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BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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DOMESTIC.

MR. VAN BUREN.

The Augusta (Georgia) Courier, of the 27th ultimo, contains the following letter from Mr. Van Buren, intended, it would seem, as an explanation of his views and opinions on "the Slave question."

Owasco, Sept. 10, 1835.

My Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 22d ult. met me at this place, on my return from the Falls, and I lose no time in replying to that part of it which relates to the continued attempts to prejudice my friends, as well as myself, in the estimation of the South in respect to the Slave Question.

It is deeply to by regretted that there should be found, on the part of any, inducements sufficiently strong to increase an excitement, already so alarming, by a resort to imputations, in the truth of which no ingenuous mind can place the slightest confidence.—The allegations which attribute to me views and opinions that are so justly obnoxious to the slave holding States, are made in the face of the most explicit declarations on my part, denying all authority on the part of the Federal Government to interfere in the matter—against the propriety of agitating the question in the District of Columbia, and in the absence of a single fact, giving the least countenance to the unfounded imputations. I should probably requite the candor with which I have hitherto been treated by the great mass of my fellow citizens of the South, were I to allow myself to apprehend that those who would otherwise be disposed to give me their confidence, could, under such circumstances, suffer me to be prejudiced in their opinion, by the unsupported assertions of my enemies, however reckless or vehemently persisted in. Were those fabrications, therefore, designed to affect me only, I should not hesitate to leave the matter as it stands, to the spontaneous action of my countrymen. But when it is intended to reach, in this way, those who honor me with their friendship, I do not feel myself at liberty to withhold any correction that may, by possibility, be useful to them. With this view I send you the enclosed proceedings of the citizens of Albany upon the subject and authorize you to say, that I concur fully in the sentiments they advance.

I was absent from the city at the time the meeting was held, but took an early occasion to advise its call, and to encourage the attempt to make it, what it has been, a meeting of the people, without reference to their sentiments on any other subject than that which was discussed before it. Connected with its proceedings are to be found the names of our principal State officers, Executive and Judicial, including the Governor of our State, with an array of private citizens which, for personal worth and weight of character, has never, to my knowledge, been excelled at any previous meeting.

It would be presumption in me to add any assurances of my own, as to the sincerity with which the sentiments they express are entertained, or of their disposition to make them effectual upon the important subject to which they relate.

May we not, then, hope that the proofs of an affectionate and just right toward the rights and interests of the South, which have been brought out by this hitherto threatening excitement, will have the effect, in future to remove all unfounded impressions, and to put an end to every feeling and prejudice inconsistent with the principles upon which the Union was founded?

Earnestly cherishing this pleasing anticipation,

I am, dear sir, very truly,
Your friend and ob't servant,
M. VAN BUREN.

☞A person has been arrested in New Orleans, on the charge of disseminating abolition doctrines, and after an examination, has been committed for trial. If convicted, the punishment by the law of Louisiana is death.

It is also contemplated by the anti-abolition society, to detect the agents and correspondents of the northern abolitionists, and for that purpose to request that reports be made by the Postmaster, and the masters of all vessels that arrive there, of the names of persons to whom anti slavery publications may be addressed.

Singular Interruption.—Last Sunday, as Rev. Mr. Vaughan was publishing the banns of marriage between two colored people, at the Episcopal Church in this town, the banns were forbidden in a loud voice, by a colored man in the gallery who claimed the woman as his wife.—*Salem Gaz.*

A Poser.—The Reverend Doctor N. S. S. Beman, of Troy, is one of the most strenuous preachers of immediate abolition—having anathematized slaveholders for "selling the image of Jesus, and pocketing the price of human flesh and blood!" In reply to his furious denunciation of slaveholders, the Albany Evening Journal very provokingly publishes two bills of sale executed by the same Rev. Doctor, when he lived in Georgia, by which he sold, "the image of Jesus," and "pocketed the price of human flesh and blood."

Phil. Her.

☞The Boston Courier, in publishing a communication from a Southern gentleman, on the subject of Abolition, makes the following statement:

'We have but one remak to make as a comment on his proposition—and that is, there is as much probability that the legislature of Massachusetts will pass a law prohibiting the discussion of the slavery question, as there is that South Carolina and Virginia will emancipate their slaves.'

Emigration.—We have all along been convinced (says the Alexandria Gazette) that the tide of emigration to the South and Southwest, is already too great and too rapid; and especially, that of the thousands of young men who leave their homes to seek their fortunes in the growing Southern cities, many must be disappointed. Our opinion is confirmed by the following article, which we extract from the last New Orleans Bee:

"We cannot think of inviting attorneys, doctors or accountants; for the market is already glutted with such. Many clerks arrived here last fall; of whom hundreds have been obliged to return almost penny less and wholly disappointed. If they have no specific promise of a situation before they arrive, they can have but little prospect afterwards of obtaining employment commensurate with their expectations; and when they find that their current expenses for living here cannot be less than about 40 dollars a month, they should pause before they are decoyed and disappointed."

Extraordinary.—Mr. Joshua Trotter, of Springborough, Warren co. Ohio, has been absent from his family for about two weeks. His absence to them was wholly inexplicable and excited great apprehension. On Sunday, Sept. 13, he came to this city on his return home, and gave the following account of his absence:

He came to Cincinnati, Saturday, August 29, where he transacted some business and received a small sum of money. On Sunday morning, August 30, after breakfast he set out for home on horseback. On the hill road to Carthage, between four and five miles from Cincinnati, at a convenient place for instantly secreting him, he was suddenly dragged from his horse by two footmen whom he had just passed. His horse was turned loose and himself blindfolded, and silence enforced by threats of instant death; his money, about $150, was taken from him, with inquiries indicating that a mistake had been made in the person seized and in the amount of his money. He was detained all day blindfolded, and at night conducted, in the same condition, to the river, where he was put on board, so fitted that he was confined in an apartment where he could make no observation of what was passing around him. In this way he was carried down the Ohio river to a point below the Yellow Banks, where, on Wednesday, Sept. 10, he was taken up a high bluff to a distance from the river, and set at liberty. He came to Cincinnati on his return, as stated, and was accompanied to the scene of the robbery by some friend.—Upon inquiry his horse, saddle and bridle were recovered, having been taken up almost directly after his capture. Mr. Trotter is represented to be a very respectable man worthy of belief. The solution of his story would seem to be: that arrangements had been made to rob and kidnap some persons, and after seizing him, the alternative was to murder him or to proceed. He was captured and blindfolded so suddenly, that he has no distinct knowledge of the physiognomy of the person who seized him.—*Cincinnati Gazette.*

Politics.—The Philadelphia Commercial Herald observes:—"We wish the country papers would devote less of their space to politics, and more to business, morals, and other matters that interest all."—The Herald is right. Our papers contain nothing but politics—politics—politics. It is well enough in a season of excitement to indulge in a political zeal; but it is to be regretted that men should allow it to became like the thirst of a drunkard, a perpetual and prurient yearning after the stimulus and excitement of political debate. This disposition actually degrades the American Press. We turn over many of the papers we receive with disgust.—They contain nothing but the loathly repetition of the stale and thrice told calumnies of party abuse, which is violent without force, personalities that excite only an unmixed sentiment of disgust in the mind of the reader. Why are not our people, allowed a brief season of quiet? Why are not the political elements allowed to settle, and the lees to sink to their appropriate place? Why are low-born malevolence, sorbid abuse, and unmanly slander cherised, fostered and pursued as if the eminence they confer were desirable? Many of our editors appear to think that our people have no sense except the one that impulses them to luxuriate in the mire of politics; that they have no taste for literature or fine arts, no yearning for knowledge, no anxiety to be enlightened, softened or amused. They err. Our people are tired of politics for the present, and do not thank those amiable gentlemen who take such peculiar pains to lash them into rage.

Philadelphia Gaz.

☞A lady in New York was, a few days ago, brought up before the mayor, charged with *"biting off a piece of her husband's ear!"*

Breach of promise.—Miss Lydia J. Moore, Springfield, (Mass.) has recovered of Jonathan M. Boies $500, for breach of marriage promise.—The New York Star says—Miss Lydia laid her charges at $3000, and would have obtained more than the $500, had it not been shown that during the aforesaid engagement, she had been flirting with other *boys* besides Jonathan.

Very well to begin with.—The Lowell Times, says, the wife of a young man in Maine has presented him with five children in 11 months; two at one time, three at another.

Shocking Accident.—Isidore Gandouin, an old French inhabitant of this city, who kept a small miscellaneous dry goods and hat store, two doors north of our office, put an end to his existence yesterday morning, between 10 and 11 o'clock, by discharging the contents of a heavily charged horseman's pistol into his mouth, and thus completely blowing off his head, which was scattered in bloody fragments in all directions about the room, a part only of the lower jaw remaining. The deceased was a poor but honest, and it seems too a very sensitive man—one who had perhaps seen better days, and who being both in the wane of life and fortune, and subject to total blindness and other bodily infirmities, took melancholy refuge in self-inflicted death, from his accumulated share of the ills which flesh is heir to. The immediate motive, however, of this suicidal act, was probably the mere prospect of pecuniary embarrassment, which he feared was gathering about him, and which was a constant source of distress to him,—of the sense of pecuniary obligation, which he could not discharge, being perfectly intolerable to the combined pride and honesty of his nature. Four or five days since, he alluded to his painful situation, in conversation with a gentleman, and said that he would put an end to it by putting an end to his life—and what was then deemed a mere empty ebullition of discontent, has now proved the fatal truth.

Charleston Courier.

Heathen Temples on Lake Erie.—That bold-faced impostor, Joe Smith, of Golden Bible and Mormon memory, has caused his poor fanatic followers to erect on the shores of Lake Erie, near Painsville, (Ohio) a stone building 58 by 78 feet, with dormer windows, denominating the same the "Temple of the Lord." We should think this work of iniquity extorted out of the pockets of his dupes, as it reflects its shadows over the blue lake, would make the waters crimson with shame at the prostitution of its beautiful banks to such unhallowed purposes.

The Cochranites, who have recently established a Convent at South Hadley, are likely to call down trouble upon themselves by their outrages upon the sense and decency of that community. Their convent is the common home of disciples of both sexes. The excesses of the fanatics are so gross, that the people of Hadley are determined to get rid of them, "peaceably if they can, forcibly if they must." They are represented to be a set of rioters, drunkards and debauchees.

Col. Peter Quin, of Holmesville, Miss. has died from the wound received in a duel with Gen. A. P. Cunningham. The quarrel arose from politics. The parties had been warm personal friends.

Poisoning.—An attempt was made on Wednesday last, to destroy the family of Dr. Cole of Williston, Vermont, by throwing arsenic in his well. The substance was discovered by the neighbors, and the Doctor gathered nearly two ounces of it off the surface of the water.—It is supposed as much as a quarter of a pound had been thrown in.

☞Dr. Gesnard, the father of of the child which was recently kidnapped and rescued at Mobile, has lost two of his other children suddenly, by poison, administered by a negro, who is supposed to have been bribed by the inhuman wretches (brothers of the doctor) who had abducted the first mentioned child.

A Soporific Parson.—A reverend gentleman at Boston, a few days since, fell asleep in his pulpit before the time of service arrived, and took a long and comfortable nap, from which he was waked up by one of the elders whispering in his ear, that the congregation were waiting for him to begin. His consternation and embarrassment are more easily conceived than described.

A portable church.—The good people of Ohio come nearer to a realization of the long promised desideratum of bringing the "gospel to every man's door," than any body else in the world. The Anniversary Exercises of Ocerling College were held lately in a big tent capable of holding 3000 people, and which was pitched during the month of August and September in different parts of the Western Reserve for public worship, where no stationary meeting houses are to be had.

☞The dissection of the Orang Outang, which died a few days since at Peale's Museum, presented, as we learn, no remarkable appearance in the morbid changes of structure. As in all animals of tropical climates, the lungs were particularly obnoxious to the cold temperature of northern latitudes, and it was of pure inflammation of these organs, without any particular destruction of their substance which caused his death. The general aspect of the different viscera, and their position, bore a strong resemblance to those of the human species. The chief difference lies in the construction of the muscular and cartilaginous apparatus about the upper opening of the wind-pipe, which is not so perfect, nor so far carried out in its development as in the human family. It is, however, capable, as we have before remarked in this paper, of expressing, imperfectly, certain articulate vowel sounds, such as Oh! Oh! &c.

Almost every person who saw this animal was struck with its astonishing similitude to the negro—its face that of an old man in its eyebrows and mouth—its body and limbs that of a child, especially the naked hands and feet, and its use of those members in eating, drinking, &c. and in embracing its keeper around the neck like an infant, moaning, and sobbing, expressive of its affection and tender feelings. This it showed particularly, Mr. Peale informs us, just before its death, as if conscious of that event.

Trial for Murder.—The Goshen Democrat contains a report of the trial of Peter G. Crine, for the murder of his wife. The principal witness against him were his own children, a daughter aged about 12, and a son aged about 10 years, in whose presence and that of their other children, the inhuman father beat and kicked to death the mother of those children! The details are too revolting and incredibly barbarous to be even referred to further. The Jury very properly found the criminal guilty, and he was sentenced to be hanged on the 6th of November.

To take mildew out of linen.—Take soap and rub it well; then scrape fine chalk, and rub that also on the linen; lay it on the grass; as it dries, wet it a little, and it will come out at twice doing.

Attack of an Alligator.—A young man by the name of Norton, resident at a place called Brandy Branch, about 25 miles from here, was bitten in the hand and arm by an Alligator, about two weeks since, and a bone fractured. We understand that he was endeavoring to get some water from a stream, and while clearing the surface with his hand, the Alligator seized it, and he was only saved by gouging the animal's eyes, upon which he relinquished his hold. The young man is much injured, and it may yet be necessary to perfrom amputation. The Alligator was afterwards taken and measured almost ten feet in length.

Jacksonville (Florida) Courier.

Tapping the Liver.—This critical operation was lately performed in England, and upwards of eight pints of diseased matter was extracted. A tube was left in the orifice, through which a pint of matter flowed daily for a week, notwithstanding two pints had been obtained at the time of operation. The patient is rapidly recovering.—*N. Y. Sun.*

☞A Spanish slave schooner, having on board 394 Africans, was captured some weeks ago by the British brig of war Serpent.

☞An old sea captain in speaking of Batavia, says—I was standing, at noon day, in the door of the principal hotel, on one side of the canal seventy or eighty yards from the spot, and saw an alligator take a child off from the steps, the opposite side and eat it.

Nantucket Inquirer.

The Inquirer forgets to state, that the alligator afterwards washed its face at the hotel pump, and then called for a glass of brandy and water.

Spirit of the Times.

The present Schah of Persia, in consequence of cruelties committed by the Camaikan or Prime Minister of his predecessor, has condemned him to be starved to death, and the property of all his adherents and relatives to be confiscated.

Proper time for rising.—Among the curiosities at Apsley House, is the truckle bed, in which the Duke of Wellington sleeps. "Why, it is so narrow," exclaimed a friend, "there is not even room to turn in it!" "Turn in it!" cried his Grace, "when once a man begins to turn in his bed, it is time to turn out."