

WESTERN DEMOCRAT, CHARLOTTE, N. C.

WHAT IS RESPECTABLE SOCIETY?

We heard a man otherwise intelligent enough, lately sneer at another, "because," said he, "one never meets him in respectable society." The speaker did not mean, however, that the person he affected to look down upon was immoral, but merely that his circle of intimates was not composed of the fashionable or the rich.

This notion of what constitutes respectable society is quite a favorite one with that class of individuals whom Thackeray has so significantly called "snobs." Empty pretence is always making its own characteristics a standard by which it strives to measure the respectability of persons at large. In a community of mere money-getters, wealth is the test of respectability. Among the proud, narrow-minded, effete nobility of the Faubourg St. Germain, respectability depends on being descended from ancestors who have married their cousins for so many centuries that neither muscles nor brains are left any longer to the degenerate descendants. With the dandy officers who constitute a considerable portion of the American navy, respectability consists in having sponged on "Uncle Sam," in wearing gilt buttons, and in bilking tailors. Every conceited fool thinks himself, in like way, the only person who is respectable.

But true respectability depends on no such adventitious circumstances. To be respectable is to be worthy of respect; and he most deserves respect who has most virtue. The humblest man, who bravely does his duty, is more worthy of respect than is more respectable, than the covetous millionaire among his money-bags, or the arrogant monarch on his throne. The fine lady who backbites her neighbor is less worthy of respect than an honest washerwoman. The profligate noble, though he may wear a dozen orders on his button-hole, is not really as respectable, as the shoe-black who cleans his boots. That which is called "the world" exalts the one and despises the other; but it does not make them respectable, according to the real meaning of that word. Their respectability is but a hollow sham, as they themselves frequently feel; and those who worship them bow down to a fetish—a thing of feathers and tinsel. The selfish, idle drone, who wastes life in his own gratification, and despises the fortune of his progeny, is not, and cannot be respectable; but the hard-working, self-denying father, who wears out his life to bring up his children, is, even though he be but a day-laborer. Nothing can make Dives fit to lie on Abraham's bosom, while Lazarus is welcomed there, even with the sores the dogs have licked.

This false view of life, which would measure respectability by a conventional standard, is totally at variance with our republican institutions. It creates an "imperium in imperio;" for while the law declares all citizens equal, it erects a social standard which endangers to ignore that great truth.

The coarse, brutal, knavish, profligate, criminal—in short, all who fall short of their duty to themselves and their fellow-men—are those who are "not respectable"; and this whether they are rich or poor; while those who live honestly and strive to do what good they can, constitute what is really the respectable class, irrespective of the fact whether they eat at silver forks or steel ones.

HOW JUDGE H— HELPED TO UNLOAD THE STEAMBOAT.—A friend of ours, who was an eye-witness to the fact, related to us an amusing circumstance which occurred while Judge H— presided on the bench in this district.

On a particular occasion after his appointment, business called him to Liberty, and while there, meeting with many of his associates at the bar, got into a convivial mood, which lasted several days, and on going out he looked rather worse for wear. In crossing the river at Owen's landing, there was a boat discharging freight, and in great haste for fear another boat would pass that just now in sight.

The clerk called out: "I say, old man, can't you men a hand in taking off that lot of furniture? I will pay you for doing so, and 'double filly' in the bargain." "Oh, yes," says the Judge, "Slippery! and be jabels, it is nothing else, your honor. Upon my word I slid down three times without getting up once."

The first thing was a marble top bureau. In going off the plank, the Judge slipped, and the clerk roared out, "There now, throw that into the river, will you?" "Certainly," said the Judge, and giving a kick with the order, overboard it went. "Hellow! what's that for?" said the clerk. "I always obey orders when I work for a man," said the judge. "Leave," said the mate, "Agreed," the Judge.

"Who is that man?" said the clerk. A bystander remarked, "That is Judge H—, of the Fifth Judicial District of Missouri." Oh h—ll, let me that line!"—Westport Star.

Old Squire B— was elected Judge of the Inferior Court of some county in the State of Georgia. When he went home, his delighted wife exclaimed—

"Now, my dear, you are Judge, what then, am I?"

He replied, "That same darn'd old fool you allers was."

Two men out west undertook to see who could run the fastest. One was a sheriff, and the other was a thief.

\$100 REWARD!

RANAWAY from the subscriber on the 1st October, a mulatto boy named SOLOMON. He is near six feet high, about thirty years old, tolerably bright, rather slim, and weighs about 175 pounds. He has a down look when spoken to. The end of the forefinger of his left hand has been cut off, and a sharp, bare knot has grown on the end of it. He is thought to be lurking about the lower end of Culbreton county, where he was raised. All persons are forewarned not to harbor or assist him, under the penalty of the law. I will pay the above reward for his delivery to me, or his apprehension and confinement in any jail so I can get him. WILLIAM HAMILTON,

Negro Head Depot, Union Co., N. C. April 9, 1860.

NEW HOTEL NEAR THE DEPOT.

JUST OPENED for the accommodation of transient Customers and Day Boarders, by W. W. ELMS. Charlotte, Apr. 3, 1860. 6t

THE WAR IN TEXAS!!

THIS subscriber wishing to remove to Texas, offers for sale his valuable Tract of Land, lying 12 miles South of Charlotte and three miles from Morrow's Turn Out, in York District. The Tract contains 340 Acres, half in forest. On the premises is a simple Modern Dwelling House. The tract is Well-Watered; and the land, for all our staples, as productive as any in the District. For further particulars, address

F. C. HARRIS, Pineville, N. C. April 3, 1860. 5t-pd

LAGER BEER.

The subscriber has a Brewery near Charlotte, and is prepared to furnish Beer of first rate quality to Families and Groceries, at short notice. Orders may be left at Mr Vogel's tailoring shop.

MARTIN MENZLER.

April 3, 1860. tf

Charlotte Foundry AND MACHINE SHOP.

Having purchased from J. A. Fox the above establishment, the undersigned begs leave to call the attention of the public to the fact that he is now ready to fill every order for making Steam Engines, Cotton and Tobacco Presses, and every description of Machinery, communication out-buildings in abundance, and an elegant Dwelling House. The tract is Well-Watered; and the land, for all our staples, as productive as any in the District. For further particulars, address

JOHN M. HOWIE, January 3, 1860. 6m.

ENCOURAGE NORTH CAROLINA ENTERPRISE.

WOODEN-WARE MANUFACTORY, Near Fayetteville, N. C.

The subscribers respectfully inform the public that they are now manufacturing, at their establishment near Fayetteville, Juniper Buckets of every description, half-bushel and peck Measures, and Hoe Handles.

They are also manufacturing **SPRING BEDS** at lower prices than a similar article can be had elsewhere.

The attention of the public is earnestly solicited to this establishment. None but the best of material is used in manufacturing. All articles are warranted to be as represented. The Spring Mattresses are especially worthy of the attention of Housekeepers.

Orders directed to Fayetteville will meet with prompt attention. MAKEPEACE & MCRAE. April 3, 1860. 6m-pd

FURNITURE HALL,



Charlotte, N. C.

The subscribers, having just returned from a visit to the several popular Furniture manufacturers at the North, find that they can make large purchases of most fashionable, convenient and durable Furniture, bed-rooms, and advertise their friends and the public that they are now opening for inspection and sale, some of the best, most fashionable and durable

FURNITURE offered in this market, consisting in part as follows:

Mahogany Sofas, Tete-a-Tetes and Lounges, Mahogany Chairs, Rockers, and Ottomans, Tables, Bedsteads, Wardrobes, and Bureaus, Sideboards and centre Tables with marble tops, Mantle and Parlor Mirrors, Cane, Winsor and Straw Chairs, Cottage Sets, very handsome, French and plain Bedsteads, with bed-rooms furniture to match,

Cradles, Cribs and Work Tables, Wash-stands, Tables and What-Nots, Hat and Umbrella Racks,

Together with a large variety of other Furniture necessary for house-keeping.

Also, **Fisk's Metal Burial Cases & Coffins.** Of all qualities and of the most approved style, are always kept on hand, and especial care given to their construction.

The subscribers will be pleased to exhibit their new stock of Furniture, &c., to the public and their patrons especially, feeling confident that they can furnish them on more favorable terms than can be secured elsewhere.

"Ain't it wicked to rob dis chicken roost, Dick?"

"Dat's a great moral question, Gumbo—and we ha'nt no time to argue it now, hand down anoder pullet."

Charlotte, March 27, 1860. 3m

A YOUNG LADY of extraordinary intellectual capacities recently addressed the following letter to her cousin: "Dere Kuzzen: The wether whar we is air cold, and I spose whar you is air colder. We is all well, and murther's got the his Tericks, brother Tom has got the Hoppi' Koff, and sister Susan has got a baby, and I hope these fu lines will find you in the same condishun. Rite sunne. You qeeshunate Kuzzen."

A debating club in Worcester, lately discussed the important question: "Whether a rooster's knowledge of day break is the result of observation or instinct?"

On a particular occasion after his appointment, business called him to Liberty, and while there, meeting with many of his associates at the bar, got into a convivial mood, which lasted several days, and on going out he looked rather worse for wear.

In crossing the river at Owen's landing, there was a boat discharging freight, and in great haste for fear another boat would pass that just now in sight.

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you men a hand in taking off that lot of furniture? I will pay you for doing so, and 'double filly' in the bargain."

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