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MISCELLANY.

David Crockett.—Every body has heard of the celebrated Col. Crockett, of Tennessee, who could wade the Mississippi with a steam-boat on his back, whip his weight in wild cats, and grin a panther to death. He before attracted our admiration for his eccentricities; the following sketch of his character demands for him our respect as a man. It is from the Winchester (Va) Republican.

He is a self-made man—a practical legislator. For many years he drove a wagon from Berkeley county in Virginia, to Baltimore, and in that school, which gave him so many opportunities of studying human nature in the lower walks of life, he laid the foundation for his future course in the halls of congress. Becoming in time, the owner of a team, he commenced the Tennessee trade, which opened a wider field of observation and adventure, while its profits yielded a lucrative reward. His social & convivial habits rendered him the pride of his fellow wagoners, while his shrewdness and judgment made him the umpire in every disputed point that arose among them. The influence which he thus acquired was always exercised with prudence and generosity. In the quarrels which frequently arose between the wagoners and the inhabitants living on the route, his authority was appealed to by both sides, and his decisions acquiesced in by both with perfect submission.

Becoming wearied, at length with the toilsome occupation he had so long though successfully pursued, he withdrew to a farm in the mountains of Tennessee, where soon obtained among his neighbors a supremacy as great as that which he had previously held among his fellow wagoners. At the first trial he was elected to the house of assembly where he attracted the general gaze by his grotesque appearance, his rough manners, and jovial habits, at the same time that he exhibited uncommon indications of a strong though undisciplined mind. He became indeed, an object of universal notoriety; and to return from the capital without having seen Col. Crockett, betrayed a total destitution of curiosity, and a perfect insensibility to the loins' of the west.

Without further noticing Col. C.'s course in the legislature, where he continued several years, we shall briefly sketch the manner in which he got into congress. It was understood that two gentlemen intended offering for the seat, between whom an irreconcilable variance existed. Upon the announcement of one of them the other as a burlesque upon his abilities, caused the nomination of Mr. Crockett, who lived in the district, to appear in the same paper—the two announcements being placed in juxtaposition, in order to lessen the character of the real candidate.—The author of the burlesque remained behind the curtain, chucking at the success which he fancied would follow, in the defeat of his rival. On the newspapers being shown to Col. Crockett, he at once saw through the plot, and instantly determined to become a *bona fide* candidate, simply to put down what he considered a base manoeuvre against an honourable man. He accordingly commenced the canvass in good earnest, rode over the fourteen counties of the district, sought out the wagoners and rustic mountaineers—in short, electioneering with such success that he was elected by a triumphant ma-

jority over both his competitors. He has since been opposed, but has never lost any of his popularity, and it is questionable whether he is not now as much deified by his constituents as General Jackson himself. This, however, will soon be tested, as he has come out against the General, and is a candidate for re-election.

We have gathered the foregoing from gentlemen of this country, who accidentally fell in with the Col. last winter as he was proceeding to congress. This meeting was somewhat singular, and perhaps worth relating.

It was a rainy afternoon, when a stranger was observed to pass through the little village of Nineveh, at an easy pace, apparently unconscious of, or wholly indifferent to, the rain which was falling. Our informant mounted his horse shortly after, and soon overtook the stranger. They entered into conversation, when our friend soon discovered that his companion was no ordinary man—not that there was anything extraordinary in his conversational powers, but they were unique and peculiar—unlike any he had ever before witnessed.—He became more and more interested, and was gratified on the stranger's acceptance of an invitation to spend the night at his house situated two or three miles from the road.—After alighting, the wonder increased who the guest could be, and ran throughout the family. Curiosity had become highly excited as the stranger continued to "discourse most marvellously," until at length something fell from him which led his host to exclaim: "Why you must be Col. Crockett?" "I am," was the emphatic reply. Col. Crockett? Col. Crockett! ran in whispers through the whole household, while the imposing words, "a member of congress," caused the children to look with awe and reverence.

Their shyness, however, soon wore off, as the colonel took them on his knee and played with and caressed them. Being thus at home his spirits flowed forth in their natural lightness and buoyancy.—He went over his early history—his career in the legislature of Tennessee—his election to congress in the manner we have related—told the story of his dining at Mr. Adam's, a caricature description of which went the rounds of the newspapers in 1828—avowed freely his political opinions.—that he had forsaken General Jackson finding he was not the man he expected him to be—spoke of the abuses of government, which instead of reforming as Jackson had promised, he had greatly multiplied, and, in short, held the whole family willing auditors until midnight. In the morning he departed for Washington, where on the floor of congress, he boldly proclaimed the sentiments he had previously avowed.

The enclosed letter, which you are requested to insert in your paper, is from the private correspondence of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, vol. 1. p. 279.—It was addressed to a young man who asked his opinion of an *irreligious* manuscript which he proposed to publish. The authority of so honest a man as Franklin, a man too of such undaunted boldness in maintaining the truth, may weigh with persons laboring under misguided views, more perhaps than any argument:—

"I have read your manuscript with some attention. By the argument it contains against a particular Providence, though you allow a general Providence, you strike at the foundations of all religion. For without the belief of a Providence that takes cognizance of, guards and guides, and may favour particular persons, there is no motive to worship a Deity, to fear its displeasure, or to pray for its protection. I will not enter into any discussion of your principles, though you seem to desire it. At present I shall only give you my opinion, that though your reasonings are subtle, and may prevail with some readers, you will not succeed so as to change the general sentiments of mankind on that subject; and the consequence of printing this piece will be a *great deal* of odium drawn upon yourself, mischief to you, and no benefit to others. He that spits against the wind, spits

in his own face. But were you to succeed, do you imagine any good will be done by it? You yourself may find it easy to live a virtuous life, with out the assistance afforded by religion; you having a clear perception of the advantages of virtue, and the disadvantages of vice, and possessing a strength of resolution sufficient to enable you to resist common temptations. But think how great a portion of mankind consists of weak and ignorant men and women, and of inexperienced inconsiderate youth of both sexes, who have need of the motives of religion to restrain them from vice, to support their virtue, and retain them in the practice of it till it becomes habitual, which is the great point for its security. And perhaps you are indebted to her originally, that is, to your religious education, for the habits of virtue upon which you now justly value yourself. You might easily display your excellent talents of reasoning upon a less hazardous subject, and thereby obtain a rank with our most distinguished authors. For among us it is not necessary as among the Hottentots, that a youth, to be raised into the company of men, should prove his manhood by beating his mother. I would advise you therefore, not to attempt unchaining the tiger, but to burn this piece before it is seen by any person; whereby you will save yourself a great deal of mortification from the enemies it may raise against you, and perhaps a good deal of regret and repentance. If men are so wicked *with religion*, what would they be *if without it?* I intend this letter as a *proof* of my friendship, and therefore add no professions to it but subscribe simply yours."

An Apology.—When John Clerk (Lord Eldon) was at the bar, he was remarked for the *sang froid* with which he treated the judges. On one occasion, a junior counsel on hearing their lordships give judgment against his client, exclaimed that "he was surprised at such a decision!" This was construed into contempt of court, and he was ordered to attend at the bar the next morning. Fearful of the consequence, he consulted his friend John Clerk, who told him to be perfectly at ease, for he would *apologize* for him in a way that would avert any unpleasant result. Accordingly, when the name of the delinquent was called, John rose and coolly addressed the assembled tribunal—"I am very sorry, my lords, that my young friend has so far forgot himself as to treat your bench with disrespect; he is extremely penitent, and you will kindly ascribe his unintentional insult to his *ignorance*. You must see at once that it did originate in that. He said he was surprised at the decision of your lordships! Now, if he had not been very ignorant of what takes place in this court every day—had he known you but half so long as I have done, curse me if he would be surprised at *any* thing you did."

Irish Law.—The following extract from an affidavit read in the Court of Common Pleas in Dublin, is alike illustrative of the manner in which legal process is executed in Ireland, and of the precision with which legal instruments are drawn:—"And this deponent further saith, that on arriving at the house of said defendant, situate in the county of Galway aforesaid, for the purpose of personally serving him with the said writ, he, the said deponent, knocked three times at the outer commonly called the hall door, but, could not obtain admission, whereupon this deponent was proceeding to knock a fourth time, when a man to this deponent unknown, holding in his hand a musket or blunderbuss at this deponent, loaded with balls or slugs, as this deponent has since heard and verily believes, appeared at one of the upper windows of the said house, and presenting said musket or blunderbuss at this deponent, said that if said deponent did not instantly retire, he would send his (the deponent's) soul to hell; which this deponent verily believes he would have done; had not this deponent precipitately escaped."—*Jour. of Law.*

Vicar of Bray.—The celebrated Vicar of Bray was Simon Symonds, who held that benedictine during the reigns of four successive monarchs. Twice a Protestant and twice a Papist, he had always governed himself by what he thought a very laudable principle, which was never on any terms to part with his vicarage.

Stephen Girard.—It appears by an article in the Boston Transcript, that this gentleman, so generally known for his extensive business in the city of Philadelphia, and as generally respected and esteemed for his good qualities of heart, rose from the humblest condition in life to his present immense wealth and almost unbounded usefulness, solely by his own individual exertions, unaided and uncheered in his progress by the assistance or countenance of any individual. At the age of eight years he was thrown upon the world and his own native resources, and from the trifling wages of a cabin boy, defrayed the expenses of learning to read and write, and fitted himself for the great business which he has for a long time carried on, without serving any counting-house apprenticeship, or receiving any instruction in that line save what he gave himself.

Such examples are highly worthy of imitation and the knowledge of them is at all times valuable to the world. Many a lad, by the perusal of the history of such a man as the Great Philadelphia Banker, and touched by the spirit of emulation may adopt in early life and pursue to its consummation a similar course of conduct, and become useful to himself and to the world.

Infalible Rules to discover a Husband and Wife.—If you see a man and woman with little or no occasion, finding fault, and correcting one another in company, you may be sure they are man and wife. If you see a lady accidentally let fall a glove, and a gentleman that sits next her telling her to take it up, she is his wife. If you see a lady presenting a gentleman with something sideways, at arm's length, with her head turning another way, speaking to him with a look and accent different from that she uses to others, you may be sure he is her husband. In fine, if you see a gentleman and lady in the same coach, in profound silence, the one looking out at the one side, the other at the other side never suspect they mean any harm to one another, they are already honestly married.

The Ocean.—The depth of the Ocean is a point, says M. Brun, which has puzzled alike philosophers and practical men, and is, after all, left in a wide field of conjecture. The most probable guide is analogy; and the wisest men, judging by this criterion, have presumed that the sea may be measured by the height of mountains, the highest of which are 20,000 and 30,000 feet. The greatest depth that has been tried to be measured, is that found in the Northern oceans by Lord Mulgrave; he heaved a very heavy sounding lead, and gave out along with it a cable rope of the length of 4980 feet without finding the bottom.

AN EXCELLENT LESSON.

The Bear with the Tea-kettle.—The following anecdote evinces the hardihood of bears. Fish, which forms their chief nourishment, and which they procure for themselves from the rivers, was last year excessively scarce. A great famine consequently existed among them, and instead of retiring to their dens they wandered about the whole winter through, even in the streets of St. Peter and St. Paul, in Kamtschatka. One of them finding the outer gate of a house open, entered and the gate accidentally closed after him. The woman of the house had just placed a large tea machine, full of boiling water, in the court. The bear smelt it, and burnt his nose; provoked at the pain, he vented all his fury on the kettle, folded his fore-paws round it, pressed it with his whole strength to crush it, and burnt himself, of course, more and more. The horrible growl which rage and pain forced from him brought all the inhabitants to the spot, and poor Bruin was soon despatched by shots from the windows. He has, however, immortalized his memory, and

become a proverb among the town's people; for when one injures himself by his own violence, they call him "the bear with the tea-kettle."

One of the most celebrated men of the age, whose celebrity consists in the notices of letters, newspapers, and magazines, is a Violin-Player. We need not name him to musicians. But common readers are to learn, that it is the singular performer, Paganini. The accounts that have been published of him would baffle all belief, if they had not been strongly authenticated. He has made the violin the most powerful of instruments. It is said, that he can play upon three, two, or even one string, difficult and complicated pieces of music. He can play upon a violin, the strings of which are not at all in tune. In reply to some critical remark of Madame Malebran, he is reported to have challenged her to a trial of skill. She was to select her cantata—and he was to try his violin against her voice—not with its four strings, but he gave her liberty to select the string on which he was to play with his bow, and he pledged himself to cut off the other three! This is confidently asserted by persons on the spot.

The last accounts left this singular genius at Paris—completely the Lion of the day.—Whenever he appeared in public, he drew spectators around him, anxious to catch a glimpse of the man, who was charged at one time with borrowing all his skill from the Devil, at his elbow.—This celebrated violinist is about to visit London, where he is to receive from Laporte, the manager of the English Opera House, six hundred pounds sterling per night, \$2,666. Where is the man who receives a larger compensation, during the same length of time, for amusing or serving the Public!

Symptoms, Moral, Literary, Political and Personal.—When you meet a friend about five o'clock near his own house, and he stands gossiping with you at the street door, without knocking, take it as a symptom you are not wanted to dinner.

When you drop in for half an hour's chat at a friend's house in the evening, and your friend looks at his watch after you have been there two hours, while his wife packs up her needle-work with a yawn, observing, "Well, I think it is time to give over to-night," it is an infalible symptom you are a bore and that the sooner you export yourself the better.

If you are doing the amiable at an evening party, and in the midst of it are selected to make one at a rubber of whist, it is a symptom there are younger persons in the room whom the ladies cannot spare so well as yourself.

If you meet a gentleman and lady, the gentleman looking vacantly serious, as if thinking of nothing.—the lady placidly careless, as if perfectly satisfied,—depend upon it these are symptoms of being man and wife, and that the husband has consented to a walk, though he would rather leave it alone, while the wife is pleased to find he is as attentive as ever. But when you meet a lady and gentleman in very earnest discourse, the gentleman talking much, the lady listening with downcast eyes, it is the symptom of an affair in progress which will probably end in going to church or in producing good reasons for going there.

From the Boston Transcript.

Great Natural Curiosity.—The brig Hardy, Captain Shirley which arrived here yesterday from Batavia, has on board a living female Orang-Outang. She had suffered much on the voyage and is very sick. She is greatly affected by cold and keeps a blanket constantly wrapped about her. She has been visited by Dr. Smith, the quarantine physician, who examined her, felt her pulse, and ordered milk to be given to her, which occasioned a temporary revival of her spirits. She is still able to walk although she totters from weakness. When she stands erect, her hands nearly touch the ground.—She eats, drinks, and spits like a human being.

This is the only successful attempt ever made, to introduce one of these remarkable animals alive into this country. Some years since an Orang-Outang was brought into port, but died in the harbour. The skeleton has been frequently exhibited by Dr. Smith, at his annual Anatomical Lectures.

The Orang-Outang has been sent out of the city for its health, the animal stole a quantity of medicine from the vessel's chest and drank so much as to become seriously indisposed.

A Good Motion.—In the House of Representatives of Massachusetts on Friday, an order passed, requesting that every member of the House give the amount of one day's pay to their suffering brethren of Fayetteville, (N. C.)