

Miscellaneous.



Selected for the Free Press.

STANZAS.

Crown ye the brave! crown ye the brave!
As through your streets they ride,
And the sunbeams dance on the polish'd arms
Of the warriors side by side;
Shower on them your sweetest flowers,
Let the air ring with their praise,
For they come from a far and foreign land,
The standard of war to raise!

Crown ye the brave! crown ye the brave!
They have heard, with proud disdain,
That a tyrant seeks your beautiful land
To bind in his iron chain;
And now they come, with hearts and arms,
To the land that will be free,
With their blood to give in the cause of those
Who fight for their liberty!

Crown ye the brave! crown ye the brave!
As they wend them from the shore;
For many of those who ride gaily now,
Ye never shall look on more;
Amid the battle's fiercest rage,
Unnoticed and unblest,
Woe for the forms on the bloody field,
That will sink to endless rest.

EPITAPH.

Stop passenger, for here is laid
One who the debt of nature paid.
This is not strange, the reader cries,
We all know here a dead man lies.
You're right; but stop, I'll tell you more,
He never paid a debt before:
And now he's gone, I'll further say,
He never will another pay.

Marriage Ceremonies.—We perceive in our papers the announcement of a marriage by H. C. Fay, Esq. The Commercial Advertiser objects to the right of any person not a justice of the peace, exercising the privilege of reading the marriage ceremony, and uniting couples in the bands of matrimony...the Commercial, we presume, meaning that none but clergymen, or justices of the peace, have the right of marrying. The fact is, our laws are not sufficiently explicit on that head, and there is great difficulty in making them so, in consequence of the ceremonial laws of various religious denominations differing so materially. For example, the society of Friends have no marriage ceremony at all; the parties stand up, in the presence of witnesses, and make an avowal of their intentions. The Supreme Court, in the case of Fenton vs. Reed, 4th Johnson, 52, decide as follows: "A contract of marriage, made *per verba de presenti*, amounts to an actual marriage, and is as valid as if made *in facia ecclesia*;" and Lord Eldon says, by the canon law, which is the basis of the marriage law, all over Europe, assent alone to a contract of marriage *de presenti*, is sufficient to render the contract binding. It follows from these decisions, that no ceremony at all is required, and if a man declares, in the presence of witnesses, that he takes a certain woman, then present, as his wife, and she assents, the parties being of age, the marriage is binding. In the present case, the lady and gentlemen are members of what is called the Free Press Association...an association of Philosophers, as Dr. Franklin would say; and as Mr. Fay lectures in that society, they considered him legally qualified to unite them; and he was so, because, in addition to his being sustained by the Su-

preme Court, he marries them as a notary public, and gives a valid notarial certificate. But it certainly is a very loose mode of transacting a very important piece of public business. Marriage is a religious as well as a civil tie; it carries with it great moral obligations, and the fulfilment of high moral duties; it is the most responsible and enduring act of a man's life, and should be surrounded by all the solemnities of religion, and all the securities of legal restrictions. The rights of property, the rights of primogeniture, may be involved in a question of legality of a marriage contract or ceremony. Therefore, generally speaking, such contracts should be confirmed by persons known to be in authority.

New-York Enq.

Crim. Con.—An action of this nature, in which Valentine W. Rathbone was plaintiff, and Luther Trumbull, Jr. defendant, was brought before the County Court at its present term at New Fane. The action was defaulted, and the Court assessed the damages at \$5000.—*Vermont paper.*

Methodists.—The number of persons in connection with the Methodist Church in the United States, is 421,105. Last year it was 381,997. Increase this year, 39,108.—*Ral. Star.*

Creek Indians.—The Columbus (Geo.) Enquirer states that the Creek Indians have lately held their Annual Council. One of the Chiefs was arraigned for forgery and one for lying. The lower Creeks have fallen in debt for provisions furnished them, seventeen thousand dollars more than their stipend. The upper Creeks made the most of their own provisions, and drew the money that was due them. The Mad Tiger, the principal Speaker of the lower Creeks, opposed emigration in open council...*ib.*

National Debt.—The late advertisement from the Treasury Department for paying off, during this year, another sum of more than four millions of the Public Debt, is a very gratifying incident in the fiscal operations of the present year. It is more so, certainly, than any that has occurred in that Department of our government for several years past. Without the least aid from loans, or any other source, upwards of nine millions of dollars of the National Debt will have been extinguished within the year, out of our surplus revenue. The regular annual appropriation of money, applicable to the public debt, is ten millions of dollars, which includes the annual interest on the whole debt. More may be paid on the account of that debt, if the Treasury be rich enough. Happily, this is the case on the present occasion. There will have been paid, this year, in principal and interest, on account of the debt, between twelve and thirteen millions of dollars. This is, it will be seen, two and three millions more than the annual stated appropriation for the debt.

The payment of so much of the

principal of the debt, this year (the whole having been out of the six per cent. stock) will save to the nation, next year, more than half a million of dollars in interest—leaving so much more applicable to the redemption of the principal of the debt, or to other great national objects.—*Nat. Int.*

Fatal effects of Intemperance...

On Saturday morning last, Jesse Hunt was found dead, in a branch just below Brown's still-house in this county; there is no doubt that his death was caused by intemperance, as he had been for a day or two previous drinking at, and in the neighborhood of this still-house. This should be a warning to those who are fond of strong drink.—*Greensboro' Patriot.*

Another Suicide.—

We were informed a few days since, that a man by the name of Lemuel Taylor, a resident of Currituck county, put an end to his existence on Friday last, by shooting himself.—*Elizabeth City Star.*

A Flight...The Reading Chronicle states, that at a dinner in town, among other toasts a Mr. P. H. Hawk gave the following:

"The fair sex...brilliant decorations that luminous in the diadem of familiarising intercourse, whose placid salutes are more licious than nectar, vocalness harmoniously enchanting as the melodies of Arion, optics more admirable than the diamond that glares upon their ornaments; saluters as attractant as attraction of magnetism. Their presence casts around existence, a charmingness that revives in its irksome pilgrimage; their vicile in the causation of suffering virtue, wards off calamity's vehement darts:

"Of all the beauties polish'd nations boast,
You, lovely fair, shall ever be my toast."

Really the flight of this Hawk is enough to make the hens cackle.

Ladies' Club...In the Chester (Eng.) paper, we find an account of the celebration of an Anniversary at Wrexham, which is worthy of notice: "On Tuesday, the Ladies' Club held their annual meeting at the Bowling Green, Wrexham. After hearing divine service, the members took tea, when dancing commenced, and was kept up with great spirit through the evening."

Titles.—Shortly after the time when John Adams wrote his book in favor of Monarchy, and his nobility letters to Samuel Adams, and about the time when John Q. Adams was writing his *Publicola* Essays in Benjamin Russell's paper, against "the mechanical horror" at the mention of a King, and the "physical antipathy to the sight of an innocent ribband" indulged by the people of the United States; it was gravely proposed in the Senate of the U. States, of which the First Adams was the head, to confer upon the President—a *Title*. This title was to be "*His Highness, and Protector of our Liberties.*" This piece of nonsense which evidently was shaped on the Adams last, reminds us of the titles established in Rome after the degeneracy of the

Roman people, and the decline of their liberty. Says the Roman historian, "the principal officers were saluted even by the Sovereign himself, with deceitful titles of your Sincerity, your Gravity, your Eminency, your Sublime and Wonderful Magnitude, your Illustrious and Magnificent Highness.—*Boston Statesman.*

Dancing.—

We go to a ball. Mercy upon us! is that what you call dancing? A man of thirty years of age, and with legs as thick as a gate post, stands up in the middle of the room, and gapes and fumbles with his gloves, looking all the time as if he were burying his grandmother. At a given signal the unwieldy animal puts himself into motion: he throws out his arms, crouches up his shoulders, and, without moving a muscle of his face, kicks out his legs, to the manifest risk of the bystanders, and goes back to his place, puffing and blowing like an otter, after a half hour's burst. Is this dancing?

Bacon...We see it stated in the Tuscaloosa (Alab.) Sentinel, of the 30th ult. that the necessary article of Bacon has again become very scarce in that place; its selling price is from 14 to 16 cents per lb. for hams; 12½ for middlings; and 10 to 12 for shoulders. Bacon sells in Salisbury (N. C.) at 8 cents per lb. where corn can be readily bought at 15 cents per bushel...*Carolinian.*

Modesty is one of the chief ornaments of youth, and has ever been esteemed a presage of rising merit.

A List of Letters,

Remaining in the Post-Office at Halifax, N. C. on the 1st of October, 1828, which if not taken out before the 1st of January next, will be sent to the General Post-Office as dead letters.

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|---------------------|---------------------|
| Archer William | Harris William W |
| Burton H G Gov | Hawkins Ambrose |
| Bishop Amanda Miss | Hail Mary Mrs |
| Boseman John | Holt Harvey |
| Bailey Zebidee | Heptinstall J J |
| Bishop Drury | Hines Martin |
| Burges A S H Dr | Harison Patsey |
| Bailey Valentine | Hicks Charles |
| Brown W H | Hawkins & Harris |
| Bush Tom | Johnston Starling |
| Bush Ledge | Jones Cupelo |
| Cormack Francis | King John Mrs |
| Crowell John Esq | Long Richd H Capt |
| Collins Thos | Long Leml Esq |
| Corban Thos | Lancaster Jno I |
| Cockron Adam | Levesty Henry I |
| Cl'k Sup'r Court 2 | Morast John M D |
| Church of Christ | Marshall R L Esq |
| Carter Saml | Marshall F S Esq |
| Carson Thos H Esq | M'Neal Archibald |
| Cole Joshua Esq | Pettway M H Esq 11 |
| Cummins Eliz Mrs | President of the N |
| Daniel Jos J Judge | C Society of the |
| Daniel Willis | Cincinnati Hal. |
| Drake Mary Mrs | Rhodes David |
| Drew Julia Miss | Smith Miles Rev |
| Eure E H Esq | Sledge Daniel |
| Estis Triplett T | Sheriff Halifax N C |
| Freeman E B Esq 2 | Thompson Turner |
| Fort Ricks | Thorn William Esq |
| Fenner D C Col | Taylor Wilson |
| Green Geo | Turner James Capt |
| Gary Littleb'y Esq | Valentine Austin |
| Gilmour Charles P | Vaden James Capt |
| Gladish Jas B | Willecox L H Dr |
| Gun John M | Willecox L Esq |
| Gee James Maj | Washington Mr |
| Garett Maria L Miss | Wilkes Henry Esq |
| Gee Charles Maj | Wood Stephen |
| Garien O'Neal | Woodcock Jno |
| Harvey John | Willis Anderson |