John Catrupe

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From the Richmond Enquirer.

THE NEXT PRESIDENT.

We come forward to redeem our promise. We endeavored in our last No. to warn the people against the pious efforts, that are making in one quarter to "save them from their worst enemies themselves," to take the election of President out of the hands of the People, and throw it into the House of Representatives. One press at least is now avowedly electioneering on this very ground. It reminds its readers of Mr. Randolph's prediction, "that General Jackson was the last President who would ever be elected by the People"—adopts his vaticination, as sustained by every probability—predicts that "every *future* election will, in *future*, be made by the House of Representatives, in the last resort"—and declares, that "if the South unites upon him (one of the candidates) its vote will carry him one of the three before the House, and *there* they are entitled to have as much confidence in the result, as any other can feel." He subsequently calls upon the South to unite upon him, and in this way his success will be certain.

We acquit the Nominee of all lot or part in the folly of his advocate. For, we are firmly persuaded that he has kept aloof from the contest—and that he would scorn to give any countenance to any such speculation. We put aside, however, all the indiscretions of the editor in question—and take the matter up on much higher grounds. Let us say that it was our intention to write the present article, before we ever saw these suggestions at all—and the only reference we saw in the public prints to the mode of the Election was to the scheme of a *National Convention*. (Many of the friends of another of the Candidates are said to be in favor of this course.) We then pledged ourselves to offer our own reflections upon the subject—and to bring forward a *prior proposition*. We proceed to redeem the pledge we have given.

PRIOR PROPOSITION.

We lay down, therefore, this first Proposition, that the Republican Party ought not to permit the Election of the President to be thrown into the House of Representatives.—The objections to such a scheme are numerous and irresistible.

In the 1st place, every friend of our liberties and our Constitution must admit, that the framers of the Government intended to vest the election of the President, as far as was possible, in the People—and their will is to be carried into execution in the best mode which the State Legislatures might please to prescribe. This method is consonant to republican principles.

In the 2d place. Who does not perceive the strong objections, which exist to the elections of the chief Executive Magistrate by one branch of the Legislature? Does it not serve to remove that officer from his main responsibility and dependence on the people? And does it not violate the cardinal principle of Republics, which inculcates the separation of the different departments of the government—and their independence of each other, as one of the greatest guarantees of liberty? Once establish it as a rule, that the H. of R. is the body, which is to cast over its favorite candidate the mantle of Executive power, and you immediately open the flood gates of corruption upon the Representatives of the people.—You convert the House into a sort of Polish Diet, an electioneering arena, for disposing of the people, perhaps to the highest bidder.—What becomes of the unsullied and unsuspected integrity of your representatives? Many may escape the contagion—but will all the distinguished leaders of the House? The ambitious aspirant directs his efforts to win their favor. Rich offices, fat jobs, and a hundred other allurements may be held out to purchase their votes—and how long will it be before our constitution may be corrupted to its very core? We throw away all metaphysics, all refined reasoning, all abstract hypothesis—but appeal to the too familiar operations of political causes. We appeal to the history of other countries—and unfortunately we may appeal to our own American annals. Since this constitution was formed, we have seen two examples of an election of President by the H. of Representatives. Need we refresh the memories of our readers upon the matter? Need we unveil the agitating and inglorious contest which subsisted in 1801, in the case of Jefferson and Burr? or, must we refer to the still more modern, and almost equally remarkable, election of John Quincy Adams?—We shall not go into all the details of these painful transactions.—The people know them—and the people must know how to profit by them. We refer to them, to point out what a field is spread out for "management, intrigue, (and we dare to say) corruption"—and to show how easy it is for a very few votes in the House to control the election of a President, in defiance of the wishes of the people. Mr. Burr is notoriously known not to have received one single electoral vote which was intended to make him the President of the Republic—and yet scarcely was there ever made a more desperate or a more daring struggle to foist any man into office, over the very heads of the people. As for Mr. Adams, though he had a minority of the electoral votes, yet it is notorious that it was in the power of a very few members to confer upon him the office, to which he was promoted. We will not pourtray the scenes which followed. But they are sufficient to disgust all the nice and jealous sensibilities of a free people. Are we not then fully borne out in our determined opposition to this mode of election? Were we not fully justified in declaring, that the effort to smuggle the election into the House, and take it out of the hands of the people, is an insult to their understandings. Does it not substantially amount to the declaration, that they are unworthy of confidence, and incapable of self-government.

But in the 3d place—There is another objection, which appeals irresistibly to our best and strongest interests. Each State has an equal voice in the Diet. The largest is upon a level with the smallest State—and Virginia has no more influence in making a President, than Delaware or Rhode Island. How far this is conformable to the great principle of Republics, that the majority ought to govern—we will not now discuss. The objections are sufficiently stated in the several extracts which we are about to attach to these remarks.—These ideas are not new to us. They are not coined for immediate circulation. We have exhibited the same view of the subject for 27 years—from the year 1806 down to the present time. *And therefore we take as our preliminary proposition that we are against any election by the House of Representatives*—and will adopt every fair, and honorable constitutional method for arresting such a measure. But what method can be adopted? This brings us to our

SECOND PROPOSITION.

We propose—and it is for the good sense of the people to judge of our motives and our measures—to bring the election still nearer to the people. And how is this to be effected?—Again, we must go back to our columns, and show what the method was, which was advocated 10 years ago. With this view we submit the amendment proposed by John Taylor of Caroline to the Senate of the U. S. in 1823. We also lay before them, the humble support we then gave to this proposition. And we repeat that, in case there be no election on the first ballot of the Electors, we hope to see the election to be made out of the two highest candidates. The amendment failed in 1823, partly because it was not pressed with sufficient zeal, and partly perhaps of the opposition it met with from the smaller States. It has not been revived since, because the two last contests have been narrowed down to two candidates—Jackson and Adams—and Jackson and Clay—but now, when we have shoals of candidates, or nominees, likely to enter the arena; when we have seen not less than five citizens from one State entered for the office; and how many Richmonds from the other States to muster in the field, we know not; it becomes all men, who think as we do, upon the ultimate election by the H. of Representatives, to be on the alert. We submit this proposition from a sincere sense of its importance—and we shall press it with all the zeal in our power. We call on every friend of republican government to unite in its support. *Now is the time* to push it. If this winter passes over in vain, it will be in vain to attempt it for the ensuing election. Hence, it is that we now take the liberty of recommending it. It is not as *premature* to make this arrangement for the next election—as it is to engage in the discussion about the candidates themselves. So far from being premature, this is indeed the very time to discuss it.

But, as its adoption may again be defeated by the combination among the smaller States or by that horror of innovation to which Col. Taylor alludes in his speech, we must go on to chalk out the course we mean to pursue. It may be imposed upon us as an inevitable alternative. But sooner than see another election by the House of Representatives, we shall unquestionably adopt it. This brings us to

THE THIRD PROPOSITION.

If an election by the House be not superseded by sending back the poll to the people, the republican party will be reduced to the necessity (*in case more than two candidates run*,) of coming to some *concert* among themselves, and to such previous nomination as may ensure its success. Thus, they may effect a choice by the first College of Electors which meets to give the votes of the People. This *concert* must be brought about by a Convention of the Republican party, organized as it should be, upon just republican principles. Such a Convention we took the liberty of suggesting some years since, as appears by the following Extracts. It was to take the place of the method of Caucuses, which had been practised by the Republican Party in the days of Madison and Monroe—but which is liable to the most serious objections. It is in fact at this time justly obsolete, and must be superseded by a more popular, independent, and better organized method of nomination. We lay these reflections freely before our countrymen—and are prepared to act them out—We disclaim, then, for the present, a National Convention. We go for an amendment upon some principle like John Taylor's amendment. We go at all events, against an ultimate election by the H. of R.—and if the Constitution be not amended, we do not see how any other *concert* is to be adopted for effecting an election at the first ballot, than by a frank and open nomination of a fair, free, and properly constituted Convention of the People themselves.

MR. AUDUBON.—This distinguished naturalist returned to Boston on Wednesday last, from his north-eastern excursion. The following interesting account of it is given in the Daily Advertiser of Saturday:

Mr. Audubon, in company with a few friends, left Eastport on the 6th of June, in a vessel hired for this purpose. His course was first directed to the Straits of Canso, and thence to the Madalene Island; a poor barren spot, inhabited by a few persons, who are principally French Canadians. From these islands he sailed towards the Gennet rock, which derives its appellation from the birds of the same name, that resort to it in multitudes large enough to wring the heart of Mr. Malthus.—The rock is four hundred feet in height, and several acres in extent; when it was visited by Mr. Audubon, it was covered with innumerable birds upon their nests, which gave it the appearance of a huge mass of snow, while the countless numbers of those hovering above it presented a perfect image of a snow storm.—The report of muskets did not appear in the slightest degree to alarm them. A severe gale prevented the party from attempting to explore this extraordinary colony, and the rock is in fact regarded by the fishermen as inaccessible.

The same gale carried them rapidly by the southern extremity of Anticosti, in the mouth of the St. Lawrence, to the coast of Labrador, which they reached in the 51st degree of latitude. The shore of this iron country is extremely bold, and presented a most desolate appearance; the land was covered with heavy fogs, and diversified, even at this summer season with numerous deep drifts of snow. Mr. Audubon spent a fortnight in the harbor called Little Nitasguan, employing his time in making excursions in the country, and along the coast to the distance of about forty miles.—The whole appears to be a solid rock, covered with masses of uncommon depth and beauty; the vegetation in the valleys, which lie open to the sun, is remarkable for its luxuriance, and variegated with beds of rich plants, which were entirely new to every member of the party; the only forests are composed of fir and scattered dwarf trees, principally fir. Here, Mr. Audubon was enabled to ascertain the habits of many of the birds, which resort to our coast during the winter, and discovered two new species, a *Fringilla* and a *Parus*. In the harbor of Nitasguan, he met with a British surveying schooner, the Gulnare, on the command of Capt. Bayfield, from whom, together with his officers, Lt. Bowen, and Kelley, the party experienced a very friendly and kind reception.

On leaving this place, Mr. Audubon proceeded eastwardly to the fine harbor of Brador, patiguan, where he was a few days afterwards followed by the Gulnare. Here he procured specimens of the willow grouse, old and young, ascertained the habits of many land and water birds, examined the country and neighboring islands, gathered a few new plants and shells, and departed for the port of Little Macatine. The shores of this coast were even bold and rugged than any he had yet visited; the aspect of the country became more stern, and a corresponding change was observable in the climate.

The excursions of the party in this quarter were numerous and fatiguing, and it was with difficulty that any of their number could walk for a greater distance than ten miles a day. On ascending the highest hills, the prospect in every direction was of an uniform and very cheerless character; the same thick mosses were spread over the table land, the plains were nearly the same, and lakes, formed by the melting of the snows of winter, were everywhere spread out around them. In this solitary spot, a Scotch settler had fixed his abode for more than twenty years, and seemed quite contented with the beauties of the scene; his sole occupation was that of taking seal and salmon, which were tolerably abundant in their respective seasons, and which he exchanged for requisite supplies, with vessels from Quebec and Newfoundland. He had a wife and six children, by whom the travellers were received with hospitality and kindness. All of them appeared contented with their situation, and had contracted a strong attachment to their wild and dreary residence. Mr. Audubon here found the wild goose in its breading season, and was favored with an opportunity of observing the habits of several rare species of water birds.

Brador was the next stage in the progress of the travellers; on their way to this place they explored several of the intermediate islands, where many species of birds were found breeding in abundance. These islands are resorted to by the people from Nova Scotia, for the purpose of procuring eggs; they commence their operations by trampling on the which they find on the islands, and on the following day begin to collect those which are newly laid; and, so successful are they in this search, that Mr. Audubon fell in with a party of three persons, who, in the course of two weeks had found thirty two thousand dozen of the estimated value of four hundred pounds. There is no limit to the havoc made by these people: not content with carrying away the eggs merely, they kill the birds by thousands; in order to pluck a few feathers from the breast, and then throw them into the sea, or leave them on the rocks; and if this wanton destruction should be pursued a few years longer, it is obvious that they must exhaust the sources of their profit, by driving the birds from their accustomed haunts. In the port of Brador, where they found excellent anchorage, the party met with sixty or seventy fishing vessels, the crews of all of which were actively employed. The fish was very abundant, and all expected to obtain what they denominate a fare. Mr. Audubon was, however, convinced that a due regard to the season, and the proper application of their labour, might render the fishery far more productive than it is; and we hope hereafter to have it our power to offer the result of his inquiries upon this subject to our readers.

The cold at this place was much more severe than was to have been expected in July. The party found it necessary to make larger fires, than on the other portions of the coast; and even then the cold was so intense, that Mr. Audubon's pencil occasionally dropped from his fingers while engaged in drawing by the fireside. Icebergs were here for the first time seen. In fact, as the party advanced along the coast, they found that a distance of only a hundred miles produced a very remarkable difference in the progress of vegetation. Here also they encountered a brother in law of the anchroite of Little Macatine, occupying an equally independant situation, his nearest neighbors residing at a very serious distance. This personage had maintained his post for more than thirty years, and was decidedly of the opinion that the country was the finest he had ever seen. He had cultivated a small garden, in which were growing a few indifferent vegetables and was the owner of the only horse, which was seen by the travellers in the country; but for the purpose of visiting those whom he called his neighbors, he was accustomed to employ Esquimaux dogs of which about forty were attached to his establishment. These are fed upon the seals which he catches in the Spring, and which are piled in a huge mass in the vicinity of his front door where they remain, until his neighbors have reason to rejoice at their remoteness from his villa.—At this place, Mr. Audubon had the fortune to procure the male and female of a very large and beautiful new species of Falco, with several smaller birds. Some of the party visited a settlement, thirty miles distant, while the rest traversed this wild region in different directions, whenever the weather would permit.

On their departure from Brador, they crossed the Straits of Belle Isle, and sailed along the coast of Newfoundland, until they reached St. George's Bay, which they describe as the finest that they ever saw. The coast of Newfoundland was more elevated and broken, and even more sterile, than that of Labrador.—At St. George's bay, they found a village, consisting of forty houses and two hundred inhabitants, all of whom were fishermen. These people enjoy none of the luxuries, and few of the comforts of life; in the winter season, the want of fuel, and the apprehension of exposure to the violent gale, compel them to invert the order of fashionable usage, and to retire to small camps or cabins erected in the interior. When the party left this anchorage, they were driven by a severe storm to some distance north of the Madalene Islands, and for two days and nights were tossed in the sea of the Gulph, which Mr. Audubon emphatically describes as the vilest of seas. As soon as the weather permitted, he sailed in the direction of Pictou, in Nova Scotia, where he discharged his vessel, in order to visit a portion of the British provinces. Pictou is a pleasant village on the margin of a beautiful bay, in which twenty or thirty vessels were at anchor, waiting for supplies of coal. The country in its vicinity is more fertile than is usual with those which abound in minerals. At Pictou, Mr. Audubon received many attentions from the Consul, Mr. Blanchard, and Professor Macculloch of the University, who has a rich collection of well preserved birds, and presented him with several valuable specimens. The road from this place to Truro is macadamized, and resembles the finest roads of that description in Europe, and the country is rich and diversified, both in its aspect and natural productions.

Truro is situated in the centre of a luxuriant valley, adorned with neat farm houses and villas; it was there that the party caught a first view of the head waters of the bay of Fundy. Professor Macculloch was there, having gone thither for the purpose of introducing them to some gentlemen of the Provincial Assembly, in whose company they passed several agreeable hours. From this place to Halifax, the appearance of the country becomes less and less attractive.

The appearance of Halifax is pleasing at a distance, but a residence of a few days did not incline the travellers to feel much regret at the period of their departure; they were so unfortunate as not to see any of the gentlemen to whom the letters of introduction, which they received at Truro, were addressed. From this place to Windsor, which is situated on the river of the same name, eight or ten miles above its confluence with the Bay of Fundy, the aspect of the country is not very inviting; though on the road which winds along the bay immediately after leaving Halifax, there are many fine seats, with ornamented grounds around them. At Windsor, the tide was observed to rise more than sixty feet, and when at half flow, it rose three feet perpendicularly in the space of ten minutes. At low water, the bed of the river is almost dry, the vessels which were scattered along the bank to be laden with gypsum, the great commodity of the place, appeared to have been stationed there by some magic power. Mr. Audubon embarked at Windsor on board the steamboat Maid of the Mist, a most appropriate name for the latitude in which she plies, and after touching at St. Johns, returned at length to Eastport, and from thence to Boston, where he arrived in good health, and without having met with any disastrous accident in the whole course of his tour.

In this excursion, it was not the expectation of Mr. Audubon to make many new discoveries; the coast of Labrador is not one, which judicious birds would be likely to select for any other than a summer residence. He has, however, in ascertaining the habits of those already known, procured information, which must materially enhance the value of his great work; and the drawings, executed during his absence, particularly of the three birds which have been mentioned as discovered by him, are exquisitely beautiful.

MICHIGAN.

Twenty one years ago.—On the 16th of Aug. 1812, or just 21 years ago last Friday, took place the capitulation of Gen. Hull, and the surrender of Detroit to the British. At that time, there was no road connecting this territory with any other portion of the U. States, excepting that then recently cut by General Hull, for the passage of his army. With the exception of a few small settlements at the mouths of the streams, the whole of Michigan was a vast wilderness, and from the description given in the ancient maps was supposed to be a morass so drowned with water, as to be uninhabited. This erroneous impression was derived, probably, from the statements of the Fur Traders, who although they must have known better, found it their interest to inculcate this belief, for the purpose of preserving undisturbed possession of the gainful traffic which they had long maintained with the Indians. The extensive country now composing a populous district of Ohio, north and north west of Cleaveland, in Cuyahoga county, was a wilderness. The road from the rapids of Maumee to Lower Sandusky, was an Indian trail which was rarely travelled. It had such a winding and zigzag course, for the purpose of avoiding fallen trees and gullies or bayeaus, in which water collected, that it was difficult, even in a dry time to trace it; and, in wet weather, when from the flatness of the land it was covered with water, and exhibited the appearance of a vast lake, the traveller could only pursue the path by the indistinct traces of the ancient blazes on the trees. The whole extent of this district being covered with a heavy growth of timber, much of it blue ash and cotton wood, filled up with underwood of alder and spice wood, and having an unusually dark and sombre appearance, and the soil being of vegetable decomposition, black, spongy and porous, rendered the name of the *Black Swamp*, a most fit and appropriate designation. Till after the late war, the intercourse between Michigan and the other portions of the Union, was very limited; and the arrival of a stranger in Detroit was an event of so much importance as to challenge the special attention of the male and female gossips of the place. This was long before the era of steamboats. The few sail vessels then on these waters, were supposed to have done well, if they made a trip from Detroit to the foot of the Lake in the time that is now required for our packets to make their trip from New York to Liverpool. The steamboat *Walk-in-the-water*, was built in the year 1819, and about that period the first attempts were made to penetrate the interior of the country, by the inhabitants of Detroit. The first settlement formed in the interior, was by a few families who had moved into the Territory from Upper Canada, and ascended what was then called the Upper Huron, now the Clinton, some ten or fifteen miles from its mouth. They settled on an oak opening, and raised fine crops of wheat. They had been there a year or more before it was known in Detroit, and the fact was regarded as a remarkable instance of enterprise and hardihood. The next settlement was formed at Pontiac and its neighborhood.

From this period, the tide of emigration has steadily increased from year to year. The inhabitants of Detroit, with a public spirit highly to their credit, explored the country, and caused its advantages to be published in the eastern papers. For some time it appeared up hill work, many visited the country, who, from a slight and partial view of it, or from ignorance or prejudice, returned with unfavorable reports, which, to some extent, retarded for a time, its settlement; and after this the ravages of a malignant epidemic, which for several years afflicted Detroit and its neighborhood, induced a wide spread report that the country was unhealthy. The inhabitants of Detroit, with a zeal that cannot be too highly commended, and a forecast which was to be expected from a community, which for intelligence, is rarely equalled, struggled to remove those unfavorable impressions. They took upon themselves the labor and expence of acting as pilots and pioneers to emigrants, and assisted them with information, advice, and often with money and other facilities.—We could name many of the old citizens of Detroit, who were distinguished for their zealous efforts in this way. One who should now visit the interior and behold a rich and populous country—who should behold the steamboats and stages filled with emigrants, crowding into the country and pushing on to the very shores of Lake Michigan, could hardly realize the care and nursing expended on the sickly and tender plant which has now become a tree, whose branches overshadow the land. The language of our motto "*Tuebitur Et Sustentat Arbor*, though adopted long before our prosperous and palmy state, seems like the prophetic truth of inspiration. Much again may be truely said to be in the very spring tide of her prosperity. It is believed there has been, within the present season, an increase of population from abroad of near 10,000; besides the natural increase. The quantity of produce, and particularly of wheat, raised this season, is said to have exceeded, to a large extent, that of any former year.—Health, that highest blessing, without which all else is valueless, has been enjoyed to a degree that calls for our special gratitude.—*Detroit Journal.*

From Bell's Messenger of August 4.

DREADFUL SHIPWRECK.

We give the following most distressing account of the loss by fire of the Hibernia, bound for Van Diemen's Land, with passengers, from a letter of Mr. James Easby, mill wright, Richmond, Yorkshire, who was one of the passengers.

On the 5th of February, 1833, about eleven o'clock, A. M. an alarm of fire was given, which was soon ascertained to be but too true. The second mate, who acted as steward, had gone into the state room, and, while in the act of drawing a bucket of rum, let a lighted candle fall into the spirits; and instead of giving the alarm, endeavored to extinguish the flames by throwing about the store room the blazing spirits, which dreadfully burnt his legs and arms, and set fire to a quantity of tar, pitch, spirits, straw, &c. As soon as the alarm was given, the deck was scuttled, and water poured in—every exertion was used to arrest the progress of the all devouring element, but to no purpose; in less than two hours all hopes of saving either ship or cargo was abandoned, as the between decks and lower holds were full of smoke, and the flames were breaking through between the decks. The captain ordered the boats to be launched, which was done. Giving me some books, charts, &c. he ordered me to get into the long boat, and take care of the few provisions which were saved from the sailors' forecastle and cabin. Oh! what a scene of horror now took place! Some were seen dressed up in their best clothes as if going to a ball—others were profaning God's name with the most awful execrations—while some were on their knees, supplicating his mercy.

"Now shrieked the timid,
And stood still the brave."

There were 232 souls on board, and the boats would not hold more than a third of the number; they were filled in a moment, and dropped astern. As the ship was still going, we drifted away, picking up a few who swam from the ship, or floated on pieces of timber. The whole of the sails and masts of the noble Hibernia were now in flames, and in a few minutes fell into the sea. And now a most dreadful scene presented itself—all endeavoring to get upon the masts, with the expectation of being picked up by the boats, there being only the sad alternative—the flames or a watery grave. Those who got upon the rafts had neither water nor provisions; and, if not picked up, would linger out a painful existence, and at last be starved to death, there being little chance of any ship coming that way. We were now in 5º S. lat and 90º W. long, in the south east trade winds, having a fair wind for Pernambuco, on the Brazilian coast. We all met—that is, the boats—and determined to make, if possible, Pernambuco, though at a distance of 1200 miles, and having very little provisions, and no water. It was most heart-rending to see so many in distress, and unable to relieve them, the boats being quite filled, and the long boat in a leaky state, required eight men to bail the water to keep her afloat. We rigged out a jury mast and, with the aid of a topgallant sail, were enabled to make good way. The Hibernia was not more than a mile from us to windward—many poor creatures clinging to the bow-sprit to keep them from the flames as long as possible, waving their hats for us to go and receive them. The doctor and four sisters were clinging to a rope at the stern of the ship. We would fain have taken them in, but the captain told us it would be at the expense of our own lives; so we abandoned all hope of saving them. By the help of an old bed tick we lengthened our sail, and in a little time lost sight of the Hibernia, and all our property, and all our hopes. Next morning the chief mate in the pinnace left us, and we saw him no more, he having on board 17 souls. We had given him charts, compass, and sextant to navigate with. We had nothing to eat from breakfast until the next day at 12 o'clock, and then only two table spoonsful of brandy, and two ounces of preserved beef night and morning for seven days. On the night of the 6th a man died from fatigue and hunger. On the captain's taking his observations at twelve o'clock, he informed us that we were 490 miles from Pernambuco, with a light breeze. We had no water the whole time, and gave up all hopes of ever again setting feet on land. On this day we killed one of three small pigs which we had on board—eating it raw, and supping the blood with as much eagerness as if it had been wine. Hunger is fine sauce, but our hunger was nothing to our thirst. Had I been possessed of a thousand worlds, I would willingly have given up all for a draught of water. Many of them drank sea water, though warned against it—several of them became delirious. There were 52 souls on board, besides 11 in the captain's gig, which we had in tow.

At twenty minutes past three o'clock, the man at the helm, to the joy of all, cried out, "A sail a-head." We stood down upon her, after hoisting a sailor's red shirt as signal of distress; but all hopes were again lost, as the ship had not seen us, when we completely despaired—but to the great joy of all, we perceived her mizen top sail backed, and her mainsail hauled up. We then shouted for joy, and in twenty minutes we spoke her.—She was the Lotus of Whitby, from Portsmouth, with convicts and soldiers for Van Diemen's Land. They took us on board, gave us some grog, water and provisions; but ——oh! Major ordered us into our boat again; we made a stand to a man, and declared we would rather the soldiers run us through than go to sea again in so leaky a vessel. The captain of the Lotus ordered the carpenter to inspect her, and he declared her not sea worthy; he then sunk her, set the gig adrift, and we got aboard a good ship. The sailors were kind to us, the carpenter gave me his bed and some clothes, as all I had on at the time the fire happened were a cap, shirt, trousers and shoes. I saved my watch, and this is all the property I am possessed of. The Lotus landed us at St. Domingo, to the care of the British Consul, who, I am happy to say, is a good man; he ordered us plenty of meat, and a pint of wine after dinner; God knows we had much need of it. The Consul has chartered the brig Adelaide, of Dundee, to take us forward to Herbert Town, at government expense. There is now a subscription on foot to be paid us on our arrival at Van Diemen's Land by the Governor. There is also a subscription set on foot by the English merchants. The Methodists have also behaved handsomely to us. Yours, J. EASBY.

Ventilation of Bed Rooms.—There should be a constant circulation of fresh air in bed rooms. The lungs must respire during sleep as at any other time, and it is of great importance to have, while asleep, as pure an air as possible. It is calculated that each person neutralizes the vivifying principle of a gallon of air in a minute; what havoc, therefore, must an individual make upon the pure air of his bed chamber, who sleeps in a bed closed with curtains, with the doors and windows shut, and perchance a chimney board in the bargain.—Our health and comfort depend more upon these apparently trivial points than most people are aware of. "Confined air," says Dr. Franklin, "when saturated with perspirable matter (the quantity of which is calculated to be about five eighths of what we eat,) will not receive more, and that matter must remain in our bodies and cause disease. We may recollect, sometimes, on waking in the night, we have, if warmly covered, found it difficult to get to sleep again. We turn often, without finding repose in any position. This "fidgettiness," to use a vulgar expression, is occasioned wholly by an uneasiness in the skin, owing to the retention of the perspirable matter." To obviate the ill effects of this annoyance, the following rule is recommended. Preserve the same position in your bed but throw off the clothes, and freely admit the fresh air. This will clear the skin of its perspiration, and you will experience a decided and speedy refreshment. If this be not successful, get out of bed and walk about the room; and, having shaken the bed clothes well, turn them down, and let the bed get cool.—When you begin to feel the cool air unpleasant, return to bed, when you will experience the good effects of your plan. The bed itself should always be so placed, as to admit a free circulation of air around it, and the curtains, if curtains there must be, ought never to be perfectly closed. It would be well, if in all the apartments, but especially in bed chambers, the upper sashes of the window were contrived to let down; for by this means the admission of fresh air would be at all times, perfectly safe, as the body when even under such a sweat as could not, without danger, be interrupted, may receive all the refreshing, restorative, invigorating influence of the air, without being exposed to a stream of it. Franklin himself, whatever might be the season, slept with his window open, more or less, and advised his friends to do the same, many of whom adopted the practice, and acknowledged the advantages of it. Fifty or sixty years ago, the prejudices against the admission of air in the day-time into a sick room was as great as it now is against the admission of the night air into a bed chamber. Early habits and fear are arbitrary rulers.

The Washington, which sailed on Wednesday, for Canton, has on board ten young men, of respectable families, who have gone out for the first time, with the intention of becoming ship masters. They are all amply provided with instruments and books to learn navigation. May success attend them.

It is hardly necessary to add, that the Washington is a Temperate ship, as *all* the shipping articles of our East Indiamen are now headed—"No Grog," the appalling word which has cost our underwriters so many millions.

N. Y. Jour. Com.

Clergyman Drowned.—The Arkansas Gazette of the 7th inst. contains a communication from A. D. Smyth, narrating the death of Wm. A. Boyce, travelling preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church.—He was drowned, during the late freshet near Big Red River, in a small drain which was flushed by excessive rains. The same writer states that a report prevailed that the Rev. Martin Wells had been also drowned in forcing his way across the Washita River. He expressed, however, a hope, that the latter report may have originated in the one alluded to above, and that it is unfounded.

Trade in the East.—The ship Chesapeake of Baltimore (says the Boston Atlas) was the first American vessel allowed to hoist the colors of the United States in the river Ganges, and to trade there. This was in the fall 1788. Lord Cornwallis was the gov. general of the British possessions of India, and being, at the time of the ship's arrival, at a great distance in the interior, he was applied to by a letter to know in what manner the flag of the new nation of America was to be received. He answered, on the same footing with those of other nations.

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*The schr. Wizard of Boston, arrived at Brador while Mr. Audubon was there, and remained at his departure on the 12th of August. It was the intention of the Captain to leave in about a month for the Mediterranean. He was then waiting to dry his fish, for which the weather had been unfavorable, being cold and wet. While Mr. A. was in the harbor, a severe gale passed over, in which many vessels were lost. It was ascertained that thirteen, of which two were American, were wrecked upon Prince Edward's Island.

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