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Administration Meeting.

MR. CROOM'S SPEECH.

At the late meeting of the friends of the general administration, after the resolutions had been read, Mr. H. B. Croom, said:

Mr. Chairman,

I rise to say a few words in support of these resolutions; but before proceeding to the immediate subject, I may observe, that the privilege of expressing ourselves freely concerning public men and public measures, like those benefits derived from the elements around us, though happily so common with us as scarcely to be thought of, yet is it among the most valuable and essential that freemen can possess. Like other bounties of nature and providence, however, this should be used, and not abused. The latter, I regret to add, not unfrequently occurs, and it is my purpose to avoid the license, while I use the privilege.

In considering the character and claims of the present chief magistrate of the union, we are at once struck with the remarkable fact, that he has enjoyed the confidence of every preceding president, and been employed by them in public posts of the highest responsibility and importance. By Washington he was declared our most valuable public character abroad, and by his recommendation he was continued and promoted by his father. By Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Madison he was employed as minister plenipotentiary at the courts of Russia and Great Britain; in negotiating the treaty of Ghent, and subsequently a commercial convention with Great Britain. During the whole term of Mr. Monroe's administration, he discharged the arduous functions of Secretary of State, during which time he negotiated with the Spanish Minister that Treaty by which the important and long desired territory of Florida was ceded to us, and five millions of dollars secured to our plundered merchants. During this long term of service, malignity has not produced a doubt of his integrity, and impudence itself has not denied his ability. Spotless as Aristides, he is able as Metternich or Canning.

Mr. Adams enjoys a high character abroad, as a Statesman and a scholar. It is known that the late emperor of Russia, at whose court he long resided, entertained for him a high esteem, and by him was laid the foundation of that good understanding which, with a single exception, (relating to the N. W. Coast,) has so long subsisted between that government and ours.

A Paris Journal, in adverting to his recent election, congratulated the country on their exchanging the military roughness of Colonel Monroe, for the philosophical acquirements of Mr. Quincy Adams. What would the same editor say, were we now to exchange Mr. Adams for the far more rough and military General Jackson?

The opposition to Mr. Adams, as well as I recollect, resolves itself into the following allegations:

1. That he is the son of his father—John Adams.
2. That he was once a Federalist.
3. That he was born in N. England, and holds no slaves.
4. That he was elected by Congress, and voted for by Mr. Clay and his friends.
5. That he is favourable to a tariff, and gives constructions to the Constitution.
6. That he bought a Billiard Table, out of monies voted for furnishing his house.
7. That the English have shut us out of their W. I. islands; or, in the language of the opposition, he has lost us that trade.

On reviewing this summary, we are struck with the almost ridiculous nature of the greater part of these charges. First, he is the son of John Adams. And who was John Adams? One of the most zealous, most daring, most efficient of those who gave the first impulse to the ball of the revolution. One who, with Hancock and Samuel Adams, had the honour and distinction of being excepted from a British act of pardon, who led the bold, roused the indifferent, and confirmed the waverings in Congress, the Champion of independence; one whose fiery spirit, like the flames of Hecla, blazed to the last, amid the snows of his climate, and the frosts of his age.

It is not necessary for me, it is not my purpose, to defend every public act and measure of his life. I am free to admit that, while president, he gave his sanction to some bad measures, which his party promoted. The alien and sedition laws I leave to that odium and indignation

they have long excited. But let it be remembered how many acts and measures condemned in him, have been applauded and supported in his successors. It was once his reproach, it is now his glory, to have laid the foundations of an efficient navy. Fortifications, Taxes, an Army, execrated then, have since been sustained with scarce a murmur. Will North Carolina then make it a reproach to have been the son of such a man? one who during his short administration of four years, bestowed more signal favours and attentions on her, than all the other presidents, in the space of thirty two years?

But Mr. Adams was supplanted by Mr. Jefferson, and the federalists, especially in New-England, having become, in the opinion of John Quincy, violent and unjustifiable in their opposition, he abandoned the party, and gave his support to the administration of the country, at the head of which was his father's rival. Here, as his opposers accuse him of venality, we might claim for him the praise of magnanimity. By some of the orthodox in party, this former federalism is still objected as a damning heresy, an ineradicable taint of political sin. For my part, though I never was a federalist, and certain of their acts, both in power and in opposition, I never approved, yet to me the word has ceased to be a bug bear, especially when I recollect what great names have adorned that party. Hamilton, Jay, Ames, Marshall, Pinkney of the South,—we might invoke the names of even Washington and Henry. In our own State we have known a Davie, a Moore, an Iredell, 'all honourable men'; and in our own town, we have living examples, the purity of whose lives, the brilliancy and fascination of whose talents have shed a lustre on the place, and made it "the abode of names that have given unto it a name." Even Mr. Jefferson once said that we are all Federalists, all Republicans. But Mr. Adams was born in New England. And where, I ask, is Boston, where is Faneuil Hall, Lexington, Bunker's Hill? I answer, in New England, and near to Quincy. The President too is one of those happy men, who free himself, beholds no slave about his person; nor one upon his soil. In this we of the South are far less fortunate. But shall we make it an objection to the President, and insist that, on this account, he is the less fitted to preside in a republic? We believe that he has never attempted in any shape to interfere in our Southern polity in regard to this delicate matter; too wise, and too true to the Constitution, to seek to intrude its provisions, and our rights.

Mr. Adams was elected by Congress. And so was Mr. Jefferson in 1801. Those therefore who value his services, and especially they, whose Alpha and Omega he is, must allow that Congress may make a wise choice; they who would be consistent, while they value the Constitution, ought not to object to the mode of his election. All the means resorted to, to prove a bargain between him and Mr. Clay, have signally failed, and ought in justice to recoil on his accusers.

It is alleged that Mr. A. is favourable to a tariff. But if this be true, it is certain that General J. voted in the Senate for that Tariff which has been so much complained of in the South. A Southern President alone can feel our immediate interests in this matter; but I would rather trust for moderation to the North and East, that have ships and commerce, than to the West, that has none.

As to constructions of the Constitution, this is what every human composition must be subject to. Your deeds, your wills, your statutes, after all the precision that lawyers can give them, must often be expounded by construction.—Not human compositions only, holy writ itself must sometimes be construed, and men do often doubt and differ in their constructions. If the decalogue itself, though given in thunders from Mount Sinai, and inscribed upon marble by the finger of the Almighty, has yet received from conscientious men, some differences of interpretation, how shall the Federal Constitution escape, penned by men, in the halls of Philadelphia; even though we should deem some good angel guided their deliberations, and influenced the result? Virginia, then, construes the Constitution differently from Massachusetts, and the question remains, "which construes aright?" Has Virginia become a political Oracle, another Delphi, whose priest is the Editor of the Enquirer, and whose Magnus Apollo is Governor Giles? If so, I might read you some of her responses, given forth when she was sustaining the cause of another, sufficient to raise a blush upon the cheek of him who could be, at once, a supporter of the General, and a votary of the Oracle.

The subject of the Billiard Table is one that does not deserve your attention. It is one of those miserable shifts to

which party, in its virulence, will sometimes resort, to raise an outcry, however unreasonable or ungenerous against him that is the object of its persecution. I regret to add, that it was a representative from this state that enjoys the poor distinction of having dragged before the public this paltry subject. Congress, as is their custom, at the elevation of a new Chief Magistrate, voted a sum of money for furnishing his house, the President's salary being inadequate to this, with the other expenses of his office. Out of this money, it was said, a Billiard Table was purchased for one of the rooms of the house. This, to be sure, had it been true, one might think was no mighty offence—since gentlemen, both in this country and Europe, frequently furnish their establishments with this source of elegant amusement. But slight as the charge is, it appears to be destitute of truth, Mr. A. having declared that he paid for it out of his other monies; and it appears by the anecdote related by my eloquent and honourable friend, Mr. Bryan, that the East Wing, in which it was placed, was built in the time of Mr. Jefferson, and by his directions, expressly for a Billiard Room. How blind and senseless the rage of party often proves!

The subject of our exclusion from the British West India Islands, is the most important topic we have touched. Unfortunately, however, it is too complicated to be here properly discussed; but I ask, is there any reason, save that of party rage, why an American should doubt the assertion of our President, that the assurances of the British Minister, which were not fulfilled, were the causes of the result? Is it wise in us to sacrifice our President to the Molock of British cupidity? to make him the Jonah of the storm, the scape goat of the evil, while we succumb to the pretensions of our haughty commercial rival? We sacrificed not Mr. Jefferson to the Orders in Council of 1807, to the Berlin & Milan decrees; nor Mr. Madison to the sine qua non and the *uti possidetis* of 1815. Why then make this new and unhalloved immolation to foreign arts, as though to appease some power no force can oppose? Forbid it patriotism! forbid it spirit of '76 and of 1812: that spirit which shed a glory around our stripes, and caused them in many a conflict, on sea and land, to wave triumphant above the bannered cross of Britain. Let us, as Mr. Madison long ago said, let us concur in doing what shall indicate that we dare exert ourselves in defeating any measure which commercial policy shall offer, hostile to the welfare of America.

Miscellaneous.

MEDICAL REMARKS ON MARRIAGE.

(BY A PHYSICIAN.)

One of the most common events which follow the attainment of adult age, in both sexes, is marriage.—Since this sacred compact is a state in perfect accordance with instinctive nature of man, no disadvantage in reference to health can result from the event itself, if both parties have reached adult age before it occurs; although, the artificial state of society, the cares and anxieties attendant upon family, especially with narrow means only for its support, are circumstances unfavorable to the preservation of that equanimity of temper and gaiety of heart which are conducive to the maintenance of a healthy state of the body. But too often the female has not arrived at adult age; and her health and future comfort are sacrificed either to the inconsiderate vehemence of a girlish passion, or to the baser gratification of one desirous to unite itself with youth, or to the cupidity of a parent, who is eager to get a daughter, as the term is, advantageously settled. The constitution, in few women, can be regarded as properly or firmly established even at twenty years of age; and, indeed it would be advantageous for every woman, to pass her twenty-fourth or twenty-fifth year before subjecting herself to the cares and fatigues which the duties of a married life necessarily impose. I am well aware that this is a doctrine completely at variance with that romance which too often governs the youthful mind, when the imagination usurps the place of reason and paints the future

"More sweet than all the landscapes smiling near."

But it is to insure solid comfort instead of this delusive sweetness, this enchantment, which distance spreads over the future, that the acquisitions of experience are demanded to temper & rein in the fervor of youth. If a female marry before twenty—her disposition lively, her temper ardent, and her love of novelty and pleasure still at its height—what is the consequence? Visiting, late hours, dancing, and other dissipations into which she probably will enter, will prove most

injurious to her health, when she is about to become a mother; and more certainly, if she have already acquired that important character, independent of the hazard which must also endanger, not merely the health, but the life, of an infant, which is applied to the breast of a mother, either in such a state of feverish excitement or of exhaustion, as is likely to be the case in a lady returning from a ball, or a crowded evening party. Women also, under the period of life at which it is contended marriage ought to take place, as they are more ardent in their anticipations, and less experienced in the affairs of life, than those that have attained that age, are also more likely to suffer, if a cloud should pass over the brightness of the scene which they had pictured to themselves from a union with the object of their affections. This produces a slow, corroding grief, which gradually undermines the energy of their nervous system, destroys appetite and banishes sleep; the pulse becomes languid, weak and generally unequal, the tone of the heart is as it were, partially paralyzed, so that the blood is sent feebly through the lungs; the general circulation also being inadequate to carry the vital current through the minute vessels of the skin, the whole body suffers and the complexion becomes pale and sallow; for the depression of the spirits deranging the functions of the liver, disappointment preys equally upon the body and the soul; and if the individual does not sink its victim, she drags on a life of wretchedness and chagrin. This is a melancholy picture; but it has been too often realized; and many are the love-matches, rashly entered into between young people, which exhibited, in a few years, this sad termination. Diseases of this description occur from matrimonial alliances at every period of life, and are referred to causes very foreign to that from which they originate. True, indeed, it is that disappointment and chagrin may result from a marriage contracted at any age—yet experience has proved that they are more frequently the result of unions from violent attachments in the very young and romantic, than in those whose judgments have matured, and their imaginations moderated, by a little more acquaintance with the world than either a boy or a girl under twenty years of age can possess.

It is but justice, however, to acknowledge, that it may be contended, and justly, that as much injury arises to health from ungratified love as from premature marriage, and that this operates more suddenly and violently, because of all the passions it is the most violent, and the least capable of being controlled. In some constitutions, indeed, it shows itself only by its effects; the body wastes; the pulse becomes tremulous and irregular; deep sighs break from the chest; there is an alternate glow and flushing of the cheek; the mind becomes dejected; the appetite is lost; the speech falters; cold sweats and watchfulness follow, which gradually terminate in consumption, sometimes in insanity. Yet the passion remains latent in the bosom of the sufferer—

"She never told her love,
But let concealment, like a worm i' the bud
Feed on her damask cheek;
She pined in thought,
And with a green and yellow melancholy,
She sat like Patience on a monument,
Smiling at Grief."

The passion, corroding invariably, like intense grief from any other cause, undermines the constitution; and the only remedy is the union of the parties. But, in allowing the truth of this description of the effect of disappointment in the tenderest of all the passions, I would enquire whence the evil proceeds? Is it not the result of an error in female education? does it not arise from the early impression which every girl receives, that marriage is the first and most important object of her life, and from the anxiety of every mother to push off her daughters, as soon as they have arrived at that period of life which has been erroneously fixed upon as the marriageable age. Were this altered, and young women impressed with the idea that marriage before the age of twenty-four or twenty-five is both injurious to health and likely to hazard their future felicity, the passion which is awakened prematurely would seldom be indulged before the constitution is confirmed, and the judgement sufficiently matured to make that selection which is more certain of ensuring happiness than the romance and idealty of the majority of early marriage on the present system. At all events, there can be no doubt of the advantages of the change, in reference to health.

Equity.—1. Equity in law is the same that the spirit is in religion, what every one pleases to make it; sometimes they go according to conscience, sometimes according to law, sometimes according to the rule of court. 2. Equity is a ro-

guish thing; for law we have a measure—knows what to trust to equity is according to the conscience of him that is Chancellor, and, as this is larger or narrower, so is equity. It is all one as if they should make the standard for the measure we call a foot a chancellor's foot; what an uncertain measure would this be! One Chancellor has a long foot, another a short foot, a third an indifferent foot; it is the same thing in the Chancellor's conscience. 3. That saying, "Do as you would be done to," is often misunderstood; for it is not thus meant: that I, a private man, should do to you, a private man, as I would have you do to me, but do as we have agreed to do to one another by public agreement. If the prisoner should ask the judge, whether he would be contented to be hanged, were he in his case, he would answer No. "Then," says the prisoner, "do as you would be done to." Neither of them must do as private men, but the judge must do by him as they have publicly agreed—that is, both judge and prisoner have consented to law; that if either of them steal, they shall be hanged.—Selden.

"During my stay in Petersburg," says Mr. Holman, "the following singular story was spoken of as having occurred at this place:—Two gentlemen had contracted a bitter and irreconcilable enmity against each other. A servant of one happening to die, was buried within 24 hours, after the Russian custom, when the other determined to gratify his revenge upon his adversary, by accusing him of the murder of this man. To give a color to this accusation, accompanied by some of his confidential servants, he proceeded to disinter the corpse, with a view of inflicting marks of violence upon it. The body was removed from the coffin, and held erect, that it might undergo a severe flogging; when, to the astonishment and dismay of the party, after a few blows had been inflicted, animation returned, and the affrighted resurrection man ran off with the utmost precipitation. The corpse at length recovering its animation, was able to move off in its shroud, and regain its master's habitation, which it entered, to the great terror of its inhabitants. At length however, this reality becoming certain, they were reassured, and the supposed ghost communicated all that he could remember of the state he had been in; which was, that his senses had not left him, notwithstanding he had felt so cold and torpid as to be incapable of speech or motion, till the blows had restored him. This led to the detection of the diabolical plan against his master's life and character."

THE INDIAN SUMMER.

The month of November, in England, is described as the most gloomy & cheerless portion of the year: its days heavy, dull and damp; its nights clouded with dense fogs, thick enough to be cut in slices.—In the climate of New England, although not the mildest of the children of the seasons, it is far from being comfortless or unlovely. The forests are divested of their foliage; and the winds make melancholy sounds among the leafless branches. The wild revelry of storms, the majestic rushing of tempests, and the frosts of coming winter, are blended with calm and subbright days and moonlit evenings, when the pure autumnal air breathes an invigorating freshness into the system. Usually, after the first onset of cold, the Indian summer, as it is called, pays its annual visit, the weather becomes warm, the blue vapor comes over the hills, and an atmosphere as soft as that fanned by the genial airs of spring, rests on the earth. The calm and mellow-brightness of the mild day is succeeded by a close as magnificent as the sunset of Italian skies, so often celebrated in enthusiastic verse. This beautiful time often continues many days, and at its termination, winter sets in with stern severity.

In the early periods of our history, when the Indian enemies lurked in the forests, and burst out from their ambushes on the planter, the first settlers enjoyed little security, except in the winter, when the severity of the season prevented the incursions of the savages. The coming of winter was hailed as the commencement of peace by the early inhabitants of the country: they sallied out from the little forts and blockhouses in which they had been hemmed up, with the joyful feelings of prisoners escaping from confinement, and busily gathered in their harvests. To our ancestors, the snows of winter were more pleasant than the flowers of spring, as they brought the cessation of the horrors of war. But it often happened that the mild days of November afforded the red men another opportunity of visiting the settlements with those desolating blows, which burst like the lightning from the clouds, leaving the record of their effects