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THRIFT.

"Now," said Henry Hemphill to his young wife, when they went to house-keeping, "it's my business to bring money into the house, and you're to see that none goes foolishly out of it." This was the agreement with which they set forward in the world. He chose her, first, because he loved her, and in the second place, because he knew she was sensible, economical, and industrious—just the reasons which influence a sensible man in his choice now. And he thought it best that each should have a distinct sphere of action. Their interests were one and indivisible; consequently each had the same motives to act well the allotted part. His business called for his whole attention; he wished therefore to pursue it undisturbed by other cares; for himself he looked for happiness only at home; there he expected a supply for all his wants, and he was of course not disposed to spend any thing abroad, in pursuit of what he thought every reasonable man ought to look for in the bosom of his own family. Her duties all domestic, she was able to compass them the better by turning her whole attention to them. Her husband's business doing habits, his temperate and correct life, had all the power of example, enervating her esteem, and doubling her anxiety to deserve his.

They married without wanting to get rich; they neither trusted Providence nor each other. With little besides health, and a disposition to improve it, they nevertheless had that strong confidence of final success, which prudent resolutions inspire in those who feel that they have perseverance enough to adhere to them.

To attach a man to his home it is necessary that that home should have attractions. Harry Hemphill's had. There he sought repose after the toil and weariness of the day, and there he found it. When perplexed, and lowspirited, he retired thither amid the soothing influence of its quiet and peaceful shades; he forgot the heartlessness of the world, and all the wrongs of men. When things went ill with him, he found always a solace in the sunshine of affection, that in the domestic circle beamed upon and dispelled every cloud from his brow. However others treated him, there all was kindness, confidence and affection; if others deceived him, and hypocritical, with its shameless face, smiled on him to delude and injure him, there all was sincerity—that sincerity of the heart which makes amends for suffering, and wins the troubled spirit from misanthropy.

Nothing so directly tends to make a good wife, a good housekeeper, a good domestic economist, as that kindness on the part of the husband which speaks the language of approbation, and that careful and well-directed industry which thrives and gives strong promise that her care and prudence will have a favorable issue. And Harry Hemphill had this taken and this assurance.

Harry devoted himself to business with steady purpose and untiring zeal; he obtained credit by his plain and honest dealing; custom by his faithful punctuality and constant care; friends by his obliging deportment and accommodating disposition. He gained the reputation of being the best workman in the village; none were ever deceived who trusted to his word. He always drove his business a little before hand; for, he said, "things go badly when the cart goes before the horse." I noticed once a little incident which illustrated his character—a thrifty old farmer was accosted in the road at the end of the village by a youngster, who was making a great dash in business, and who wanted to borrow a few hundred dollars. The old man was perfectly ignorant where it could be had, and sided off from him as soon as he could. He rode directly down to Hemphill's and told him he had a few hundred dollars to loan, and wished he would take it; the payments should be easy; just as would suit. Indeed, replied Harry, you have come to a bad market; I have a little cash to spare myself, and have been looking round these two weeks for a good opportunity for putting it out.

While Harry was prospering in his business, all went like a clock at home; the family expenditures were carefully made; not a farthing was wasted, not a scrap lost; the furniture was all neat and useful, rather than ornamental; the table plain, frugal, but wholesome, and well spread; little went either to the seamstress or the tailor, no extravagance in dress, no costly company-keeping, no useless waste of time in ceaseless visiting, and yet the whole neighborhood praised Mary Hemphill, and loved her, she was kind without dissipation. And while few people lived more comfortably, none lived more economically.

The results of such management can never disappoint the expectations to which it looks. Even the angry frown of misfortune is almost put at defiance. Advantage ground is soon gained which the storm seldom reaches. And the full reward comes in the proper time to crown the merit of life thus spent.

The waste of Harry's tools was in full

play on the morning that I left the village for a distant residence. It was not yet sunrise. And as the coach bore me rapidly past the cool and quiet residence of the villager, I saw the door was open, and the breakfast smoking on the table. Mary in her neat morning dress and white apron, blooming in health and loveliness, was busy amid her household affairs; and a stranger who chanced to be my fellow passenger to the city, observed it, and said, "there is a thriving family, my word for it." And he spoke well. There are certain signs always perceptible about those who are working things right, that cannot be mistaken by the most casual observer.

On my return to Alesbury, many years afterwards, I noticed a beautiful country residence on the banks of the river, surrounded by all the elegance of wealth and taste. Richly cultivated fields stretching themselves out on every side as far as the eye could reach; flocks & herds were scattered in every direction. It was a splendid scene, the sun was just setting behind the western hills—and while a group of neatly dressed children sported on the adjacent school house green, the mellow notes of the flute mingled with their noisy mirth. "There," said an old friend, "lives Harry Hemphill; that is his farm—those are his cattle—here is his school house, and those are his own, and some orphan children of his adoption, which he educates at his own expense—having made a noble fortune by his industry and prudence, he spends his large income in deeds of charity, and he and Mary mutually give each other the credit of doing all this."

My heart expanded then—it expands still, when I think of them—and I pen their simple history in the hope that as it is entirely imitable, some who read it will attempt to imitate it.

From the Microcosm.

"Marry for love and work for treasure, then spend your time in peace and pleasure."

If this principle generally prevailed, the earth would be a paradise; with no restless old maids, crusty old bachelors, and incongruous matches. But, alas, a more malignant star rules its luckless destiny. Riches is the grand incentive that moves the greater part of the world to worship at Hymen's altar; and the sly little archer but seldom penetrates the heart of his object, unless his arrow be tipped with gold. The first question asked by the old folk respecting the suitor of a daughter is, "is he rich? is he rich?" With many gay and thoughtless young daughters, too, is the chief inquiry; and no wonder, when the parents are swallowed up in solicitude upon this point alone. And with all light-headed, iszy, and haughty young men wealth is the great *sine qua non*. There is no charm, no virtue, no accomplishment without it. Though she be as beautiful as Helen and as virtuous as Lucretia, if she be not rich as Croesus, the lovely damsel is left to sigh her life away in the shades of neglect.

Is this wise? is it just? is it reasonable? How many sighs are heard, how many tears are shed, how many hearts are broken, and how many lives are rendered intolerable by this shocking mania! Intended unions are frustrated. The hectic flush, the hoarse cough, and premature death follow in rapid succession. Connexions are formed by artifice or compulsion. Then comes domestic discord. Careless indifference, cold neglect, angry frowns, and fierce contentions, succeed each other quick as thought, "but fly not half so quick away." Tongues, shovels, brooms, knives and forks, are made to play a curious game, for which they were not intended; and whiskey, waste, want, woe and wretchedness, close the drama.

These are not the pictures of fancy. Would to Heaven they were! They are drawn from real life—from scenes with which the world is but too familiar. The cause has already been told; and as a knowledge of this "is half the cure," we will proceed to give the other half—the remedy. As in nature heterogeneous bodies never will mix together harmoniously, so it is idle to suppose that peace and happiness can result from principles so widely variant in every respect as vice and virtue—rude and refinement. Let, then, riches be a secondary consideration. Follow the dictates of reason; get into business, be temperate, industrious, and economical; and when you want a companion to share your joys and soothe your sorrows, make *virtue*, not *property*, the test of qualification. Dr. Johnson well observes, "he must expect to be wretched, who pays to beauty, riches or politeness, that regard which only piety can claim." Purple and fine linen may cover a vicious person; riches may take to themselves wings and fly away. But neither of these can make a "brutish man" a good husband; nor a foolish woman a good wife. Solomon says "it is better to dwell in the house-top, than to live with a contentious woman;" and it is certainly better to enjoy the sweets of a single blessedness, than to live with a wretched husband, though he feed in a golden trough. Then ask not, is he rich? is she rich? But is he virtuous? is she virtuous? is he sensible? is she sensible? They owe the

Government, it is true, for duties on goods imported; but does it therefore follow that they are defaulters within the spirit or intention of the resolution to which I have referred? The Secretary, moreover, knew that, by a law of the extra session, these merchants were permitted, on certain conditions, to withhold payment for the periods and upon the conditions therein provided. So much for the merchants. And then comes the "former purchasers of public lands." Why, sir, I am astonished. Who is it that charges the government the first dollar as a "former purchaser of public lands?" The Secretary ought to know, as every body knows, that the former purchasers of public lands, made under the credit system, have long since either relinquished the purchase and obtained scrip therefor, or forfeited the land to the government. I appeal to every Western man now before me to say whether or not I am right. "You know, (pointing to Mr. Hamer of Ohio,) you know, sir, that your Secretary either knows nothing about this matter, or is wilfully practising a deception upon this House and this nation."

ANOTHER EXPOSITION—MORE LIGHT.

The following is an extract from the Speech delivered by Mr. Southgate of Kentucky, on the Treasury Note Bill. It will be read with great interest by all who want light.

Mr. Chairman, I desire distinctly to be understood, and here in my place, before the assembled Representatives of the people, I charge the fact to be, and challenge any gentleman friendly to the Administration to deny, if he dare, (and if he does, I will prove the charge from the record,) that your land office receivers, in and out of office, have in their hands the enormous sum of one million nine hundred and fifty thousand dollars, (\$1,950,000); that your defaulting custom-house officers not now in office, but who have been fully surfeited and given way for a fresh set, have in their hands the round sum of one million four hundred and twenty seven thousand four hundred and ten dollars, (\$1,427,410.) making, in all, three millions three hundred and seventy-seven thousand four hundred and ten dollars, (\$3,377,410.) Nor, sir, does this sum include the two thousand and more of defaulting post masters; nor are the custom-house receivers now in office, who are defaulters to the government, and other receivers and disbursers of the public revenue, embraced in this estimate; because the Secretary of the Treasury, for reasons best known to himself, has declined to give us the information. And, sir, that the committee and this nation may fully understand the subtleties and shuffling evasions of the Secretary of the Treasury in endeavoring to conceal from us the true condition of those in office, and the amount of the defalcation, I beg to refer the committee to the resolution which passed this House on the motion of the honorable gentleman from Virginia, (Mr. Garland,) and which, together with the novel reason of the Secretary, I shall read in support of the charge and for the edification of the committee. Here is the resolution:

"Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury communicate to this House, as early in the next session as practicable, the names of all receivers, collectors, or depositaries of the public money, who are in default to the Government; the amount of such default; the length of time due; the security given, if any; and how much has been, or will likely be, lost; together with a copy of all correspondence upon the subject, from the 1st of January, 1834, to this time."

This resolution was adopted at the extra session, and it not only required the Secretary of the Treasury to send us the names of "all receivers, collectors, or depositaries of the public money, who are in default," but to send us also all the correspondence in relation to the subject. I repeat, sir, the Secretary was ordered to inform us "who are in default." The resolution was general, full, and comprehensive; requiring the names of all "who are in default," those in office, as well as those out of office. And, sir, instead of complying with the plain and simple meaning of this resolution, apparent upon its face, and which could have been understood by any school boy in my district of ten years of age, he has sent us, for our edification, a list of public defaulters, who were not in office on the 12th of October, 1837! Not one word, not one name, or one letter, with reference to those defaulters who are in office. And in order the more effectually to divert our attention from the true object of the inquiry, and say something which he supposed would satisfy my honorable friend from Virginia, Mr. Garland, who was curious to know the true condition of these biped sub-treasurers, he gives us in his report the following most extraordinary reasons. He says:

"But it will be seen that they do not include any cases connected with the Post Office Department, as its concerns have usually been kept separate, and are supposed not to be embraced in the purviews of the resolution. For similar reasons, the cases of disbursing officers, attached to the army and navy, or to other departments, and the cases of individuals, such as merchants and former purchasers of public lands, are not included, though the indebtedness of many of them is very great."

What, Mr. Chairman, does the Secretary mean, when he speaks of the cases of "individuals," "such as merchants" and "former purchasers of public lands?" These are not the "individuals" embraced in the resolution. Why, sir, this is a downright insult to the understanding of the House. Does the Secretary suppose we are so stupid as to believe that there are any "merchants" who are defaulters to the government, "as collectors, receivers, or disbursers of the public revenue?" No such thing. They owe the

receiver at Helena, in Arkansas;—there the defalcation is largely upwards of one hundred thousand dollars, and the penalty of the bond only twenty thousand dollars. The report shows throughout, a culpable negligence in this particular, on the part of the Secretary, and, sir, the result will turn out to be a loss to this Government of a very large amount. And now, Mr. Chairman, while we have these subtleties before us, and have some practical knowledge as to the manner in which they have taken care of the money, and as you propose hereafter to place all of our money into the hands of these same individuals, or a fresh supply of them, in gold and silver, with all your provisions for security—such as strong boxes and bars, and bolts, and keys—I intend to offer an amendment to that bill, (if you should see fit to bring it up,) and I hope you will adopt it; that you have a chain provided for each sub-treasurer, well secured and fastened to his body and his strong box, who may, like a lion fastened to a pole, move in solemn mockery around the treasure of his master, to prevent him from running away and forgetting to leave his money behind.

I am sensible, Mr. Chairman, that this may be considered somewhat of a digression from the main question, but I have been forced into this debate at this late hour, against my will; and if you are rendered the least unhappy, in consequence of some of the exposures which have been made, you must take the "responsibility" on yourselves. I have not yet done either with the Secretary or his defaulters, or with the chairman of the committee of ways and means.

Speech of Mr. Bond, (or Ohio.)

On Mr. Hopkins's Resolution to divorce the Government from the Press.

(Continued.)

Another precept of the reforming report.—The committee thought the mode of "appointing and compensating bearers of despatches liable to strong objections, prone to degenerate into a species of favoritism little short of a convenient mode of sending favorites abroad to travel for their pleasure, health, or instruction, out of the public coffers."

Practice.—The President and his Secretary of State, both Jackson reformers, now take a favorite clerk of the State Department, whose salary at the time was at the rate of \$1,760 per year, send him as bearer of despatches to Mexico, and, for about three months' service, pay him \$1212 88, and suffer him also to draw his clerk's salary for the period of his absence! For this I refer you to the case of Robt. Greenhow, who is the translating clerk of that Department; all the facts of the case being stated in the reports of the Secretary. He excuses this transaction by saying that the translations which were required during Mr. Greenhow's absence were made at his expense. It might be well to inquire whether any translations were required during that period, and why also it would not have been quite as well to discontinue the salary for the time, and let the Government pay for any translations which were needed. But do we not here distinctly realize what the retrenchment report condemned in these words: "that an actual incumbent is considered to have such a sort of property in the office as to enable him to farm out its duties, and to receive a part of its revenues for doing nothing?"

Another illustration of this "convenient mode of sending favorites abroad," "out of the public coffers," is found in the same list of contingent expenses of foreign intercourse. I allude to the case of Mr. Charles Biddle, who, when nominated by Gen. Jackson for a judgeship in Florida, was rejected by the Senate.

After this rejection Mr. Biddle was despatched by the Executive to Central America and New Grenada. What service he rendered we know not; but it appears that for this mission an allowance of \$7,122 95 has been made. Mr. Charles Biddle is the same gentleman who had a controversy with Mr. Senator Grundy, in which the devotion of the latter to Gen. Jackson was questioned. We learn by one of the printed documents, occasioned by that dispute, that the Senator, for the purpose of proving himself to be what is called a "whole hog Jackson man," said he "had swallowed the hog not only whole, but wrong end foremost, taking the bristles against the grain; and had gone for all Gen. Jackson's dog-tail nominations, even to Charles Biddle."

You may remember, Mr. Speaker, that great fault was found with Mr. Clay for an allowance to John H. Pleasants, who was employed as bearer of despatches, and sat out on his voyage, but, being taken ill, was obliged to abandon it, though he caused his despatches to be safely delivered. In the account, which I am now examining, we find the sum of \$1,523 72, paid by Mr. Forsyth, the Secretary of State, to Eleazer Early, sent with despatches for our Charge d' Affaires at Bogota, but which were never delivered. The sickness of Mr. Pleasants furnished no palliation, in the minds of the reformers, for the payment made to him, though he caused his despatches to be safely delivered. Yet these same gentlemen find ample pretext, in the alleged shipment of Mr. Early, to pay him \$311 35 for expenses, \$527 37 for clothing, bedding and books, lost or abandoned by him, and \$714 for one hundred and nineteen days' compensation, at \$3 per day, though his despatches were never delivered!

At this same time, too, Mr. Early appears to have been receiving a salary

of \$1,500 a year as Librarian of the House of Representatives! It would seem that Mr. Secretary Forsyth is not a stranger to this "convenient mode of sending favorites abroad, to travel for their pleasure, health, or instruction, out of the public coffers."

I also find that \$3,515 are charged for contingent expenses of Wm. T. Barry, late Minister to Spain. Now, sir, it is well known that Mr. Barry never reached Spain, but died on his way there. He, of course, received the usual salary and outfit; and I am at a loss to know what contingent expenses, incurred by him, could justly be charged to the United States.

There appears, also, to have been paid to John R. Clay, in 1836, \$3,381 41, as "compensation for certain diplomatic services." This gentleman, at that time, held the place of Secretary of Legation at St. Petersburg, with a salary of \$3,000 a year, and the payment to him of the further sum of \$3,381 41, may be justly questioned.

Other items, indicative of extravagance or favoritism, may be seen in this contingent expense account of foreign missions, but I will not stop to specify them.

It will also be found that, in the days of this "searching operation" and "reform," the standing committee of this House on the expenditures of the several Departments attended to their vocation. But, very soon after Gen. Jackson came into power, these committees became so much a matter of mere form that the chairman of one of them declared here, during the last Congress, he had never even thought it worth his while to convene his committee, and he appeared quite surprised, or at all events amused, that any inquiry was expected to be made in regard to the expenses of these departments! This state of things forms a strong contrast with the report made here in April 1823, by Mr. Blair, of Tennessee, chairman of the committee on public accounts and expenditures in the State Department. He, you know, Mr. Speaker, was a Jackson reformer; like the select committee, he found every thing wrong, and promised to correct it. The purchase of books, the employment of a librarian, and many other things, were censured—even the right to purchase a print or likeness of Gen. Washington, to be suspended in the Department, was questioned. How stands the matter now? Why, large sums of money are yearly expended for the library of the State Department, and many books purchased, which are certainly unnecessary.

Besides the purchase of books, periodicals, and newspapers, made from this Department by its disbursing agent at home, there was expended in London, during last year, for similar objects, nearly \$500. A librarian is employed, at a salary of \$1,540 equal to that paid to the librarian of the great public library of Congress. All this, too, sir, under the auspices of gentlemen who said that this part of the expenses of that Department was censurable, and ought to be dispensed with, as all the officers of the Government could well avail themselves of the public library at the Capitol. But, Mr. Speaker, the times changed, and Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Forsyth, changed with them. "The State Department is now laid off into grand divisions. When Mr. Clay had charge of it, the Blue Book exhibited a list of a dozen names, all under the head of clerks. One of these acted as translator for the Department, and his salary was \$1,150; another paid out the funds, and was charged with the contingent expense account and received 1,150 a year. How soon is all this simplicity and economy forgotten! The Blue Book of last year divides this Department into a "Diplomatic Bureau," a "Consular Bureau," a "Home Bureau," a "Translator," whose salary is \$1,760, a Disbursing Agent, whose salary is \$1,595, a Librarian, whose salary is \$1,540, a "Keeper of the Archives," whose salary is \$1,540, and gives one man \$300 year for packing, filing, arranging, and preserving newspapers and printed documents." This is done by that boasted "democratic party" which affects such holy horror at any appearance of what they call "aristocratic grade." If the Turk whose letters are found in Salmagundi, had seen his display of "Bureaus" in the State Department, he would have been better justified in his admiration at "the grand and magnificent scale on which these Americans transact their business." But I have yet to add, that those who questioned the right of the State Department to purchase a print of the immortal Washington have used the money of the People to buy prints of General Jackson, and now of Martin Van Buren, for almost every room in each of the Departments!

Mr. Speaker, during this "searching operation," and auspicious fault finding, every petty expense of the several Departments was looked upon with open censure. I well remember that an item of some few dollars, paid a laborer for destroying the grass which was growing between the bricks of the paved walk leading to the State Department, was held up to public view as a piece of ari-