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Domestic Intelligence.

FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

It is not a new discovery, but a new evidence of the Rev. Mr. Prince's conclusiveness; but I ask, is it more so than the various affidavits and statements we had last year? Then it was deemed sufficient for a purpose to support the testimony given by the solemnity of each; now, the mere word of these gentlemen is enough.

Pray, who are these gentlemen, whose words are deemed equal to the oaths of other men? They may be well known, to the north, as men of undoubted veracity and piety; but we know them not sufficiently to place such implicit reliance on their statements. If they are confident of what they state, why not do as others have done before them? Others made oath to the facts, and the existences of a Sea Serpent was still doubted! Can Messrs. Prince and Fish hope that, unsupported by an oath, their accounts will be more relied on? If they will swear to what they have seen, they will be willing to acknowledge, that they are entitled, at least, to our confidence in their own belief of what they state they saw; not until then.

The testimony last year was for a while considered as conclusive; but the taking of a Horse Mackerel, and the sudden disappearance of the Serpent, satisfied us all of the illusion. That it was not a Sea Serpent, but a Horse Mackerel, which had so long engrossed public attention, not a doubt remained. Since the accounts of Messrs. Prince, Fish, &c. were published, several expeditions have been fitted out in pursuit of the "Monster," and one of them has returned with Two Horse Mackerels, taken near where the Sea Serpent was seen. They are now called by the good people of Eastern North Carolina, "Mackerel." If, then, the Horse Mackerel was sufficient last year, to destroy the belief in a Sea Serpent, supported as it then was by such respectable testimony, how much stronger reasons have we now for doubting the infirmal statements of those gentlemen!

I do not wish to impeach their veracity, but I do insist on it, that their statements bear internal evidence of a liability to error. In the first place, Mr. Prince depends more on the sight of others than his own; for, even assisted by his "famous mast-head spy-glass," he is under the necessity, from a defect in his vision, of asking the reports of his wife and a woman, who had no better means of determining the character of the animal, than the many hundreds of other spectators, who, at the same time, who remain silent on the subject. Mr. Austin is named as one who saw him, but Mr. Austin would not permit his name to be used in proof of his existence.

What is described by both those gentlemen accorded exactly with the appearance which a large Loggerhead Turtle would exhibit on a calm day: the form of the head, the length of the neck and the color, the white under the throat, the undulations occasioned by the form of its back, and its rapid movement through the water, are precisely what are familiar to those who have been in the habit of watching the motion of the turtle. Mr. Prince declares that it was not a shark, whale, grampus, or porpoise; but he does not say that it was not a Horse Mackerel, or a Loggerhead Turtle, and Mr. Fish does not venture on a description of any part but his head, and expressly declares that the tail was never once seen. Mr. Prince attaches much importance to his "glaring eye," as seen by his servant; and Mr. Fish to the white under his throat, as seen by one of his companions. What, I let me ask, has a more glistening eye than a Loggerhead Turtle, or what is whiter under the throat?

The distance of the first protuberance, or rather wavy, from the root of the neck, is precisely where it would appear, in the track of the Turtle: the distance of the rest, and their gradual declination, would be as described by them.

We have had proofs of the existence of Krakens, of Mermaids, and even of Hittches, much stronger than have been spread before the public respecting the aforesaid Sea Serpent, and yet still doubt their existence. I must, therefore, be permitted to doubt in the existence of the Sea Serpent, until we have better evidences than we have yet seen.

A SOUTHERN MAN.

Our correspondent is really a sturdy sceptic. Independent of the descriptions, have we not had a portrait of the serpent, drawn by one who saw him, and the accuracy of the likeness vouched for by several others? If our Eastern friends should happen to catch the Serpent, there at some who probably would not believe it unless it was towed round into the Potomac for their inspection. "See no is believing" appears to be their motto.—Editors Int.

FRANKLIN, (GEN.) SEPT. 4.
The following is a correct extract of the confession of Charles L. Bennett, now confined in the jail of William county, for the murder of William T. Hay. If the following be a correct statement, (and the manner in which it is made, renders it plausible enough) we think that every extended to this man, would not be mistaken or ill-timed. We are induced to these remarks, from the circumstance of their not having before been known. (For the prisoner plead "not guilty") a desire to inform our readers, and, if possible, to remove those rooted prejudices which exist in the minds of the community, in relation to this man's unfortunate case. If Bennett had made such a confession of the transaction on trial as he has now done, his defence would have been much simpler and more satisfactory, and his punishment, if any, would have been less. If the following statement of facts be correct, and the fear of unpleasant consequences, which would have been his, had he not made this confession, be the cause of his doing so, it is a strong proof against him.

There is a strong prejudice existing against this man, (his criminality apart) we have heard once unacquainted with the circumstances attending it, and almost with the nature of the offence itself, denounce the poorest courses on the head of the unfortunate offender. We should not, extremely anxious how we entertain these prejudices, were the death of a fellow creature the effect of our operations. Bennett was sentenced on circumstantial testimony, and we are not sure, but that in many cases, to amount to positive evidence. We are not an unimpaired jury, we would not under the same circumstances have remained in our duty according to the law and the evidence. According to the evidence, Bennett murdered Hay, with design to enrich himself, and with "malice aforethought," and according to the law his life was the penalty. But if the murder originated and was perpetrated as stated in his confession, the case is considerably altered. At least, let us consider the man and withdraw our animosity; his death will cancel his obligations to society; let it also cancel our hatred; it is sufficient that he knows he has sinned, without having that redemption exhibited by the knowledge of his being executed by the world.

Here follows a part of the confession, and is (as would seem agreeably to his request,) addressed to Mr. Ricey.

Sir,—At your request, I will now state to you the facts which have led me to my present deplorable situation, which are as follows, viz: On the evening of the 27th of Sept. 1819, when my wife left home to go on Capt. Walker's, Mr. Ricey and myself went to go to Clark Street, to watch for a man with what money I had, I signed to purchase a pair of hand-bar Capt. Walker's. Mr. Ricey and myself, after the departure of Mr. Ricey, went to the pasture and bought our nags; we put them into the stable and gave them some corn. While they were eating, we saw an owl light on a tree near the creek—Mr. Ricey took my rifle and shot the owl; he saw near a young squirrel; he called to me, and asked me to bring the shot bag. I did so, and we continued for a considerable time shooting squirrels. On our return home, we called on Mr. Griston's shop, near which place we shot a squirrel. I took it and asked Mr. Griston if he would have a broil, which he refused, and I took it to a hog. Some conversation took place on the subject of shooting Mr. Ricey's nags, which was rejected, and Mr. Ricey and myself went home, at which time the sun was about one hour high. We thought it too late to go to Mr. Stone's and return, which was about five miles; we concluded we would postpone it until morning, and go there to breakfast, and we went usual, took our dog and commenced a game of cards; at which we continued until about sun set, when our game stood thus: 6 and 6, and his own. In shooting the cards I discovered him to look at the face of them, and place the Jack of Diamonds at the bottom of the pack. I cut the cards—Mr. Ricey dealt them; and after dealing off the proper number, he dealt the fatal Jack of Diamonds from the bottom of the pack, and showed the money then in stake, which was ten dollars. I at first thought him in jest, and laughed at him for making so laughing an out; and told him that might do in Georgia, but it would never do to win my money. He, in an elevated tone, asked me what I meant? I told him I meant turning the Jack of Diamonds from the bottom of the pack would not do to win my money.—I was not in the habit of being cheated out of my money when I knew it. He replied, if I said he turned the Jack from the bottom, I was a d—d liar and a rascal. I told him to give me no more of his insolent language; if he did, I would slap his jaws, which I would do any day if it was any where else; and if he claimed my money in that manner, to take it, and I was done with him; and discovered himself to be a worthless scoundrel. In this case, with saying, "D—n you, you think your size will protect you;" at which time he seized a stick which lay on the floor, and aimed a blow apparently at my head. I made an attempt to dodge it, and at the same time threw up my left arm, on which the force of the blow fell, near my shoulder. I instantly seized the stick and demanded him to give it—He held the stick in my left hand, and gave him a severe slap (or blow) with my right, across the mouth, which broke him loose from the stick, and staggered him back from me, and caused his lips and nose to bleed. Then stepping to the end of the Piazza and threw the stick into the garden; during which time, Mr. Ricey ran to an ax that lay a small distance from

me, he picked it up, and made towards me with it drawn in a striking position—I saw my weapon of defence in the compass of my power, only a small pair of smoothing irons, whose handles were slightly conjoined together with a small string. I no sooner saw them than I took them in my hand to defend myself with.—I ordered him to advance no further with the ax.—His reply was, "D—d—n you, I will kill you with it." I stood in order of defence until he came within eight or ten feet of the piazza door, when he apparently intended to strike me.—I then threw the irons at him with considerable force—he saw the motion made, and aimed to dodge its effects by stooping, and turning his face to the left; the force of the irons struck him on the right side of his head, which instantly ended his existence. I left him in his gore as he fell, and went to go to Mr. Ricey's, to make known my situation, in a state of distress which almost rendered me insensible. I stepped at the creek and ran down on a log, and was deliberating on what would be best for me to do.

I saw a young man passing by with whom I was acquainted; I hailed him, and went to him with a flood of tears flowing from my eyes, and related to him the dreadful accident that had just taken place. I told him I was awfully afraid my wife would be taken on account of it, as I was not able to prove the cause I had for doing what was done. Another thing I told him, that I had been informed by Mr. Ricey that he had left home with about \$28.00, and that he had gambled away the principal part of it, and his friends would readily conclude that I had taken the part as defendant. He gave it as his opinion, that the thing had best be concealed, and his money at some time conveyed into the hands of his friends in such a manner as for no person to be suspected. I then asked him to assist me in concealing my misfortune; would he at first deny, and said he was afraid of being brought into a preliminary. I told him that was impossible to me to accomplish it without help, and if he would assist me, I never would disclose it on him, nor even to save my own life. I hope that will never be urged, for I never will give accusations that may accuse him.

What follows, relates to the arrival of the deceased, in which the young man took a part; and the young man was to take Hay's mare in order to remove every vestige that might lead to detection. Bennett appears deeply affected as he speaks to God in the most solemn manner, that his statement is "True as God is true." He speaks much of his family, and dwells with the utmost degree of feeling on their probable wretched situation, and the misery he has obtained upon them; he appears to be touched with the keenest remorse and repentance. He wishes to see his friends, and even his enemies, that he may pray for them, and advise them of the danger of persisting in their evil practices; and warn them to repent with the truest repentance, that they may deserve the mercy of Heaven.

We have given the confession in his own language, not having altered one word, or sentence. We have only found it necessary to make a few orthographical corrections, and in this shape submit it to the public, who are at liberty to make such comments, and draw such conclusions, as conviction may demand.

Foreign.

FROM THE LONDON PAPERS.

The following is an extract of the address of the Manchester Female Reforming Society.

The Manchester Female Reformers' address to the wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of the higher and middling classes of society. Dear Sisters of the Earth.

It is with a spirit of peaceful consideration and the respect that we are induced to address you upon the causes that have compelled us to associate together, and the miserable partners of our woe. Bereft not only of that support the calls of nature require for existence; but the ban of sweet repose has long been a stranger to us. Our minds are filled with horror and despair, fearful on each returning morning, the light of heaven should present to us the corpse of our famished offspring, or nearest kindred, which the mere kind hand of Death hath released from the grasp of the oppressor. The Sabbath, which is set apart by the All-wise Creator for a day of rest, we are compelled to employ in repairing the tattered garments to cover the nakedness of our father and destitute families.—Every succeeding night brings with it new terrors, so that we are sick of life, and weary of a world where poverty, wretchedness, tyranny and injustice have so long been permitted to reign amongst men.

Dear Sisters, we feel justified in stating that under the oppressive system of Government that we now live, the same fate that hath overtaken us, must speedily be the lot of many of you, for it is said in the word of God, "Here the carcass is, there will the eagles be also;" and this we have proved to demonstration, that the lazy borough-mongering eagles of destruction have nearly picked bare the bones of those who labor. You may then fairly anticipate that when we are mingled with the silent dust that you will become the next victims of the voracious borough-tyrants, who will chase you in your turn, to misery and death, till at length,

the middle class of society is swept by their

relentless hand from the face of the creation. From every mature and deliberate consideration we are thoroughly convinced, that under the present system, the day is now at hand, when nothing will be found in our unhappy country but luxury, idleness, dissipation and tyranny on the one hand, and abject poverty, misery, wretchedness, misery and death on the other.—To avert these dreaded evils, it is your duty, now, therefore, to unite with us as speedily as possible, and to exert your influence with your fathers, your husbands, your sons, your relations, and your friends to join the Male Union for Constitutional Reform, a Reform in their own House; viz. the Commons House of Parliament, for we are now thoroughly convinced, for want of such timely reform the useful class of society has been reduced to its present degraded state; and but for such a reform the English nation would not have been stamped with the disgrace of having engaged in the late war, for the sake of a few acres of land, and against the liberties of France, that closed its dreadful career on the crimson plains of Waterloo where the blood of our fellow creatures flowed in such mighty profusion, that the fertile earth seemed to blush at the outrage offered to the choicest works of Heaven, and for a space of time was glutted with the polluted draught, till the Almighty, with a frown upon the aggressors, threw a veil over the dismal scene.

Let us now ask ourselves the cause of this dreadful carnage; "was it to gain immortal happiness for all mankind?" or if possible, "was it for another purpose?" Alas! no, the simple story is this, that all this dreadful slaughter was in cool blood, committed for the purpose of placing on the throne of France, contrary to the people's interest and inclination, the present contemptible Louis, a man who had been living for years in this country in idleness, and wandering from one corner of the island to the other in cowardly and vagabond slothfulness and contempt.

Let it be remembered at the same time that this war which was to restate this man, has tended to raise landed property three-fold above its value, and to land our beloved country with such an insurmountable burden of Taxation, that it is too intolerable to endure longer; it has nearly annihilated our own flourishing trade, and is now driving our merchants and manufactures to poverty and degradation.

We call upon you therefore to join us with heart and hand to exterminate tyranny from the face of our native country. It is our pleasure to inform you that numbers of your ranks have voluntarily mixed with us, who are fully determined in defence of the liberties of the Borough-brothers to aid us in our just and Constitutional career. Our enemies are resolved upon destroying the last vestige of the natural rights of men, and we are determined to establish them, for as well might they attempt to arrest the sun in the region of space, or stop the diurnal motion of the earth, as to impede the rapid progress of the enlightened friends to liberty and truth. The beams of angelic light that have gone forth through the globe hath at length reached unto men, and we are proud to say that the Female Reformers of Manchester have also caught its benign and heavenly influence; it is not possible therefore for us to submit to bear the ponderous weight of our chains any longer, but to use our endeavor to tear them asunder and dash them in the face of our remorseless oppressors.

We can bear no longer to see numbers of our parents immured in workhouses, our fathers separated from our mothers, in direct contradiction to the laws of God and the laws of man; our sons degraded below human nature; our husbands and little ones clothed in rags, and pining on the face of the earth. Dear Sisters, how could you bear to see the infant of the breast, drawing from you the remnant of our last blood instead of the nourishment which nature requires—the only subsistence for yourselves being a draught of cold water? It would be criminal in us to disguise any longer the dreadful truth; far in the midst of these privations, if we were to hold our peace, the very trees of the forest and stones of the valley would cry out.

These are a few of the consequences resulting from the mad career of the Borough-brothers; war, to say nothing of the thousands that have been slain, the widows and orphans that have been left destitute and unprotected, the hypocritical hireling, will blasphemously tell you, that these things are of Divine ordinance; in vain does he publish this to reason and common sense. The Great Author of Nature makes no distinction of person; the rich and poor are all alike to him; and surely the forked lightning, the awful thunder, the terrific earthquakes, and the howling and flaming volcanoes, are sufficient to chastise the most obdurate, without man becoming the oppressor of man. We close the disgusting scene, for language would fall infinitely short in painting the portait of our woes in all its horrible deformities.

In conclusion, we earnestly entreat you to come forward—posterity will bless the names they see enrolled under the banners of Reform. Remember that all good men were Reformers in every age of the world. Noah was a Reformer: he warned the people of their danger, but they paid no attention to him. Lot did in the like manner, but the deluded people laughed him to scorn; the consequence was, they were destroyed.—All the Prophets were Reformers, and also the apostles; so was the great founder of Christianity, he was the greatest