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midecellancous.

Short Patent Sermon.

BY DOW, JR. ON THE LANGUAGE OF NATURE. And this our life, exempt from public haunt, Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, Sermons in stones, and good in every thing.

My hearers, Life may derive many useful and moral lessons by turning carefully over the leaves in the great encyclopedia of nature. Every thing, from a grain of sand on the sea shore, up to the universe itself is capable of imparting knowledge to even wiser heads than mine. Good can be extracted from evil, and evil from good, however absurd and preposterous the notion may seem to your ideas of matters and things in general. Here is a potatoe that I have brought with me in my pocket for the purpose of illustrating the foundation of my discourse. A potatoe, as you all know, is a good, nutritious article of food, and is in genea full-grown man and a boy. Thus evil cometh will not be to dictate to the President, or reprimand must put on the pale jacket of decay, and sit modesty and self-distrust, until he is fully compeshivering in the hear frost of age. You can find tent to discharge his during the duri the name of Omnipotence, and the floods of time young men are scarce in our day-and we much There is a lesson for you, my friends! and if you but by virtue of the heart. can't or won't learn it, you are as stupid as a man made of shingles and shavings, and obstinate as a hog in harness. Go into the hall where fiddling, frolicking and dancing enliven the midnight hourthe shrine of fashion and folly.

and read on their silvery pages how pure morality flows on through the vale of iniquity untarnished by the vices that beset it in its course. The brook that silently meanders among the filthy bogs of the meadows, and yet reflects the calm blue sky from its lucid breast, is truly an emblem of that beautiful damsel, Virtue, upon whose heart the very image of heaven is indellibly stamped. There is a meaning and a moral to every thing; and O! it is delightful to ponder over the various inscriptions on the inanimate objects of Nature, or to go out from the public haunts of two legged rescals and hold a friendly chit-chat with the more interesting portion tion, consolation in the hour of trial, peace in the of God's creatures. The language of frogs, grasshoppers and katy-dids is not all Greek to me by a half a dozen idioms. I can understand them like a forever which you see stretching out before you. book; and break my spectacles if I hav'nt learnt Youth's Companion. from them that this world never tumbled itself together, but was rolled into its globular form in the plastic palm of Omnipotence; but not from a patent machine, like the universal pills of the present day. There are sermons in stones. They preach loud to every passer by who hath ears made to hear, and not for ornament, like those of a jackbottom's. The stones of the grave-yard preach not to the sleeping congregation below, but to the grief-shot mourners who go there to probe anew the wounds that forgetfulness has partially healed. These stones are the boundary marks between time and

human mould, and convey a solemn lesson to vain, mortal man. They tell him that his last earthly home is the durk, cold sepulchre—that he, too, must don the white night-gown of death, and lie down to sleep upon a couch of clay, and from which there is no getting up to breaklast—that his dim spots at first, and then twinkling into size. own body shall add nourishment to the long grass that waves on the graves of his fathers, and that guish the sacred dirt of mortality from the common effort.

foot of the monster death-so let us try to take stars go forth in the same order; constellation after that the night of the grave may not come upon us and we feel that our true home is upward. All and find us with scarcely a two-pence worth of oil else changes, these alone of creation seem the in our cans. So mote it he!

dust of the fallow.

Medest Young Men.

There is no object so beautiful to gaze upon, as a modest, unassuming young man. He betrays wisdom and knowledge by his daily life and demeanor. You do not see him first speak in a public assembly, nor foremost in any important undertaking. Although he is not backward in the discharge of his duty, he knows just where he belongs. He is never seen in highways giving out his opinpublic men, and predicting the destiny of our country. He seldom obtrudes his advice unasked. and when he gives his opinion, it is with caution and deliberation. He is not ambitious to be considered a great man, a man of talents, or a profound scholar. He will hesitate to have his name ral use, not only among Irishmen, but among other appear in print as a writer or lecturer, and nothing civilized and enlightened nations; and it never pains him more than fulsome adulation. Such was known to kill a man unless he happened to man, whatever may be his business or profession, swallow one whole. Now, you would naturally seldom thinks he is competent to discharge his suppose that pure milk might just as easily be duties, unless he is thorough in whatever he undersqueezed out of a brick-but as that whiskey could takes. If he study law, he will not think himself be drawn out of this potatoe; but, my friends, in a prodigy after a few months of reading Blackstone this you would err. Enough whiskey can be ob. or Kent, and feel prepared to give counsel on imtained from a bushel of potatoes to exflunctificate portant cases. If he enter college, his first step out of good-and in like manner, good can be the Professor; nor in the debating clubs and socidrawn out of many other substances that are evil eties will be strive for the highest honors, and intiin their natures. So much for the philosophical mate that he is the best capable to address them on part. Now I will commence fiddling on the moral their anniversary or to deliver the poem. If he string. You behold those trees, yonder, waving study divinity, he will not consider himself a protheir green mantles in the gentle breezes of the found theologian, because he has read Scott or south. Well, they have a language too plain to be Henry, and feel himself competent to discharge misunderstood, even by the trunat school boy who the duties of the pastoral office. If he go to a don't know his great A. It is neither Dutch nor trade, in a twelve month he will not feel capable of Greek, but plain English. They whisper, audibly, setting up for himself and running down his master. that the spring and summer of man's existence are If he be a clerk, he will not dictate to his purchasers crowned with the brightest of verdure-that then what to buy, and feel competent to decide for them he flourishes in the genial atmosphere of hope and which is the best piece of goods, which the most love, while ambition, like a cucumber vine upon profitable to carry into a family, and by his airs the garden fence, sticks in its young tendrils, and and impertinences drive away customers from the braves the rough blasts of misfortune. Look at shop. If he be a sailor, he will not be anxious for them, again, when that old codger autumn has a captain's berth before he has been a single voy. squirted his yellow dye-stuff on their beautiful age before the most or learned a seaman's duty drapery, and they will tell you how soon that life In fine, whatever he undertakes it will be with can no more efface it than the negro can wash more regret that impudence, and self-importance, himself white with the pump water of Gotham .- and self-sufficiency, are so popular that the majority pool and Nansittart; Wellington took the towns The mild zephyrs wast the persume of slowers into of mankind will select one of the latter for any of Cindad, Rodrigo, and Radajos, and won the the windows of the gay-then come the wintry kind of business in preference to the former. They tempests, to burst open their nectarine cells, and believe that virtue and talents consists in noise and bear their sweetness away forever-affording this bluster, and the big swelling I, and therefore, most lesson to man: that the purse of his golden joys of our important offices are held by men not of the battles of Wilna, Smolenksi, Brodino, and which he doats upon to day may be snatched from intrinsic virtue, modest worth, and real capabilities, him to-morrow, and leave him a pauper on the but with those who talk the loudest, prate the parish of heaven. Go down to the wave-washed most, and descant upon their own worth and the strand where the sea-shells, cast from the false mighty objects which have been achieved through bosom of the ocean, are left decaying upon the their instrumentality. It is a shame that these beach, and you can read how spurious Friendship things are so, that real merit blushes in retirement has often left her unfortunate votaries to perish in unseen, while unblushing impudence basks amid holy priesthood, were armed for reciprocol carnthe withering sirecco of want-administering no the populace, and rides majestically over the heads age, and all Europe and America were made comfort to the francic mourner, Despair, as she of the multitude. So it will always be till manstands wailing over the death-couch of Hope .- kind are estimated not by outward appearances, posed that more than one million of men, women

To a Mother.-Youthful mother, as you bend over the cradle of your first born infant, do you realize the treasure committed to your care? Do where roses are wreathed, and the red wine flows, you realize that in that tiny form lives a spark of and the pale sweat cozes from the white-washed the Eternal Essence—a branch of life breathed tablished her glorious Constitution; and yet even brow of Beauty—and there you may learn how into it by God himself, and do not you remember this noble work, in two years, was subverted by the sad are the after claps that merriment and jollity that it can never die-never? Do what your child perjury of the most mean and execrable wretch in invite. Take a peep in there just before they burst may -- become what he may, he can never cease existence--Ferdinand and the petticoat maker. up-when the gentlemen are dancing a Bacchus to be-forward, onward and still onward is his reel, and the crimsoned cheeks of the ladies begin destiny. And do you not know that it rests, I had to grow pale in streaks-when the roses have fallen almost said wholly, but by the blessing of God, it from their hair, and false teeth and false whiskers does rest principally with you whether the cherished stomach and necessity soon become companions. lie kicked about on the floor-and then say, if you darling, that sweet babe shall, a million of years can, that there is not something taught here. Ay hence, be a seraph, radiant and pure, bowing with -the scroll of vanity is unrolled before you, and the thousand times ten thousand before the throne the latter. in flaming capitals you may read how false and of God, or a fiend, a demon? Do you shudder? how fleeting are earthly pleasures when courted at Ah, well you might at this awful responsibility, were there no arm to sustain you, no heavenly My dear friends, let us go to the running brooks, Father to strengthen, no holy spirit to guide you.

But I entreat you look thoughtfully, soberly at the reality, at the future as it is. Raise your eyes from the cares, and toils and burdens of the household, and glance over that illimitable space which opens before you. Does not your soul rouse itself and feel some aspiration after the holy and good? some desire for a higher life than this? Come, then, with the beautiful, the beloved one in your arms, and offer both yourself and the babe which God hath given you, to Him. He will graciously receive you, and evermore bless and shield you. He will give both strength in the hour of tempta. I investigate further, and ask, what is the spring by which hour of danger, joy in the hour of death, and bliss, inconceivable bliss, through the whole of that long

SCRIPTURE FOR IT .- A distinguished writer says -" There is but one passage in the Bible where the girls are commanded to kiss the men; and that is in the golden rule, 'Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them."

THE YOUTHFUL MIND .- A straw will make an impression on the virgin snow; let it remain but a short time and a horse's hoof can scarcely penetrate it. So it is with the youthful mind. A triffing word may make an impression on it, but after a few years, the most powerful appeals may cease to influence it. Think of this, ye who have the eternity, beyond which is a disputed territory claimed by all denominations of christians, and also claimed by none. They are erected upon also claimed by none. They are erected upon to

his children's children shall pile up stones to distin- generating their own fires, and emitting light with

We may change our position on earth, and cross Now, my dear friends! the time will soon come the ocean, indeed; but upwards, we recognize the when we shall al! be crushed beneath the iron-shod beacons of our childhood and our home. The lessons of good from every object around us, so constellation ascends and shines with familiar light;

How great the thought to contemplate stars as worlds; centres, indeed, of systems, whose dependent worlds send down none of their reflected light to our distant orb, or, sending it forth, that light has not yet travelled to our sight. Contemplating these mighty orbs, and their stately march, sun after sun rising and passing away from us without a variation in their relative position, we feel as if the power that formed them and placed them there, had implanted a portion of itself in ions to a little circle, canvassing the course of their forms, and made them intelligences endowed with intercommunicable knowledge .- U. S. Gaz.

> BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS .- Sir John Herschell thus discourseth on the value, on the part of laboring men, of cultivating a taste for books and

newspapers: " Of all the amusements that can be imagined for a hard working man, after his daily toil, or in intervals, there is nothing like reading an interest. ing newspaper or book. It calls for no bodily exertion, of which he has already had enough, or perhaps too much. It relieves his home of dullness and sameness. It transports him into livelier and gayer, and more diversified and interesting scenes; and while he enjoys himself there, he may forget the evils of the present moment, fully as much as if he were ever so drunk, with the advantage of finding himself the next day with the money in his pocket, or at least laid out in necessaries, and without the drunkard's miseries of mind and body. Nay, it accompanies him to his next day's work; and if what he has been reading be any thing above the idlest and the lightest, it gives him something to think of besides the mere mechanical drudgery of his every day occupation ; something he can enjoy while absent, and look forward to with pleasure. If I were to pray for a taste to stand me under every variety of circumstances and be a source of happiness and cheer-

An Eventful Year.

The year 1812, was probably the most eventful was convulsed by the riots in the manufacturing districts; Mr. Perceval lost his life, and at his death commenced the detestable reign of Liverbattle of Salamarica; Spain abolished her Peerage and proclaimed her new Constitution; all South America was in civil war; and Napoleon fought Moscow, and finally saw his mighty host perish in the snow; the English likewise took Almarez and Seville, and witnessed disgrace and defeat from the Americans at sea and in the Canadas. In this eventful year, no atted on three millions of Christians under the sand on of the mother church and slaughter-houses of the human race. It was supspirit of Christianity is this? The only event of the year 1812, on which a rational person can reflect with satisfaction, is the spirit of freedom, which in Spain destroyed the Inquisition and es-

ADVICE GRATIS .-- When you can't have roast turkey for dinner, put up with any thing. The

Never refuse any thing offered you except a kick : because it is not always convenient to return

Marry a man for his good sense, amiable temper. omy, and you will then have a good husband.

No attraction renders a wife always so agreea. ole to her husband as cheerfulness and good humor.

THE GOLD WATCH. AN EMBLEM OF SOCIETY .- I have now in my hand a gold watch, which combines embel. lishment and utility in happy proportions, and is usually considered a very valuable appendage to the person of a gentleman. Its hands, face, chain, and case, are of chased and burnished gold. Its gold seal sparkles with the ruby, the topaz, the sapphire and the emerald. I open it, and find that the works, without which this elegantly chased case would be a mere shell, those hands motionless, and those figures without meaning are made of brass. all these are put in motion, made of ? I am told it is made of steel. I ask what is steel ? The reply is that it is iron which has undergone a certain process. So then I find the main spring, without which the watch would be mo-tionless, and its hands, figures and emblishments but toys, is not of gold-that is not sufficiently good; nor of brass, that would not do-but of iron. Iron is therefore the only precious metal; and this watch an apt emblem of society. Its hands and figures which tell the hour, resemble the master spirits of the age, to whose movements every eye is directed. Its useless, but sparkling seals, sapphires, rubies, topaz, and embellishments, the aristocracy. Its works of brass, the middle class, by the incress. sing intelligence and power of which the master spirits of the age are moved, and its iron main spring, shut up in a is disordered, broke or wants winding up, symbolically the laboring classes, which like the main spring, we wind up by the payment of wages; and which classes are shut up in obscurity, and though constantly at work, and absolutely as necessay to the movement of society as the iron main spring is to the gold watch, are never thought of except when they require their wages, of are in some want or disorder of some kind or other—Edward Borrett.

should be bestowed upon a justly distinguished citizen of their own state—one, admirably qualified for the successful discharge of any public duty, and though constantly at work, and absolutely as necessay to the movement of society as the iron confidence and good will of the Democracy of the Union. It certainly becomes others better than disorder of some kind or other—Edward Borrett. box always at work, but never thought of, except when it is disordered, broke or wants winding up, symbolically the

sorted in that canvass. But to pause a moment.

The letter to Mr. Van Buren closes with an expression of the conviction of its authors, that, by

supporting that individual for the P siency, they are "advancing and sustaining alose prince" ies which directed a Jefferson, a Madison, and a ack-son," (Monroe, it would seem, having some bow son," (Monroe, it would seem, having some bow were concerned, it would be entirely satisfactory to lost caste with the Modern Democracy.) But is this assumption tenable. Jefferson was avowedly in favor of the protective duties, even though the consequence should be a surplus revenue—to get rid of which, rather than reduce the duties, be proposed its application, (even should an amendment of the constitution be necessary to confer upon Congress the power so to apply it,) to the internal improvement of the country. "Shall we suppress the imposts," he emphatically asked, "and give an advantage to the foreign over the domestic manufacturer?" Mr. Madison fully concurred in these views of the protective policy, and he likewise gave, by his official signature, life and belikewise gave, by his official signature, me and being to the second National Bank, as Washington had done to the first. As for Jackson, whether we look at his votes in Congress, at his election eering letters when a candidate for the Presidency, or at his official messages after his election to that or at his official messages after his election to that now, at least, be recognized by a sast majority of office, we find unequivocal evidences of his advocacy of the protective system, going as far as he who went farthest-and, while he was not very decisive in his support of a National Bank, he clearly admitted both the constitutionality and expediency of "a" Bank, erected by the authority hension upon that subject. The extra session folof the General Government in some form or other. lowing immediately upon its heels, unmasked those And it will not be denied, that, whether he was objects too clearly to admit of their being again in favor of a Bank or not, in any shape, he was obscured or misrepresented. An opportunity, and decidedly hostile to the Sub Treasury, which, although it was in 1833, denounced by the organs and champions of Jackson's administration as the incarnation of Federalism is now the leading article of the Modern Democratic creed? These fulness to me through life, and a shieldagainst being facts, susceptible of historical demonstration-facts which we presume will not be ques- all probability affect the interests of the country for tioned by any reading man, of any party, in the country-it follows, that if Mr. Van Buren does really intend to "advance and support those principles which directed a Jefferson, a Madisor, and Lackson, "he is yety much misrepresented by a where, by the way, as well as in some of the other states in which a protective tariff is popular, he is pronounced in public meetings of his friends, to be not only in favor of the principle, but as being really quite as good a tariff man as Mr. Clay!

But this is aside from Mr. Van Buren's own letter-which we proceed to lay before our readers: and to subjoin a brief commentary:

LINDENWALD, January 20, 1844. Gentlemen :- I have had the honor to receive ry, the employment of the former struck at the your obliging letter communicating the proceed- very foundation upon which our political edifice ings of a state Democratic mass meeting, held at was based. for the Presidency.

and children were butchered or otherwise destroyed ry character. An expression of opinion so im- at the period of its formation, that our Government in this memorable year. What a picture on the posing as that you have been depute to convey to can be upheld. Without more particularly noticing ciates, could not fail, at any time, to excite my profound gratitude.-There are circumstances, however, attending this, which seem to deserve a more particular notice at my hands.

state have been in some respects peculiar. They most interesting crisis in my political career. I have been honored and cheered by their good will. when it was not in their power to render it effective, that of their political brethren of the Union. Why should I not embrace an occasion so opportune, and probably the last that may occur, to asis sound morals, his habits of industry and econ- during the whole course of my political life hareal ever, for a moment, doubted their disposition to do me ample justice? Although they dissented from my nomination, I felt assured that they were actuated by motives which were entitled to my entire respect. I have, therefore, never ceased to cherish, in common with the friends of our cause throughout the Union, towards the unconquerable, and as the fullest experience has proved, the unpurchasable Democracy of Pennsylvania, sentiments of sincere respect for their adherence to Democratic principles under circumstances the most adverse, and admiration of the unfaltering spirit with which they have from time to time struggled with domestic dissentions, I cannot, therefore, gentlemen, too highly appreciate an expression of confidence and favor, proceeding from so respectable a portion of them, on this, the last occasion on which my name can ever be presented to the country for any election.

Yet these are not the only considerations which give interest to the proceedings which you have transmitted to me. It is known to all, and by no one more cheerfully admitted than by myself, that a majority of our political friends in Pennsylvania the unfriendliness always displayed towards him, preferred that the honor which those whom you even when he was a candidate for the Vice Presirepresent have now so cordially awarded to me dency, by a very numerous portion of the Locoshould be bestowed upon a justly distinguished citi- foco party in Pensylvania, is eminently character-

From the Lynchbur fisk losing an election, Mr. Van Buren real service to the state. The proceedings of a that such drones and in recently at Harrisburg, (I into the core mentary to Mr. Van Buren, and expressing the character of our country, in consequence of the result of the election in 1840," may elicited from the defeated leader of that year's memorable struggle a very incautious and insulting reply. Avoiding a discussion of the great measures which divide the two parties, as, if not of inferior, certainly not of greater importance than the reversal of the decision of 1840, he dwells with peculiar severity, considering his usual courtier-like strains, upon many of the means to which the Whig party resorted in that canvass. But to passe a moment.

The letter to Mr. Van Botton closes with an expression of the conviction of its authors, that, by supporting that individual for the P vency, they supporting that individual for the P vency, they ished, for myself. It is not, however, so well have them unite with our political friends in the state, in giving its vote in convention to him who was the choice of the majority. That this suggestion has not been adopted, was, I feel assured, not because those to whom it was addressed were less friendly to the favorite of the state or less sensible of his claims upon the respect and confidence of his countrymen, but altogether owing to considerate as growing out of the contest of 1840, which they deemed imporative. I cannot, I am confident, add anything to be masterly and eloquent description which you have given of that national struggle. Neither am I unmindful of the bias, which

> However difficult it may then have been, to define with requisite certainty the political objects for which our opponents waged the contest of 1840, there can now assuredly be no room for misappreit is earnestly to be hoped that both parties will concur in endeavoring to make it a fair one, will therefore, now be presented for the people of the United States to make a choice between two opvernment, the influence of one of which, will in good or for evil, for a series of years to come.

Nor is this the only, nor even the most important aspect, in which the renewal of the contest of which you have spoken with so much emphasis, Singular as it may seem to those who are not in situation to judge correctly of the circumstances. t is nevertheless true, that a condemnation by the people of the United States, of many of the means to which our opponents had recourse in that canvass, is not less important to the permanent welfare of our country and its political institutions, than the overthrow of the principles they labored to establish. - While the effects of the success of the latter were in a measure limited and tempora-

Harrisburg on the 17th instant, at which my name It has hitherto been our pride to live under powas, with entire unanimity, presented to the De- litical institutions which are founded upon reason mocratic party of Pennsylvania, as the candidate and virtue, in the establishment of which neither force nor fraud was employed, and we have cher-I cannot refrain from saving that I have recelv- ished the belief, that it is only by an inflexible obed your communication with feelings of no ordina. servance of the exalted principles which prevailed me, coming from any portion of my political asso. the humiliating details to which you allude in your communication, can it be pretended there could be any expectation of success for such efforts, unless founded upon the assumption that the popular voice was not " under the guidance of reason and My relations with the Democracy of your great virtue," or upon the supposition, that the moral principles of the people to whom those degrading sustained me by their confidence and support, at a appeals were made, might be corrupted by a resort to such practices? The belief that the use of such means contributed to the result of 1840, must have lowered the character of our people in the and their support was at one time withheld from estimation of mankind, and if so, how much would me, and conferred upon another, when I received their respect for us be diminished, should the coming canvass be so conducted, as to establish the impression that the American people are liable to be always thus imposed upon? Liability to occasure them, that neither then nor at any other time | sional error is an nifirmity from which no individual is exempt. What right have we then to expect that communities should be infallible? But there is a wide difference between an occasional aberration, and a confirmed defect of character. Can we expect the people of this country to maintain the elevated standing in the eyes of the world, which they have hitherto enjoyed, if, after the lapse of years, and the fullest opportunity for reflection. they suffer themselves to be a second time operated

> cation and disgust! You do not therefore, gentlemen, in my judg. ment, over estimate the importance which the proccedings of 1840 are destined to give to those of 1844. Considerations will be brought into view by that connection of greater magnitude than any which have ever been involved in our political conflicts, and compared with which all personal and party interests dwindle into insignificance.

> upon by appliances, from the use of which every

friend to free Government must turn with mortifi-

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, Your friend and obedient servant. M. VAN BUREN.

The manner in which Mr. Van Buren adverts to