E C Wallace

The North Carolina Whig.

"Be true to God, to your Country, and to your Duty."

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HOLTON & WILLIAMSON,
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TERMS:

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Poetry.

FOR THE NORTH-CAROLINA WHIG.

A SONG.

1. I love a wife who's cheerful—
Not sad, nor yet too gay;
With smiling face—not tearful—
Smiles "drive dull care away."
Thus 'round our fireside sitting
With jewels two or more,
We're blest with joys befitting,
And nerved 'gainst troubles sore,
And nerved 'gainst troubles sore,
We're blest with joys befitting,
And nerved 'gainst troubles sore.

2. I love a wife abiding
With cheerfulness at home,
To whom our thoughts confiding
We'll never wish to roam.
When wintry winds are blowing
Around our humble cot,
Within a fire is glowing,
And brightens all our lot;
And brightens, &c.

3. I love a wife who's gentle,
And pleasing in her ways;
Industrious, frugal, mental—
A gem above all praise.
I care not if she's witty—
Far better to be wise;
'Tis actions make one pretty,
And home's endearing prize.
And home's, &c,
CHORUS.
Sweet the comforts—fondly springing,
From home, and those we love—
Heavenly blessings—brightly clinging,
Like dew-drops from above. H.

Miscellaneous.

Angling for a Husband.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH, FOR THE NEW YORK EVENING POST.

Mme. D——, who resided at Clinton, was a lady of the strictest character and of a heart proof against all allurement. She prided herself upon her great sensibility, and her profound indifference had repulsed all those gallants who had ventured to offer their addresses. The country was for her a veritable retreat; she shunned reunions, and was only happy in solitude. The charms of a chosen circle, the pleasures of the world, had for her no attraction, and her favorite recreation was that of angling—an amusement worthy of an unfeeling woman.

She was accustomed every pleasant day to station herself at the extremity of the lonely island of Chaton, and there, with a book in one hand and her line in the other, her time was passed in fishing, reading or dreaming.

A lover who had always been intimidated by her coldness, and who had never ventured on a spoken or written declaration, surpised her at her favorite pursuit one day when he had come to the island for the purpose of enjoying a swimming bath. He observed her for a long time without discovery, and busied himself with thinking how he might turn to advantage this lonely amusement of fishing. His reveries were so deep and so fortunate that he at last hit upon the desired plan, a novel expedient, indeed—yet they are always successful with such women as pretend to be invulnerable.

The next day our amorous hero returned to the island, studied the ground, made his arrangements, and when Mme. D—— had resumed her accustomed place, he slipped away to a remote and retired shelter, and after having divested himself of his clothing he entered the stream. An excellent swimmer and skilful diver, he trusted to his aquatic talents for the success of his enterprise. He swam to the end of the island with the greatest precaution, favored by the chances of the bank and the bushes which hung their dense foliage above the waters. In his lips was a note folded and sealed, and on arriving near the spot where Mme. D—— was sitting, he made a dive, and lightly seizing the hook, he attached to it his letter.

Mme. D——, perceiving the movement of her line, supposed that a fish was biting.

The young man had returned as he came; he had doubled the cape which extending out into the water separating them from each other, and had regained his post without the least noise in his passage under the willows. The deed was done.

Mme. D—— pulled in her line, and what was her surprise to observe dangling upon the barb of her hook, not the expected shiner, but an unexpected letter!

This was, however, trifling, and her surprise became stupefaction when, on detaching the transfixed billet, she read upon the envelope—her name!

So then this letter which she had fished up was addressed to her!

This was somewhat miraculous. She was afraid. Her troubled glance scrutinized the surrounding place, but there was nothing to be seen or heard; all was still and lonely both on land and water.

She quitted her seat, but took away the letter. As soon as she was alone, and closeted with herself, and as soon as the paper was dry—a paper perfectly water-proof, and written upon with indelible ink—she unsealed the letter and commenced its perusal.

"A declaration of love!" cried she, at the first words. "What insolence!"

Still, the insolence had come to her in such an extraordinary manner that her curiosity would not suffer her to treat this letter as she had so many others—pitilessly burn it without reading.

No, she read quite through. The lover, who dated his note at the bottom of the river, had skilfully adopted the allegory, and introduced himself as a grotesque inhabitant of the waters. The fable was gracefully managed, and with the jesting tone which he had adopted was mingled a true, serious, ardent sentiment, expressed with beauty and eloquence.

The next day Mme. D—— returned to the island, not without emotion and some trace of fear. She threw her line with a trembling hand, and shuddered as, a moment after, she perceived the movement of the hook.

Is it a fish? Is it a letter?

It is a letter.

Mme. D—— was no believer in magic, still there was something strange and supernatural in all this. She had an idea of throwing back the letter into the stream, but relinquished it. The most stubborn and haughty woman is always disarmed in face of that strange mystery which captivates her imagination.

This second letter was more tender, more passionate, more charming than the first. Mme. D—— read it several times, and could not help thinking about the delighted merman who wrote such bewitching letters.

On the subsequent day she attached her line to the bank, and left it swimming in the stream, while she withdrew to a hiding place upon the extremity of the island. She watched for a long time, but saw nothing. She returned to the place, withdrew the line—and there was the letter.

This time an answer was requested. It was, perhaps, premature, yet the audacious request obtained a full success. The reply written after some hesitation, and the hook dropped into the stream, charged with a letter which was intended to say nothing, and affected a sort of badinage, which was nevertheless a bulletin of victory gained over the harsh severity of a woman until then unapproachable.

Mme. D—— had too much shrewdness not to guess that her mysterious correspondent employed, instead of magic, the art of a skilful diver. Scruples understood restrained her from that portion of the bank where she was sure the diver would emerge from the water.

But this game of letters amused her. First it pleased her intellect, and then her heart was interested; finally her feelings, and her curiosity became so lively that she wrote:

"Let us give up this jesting, which has pleased me for the moment, but which should continue no longer, and come with your apologies to the chateau."

The lover answered:

"Yes, if you will add: Hope."

"If only a word is necessary to decide you, be it so."

And the word was written.

The young man appeared, and was not a loser. The gift of pleasing belonged to his person as much as to his style, and he had made such rapid progress under water that it was easy to complete his conquest on land.

Thus Mme. D—— caught a husband without wishing it, and in spite of the vow which she had taken never to re-marry. Holding the line, she had been caught by the fish.

Spoon Fashion.

Nearly a dozen years ago, I was on my return to the old homestead, in the good State of Connecticut, having just completed my studies as a student of medicine. In company with a goodly number of people, I stopped for the night at a country inn in the town of B——, not being able to resume my journey until a late hour the next day. Having always been an admirer of the country, I was not at all dissatisfied with the arrangement, and my pleasure was enhanced by finding, at the well laid supper-table, two young ladies of surpassing loveliness, the younger of whom I thought the most bewitching little creature in existence. The ladies were accompanied by a young gentleman about my own age, with whom I could not but feel considerably annoyed. He not only engrossed all their attention, but, lucky dog, as he was, seemed determined that no other person should participate in the amusement. An offer of some little delicacy by myself to the younger of the two ladies was frustrated by a nice sort of politeness on his part that effectually chilled any further attempt at intimacy. I soon left the table, but I could not drive the image of the lovely being from my mind. Something whispered that we should become acquainted at some future time, but in the interval I felt a little more than usually uneasy. I longed to be not only an intimate acquaintance, but an accepted lover, and had I possessed the wealth of Crœsus, I would unhesitatingly have poured it into her lap.

In the excitement under which I was then laboring, I thought a walk might do me good, but on opening the door for that purpose, I found the night had set in as dark as Erebus, and being an entire stranger, there was no knowing what mischief I might encounter; so I made up my mind to compromise the matter by taking up my candle and going to bed.

I retired, but for a long time rolled and tossed about sadly; now, one plan by which I might make the acquaintance of the young lady would suggest itself, and then another, until at last I found myself in a state of dreamy languor, neither fairly asleep nor quite awake.

I fancied I had heard for the last few moments a sort of light bustle going on near my bed, but it gave me no uneasiness until some one sprang into the bed, and clasping her arms about me, whispered:

"Ugh! how dreadful cold it is, to be sure! I say, Julia, we shall have to lay spoon fashion, or else we shall freeze!"

Here was an incident. What to say, or how to act was a question not easily solved. At last I mustered courage enough to ejaculate:

"Dear madam, here is some mistake. I'll—"

The lady did not wait for me to say more. With a sharp, quick scream, she sprang from the bed and bolted from the apartment. I was wondering what the deuce it could all mean, when a servant brought a lamp into my room and picked up what ladies' apparel she could find about the premises, and left the apartment. You can well believe, gentlemen, that my slumbers for that evening were far from quiet.

In the morning, I know not how it was, but I was vividly impressed with the idea that my nocturnal visiter was one of the two ladies who had supped with me the evening previous, but which, I could not conjecture. I resolved, however, to ascertain on the first favorable opportunity.

On taking my seat at the breakfast table the next morning, I placed myself opposite the ladies, and was revolving in my mind the incident of the previous evening when the younger of the two passed her plate and begged me to favor her with the oysters near me.

"Certainly, ma'am," said I, and as the thought sprang into my mind that she might be the lady in question, I added, "will you take them spoon fashion?"

Eureka! what an explosion. The lady's face instantly assumed the hue of the crimson dahlia, while her companion's seemed as cold and passionless as I could desire. I was satisfied that she had kept her counsel—I scraped an acquaintance—fell deeply in love—and when I reached home, I had the pleasure of presenting to the old folks my estimable lady, the present Mrs. Maddox.

A YOUTHFUL PRODIGY.

The following is from the Paris correspondent of the New York Express:

"The prodigy of to-day is a little boy of nine years of age, who possesses the most wonderful talent for drawing; not the school boy sketches of peaked faced cats and tumble down houses, but master pieces of the art are executed by him. He is the son of one of the heads of the Sevres porcelain factory, and is thus surrounded by graceful and beautiful models for his pencil. His manner of drawing is in itself something out of the common way. Does he wish to execute a horse, it is not by the head he commences, (I mean no pun,) but by one of the hind legs or the tail. It is not his pencil that moves onward, but the paper, which, gradually pushed by the child's left hand underneath the passive lead, receives the lines, proportions and shades intended by the little designer. A short time since, the Emperor and Empress, with their suite, visited the factory. The boy's father was not there, but in his absence his youthful representative did the honors, and talked very glibly to their Majesties. After a time they missed him, and when they discovered him, it was with an elegant and astonishing drawing of the imperial carriage before the door, and what was more astonishing still, the persons in the carriages were all portraits of their Highnessess and accompanying suite. This gift is evidently inherited, he being the son of the head of a porcelain establishment. In making stone the clay is moved. If this is so in fashionable porcelain—and unquestionably it is measurably so—it would account for his moving his paper instead of pencil."

ANECDOTE OF MR. CHOATE.—At the trial of the salvage case of the bark Missouri, at Boston, last week—the case in which a part of the cargo was embezzled by the masters of the two vessels on the coast of Sumatra—one of the masters was examined as a witness and disclosed the plan of embezzlement, and stated the inducements that were offered to him by the other master. He said that he objected at first, and told his comrade they would be found out and convicted, but was overborne by the assurances given. Mr. Choate cross-examined him strictly, and particularly as to what the inducements and assurances were. The witness had the appearance of holding back a little, but at last he said: "Well sir, he told me that if we were found out, he could get Mr. Choate to defend us, and he would get us off if we were caught with the money in our boots." It was not five minutes nor ten minutes that it required to bring the audience back to a sober countenance. The counsel on the other side, paid a tribute in his closing argument to the genius of Mr. Choate, the fame of which, extending to the antipodes, was relied upon as stronger than the law and the evidence.

A PERFUMED DANDY SNUBBED.—Sitting on the piazza of the Cataract House at Niagara Falls, was a young, foppish looking gentleman, his garments very highly scented with a mingled odor of cologne and musk. A solemn-faced, odd-looking man, after passing the dandy several times, with a look of aversion which drew general notice, suddenly stopped, and in a confidential tone said, "Stranger, I know what'll take that scent out of your clothes; you—" "What do you mean sir?" said the exquisite fired with indignation, starting from his chair.—"Oh, get mad now, swear, pitch round, fight, just because a man wants to do you a kindness," coolly replied the stranger. "But I do know what'll take out that smell—phew! You *bury your clothes;* bury 'em a day or two. Uncle Josh got a fool of a skunk, and he—" At this instant there went up from the crowd a simultaneous roar of merriment, and the dandy very sensibly "cleared the coop," and vanished up stairs.

Some lazy fellow spells Tennessee after this fashion: 10 a C.

HON. GEO. E. BADGER.

It is not often that we see presses of the opposite party, willing to do justice to the intelligence, patriotism and ability of Whigs, but when they do so, it is really refreshing and should be put upon record. The following from the Warrenton News does no more than justice to the pre-eminent abilities and patriotism of Mr. Badger. How mortified must he be who perused this glowing tribute to North Carolina's most gifted son, feel when he sees his place supplied by his own party with men of so little distinction, and with really no claims to ability of any character.—*Ral. Star.*

Nothing more clearly demonstates the superintending care and the especial providence of the Divine Being, exerted in behalf of the welfare and permanence of our favored country, than the fact, which stands out prominently in its eventful history, that from the days of Washington to the present period, there has continued to spring up, from time to time as the exigencies of the country would seem to require, men of splendid abilities and uncorruptible integrity, who spurning the fetters of *party*, have soared aloft into the genial atmosphere of patriotism, and who have the high manly boldness to combat, rather than ignobly to chime in with popular error and popular prejudice. Such a man is George E Badger, and such a man, be he Whig or Democrat, Romanist Protestant, we shall always have the independence to commend to the approbation of the wise and good of all parties. A North Carolinian ourself, we take pride in the glory and the fame which have illustrated the career of Carolina's gifted and most distinguished sons. They are the very jewels of the State, a rich treasure in which *all her sons* are allowed to participate.

We have no hesitation in affirming, Democrat though we are, that Mr. Badger, possessing throughout his life a legal reputation enjoyed by but few men in the Union, has, since he has been a Member of the U. S. Senate, achieved for himself, as a statesman of the first order, a *natinal* character, never before attained by a Senator from North Carolina, and which has placed him in the front rank of the ablest American Statesmen in the present age. Indeed, it may well be doubted whether, according to the judgment of the most enlightened politicians of our country, he does not now occupy *the first* and most prominent position in the most talented deliberative Assembly on the face of the globe, the Senate of the United States.

We differ, and during the larger portion of the last twenty years, for which period we have enjoyed an acquaintance with this eminent man, have essentially and radically differed with Mr Badger in regard to the important questions of political interest which have divided the American people into two great parties. We expect hereafter to dissent from his political views (whilst we confess that for the last few years, his sentiments on measures of public policy have on many occasions coincided with our own,) yet we feel bound by a sense of justice to acknowledge that we have contemplated his brilliant career in that body, of which he is at once the ornament and the pride, with feelings of the highest gratification. As a North Carolinian, proud of whatever ennobles our beloved Old State, and tends to widen the circumstance of her renown, we could not be otherwise than delighted with the lustre which he has shed around her character. Others may, in the phrenzy of party madness, be disposed to detract from the well-earned and well-merited meed of praise which justly belongs to the name of Carolina's ablest and most accomplished Statesman; for ourself, we choose rather to "rejoice with those that rejoice" in the imperishable laurels with which he has decorated her noble brow. There is now no good reason why any friend of the South should withhold from Mr. Badger the tribute of sincere admiration and regard, which is his due. Almost all the old issues are now absorbed in the momentous crisis which is now impending over the country. We allude, of course, to the great, the paramount subject of *Southern Rights.* On this question he has stood firm and steadfast, as "the everlasting hills" of his native State. "Amongst the *faithless,* faithful *he,*" and for his couse on the Nebraska Measures as well as on all questions involving the peculiar institutions of the South, he deserves the heartfelt gratitude and devoted confidence of every southron, and indeed of every sincere friend of the Constitution and the Laws of his Country. In quickness of apprehension, cogency of argument, felicity of expression, in fine, in all the qualifications which combine to form the model of a statesman of the first order, George E. Badger is equalled by but few men of the present age and surpassed by none. By his elevated standard of moral excellency, by his unflinching firmness in the discharge of his public duties, by his innate contempt for demagogueism, in all its protean forms, by his fascinating powers of conversation, and by the grace and dignity of his personal demeanor, he has secured the high esteem and warm friendship of the most worthy and eminent men of Washington of all parties. Such a man is George E. Badger.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED KNUCKLES AT THE TUB.—The New York correspondent of the Charleston Courier writes:

"The latest invention is a new washing machine now in operation at the Astor House. It is called the great knuckle. In the card of the owner it is stated that this new machine is saving from ten to fifteen girls a day in the wash room of the Astor House. A vial washing machine man at the Crystal Palace offered a cup valued at $50 to any person who could produce anything that would beat his. The great knuckle washing machine man will give a cup valued at $200 to any person who will bring his machine to the Astor House, and wash one dozen pieces while he is washing three dozen. He says that instead of using one pair of knuckles as old Eve commenced with, his machine is a combination of from 200 to 1500. Great are the merits of washing machines."

From the Washington Globe, Dec. 11.

SPEECH OF SENATOR ADAMS ON THE NATURALIZATION OF FOREIGNERS.

The bill to amend the naturalisation laws, of which Mr. Adams gave notice to the Senate, a few days ago, he this day obtained leave to introduce. On moving its second reading, he stated its object and the motives which induced him to present it to the consideration of the Senate. He does not, like Mr. Taylor, of Tennessee, in the House of Representatives, propose to repeal the law of the 24th of April, 1802; or, like Mr. Sellers, propose to prevent the enlistment of persons of foreign birth in the army and navy; he simply desires to extend the period of probation from five years to twenty-one years, and even this provision is prospective in its operation, for he does not desire to interfere with the naturalization of foreigners now resident in the United States, according to the laws now in force. He does not seek to deprive any man of any privilege or immunity secured by the Constitution and laws of the country, or to impair or abridge any prospective rights promised by existing laws. His design is to extend the probation of those only who may arrive after this bill shall have become a law, and he is prompted to this course by the principle of self-preservation, for he looks with alarm upon the great accession of foreign population.

He based his argument in support of his measure on comparative statements of population and immigration. In 1800 the population of the United States was 5,305,925. In 1810 it was 7,239,814. In 1820 it was 9,638,131. In 1830 it was 12,866,020. In 1840 it was 17,669,453. And in 1850 it was 23,191,876. The decennial increase per cent. was from 1800 to 1810, 36.44; from 1810 to 1820, 33.35; from 1820 to 1830, 33.26; from 1830 to 1840, 32.67; and from 1840 to 1850, it was 35.87. In 1850 the increase from 1800 was 437 per cent., and calculating the same ratio of increase for the next fifty years, he found that in 1900 our population would be 101,349,498, and in 1950 it would be found to be 442,967,296.

The arrival of foreigners in the United States from 1800 to 1810, he said, amounted to 70,900; from 1810 to 1820, it was 114,000; from 1820 to 1830, it was 135,986; from 1830 to 1840, it was 579,368; and from 1840 to 1850 it was 1,677,338; making to the 30th of September, 1850, a total of 2,676,684. From September, 1850, to the 1st of January, 1854, the emigration amounted to 1,118,805, thus swelling the number to 3,757,489. The foreign pauper emigration for 1850 alone furnished 13,437.

From these statistics he concluded that one hundred years hence this entire continent will be necessary for the wants of our descendants, without the addition of foreigners, and he deemed it our duty to preserve this fair heritage for our children and not to lavish it on those who had no share in either acheiving our independence, maintaining our free institutions, or developing the resources of the country. It is true that we have vast unoccupied territory, but it is being settled and populated with a rapidity which seems almost fabulous, and fifty years hence we shall have no more room than will be necessary for the use of the then inhabitants; and hence it became alarming when immigration added 400,000 per annum now, with a prospective constant augmentation, and their natural increase.

These considerations alone were sufficient to impel him to seek a change which he proposed by this bill, but he viewed with great solicitude the danger which threatened our political destiny. He pointed to combinations of foreigners, who often march in procession to the polls, controlled by a single mind, and there determine the election of our most important officers—to mobs and riots in great cities, in which foreigners were the actors—to the protest of foreigners on the journal of the Senate against the passage of laws to secure to our citizens the right of self-government—to their hanging in effigy an American Senator for having the honesty and independence to mete out equal justice to all sections of this confederacy—to the organization of the German Progressive Republican party, one of whose avowed objects was to abolish the Sabbath—and he asked Senators if it had not become the duty of every patriot and statesman to lay aside personal and party considerations, and apply a remedy if there were one legitimately within their reach.

He admitted it was true that, when the existing naturalization law was passed, of the comparatively small number who came from other lands, many were bold and enterprising men, who dispersed throughout the country and became familiar with our government and laws, as they still do in the South; many who now come may be entrusted with the franchise within the time now fixed for their probation; but immigrants come to the Northern and Western States at the rate of nearly half a million a year, of whom many remain in communities, and never learn our language, have but little intercourse with Americans, and are slow to learn the genius and structure of our government, as they are to unlearn the education of their lives, that there is a divine right in kings. A longer probation, then, became necessary, public opinion demanded the change, and the safety of the best government ever formed by human hands required it.

To avoid misconception of his motives, he quoted from speeches delivered by him in the Senate before the success of the Know Nothings gave importance to their organization, of which he never had been a member, nor was he aware how far he agreed with them. If they were in favor of a repeal of the naturalization laws, he differed from them, as he had indicated by his bill. If they were in favor of conferring office on native-born citizens in preference to adopted, qualifications, moral character and fitness in all respects being equal, he agreed with them to that extent. If they would vote at the polls for a Protestant, all things being equal, in preference to a Roman Catholic, he again agreed with them; but he should differ from them if they would vote for an unworthy native against a faithful, patriotic and worthy foreigner or Catholic. He preferred the good to the bad man, whatever might be his nativity or his religion.

He alluded to the fact that the States exercise the right of determining the qualification of voters, and said that, as the States had conferred on Congress the power of passing uniform naturalization laws, good faith required that they should conform to the laws the General Government might enact. He believed that the popular sentiment was now in favor of such an enactment as he proposed, and that the States would conform to it. It would do no injustice to any man in the United States, and he was not disposed to be more solicitous about the welfare of other governments than our citizens. "Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof," was not a maxim for statesmen. It was not the rule of the patriots of the Revolution, who purchased with their blood the blessings of liberty for posterity.

The question which he presented to the Senate was important in another point of view. If the foreign vote should at any time be strong enough to have a controlling influence in our elections, it would greatly impair the confidence of our people in the stability of the government. The basis of our political edifice may be said to be the virtue and intelligence of the people, and the strongest ligatures that bind it together are the confidence and affections of the people; but what, he asked, was better calculated to destroy the confidence of the country in our government than the admission to the ballot-box of the immense number of uninformed foreigners who are now crowding to our shores.

The bill was read the second time, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

From the New York Daily Times.

JUDGE CURTIS AND NATURALIZATION.

It is the unchecked abuse and not the radical defect of certain Federal Laws, that after long endurance, creates a violent reaction in popular sentiment, which, in the end, may demand their entire re-construction. If the change should work hardship to the foreign emigrants, they will have their own countrymen and the demagogues at home who cater to their prejudices to thank for it. The Naturalization Law, as it was designed by its original framers, and the same law as now practically administered in four cases out of five, are two very different affairs. The five years' probation was deemed a sufficient safeguard when the change from fourteen years was adopted. It has not proved so in our large cities, nor in the West, where alien votes are to be made, and the favor of alien voters to be propitiated. This provision, it is well known, is often converted into a mockery; the sacred right of American citizenship made a by-word and reproach. The consequences are seen in the very formidable demonstration of the Know-Nothings.

Another result of this reaction is, that wherever the legal issue is made against the loose administration of the law, before the proper Federal tribunals, there is more virtue found in its provisions, rightly interpreted, than the bad who manufacture alien suffrages pretend to be aware of. Judge Curtis, of the Supreme Court of the United States, has just disfranchised two thousand alien voters in Massachusetts, whose "papers" were certified by a police court, which this eminent jurist decides is not a court of record within the meaning of the act of Congress. The police Judge cannot act as his own clerk in such case, and his proceedings are therefore void. We do not know that this decision will remedy the evil to any important extent, but it is certainly a check imposed by the highest of Courts, which may lead to or influence more important results hereafter. It is full time the subject should attract judicial notice. A recent instance of abuse of law we have heard mentioned as occurring in Indiana, where the county clerk, a Democrat in politics, and who was a candidate for re-election, in much dread of the Know-Nothings, sent his son with a deputy's commission, to the line of one of the new railroads, to make voters of the recently imported Irish laborers, and certify to their papers. The work was carried out, but not so the result which it was thus nefariously designed to secure. The Know-Nothings proved too strong after all.

We might go on to multiply such instances. One of signal notoriety occurred in the Ashland district of Kentucky last year, where the present Representative, if our impression is not erroneous, secured his majority over Mr. Letcher by alien suffrages on the railroads, which were not thrown by men who had been five years in the country, nor probably half so long. The abuses of the law at the City Hall in this metropolis, are as frequent as the annual State and municipal elections. It is not to be wondered at, when they react upon the party that encourages the practice.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—The Charleston Standard states that a young man, from N. Carolina, went into the Merchants' Hotel Tuesday evening last, and asked for pen, ink and paper, which were given him. Shortly after he left, there was found on the desk a note addressed to the proprietor of the Hotel, and signed by the person above mentioned. The contents was a request that his body should be taken to North Carolina, and delivered to a certain person therein mentioned, after which he stated that he would commit suicide before morning, either with a pistol or by poison. Mr. Hurst, the proprietor, endeavored to find one of his friends, in whose hands he placed the note, who immediately went in search of him, and found him about 12 o'clock the same night, having in his possession a pistol, which, upon being asked, he stated he had bought to give to the children at home. The attentions of his friends have no doubt saved his life for the present.

The Standard states that he is laboring under great depression of spirits, brought on through a severe attack of dyspepsia. His name is not given.

MOUNT VERNON.

We alluded briefly yesterday to the refusal of Mr. John H. Washington, the proprietor of Mount Vernon, to entertain the overtures for a purchase made by the ladies of the Mount Vernon Association of this city. The following extract from Mr. Washington's letter will exhibit more at large the reasons which have induced him to come to this decision:

With every dispositon to yield my views with regard to the practicability of the plan the ladies have in view for accomplishing the purchase of Mount Vernon, and admitting there is scarcely any obstacle which their untiring energy and devotion, when once enlisted, cannot overcome, there are still insuperable objections in my mind to the gratification of their desires.

I am entirely unwilling that Mount Vernon should pass from possession, unless to the State of Virginia or to the United States. The only reason that I have for desiring this disposition of my property is that it may be perpetually preserved from the lot which must eventually befal it, as a private possession in the dispersion of families and changes of fortune almost necessarily attendant upon our form of government. It would cause me the greatest regret, if amid such changes, Mount Vernon should be perverted to uses inconsistent with the veneration due to the memory and character of him with whose character it is so intimately connected.

Yet I cannot help foreseeing that as the property of any private person or association, this lamentable result must sooner or later occur. It is true, that if the plan devised by the ladies is practicable, and it is consigned to the custody of Virginia, this result would probably be obviated.

But, sir, beautiful as is the tribute of gratitude these excellent and devoted ladies would pay to the memory of our common Father, would not the world cry shame on the governments and on the men who would stand by and permit them to make such a sacrifice, even on such an altar?

For my own part, I had rather present it a free gift to the State or nation, little as either would deserve it, than be subject to the mortification of receiving these offerings of patriotism from the mothers, wives and daughters of Virginia. No, sir; much as I admire and reverence the many graces and virtues that adorn the ladies of my native State, I c not consent to be instrumental in the erection of the graceful monument, designed by their patriotism and illustrative of it, but which, at the same time, commemorate the degeneracy of myself and the men of our land.

We believe that $200,000 is the amount which Mr. Washington asks for Mount Vernon. From what we have heard of the present condition of the estate, we incline to the opinion that it would take about $100,000 more to put it in order. Possibly, after it was obtained, and put in order, for this very moderate amount, it might be kept in order at the trifling expenditure of $25,000 per annum. In view of these probabilities, we quite agree with Mr. Washington in the doubt which he seems to entertain whether "the plan devised by the ladies is practicable."

As the last resting place of the mortal remains of George Washington, as the home which was hallowed by his presence during life, it is impossible to place too high a value upon Mount Vernon. It can no more be estimated in dollars and cents, than the sunlight or the free air. All the gold of California could not pay for it. Apart, however from its hallowed associations, it is not at all more valuable, we are informed, than the other poor farms of that region, and as an estate, has gone down, we learn, till it presents few signs of its former condition.

If this be true, apart from its associations with the memory of Washington, the place would scarcely be worth the acceptance of the United States or of Virginia, even if Mr. Washington should "present it a free gift to the State or nation.

What does he mean by saying, "little as either would deserve it," (the gift." We are at a loss to know what crime or misdemeanor has been committed by the United States or by Virginia to elicit such a rebuke. What has Virginia done or left undone that she should be taunted in this wise by the present proprietor of Mount Vernon? Certainly in no land is the memory of the father of his country held more sacred. Why does not Virginia 'deserve' to have the custody of the tomb of Washington? Give us the reason. It is a grave charge, and we call for the facts which support it.

We honor the motives of the ladies concerned in the effort to purchase Mount Vernon estate, but, even could Mr. Washington's consent be obtained, we doubt the practicability of their plan. It would involve an expenditure far beyond anything they contemplate. Virginia ought to buy Mount Vernon, and if the proprietor will accept the reasonable sum of $100,000, we think it probable the State might consent to purchase it.

THE MAIL ON THE CENTRAL ROAD.—We learn that an arrangement has been effected with the Post Office Department for carrying the mail regularly over the N. C. Railroad between Goldsboro' and Raleigh, and between the latter place and Durham's, the point to which the Road is completed, 14 miles below Hillsboro'; and also between Charlotte and Salisbury. The arrangement is to continue as each successive portion of the Road shall be completed, from one station to another. Messrs. Bland & Dunn will still keep up the connection between the approaching ends of the Railroad by means of their excellent stages.

Greensboro Patriot.

CAUSE OF THE CHINESE REBELLION.—M. W. M. of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Ohio, states in his annual communication, that the original cause of the present insurrection in China was the cruel order of the Emperor for the suppression of the "Triad."—a kind of Masonic fraternity in the celestial empire. Several distinguished members of that order, are said to have been massacred in that brutal way.