

# THE WESTERN DEMOCRAT.

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A FAMILY PAPER—DEVOTED TO POLITICS, LITERATURE, AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, MINING, AND NEWS.

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Mr. Barringer's Reply to Hon. Kenneth Rayner.

SHARON SPRINGS, N. Y., Aug. 28, 1855.

DEAR SIR:—I have this day received your letter of the 7th inst., but postmarked Raleigh 13th inst., and also postmarked Saratoga 27th, whence it has been forwarded to me at this place, where I have been since the 10th of this month. I refer to these dates for the purpose of accounting for any seeming delay in answering your letter—a delay which I regret as much as yourself. I now hasten to reply to it as briefly as possible, considering the nature and length of your communication. Omitting all comment on the tone and spirit of your letter, I shall refer to its material parts with every disposition to do you the most ample justice, consistent with truth, remarking only, that, in my opinion, your letter was not needful for your own vindication.

As to the principal subject of your letter, the substance of the conversation had with me by the Pope's Nuncio at Madrid, in reference to the appointment of Mr. Campbell as a member of the Cabinet I have nothing to vary, add to or detract from the contents of my letter to you of the 11th July, which I have been published. It is true that the Nuncio was the first person who told me of this appointment, and that it took place before the organization of the Cabinet was generally known at Madrid. But it is not true that the conversation occurred before the 4th of March, or before the Cabinet was formed, or before intelligence of this fact had been received at Madrid.—Information of the formation of the Cabinet had not yet reached me, until informed by the Nuncio. You ask, in your letter, how is this possible? The answer is plain, and may solve the doubts which you seem to have, and remove the error into which you have, unfortunately, fallen on the subject. There is a telegraph from Paris to Madrid, and from the French and Spanish frontiers, which is some 250 miles more or less from Madrid. This telegraph (which is not electric, but of signals, or was then,) is owned by, and is under the direction of the Spanish government as well as the "Correo," or mail express, from Bayona to Madrid. In this way the government often and in fact generally obtains information of important events one, two, or even several days before intelligence is received in the usual and regular mode of conveyance by the mail. I remember a striking instance of this in the circumstance that the death of Gen. Taylor was made known to the government by telegraph, and that the then Minister of Foreign Affairs, in an undated note, communicated the melancholy event to me the day preceding its public announcement by the press of Madrid, and several days before it was finally confirmed by the regular arrival of American papers and letters at the Legation. So in the case of the conversation referred to by the Nuncio, the government had doubtless received information of the formation of the Cabinet at Washington, either by telegraph or express in advance of the intelligence made public by the ordinary means, and some person connected with the government or with that department of it, having control of the despatches and the mail, believing that it would be agreeable to the Nuncio to have this information, especially as a member of the Cabinet was reported to be a Catholic, mentioned it to him; and so it happened that I saw him first afterwards, when he mentioned the fact to me, before it was known to the public generally, and before it was known to the Nuncio to whom it was actually received by telegraph or by written despatches to the government as was often the case, and then immediately to the Nuncio by some persons having knowledge of the fact, as I have stated, I cannot say pretend to say, Nor is it material. I am sure there was no impropriety in the mode in which he was informed, and that there was no surmise on my mind about it, nor, I presume, with any other person familiar with the facts. Whether or other names of the Cabinet were mentioned or not, or whether Mr. Campbell was mentioned by him as having charge of the Post Office Department, I cannot now certainly remember, though my belief is that he did so state. All however, was made known to me very soon thereafter, and I think the next or succeeding day was made known to the public generally. At this distance of time, I do not remember the exact day. There was nothing extraordinary at all in the whole affair, as extraordinary as it certainly would have been to me in such a way and under such circumstances as to induce me to believe he had a previous knowledge that the appointment would be made; and much more had there been any reason to believe that he was cognizant of any political bargain or intrigue to that effect, as there certainly would have been if he had informed me before he received information of the appointment being actually made. The whole amount of it is simply this: That he happened to receive this information of the Cabinet a short time before I did, and before it was generally known at Madrid who constituted its members.

The reason why I remember the circumstances at all is, that he expressed his pleasure at the appointment of a Catholic to office, and his admiration of that feature of our republican government which excludes no one from office on account of his religious opinions. He did not as you misunderstand me to say, according to your letter, "express gratification that his church was so strong and influential in the United States as to obtain such an honor," but he more than once on subsequent occasions, alluded to the principle of religious toleration as one of the fundamental bases of our political institutions. There are other misapprehensions, certainly inadvertent, in your letter, to which I do not here deem it important to allude. I have referred to this conversation with the Nuncio, when in social intercourse with others as well as yourself, surely not for the purpose of proving a political bargain with Archbishop Hughes, or with any other Catholic persons in the last Presidential election of the United States, for as you properly remark, I had been for years out of the country and was not thoroughly conversant with the charges and issues, and undercurrents of the Presidential election. I had nothing to do with it; but as a representative abroad, endeavored to serve the interests of my country without reference to party distinctions of any kind whatsoever.

But I have mentioned this conversation for the purpose of showing the interest taken in our country by the higher order of the Catholic Clergy in Europe; and as an illustration of what I have had several occasions to observe, as I did to yourself on this subject and in this very connection, that the leading members of that church are as familiar with our affairs, and our resources—our geography—our general history and progress than many of the wisest statesmen of Europe. I repeat, I have never connected it in my own mind or otherwise, for the purpose of proving the charge of political corruption to which you refer—but for a totally different object, as just stated. And here, in your great mistake—but one into which, with your views on the subject of that charge—and without the knowledge of the facts connected with the conversation which I possess, you might naturally fall, I mentioned it for one purpose—namely, to employ it for another, without, as I think, any just ground for doing so. You are mistaken in supposing that I ever mentioned it to you at any time as confirmatory of the political charge to which you refer. I could not have done so, for I never believed so. It would have been absurd in me to believe so, unless I had imagined, as you seem to think, but which the facts do not sustain, that the Nuncio had previous knowledge that the appointment was to be made, and before it really was made. The first time I saw in what I regarded as an imperfect report of your speech at Washington, published in the Raleigh Register, the circumstance of this conversation is used as proof of this charge. I hastened to correct the error on my part, in my letter to you of the 6th of July at Sharon Springs. And when I saw that it was afterwards quoted as authority for a statement in a 4th of July Oration at Washington, for saying not only that the Pope's Nuncio at Madrid, gave me this information—but that it was given before the formation of the Cabinet was known to the public here—in the United States—and that it was used to establish, in part, this charge of political corruption, I wrote to the author, Mr. Ellis, to correct the statement in a letter which has been published.

"It was entirely proper and not out of record" that I should state, as I have done in the letters on this subject, my own inferences from the information communicated to me. It was essential to the whole truth; for without it, error on impressions were being made, never intended by me—and, in my opinion, not justified by the facts.—When this matter was referred to by us at Baltimore in June last, when I met you for a short time, I did not at all suppose that it had been, or that it was to be used in connection with this charge nor did I suppose, in our first conversation at Raleigh, that it would be used for any purpose, public or private. For although the conversation with you were not confidential, but in the freedom of casual social intercourse, I could not suppose I would be quoted as authority on such a subject and for such a purpose, in public addresses, without a written permission and statement from me. In reply to your inquiry, whether I intended in my letter to say that my opinion now is that there was no such understanding as that referred to in regard to the Roman Catholic vote being given to Mr. Pierce, or whether your opinion now is that the Pope's Nuncio had no previous knowledge of an intention to appoint Mr. Campbell, I answer, unhesitatingly, that my opinion has not changed, and that I certainly think the communication made to me by the Pope's Nuncio affords no proof of such a charge or understanding. Whether there be other allegations and facts circumstances of direct or not, I am not aware. And, as an honest man I am bound to presume innocence until guilt is shown, in all cases, and especially in a matter alluding so deeply to the honor of the country as well as the high parties immediately implicated.

You need not fear, my dear sir, that any unwillingness on my part that I should be misrepresented to the injury of Mr. Pierce or the Pope's Nuncio, could operate to allow my name or opinions to be used or perverted to your injury. I wish to do justice to all and the cause of truth. Your integrity or veracity is not in question. You say what you believe to be correct. You only draw an inference, and form an opinion from a fact which you think legitimate—but which I, with necessarily a better knowledge of the circumstances, feel confident, is erroneous and ill founded. As to any supposed bias, political or otherwise, contrary to truth as I understand it, it is scarcely necessary to say that I would scorn to allow it to influence me. It is hardly necessary to say to you and others to whom I am at all known, and while I have never been a violent partisan or zealot, I have always been a consistent Protestant. In politics, and in religious faith, I have endeavored to be in the one and in the other, as most congenial to exercise a spirit of toleration, as most congenial to truth and sincerity in both. And it while in the one and in the other, I have endeavored to practice toleration towards my opponents, I certainly will not now abandon a spirit so essential to republican freedom, and especially at a period in our affairs, when the nation needs the united efforts of all her conservative, patriotic and truly

national men of every party and section, to avert impending dangers which threaten our government and people, and, in an especial manner our own region of the country.

As to several particulars which you report of our conversation in Raleigh, about the practices and worship of the Romish church in Spain, and especially as to the statement that many, or that any Protestants, denied the right of Christian burial, being given over to the "unburied"—and as to the "state of indulgences," if you mean the sale of indulgences as practiced in, and before the time of, the Reformation, and not the worship of the Virgin and the Cross, constantly found in public places of worship, and often in the public offices and streets, with inscriptions and placards attached, promising indulgence for sins on condition of prayer and travel in certain monies, which every traveler in Spain and some other parts of the Continent is familiar—and as to some other less important particulars to which you refer in this part of your letter, I can only remark that there are several discrepancies from what was really said, and that you are evidently mistaken, without intending to be so, in several matters. I allude to it also for the purpose of showing how easy it is to make inadvertent mistakes, in attempting to report a casual conversation had in a cursory manner and in the frankness of social and friendly intercourse. Deeming this portion of your letter irrelevant to the main subject, and that my reply may not be too long, I omit any further observation upon it.

As to that portion of your letter which refers to the publication of mine to you of the 6th of July, I have to say, that my desire and expectation was that if the subject was alluded to again in public, the correction should be made by publishing all and not merely a part of the letter—the inferences made by me as well as the facts stated—for I think that both were necessary to the correction requested and a just understanding of the matter. As, however, a similar statement was made in my letter to Mr. Ellis, of July 23d, which has been published, I do not now deem the publication of the one to you important. The copy of it, which you supposed you had forwarded to me was not the same, but a copy of my letter to you of the 20th July, requesting the publication of that of the 6th as soon as possible; of which letter, however, I had retained a copy when written.

As to the statement of the Union of July 28th, charging you with suppressing my letters, &c., &c., I freely admit there was cause of complaint. And as soon as I saw a notice of it in another paper, (for I did not see the Union itself,) I sent a note, dated July 30th, to the Editors of that paper, of which I enclose a copy. Whether it has appeared or not in that paper, I do not know—but presume not, from your letter—and therefore I will again, at once, forward a copy with a request that it be published, or that the offensive portion of the statement be corrected.

I remain, very truly and respectfully yours,  
D. M. BARRINGER.

Hon. KENNETH RAYNER,  
Raleigh, N. C.

Sketches of English Statesmen.

SIR EDWARD LYTON BELWER.

OF SIR E. L. BELWER LYTON—as he has recently denominated himself—is a gentleman who must be considered in the double light of an author and a politician. In the former capacity he has attained to a proud eminence; for who has not read the works of this gentleman? He is a novelist—a poet—and a philosopher; he has studied much read deeply; and he is evidently an excellent historian. His style varies according to the nature of the work which engages his attention; he can pass by easy transition and without an effort, from grave to gay; and he is as much at home in depicting the flippancy of modern fashionable conversation as in dialogue turning on the most abstruse subjects. Take, for instance, some of the conversations in "Pelham" and compare them with others in "Rienzi" and "Zorine"; you would hardly think they were written by the same person. Again, take the account of the destruction of Heracleum and Pompeii in "Rienzi"; and place it alongside of one of the highway robbery scenes in "Paul Clifford"—and what a wonderful contrast do you behold! Some of the papers in the "Student" prove Sir E. L. Belwer to be deeply imbued with the spirit of philosophy. And yet he is peculiarly sensitive in respect to the criticisms on his works. Thus when his drama of "La Valliere" made its appearance, Jules Janin, the celebrated French critic, cut it no "ship and thigh" in the Journal des Debats; and Belwer was amazingly mortified. He took a speedy opportunity to average himself in his own way. In "Alice; or, The Mysteries," he entered upon a long and really clever disquisition on French literature; but in the course of his observations, he exclaimed, after paying some high compliments to the most remarkable French writers—"Oh! that a country which produced such men, should have spawned forth a Jules Janin!" Now Janin happens to be a very clever writer; and this attack on him by Belwer was too ridiculous to create a contrary impression. The world accordingly saw where the shoe pinched; and the Times laughed at the baronet, who was thus compelled to write in the grasp of the Thunderer, as he previously sneered beneath the lash of the French critic.

Sir E. L. Belwer has been most successful as a novelist. His works have passed through many editions—have entered into Standard Literature—and have been collated, re-edited, and re-published in a convenient shape—have been re-printed in France and almost every European tongue. His reputation is not therefore confined to England; it fills the world. He may be styled the metropolitan novelist of England as De Balzac is the pride of France. His works are not merely everyday books which we throw aside never to resume, after a hasty perusal; they are standard volumes in every library—they may occasionally serve as books of reference—their philosophy raises them to an eminence far above the common tale of interest, purposely written to afford a momentary amusement. But great as Belwer is, there is a mightier master in the same sphere of literature than he—a magician whose wand is more potent—a necromancer whose spells are more intimately entwined around the human heart—and that man is De Balzac.

The one is occasionally inconsistent; the other natural to the very life; the one is intoxicated with the celebrity he suddenly acquired; the other, conscious of his own merits, pursues his own praises with calmness; the one affects to be more deeply read than he really is; the other unwittingly suffers his vast knowledge to blaze forth at intervals; the one is an egotist; the other is void of all pride; the one confounds in the same individual dishonorable conduct and lofty feelings together; the other persistently draws a strict line of demarcation, and never depicts his characters at variance with themselves; the one trusts much to a great popularity; the other writes as if he were a timid author whose name is as yet unknown; the one is full of pretention; the other is unassuming and retiring; in fine the one is Belwer, who is vain enough to think he can attempt any thing; and the other is De Balzac, who essays not to emerge beyond the limits which a thorough knowledge of his own abilities has traced for himself.

"Ernest Maltravers" is deficient in incident, and will not interest those who merely read to be amused. Nor was it to that class that Sir E. L. Belwer addressed himself. To the thinking portion of the literary world the book was welcome, for to that portion did it speak. The hero is a man of genius whom every circumstance combined to bless, so far as high birth, pecuniary possessions, and great talent can render an individual happy. He is a strange compound of good and evil; at one moment he teaches a lovely girl, whom certain occurrences consigned to his care, to know and adore her Maker, and in the next he seduces her; and then he weeps over the Bible, and seeks for consolation in the arms of another mistress. That such a concatenation of discrepancies in feelings and sentiment may exist in a mind singularly organized, we do not doubt, but the *veritas* is not always the most *veri* *sandabile*; and a certain tint in the sky, or the dark blue surface of a certain lake, appearances which are really natural, frequently shock when copied in a picture by the too faithful hand of an artist.

"Ernest Maltravers" is a book that a severe critic of a whimsical disposition would delight to lavish his caustic remarks upon; and there is throughout ample scope for censure. At the same time the work abounds with innumerable beauties, deep thought, profound reflection, and a philosophical vein of sentiment that is not to be encountered in the generally of parallel and contemporary works. The design is lofty, the character for the most part well depicted, and the whole is interspersed with a great deal of fine writing.

We have dwelt somewhat upon this work, because it has been pronounced Belwer's best novel. It is certain that he received a thousand guineas for the first edition, and half that sum in addition on the occasion of a reprint. No English novelist has received such high prices as Belwer for his works, because it Mr. Dickens was paid two thousand pounds for his "Nicholas Nickleby." It must be remembered that this work contained three times as much as "Ernest Maltravers."

As a poet, Sir E. L. Belwer has not shone so eminently as a novelist; although fine verses to him the authorship of the "Modern Timon"—a satirical political composition.

A somewhat savage, but certainly talented commentator on the works of Belwer, has thus apostrophized him:—"Come, Pelham—bid Bedos exorcise himself; let him put the warm bath and the eau-de-Cologne glass in requisition; see that the mirror surface of the polished boots is faultless; in the sacred name of Adonis, throw those gloves into the fire! What, Pelham—dofit himself with *cleaned* gloves, smelling violently of gall! Bah! yet masculine at the small they emitted. Reform this altogether: Pelham must have no weak point such as this; a single mistake in a well got opinion is a destruction. And, Bedos, be particular in the color of those under vests. A valet should have the eye of the most graced Regent street hanger himself. There is a genius required to harmonize with delicacy those hues. We noticed in your last effort something too much of gaudy contrast. This, added to the odorous gloves, gave a faulty style to the ambulating specimen of your abilities. Be it remembered, however shocking it may be to our national vanity, that it is an axiom in the science of dress that no English gentleman can possibly pass through the ordeal of fashion without the aid of a French valet. Now you are perfect, Pelham—and can come forth from your Gothic dressing room of carved oak panels and stained glass, and the world will look upon you with reverence and wonder; while from the eyes of the fairer portion of the throng of gizzers, perchance your perfections may draw glances of love. Ladies and gentlemen, here is Pelham! Maltravers tells some thing short of your ideas of Pelham. His affection is a little more transparent than we had thought that of Pelham to be—his face—tell it not in Gath—is not near so handsome as we had anticipated. In his fair complexion, his prominent nose, and his large whiskers, there is not much to object to; but where is the character—intellect?"

These observations created a considerable sensation some years ago, when they first appeared; and Belwer was mightily incensed. And he had reason to be—for the writer was most unjust towards him. Belwer is not such an off-hand family as the world considers him to be, and as that writer reprehended him; he dresses with exquisite taste and follows the fashion—but in his leisure hours, his conversation, and his mind, he is really an Englishman in the true sense of the word. He is certainly a polished gentleman; and, if he does now and then wear an appearance of effusion and exhibit certain symptoms of exuberance, he assumes it all as a pleasant mock. Like a Venetian during the carnival, he puts on a character which ministers well to his momentary pursuit or object, and as long as his purpose lasts, he sustains it well.

In the House of Commons Sir E. L. Belwer seldom appears as a speaker, although he is seldom absent from divisions of any importance. Instead of speaking frequently on subjects of little moment, and impressing the House with a favorable opinion of his powers at a time when he might be a Triton amongst the minnows, he generally chooses the occasion of a full House and important debate. In public speaking his voice is very pleasing, although not powerful; but his delivery would be much more graceful if it were a little more natural. He never delivered a speech which he had not previously written out. His style is good for the sabbath and for being too hastily

Then does this gentle Arab steed become beautiful in his greatness and "the glory of his nostrils is terrible." As the shades of evening close, the wanderers, in the grand all lessening circles, approach the patriarchal tent, and every nightfall brings along with it these various incidents of pastoral life, that make even its very monotony a continual round of fresh recurring and pleasurable emotions, which the Arab would not barter for the pomp and glitter and richness of an empire. Amidst the blessing of his flocks, the neighing of his steeds, the lowing of his herd, and tinkling of his camel bells, the Arab Emir wakes from his slumber, and sprinkling his carpet, sits in the door of his tent, surrounded by his children, his slaves, and the principal members of his tribe. The dew covered plains sparkle before him like a sapphire robe; the morning breeze impart a cooling and delicious fragrance to all around; a still and melodious harmony seems to vibrate over the bud and child of Nature by wants, sympathies, and tastes, he knows no joys but what she affords, and appreciates no gifts but what she imparts. Every hour taken from such exhilarating moments as these, except perhaps, the more stirring periods of a distant foray, when he leads out his tribe in search of a disputed pasture, or in retaliation from wrongs incurred, is one of unalloyed disgust.

State Fair

The time for holding the State Fair, (we would remind our readers,) is rapidly approaching. We trust the number of persons who have already made up their minds to attend is more than double that of the thousands of spirited and patriotic citizens, whose agreeable and profitable meetings and greetings, on the two former occasions, have sent an electric influence from centre to circumference of the State, which will never cease to exert a most salutary influence upon her greatest and highest interest; and that thousands more, yet undecided, will at once resolve to do themselves and the cause of improvement in the service to be present, and, if possible, to bring with them something to contribute to the exhibition. There is not a moment to lose in making the necessary preparation. Let every one commence forthwith, to make his arrangements, and so dispose his business before hand, as to be ready to devote a week to this highly interesting and instructive assemblage of the friends of improvement. All may thus make it to themselves the most profitable, as well as delightful, week of the year.

We address not only those who reside in the neighboring counties, but the people of the whole State in the most remote counties, at the most inconvenient distances. They are all equally and equally interested, and will be amply repaid, for any and all of the patriotic sacrifices they may make to participate in this great and important movement. Every County should be represented with specimens and samples of men, and productions of skill and industry. Their delegates should be here in great numbers, with appropriate emblems and banners ready to take their places in the grand procession, and contribute their full share of the onward march and ultimate triumph of the pleasurable and peaceful pursuits of industry and civilization. We therefore, call upon leading men in every county, who stand before our minds eye, whom we know to be public spirited, intelligent and influential, to see to it, that their respective counties shall be represented at the Fair. Let them remember in the West as well as in the East, that this is a GREAT STATE MEASURE. There is nothing local or sectional in it. If anything, the weaker and more remote sections are more deeply interested in its success than any others. We could easily demonstrate this, should we have the leisure to do so; but a little reflection will convince the intelligent mind of its truth, and indicate to the patriotic his duty. The fact, that in this matter, all is to be accomplished by the voluntary action of the citizens, and that everything, in such cases, depends upon the zeal and activity of a few leading spirits, makes it imperative upon that few to come forward and exert themselves in the cause, which of all others, of a secular nature, is dearest to the masses, and the people all over the State shall be fully arrayed. There are leaders in every county, who, like Roderick Dhu, in a political campaign, have only to give one sound of their whistle, and the face of the earth is immediately alive—not with "plaided warriors armed for strife,"—but with excited partisans rushing to a "mass meeting." If the remark of Dean Swift—"that he who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before, deserves more of his country and better merits the gratitude of mankind than the whole race of politicians put together"—be true, would not these chiefs be employed in a nobler work, by sounding their whistle in the cause of improvement, and summoning their followers to the State Agricultural Fair? That many of them are not engaged in agricultural pursuits, is no excuse for a neglect of this duty. It is well known that professional men have much scientific, agricultural and mechanical knowledge, and when they turn their energies to it, make the best farmers; and, moreover, their interest is so interwoven with manual labor pursuits, and the prosperity of those pursuits, are so indispensably necessary to the existence and support of civil government and society, it becomes the duty of good citizens of all professions to take an active part in all measures intended for their advancement.

Before we close, a word to the citizens of Raleigh and Wake County. They have a peculiar part to perform in the great work before us, and the STATE EXPECTS THEM TO DO THEIR DUTY.—THEY NOT ONLY LABOR UNDER HEAVY RESPONSIBILITIES, but have a deep interest in the success of the Fair and the permanent location of the State Grounds at the Seat of Government. Let all, therefore, set about to do their best to make the Fair attractive and agreeable. First, let all prepare something to carry to the Fair; secondly, let all become members of the State Society; and, thirdly, let all be liberal and zealous in manifesting their interest in this great State enterprise.—Let the citizens of Raleigh make it known beforehand, that their country will all be welcome visitors during the Fair—that the string of their latch will be ever outside of the door, and the latch ready to fly up at the call of visiting strangers from whatsoever quarter. Let the people of all Wake County

Then does this gentle Arab steed become beautiful in his greatness and "the glory of his nostrils is terrible." As the shades of evening close, the wanderers, in the grand all lessening circles, approach the patriarchal tent, and every nightfall brings along with it these various incidents of pastoral life, that make even its very monotony a continual round of fresh recurring and pleasurable emotions, which the Arab would not barter for the pomp and glitter and richness of an empire. Amidst the blessing of his flocks, the neighing of his steeds, the lowing of his herd, and tinkling of his camel bells, the Arab Emir wakes from his slumber, and sprinkling his carpet, sits in the door of his tent, surrounded by his children, his slaves, and the principal members of his tribe. The dew covered plains sparkle before him like a sapphire robe; the morning breeze impart a cooling and delicious fragrance to all around; a still and melodious harmony seems to vibrate over the bud and child of Nature by wants, sympathies, and tastes, he knows no joys but what she affords, and appreciates no gifts but what she imparts. Every hour taken from such exhilarating moments as these, except perhaps, the more stirring periods of a distant foray, when he leads out his tribe in search of a disputed pasture, or in retaliation from wrongs incurred, is one of unalloyed disgust.

The Magician of Egypt.

Egypt swarms with magicians now, as in the days of Moses; not do the practitioners of the present day bring any discredit upon their renowned ancestors, thus furnishing strong circumstantial evidence of the truth of the inspired narrative. So wonderful are the prodigies they perform, that they have been deemed worthy of grave record in works on Egyptian life and manners, and been vouchsafed by authors as things which they saw and heard, but which they neither explain nor account for. And some of them not only witness these marvelous things, but actually learned how to perform them, and yet were unable to give any explanation, only that they did as they were told and the result attained.

There is a branch in their hidden art, employed to bring hidden to light which has been practised with startling effect. In the process various numeraries are gone through, such as writing certain words on paper, separating and arranging them, burning corn and frankincense, and making diagrams, in the midst of all which is deposited a few drops of black ink, which is called the magic mirror, and into which a boy, selected at random looks intently, and sees anything concerning which you desire information, posting you up in relation to it to your heart's content.

Two of the British Consuls, residing at Cairo successively, have published the results of their own observation in relation to the matter, gravely testifying that, having used every precaution against imposition, making their own selection of the boy who was to receive the mysteries of the magic mirror, they propounded questions to him concerning matters in England, which it was impossible for him to know anything about, and received answers corresponding with facts in every instance.

It were invidious before intruding their inquiries; both repeated their interrogatories a number of times, and put them in various forms, in relation to various subjects, but always with the same result; the correct answer being invariably given, and both continued incredulous still, and yet thus testified to the facts.

This beats our own chairwoman's long way, for the latter only hit the mark occasionally—about as often as one would naturally guess right. I did not myself put the pretensions of these professors of the black art to the test, being satisfied, as I said, with the demonstrations forced upon me in the street.

Jugglery, in all its various forms, develops itself as the natural born offspring of such a parentage. Among innumerable facts of the juggler here, he allows himself to be searched from head to foot, and then submits to be bound up in a sack, which has been sewed, and from which he very complacently makes his exit, holding in one hand a lighted candle, and the other a plate of saw-wood, of which the spectators partake, and to return for which they are expected to throw him some coppers.

An Arab Emir.

The space of ground occupied by the tent of an Arab Emir is nearly a hundred yards in length. From the centre rises conspicuously the awning, which covers the rooms more immediately set apart for himself and his family, surrounded by a glittering gilt ball, out of which truss aspers his head with pendant horse tails. The gilt room, which is at the farthest extremity of the tent, is laid down with Persian carpets of the richest manufacture; along three of its sides runs a divan, the seating and cushions of which are made of the softest wool, curiously wrought into a variety of patterns and expressly made for a thickness and durability calculated to stand the wear and tear of continual renewals. The rest of the tent is partitioned off into divisions for the reception of the various stores of corn, rice, barley, oil, butter, &c., in which consists the Emir's wealth and consideration.—Around him, as far as his eye can reach, rove his flocks of sheep and camels, accompanied by groups of thorough-bred mares and horses, the latter occasionally bedridden by perfect infants, gambolling on the bare backs of those wild and tractable animals, which seem, as it were, to return the caresses of their innocent playmates, and to acknowledge a mutual charge, by the gentleness of their paces and the docility of their movements; but when, when a stronger hand reins them in, and urges their course, suddenly display the fire and indomitable energies of their nature, pawing in the valley and rearing in their strength.

Then does this gentle Arab steed become beautiful in his greatness and "the glory of his nostrils is terrible." As the shades of evening close, the wanderers, in the grand all lessening circles, approach the patriarchal tent, and every nightfall brings along with it these various incidents of pastoral life, that make even its very monotony a continual round of fresh recurring and pleasurable emotions, which the Arab would not barter for the pomp and glitter and richness of an empire. Amidst the blessing of his flocks, the neighing of his steeds, the lowing of his herd, and tinkling of his camel bells, the Arab Emir wakes from his slumber, and sprinkling his carpet, sits in the door of his tent, surrounded by his children, his slaves, and the principal members of his tribe. The dew covered plains sparkle before him like a sapphire robe; the morning breeze impart a cooling and delicious fragrance to all around; a still and melodious harmony seems to vibrate over the bud and child of Nature by wants, sympathies, and tastes, he knows no joys but what she affords, and appreciates no gifts but what she imparts. Every hour taken from such exhilarating moments as these, except perhaps, the more stirring periods of a distant foray, when he leads out his tribe in search of a disputed pasture, or in retaliation from wrongs incurred, is one of unalloyed disgust.