of one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, thirteen thousand four hundred and ninety five dollars and nine cents.

For contingent expenses of the Florida Territory, three hundred and fifty dollars.

For compensation and mileage of the members of the Legislative Council of Florida, pay of officers and servants of the Council, fuel, stationery, printing, and distribution of the laws, including two thousand dollars to defray the expenses of the publication of the statutes of the Territory, as directed by a law of the Territory, and a deficiency in the appropriation for one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, of two hundred and twenty-eight dollars and ninety-one cents, nine thousand seven hundred and twenty-eight dollars and ninety one cents.

For compensation to the Chief Justice, the associate Judges, and district Judges of the United States, eighty-one thousand four hundred dollars.

For the salaries of the Chief Justice and Judges of the District of Columbia, and of the Judges of the Orphans' Courts of the said District, nine thousand five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Attorney General of the United States, four thousand dollars.

For compensation to the clerk in the office of the Attorney General, eight hundred dollars.

For a messenger in said office, five hundred dollars.

For contingent expenses of said office, five hundred dollars.

For compensation to the Reporter of the Decisions of the Supreme Court, one thousand dollars.

For compensation to the District Attorneys and Marshals, as granted by law, including those in the several Territories, eleven thousand three hundred dollars.

For compensation to assistant Counsel, and District Attorneys, under the act of the twenty-third of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight, supplementary to the several acts providing for the settlement of private land claims in Florida, including contingencies, seven thousand five hundred dollars: Provided, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to authorise the payment of a salary to the Law agent in Florida.

For defraying the expenses of the Supreme, Circuit, and District Courts of the United States, including the District of Columbia; also, for jurors and witnesses, in aid of the funds arising from fines, penalties, and forfeitures, incurred in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-two, and preceding years; and, likewise, for defraying the expenses of suits in which the United States are concerned, and of prosecutions for offences committed against the United States, and for the safe keeping of prisoners, one hundred and ninety thousand dollars.

For the payment of sundry pensions granted by the late and present governments, one thousand five hundred and fifty dollars.

For expense of lighting the lamps in the Capitol square, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

For improving the grounds round the President's house, including the gardener's salary, three thousand dollars.

For alterations and repairs in the President's house, three hundred dollars.

For the support and maintenance of light houses, floating lights, beacons, buoys, and stakeages, including the purchase of oil, keepers' salaries, repairs and improvements, and contingent expenses, two hundred and five thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight dollars.

For building a light house on or near one of the islands called the Brothers at the Narrows, in Long Island Sound, New York, being the amount of an appropriation for that object carried to the surplus fund on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and thirty-one, five thousand dollars.

For placing eight buoys at proper sites between the city of Albany and a point opposite Red Hook, New York, being the amount of an appropriation for that object, carried to surplus fund on the thirty-first of December, eighteen hundred and thirty-one, five hundred dollars.

For erecting a beacon near the Charleston light-house, in order to mark the entrance into the channel, commonly known as Lawford's channel, South Carolina, being the amount of an appropriation for that object, carried to the surplus fund on the thirty-first December, eighteen hundred and thirty one, six hundred dollars.

For the salaries of Registers and receivers of Land Offices where there are no sales, two thousand dollars.

For surveying the public lands, one hundred and sixty thousand dollars, viz. For the survey of the Choctaw cession in Mississippi, eighty thousand dollars; and for the survey of other public lands, eighty thousand dollars; and a further sum for the survey of the lands ceded by the Creeks to the United States, fifty thousand dollars.

For the salaries of two keepers of the public archives in Florida, one thousand dollars.

For the revision of all former statements of the enumeration of the inhabitants of the United and their Territories, being a balance due D. Green for printing the abstract of said revision, two hundred and twenty-nine dollars.

For the discharge of such miscellaneous claims against the United States, not otherwise provided for, as shall be ascertained and admitted in due coure of settlement at the Treasury, twelve thousand dollars.

For stationery and books for the offices of Commissioners of Loans, five hundred dollars.

For registers for ships and vessels, and lists of crews, four thousand dollars.

For the fourth payment to Luigi Persico, for two colossal statues for the Capitol, four thousand dollars.

For the salaries of the Ministers of the United States to Great Britain, France, Spain, Russia, and Colombia, forty-five thousand dollars.

For the salaries of the Secretaries of Legation to the same places, ten thousand dollars.

For the salaries of the Charges des Affairs to Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, Holland, Turkey, Belgium, Brazil, Buenos Ayres, Chili, Peru, Mexico, Central America, and Naples, fifty eight thousand five hundred dollars.

For salary of the drogoman, and for contingencies, of the Legation of the United States to Turkey, thirty seven thousand five hundred dollars.

For outfits of the Ministers of the United States to Great Britain, France and Russia, thirty-six thousand dollars.

For outfits of the Charges des Affaires of the United States to Holland, Belgium, Central America, Buenos Ayres, and Naples, twenty-two thousand five hundred dollars.

For contingent expenses of all the missions abroad, thirty thousand dollars.

For the salaries of the agents for claims at London and Paris, four thousand dollars.

For the expenses of intercourse with the Mediterranean Powers, twenty-four thousand four hundred dollars.

For the relief and protection of American seamen in foreign countries, twenty thousand dollars.

For the contingent expenses of foreign intercourse, thirty thousand dollars.

To enable the President of the United States to procure copies of documents relative to the history of the United States, from the public offices in Great Britain, two thousand dollars.

For the purchase of the Bust of Thomas Jefferson, executed by Ceracci, now in the possesion of Mr. Jefferson's Executor, four thousand dollars, if so much should be deemed necessary by the Committee on the Library.

For the purpose of enabling the Secretary of State to discharge a balance due to the Marshal of the Territory of Michigan, beyond the existing appropriation, for his services in taking a census of the persons in the said Territory, who are not freeholders, one hundred and twenty dollars and forty four cents.

For account of printing and binding, and for selecting, editing, and preparing indexes, for the compilation of documents, for which a subscription was authorized by the act of the second of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirty one, fifty-five thousand dollars; the printing to be paid for by the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House, according to the terms of the subscription; and the selecting, editing and making indexes, to be paid for in like manner, and at such rate of compensation as shall be judged reasonable and proper by the Committees of Accounts of the two Houses.

To enable the Secretary of State to cause to be printed, under his direction, a selection from the Diplomatic Correspondence of the United States, between the peace of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, and the fourth of March, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine, remaining unpublished in the Department of State, twelve thousand dollars.

To enable the Secretary of State to carry into effect the resolution of Congress of the seventh of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, in relation to recording patents, fourteen thousand six hundred and twelve dollars.

To enable the Secretary of State to pay for seventy copies of Peters' Condensed Reports of Decisions of the Supreme Court, subscribed for under the resolution of Congress of the second March, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, two thousand one hundred dollars.

For the payment of a balance due to Walter Smith, on the books of the Fourth Auditor, to be applied, first, to the discharge of any balance standing against said Smith on the books of the Treasury, and the residue to be paid to the legal representatives of Walter Smith, the sum of three thousand three hundred and thirty dollars and sixty-one cents.

To enable the Secretary of the Treasury to employ a suitable person to complete the Marine Hospital at Charleston, South Carolina, authorized by the act of twentieth May, one thousand eight hundred and thirty, four thousand three hundred and sixty dollars:—Provided, nothing herein contained shall be construed to enlarge the said contract, or to release the contractor from his liability thereunder.

For the erection of Marine Barracks and Officers' quarters at the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, nine thousand dollars.

For the purpose of defraying the expenses of a survey of the waters of Narragansett Bay, to be made under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, with a view to ascertain the practicability and expediency of establishing a Naval depot therein, five thousand dollars.

For enabling the President of the United States to obtain from the Norfolk Bridge Company, a release and conveyance to the United States, of the Bridge over the southern branch of the Elizabeth river, between the Navy Yard and the Dry Dock, and of the road leading from the same to the south-western side of said Yard, the sum of sixteen thousand dollars: Provided, That the Attorney General of the United States shall be satisfied of the validity of the title, and that the right thus acquired, will authorize the United States to remove the Bridge, and to enclose the road within the Navy Yard.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the Secretary of State be authorized, out of the sums appropriated to defray the expenses of taking the late Census, to pay those assistant Marshals, for their services, who have failed to receive compensation, from the delinquency of the principal Marshals.

A. STEVENSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
J. C. CALHOUN.
Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

Approved, May 5th, 1832.
ANDREW JACKSON.

[Public No. 23.]

AN ACT to provide the means of extending the benefits of vaccination, as a preventive of the Small Pox, to the Indian tribes, and thereby, as far as possible, to save them from the destructive ravages *of that disease.*

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That it shall be the duty of the several Indian Agents and Sub Agents, under the direction of the Secretary of War, to take such measures as he shall deem most efficient, to convene the Indian tribes in their respective towns, or in such other places and numbers, and at such seasons as shall be most convenient to the Indian population, for the purpose of arresting the progress of small pox among the several tribes by vaccination.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the Secretary of War be and he hereby is, empowered to employ as many Physicians or Surgeons, from the army or resident on the frontier near the point where their services shall be required, as he may find necessary for the execution of this act; and if necessary, two competent persons to conduct the Physicians to the remote Indians who are infected, or may be in immediate danger of being infected, with the small pox, whose compensation shall be six dollars per day, and six men, whose compensation shall be twenty-five dollars per month.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of War, to cause all Indian Agents to be supplied with genuine vaccine matter; and all Agents and Sub Agents shall use all proper means to persuade the Indian population to submit to vaccination.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That all Agents, Sub Agents, Physicians and Surgeons, employed in the execution of this act, shall make monthly returns or reports of their proceedings to the War Department. And the Secretary thereof shall submit to Congress, on or before the first of February next, a general report of all proceedings in the premises.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That, to carry this act into effect, the sum of twelve thousand dollars be appropriated out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Approved, May 5th, 1832.

A novel and interesting Convention has been proposed in some of the Western papers. It is to be a meeting of the surviving pioneers of the West, to take place on or about the first of October next at the mouth of the Licking on the Kentucky Shore, opposite to Cincinnati. The proposition appears to be especially intended for the original pioneers of 1790 1, 2, who will have survived the half century to expire in October next; and the particular object, to commemorate the toils, enterprise and sufferings of those by whom the way was first opened to the Great West, and the first impulse given to that tide of emigration which has covered the Valley of Mississippi with thousands of flourishing settlements, and millions of sturdy freemen, converting the savage wilderness into the abodes of civilization, and the nurseries of free institutions. We are perhaps wrong in speaking of the suggestion as a novel one. One of the western writers speaks of an agreement entered into in the fall of 1782—fifty years ago, for such a semi centennial meeting by those settlers who then peopled scantily the few and scattered posts which then formed the whole American population west of the Alleghany. This carries the original suggestion of this Convention back to the gloomiest period of the west, just before the expedition under Genl. Clarke and Cols. Logan and Floyd, the success of which contributed so much to the security of the frontier settlements. If this statement be correct, the proposed convention will derive from it a deeper additional interest. It will be a plighted meeting of brethren in arms, to recount, not only the mutual dangers and enterprises of earlier years, but the more lingering reminiscences of half a century's after strugglings with time and fortune;—the assemblage of a victorious army after a hard fought contest, counting up their own scars, paying a just tribute to the memory of their lost companions, and cheering and invigorating each other for that final conflict to which they must all be shortly summoned. With these will be mingled just feelings of mutual congratulation upon the mighty monuments of human improvement which have been erected upon the foundations laid by them with so much personal labor and privation, and of honest pride that they have been made the instruments of so much good to the human race.

Independent of the affecting incidents and amiable associations of the past, which this convention would produce, much might be done of profit for the future. Among these patriarchs, the materials for history must be ample. The early history of the Atlantic States, and much of their revolutionary history, is in many particulars, deficient, from the loss or absence of the records of the times, and the rapid departure from among us of the prominent actors in the scenes of the revolution without leaving authentic and dilated memorials of their times. The present will be a valuable opportunity for collecting a vast portion of useful information, necessary to a right knowledge of the history of the Western States, which ought not to go unimproved.—*Balt. American.*

The following account of an awful occurrence which happened on the 26th ult. in Nansemond County, Va. is addressed to the editors of the Norfolk Beacon:—

Yesterday, about 1 o'clock, during the midday vacation of my school, one mile and a half from this place, the children were suddenly driven to the house to seek shelter from an approaching cloud, but alas! the asylum they sought could not shield them from the subtle fluid, with which the cloud was surcharged.—At the moment they reached the house, there was so little rain that the boys remained outside, the girls were in the house with me.—On hearing the thunder which was not at that time alarming, they laughingly asked me where they must get? I admonished them to be serious, and was relating to them the unfortunate occurrence which had but a few days before taken place in Chuckatuck, (the death of a negro belonging to T. H. Southhall, Esq. by lightning;) at that moment the element above burst with a terrific crash and the liquid stream of fire descended upon the chimney of the house. For a moment after, all was still as death! then followed the heart rending shrieks of the prostrate, affrighted children.—On recovering from the shock, having myself sustained but little injury, only a little pain in one foot, which prevented my rising for several minutes,) my first emotions were those of gratitude to God for sparing my life. The first object that presented itself, after the dispersion of the smoke, was one of the little girls lying on her face, in the fire place, apparently lifeless, another on the floor crying for help, being unable to rise;—three boys outside the house were struck down and crying aloud for aid, the others fled immediatly except one who remained with me.

With the assistance of a negro man who had taken refuge in the house, from the rain, which was then falling in torrents, and the youth who remained with me, the boys outside the house were taken in, and all the aid in our power afforded them. But the most afflicting part of this narrative is yet to be told. An interesting son of Mr. Abraham Jones, [a near neighbour] about ten years old, had just returned from dinner, and was standing in the corner of the chimney when the lightning struck it.—In the twingling of an eye he was snatched from time to eternity!—The agony of his father was beyond description. One of his sons had fled immediately after the explosion of the cloud not knowing his brother's fate. The father came in haste to seek the other, but alas! he found him encircled in the icy arms of death! On examining the other children, it was ascertained that they were not seriously injured as was at first apprehended. The scene was truly awful and distressing; never before have I witnessed so awful a display of Omnipotent power or felt so forcibly the utter *impotence* of man, contrasted with the *Omnipotence* of Jehovah. Well might the royal psalmist say, Lord what is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man that thou remembrest him?

WHAT IS RELIGION?

True religion, one has very happily observed, is that which makes a good man,—which renders one pious towards his God,—conformed to the pattern of his Saviour,—benevolent to his fellow men,—humble in his temper and manners—peaceable in his society—just in his treatment of all—strict in the government of himself—patient in adversity, and attentive to his duty in all conditions and relations of life. When you see such a character, you may believe that religion is there. Reader, when you find this to be your character, you may believe that wisdom has entered into your heart.

If you see a man meek, humble, peaceable, sober and benevolent, careful to practice piety himself, and promote it among others, you may safely think him religious, though you suppose him to have adopted some groundless opinions. If you see one contentious about religion, condemning all who think not as he does—more zealous to make proselytes to his own party and opinion, than to make good men out of his proselytes, whatever you may think of his heart, you will at least conclude that his zeal is not according to judgment.

Judge then of the truth, and of the importance of doctrines, by their practicable tedency and observable effects. For as the design and tendency of the gospel is to make men better, so if any doctrine has a contrary influence, you may conclude, either that it is not a doctrine of the gospel, or that it meets with a temper exceedingly perverse.

An Appropos.—One day at the table of the late Dr. Pearce (Dean of Ely) just as the cloth was being removed, the subject of discourse happened to be that of an extraordinary mortality amongst the lawyers. 'We have lost,' said a gentleman, 'not less than six eminent barristers, in as many months.' The Dean, who was quite deaf, rose as his Friend finished his remark, and gave the company grace; 'For this and every other mercy may the Lord's name be praised!' The effect was irresistible.

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