

Poetry.

FROM THE CHARLESTON COURIER.

LOVE'S BILLET-DOUX.

Love wrote a billet—what do you think
Was Love's paper, pen and ink?
Not such things as mortals use;
Ink of sable, quill of goose,
Pewter stand, and paper wove
Out of rags, wont do for Love.
He cut the heart of a dove in two,
And mixed the drops with honey dew;
In an amber vase he plac'd it then,
And went to seek for a lover's pen.
He plucked a ray from the setting sun,
A plume of light, as the day is done,
For Love is warm, tho' night invades,
And Love is bright among the shades.
He waited till the stars arose,
Ere he his billet would compose;
He wrote on rose leaves, newly blown,
Because their fragrance is his own.
A glass of capillaire he quaffed,
Then laughing wrote, and writing laughed.
"We were for each other born,
"We are from each other torn;
"Where we should, then let us be,
"I with you, and you with me."
Love copied then his Billet-Doux,
One for me and one for you;
He sealed them with his own dear kiss,
And sent them by the mail of bliss.

Literary Extracts, &c.

Variety's the very spice of life,
That gives it all its flavor.

MAJOR GENERAL GRENE.

[From the 2d volume of President Dwight's Travels.]

"The Honorable Nathaniel Greene, a Major General in the army of the U. States, and during the latter part of the revolutionary war, Commander in Chief of the army in the Southern States, was a citizen of Providence.— This gentleman was born at Warwick in the year 1740. His parents were of the sect of Friends. In early life he was fond of study and reflection; and particularly attached to the history of military transactions. In Providence he established himself as a merchant; and acquired a distinguished character in the estimation of his fellow citizens. After the battle of Lexington, he went as Brig. General at the head of three regiments to Cambridge. In August, 1776, he was raised to the rank of Maj. General; and very honorably distinguished himself in the following December and January, by his gallant behaviour at the battles of Trenton and Princeton: as he did the succeeding year in the battle of Germantown. In March, 1778, he accepted the place of Quarter Master General, on the condition of retaining his rank, and his command during the periods of action.— This year he signalized himself, June 28th, at the battle of Monmouth, and in the action on Rhode-Island the following August.

After the defeat of Gen. Gates at Camden, August 16, 1780, he was appointed to the chief command of the military force in the Southern States. Upon this command he entered in circumstances, which would have discouraged almost any other man. After the miserable defeat above mentioned, that part of the country was, in a sense, overrun by the British.— Multitudes of the inhabitants had already joined the enemy. Multitudes more were on the point of following their example. The rest, tho' sufficiently firm and resolute, were continually wounded by the defection of their neighbours, and perpetually in fear of the ravages of invasion. Col. Williams had, indeed, with the aid of his generous companions, Tracy, Banan, Campbell, Shelby, and Cleveland, checked the progress of the enemy by the gallant action at King's mountain; as had Gen. Sumpter by two honorable efforts at Broad and Tiger rivers.— But their force was too small to obstruct, in any serious degree, a well appointed and victorious army, commanded by officers of distinguished talents.

In these circumstances Gen. Greene commenced the arduous business of recovering this country from the British. At his arrival, he found himself at the head of 3000 men, including 1200 militia. These he divided; and sent one part under Brig. General Morgan into the district of Ninety-six; the other he himself led to Hick's Creek on the north side of the Pedee. Morgan was attacked by Lt. Col. Tarleton, a brave and skilful partisan, at the head of a superior force. But he repulsed the attack, and gained a complete victory. Lord Cornwallis, with the whole British army, pursued Morgan's detachment; at the head of which

General Greene, after a rapid journey, placed himself, and conducted it with such felicity and success, as to reach the main body, in spite of one of the most vigorous pursuits in history. He was, however, still pursued with the same celerity until he arrived in Virginia: but he completely eluded the vigilance of the enemy.

The moment the pursuit ceased, having received reinforcement, he marched after Lord Cornwallis; and gave him battle at Guilford Court House, now Martindale. Victory declared for the British; but cost them so dear, as to produce all the consequences of a defeat. Lord Cornwallis retreated.— Greene immediately following him, and finding that he was directing his course to Virginia, returned to South Carolina, and marched at the head of 1100 men within a mile of Camden, then defended by Lord Rawdon with 900 men. The British Commander attacked him. He was again defeated; but with so little advantage to the victors, that his lordship found himself obliged to burn a considerable part of his baggage, and to retire to the south side of the Santee. Greene, in the mean time, directed his several detachments with such skill, and the highly meritorious officers, by whom they were led, employed with such activity and gallantry, that a great part of the British posts in Carolina, and Georgia, were rapidly re-taken, and a considerable number of the troops, by which they were defended, made prisoners. He then made an unsuccessful attempt on the post at Ninety-Six; and was obliged to raise the siege by the approach of Lord Rawdon. He next moved his force to the south side of the Congaree. The British having collected theirs, passed that river also, and took post on the Eutaw Springs, on the south side of the Santee. Here Greene determined to attack them in their encampment; and the consequence of his attack was a victory, which ended the war in this part of the Union. Gen. Greene took the command of the southern troops near the close of the year 1780. The battle of the Cowpens fought on Jan. 17th; and that of the Eutaw Springs on the 6th Sept. following. The troops under his command were chiefly new raised, half armed, half clothed, and often half fed. They were, however, brave determined men; and wanted nothing but the usual advantages of war, to meet any soldiers in equal numbers, on fair ground. Within nine months, therefore, did this illustrious man, aided by a band of gallant officers, recover with these troops the three Southern States from a veteran army of superior force, commanded by officers of great merit, and furnished with every accommodation. The country he found in a state of extreme suffering and despondency. His progress through it was a source of perpetual personal hardship, intense labour, and unremitting anxiety. Seven months was he in the field, without taking off his clothes, even for a single night. At times he was obliged to ask bread of his own soldiers; themselves miserably supplied with food.— Yet he never desponded.— "Nil desperandum" was the motto of his military life. The very letters, which conveyed to Congress, and to general Washington, accounts of the difficulties with which he struggled, contain also, proofs of his invincible fortitude and resolution. When he was advised, after he had retreated from Ninety-six, to retire into Virginia; he answered, "I will recover South Carolina, or die."

With this gentleman I was well acquainted. His person was above the middle stature, well formed, and invested with uncommon dignity. His mind, possessed of vast resources, was bold in conceiving, instantaneous in discerning, comprehensive in its grasp, and decisive in its determinations.— His disposition was frank, sincere, amiable and honorable; and his manners were easy, pleasant, affable, and dignified. Seldom has the world witnessed superior respectability.

This great man died June 19th, 1786, at his own house in Georgia, when he had commenced his 47th year."

FROM THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

Arms of the United States.—Altho' the study of Heraldry may not be very amusing to our Republican readers, yet, as the eagle with extended wings, grasping the arms of war and olive of peace, is constantly presented to our eyes, in some way or other, it may not be uninteresting to give a history and an explanation of the arms of our country.

In June, 1782, when Congress was about to form an amoral device for a seal for the Union, Charles Thomson, Esq. the then Secretary, with the Hon. Dr. Arthur Lee, and E. Boudinot, members of Congress, called on Mr. William Barton, and consulted him on the occasion. The great seal for which Mr. Barton furnished these gentlemen with devices was adopted by Congress on the 29th of June, 1782. The device is as follows:

Arms.—Paleways of thirteen pieces, argent, * gules, a chief azure; the escutcheon on the breast of the American Eagle, displayed proper, holding in his dexter talon an olive branch, and in his sinister a branch of thirteen arrows, all proper; and in his beak a scroll, with the motto, "E pluribus unum."

The Breast.—Over the head of the Eagle, which appears over the escutcheon, a glory, or breaking through a cloud proper, and surrounding stars, forming a constellation, argent on an azure field.

Reverse.—A pyramid unfinished. In the zenith an eye in a triangle, surrounded with a glory. Over the eye these words, "Annuit coeptis."

Remarks and explanations.—The escutcheon is composed of the chief pale, the two most honorable ordinaries. The thirteen pieces pale represent the several states of the Union, all joined in one solid compact entire, supporting a chief which unites the whole and represents Congress. The motto alludes to the Union.

The pales in the arms are kept closely united by the chief, and the chief depends on that Union, and the strength resulting from it, for its support, to denote the confederacy of the States, and the preservation of the Union, through Congress.

The colors of the pales are those used in the flag of the United States of America. White signifies purity and innocence: red, hardness and valor; and blue, the color of the chief, signifies vigilance, perseverance and justice. The olive branch and arrows denote the power of peace and war, which is exclusively vested in Congress.

The crest or constellation denotes a new State taking its place and rank among other foreign powers.

The escutcheon borne on the breast of an American Eagle, without any other supporters, denotes that the United States ought to rely on their own virtue.

The pyramid on the reverse signifies strength and devotion; its unfinished state refers to the infancy of the American government. The eye over it, and the motto, "Annuit coeptis," "He sanctions our endeavors," allude to the many signal interpositions of Providence in favor of the American cause.

The following letter was written by Charles Thomson, Esq. to W. Barton, Esq. enclosing him a copy of the device:—

"SIR: I am much obliged to you for the perusal of the Elements of Heraldry, which I now return. I have just dipped into it so far as to be able to be satisfied that it may afford a fund of entertainment, and may be applied by a state to useful purposes.

"I enclose you a copy of the device by which you have displayed your skill in heraldic science, and which meets with general approbation.

Yours,

CHARLES THOMSON."

* In Heraldry, Argent signifies white, Gules, red, and Azure blue; where these colors cannot be emblazoned, they are represented on seals, &c. as follows, Argent by a perfect blank; Red by perpendicular, and Azure by horizontal lines. The Chief in our arms, on the horizontal lines in the upper quarter of the escutcheon, or eagle's breast.

Mr. Campbell the Editor of the New London Monthly Magazine, in his number for December last, has entered pretty warmly into a defence of the American character. He says, "he has no desire to excuse himself for one article, which has given offence, rather too justly, on the other side of the Atlantic. He inserted it without reflection, but had observed its unfairness, and felt dissatisfied with himself for having published it, long before the fair and temperate reply which Mr. Everitt made to it reached him." In speaking of a friend's communication, whose object is to do away the literary feuds between England and America, but whose manner of effecting this purpose he censures, Mr. Campbell observes, "for his own part he believes he has known more Americans than the writer of that paper. Possibly in the course of his life, not less than a

hundred—men of various vocations, characters and degrees of education. He has argued with them, and heard them argue on national subjects; but he can safely declare that he never thought them more boisterous than other men; on the contrary, rather distinguished, in general, by coolness and self-possession. Exceptions of warmth, as among the people of all countries when their prejudices are ruffled, he may have observed; but unmeasured hatred or redress, never."

After complaining of the bitterness, which English publications mingle with their occasional acts of justice towards this country, we have the following judicious remarks. "By wrangling with the only nation that speaks English, we render the only foreign newspaper that an uneducated Englishman can read, to the utmost extent in our power, a gazette for his causes of discontent. If the American press be despicable, the surest token of our contempt would be silence—if it be formidable, it is better to be at peace than at war with it. If America has been violent in this war of words, it is clear that we have not been moderate. It were better that the language recording the ties of an American affinity to us, were not the only one, perhaps in the world, in which he can read humiliating truths or irritating falsehoods about his country, and expressions of contempt.— How degrading to both countries was the spectacle, when the American press accused Englishmen of stirring their punch with the amputated fingers of Irish rebels and when England retorted by charging American parents with letting their children run drunk about the streets." His observations on this topic are thus handsomely concluded: "the sober part of the British community will scarcely require an excuse for his having spoken thus respectfully of the Americans. It was a duty peculiarly imposed upon him by the candid manner of Mr. Everitt's reply; and it was otherwise, as he felt in his heart, deservedly claimed by a people eulogized by Burke and Chatham—by a land that brings such recollections to the mind as the wisdom of Washington and Franklin, and the heroism of Warren and Montgomery."

[Charleston Mercury.]

Anecdote of a preacher in Paris, known by the name of little father Andrew.

A quick presence of mind often rescues a man from gross mistakes, into which he may have unavoidably plunged; as for instance:—The little doctor being to preach one day in the church of his convent, in order that no part of his time should go by unoccupied during the prayers previous to the sermon, was playing a game at cards in his room with an inmate; but the bell ringing for him to mount the pulpit, just as they were in a warm debate about the hands they held, he said he could not then stay to decide the matter, therefore tucked both up into the sleeve of his gown, for a fair discussion of the matter after sermon.

The subject of the discourse was the immorality of the times, the too great indulgence of the dangerous passions, particularly of gaming, against which he inveighed with all the warmth and zeal he was master of; and both which he could affect to an amazing degree. But when carried away by the torrent of his declamation, on finding the people very attentive to him, he raised up his hands to Heaven, to intercede for them; down from his sleeve, that had been somehow loosened by the vehemence of his gesticulation, fell the two hands of cards, which incident made some people look with a pious concern.

The little doctor, whilst others burst into a violent fit of laughter, stunned for a moment at so unexpected a disaster in the midst of his sermon, that had gone on so efficaciously, bethought him on a sudden of a stratagem. As he espied a young child not far from the pulpit, he beckoned to it, saying, "Come hither, my dear, gather up those cards lying on the floor, and bring them to me," which the child did; he then asked the name of each card, which the young one accurately told; he next questioned it about the catechism, of which the infant was entirely ignorant. Little Andrew dismissed the child, and looking round the audience, with an air of indignation, (secretly triumphing in his heart at the same time,) he cried aloud—"Wicked fathers and mothers, is not this a scandalous, and a most flagrant proof of what I have advanced, that in this abandoned, this impious age, nothing is thought of but gambling!—Here is almost an infant that completely

knows every card in the pack, is thoroughly learned in the Devil's book, yet is so absolutely ignorant of the book of his salvation! What early sacrifices do you make of the hearts of your children to the prince of darkness! Ye more than parricide parents! Ye betrayers of their souls to a miserable eternity!" He kindled the fire so fast, and fired upon the people so vehemently, that it alarmed the very faculty, and made them depart fully convinced, that what was in itself an unlucky accident, had been a powerful premeditated scheme of the preacher, to rebuke their dissoluteness, and bring them to repentance. In some years after he divulged how the fact really happened.

SELECTIONS.

No two qualities in the human mind are more essentially different, though often confounded, than pride, and vanity: the proud man entertains the highest opinion of himself; the vain man strives only to infuse such an opinion into the minds of others; the proud man thinks admiration his due; the vain man is satisfied if he can but obtain it: pride by stateliness demands respect; vanity by little artifices solicits applause: pride, therefore, makes men disagreeable, and vanity ridiculous.

Whoever appears to have a great deal of cunning, must, in reality, have but very little; for if he had much, he would have enough to conceal it.

The vice of ingratitude cannot be so frequent as it is usually represented; because the instances of real and disinterested obligations, from whence alone it can proceed, are very rare.

He, who will not change his principles, will find himself, in a little time, under a necessity to change his party.

Religious.

Extracts from a sermon of the Rev. Dr. Wilmer, of Alexandria, D. C. preached June 24, 1820, at the request of Brooke Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. The following passage on "faith unfeigned," contains one of the most conclusive arguments we remember to have ever seen.—Winchester Republican.

To hold sentiments hostile to christianity is one thing—every man has a right to think for himself upon his own peril and responsibility—but when he undertakes to teach them to others, and endeavors to sap the faith and hope and consolations of his neighbor, I know not by what law of charity he can excuse his conduct. Supposing for a moment that christianity were a fable, yet its veriest enemies have admitted that it holds out the purest morality, the surest motives to resignation under calamity, the highest sources of consolation and hope that were ever made known. Suppose that the believers in christianity are a poor, deluded, ignorant people; still the question occurs, Why rob us of our hopes? If it be a delusion, it is a happy delusion. Imagination makes things real; why then rob us of our real treasure? Here we are shipwrecked on the ocean of life; here we are buffeting its various ills, and we find religion to be the only bark which rides the waves in every storm.... the only anchor that supports our hopes. But lo! the sceptic comes to our relief: he bids us abandon this as only an imaginary refuge: he bids us shake off our fears and doubts. And what does he offer as a substitute? Ask him but that question, and you at once confound him. What will he give us in place of our hopes?—Take away religion, and what have we to keep us from sinking under the waves of adversity and sorrow—what comfort when we kneel at the dying bed of one tender and beloved—what light to shed upon that ocean vast and dark which spreads before us, when we are obliged to launch away upon its bosom? Who steals my purse, steals trash; but he who robs me of this sweet hope, robs me of that which is dearer than the riches of Golconda and Peru. Allowing it to be a false hope, it does not less show the value of it to one who confides in it, nor the cruelty of him who would rob him of it. Even supposing religion to be false, it has the advantage in this life in point of virtue and happiness; and at the bar of heaven certainly the christian will fare as well as the unbeliever. But supposing christianity to be true at last, how dreadful is the state of the comparison against the unbeliever! The bare possibility of its being true is enough to give torment to a reasonable man, who is not provided for that contingency.—So that our rock is stronger than theirs, our enemies being judges.