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POETICAL.

FROM THE NEW-YORK EVENING POST. FRIDAY—6 o'clock.

Mr. Coleman—The extravagant price of Leghorn hats in London, as mentioned in your paper this evening, suggests the annexed lines. You will observe, that part of the first stanza is an almost literal quotation from Milton.

Yours, CROAKER.

CURTAIN CONVERSATIONS.

"I will pay no debts of her contracting after this date."—Daily Newspapers.

"Besides the nuptial curtain bright,"
The bard of Eden sings,
"Young Love his constant lamp will light,
"And wave his purple wings."
But rain drops, from the clouds of care,
May bid that lamp be dim,
And little Love will pout, and swear
"Tis then no place for him.

So must the lovely Mrs. Dash,
(We blush to mention names),
When for her surly husband's cash,
She urg'd, in vain, her charms.
"I want a little money, Dear,
"As Vandervoort and Flandin,
"Their bill (which now has run a year)
"To-morrow mean to hand in."

"Zounds!" cried the husband, half asleep,
"You'll drive me to despair."
The lady was too proud to weep,
And too polite to swear:
She bit her lip for every spite;
He felt a storm was brewing,
And dream'd of nothing else all night
But brokers, banks and ruin!

He thought her pretty once—but dreams
Have sure a wondrous power;
For, to his eye, the lady seems
Quite ugly since that hour.
And Love, who, on their bridal eve,
Had promis'd long to stay,
Forgot his promise, took French leave,
And bade his tempter away.
CROAKER & CO.

Miscellaneous.

FROM THE PETERSBURG REPUBLICAN.

Mr. Pestrud—Why don't you occasionally crack the jaw-bones of your customers by calling upon them to read the effusions of those wordy men of the present age, whose tumid productions have recently enlightened the *Intelligencer* press on Bollingbrook street? Why don't you give us a sample of the wit, and learning, and erudition, of the great scholars of our town, who fill to overflowing, the columns of the press just alluded to? Mayhap, Mr. Editor, none of your correspondents are up to this stile of writing.—If this should be the fact, may I be permitted to copy the following letter from a young gentleman at college, (written some twenty years ago) to his parents, announcing his intention of enjoying with them the then approaching Christmas holidays? Those of your readers who have not got Sheridan's, Johnson's, Walker's and Noah Webster's dictionaries at their finger's ends, are desired to pass over the letter, and read something else.

"It is impossible to verbally declare the sublimity of satisfaction which I experience in the fond anticipation of passing the period of temporal abstraction from scholastic attention, ordinarily cognomenated the vacation; or, as marking the diurnal sanctimonious employment usually directed, emphatically appellationed holidays; therefore, in simple and humble dictates I inform you, that the recess is fixed for the 23d of the present duodecimal division of the annual solar revolution. Then shall I hope to experience all those domiciliary delegations usually attendant on that periodical festivity, conjugated with the hilarities of those with whom I am fraternally connected. Then those vizards vaporially affecting our olfactory organs with their salubrious effluvia, and our stomachs with their invigorating influence, will be abundantly devoured, whether consisting of terra-facted or bulliated quadrupedal carnos substances, the more delicate fibres of the volatile aerial inhabitants, or—the submarine piscatory resident—concluding with those heterogeneous compositions called puddings, aided by the exhilarating effects of vinous libations."

To the Editor of the *Galignani's Messenger*:
SIR—In various numbers of your journal, I have seen mentioned a work entitled "The Vampire," with the addition of my name as that of the author. I am not the author, and never heard of the work in question until now. In a more recent paper, I perceive a formal announcement of "the Vampire" with the addition of an account of my "Residence in the Island of Mitylene," an island which I have occasionally sailed by, in the course of travelling some years ago through the Levant, and where I shall have no objection to reside. Neither of these performances are mine, and I presume that it is neither unjust nor ungra-

rious to request that you will favor me by contradicting the advertisement to which I allude. If the book is clever, it would be base to deprive the real writer, whoever he may be, of his honors; and if stupid, I desire the responsibility of nobody's dullness but my own.

You will excuse the trouble I give you; the imputation is of no great importance, and as long as it was confined to surmises and reports, I should have received it, as I have many others, in silence. But the formality of a public advertisement of a book I never wrote, and a residence where I have never resided, is rather too much; particularly as I have no recollection of the contents of the one, or the incidents of the other. I have, besides, a personal dislike to Vampires, and the little acquaintance I have with them, would by no means induce me to divulge their secrets.

You did me a much less injury by your paragraphs about my "devotion" and "abandonment of society for the sake of religion," which appeared in your *Messenger* during last lent; all of which are not founded on fact; but you see I do not contradict them, because they are merely personal, whereas the others in some degree concern the reader.

You will oblige me by complying with my request of contradiction; I assure you that I knew nothing of the work or works in question; and have the honor to be, (as the correspondents to *Magazines* say) your constant reader, and very humble servant.

Venue. BYRON.

WESTERN ENGINEER.

The following is a description of the steam boat Western Engineer, engaged in conveying troops in the military expedition at present on foot to the Upper Missouri.

The bow of the vessel exhibits the form of a huge serpent, black and scaly, rising out of the water—from under the boat, his head as high as the deck, darted forward, his mouth open vomiting smoke, and apparently carrying the boat on his back. From under the boat, at its stern, issues a stream of foaming water, dashing violently along. All the machinery is hid. Three small brass field pieces mounted on wheel carriages, stand on the deck. The boat is ascending the rapid stream at the rate of three miles an hour. Nature, and, to the eye of ignorance, the illusion is complete, that a monster of the deep carries her on his back, smoking with fatigue, and lashing the waves with violent exertion.

Her equipment is at once calculated to attract and awe the savage. Objects pleasing and terrifying are at once before him:—artillery—the flag of the republic—portraits of a white man and an Indian shaking hands—the calumet of peace—a sword—then the apparent monster with a painted vessel on his back, the sides gaping with port holes, and bristling with guns. Taken altogether, and without intelligence of her composition and design, it would require a daring savage to approach and accost her with Hamlet's speech:—"Be thou a spirit of health, or goblin damned, Bring with thee airs from heaven, or blasts from hell, Be thy intents wicked or charitable, Thou com'st in such a questionable shape, That I will speak to thee." Enquirer.

Domestic.

MANSFIELD, OHIO, JULY 7.

Execution.—On the 1st instant, at 12 o'clock, *Negosheik* and *Negoneba*, two Indians of the Otawa tribe, were executed at Norwalk, Huron county, Ohio, in pursuance of sentence of death pronounced upon them in May last, by the court of common pleas, for the murder of Wood and Bishop, on Carrying river, at the west end of lake Erie. They were taken by their own tribe and given up to the whites by their chief, who preferred executing them in his own way, to that of hanging, or weighing, as he termed it, at the same time pronouncing them worthy of death. At 11 o'clock the prisoners were unroined, for the purpose of being conveyed to the place of divine service. On their being placed in a wagon for that purpose, *Negosheik* gave a long war whoop; from thence they were conveyed to the place of worship, where they, their interpreter, (a Mr. Flemming) their chief, and seven others of their tribe, surrounded with armed militia, who formed a hollow square, when an able and appropriate prayer was made by the Rev. Mr. —, and a sermon suited to the occasion was preached to about two thousand spectators, by the Rev. Mr. —, with prayer; after which the procession was formed, and moved to the place of execution in the following order:

In front, commanding officer of the guard; 2d, sheriff; 3d, clergymen; 4th, music, playing *Aknomak* or *Indian Warrior*; 5th, hollow square inclosing prisoners; 6th, their interpreter, chief, and their other Indian friends—followed in close and regular order by horsemen and footmen. After arriving at the place of execution, the gallows was enclosed by the guard, who kept their station until the

execution was finished. *Negosheik* sent for his chief when on the scaffold, and requested him to take good care of his (*Negosheik's*) children, and bring them up to be better than he had been.

We are happy to state, to the honor of Huron county, that the prisoners have been attended with that tenderness and hospitality which becomes a christian people, and that solemnity and good order reigned throughout the whole scene.

* A letter from a gentleman who was present at the execution, to the post-master at Jersey City, states that when the Sheriff attempted to place the caps over their faces, they made considerable resistance.

WESTERN EXPEDITION.

ST. LOUIS, (MO. T.) JUNE 29.

Scientific Expedition to the sources of the Missouri.—The Western Engineer set out from St. Louis on Monday, 21st inst. to ascend the Missouri. We understand that she is not limited to time, and will proceed at leisure to explore the vast region of the Missouri, and of all her tributary streams. The cause of science is exceedingly interested in the results of this expedition. Every body knows, who knows the Missouri river at all, that she differs in all her qualities and attributes, and characteristics, from all other rivers in the world. Her water cold, rapid, light, muddy, sweet, and salubrious; the atmosphere through which she flows dry and elastic, and so favorable to health that the voyagers and traders consider themselves as leaving disease and sickness behind, the moment they enter the stream of the river.—What is agreed in by all mankind literate and illiterate, must be so; but though all are sensible of the astonishing qualities of the Missouri water, and the unrivalled healthiness of the climate through which it flows, it belongs to the learned alone to tell the causes. A region so vast, so different from all others in air and water, must have a vegetable kingdom of its own, and the botanist will doubtless find abundant subjects for the employment of his talent. In the history of the white, or grizzly bear, the zoologist will discover fresh cause for covering with contempt that theory of the Count Buffon and the Abbe Raynal, when attributed to nature a disposition to be little her animal productions in the new world. This bear finds no parallel in the old world among the rest of his species, either in his size, his strength, or his dauntless ferocity. Beyond the Rocky Mountains, if these should be passed, a still nobler instance of animal production will be discovered in the Columbia River. Taken all together, the *Western Engineer* is his kind in the known world. He is derived from the old world, but instead of degenerating, has improved on the banks of the Columbia.—Finesness of form, fullness of all the muscular parts, docility of spirit, capacity to sustain great fatigue, to provide food for himself, and to hunt down the deer and the buffalo for his master, are a part of his characteristics. The geology and the mineralogy of the country will present enquiries of great interest. Different parts of the region through which the river flows, exhibit clays and earths of great fineness and most uncommon composition, from the properties of which the river is supposed to derive its peculiar qualities.

The Rocky Mountains have not yet been examined. They are supposed to contain minerals, precious stones, and gold and silver ore. It is but of late they have taken the name of Rocky Mountains, a name which imports nothing appropriate or peculiar, as all mountains are rocky. By all the old travellers, they are called Shining mountains, "from an infinite number of crystal stones, of an amazing size, with which they are covered, and which, when the sun shines full upon them, sparkle so as to be seen at a great distance." (*Carver*.) "The same early travellers gave it as their opinion, that in future ages these mountains might be found to contain more riches in their bowels than those of Indostan and Meubar, or which are found on the golden coast of Guinea, or in the mines of Peru."

Military Expedition to the Upper Missouri.

It is supposed that Col. Atkinson's regiment will leave Belle-Fontaine in the course of this week. The expedition will easily reach the Council Bluffs, distant 700 miles, in the month of August, where it is intended to winter. Repacking the provisions, and the non arrival of some of the steam boats, have alone prevented the departure of the expedition before this time. The *Cathoon* has not yet arrived. She is below in the river, and, from a defect in her machinery, or in her management, makes a wretched progress against the current of the Mississippi. Gen. Jesup has returned from having seen her; and it is believed that Col. Atkinson will not wait many days for her arrival.

Enquirer.

The St. Louis Gazette, after giving some account of the testimonies existing in support of the opinion that there is now inhabiting the southern branches of the Missouri a race of men descended from the Welch emigrants, who embarked to the number of 323 persons, in 10 vessels under Prince Madoc, in the year 1170, from North Wales, mentions that an expedition is now on foot for a thorough investigation of the fact. The persons engaged in the undertaking are Messrs. Roberts and Parry, Welchmen, who speak the language of North and South Wales. It is said that they are industrious persevering men, and that they will pursue the search as long as the probability of a discovery exists.

In the years 1795 and 1796, John Thomas

Evans and John Mackay, ascended the Missouri to the Mandan villages, 1700 miles from St. Louis, in search of these Welch Indians; and after an absence of 2 years returned without success. But it is said these people are located by the most credible authorities 2000 miles from the mouth of the Missouri, and consequently 300 miles from the termination of the journey of Evans and Mackay. Their fruitless search therefore is not regarded as furnishing any satisfactory solution of this interesting problem.

FROM THE ALBANY ARGUS.

A New Steam Mill on a small scale, has been recently put in operation in this city, by Mr. Junia Curtis, on his approved plan of applying steam, which is much less complicated and far less expensive than the ordinary steam engine. The whole steam machinery consists of two boilers, of five bogsheads each, an iron wheel of two feet diameter, inclosed in an iron box, a large tub of water, which serves as a condenser, pipes for conducting steam, and a forcing pump. The buckets in the wheel are 5 inches by 14. The steam is thrown directly into these, by a two inch pipe, coming directly from the boiler, and after performing nearly a revolution, is let off through a valve, passes into the condenser, the water of which it heats preparatory to the latter passing, by means of the forcing pump, into the boilers. The power of this machinery is sufficient to turn two run of stones, each of which will grind a bushel in five minutes, as we are told. The expense of erecting a steam engine upon Mr. Curtis' model, is said to be only one fifth of the expense of engines on the old model. If these data are correct, this improvement must offer important advantages for milling upon the St. Lawrence, Ohio and Mississippi, where sites for water mills are scarce. The ingenious inventor has struggled with pecuniary difficulties for some time to carry his improvements into operation, and we hope he will now find suitable remuneration in the patronage of a liberal public.

FOREIGN.

Translated from French papers for the *Columbian*.

Account of the surprise of Bergen-op-Zoom, by M. Legrand, Colonel of Engineers.

After the battle of Leipzig our army quitted the fields of Germany, which so often were the scenes of our triumph. Weakened victories, as well as reverses, France could no longer indulge in the vainly founded hope of the Kings of the people of Europe marching under the same standard. In the mean time, arriving on the banks of the river, no longer defended but by the recollections of our enemies suddenly halted. They appeared to be cautious of treading that sacred soil on which twenty years before, the love of country had given birth to so many prodigies. This moment of hesitation was profitably employed by France. The feeble wrecks of her armies were collected, and the ramparts of some of her fortresses repaired, whose defenceless state attested the glorious security of a people who had for so many years placed their might in their warriors and their confidence in victory.

The fortresses of which we were masters, hastily repaired, formed, but bad defences for battalions too weak to garrison them. The allies again found in our state of exhaustion a little of that confidence of which they had been so long deprived in consequence of our uninterrupted successes. The inhabitants of those countries which they occupied served them as allies, who feeling themselves absolved from their oaths, by our reverses, attached themselves to the fortunes of the victors. These hostile dispositions manifested themselves principally in Holland and in Dute. Brabant. The French still preserved Bergen-op-Zoom; but an English army had arrived under its walls, and the inhabitants carried on a correspondence with the enemy. The garrison was composed of new levies, one half whom were non-effective, from sickness, privations, and the fatigues of the siege amidst the rigors of a most inclement season and in a place of great extent.

General Graham being well informed of these particulars resolved to carry the place by a coup-de-main; Several of the citizens offered to act as guides to his soldiers.

In the night of the 5th of March, 1814, the English approached the walls of the fortress in silence. They traversed the fosse on the glacis. Surprise put them in possession of one post;—they forced another;—the ramparts are scaled; several battalions are in their power; and, already in the intoxication of imaginary success, they are resounding in the city the cry of *Orange Boven!* which to them was the shout of victory and to their partisans the signal for rallying. Attacked almost on all sides, uncertain where to assemble in force, and repulsed almost every where, there remained to the French troops only the place of arms as the last asylum. When the first emotions of surprise began to dissipate, the greatness of the dangers instead of abating their courage served rather to encrease their energies. They no longer thought of defending themselves but of reconquering their ramparts. This idea inflamed the courage of the soldier: the charge sounds, and our brave soldiers advance rapidly in columns with their accustomed ardor. The English astonished in their turn at being obliged to renew the contest in the city of which they had just considered themselves masters, opposed notwithstanding a most vigorous re-