



The Tarborough Press,

BY GEORGE HOWARD.

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DOMESTIC.

The Case of Lawrence.—The following statement, drawn up by two highly respectable physicians of the city of Washington, has been published in the Globe. Its perusal must convince every reader that Lawrence is laboring under mental derangement.

The undersigned, having been requested by the Marshal of the District of Columbia to visit Richard Lawrence, now confined in the jail of the county of Washington, for an attempt to assassinate the President of the United States, with a view to ascertain, as far as practicable, the present condition of his bodily health and state of mind, and believing that a detail of the examination will be more satisfactory than an abstract opinion upon the subject, we therefore give the following statement. On entering his room, we engaged in a free conversation with him, in which he participated, apparently, in the most artless and unreserved manner. The first interrogatory propounded was, as to his age—which question alone he sportively declined answering. We then inquired into the condition of his health, for several years past—to which he replied, that it had been uniformly good, and that he had never labored under any mental derangement; nor did he admit the existence of any of these symptoms of physical derangement which usually attend mental alienation. He said he was born in England, and came to this country when twelve or thirteen years of age, and that his father died in this District, about six or eight years since; that his father was a Protestant and his mother a Methodist, and that he was not a professor of any religion, but sometimes read the bible, and occasionally attended church. He stated that he was a painter by trade, and had followed that occupation to the present time; but, of late, could not find steady employment—which had caused much pecuniary embarrassment with him; that he had been generally temperate in his habits, using ardent spirits moderately when at work; but, for the last three or four weeks, had not taken any; that he had never gambled, and, in other respects, had led a regular sober life.

Upon being interrogated as to the circumstance connected with the attempted assassination, he said that he had been deliberating on it for some time past, and that he had called at the President's house about a week previous to the attempt, and being conducted to the President's apartment by the porter, found him in conversation with a member of Congress, whom he believed to have been Mr. Sutherland, of Pennsylvania, that he stated to the President that he wanted money to take him to England, and that he must give him a check on the bank, and that the President remarked that he was too much engaged to attend to him—he must call another time, for Mr. Dibble was in waiting for an interview. When asked about the pistols which he had used, he stated that his father left him a pair, but not being alike, about four years since he exchanged one for another, which exactly matched the best of the pair; these were both flint locks,

which he recently had altered to percussion locks, by a Mr. Boteler; that he had been frequently in the habit of loading and firing those pistols at marks, and that he had never known them to fail going off on any other occasion, and that, at the distance of ten yards, the ball always passed through an inch plank. He also stated, that he had loaded those pistols three or four days previous, with ordinary care, for the purpose at tempted; but that he used a pencil instead of a ramrod, and that during that period, they were at all times carried in his pocket; and when asked why they failed to explode, he replied, he knew no cause. When asked why he went to the Capitol on that day, he replied that he expected that the President would be there. He also stated, that he was in the Rotundo when the President arrived, and on being asked why he did not then attempt to shoot him, he replied that he did not wish to interfere with the funeral ceremony, and therefore waited till it was over. He also observed, that he did not enter the Hall, but looked through a window from the lobby, and saw the President seated with members of Congress, and he then returned to the Rotundo, and waited till the President again entered it, and then passed through and took his position in the east portico, about two yards from the door, drew his pistols from his inside coat pocket, cocked them, and held one in each hand, concealed by his coat, lest he should alarm the spectators—and states, that as soon as the one in the right hand missed fire, he immediately dropped or exchanged it, and attempted to fire the second, before he was seized; he further stated that he aimed each pistol at the President's heart, and intended if the first pistol had gone off, and the President had fallen, to have defended himself with the second, if defence had been necessary.—On being asked if he did not expect to have been killed on the spot, if he had killed the President, he replied he did not; and that he had no doubt but that he would have been protected by the spectators. He was frequently questioned whether he had any friends present, from whom he expected protection. To this he replied, that he never had mentioned his intention to any one, and that no one in particular knew his design; but that he presumed it was generally known that he intended to put the President out of the way. He further stated, that when the President arrived at the door, near which he stood, finding him supported on the left arm by Mr. Woodbury, and observing many persons in his rear, and being himself rather to the right of the President, in order to avoid wounding Mr. Woodbury, and these in the rear, he stepped a little to his own right so that should the ball pass through the body of the President, it would be received by the door frame, or stone wall. On being asked if he felt no trepidation during the attempt. He replied, not the slightest, until he found that the second pistol had missed fire. Then observing that the President was advancing upon him, with an uplifted cane, he feared it contained a sword, which might have been thrust through him before he could have been protected by the crowd. And when interrogated as to the motive which induced him to attempt the assassination of the President, he replied, that he had been told that the President had caused his loss of occupation, and the consequent want of money, and he believed that to put him out of the way, was the only remedy for this evil; but to the interrogatory, who told you this? He could not identify any one, but remarked that his brother-in-law, Mr. Redfern, told him that he would have no more business, be-

cause he was opposed to the President—and he believed Redfern to be in league with the President against him. Again being questioned, whether he had often attended the debates in Congress, during the present session, and whether they had influenced him in making this attack on the person of the President, he replied that he had frequently attended the discussion in both branches of Congress, but that they had, in no degree, influenced his action.

Upon being asked if he expected to become the President of the United States if General Jackson had fallen, he replied no.

When asked whom he wished to be the President, his answer was there were many persons in the House of Representatives. On being asked if there were no persons in the Senate, yes, several, and it was the Senate to which I alluded. Who, in your opinion, of the Senate, would make a good President? He answered, Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, Mr. Calhoun. What do you think of Col. Benton, Mr. Van Buren, or Judge White; for President? He thought they would do well. On being asked if he knew any member of either House of Congress, he replied that he did not and never spoke to one in his life, or they to him. On being asked what benefit he expected to himself from the death of the President, he answered he could not rise unless the President fell, and that he expected thereby to recover his liberty, and that the mechanics would have plenty of work, and that money would be more plenty, he replied, it would be more easily obtained from the Bank. On being asked what bank, he replied, the Bank of the United States. On being asked if he knew the President, Directors, or any of the officers of the Bank, or had ever held any intercourse with them, or knew how he could get money out of the Bank, he replied no, that he slightly knew Mr. Smith only.

On being asked with respect to the speeches which he had heard in Congress, and whether he was particularly pleased with those of Messrs. Calhoun, Clay, and Webster, he replied that he was, because they were on his side. He was then asked if he was well pleased with the speeches of Col. Benton and Judge White? He said he was, and thought Col. Benton highly talented.

When asked if he was friendly to General Jackson, he replied, No. Why not? He answered, because he was a tyrant. Who told you he was a tyrant? He answered, it was a common talk with the people, and that he had read it in all the papers. He was asked if he could name any one who had told him so? He replied, No. He was asked if he ever threatened to shoot Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, or Mr. Calhoun, or whether he would shoot them if he had an opportunity? He replied, No. When asked if he would shoot Mr. Van Buren? He replied, that he once met with Mr. Van Buren in the rotundo and told him he was in want of money and must have it, and if he did not get it he (Mr. Van Buren) or General Jackson must fall. He was asked if any persons were present during this conversation? He replied, that there were several present, and when asked if he recollected any one of them, he replied that he did not. When asked if any one advised him to shoot General Jackson, or say that it ought to be done? He replied, I do not like to say. On being pressed upon this point, he said that no one in particular had advised him.

He further stated, that believing the President to be the source of all his difficulties, he was still fixed in his purpose to kill him, and if his successor pursued the same course, to put him out of the way also—and declared that

no power in this country could punish him for having done so, because it would be resisted by the powers of Europe, as well as of this country. He also stated, that he had been long in correspondence with the powers of Europe, and that his family had been wrongfully deprived of the crown of England, and that he should yet live to regain it—and that he considered the President of the U. S. nothing more than his Clerk.

We now think proper to add, that the young man appears perfectly tranquil and unconcerned, as to the final result, and seems to anticipate no punishment for what he has done. The above contains the leading, and literally expressed facts of the whole conversation we had with him, which continued at least two hours. The questions were frequently repeated at different stages of the examination, and presented in various form.

NATHL. P. CAUSIN, M. D.
Physician to the Jail of Washington.

THOMAS SEWALL, M. D.
Wednesday, Feb. 7, 1835.

The Postmaster General has appointed Dr. Richard C. Mason, of Virginia, Treasurer and Chief Clerk of the Post Office Department, in the place of O. B. Brown, resigned.

C. A. Harris, Esq. of Tennessee, has been appointed Chief Clerk of the War Department.

Clearing the Way.—The Senate of Ohio have passed a bill prohibiting the circulation of notes under five dollars, by a vote of 23 to 11.

The Alabama Legislature have passed a law to the same effect—prohibiting the Banks of the State from issuing small notes, and the circulation of those from other States.

Governor Dunlap has recommended similar measures to the Legislature of Maine; and there appears to be every probability that the whole country will be purged of trash of small notes, and that the gold and silver basis will be effectually established.

Pennsylvanian.
The bill to prevent the issue and circulation of Bank notes of a less denomination than five dollars, was passed in the State Council of New Jersey on Monday last, to go into operation on the 4th of July next. It is confidently predicted that it will also pass in Assembly, by a handsome majority. We say again, Well done, New Jersey!

N. Y. Ev. Post.

New York.—A concurrent resolution instructing the Senators in Congress to use their best efforts to have the resolution of last session, concerning the removal of the Deposites, expunged from the journals of the United States Senate, has passed the Assembly of the State of New York, by a vote of 89 to 31. It had previously passed the Senate by a vote of 24 to 4.

Ohio.—The Legislature has rescinded the Instructions addressed by the last Legislature, to their Senators, respecting the Land Bill, the Deposites, &c. &c.

Connecticut.—A democratic Convention of delegates from all the counties in the State, assembled at Middletown, 28th ult. Eight delegates were appointed to attend the Baltimore Convention, who are unpledged whom to support for President, although a resolution was passed expressing a confidence in Mr. Van Buren.

In Indiana, also, unpledged delegates have been appointed to the Baltimore Convention.

The Southern Literary Messenger.—[Monthly.]—Though long delayed, from a press of other engagements, we greet with a cor-

dial welcome this new periodical, lately commenced at Richmond, Virginia. It "needed no ghost from the grave," or if it did, this publication would convince that our southern brethren are not less gifted with a fine literary taste than with the higher faculties of oratory and bold original thought, for which they have ever stood pre-eminent. The present work, though fugitive in its character, is a brilliant and proud testimonial of the buried riches of mind which, like their unexplored mines of gold, lie dormant and hidden from public observation, because there has been no incentive, or market, or outlet to draw them forth, and give them publicity. But Mr. White, the proprietor of this periodical, has, we think, sunk a shaft into the intellectual wealth of the "ancient dominion," which will be the means of extracting and preserving the gems and pearls that are embowelled there, and which only need to be strung together, as he has judiciously done them, to be universally admired, and to yield him a rich harvest both of fame, and, we hope, of pecuniary profit, for so laudable an undertaking. The materials and sources which he has at command from his literary, scientific and poetic contributors, are abundant, and of the choicest quality; and the tact he has displayed in their arrangement and selection indicate a sound taste and eminent qualifications for the task he has entered upon. We of the north may boast of more colleges and universities than the south, and a more general diffusion of education among the mass of the population—more philosophy too, and perhaps more cold, abstruse science: but can we compare with they of that genial climate of the sun in the pure inspiration of poetry, of passion, of love,—"the thoughts that breathe, the words that burn?"—the soul of pathos, of sentiment, of chivalry,—the thunders of a sublime eloquence? We believe not, and we take even this unpretending periodical as demonstration conclusive that in them dwells, whether with or without mental culture, the divine empyrean, the undying fires of true genius. It were invidious to particularize different essays; but we cannot forego naming in the third number one of masterly power, of most felicitous and original diction, and of intense and thrilling interest, entitled "My Class-mates." No American pen that has dipped in the fictions of the drama can, as we think, be found to have surpassed this beautiful story. There is another, called "Cupid's Sport," in Sterne's happiest manner. The "Cyclopean Tower" is also a beautiful little gem. The fair ladies of Virginia have added too, with their plumes, some elegant stanzas. Care should be taken in this department, for our country is overrun with the rhyming mania, but little of the fruits of which have a higher merit than that of the glittering versification and mawkish affectation of the *delacruscan* school. As to foreign matter and subjects, they should be avoided as hackneyed, especially where there is so much more solid and purer a capital to work with at home.

N. Y. Star.

A young lady passing along Tremont street, Boston, in company with two younger sisters, was seized by a villain, who bore her off. Being frightened, however, by the shrieks of the children, he abandoned her, and fled. She was found lying on the ground, nearly dead with fright.—ib.

Heavy damages.—In one of the parish courts of New Orleans, a verdict of five thousand dollars was obtained by A. K. Smith, an

appraiser in the custom house, against Peter K. Wagner, for having written a libelous letter to the Secretary of the Treasury impeaching his official and private character.—ib.

Route from New Orleans, via Florida and Savannah.—A meeting of the merchants of Savannah was held Jan. 15th, at which it was resolved to subscribe forthwith on the opening of the books, to the stock of the charter of the "Atlantic and New Orleans Seaboard Line Company," granted by the state of Georgia. \$100,000 to be assigned to Savannah, \$75,000 to New York, and \$75,000 to New Orleans and Mobile. Joseph Cumming, chairman; Wm. Robertson, secretary.—ib.

Education.—The Governor of Pennsylvania frankly acknowledges the disgraceful truth, that in that great state, the *keystone*, as it has been termed, of the union, there are 400,000 persons totally destitute of the benefits of education. The system of primary or common schools was commenced in New England as early as 1747, and in the latter part of the last century it was adopted by New York and Virginia. Since that the system has been introduced into South Carolina, Ohio, New Jersey, and Delaware. How discreditable, therefore, to the great state of Pennsylvania that she should be so far behind her sister states!—ib.

Colder Yet.—A correspondent of the New Haven Herald says, a servant girl of his asked him on Monday, if he knew how cold it was. He replied, "I should think, the thermometer might stand quite near zero." "I guess," says she, "it is more than that, for Miss L. told me it was 44 degrees below Nimrod!"

Wonderful Sagacity.—One day last week when the crowd of fashionables was greatest at the Union street exhibition, a beautiful girl who had fed the elephant with sundry cakes and apples, in taking an apple from her bag drew out her ivory card case, which fell unobserved in the sawdust of the ring. At the close of the ring performance, the crowd opened to let the elephant pass to his recess, but instead of proceeding as usual, he turned aside and thrust his trunk into the midst of a group of ladies and gentlemen, who as might be expected were so much alarmed that they scattered in every direction. The keeper, at this moment discovered that the animal had something in his trunk. Upon examination he found it to be the young lady's card case which the elephant had picked up, and was only seeking out the fair owner when he, unceremoniously, as the company at first thought, extended his trunk among them.—Boston Atlas.

Singular and most important invention.—Mr. Parker, of the state of New York, has discovered a composition which will harden like a stone, and yet may be worked in a soft state as easily as mortar! Exposure to the weather causes it to petrify and become actual stone, requiring a heavy blow with a hammer to break it. A specimen may be seen at Mr. Garfield's shoe store, in Congress street, who is agent for Mr. Parker in this city. Mr. P. has completed a section of Canal as a specimen of that intended to bring water near New York from the Croton river. It may be cast in moulds in the form of pillars, fire places, vestibules, &c., and is not dearer than brick. Its value is incalculable for building cisterns, &c., situated in wet or damp places. It is undoubtedly one of the most important inventions of the day. The American Institute have awarded Mr. Parker a gold medal.—Troy N. Y. Chronicle.