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Cambridge Chronicle.

"LIGHT FOR ALL."

NEW SERIES—VOL. 6. CAMBRIDGE, MD.—SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 24, 1843. [Editor & Proprietor.

NUMBER 39.

TERMS.

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POETRY.

A BALLARD.

BY TOM HOOD, JR.

There lived an honest fisherman,
I knew him passing well—
Who dwelt hard by a little pond,
Within a little dell.

A grave and quiet man was he,
Who loved his book and rod—
So EVEN ran his LINE of life,
His neighbors thought it ODD.

For science and for books he said
He never had a wish;
No school to him was worth a fig,
Except a "school of fish."

This single-minded fisherman,
A double calling had—
To tend his flocks in winter time,
In summer fish for shad.

In short this honest fisherman,
All other toils forsook,
And though no vagrant man was he,
He lived by "HOOK and CROOK."

All day this fisherman would sit
Upon an ancient log,
And gaze into the water, like
Some sedentary frog.

A cunning fisherman was he,
His ANGLES all were RIGHT—
And when he scratched his aged POLL,
You'd know he'd got a BITE.

To charm the fish, he never spoke—
Although his voice was fine;
He found the most convenient way,
Was just to "drop a line.'

And many a "gudgeon" of the pond.
If made to speak to-day,
Would own, with grief, this angler had
A mighty "taking way."

One day while fishing on the log,
He mourned his want of luck—
When suddenly he felt a bite,
And jerking—caught a DUCK.

Alas! that day the fisherman
Had taken too much grog,
And being but a landsman, too,
He could'nt "keep the log."

In vain he strove with all his might,
And tried to gain the shore—
Down, down he went, to feed the fish
He'd baited oft before!

The moral of this mournful tale
To all is plain and clear—
A single "drop too much" of rum,
May make a watery BIER.

And he who will not "sigh the pledge,"
And keep the promise fast,
May be, in spite of fate, a STIFF
COLD-WATER-MAN at last!

THE TEETOTAL FARMER.

There is a farmer residing near 'the gap' of the Blue mountains of this State, who had been many years an intemperate man. Some months ago he was induced to sign the total abstinence pledge and in a very short time afterwards he united himself with the Methodist Church. The rum seller and his dependents were sorely dismayed at the extraordinary change as they termed it, and set their wits to work to lure him back. The time of harvest having arrived, and the farmer having many acres of wheat to cut, the rumites assembled with their hands, and demanded their accustomed allowance of rum.

'Not a drop shall be given,' firmly replied the farmer.

'We will not cut your wheat without it,' said the rumites.

'Then it shall rot in the field,' replied the farmer.

The faithful followers of alcohol now returned to their respective homes (if homes they can be called) and left the obstinate farmer to his fate.—His wheat had begun to fall in the stuble, yet he placed reliance in God, and having commanded himself to his Maker, retired to rest. Early in the morning he was awakened from his slumber by a shout that seemed to speak the very soul of joy.—He looked out and beheld a large number of men with cradles in their hands, the foremost bearing a banner with the words 'Total Abstinence' inscribed upon its ample folds.

'What can all this mean?' said the farmer, gazing with astonishment upon a scene which seemed rather the work of magic than reality.

'Is'nt there a teetotaler somewhere about these parts, who has a field of grain to be cut?' inquired one of the crowd.

'Yes replied the farmer, I am he,'

'Well we've come to cut it,' was the short response.

The farmer hurried down to greet his kindhearted visitors, who having heard of the circumstances, had travelled many miles to give him a 'helping hand.' He pointed to the field—the banner was erected in the midst—the men worked like good teetotalers, and in a few hours, the farmer's crop was saved! Thus doth God protect his obedient children who in firmness of faith obey his word, and trust in his great name.—*Temperance Adv.*

Correspondence of the Troy Daily Whig.

THE SHAKERS OF LEBANON.

NEW LEBANON SPRINGS June 6, 1843.

Considerable excitement exists at present in this vicinity, in consequence of the Shakers opening a meeting every pleasant Sabbath, on the mountain near this place, at a monument which they have erected there. The monument is situated about two and a half miles south of the Springs on the highest point of Hancock mountain. It is a marble slab, about five feet high, which is sunk into a rock and fastened with melted lead. Adjoining the monument are five posts set up, about two feet high, to which are fastened six heavy planks, making a five sided yard, or basin, containing about forty square feet of land. The whole is enclosed by a very neat fence—making the ground occupied by the bretheren and sisters, while dancing, just one half an acre. There are four gates leading from this yard at each point of the compass; that at the west side opens into a road about twelve paces broad made perfectly smooth and bordered on both sides by spruce trees sixteen paces apart. This road leads down the mountain into the Shaker village. On the south side of the monument is this inscription:

"The word of the Lord."

"Here is my living fountain, saith the Holy One of Israel, and here is where I shall set up my kingdom forever more to reign. And from this place shall go forth my word and holy laws to all nations of the earth. And I say, whosoever shall presume to put their hands on this stone, or step their feet within the spot where I have caused these posts to be set up when their hands are unclean and their hearts impure, shall in some day or other feel the rod of my severity, and fall under an awful curse, which I shall in my own time cause to come upon them. Even I, the great I AM, the Eternal Almighty and Overruling Power of Heaven and Earth. My word is truth, Amen."

On the north side of the monument is the inscription:—"Done at New Lebanon by command of our Lord and Saviour. Erected here July 26th 1842."

The Shakers are divided into several families, and are distinguished as the 'Brickyard,' 'North House,' 'Church,' 'South,' and 'Canaan families,' &c. These different families take turns in visiting the monument for worship. I was there on the 21st, when the South and Brickyard families were present. On Sunday last the Church and North House occupied the ground. Each different family, it appears have a different mode of worship, as they went through ceremonies on Sunday last which I did not see on the 21st. When I went there I found the Shakers at the gate which leads into the yard, they were all on their knees in prayer. After singing and other exercises the gate was opened with much solemnity, and they entered, each bowing very low as they passed through. When they got around the monument the elders went through the ceremony of dipping up holy water for the brethren and sisters to drink, and also washed all who desired it, and although they appeared to dring very heartily from the fountain, the water must be invisible to the eyes of world's people,' as the basin from which they appeared to dip it was dry as an oven.

They then formed a ring around the monument and marched to a brisk tune, stopping occasionally to hear the inspiration of one of the brethren who pretended to be one risen from the dead. His name, he said, was James Whitaker, and that he had come directly from Heaven to tell the will of God to his chosen people. But the most important part of his mission was to deliver to the elders a golden chain which he had brought from God to bind them in the holy bonds of unity, which all the powers of the world or of the devil could not separate! He delivered the chain, to appearance, and the elders being placed in a circle were bound together with a chain, and strange to say, not a person outside the fence had the power to see the chain.

They then strove to appear like little children, put their fingers in their mouths and talked gibberish to each other, twisting their faces and bodies into the most unseemly forms and attitudes I ever saw, speaking as children would talk five years of age, yet not half so sensibly, and each one striving to make himself as much like an inhabitant of a mad house as possible. After dancing and singing until they were exhausted, they seated themselves, or went a little distance out of the yard to obtain earthly water for the good of the body, as I judge the water in the fountain is only useful for the soul.

On Sunday last the Shakers were met at the monument by one who pretended to be the "Great I Am," who directed every movement during the day—when he told them to laugh they did so, or cry, shout, sing or dance—every direction he gave them was immediately obeyed. Among other ceremonies he directed them to go forth, sow, reap and harvest the holy seed of the Lord, they accordingly formed themselves into a line more than sixty rods in length, and after sowing the land to appearance, they went to work and reaped and gathered the harvest together and then, to appearance, set out their tables and partook of a feast made from the proceeds of ther imaginary crop.

No pen can give a correct description of the doings of this curious people, and no idea can be formed of their manner of worship, except by personal observation, I think a visit to the Shaker monument will well pay a person for the trouble of getting to it, even if he does not see the Shakers during their worship, as the prospect is superior to any thing in the State; besides, the grounds are laid out very neatly and every thing bears a stamp of originalty and mystery which fills the mind of every visiter with curiosity and astonishment.

Yours, &c. H. C. B.

BIOGRAPHY OF MONROE EDWARDS.

Monroe Edwards was born in Kentucky, his father removed to Texas several years prior to the revolution which separated it from Mexico, and died there previous to that event—he was a very respectable man, both in his habits, connexions and associations.—Monroe received a plain education in his native State, and commenced life in early manhood in Texas—he was not particularly employed prior to the Revolution, except at one time, as a clerk in the counting house of Morgan & Reed, who did business at Galveston Bay—the reputation he left with his employers was by no means enviable, and but little calculated to advance his interest in a mercantile career in that country.—The grand drama of his eventful life, commenced in the winter of '35-'36—when at the city of New Orleans, he became acquainted with Mr. C. Dart, formerly of Rodney, Miss., and having a firm in the city of New Orleans, under the style of Franklin & Dart, and C. Dart & Co., of Natchez.

Dart had become embarrassed, and not having the means of paying his debts, after revolving many means of extrication, he at last fell upon the one of buying slaves in the Havana, where they were cheap in comparison with the prices in the United States, and settling them on a plantation in Texas, where the lands were only one 20th of the price of fine cotton lands in the south west, and where the climate had been represented to him as peculiarly adapted to the production of the cotton plant, in its greatest perfection—from which project he honestly expected in a few years to realize ample means for the extinguishment of his debts, and have besides more than a competency for his wife and children. But there were difficulties in the way—he was neither practically nor theoretically a planter—nor had he any turn for that sort of business. In addition to this, if he gave personal attention to the plantation, he would have to remove his family there, deprive his children of the advantage of education, and expose his wife who was an amiable and accomplished woman, to all the hardships and troubles incident and inseparable from pioneer life; and in addition, if he assumed the control and management of the property in person, and had things in his own name, he might have been pursued by his creditors in the United States, and broken up before he had time to realize the very means with which he expected to pay them, and so defeat the very object he had in view.

At this stage of his meditations he met Monroe Edwards, who readily entered into his plans, and promised an entire devotion to the success of the enterprise. Edwards had no money, but in lieu thereof he was to furnish talents, vigor, enterprise, &c., and to cover the property in his own name. Dart furnished at the outset $50,000 in gold and United States Bank bills, which were equivalent at that time to specie, and they left the city about the close of the year '35, for the Havana, where Dart succeeded in negotiating from the house of King & Co., a loan of $34,000, thus swelling their cash capital to $85,000. They bought and landed in Texas, on the Brazos River, sometime in February '36, about 220 extremely likely and valuable young negroes, none being under 10 and very few over 20 years of age. While in the Havana an incident occurred, which plainly indicated what, in a suitable field of action, might be the future career of Edwards; not satisfied with the large gang of negroes which Mr. Dart had fairly purchased for him, he decoyed a likely negro boy on board of the vessel, and there concealed him with the view of kidnapping him; his owner discovered it and was about to apply to the authorities, when the thing came to the knowledge of Mr. Dart, who by great exertions hushed the matter up, by paying the sum of $1,700.

Arrived in Texas, Edwards pretended to commence the business of planting—bought an indifferent tract of land for the section of country in which he proposed to commence his labors, and at a very high price on credit—he knew nothing of planting, nor did he take the requisite pains to inform himself—nor did he seem disposed to give the least personal care or attention to the matter, being seldom on the plantation himself, and employing overseers not for their fidelity and ability, but for their cheapness; but there was one thing he did understand, however, and which he lost no time in indulging in, and that was splurging; he wore the best clothes, rode the finest horses, and often travelled with a servant; his appearance in the little villages in the country was sure to produce a sensation, from the superiority of his equipments over common travellers.

He spent a large portion of each year in the United States, and at last, for the purposes of amusement, greater expansion of mind, and more complete improvement in the grand art of financiering, he resolved to cross the Atlantic, and had the taste to select the occasion of the crowning of Britain's youthful Queen. Meantime, Dart, who was living in the U. States, principally at Rodney, Miss., could get no account of how things were going on in Texas, and was in the deepest ignorance of the condition of his partnership affairs in that country. He knew but one thing with certainty, and that was that he had not received one dollar of the profits whatever. Under these circumstances, Edwards being not yet returned from Europe, he determined (1838) to visit Texas & personally investigate the state of his business and property in that country. He did so, and found every thing in so deranged and embarrassed a condition that he employed a lawyer and sequestered the whole property as a last means both of obtaining his share of the same and at the same time securing Knight & Co., for whom he very honorably entered upon record a confession of judgment for the $35,000, which had been borrowed for the concern in the Havana.

Soon afterwards Edwards returned, and hearing upon his arrival in the United States of Dart's energetic proceedings in Texas, not at all abashed, he in due time makes his appearance in Texas, armed with two forged deeds—the one relating to the land and negroes, and the other to the inferior transactions of the partnership—by which it appeared that Edwards was the owner of everything. The forgeries had been made by taking two letters of Dart's written to Edwards from Rodney, and extracting every thing but Dart's signature by means of some chemical agent, and as in the process the texture of the paper had been destroyed, the deeds were written by means of the principle of the manifold letter writer, in which no fluid is employed. Dart boldly proclaimed the forgery, but as Edwards had greatly the advantage of him in coolness and dignity of manner, the general impression was greatly in Edwards' favor, particularly as Dart was thought to be a weak man in business matters, and Edwards was known to be extremely keen. In the meantime Edwards had the deeds recorded in the counties of Harris and Brazoria, and proclaimed Dart as laboring under a monomania upon the subject of his Texas estates, and wondered why his friends did not take care of him, and offered to subscribe liberally towards his support in some fit receptacle for lunatics.

But the sagacity and perseverance of Dart's lawyer at last established the forgery, and Edwards for the uttering in Brazoria county was incarcerated to await his trial at the regular term of the court, for the crime of forgery, punishable by the laws of Texas with death. He was taken from the jail in Brazoria by Habeas Corpus and removed to Texana, where the question of bail was, by a circuit judge of Texas, determined in his favor—amount ten thousand dollars, Texas money. Immediatelo after this, a new capias arried to arrest him for the same offence, to wit, uttering the forged deeds, by recording, in the county of Harris, but he narrowly escaped and reached the U. States, kidnapping as he left three or four of his own negroes, who were under judicial sequestration, whom he brought to the United States and sold, with the exception of one negro girl the same whose name frequently occurs in his trial in New York. His subsequent history is well known; how he went to England with forged letters of introduction from Mr. Webster to Lord Spencer—borrowed £200 of Lord S. and dined with the gentry and nobility of the country for several months, and at last getting out of funds returned to the United States in 1841, and committed the great forgery for which he is now in the penitentiary of the State of New York.—*N. Orleans Tropic.*

EFFECTS OF PERPETUAL DAY.

Nothing made so deep an impression on our senses as the change from alternate day and night, to which we had been habituated from our infancy, to the continued daylight to which we were subjected as soon as we crossed the arctic circle. Where the ground is but little trodden, even trifles are interesting; and I do not, therefore, hesitate to describe the feelings with which we regarded this change. The novelty, it must be admitted, was very agreeable; and the advantage of constant daylight, in an unexplored and naturally boisterous sea, was too great to allow us even to wish for a return of the alternations above alluded to; but the reluctance we felt to leave the deck when the sun was shining bright upon our sails, and to retire to our cabins to sleep, often deprived us of many hours of necessary rest; and when we returned to the deck to keep our night watch, (if it may be so called) and still found the sun gilding the sky, it seemed as if the day would never finish. What, therefore at first promised to be gratifying, soon threatened to become extremely irksome; and would indeed have been a serious inconvenience had we not followed the example of the feathery tribe, which we daily observed winging their way to roost, with a clock work regularity, and retired to our cabin at the proper hour, where, shutting out the rays of the sun, we obtained that repose which the exercise of our duties required. At first sight it will, no doubt, appear to many persons, that constant daylight must be a valuable acquisition in every country; but a little reflection will, I think, be sufficient to show that the reverse is really the case, and to satisfy a reflecting mind that we cannot overrate the blessings we derive from the wholesome alternations of labor and rest, which is in a manner forced upon us by the succession of day and night. It is impossible, by removing to a high latitude, to witness the difficulty there is in the regulation of time, the proneness that is felt by the indefatigable and zealous to rivet themselves to their occupations, and by the indolent and procrastinating to postpone their duties, without being truly thankful for that allwise and merciful provision with which nature has endowed the more habitable portions of the globe.

The Gold Watch.—I have now in my hand a gold watch, which combines embellishment and utility in happy proportions; and is usually considered a very valuable appendage to the person of a gentleman.—Its gold seals sparkle with the ruby, the topaz, the sapphire and the emerald. I open it, and find that the works, without which this elegantly chased case would be a mere shell, those hands motionless, and those figures without meaning, are made of brass.—I investigate farther, and ask, what is the spring, by which all these are put in motion, made of? I am told it is steel. I ask what is steel? The reply is, that it is iron which has undergone a certain process. So, then, I find the main-spring without which the watch would be motionless, and its hands, figures and embellishments but toys, is not of gold—that is not sufficiently good; nor of brass—that would not do; but of iron. Iron is, therefore, the only precious metal, and this watch an apt emblem of society. Its hands and figures, which tell the hour, resemble the master spirits of the age, to whose movements every eye is directed. Its useless but sparkling seals, sapphires, rubies, topaz and embellishments, the Aristocracy. Its works of brass, the Middle Class, by the increasing intelligence and power of which the master spirits of the age are moved; and its iron main-spring, shut up in a box, always at work, but never thought of, except when it is disordered, broken, or wants winding up, symbolically the Laborious Classes, which, like the main spring, we wind up by the payment of wages; and which classes, shut up in obscurity, and absolutely as necessary to the movement of society as the iron main spring is to the gold watch, are never thought of except when they require their wages, or are in some want or disorder of some kind or other.—*Edward Everett.*

OREGON—*Convention at Cincinnati.*—A Convention of persons friendly to the settlement of Oregon Territory by citizens of the United States, has been called to meet at Cincinnati on the third, fourth and fifth of July next. A committee has been appointed to prepare reports to be read before the Convention, on the followind subjects:

"1st. A history of our most important relations and negotiations with England, since the peace of 1783, and also a statement of their present situation, probable tentency and apprehended consequences.

"2d. A history of Mr. Monroe's Declaration, of 1823; That the American continent was not to be considered subject to colonization by any European power; and of the circumstances under which it was made; also to indicate and define its proper application and extension, and set forth such vindication of the principles involved as is afforded by the laws of nations, of nature, and of necessity.

"3d. To examine the feasibility of a communication between America and Europe across the North American continent, and compare the probable facilities with present and other proposed routes between and across the continent of Europe, Asia and America. The probable influence of the settlement of the Oregon on the destiny and history of the Caucasian race, on general science, and on the commercial and political systems of the world.

"4th. A discourse on the value, extent and probable destiny of the Oregon Valley."

Whenever the course of emigration is fairly set towards the Oregon country, the settlement of that territory must follow very rapidly. The advantages of trade which the occupation of the Pacific coast will give may for a time cause the new settlements to spread along the line of the seaboard; but soon it must happen that the population extending gradually back from the coast will meet the advancing tide of emigration from the east.

These remarks may seem to have a very distant reference to any events likely to happen in this generation. But the progress of our population Westward has continually run before conjecture; the rapidity of its advance has hardly ceased to surprise, as it has been signilized by one phenomenon, before a new surprise has arisen at the appearance of another. In respect to the Oregon country there will be special inducements to draw emigrants thither, far stronger than those which have usually enticed our people Westward. The breadth of our territory, moreover, becomes narrower as one proceeds beyond Arkansas and Missouri, so that the current of emigration being compressed within a limited channel, it will be likely to rush forward with increased velocity and force.—Balt. American.

"I say, my little fellow, have you a father living?"

"No, but my brothers have."

"How many brothers have you?"

"Three or four on'em."

"Well, what are their names?"

"Why, they're all named Bill, 'cept'n Sam, and his name's Bob."

"And what's your name?"

"My name's Jed., but they call me Jedediah for short."

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