

# WESTERN DEMOCRAT.

A Family Paper, devoted to State Intelligence, the News of the World, Political Information, Southern Rights, Agriculture, Literature, and Miscellany.

BY JOHN J. PALMER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

CHARLOTTE, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.

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**ROBERT SHAW** TAKES this opportunity of informing the public generally, and all who intend going to Kansas in particular, that he intends to continue his

**Saddle and Harness Business,** At his old stand, in Springs' Corner Building, where he intends to keep constantly on hand a supply of

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His friends are respectfully invited to call and supply themselves, as every article in his line will be afforded on the most reasonable terms.

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LOWRIE & ENNIS, Book-Sellers. Charlotte, March 4, 1856.

**Dr. R. Wysons** CHARLOTTE, N. C.

HAVING located in this place, respectfully offers his Professional Services to the citizens of the town and vicinity.

OFFICE next door to Messrs. Drucker & Sommers' Store. April 22, 1856.—*t*

**A Professional Card.**

HAVING located in Charlotte permanently, with the view of practicing Medicine, I would respectfully tender my services to the public.

C. A. HENDERSON, M. D. OFFICE at the American Hotel. April 8, 1856.—*t*

**ROBERT GIBBON, M. D.** OFFERS his professional services to the public, in the practice of SURGERY, in all its various departments.

Dr. GIBBON will operate, treat, or give advice in all cases that may require his attention. OFFICE No. 5, Granite Range, Charlotte. Feb. 19, 1856.—*t*

**S. W. DAVIS, Attorney & Counsellor at Law, CHARLOTTE, N. C.**

Jan. 1, 1856.—*t*

**ROBERT P. WARING, Attorney at Law, (Office in building attached to the American Hotel, Main Street.) Charlotte, N. C.**

Jan. 29, 1856.—*t*

**FEMALE SCHOOL.**

THE second Term, of Summer Session, of Miss SARAH F. DAVIS'S SCHOOL, will commence on the 3d of March next—the 1st Monday of the month. Charlotte, Feb. 26, 1856.—*t*

**MRS. WHELAN, Dress Maker, Opposite the Post-Office.**

ALL DRESSES cut and made by the celebrated A-B-C method, and warranted to fit.

**BONNETS** Trimmed in the latest style, at the shortest notice. Charlotte, Feb. 12, 1856.—*t*

**MUSIC.**

Mrs. W. A. Young will be pleased to give instructions to a few pupils on the PIANO FORTE. Terms made known upon application to her at the Mansion House, (formerly Sadler's Hotel.) March 11, 1856.—3m

**ENCOURAGE THIS KNOCKING.**

THE undersigned begs to return his thanks to those who favored him with a call during the last year; and he would respectfully inform the public that he has removed to the Machine Shop formerly occupied by Messrs. George & Whisman, adjoining Mr. J. Knoll's Steam Planing Mills, where he is prepared to execute all work in his line as cheap and as good as can be done in the State.

**Turning, Cutting Screws, Repairing Boilers and Engines of all descriptions, Making and Repairing Mill Spindles, Wood Plainers, Making Ploughs, Ironing Wagons; and in Horse-Shoeing, &c., we will yield to no one for neatness, wear, and dispatch. Interfering Shoes \$1.25, common ditto \$1, cast-steel toes, or steel plate, \$2.**

I have also erected an Air Furnace for mending Brass, which answers finely. The public can now get brass and composition castings by calling at the above establishment, and furnishing patterns. Old Brass melted over at a reduced price, with neatness and dispatch. Old Copper and Brass wanted.

S. J. PERRY. Charlotte, Jan. 1, 1856.—*t*

**Raleigh & Gaston Rail Road.** OFFICE R. & G. R. CO., Raleigh, March 29, 1856.

**Schedule for Mail Train, On and after Tuesday, the 31st day of April, 1856.**

ON and AFTER TUESDAY NEXT, the Mail Train, leaving the North Carolina Railroad Depot, on the arrival of the Cars from the West, at 5.47 A. M. (as at present) will stop at the Northern (or old) Depot, in this City, until 7 o'clock, allowing ample time for passengers from that Road to take breakfast at the hotels in Raleigh, and from which they will be conveyed by the proprietors, free of charge.

Leaving at 7 o'clock, the Train will arrive at Weldon at 11.40 A. M., in full time for all Trains going North, and also for the Wilmington Train, going South. Returning—will leave Weldon at 2 P. M., after the arrival of the Petersburg, Portsmouth, and Wilmington Trains, and will reach Raleigh at 6.45 P. M.

R. A. HAMILTON, President. April 8.—1m.

**Wilmington, Charlotte, & Ruthersfordton Rail Road.**

**PURSH-** ant to an order of the Board of Directors of the Wilmington, Charlotte and Ruthersfordton Rail Road Company, books are again open for subscriptions to the Capital Stock of said Road, at the Rock Island Store, and the offices of Wm. Johnston, C. J. Fox, and S. W. Davis. All who feel interested in the honor and prosperity of the old N. C. State, are solicited to come forward and aid in this great work, the only real public enterprise that has ever sprung upon our people.

CHARLES J. FOX, S. W. DAVIS, WM. JOHNSTON, JNO. A. YOUNG, JOHN WALKER, LEROY SPINGS, B. H. DAVIDSON, Commissioners. Oct. 1845, 23. 13—*t*

**News of the Day.**

**SENATOR DOUGLAS' KANSAS BILL.**—The Washington Star says that Senator Douglas' bill for the admission of Kansas, while it will pass the Senate by a large majority, will have a clear majority in the House of Representatives. It provides, that when Kansas has the requisite population, she may enter the Union with such a constitution as she may adopt, without reference to the slavery question.

**BLEDSEE ON SLAVERY.**—The book of Professor Bledsee of the University of Virginia, on Liberty and Slavery, is attracting great admiration. It might justly be entitled "The End of Controversy" on the slavery subject. All who have read it agree that it is a master piece of argument; irresistible and unanswerable. Professor Bledsee is one of the first intellects of the age. This book is for sale at the Book Store of Messrs. Lowrie & Ennis, Charlotte.

**THEIR LOVE FOR POOR SAMBO.**—The Free State Convention, which recently assembled at Topeka, Kansas, inserted a clause in their Constitution not only prohibiting slavery in Kansas, but forever preventing free blacks from taking up their abode in the future State. This is, to say the least, inconsistent with the boasts of the *par excellence* "friends of freedom," considering that their "greater lights" advocate the equality of the races! The free soil members of Congress are striving to admit Kansas, as a State, into the Union with this same Topeka Constitution.

**NEGRO LECTURING.**—Miss Ellen Watkins, a strong minded woman of African extraction, is edifying the good people of Maine on political economy, party politics, and the abolition of slavery. Ellen argues that the surest and quickest way of placing the colored race in a position to live without labor, is, for the white folks to abandon the use of sugar and cotton, and other products of slave labor.

**A WHOLE SOLED COMMONWEALTH.**—We have heretofore noticed the statement that a tax of fifty cents per capita upon each slave is assessed by the citizens of South Carolina for the purpose of raising funds to defray the expenses of Southern emigration to Kansas. This tax is a voluntary contribution from the people, and it is of rare occurrence that any citizen does not freely and promptly pay it. By means of the sum thus raised three hundred young men were last week forwarded to Kansas from Charleston.

**THE WEATHER.**—The Asheville News of the 24th inst. says: The weather from being mild and spring like, on Sunday last changed to very respectable winter, and gave us a blast that would do no discredit to November. On Monday morning last the mountains Southwest of this place were covered with snow, and in town we were blessed with a fair share of frost and ice. It is feared the fruit is gone beyond redemption, while garden "truck" that had ventured above ground, looks like the K. N.'s will after the election—kinder flat.

**REPORTED DEFAUCATION.**—W. C. Labatt, late city attorney of New Orleans, is reported to be a defaulter to the city to the amount of a quarter of a million of dollars.

**CONVICTED.**—Col. Meekins Reynolds, a wealthy farmer, was tried, at Patrick county, (Virginia,) circuit court, last term, for the murder of Green D. Satterfield, and found guilty of murder in the second degree. He was sentenced to the State Penitentiary for ten years. The trial excited much interest, and caused the examination of more than sixty witnesses. There are two sons of the prisoner yet to be tried for the same offence. Col. Reynolds has been placed in the Penitentiary at Richmond.

**FATAL ACCIDENT.**—On Saturday afternoon, as some workmen, in the employ of Mr. W. C. Carlton, 12 Beach-street, were in the act of filling a vessel from a carboy of nitric acid, or aquafortis, the vessel was accidentally broken, spilling the contents on the floor. Instead of leaving the room the workmen remained and attempted to absorb the fluid by throwing sawdust upon it. They soon became so affected by inhaling the noxious effluvia, that they were obliged to leave the room. They subsequently repaired to their homes, without making any special complaint, and nothing was heard of the matter at Carlton's shop until yesterday morning, when it was reported that two of the men were dead, and others had become seriously affected.

**CUT THIS OUT.**—A correspondent of the London Literary Gazette, alluding to the numerous cases of deaths from accidental poisoning, adds: "I venture to affirm there is scarce even a cottage in this country that does not contain an invaluable, certain, immediate remedy for such events; nothing more than a dessert spoonful of made mustard, mixed in a tumbler of warm water, and drunk immediately. It acts as an emetic, is always ready, and may be used with safety in any case where one is required. By making this simple antidote known, you may be the means of saving many a fellow-creature from an untimely end."

It is stated in the papers that Speaker Banks "positively declines the Presidency!" Wonder who made him the offer!

**THE UNWRITTEN HISTORY.**

The Baltimore Sun thinks there must be an "unwritten history" concerning the concessions made by Russia to the Allies. The readiness of both France and Russia to conclude a peace, and the sagacity of one party in making just such propositions as the other was perfectly willing to accept, are truly wonderful. The statement which has appeared, professing to declare the basis of the treaty, implies nothing but Russian concessions. In the Black sea Russia is reduced to a mere cipher. And at this day destruction is at work with all formidable demonstrations she has elaborated upon its coasts. In other points she surrenders all that she has been fighting for, and the allies seem to have it all their own way, except in exacting from Russia the cost of the war. This little item, doubtless, annoys John Bull and affects his spirit, so that he cannot rejoice to lustily as his ally over the declaration of peace. The result, however, seems to be generally acceptable; but there is an unwritten history illustrative of this hasty peace and these Russian concessions which the future will alone produce.

**THE EFFECT OF PEACE.**—A letter from Hamburg, of the 20th, in the Brussels Independence, says: Since peace has been considered certain, merchants and negotiators have arrived almost daily from all parts of England, with the object of establishing factories in some part of the Russian Empire. It is a remarkable fact, that of all the people of Europe the English show most eagerness to renew business relations with Russia. It is now in contemplation to form a great Anglo-Russian Company, which, with considerable capital in its hands, will solicit the imperial government authority to turn to profit on a vast scale the territorial and mineral riches of the Russian territory.

**ROYAL NONSENSE.**—The Empress Eugenie, of France, having expressed a wish to preserve the pen with which the treaty of peace was signed, the gallant diplomatists made use of one plucked from the wing of a living eagle, and the relic is now in her possession, ornamented with gold and diamonds. In addition to signing the principal documents, each of the plenipotentiaries had to put his name to eighty-six separate paragraphs. The treaty might have been signed on the 29th ult., but Louis Napoleon, who affects the Napoleonic fondness for anniversaries, desired that the ceremony should be deferred until the 30th of March, the day on which the Allies entered Paris in 1814.

**INDIAN HUNTING IN FLORIDA.** FOUR INDIANS KILLED.

The Tampa Peninsula published an extra on Monday evening, containing the following intelligence: On the afternoon of the 6th instant, the Indians who had attacked Dr. Braden's residence and plantation, on the Manatee, (seven in number,) on the 31st March, were overtaken by a party of Florida volunteers. They were encamped on the south bank of the Big Charley Apopka Creek, and appeared to be confident of safety. The party approached so near the enemy as to overhear their conversation; they then fired and killed two Indians on the spot. The remainder retreated to the Creek; two were shot while in the act of jumping into it, and fell corpses; their bodies sinking immediately. The remaining three escaped, wounded badly. They were pursued some distance by the blood which plainly marked their retreat, but were finally lost in a hammock. The surprise was complete, as the enemy did not take time to fire a gun. The negroes (eight) which the Indians had carried off, and the three mules were recaptured. One Indian pony and several rifles were taken. The two Indians who were shot down at the first fire, were scalped. One scalp was sent to Manatee with the party who conveyed the stolen property to its owners, and the other was sent to Captain Hooker, at this place. The latter has been exhibited to all persons having the curiosity to examine it. One of the Indians who was scalped was not instantly killed, but mortally wounded. He could talk very good English—desired to be taken to a doctor—said that Okchau, the sub-chief who led the attack on the 18th January, near Fort Denaud, met them there; that the Indian pony captured belonged to Okchau, and that he jumped into the creek. He also said that Bill Bowlegs had many warriors as he wanted—that he (Billy) had sent him to Manatee to capture the negroes. After sounding the Creek, the bottom of which could not be reached with "a ten foot pole," and burying the Indian baggage, which would have loaded a wagon, the party started to Manatee with the negroes, mules and wounded Indian. They had not proceeded many paces, however, when the Indian fell, and was unable to proceed further. He was then ordered to be shot, which order was obeyed.

**CLAY AND RANDOLPH.** The story of the duel between Henry Clay and John Randolph is familiar to most persons; not so their subsequent reconciliation, and the manner of its accomplishment. It took place many years after the hostile meeting. In regard to it Mr. Clay wrote to a friend, in the year preceding Mr. Randolph's death, as follows: "You ask how amity was restored between Mr. Randolph and me. There was no explanation, no intervention. Observing him in the Senate one night, and looking as if he were not long for this world, and being myself engaged in a work of peace, with corresponding feelings I shook hands with him. The salutation was cordial on both sides. I afterwards left a card at his lodgings, where I understood he had been confined by sickness."

In the last public speech that Randolph made, after dwelling on the then threatening danger of disunion, he is reported to have said: "There is one man, and one man only, who can save this Union—that is Henry Clay. I know he has the power; I believe he will be found to have the patriotism and firmness equal to the occasion."

The course of the duel between these distinguished men was the following insulting language used by Randolph towards Mr. Clay in secret session of the Senate in 1825:—"This man—(mankind I crave your pardon)—this worm (little animals, forgive this insult)—was spit out of the womb of weakness—was raised to a higher life than he was born to, for he was raised to the society of blackguards. Some fortune—kind to him—cruel to us—has tossed him to the Secretary-ship of State. Contempt for the property of descending, but she stoops far short of him. She would die before she would reach him; he dwells below her fall. I would hate him if I did not despise him. It is not what he is, but where he is, that puts my thoughts in action. This alphabet which writes the name of Theristes, of blackguard, of squalidity, refused her letters for him. That mind which thinks on what it cannot express can scarcely think on him. An hyperbole for meanness would be an ellipsis for Clay."

**A CASE FOR GENERAL SYMPATHY.**

In the House of Representatives on Wednesday last, the following affecting subject was brought forward. We copy from the condensed report of the Washington Union.

Mr. Oliver, of New York, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, reported a bill for the relief of Mary E. Tillman; which was read twice.

Mr. Brooks, of South Carolina, asked the attention of the House to a few remarks which he wished to make in behalf of the bill. The bill was the unanimous report of the committee to which was referred the petition of Mrs. Tillman, a widow lady of his district. When a requisition was made upon South Carolina for services in the Mexican war, she gave to her country every member of her family capable of bearing arms, her husband and three sons. All went, but not one returned to dry a mother's tears, and gladden a mother's heart with the gallantry of her soldier boys. The bones of one now lie at Saltillo, another fell at Jalapa, another lay buried by the castle walls of Perote, and the last found the close of his earthly career and the goal of his youthful ambition at the capital of Mexico. By a strange fatality, the only remaining son, a boy too young to provide for the support of the family in the absence of his father and elder brothers, by an accidental fall from his horse injured his spine, and was now a paralytic for life. This lady was thus left in the decline of her age with a helpless child and a little daughter, entirely dependent upon her exertions for their and her own support, and the bill proposed to give her a pension of \$8 a month.

This was a narrative of her petition, and on it she based the hope that her country would remember her sacrifices and reward her services. By the laws of society a parent was entitled to the services of a child while a minor, and they who were the representatives of the country, and had been benefited by the services of the husband and sons of this lady, ought not to forget what was due to her.

It was his misfortune to be a witness to the facts he had stated. One of her sons enlisted in the Alabama regiment, and the remaining sons were mustered into the service of the United States in a company under his own command, and it was but the pure reflection of that friendship which that father and those boys bore to him that constrained him to do for their mother what she would not do for herself. She appealed not to their charity, but to their magnanimity; and he appealed to both. He asked them to put bread in the mouth of the widow and the fatherless. She appeared before them with the confidence and the dignity of the mother of this modern Gracchi, and demanded that her name should be recorded on the statutes of her country; and he appealed to the generosity and the noble instincts of the members to come forward in her aid.

Mr. Mace, of Indiana, moved to amend the bill by striking out \$8, and inserting \$20.

The question was taken, and the amendment was agreed to.

The bill as amended was then read a third time and passed.

**OH, GIVE NOT UP TO SORROW.**

BY EDGAR W. DAVIES.  
Oh, give not up to sorrow,  
And never know despair—  
Let Hope light up the morrow,  
With all its holy cheer.  
Why should we murmur the moments  
That pass us swiftly by,  
By cruel, dark forebodings,  
When Joy itself is nigh?

Though dark misfortunes meet us,  
And friends and fortune fall,  
And many objects greet us,  
To tell the saddest tale—  
Let's view it as our share of toil,  
That's nobly to be borne—  
And light will be the burden,  
Howe'er the heart was torn.

Oh, give not up to sorrow,  
And never know despair—  
Let Hope light up the morrow,  
With all its holy cheer.  
He who can light the darkness  
Will every care disarm—  
The storm of life will rage to-day,  
To-morrow bring its calm.

**MISCELLANY.**

**THE GIRLS.**

When a young man enters the arena of the world in search of a wife, he should ask three questions before entering into courtship; first, is she intelligent? second, is she kind and benevolent? and thirdly, did she ever get up before breakfast in the morning? If all these interrogatories be answered in the affirmative, no other qualification is indispensably necessary; for with such a wife fortune and fame can easily be acquired. Such is the wife for the laboring man, such should be the companion of one fortunately possessed of wealth, and such should be the wife of him who aspires to the highest stations that society can bestow. All this information can be easily obtained from the girl you have in view; for many boast of their indolence, and think no higher compliment could be paid than by calling them delicate in health and feeble in mind. If she is weighed in the balance and found wanting, pass her with contempt, and look to other resources for future happiness.—But marry, let the risk be what it may—it gives dignity to your profession, it inspires confidence, and commands respect. With a wife the lawyers are more trusty, the doctors more esteemed, the merchant gets a bigger credit, and the mechanic throws the hammer with increased power, and shoves the plane with a more dexterous hand; in short—a man who has no wife, is no man at all. She nurses him while sick, she watches for him when absent, and loves and cherishes him when in health. Gentlemen get a wife, a pretty one if you like them best—a good one if she is to be found—and a rich one if you can get her. Then youth will pass in visionary pleasures, as if on a bed of flowers, middle age will be enjoyed in the bosom of a happy family; when your head is silvered o'er with the frosts of many winters, you can reflect back with the happy consolation that you have spent your life in usefulness to yourself, and to the benefit of your fellow-men.

**THE FIRST MARRIAGE.**  
*Adam's Wedding.*—An English Journal, the Britannia, has an amusing article under the head of "Adam's Wedding." The editor says that he likes short courtships, and in this Adam acted like a sensible man—he fell asleep a bachelor, and awoke to find himself a married man. He appears to have "popped the question" immediately after meeting Ma'mselle Eve; and she without flirtation or shyness gave him a kiss and herself. Of that first kiss in this world we have had, however, our own thoughts, and sometimes in poetical mood have wished we were the man that did it. But the deed is or was done; the chance was Adam's and he improved it. We like the notion of getting married in a Garden; it is in good taste. We like a private wedding, and Adam's was strictly private. No envious beaux were there, no creaking old maids, no chattering aunts and no grumbling grandmothers. The birds of heaven were minstrels, and the glad sky shed its light upon the scene. Our thinking about the first wedding brings queer ideas into our heads, and speculations of theologians—mere babies—larger but not older—without a house, without a pot or kettle—nothing but love and Eden!

**A PEEP AT HERSELF.**  
Fanny Fern, in her "Peeps from under a Parasol," which she contributes to the New York Ledger, has taken a peep at herself. Hear her rattle:

"And here, by the rock, comes Fanny Fern! Fanny is a woman. For that she is not to blame; though, since she first found it out, she has never ceased to deplore it. She might be prettier, she might be younger. She might be older, she might be uglier. She might be better, she might be worse. She has been both over-praised and over-abused, and those who have abused her worst have imitated and copied her most. "One thing may be said in favor of Fanny: she was not, thank Providence, born in the beautiful, backbiting, satanomious, slandering, clean, contemptuous, pharasaical, phiddle-dee, peck-measure city of Boston."

**WHAT'S IN A NAME.**—The Darlington (S. C.) Flag says that a child in that District, not long since, received the following name: Frances Cornelia Amaranthia Olivia Sarah Rebecca Sophronia Julia Josephine Victoria, Queen of South Carolina.

**WANTED.**—A New York journal publishes the following remarkable want: Wanted—"by an ancient maiden lady, a local habitation and a name."

It is always in your power to make a friend by smiles—what a folly to make enemies by frowns!

**THE HOLY LANCE.**

The lance which opened the side of our Divine Saviour is now kept at Rome, but has no point. Andrew of Crete, who lived in the seventh century, says it was buried together with the cross, and St. Gregory of Tours and Venerable Bede testify that in their time it was kept at Jerusalem. For fear of the Saracens, it was buried privately at Antioch, in which city it was afterwards found, and wrought many miracles, as Robert the Monk and many eye witnesses testify. It was first carried to Jerusalem, and then to Constantinople, and at the time the city was taken by the Latins, Baldwin II. sent the point of it to Venice as a pledge for a loan of money. St. Louis, King of France, redeemed it by paying the sum for which it was pledged, and had it conveyed to Paris, where it is still kept in the Holy Chapel. The rest of the lance remained at Constantinople, after the Turks had taken that city, to the year 1492, when the Sultan Bajazet sent it by an ambassador, in a rich and beautiful case, to Pope Innocent VIII, adding that the point was in the possession of the King of France.

**SAD PICTURE.**

A Mrs. Howard, was found, a few days ago, lying in a stable, in Buffalo, New York, intoxicated. The police arrested her, and took her to the watch-house, and the Mayor ordered her to be sent to the work-house, as a vagrant. The "Courier," of Buffalo, gives the following melancholy history of this poor woman.

Some may console, but we are disposed to pity this unfortunate woman. Less than a year ago she was living in New York with her husband, who held a position of honor and trust in one of the large mercantile houses in that city. She was admired for her beauty and intelligence, moved in an exalted sphere, and was surrounded by friends and relatives, who respected and loved her. Last fall her husband was sent upon a collecting tour, and she accompanied him. On their way hither the husband fell in with a company of "confidence" or "patent safe" men, and was induced to join in their nefarious business. In this city his guilt became known—he was arrested, convicted, and sentenced to the State prison, at Auburn, for a term of years, where he now remains. This fact becoming known to her family and friends, they at once deserted her, leaving her alone in the world, and surrounded by the disgrace which her husband had brought upon her. In her desperation she resorted to the wine cup; and is now a poor, dissolute, drunken wretch—fit only for pity and compassion. Her trunks, which were filled with fine clothing and other articles, are detained at a hotel as security for the payment of bills contracted by her husband. Her jewelry was long since left at a pawn-broker's, and she is without friends, without a home, without money, without everything that was once hers. Lost, lost, lost!

**SLIGHTLY EMBARRASSING.**

A young lawyer residing at M—, in this State, seeking to be extra polite to a very pretty, young and interesting woman on the cars, a few evenings since, took her infant to hold, while she stepped forward to see to her baggage; the train started, and the lady was left. The youthful Blackstone was in a fix. He left the cars at M—, with the infantry at full shoulder, and proceeded to the gate of his law partner, where he set up a vociferous howling. He dare not go further, for the gentleman of the house had a cross bull dog, so he stood there in the winter midnight wind, and howled for his partner to chain up the dog, and come out and help him nurse the child. —[Detroit Advertiser.

**READING.**

Of all the amusements that can possibly be imagined for a working man, after daily toil, or in the intervals, there is nothing like reading a newspaper or a book. It calls for no bodily exertion, of which the mind has had enough—perhaps too much. It relieves his home of dullness and sameness. Nay, it accompanies him to his next day's work, and gives him something to think of besides the mere mechanical drudgery of his every day occupation; something he can enjoy while absent, and look forward to with pleasure. If I were to pray for a taste which would stand by me under every variety of circumstances, and be a source of happiness and cheerfulness to me through life, and a shield against its ills, however things might go amiss, and the world round upon me, it would be a taste for reading.—[Herschel.

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