

THE WIDOW TO HER HOUR GLASS.

BY ROBERT BLOOMFIELD.

COME, friend, I'll turn thee up again; Companion of the lonely hour! Spring thirty times has fed with rain, And cloath'd with leaves my humble bower; Since thou has stood, In frame of wood, On chest or window by my side: At every birth still thou wert near, Still spoke thine admonitions clear— And, when my husband died.

I've often watched thy streaming sand, And seen the growing mountain rise, And often found life's hope to stand On props, as weak in wisdom's eyes; Its conic crown Still sliding down, Again heap'd up, then down again; The sand above more hollow grew, Like days and years still hitting through, And mingling joy and pain.

While thus I spin, and sometimes sing, (For now and then my heart will glow) Thou measurest Time's expanding wing; By thee the noontide hour I know: Though silent thou, Still shall thou flow, And jog along the destin'd way: But when I glean the sultry fields, When earth her yellow Harvest yields, Thou get'st a Holiday.

Steady as truth on either end, Thy daily task performing well, Thou'rt Meditations constant friend, And strik'st the heart without a bell: Come, lovely May! The lengthen'd day Shall glide once more my native plain; Cool inward here, sweet Woodbine fow'r; "Companion of the lonely hour, I'll turn thee up again."

DR. FRANKLIN.

From the National Intelligencer.

Can and will any of our readers shed any light upon the following subject?

WE some years since attracted the attention of the public to a subject which we then deemed it important to investigate—the alleged suppression of the works of Dr. Franklin. No elucidation having been made, the subject has acquired additional consequence. From the silence with which the enquiries made have been treated, the suspicions then afloat have derived considerable confirmation. If they are well founded, the transaction to which they relate is of so criminal a hue as to require the severest animadversion; and if they are untrue, it is of some importance to relieve innocent men from aspersions. We trust, therefore, that the new notice, now about to be taken, will draw forth information that shall guide the public in the information of a correct decision.

It was some years ago confidently reported that Temple Franklin, the grandson of the Doctor, to whom was bequeathed his books and papers, required to London for the purpose of publishing his life and writings including several unpublished tracts. It is certain that Benjamin Bach, then residing in Philadelphia, repeatedly stated that a complete edition of Dr. Franklin's works was compiling by Temple Franklin, with a view to publication at London to supply the European demand, and that a co-temporary edition would be printed by him at Philadelphia to supply the demand in this country. This was at least seven years ago. About that time enquiries were often made when the work was to appear; to which it was answered that it might be looked for daily. From that day to this no life of Franklin, or any of his performances unpublished while he lived, have appeared; nor has any reason been assigned by Temple Franklin for their non-appearance. It was also reported some years since that Mr. Dilly, an eminent London bookseller, had bought the copy right of the Doctor's works from Temple Franklin for a large sum; on what terms was not stated; but, that instead of publishing them, he had afterwards disposed of them for a larger sum to the English ministry, who fought them with a view to their suppression, and that they have been accordingly suppressed.

In ascertaining the truth of this statement not only the friends of the character of Franklin, but likewise his country and the whole literary and political world are interested. If it be true, it manifests a turpitude that will be but inadequately punished by the severest reprobation.

No man enjoyed a wider field for acquiring correct political information respecting the American revolution than Dr. Franklin. He possessed the confidence of his own government, and likewise, in an unusual degree, that of the courts to which he was sent. No one, from natural penetration, and from the access which his great reputation gave him to the great, was more qualified to trace the secret springs of action. Hence the strong curiosity excited by the expected publication of his works! In France, the focus of information, he occupied the highest reputation, and was in the confidence of all descriptions of persons, enjoying equally the respect and society of the votary of pleasure and ambition. His share in the great events of this country is known to all; and it is likewise known that

no man among us was better qualified, from the strength of his judgment, and a happy knowledge of men, to develop motives and impartially to record events.

We trust that those who possess the means of satisfying these enquiries will not deem it unimportant to give that information which alone can or ought to allay the national sensibility excited.

OSAGE INDIANS.

From the New York Daily Advertiser.

ON Tuesday a committee of the Missionary Society, consisting principally of distinguished clergymen, had an interview, at the City Hotel, with the Chiefs of the Osage tribe of Indians, now in this city; to whom they presented a Bible, together with an address, the object of which was to inform them, that this good book contained the will and laws of the Great Spirit. The King, in reply to the committee, assured them, that he received the present with great thankfulness—that he would convey it to his nation, and preserve it with care; but as neither he nor his people could read it, he begged that some good white man might be sent to instruct them; that hitherto he had been blind, but now his eyes were opened; that he and his people were a good and peaceable people, and he hoped we would always live in friendship together.

The spectacle exhibited in Vanhull Garden on Monday evening was novel and interesting. In expectation of hearing the war-song, and of witnessing the war-dance, and other exercises of the Osage Indians, an immense concourse of people thronged the garden at an early hour. A stage had been erected in a central situation, and lighted up for the use of our brethren of the wilderness. About 8 o'clock the King and suite, preceded by music, entered the garden, and without discovering any symptoms of surprise walked down through the midst of gazing multitudes, and ascended the stage. The King's deportment was majestic and easy: he was dressed in a laced blue coat, corresponding under vestments, wore a cocked hat, and had a handsome sword by his side. Several of his chiefs stood around, dressed in blue jackets with red capes; the other parts of their dress were rather coarse. But it was the singular and savage appearance of the other Indians, naked and painted *patrie men*, that excited principal attention. They were eight or nine in number. Excepting a piece of cloth, fastened round the waist, in which their tomahawks were stuck, they were all in a state of nudity: their bodies, arms, and faces, were painted red—freaks of white were drawn on the cheeks and other places, polished bones, pieces of various metals, beads, and other trinkets depending from their ears—the head, excepting a tuft of hair on the crown, in which a feather was stuck, was entirely bare. The *total ensemble* of these men was savage and terrific. Upon mounting the stage, these aborigines squatted down on one side, and sat for some time in a listless attitude, the King and chiefs, with the interpreters, occasionally conversing. At length the drum used by these people, which we could not see to as to describe, was struck, and they commenced their song in a low tone. By degrees the drum became louder, and the song of the warriors arose. The air was very simple, and sung in exact time to the drum, the head, and hand, and feet, generally moving in unison. The drum next beat a kind of roll, on which a loud and more judicious than terrific, was emitted. This over, the music continued, and one of the savages slowly rising from his seat, commenced a series of movements in accord with the beat of the drum. These at first gently gradually became more rapid and were at last very violent. The roll and squal were repeated, and the dancer again squatted. Another, and soon after a third arose, and performed as before, with perhaps more violent gesticulation. After various repetitions of the dance, accompanied with varied movements, at the Indians arose, and exhibited a scene of frantic appearance, dancing, or rather jumping, and expressing their emotions in wild and frightful gestures. Having finished the song and the dance, they squatted down as at first. The king and suite were then asked to drink, and on this occasion the former manifested a mark of civilization which we scarcely expected; he took off his hat and made a deliberate and even graceful bow to the surrounding spectators. The pipe of peace concluded the ceremony.

The general impression which the scene left on our minds was that of pity for our fellow creatures, ignorant of civilized life, ignorant of themselves viewed as rational and moral beings, ignorant of the end of their creation and their future destiny, and strangers to those principles and sentiments which enoble our nature and elevate us to a near relation with the Supreme Being. When we look on the numberless countenances around beaming with intelligence, and mild as humanity, and then fixed our eyes on the vacant stare & ruth-

less visage of these men, the contrast seemed complete; gratitude to heaven arose in our breasts, that we were not roaming the desert, the companion of Osages, ignorant as the deer they chase, and cruel as the beasts of prey.

NEW RUDDER.

INVENTED by Capt. Mugford, of the ship Ulysses of this port, in January last, on his passage to Marseilles, and to which we have given the name of "The Mugford Rudder," in honor of the inventor.

The Ulysses, under the command of Capt. William Mugford, and belonging to Mr. Wm. Gray, jun. of this town, sailed from Salem, early in January, bound to Marseilles. On the 5th of January, Lat. 41, Long. 65, experienced a heavy gale of wind, and while running 8 and 9 knots, a large sea struck the stern of the ship, and carried away the rudder at the water's edge, when the vessel immediately broached to. The main mast was sprung, and the hull lay exposed to every sea. In this unfortunate situation Capt. Mugford was reduced to the necessity of steering the ship with cables over the quarters for upwards of 20 days, making however the best of the way towards the Western Islands and Madeira. The weather during all the time was extremely boisterous, and the ship much exposed to the seas. It was during this interval that Capt. Mugford planned and executed a rudder which he afterwards proceeded in securing in its proper place, at the stern of the ship.—It is entirely of a new construction, and does the inventor the greatest honor. Merchants and seamen in particular, must be under great obligations to Capt. Mugford, for the invention, and the United States will feel proud in having given birth to a citizen who has conceived a plan so useful and important to the commercial interest, and from which we may calculate that the lives of mariners may be rendered more secure, and the property of our merchants be less exposed while on the ocean.

The Ulysses returned to this port a few days since, and several gentlemen having examined the rudder, and a model and drawing of it, we are enabled to give the following description of this highly useful machine.

The rudder has a false stern post attached to it, made from a spare topmast which is about 20 feet in length. The main part of the rudder is formed from a piece of the same topmast, and four studding sail booms secured together make the back part, the whole being lashed with small ropes, and fixed in a proper manner with bolts, and banded on the sides with boards. The rudder is 14 feet in length, and 4 feet wide. It has 8 or 10 eye bolts, and there is an equal number on the false stern post, through which pieces of iron crow-bars were put and used as pintals, and which, when properly placed, attached and secured the rudder to the false stern post, in the same manner that pintals, gudgeons, and braces secure common rudders to a ship's stern post. The old iron tiller of the ship, about 6 feet long, passes through the body of the rudder, near the upper part, and from which, on each side, ropes were passed over the quarters of the ship, to a top mast, running out near the mizen chains, and having a single block at the end, the proper tiller ropes were rove through them, and the ship then steered in the usual manner with the wheel. There are several large straps fastened to the false stern post, from which hawsers were passed on each side of the vessel, in order to secure it in its proper station, upon the old stern post. The old gudgeons still remaining on the stern post, it was necessary to cut mortises into the false one to receive them, and these were found of very essential service in keeping the whole machine firmly fixed in the assigned situation. On the 2d of February the whole was prepared and the weather being then favorable, the new rudder was hoisted over the stern of the ship with a 4 pound cannon to sink it to the proper depth, and the false stern post being entered into the rudder case, the quarter ropes hauled tight, and a few bolts passed through it from the head of the old stern post, it was thus secured and found to operate perfectly well, and the ship steered her course without any difficulty. They were then in lat. 34, and long 45. The passage to Marseilles was now performed in the safest manner. When they arrived in Marseilles the new rudder excited considerable attention. The French took drawings of it, and all the captains in port took care to furnish themselves with complete models of it. Most unquestionably as it relates to ships, it is the most useful invention of the age. The plan is very simple, and therefore the more easily followed now it is found out. Every ship is provided with materials to make such a rudder—gun carriages furnished the proper eye bolts, and the spare spars on deck chiefly the other materials.—Heretofore seamen have always found it impossible to secure the new rudder to the old stern post. The present plan avoids this difficulty. A new or false stern post is invented, and the new rudder is properly secured to it before it leaves the ship's deck, and thus the great obstruction to fixing rudders at sea, is surmounted. Capt. Mugford, certainly deserves the highest encomiums for this invention, and we trust that a grateful country will acknowledge, that to him we are indebted for a discovery affording new security to the lives of men and their property, when exposed to the dangers of a stormy and tempestuous ocean. To seamen it will be almost unnecessary to add that the cannon was withdrawn from the rudder after it was placed in its proper berth, and taken on board the ship again.

SHIP HOPEWELL & BRIG ROCKLAND.

The following is an extract of a letter from captain Sisson, late-master of the ship Hope-well of New-York, dated Point-Petre, July 26, 1804.

"No doubt ere this, you have heard of the capture of the ship Hopewell, and brig Rockland: owing to S. W. and S. S. W. winds, was obliged to go to the eastward of Bermuda. On the 30th June, lat. 27, 53, long. 61, 52, at 3 A. M. saw a brig which appeared to be dozing us, and at day light she bore down upon us, hoisted an English ensign, and fired a gun to leeward. We were then under all the sail we could set, but finding she came up with us very fast we hoisted American colours, fired a gun to leeward and shortened sail. I hailed the Rockland and desired captain Atkins to keep on our lee bow, and near us, as I wished to speak the privateer first, and know what she was before we attempted any thing: she was then on our weather quarter. The Rockland not keeping in her station, dropped more to leeward and nearly on our lee quarter, the privateer was then almost within hail of us—but immediately up helm and run along side Rockland, and commenced firing under English colours—which was returned from the brig. The privateer being between us and the brig, prevented my firing until I got in a situation to fire clear of the Rockland, which was in less than a moment; when we commenced firing to the best advantage we could. The Rockland fired only one broadside and some musketry, when she was boarded; they only left three men on board—sheered off and gave us a broad-side, and attempted to board us—but was repulsed by our quarter guns, pikes and musketry. They then kept clear of our pikes and played continually with all their men with nothing but musketry. Our men seeing their ship mates falling, most of the landsmen quit their quarters; the privateer seeing this, attempted the second time to board us by putting our netting; and overpowering us by numbers, was obliged to haul down our colours, and quit the deck, otherwise he cut in pieces. We had 3 killed, 4 badly wounded and 2 slightly wounded; the first who fell was poor Mr. Bird, he was standing near me; he received one ball through his body, and another through his head, and never after spoke a word.

"After the Rockland was boarded we engaged the privateer close on board for 40 minutes. When the black general (a passenger) found we were captured, he ran below with a pistol, with an intention to blow the ship up; and with much difficulty we prevented it. He set all the cartridges on fire in the cabin and steerage, which was in pouch tubs, and only my laying the magazine scuttle saved the ship and our lives. When he found he could not blow the ship up, he put the pistol to his head and blew his own brains out.

"The privateer took out all the passengers, officers, and men, except myself, carpenter, two boys and one of our men badly wounded. The privateer continued with us until we arrived in this port, which was on the 17th of July, and was immediately put all together in a most miserable prison, with nothing to eat but striking beef and coarse bread, and very short even of that.

"They will not suffer me to see any American, nor have any communication with any body. There is a schooner called the Snake-in-the-Grass, bought in New-York, and fitted out at Salem, with five guns, taken and brought here a few days before me; one of the mates is allowed to go out at a time, and this was the only opportunity I had to write. They say that orders have gone to America, that every vessel bound to St. Domingo, if taken, shall be treated as pirates. God only knows what they mean to do with us. I beg you will do all in your power to get our government to claim us, otherwise I don't know what they may do—they seem to be inveterate against the Americans, and even told me every ship and captain's name that was armed from New-York.

"Capt. Atkins had his mate and one man killed, and several wounded, and died at this place on the 22d inst.

"The schooner Snake-in-the-Grass was commanded by James Mansfield, who is also in prison with all his men, the vessel will be condemned although they did not fire a shot.

"As no protest can be made here, I tho't it best to let the officers, sign this letter, with me. Several large privateers are getting ready to go down in the Bite after the Americans. The privateer that took us was the brig Ferbriskey, capt. Antwan, with ten long French sixes, two twelve pound carronades, one long eighteen pounder, and one hundred and fifty men. The French seem to be very inveterate against the Americans, and insult us as they pass the prison; all that I can say more is to request you to do what you can with our government to claim us as Americans, I think the manner in which the French privateer engaged us under English colours, will be a sufficient reason for them to claim us—and further that your ship and property was defended with spirit until over-powered by numbers."

Cows Strayed.

STRAYED from the subscriber's enclosure about four months since, three MILCH COWS; one of a bright black, one of a brindie, and the other of a red color. A suitable reward will be paid for information of the Cows—it is supposed some persons have taken them up for the benefit of their milk.

THOMAS FITZGERALD.

Wilmington, August 21, 1804.