



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

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A CARD.
DRS. SAM'L L. & JOSEPH W. CALDWELL have this day associated themselves in the practice of Medicine, and one of the other of them can at all times be found at their office, next door to the State Bank, up stairs, unless professionally engaged.

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FROM SEBASTOPOL.

REMOVAL.

A. BETHUNE,
TAILOR,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

General Intelligence.

SLAVERY IN THE METHODIST GENERAL CONFERENCE.—In the General Conference of the Methodist church, at Indianapolis, Indiana, the committee on slavery have made a report, in which one article declares slavery a sin, but "inasmuch as persons may be brought into the legal relation of slaveholders involuntarily by purchasing slaves in order to free them, therefore, the merely legal relation shall not be considered of itself sufficient to exclude a person who may thus sustain it from the fellowship of the church.

"Article 2.—Whenever a member of our church, by any means, becomes the owner of a slave, it shall be the duty of the preacher in charge to call together a committee of at least three members, who shall investigate the case, and determine the time in which said slave shall be freed; and on this refusal or neglect to abide by the decision of said committee, he shall be dealt with as in case of immorality.

George C. Fields, one of the wounded in the late brutal assault on the passengers at Panama, died at the hospital in N. York on Tuesday, from the effects of his wounds. He had received two sabre-wounds in the face, each of which was about six inches in length, and penetrated through the bones and cheek, knocking out most of his teeth. Besides these wounds, the contents of a musket loaded with buckshot and slugs were poured into his forehead, and penetrated the flesh and scalp. John Fields, an elder brother of the deceased, also lost his life in the Panama riot. The deceased was robbed of all the money he had on his person (\$250) at the time of the riot, and nearly all his clothes were torn from his body.

FATAL EXPLOSION.—The Pyrotechnic establishment of Dennis McCrossen, in Schenck street, New York, exploded on Monday, with fatal result. The report was heard at the distance of more than a mile. One of the unfortunate sufferers was thrown through the roof, and landed a considerable distance from the place. The others were picked up about the premises, all blackened and mutilated, so as hardly to be recognized by their relatives. Samuel Bedell, a boy, was dreadfully mangled, and of course died immediately.

FATAL AFFAIR IN CAHABA, ALABAMA.—The Schma Reporter of the 26th instants, states that a difficulty occurred in Cahaba, on last Friday evening, in which John R. Bell and his two sons, John A. and Charles, and Drs. Troy and Hunter and Judge Bird were engaged. John R. and John A. Bell were both instantly killed by Judge Bird and Dr. Hunter; Dr. Troy was slightly injured on the arm by a stick in the hands of John A. Bell. A legal investigation was had on Saturday, but we have not heard the decision of the court.

RECOMMENDATION FOR OFFICE.—The new Mayor of Philadelphia is besieged with applications for office. One poor fellow was arrested a few nights ago, uproariously drunk, and upon searching his pockets, a petition was found, setting forth that he was a sober, steady man, and one eminent worthy of a place on the police. The drunken candidate for police honors was taken before an Alderman, and sent below.

DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF PROMISE.—In Bedford (Va.) Circuit Court, at its last term, Wm. Steen, a gentleman 84 years of age, was sued by a young lady for damages for breach of promise, and mulcted in the sum of \$750. A new trial has been granted. The "young lady" ought to be made pay double the amount, for consenting to marry a gentleman of eighty-four.

DAMAGES.—In the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, sitting in Warren city, Mr. Taft, of Charleston, South Carolina, has obtained a verdict of \$7,250 against the Western Railroad corporation, as damages for the loss of his arm last September, while riding in the company's cars.

A MAN ABOUT TO BE BURIED ALIVE.—In Fremont, Sandusky county, Ohio, the funeral services were about being performed on the body of Daniel Stearns, Esq., who was supposed to have been dead three days, when a slight warmth was perceptible in the body, restoratives were applied, and he is now recovering.

LOW FARE.—The price of a ticket for the round trip from Washington City to the Cincinnati Democratic Convention, was only \$16.25. Large numbers, of course, availed themselves of the inducement this afforded for attending the Convention.

CROPS IN TEXAS.—The Galveston Civilian of the 10th says: In Texas fine rains have recently fallen. The young crops of corn and cotton are highly promising, the rivers are up and in condition for steamboat navigation.

A RUSSIAN FLEET COMING.—The "Courier" (French) says a Russian steam squadron now at Cronstadt, was to leave there in May for North America, under the command of Admiral Warkowitsh.

Potatoes, which sold in Philadelphia last year at a \$2.50 per bushel, are now bringing only 50 cents a bushel.

INSTRUCTION FOR THE PEOPLE.

In a description by the author of "The U. S. Naval and Astronomical Expedition" of the rude and brutal character of some of the emigrants to California, that State is called "our accursed golden country." Such traits of character are considered to be "generated by the unhalloved thirst for gold."

We fear such charge may distract attention from more important causes of recklessness and offences, which contrast with the manners of civility and kindness which are recognized among our Southern neighbors—who complain of us; we think the early instruction which children receive at home has much more to do in causing rudeness and insensibility than the desire for gain, which is generally diffused among mankind—with many virtues. Any other "unhalloved thirst" will be attended with similar consequences, and cannot properly be charged against a metal—obviously designed for important uses among men.

The same objections now made against emigrants to California were formerly made against seamen, for a long time regarded as a distinctly offensive caste of men. If we regard the general causes which led to their improvement we shall discover some in the manners, instruction and advances of those who control them—as well as in other means taken for individual instruction on shipboard. In the very copy of the Charleston News, 5th May, we read that "The U. S. ship Portsmouth is the first United States vessel that ever left the port of Norfolk having entirely dispensed with spirit rations by the voluntary arrangements of the crew."

Yet it becomes us to consider the variety of preparations for the comfort, health, instruction and humane treatment of the sailors, which have gradually led to such an abstinence by willing restraint. It is not going to sea, nor digging for gold, that teaches the conduct complained of. To attempt to fix such a basis for the evil will only delay other sources of instruction and advantage. The whole community—the Nation, is interested in the conduct of every individual of our society. The laws require obedience sometimes—when proper instruction has not been offered. Moral law—preceded punishment! We are too much in the habit of sneering away the importance of morality or civil conduct in life, and to think a certain want of good manners and gentleness of demeanor, not becoming our independent position! Morals or manners are often of more importance than the higher mental culture, which cannot, in all, compensate for their want. Civility, courtesy, kindness and good manners, formerly characterized the people of the Isthmus—we presume since the opening of the Rail Road, and to promote that improvement, many changes have taken place. Rude negroes from Jamaica, some other Islands and portions of the Continent have impressed a different character—as the multitude of mixed races of all countries have changed the name of "citizen" into one of degradation, there. We want good schools, improved school-masters and mistresses! Not only to teach letters and arithmetic, but to impress some feelings of humanity and mercy into the hearts of scholars—towards others. The poor heathen Indians of South America often exhibit more of the virtues of civil christian, than are found in certain classes of the most civilized countries of Europe. We need instruction in "the principles" of morality, as well as in those of Algebra in our schools. We should begin with the teachers!

A TRAVELLER.

GEN. CASS ON WALKER.
In the Nicaragua meeting in New York, on Friday night, a letter was read from Gen. Cass, endorsing the recognition of the Nicaragua Government. Mr. Cass says: I am free to confess that the heroic effort of our countrymen in Nicaragua excites my admiration, while it engages all my solicitude. I am not to be deterred from the expression of these feelings by sneers, or reproaches, or hard words. He who doesn't sympathize with such an enterprise has little in common with me. The difficulties which Gen. Walker has encountered and overcome will place his name high on the roll of the distinguished men of his age.—He has conciliated the people he went to aid, the government of which he makes part is performing its functions without opposition, and internal tranquillity marks the wisdom of its policy. That magnificent region, for which God has done so much and man so little, needs some renovating process, some transfusion by which new life may be imparted to it. Our countrymen will plant there the seeds of our institutions, and God grant that they may grow up in an abundant harvest of industry, enterprise and prosperity. A new day, I hope, is opening upon the States of Central America. If we are true to our duty they will soon be freed from all danger of European interference, and will have a security in their own power against the ambitious designs of England far better than Clayton-Bulwer treaties, or any other diplomatic machinery by which a spirit of aggression is sought to be concealed till circumstances are ready for active operation.

TENANTLESS JAIL IN SPARTANBURG.

We had occasion to notice a circumstance, a few days since, says the Charleston Standard, which seemed favorable to the character and morals of our friends of Spartanburg. It was announced that there was no solitary tenant of the jail in that District, and we, as well as many of our contemporaries, made mention of the fact. A gentleman from that vicinity, however, has favored us with a version of the story which gives another face to the affair. He says that, not long since, a man named Smith was convicted of an offence which rendered it necessary that he should be whipped, and among those who commiserated his condition deeply, was his wife, who set a woman's wits to work to help him. To the end of seeing what she could do in that way, she called at the jail one cold evening about the 10th of March, and finding the jailor absent, gave a sad account of her afflictions to the jailor's wife. That kind woman was penetrated by a sense of her sufferings, and as night, cold and bleak, came on, could not withhold from Mrs. Smith, the offer of her hospitality until morning. While she was busy with preparations for the entertainment of her guest, and with that object had occasion to visit the kitchen, the guest took the key, slipped rapidly to the rooms above, unlocked the doors, and returning, restored the key to the place where the jailor's wife had left it, and was sitting as demure and miserably as ever when her hostess returned. The escape of the prisoners was not known until the next morning, when breakfast was sent to them; and nothing could equal the surprise of the jailor's wife, except the surprise exhibited by the wife of the prisoner, at this remarkable occurrence.

A CIRCUS RIOT.

We learn that a dreadful fight occurred at Pittsborough, Chatham county, about a fortnight ago, between a party of men belonging to Robinson & Eldred's Circus and some citizens of Chatham, in which some of the latter were dreadfully beaten, and one, Mr. Joseph Stone, a very respectable citizen and merchant, so badly beaten that he is since dead. One report states that the Circus men were bailed; another that four of them were in jail. It is said that the difficulty in this case grew out of the misconduct of a liquor dealer of Chatham, and that the Circus men were not so much to blame as they generally are. But we think it is manifest, from the violence and rowdiness and drunkenness, and dissoluteness, and disease, and kidnapping, which so often mark the progress of these people, that the people should call upon the Legislature to prohibit them from coming into the State at all. The price is too great to pay for a night of vulgar amusement.—[Fayetteville (N. C.) Observer.]

VILLAGE DESTROYED.

Every house in the village of Cedar Hill, Texas, was levelled to the ground, and several blown entirely away by a tornado, on the 15th ult. Among the persons killed were John Hart, wife and child; J. Berry, wife and child; Mrs. Dickinson; Mrs. Allen and a negro girl. The money chest of Miller & Berry's store, containing \$900, was blown off and not found again. The storm commenced about 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and was accompanied by thunder and vivid lightning. The scene the next morning is described as heart-rending. A large number of cattle were killed on the prairie adjoining.

AVOID THEM.

Southern men should not patronize the Astor House, New York.—Why? Because the proprietor, Mr. Stetson, was one of the Vice Presidents of a Black Republican Mass Meeting lately. Southern families should not send their daughters to Miss Dutton's Female Academy, in Hartford, Conn. Why? Because she has given twenty-five dollars to buy a Sharpe's rifle, to shoot southern men with in Kansas. We must love our enemies and do them good; but about the only way to win an abolitionist from his ways, is to cut loose the bonds of pecuniary interest, and leave him to reflect in monetary isolation. If this fails to bring him to his senses—still let him alone.—[Raleigh Christian Advocate.]

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

The Norfolk Argus learns that a gold mine has been discovered on James river, in Charles City county, Virginia, about eighty miles from Norfolk, on the farm of Z. F. Nance, Esq. Some men being engaged in cutting timber on the land, one of them, who had worked in the gold mines in California, observed soil that reminded him of what he had seen on the other side of the continent, and on examination, found that the earth contained gold amounting to nearly twenty five cents in value to every quart. The quality of the gold has been tested and found to be of the very purest kind.

EXPIATION.

The Boston Post says that Mr. Herbert M. C. from California, who killed the waiter, Keating, at Willard's hotel in Washington, has given to the widow of the deceased a neat house, settled upon her a handsome annuity, and provided for the education of her children.

No man has a right to do what he pleases, except when he pleases to do right.

MISCELLANY.

WHAT A WOMAN CAN DO.

As a wife and mother, woman can make the fortune and happiness of her husband and children; and even if she did nothing else, surely this would be sufficient destiny. By her thrift, prudence and tact, she can secure to her partner and herself a competence in old age, no matter how small their beginning, or how adverse a fate occasionally be theirs. By her cheerfulness she can restore her husband's spirit, shaken by the anxieties of business. By her tender care she can often restore him to health, if disease has seized upon his overtaxed powers. By her council and her love, she can win him from bad company, if temptation in an evil hour has led him astray. By her example, her precepts, and her sex's insight into character, she can mould her children, however diverse their dispositions, into good and noble men and women. And by leading in all things, a true and beautiful life, she can refine, elevate and spiritualize all who come within reach, so that with others of her sex emulating and assisting her, she can do more to regenerate the world than all the statesmen or reformers that ever legislated. She can do as much, alas! perhaps even more, to degrade man, if she chooses it.

Who can estimate the evil that woman has the power to do? As a wife she can ruin her husband by extravagance, folly or affection. She can make a devil and an outcast of a man, who might otherwise have become a good member of society. She can bring bickering, strife and perpetual discord into what has been a happy home. She can change the innocent babes whom God has entrusted to her charge, into vile men and even viler women. She can lower the moral tone of society itself, and thus pollute legislation at the spring head. She can, in fine, become an instrument of evil instead of an angel of good. Instead of making flowers of truth, purity, beauty, and spirituality spring up in her footsteps, till the whole earth smiles with loveliness that is almost celestial, she can transform it to a black and blasted desert, covered with the scorn of all evil passions, and swept by the bitter blasts of everlasting death. This is what a woman can do for the wrong as well as for the right. Is her mission a little one? Has she no "worthy work," as has become the cry of late? Man may have a harder task to perform, a rougher path to travel, but he has none loftier, or more influential, than woman's.—[Woman's Advocate.]

THE REAL MAN.

What a man really is, will appear in the truest light under his own roof, and by his own fireside. I can believe that he is a Christian, when I know that he faithfully takes up the daily duties and bears the crosses that cluster within his own door. I shall think that the world rightly calls him a philanthropist when, notwithstanding common faults and infirmities, he receives the spontaneous award of the good husband and father, and the kindness of nature is reflected in the very air and light of the dwelling. And talk of noble deeds! where will you behold manifestations of a more beautiful self-sacrifice, a more generous heroism, than in the labors and in the endurance of thousands of men and women shut out from the world's observation in silent nooks and corners of this very city, amidst the relationship, and cares, and struggles of home? But whether it be in forms of good or evil, we know that the real elements of character, the genuine moral qualities of people, must be expressed here.—[Rev. H. Chapin.]

THE RULE OF THREE.

There are exceptions to every rule but the rule of three; that is never changed. As your income is to your expenditures, so will the amount of your debts be to your cash on hand and consequent ability to meet them. If you allow your vanity to lead you into extravagance, you must rely on something else to take you out of it; either a rich relation or the sheriff's writ. Your furniture may be less showy than that of your neighbor, but never mind. Better are cane bottom chairs and mahogany tables that are paid for, than spring cushions and marble mantels on a note of six months. Your coat may be less fashionable than your neighbor's, and while he is driven by a liveried coachman, you may be riding shank's horse; but, remember there is a time for balancing the books, and every purse has got a bottom. So economize, and always remember the rule of three.

SWEET WORDS, THE PEARLS OF LIFE.

Would it not please you to pick up strings of pearls, drops of gold, diamonds, and precious stones, as you pass along the street? It would make you feel happy for a month to come. Such happiness you can give to others. How, do you ask? By dropping sweet words, fine remarks, and pleasant smiles as you pass along. These are true pearls and precious stones, which can never be lost; of which none can deprive you. Speak to that orphan child; see the diamond drops from her cheeks. Take the hand of the friendless boy; bright pearls flash in his eyes. Smile on the sad and dejected; a joy suffuses his cheek more brilliant than the precious stones. By the way-side, and amid the city's din, and at the fire-side of the poor, drop words and smiles to cheer and bless. You will feel happier when resting upon your pillow at the close of the day, then if you had picked a score of perishing jewels. The latter fade and crumble in time; the former grow brighter with age, and promise happier reflections forever.

BY THEMSELVES.

In some of the Northern States, almost any form or mode of marriage ceremony is recognized as valid, where the intention of both parties is understood and expressed. The Rochester (New York) Union makes the following humorous announcement:—"Married, by themselves, at the family residence of the bride, on the 31st ult., Mr. Nelson Collins, of this city, and Miss Isabella Braithwaite." The Boston Atlas says it would like to know what charms, incantations, declarations, and protestations were employed, in this mode of union, and adds: "By themselves"—it has a terrible lonesome sound. We do not understand how a woman can feel like a bride under such isolated circumstances. It must have been painfully dreary. One thing may be said of these self acting marriages. They are cheap. Yes, they are cheap. You can save four-and-sixpence by them, and that is something to go to housekeeping upon in these hard times. But should the "by themselves" idea generally prevail, "parents and guardians" had better seek a bright lookout. Sighing lovers will need no Gretna Green—elopements will be scarce; but then the extemporaneous marriages, fixed in no time at all, and nowhere in particular—will not become unpleasantly frequent?

STATISTICS OF MUSCULAR POWER.

Man has the power of imitating every motion, but that of flight. To effect these he has in maturity and health, sixty bones in his head, sixty in his thighs and legs, sixty-two in his arms and hands, sixty-seven in his trunk. He has, also, 434 muscles. His heart makes sixty-four pulsations in a minute, and, therefore, 3,840 in an hour—29,160 in a day. There are also three complete circulations of his blood in the short space of an hour. In respect to the comparative speed of animated beings, and of impelled bodies, it may be remarked that size and construction seem to have little influence, nor has comparative strength, although one body giving any quantity of motion to another is said to lose so much of his own. The sloth is by no means a small animal, and yet it can only travel fifty paces in a day; a worm crawls only five inches in fifty seconds; but a lady bird can fly twenty million times its own length in less than an hour. An elk can run a mile in seven minutes. An antelope can run a mile in a minute; the wild mule of Tartary has a speed even greater than that; and an eagle can fly eighteen leagues in an hour; and a canary falcon can even reach two hundred and fifty leagues in the short space of sixteen hours.

By the way-side, and amid the city's din, and at the fire-side of the poor, drop words and smiles to cheer and bless. You will feel happier when resting upon your pillow at the close of the day, then if you had picked a score of perishing jewels. The latter fade and crumble in time; the former grow brighter with age, and promise happier reflections forever.

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"SLOSHIN ABOUT."

In Pike county, Ala., there was a trial for a general row, and a witness testified that one Saltonstall kept sloshin' about. As this remark regarding the chivalrous Saltonstall was frequently repeated, a lawyer wished to know what it was that Mr. Saltonstall had to do with the affair.

"Why I've told you several times: the rest on 'em clinched and paired off, but Saltonstall—he jest kept sloshin' about."

"My good fellow," exclaimed the lawyer, "we want to know what this is. Tell us what you mean by sloshin' about."

"Well," answered the witness very deliberately, "I'll try. You see, John Brewer and Sykes, they clinched and foot. That's in legle form, aint it?"

"O yes," said the lawyer, "Go on."

"Abney and Blackman then pitched into one another, and Blackman bit off a piece of Abney's lip—that's legle too, aint it?"

"Yes, proceed."

"Simpson, and Bill Stone, and Murray was all-together on the ground, a bitin' and kickin' one another—that's legle too, aint it?"

"Very! but go on."

"And Saltonstall made it his business to walk forward through the crowd, with a big stick in his hand, and knock down every loose man in the crowd, as fast as he come to 'em. That's what I call sloshin' about!"

VALUABLE RECIPES.

To please the old folks while you court the daughter, agree with the father in politics, and keep the mother in snuff. To please the brother, lend him your rifle and buy him a dog.—To please your dulcina, keep her in jewelry and call her an "angel." To please yourself, be a fool. To be unpopular, do what is right, regardless of consequences. To please every body and the "rest of mankind," tell people what you think of them when occasion calls for it, and be candid in the expression of your opinion. If these recipes are strictly adhered to, they will succeed to a charm.

There is a Yankee down east who has invented a jack-plane to shave the beard off. He is the brother of the individual who uses a flat-iron to smooth the ruffled temper of his wife.