

LINCOLN COURIER.

"THE PUBLIC GOOD SHOULD EVER BE PREFERRED TO PRIVATE ADVANTAGE."

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From the Oxford edition of Milton's works
Milton on his Loss of Sight.

I am old and blind!
Men point at me as smitten by God's frown;
Whispered and derided of my kind,
Yet I am not cast down.
I am weak, yet strong;
I murmur not that I no longer see;
Poor, old, and helpless, I the more belong,
Father Supreme! to Thee.
O merciful One!
When men are farthest, then Thou art most near:
When friends pass by, my weaknesses to shun,
Thy chariot I hear.
Thy glorious face
Leaning towards me, and its holy light
Shines in upon my lonely dwelling place—
And there is no more night.

On my bended knee
I recognize thy purpose, clearly shown;
My vision, thou hast dimmed that I may see
Thyself, Thyself alone.

I have naught to fear;
This darkness is the shadow of thy wing:
Beneath it I am almost sacred—here
Can come no evil thing.

Oh! I seem to stand
Trembling, where foot of mortal ne'er hath been,
Draped in the radiance from thy sinless land,
Which eye hath never seen.

Visions come and go:
Shapes of resplendent beauty round me throng,
From Angel lips I seem to hear the flow
Of soft and holy song.

It is nothing now,
Heaven is opening on my sightless eyes—
When airs from Paradise refresh my brow:
The earth in darkness lies.

In a purer clime,
My being fills with rapture—waves of thought,
All in upon my spirit—strains sublime
Break over me unsought.

Give me now my lyre!
Feel the stirrings of a gift divine,
'Tis my bosom glows unearthly fire,
Lit by no skill of mine.

More Annexation.—The City of Norfolk, with the Peninsula on which it stands expresses a desire, through some of its journals, to be annexed to the State of North Carolina, the object being to elevate thereby the commercial importance of the city, which is too much neglected by Virginia. We learn, by the way, that the repairs on the Portsmouth and Roanoke Rail Road are being vigorously prosecuted, with the prospect of their speedy completion—in which contingency, the Act to incorporate the Central Rail Road, passed at the recent session of the Legislature, authorizes the Public Treasurer to subscribe half the sum necessary to connect Weldon with some point on the Raleigh and Gaston Road. As the good citizens of Petersburg seem so wholly absorbed in their South side road, as to preclude all interest whatever in our enterprise, would it not be well for us to be directing our thoughts a little towards Norfolk? But more anon.—Register.

Italian Tricolor.—By a decree of the Provisional Government of Rome, the Italian colors—green, red and white—are adopted for the army of the Italian Republic. The name of the Republic is suppressed in all public documents and judicial sentences, and the Roman Republic substituted instead.

Funds for Mitchell's Family.—The funds collected for the support of Mrs. John Mitchell and her children, and which have been handed over to that lady, amount to £1,727 15s 9d.

Younger never saw bad bread.

A series of Outrages.—We were surprised to learn, that during Guilford Superior Court, last week, the honest and moral community of Greensborough was shocked by the occurrence of several robberies, following each other in quick succession. One of the Jewellery stores of that place was broken open, and several articles of considerable value were stolen. Another depredateur, more daring than his contemporary in crime, entered one of the Stores in the day-time, and "removed the deposits" in the drawer, amounting to something like \$100, while the proprietor and clerks were in the counting-room. A gentleman, also, became the victim of the dexterity of a pickpocket, who, perceiving some Bank bills amounting to about \$150, extending from the end of his pocket book, which protruded a little from the pocket, quietly slipped them out, leaving the owner in the possession of the empty book. We understand that the parties have been arrested, supposed to be engaged in all these depredateurs, and that they are believed to belong to a gang of rascals who are travelling from Court to Court, under the guise of Pedlars, Traders of Tobacco, &c. In justice to the citizens of Guilford, it is but right to state, that not one of the persons suspected of being engaged in these recent thefts, is a resident of that County.—Raleigh Register.

Distressing Casualty.—We learn from a gentleman who was present in Salisbury, at the Regimental Review of Rowan Militia, on Friday last, that the horse of one of the officers on parade became frightened and ran down the street at a most furious gait, and dashed through a porch in which were standing several children, a hoof of the horse striking one of them on the head, causing a dreadful fracture of the skull, and severely crushing the ankle bones of another. The horse continued his course down the street and finally threw the rider upon the points of some sharp paving, breaking several of his ribs, and otherwise seriously mangle him. Our informant states, that when he left Salisbury on Saturday morning, he understood, the child whose skull had received the fracture, was dead, and that the officer was considered almost beyond the hope of recovery.—Id.

Orange Divided.—The sense of the people of Orange county, under the law of the last Legislature, was taken on the question of dividing the county, on Thursday the 18th ultimo, when the vote stood for division 1257, against division 1001—majority in favor of division, 256. Measures will be taken immediately to organize the new county of Alamance, the seat of justice of which is to be called Graham. The division may be necessary for the convenience of the people—it must be so, since a majority have so decided; but really we cannot repress feelings of regret at seeing the unity of old Orange broken. Her deeds of Revolutionary memory; her illustrious sons, dead and living; the noble institutions of learning for which she has long been distinguished; and the intelligence and high moral and religious character of her citizens; all form a common, invaluable and inalienable property to the people, (we must repeat it again,) of that glorious old county, which makes us grieve to see even geographical lines of division drawn between them.—Raleigh Star.

The Tragedy of Nations.—The news by the Cambria is highly important. There is war in almost every quarter of Europe. In Italy, the Austrians have destroyed Brescia, the blood of her inhabitants staining the ruins of their churches and their homes. Genoa has been bombarded for twenty-four hours by the Piedmontese troops for revolt and Republicanism. In Spain, the old quarrel has resulted in a new battle, with its horrors of dead and wounded, and no great principle to shed lustre on the gloom. Denmark is defeated by Germany, and defeated where she has hitherto been the victor—on the sea. In Hungary the Austrians are more decidedly losers than ever. Thirteen hundred of their dead strew a single field; Puchner has fled to Russian protection in Wallachia, and Bem is master of Transylvania. The King of Prussia refuses the German Crown, and all there is uncertainty. France still plays the part of a spectator, her Government making her false, abroad, while by attempts to suppress Thought, shackle the Press, and gag Speech at home, they make ready the new Revolution.

Thus in doubt, struggle, suffering unspeakable, dies the Old Order, that the New may rise from its ashes. Terrible, incomprehensible is the process, but let us believe that the result will be worth the pain.

Romance in Real Life.
Truth, it has been said, is stranger than fiction, and the romance of real life, when all its features are scrutinized, is more fruitful of wonder than half the stories invented by the poet or the novelist. The affair to which we cursorily alluded yesterday, in our local news, under the head of "Forgery," contains a chapter of incidents so startling, that one can hardly bring oneself to believe that they occurred any where, much less in a business community like ours. Here is a young lady hardly out of her teens, we are told, who fabricates a fortune for herself on paper, imposes through the medium of her charms (that's not very strange) on a staid tradesman, to the extent of inducing him to marry her, and to cap the climax, prevails on a grave notary public, to undertake the collection of the \$10,000 drowy she possesses, as if it were a simple apothecary's or undertaker's bill, to be paid at sight, unhesitatingly by the generous donor of this round sum. In the meantime the happy couple set off to the North to pass the honeymoon together, the bridegroom in hope that his bride's handsome fortune will be duly transmitted to him through the post. It is the greatest affair we have ever known. The following are incidents: The affidavit made by Mr. Michoud, before Recorder Genois we have already mentioned. He pronounces the note for \$10,000 a forgery, but does not know positively who committed it, although there is little reason to doubt the part Miss Clement played in the matter.

The victim in the case, is a Mr Gallot, who keeps a dry goods store on the corner of Canal and Dauphin streets, and is a man of considerable property, being reputed to be worth \$25,000. At about eleven o'clock on Saturday morning last, Mr G presented himself at the office of Mr Chiappella, in Exchange Place, accompanied by Messrs. Topenot and Michon, who had been witnesses to his marriage with Miss Elise Clement the same morning, and there stated to Mr Chiappella that he wished to deposit with him a note for collection, observing that he has no time to get the paper cashed himself, as he was going to leave the same day with his bride for the North. He desired Mr C. to invest the proceeds in a sight draft on New York, and to remit it so that he might have the money without the least possible delay. The following is a verbatim copy of the document:

Nouvelle Orleans, 14th April, 1849.
A presentation, je payeral a Mademoiselle Elise Clement ou a son ordre la somme de dix mille piastres. Pour valeur reue.

[Signed] ANT. MICHOD.
And endorsed as follows.
Payez a l'ordre de M. A. Chiappella.

[Signed] ELISE CLEMENT.
Mr Chiappella naturally thought the circumstances under which the document had been entrusted to him, very strange, and immediately after Mr Gallot left his office, he repaired to the residence of Mr Michoud. Unfortunately this gentleman was not to be found, otherwise the forgery would have been discovered in time to arrest the newly made bride, who did not leave town until four o'clock in the afternoon, when she started with her husband on a tour of pleasure through the Northern States. Mr Chiappella being unable to find Mr Michoud on Saturday dropped the matter until the following morning; and though it was Sunday, he thought proper not to procrastinate the business, the more so as the note was payable on demand, and had been presented at the domicile of the drawer on the day previous. On entering the office he observed to Mr Michoud, "You had better give me a check for \$10,000 and save me the trouble of calling to-morrow, as I have got a note of yours for that amount." Mr M. looked at the note, and immediately pronounced it to be a forgery, though, as we forget to mention before, the signature had been tolerably well imitated. Mr Chiappella at once called on Mr Gallot's partner to obtain some explanation of the affair, and there learned that Miss Elise Clement had arrived in this city from France, some three or four months ago, with her mother and sister, and that it had been generally stated that she had brought with her 50,000 francs in gold. The clerk of the house, who appears to be thoroughly in the confidence of Mr Gallot, added that the young lady had deposited the "castings" with Mr John Hagan, of this city, who in return had given her his note for \$10,000; in fact, if we have been rightly informed, such a document (forged, of course) has also been seen. The same person stated, likewise, that Miss Clement, finding it

difficult to negotiate the paper, had ultimately exchanged it for the forged note of Michoud.

On applying to Mr Hagan, he was of course utterly ignorant of the matter, but remembered that a lady by the name of Clement had frequently importuned him for pecuniary assistance, and that at one time, to get rid of her solicitations, he had made her a present of five dollars. Messrs Topenot and Michon, the groomsmen of Mr Gallot, confirm the facts in relation to the rumored wealth of the lady, but of all future particulars they are ignorant. The latter states one circumstance, however, which gives a coloring to the simplicity with which Mr Gallot wedded his better half. It seems he accompanied Miss Clement to Mr Michoud's store, where she went ostensibly for the purpose of obtaining the note, and after remaining in the place about a quarter of an hour (making one or two unimportant purchases, as we learn,) she returned and exhibited the document which had been forged, no doubt, some days before.

Altogether this is the most singular and romantic transaction we have ever been made acquainted with. The deaconess for the poor husband will be melancholy in the extreme. The happy fellow is now enjoying his honeymoon trip, and doubtless little dreams of the terrible damper which the news of this affair will place upon his matrimonial bliss.

The comedy of a "Bold Stroke for a Husband" will never meet any success upon the New Orleans stage again.—This affair completely eclipses any thing of the kind ever produced, both in plot and incident, and the principal character, it must be acknowledged, has been well sustained throughout by Miss Elise Clement.

Telegraphic despatches have been sent on North and East, and we doubt not that we shall hear something from the bridal party in a day or two.—N. O. Picayune.

A New Discovery—Collodion.—A French chemist has discovered a process by which Gun Cotton is transformed from a destructive, into a therapeutic agent of great value. Collodion is the name given to a liquid produced by dissolving gun cotton in Ether. It has been advantageously employed as an agglutative, and has been found to be immensely serviceable in the treatment of wounds. Collodion is applied in the liquid form, when it dries promptly and becomes impermeable by water, resembling the most limpid glass.

The following are the advantages offered by the use of Collodion.

1. By its powerful contraction, during evaporation, Collodion draws the edges of a wound much closer than can be obtained either by suture or adhesive plaster. It exercises an equal degree of pressure throughout the whole extent of the wound, and the union is permanent.
2. It preserves the wound completely from all contact with the air, through its impermeability.
3. It possesses no irritating quality, in regard to the skin and lips of the wound, which is far from being the case with other adhesive preparations; and renders sutures unnecessary for uniting the edges of a wound, whatever may be its extent.
4. It remains in contact with the skin, until the moment of cicatrization.
5. It is impermeable to water, consequently admitting washing as often as is deemed fit.
6. It is without color and transparent, so that the surgeon can always observe what is going on beneath, without removing it.
7. Its application does not require the employment of heat; cold merely retards a little the evaporation of the Ether.
8. Its price is moderate.

If any peculiar circumstances affecting the patient require it, a little Ether suffices to dissolve the collodion and removes all.

The Femines for California.—A New York letter, of Tuesday evening, says:

"I hear that Mrs Farnham is succeeding very well in her enterprise, and that there is every prospect of her having half her cargo, if not two-thirds of her cargo, (about four hundred tons of women) by the first of next month. "The gold diggings will ship to us their treasures in the shape of gold dust, and in return we shall send them women. This is a great country!"

The Waterford Chronicle considers that the English have all the benefits of English justice, whilst the Irish have all the benefits of English law.

The effect of Charcoal on Flowers.—The following extract cannot but be interesting to the botanist and the chemist, as well as to every lady who has a rose-bush in her garden, or a flower pot in her parlor. It is from the Paris "Horticultural Review" of July last, translated by Judge Meigs of New York, for the Farmers' Club of the American Institute the experiments described were made by Robert Berauds, who says:

"About a year ago I made a bargain for a rose-bush, of magnificent growth and full of buds. I waited for them to blow, and expected roses worthy of such a noble plant, and of the praises bestowed upon it by the vender. At length, when it bloomed, all my hopes were blasted. The flowers were of a faded color, and I discovered I had only a midling multiflora, stale colored enough. I therefore resolved to sacrifice it to some experiments which I had in view. My attention had been captivated with the effects of charcoal as stated in some English publications. I then covered the earth in the pot, in which my rose-bush was, about half an inch deep with pulverized charcoal! Some days after I was astonished to see the roses, which bloomed, of as fine lively rose color as I could wish! I determined to repeat the experiment: and therefore when the rosebush had done flowering, I took off all the charcoal and put fresh earth about the roots. You may conceive that I waited for the next spring impatiently to see the result of this experiment. When it bloomed the roses were, as, at first, pale and discolored; but by applying charcoal as before, the roses soon resumed their rosy red color. I tried the powdered charcoal likewise in large quantities upon my petunias, and found that both the white and the violet flowers were equal sensible to its action. It always gave great vigor to the red or violet colors of the flowers, and the white petunias became veined with red or violet tints; the violets became covered with irregular spots of a bluish or almost black tint. Many persons who admired them thought that they were new varieties from the seed. Yellow flowers are (as I have proved) insensible to the influence of the charcoal."

"I'll bende the yellow flowers;" it seems they are equally incapable of change, under the influence of charcoal, or of the man without poetry in his temperament. Wordsworth tells us:

"A primrose by the rivers brim
A yellow primrose was to him,
And it was nothing more."

Consistency.—During the recent siege at Moulton, by the British forces, a shell from one of the British mortars blew up a fort of the natives containing a vast quantity of powder, and destroying a vast number of troops, the Dewan's mother, &c., &c. The English journals rejoice greatly over this success, and state that the "lucky artilleryman" through whose agency it was accomplished, was "rewarded on the spot."

When the American General, Winfield Scott, attacked Very Cruz, he gave permission to the women and non-combatants to retire before he commenced operations. Notwithstanding this humane notice, the British press raise their united voices in a chorus of holy horror at the destruction which the American shells afterwards caused among the male and female inhabitants of Very Cruz, and execrated Scott as a "Kentucky Savage." Ah, indeed!—Scott's real crime was that he was successful, and that he was an American! Rich. Republican.

To clean Black Satin.—In a quart of water boil three pounds of potatoes to a pulp. Strain the water through a sieve, and brush the satin with it, upon a board or table. The material is not to be wrung, but foiled down in cloths for three hours, and then ironed on the wrong side.

Stewed Celery.—The Editor of the Horticulturalist gives the following mode of cooking celery, and from long experience of its merits, recommends it as a delicious dish: "Cut the blanched or white portion of the celery stalks in pieces about an inch in length, and put them in a saucepan over the fire with milk and water in equal proportions, barely sufficient to cover them; add a little salt, and let them stew gently until perfectly tender. Then take out the celery, add a piece of butter to the liquid it was boiled in, thicken it slightly with flour, pour it over the celery, and serve it up."

Col. J. Leigh, of Fulton county, Kentucky, has been fined \$150 under the State law, for accepting a challenge to fight a duel.