LIBERIA HERALD.

NEW SERIES.

(FOR OUR COUNTRY.)

VOL. II. MONROVIA, LIBERIA, (WEST AFRICA.) OCTOBER 15th 1851. NO 6.

LIBERIA HERALD

Published Semi-Monthly.

The Liberia Herald is published in Monrovia on the First and Third Wednesdays in each month, at One Dollar *per annum*, payable in advance.

The rates of advertising in the Liberia Herald, are,—

For a single square, one insertion, $ " 37 1-2c.
For half a square, one insertion, $ " 25c.
For each subsequent insertion, $ " 12 1-2c.

Five lines or less, constitute half a square, and ten lines a square If an advertisement exceeds a square the price will be in exact proportion.

Marriages and obituary notices are charged 25 cents for one insertion. Payments in all cases, in advance.

Voluntary correspondence, containing interesting or important news, solicited from any part of the Republic.

No notice will be taken of anonymous communications; nor will rejected communications be returned.

All communications must be addressed to "Liberia Herald."

BENJ'N COATES. WALTER BROWN

COATES & BROWN,

Wholesale Dealers in Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods,

No 139 1-2 Market street, North side, between Third and Fourth streets, PHILADELPHIA.

NEW GOODS!

And almost every thing else in use!!

To tell you Liberians about them would be, perhaps, either to weary your patience, or to doubt the veracity of the statement or that of the true existence and action of your own senses.

Therefore, come and both hear about, and see what you want.

In every case payment down.

Yours most Respectfully

E. J. ROYE.

Monrovia Feb. 21st 1851.

Job. Printing neatly and promptly executed at this office, at moderate prices.

LIBERIA HERALD

August 1st 1851

NOTICE!

Is hereby given to all persons having claims, against N. M. Hicks of Monrovia, Insolvent debtor, to present them to the undersigned properly authenticated on or before the 1st. day of Febuary, ensuing and all persons indebted, to him, the said N. M. Hicks insolvent debtor aforesaid will come forward and pay their bills forthwith; otherwise a process will absolutely be issued against them very shortly, without further notification.

F. PAYNE.

Trustee

Sept 17th 1851.

LIBERIA HERALD:

From the Phrenological Journal.

Debate of the Faculties.

ON THE PURSUITS OF LIFE

The members being assembled in the Rotunda, called Cranium, Order took the chair, by general consent, when Causality introduced the following resolution:—

"Resolved, That it is time to make a selection of a pursuit for life, and that this question be now discussed."

"In deciding upon the merits of this resolution," said Causality, "I think it the part of wisdom to select something which will be useful to mankind, and which can always be relied upon for a support. Anything will satisfy me which will not fail with the change of fashion. Agriculture is good and can never fail to be needed, nor will it ever be overdone. Besides, the king and clown alike need bread; so that the vibrations of fashion and fluctation of opinions, religious or political, can never set it aside. The same is true of blacksmithing, carpentry, ship-building, masonry and manufacturing cloth leather, iron and lumber, and many other substantial trades Legitimate commerce, and general trade, are likewise necessary but very liable to be overdone."

Ideality arose, and said, "I trust that great care will be taken in this selection; for really I can hardly perceive it possible for me to be contented with any of these common pursuits named by our venerable friend. I most earnestly implore that we may have something ornamental, like sculpture, painting, daguerreotype, selling fancy goods, or if we must manufacture, let it be watches, jewelry, or that which is decorative and beautiful.

Approbativeness addressed the chair: I agree, in the main; with the last member up; but some of the occupations he has named would not suit me. The idea of working in plaster and marble, and looking dusty like a miller, is horrible. True we might excel so as to obtain fame, like a Canova or a Powers, when we would be courted by the great, and our name sent down to posterity on the enduring statue and scroll of honor. But should we fail of achieving the highest honors of the art. I would by far prefer to be a genteel tradesman in an elegant store, with aristocratic customers, where we could dress finely, and live in style. This is the life and the business for me. I go for a business of the highest respectability, and one in which our efforts will not be regarded as *labor*."

Causality whispered a word to Calculation who rose, and said, "Our friend who has just resumed his seat is perhaps not aware of the anxious cares, the searching estimates and calculations, the far reaching plans and harassing duties which will devolve on us to keep such as mercantile business in successful operation. Financiering and calculating profit and loss, contriving to meet payments, posting books and making bills, running after bad debts and managing a store full of clerks and selfish customers all day and half the night, is no trifle, but is so much like labor that it takes a world of vanity to twist it into any other name. One may bow and smile over a counter to fashionable customers, and be arrayed in nice attire, with hair perfumed, and lily white hands, loaded with sparkling rings, and perhaps reap a few bargains; but this is the poetry of the business. There are ten thousand annoyances and cares that the unexperienced little dream of, until they become sober realities. Look at the grey looks, careworn features, and anxious, agitated manner of merchants —old before their time—and it takes off some of the tinsel of the commercial pursuit."

"I am informed," said Caustiousness, "that ninety out of every hundred who engage in the mercantile pursuits, fail in business and die poor: and I shall take time to consider before I engage in as hazardous an enterprise, with the assurance, too, that he must work—yes, *work*—as hard as any mechanic, and that kind of work too which wears out the health, nerves, patience, and sometimes the honestly of the man. I had rather have the dust of the miller, or the soot of the forge, or the clamor and labor the lumber mill, with the certainty of a substantial competence, than to shine in gay colors a few years among fashionables, and run the risk of being kicked at last into the hovel of pinching poverty by the very cliques, for the gratification of whose pride and vanity we have lived and labored, and to which we had finally been sacrificed."

"But," responed Approbativeness, "I am informed by Hope, and believe it true, that we shall be of the fortunate class who get rich; and Self Esteem says, we can, without doubt, succeed, as he is quite confident that few possess the talent which we can bring into business. I don't care if we do have balance sheets to make and bank notes to pay, for every one knows it is respectable to be seen and known *on 'change*!" and as to the night watchings and drudgery of the business, so much feared by Cautiousness and magnified by Calculation, who cares so much for that, if one can be called a splendid merchant, and ride in his carriage, and live fashionably? But it should be remembered that a *merchant* does very little *work*: that is done by clerks and porters. It should not be forgotten that we are to be a *merchant*, the owner and proprietor. Then we can wear fine cloth, elegant ornaments, polished boots, and live in ease and respectability."

"Nonsense, "said Combativeness, "give us a business that is manly in its character. I am utterly disgusted with the soft twattle of Approbativeness about elegance, gentility, and effeminacy. For a white hand, standing dicky, flashy chains and rings, and fashionable dress, he would run the risk of protested notes, bankruptcy a hungry stomach, and a hovel. I would a thousand fold prefer to grapple resolutely in sterm effort, and force from the grasp of relentless fortune an honorable competence, than to smile and bow to win the good graces of the fickle dame. He may rub his white hand, and whisper soft persuasive blarney for success; but I prefer to seize the prize with my hard hand and stalwart arm, and shout my manly triumph with the lion's voice.—I am ready, with Firmness, Destructiveness and Constructiveness, to plunge into the rugged wilds of the West, and redeem it from solitude; or to build ships, or in them ride the stormy ocean; or in the mine, forge or factory, force matter into useful forms; anything of an industrial character, that will enable us to drive our way to prosperity, will suit me better than selling shirt buttons, needles, pins and tape It is not in my nature to wait for a business to come to me. I desire to rush out into active life; and by main strength of muscle or machinery, force prosperity to yield her treasures."

"Well said," responded Firmness, "give us a business, whatever it may be; that requires, and will repay manly energy and perseverance. I cannot endure fickleness and irregularity. 'Sure and steady wins the day. Our friend Combativeness may rely upon my constancy in aiding his proposition."

Self-Esteem rose, with unbending dignity and" having surveyed each member very coolly, proceeded to say, "I have listened to the several suggestions of members, hoping that the choice of a pursuit might be made without any counsel from me, choosing that those who have the work to do would satisfy themselves as to the kind of business to be done; leaving to me merely the general direction or superintendence of the business when established. Let it be understood, however, that I would much prefer a dignified calling—a large, heavy business, I care not what is its character, whether tilling the soil, navigating the ocean, wielding the sledge, rearing the edifice, felling the forest, or substantial merchandise. Give me as aids, Conscientiousness, Firmness, Causality, Combativeness, Destructiveness, and Constructiveness, as right hand men, and I will engage to make honorable any business which a man ought to engage in. Inglorious idleness, and consequent dependence, I cannot tolerate. To pursue a course requiring us to cringe to public caprice is equally odious. I cannot eat the bread of dependence, nor wear garments spotted with dishonor. I would be a street scavenger rather, and ennoble my avocation by a character above reproach, and an elevated intelligence. No labor which is useful is degrading; and if I could be heard, to make a boot or rule a kingdom should neither elevate one man nor depress another. We lack true personal dignity when we suppose that the honest dust and sweat of useful toil degrades the MAN, or that simpering gentility in ornamental occupations, necessarily accompanies true HONOR.

Interesting Retrospect.

Remarkable Discoveries, Inventions, &c

From 1800 *to* 1851.

Let us look back to the beginning of this century, and see how mighty works have been done by inventors since that time. In 1800, there was not a single steamboat in the world. In 1807, Fulton launched the Clermont, which made a passage to Albany in 32 hours. At that time the mode of travel was by schooners and sloops, which were frequently six days on the passage. The improvement was certainly great, but what would Fulton say now, to see steamboats running the same distance in 8 hours—and some of them large enough to stow the Clermont on their forward decks. No steamboat had broke the waters of the Mississippi previous to 1815; the voyage from Cincinnati to New Orleans; was a tremendous undertaking, and occupied more time than a steamboat would now take to circumnavigate the globe.

In Europe steamboats were unnown until 1814, and no sea was regularly navigated by steamboats until 1842.—If in 1800 there was no steamboat in the wide world, where is the country now where they are not seen, and where they are not exercising a most important influence? No country in the world

The steamboat is not the only important invention of the last half century—the progress of invention is just as marked in other departments of discovery. Look at that iron horse moving out of his stable, screaming and panting to start on his journey. That is the steam engine in its most perfect state—it is a near approach to the spiritual and physical combination. Within three months the Quen of England was transported from the interior of Scotland to London, a distance of 400 miles in ten hours. In 1800 the same journey could not be accomplished in less than eight days. If the steamboat has revolutionized intercommunication by river and sea, the locomotive has done more to revolutionize travel by land. In 1800, there was not a single locomotive in the world; not for 29 years after viz: the 6th day of October, 1829 the day on which the Rocket ran on the Liverpool and Manchester railway, at the average rate of 15 miles per hour. Neither Asia nor Africa can boast of a single Railroad line completed. What were the old Roman roads in comparison to the footpaths of our iron horses?

Who, if they were told, twenty years ago, that the sunlight was used for a limner's pencil, would have believed it? Not one; and yet this has been done. When M. Daguerre, a distinguished chemist of Paris, first published, in 1836, that he had discovered a method of taking pictures on metal plates by the sun, the public regarded his metal tables with feelings of wonder. And if this discovery has not yet produced such important results, nor affected the customs of society so much as the steamships and railways, still it is a beautiful and wonderful discovery; and the time may be not far distant when it will be applied to point the planets as they roll in their courses, and thus impress the warm kiss of the star upon the pale cheek of the artist's metalic canvass.

Among the grand discoveries of the last half century, the Electrical Telegraph stands out in bold relief. It has given to man the power of transmitting his thoughts to his fellow-man thousands of miles distant in a few seconds. "Electricity leaves her thunderbolts in the sky, and like Mercury dismissed from Olympus acts as letter carrier and messenger boy." In 1837, when Morse first proclaimed that he could write messages by electricity at any distance, wise people shrugged their shoulders and looked with bland unbelief upon such a daring proposition; and when the proposal was before Congress, in 1843, to appropriate $30,000 to test his system of telegraphing, it met determined side cuts and stern opposition from men (and there are a great number in the world,) who are conservatives in nothing else but scientific discovery. In 1843 the first line of telegraph was completed in our country; between Washington and Baltimore, and since that time the progress of telegraph lines has been most surprising and astounding, if anything can surprise us in the shape of discovery. All the important cities in our Union are linked together by the lightning tracts; and wherever we travel there we behold suspended on slender poles those attenuated threads, along which the lightning flies with messengers of love, hope, gain, or fear. The telegraph has produced most astonishing changes in the mode of conducting business. A few years ago, what a wear and tear of horse flesh there was in getting news for our daily papers, what a trouble and delay there was in getting the news from Halifax during the winter season. Now what a change! A steamship arrives at Halifax, Boston, or New York this morning, and the European news is published in the New Orleans papers in the evening. The speeches delivered in the halls of Congress to-day, are delivered to the readers of the newspapers in all our important cities next morning. Our astronomers, "pale watchers of the rolling sphere," employ the lightning pen to register their observations. The whole science of Voltaism, Electro-Magnetism; and Electro-typing, are trophis of the discoveries made during the last fifty years. Volta's letter to Sir Joseph Banks, announcing the discovery of the Voltaic Pile, is dated March 20th. 1800 The splendid discovery of Electro Magnet, by Oersted, is dated 1821; and the beautiful art of Electro-typing, whereby electricity is made to resolve the metals from their liquid solution, and copy with the utmost accuracy, the metals of Duer, the most delicate etchings, and even write in permanent characters of gold, is but a few years old. Electro-magnetism has been employed to separate metals from their ores, to drive machinery, to make huge bars of iron dance in mid air, like the fabled coffin of Mahomet; and what it may accomplish in future times, (for there are still mysteries connected with it,) it is not posible to predict.

Before the beginning of the present century, what was the printing press in comparison to what it now is? A few years ago there was not a single printing press driven by steam, now there is not a paper with a large circulation printed without

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

XII. Newspapers
B. Liberia Herald

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NEW SERIES NO 2